



January 21, 2011

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Autism Weekly

Advisory Board on Autism & Related Disorders

412.781.4116 or toll free: 800.827.9385

ABOARD'S MISSION:

There is considerable debate throughout the autism community about the cause of autism and issues such as vaccination, diet, inclusion, and appropriate therapies. Legislative acts can also influence services to those with autism. Our policy is to inform. We trust that individuals will assimilate the information we provide and make the best decision for their children and clients.

The entire mission statement can be found at
<http://aboard.web.officelive.com/aboutus.aspx>

**REMEMBER
TOMORROW
SATURDAY 22, 2011
ABOARD's 7th Annual
All Abilities Camp Fair**

Come See What Your Child
Can Do This Summer!

- Camps and programs for school and preschool age children with disabilities
- Inclusion friendly camps and programs
- Full and half day programs
- Information regarding extended school year (ESY)
- *Transition to College Camps and Programs*



Saturday, January 22, 2011

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Shoppes at NORTHWAY

Upper Level

8000 McKnight Road

(McKnight @ Babcock, North Hills)

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Shoppes at Northway (formerly Northway Mall) is located in the heart of the North Hills of Pittsburgh. Twenty minutes from downtown and is easily accessible from 279 North and the PA Turnpike.



Some of our exhibitors:

AOT, Inc.

AHEADD

AIU3

Baierl Family YMCA

Carnegie Museum of Natural History

Familylinks



Family Behavioral Resources

InVision Human Services

NHS Human Services

Pressley Ridge Autism Program

New Story

Slippery Rock University

Steps to Independence

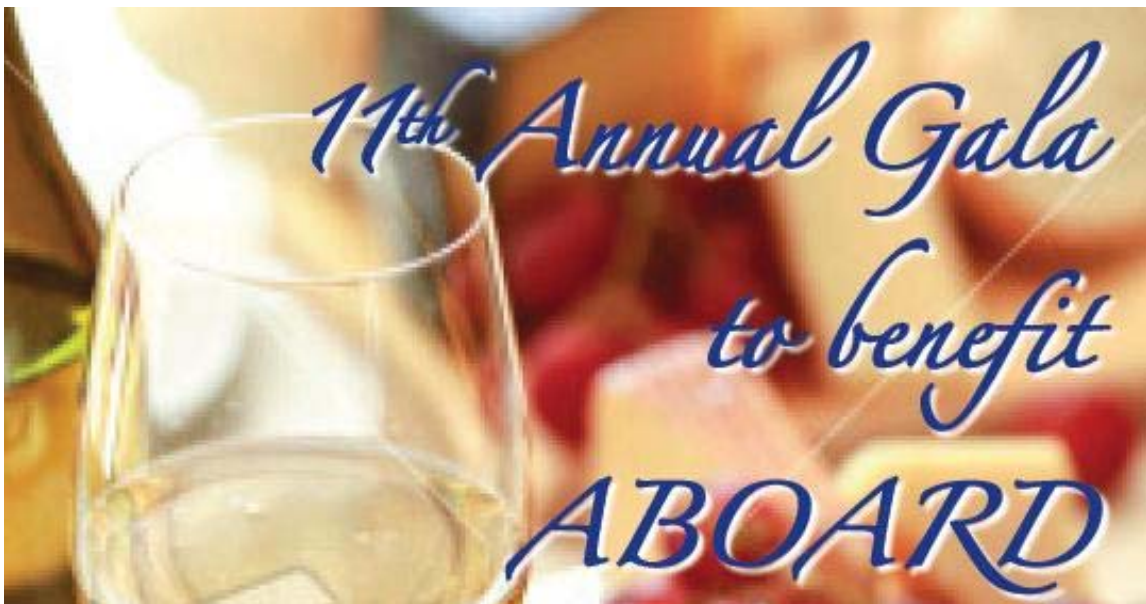
The Watson Institute

Wesley Spectrum Services

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic

Woodlands Foundation

Sponsored by:



*The Advisory Board on Autism and Related Disorders
(ABOARD) Cordially Invites You to Attend
Our Eleventh Annual Gala.*

February 5, 2011

J Verno Studio

3030 Jane Street, Pittsburgh 15203

7:00 pm Wine Tasting and Auctions

8:30 pm Dinner Stroll and Program

Creative Cocktail Attire

Complimentary Valet Parking

Contact the Office at 412-449-0165 to request an invitation!

**ABOARD is proud to announce the 2011 nominees and
3 finalists for The Grandin Award!**

These three finalists will be recognized and the Grandin award will be presented at ABOARD's
Annual Gala on February 5, 2011.

Paul Clifford, Retired Principal, LEA
Owner of Expanded Horizons, LLC
Advocacy for All

Terry Conner
Co-founder: autismresources.com
Spectrum Charter School
SPEAK project coordinator

Bonnie Jamieson, Educational Consultant
The Watson Institute

We congratulate the remaining 2011 nominees:

Doreen Brooks
Todd Dreyer
DeeDee Mikulan
Ashley Masters Overton
Joel Shaul
Karen Ward

Delilah Wilcox
Michelle Wright
Jillian Zacks



HIGHMARK.
WALK
FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY
Organizations Unite to Make a Difference

Save The Date!
Saturday, May 21, 2011
Heinz Field, Pittsburgh, PA

We are one of 69 organizations participating in the 2011 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community.

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield underwrites 100 percent of the cost of the event and funds raised directly benefit the participating organizations.

Mark your calendar, find those walking shoes and look for more information to come soon!

www.walkforahealthycommunity.org

HIGHMARK.
Blue Cross Blue Shield 
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Contact the Office at 412-449-0165 for more information!



Today's eblast is provided free to the families through the support of our sponsors!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Feature

Research

Of Interest

Events/Info

[QUICK LINKS](#)

ABOARD

[NEWSLETTER](#)

Click here to learn about
What's Happening
at ABOARD and all our
upcoming events, conference
and seminars for 2010!



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SOUTH HILLS LOCATION	PITTSBURGH AFFILIATE
110 Ft. Couch Rd., 2nd Floor	5167 Butler Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15241	Pittsburgh, PA 15201
Phone: (412) 831-1223	Phone: (412) 781-3990
Fax: (412) 831-1034	Fax: (412) 781-3966

www.shs-pgh.org

Feature

And if Autism Were a Song, It Might Sound Like This

From the 2011 documentary about two men with autism who travel the world together.

In *Wretches & Jabberers*, we see Chammi, a Sri Lankan man with autism, typing that it is "killingly hard to figure out" why he sometimes can't control his body. A few scenes later, the singer Antony, of Antony and the Johnsons, sings a lament about how it is "killingly hard to say how I feel/It's killingly hard to move towards the real." The song could be about anyone struggling to be understood. But because we've seen the source of the lyrics, it has a specific, as well as generalized meaning-fitting for a film that is all about language and communication.

<http://www.newsweek.com/2011/01/16/and-if-autism-were-a-song-it-might-sound-like-this.html>

Research



Autism Speaks, CDC and NIH to investigate prevalence of autism in the Minneapolis Somali population

"There have been concerns about higher prevalence of ASD in Minneapolis' Somali population. We believe it is important to verify if a true increase in prevalence exists, and if so, why it exists," explained Autism Speaks' Chief Science Officer Geraldine Dawson, Ph.D. "In this circumstance Autism Speaks has both the resources and facility to allocate a budget to initiate this effort in a timely manner."

http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2011-01/as-asc011611.php

Of Interest



British Researcher Wakefield Defends Link Between Vaccine and Autism

"There was no fraud, there was no falsification, there was no hoax," Wakefield told George Stephanopolous today on "Good Morning America."

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Autism/autism-vaccine-link-research-dr-andrew-wakefield-fraud/story?id=12630566&page=1>

Dieters warned on going gluten-free

Gluten-sensitivity also has been associated with other conditions, including irritable bowel syndrome, attention deficit disorder and autism. There isn't a scientific consensus on whether removing gluten from the diet alleviates symptoms for any of these disorders, but some research has suggested that people diagnosed with autism may have a much higher likelihood of being gluten-intolerant than the general population.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11017/1118230-114.stm#ixzz1BPTJeNQ5>

Autistic boy wins round in vaccine case

Less than a week after another scathing report dismissing the theory that vaccines and autism are linked made international headlines, an en banc state Superior Court panel remanded the products liability case of an 11-year-old autistic boy, directing a Philadelphia trial court to determine whether the design defect claim arose from unavoidable vaccine side effects.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11017/1117925-499.stm#ixzz1BPUMsEkK>

Girl with autism expresses profound intelligence.

<http://www.wimp.com/autisticgirl/>

Living With the Label of Autism

A mom explains that her "quirky" child is mildly autistic-and why she was afraid to admit it. So why now tell anyone that my son is autistic? For me, the main reason is to help people understand what my son is not: he is not anti-social, he is not inconsiderate, and he is certainly not contagious.

<http://walnutcreek.patch.com/articles/living-with-the-label-of-autism>

ACT Today Grant Applications



ACT Today! is now accepting Grant Applications. Please visit their website to learn more about deadlines and to download the 2011 Grant Application. _

<http://www.act-today.org/act-today-grant-program.php>

ABOARD Support Group Meeting

For a complete listing of the ABOARD Support Groups please see our website at www.aboard.org !

GET CONNECTED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Perspective Program: Intervention Research Study for Adults with ASD

The Perspectives Program at the University of Pittsburgh is developing new non-drug interventions to meet the unique needs of adults with autism spectrum disorders. Individuals with Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS, between the ages of 16-40, are now being accepted into the program. All participants will receive one of two new experimental interventions, Cognitive Enhancement Therapy or Enriched Supportive Therapy, at no cost. Participants must be able to come to the University of Pittsburgh on a regular basis. A new session is beginning soon. To enroll or find out more information contact 1-866-647-3436 or autismrecruiter@upmc.edu.

CPC Family Support Network...Helping Each other put the pieces of the puzzle together

The CPC Family Support Network through Community Psychiatric Centers invites families and friends of children with autism to join us on Wednesday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "Identifying and Dealing with Stims and Behaviors," led by John Carosso, Psy.D, and Robert Lowenstein, M.D., at the CPC Greensburg office, 814 E. Pittsburgh Street. To RSVP or for more information contact Desiree at 724.875.1675 or dpollard@zoominternet.net or visit www.cpcwecare.com. Childcare will be provided.

Health Care Reform

This website was put together by the Henry Kaiser Foundation to explain in easy-to-understand terms those parts of the health care reform that are already

in effect and those that will be taking place up to and including 2014.

<http://healthreform.kff.org/The-Animation.aspx>

A Community in God's Image? Study and Conversation on an Inclusive Jewish Community 1/31

In honor of February's Jewish Disability Awareness Month please join us for study and conversation on what an inclusive Jewish community looks like, and why including people with and without disabilities together is the Jewish way. Featured speaker is Rabbi Norman M. Cohen from Minnesota. Refreshments provided; dietary laws observed.

Rodef Shalom Congregation (4905 Fifth Ave.)

Monday, January 31, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

To RSVP, for more information or for individuals needing special accommodations, call 412-521-1101 x3207 or email ncanterna@ajlpittsburgh.org.

Including Samuel: Documentary Film Screening 2/13

In honor of February's Jewish Disability Awareness Month please join the Agency for Jewish Learning, the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh in a community film screening of Including Samuel: A Documentary by Photojournalist Dan Habib. Conversation to follow.

Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh
(5738 Forbes Ave., Kaufmann Building, Room 204)

Sunday, February 13, 1:00pm - 3:30pm

Individuals requiring special accommodations call 412-521-1101 x3206 or email tsteinberg@ajlpittsburgh.org.

L.I.V.I.N.G. Ministry will be distributing free coats to individuals for the next 4 weeks.

These coats were donated by Burlington Coat Factory and are in used, but good condition. The coats vary in sizes, and there are about 500 total coats (men's, women's, and kid's coats). I have attached (2) flyers that detail how we are going to handle the distribution. Basically, individuals will have to call our offices and sign up for a specific time to get the coats. These individuals will also need to make their own arrangements to get to where we are storing the coats. L.I.V.I.N.G. Ministry will not be able to provide rides for individuals. Because of the limited supply of coats, we are limited each individual to only (1) coat. I know many people will try and come and say "I want a coat for my grandson, or neighbor, etc...", but we will not give coats for that. Have them register those people and bring them and they can pick out whatever coat they want. As service provides, you guys can also register and get (1) coat for any specific client of yours. You can also bring your clients once they are registered and have then chose the coat they want.

If you guys have any questions, feel free to email me or call me at 412-586-4663. Thanks!

www.livingministry.org

2010 Champion Awards

2010 CHAMPION AWARDS

The award recognizes outstanding Pittsburgh Public School teachers, para-professionals/ aides, principals, therapists, administrators and students who, through their work, support or friendship ensure that students with disabilities are provided equal opportunity and access to a quality education. Contact:

Amy Guthrie

Pittsburgh Local Task Force on the Right to Education

412-995-5000, ext. 485

aguthrie@achieva.info.

Nominations sought for Special Education "Champion Awards"

January 3, 2011 ... The Pittsburgh Local Task Force on the Right to Education is accepting nominations for its third annual "Champion Awards."

The award recognizes outstanding Pittsburgh Public School teachers, para-professionals/ aides, principals, therapists, administrators and students who, through their work, support or friendship ensure that students with disabilities are provided equal opportunity and access to a quality education.

Nominations will be accepted through January 31, 2011. For nomination criteria and form, contact Amy Guthrie at aguthrie@achieva.info or 412-995-5000, ext. 485.

Award winners will be announced at a ceremony on Tuesday, February 22, 2011, 6 pm. at Pittsburgh Obama (former Reizenstein building), 129 Denniston Ave. Pgh 15206.

The Pittsburgh Local Task Force on the Right to Education is a parent-majority organization that works collaboratively with administrators from the Pittsburgh Public Schools and with community agencies to improve, strengthen and expand educational services for students with disabilities in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. The Pittsburgh LTF also serves as a liaison and information resource for families.



Show your love while supporting Autism Awareness with these **Limited Edition** cherry red [Autism Awareness Puzzle Pieces](#) made in the USA by glass artist Janine Stillman.

Available only until 2/28/11.

(an 18" black magnetic cable choker is included in this special promotion)

\$30 each plus shipping (and tax for CA residents)

The "Romantic" Puzzle

A cherry red puzzle piece adorned with scrolls of beautiful gold/orange/pink dichroic glass suspended from a silver or gold plated hanging loop.



*Designs by Ja9
Limited Edition
Romantic Puzzle*

The "Contemporary" Puzzle

The Contemporary Puzzle
A cherry red puzzle piece adorned with
splashes of beautiful gold/orange/pink dichroic glass
and polka dots suspended from a silver
or gold plated hanging loop.



*Support Autism Awareness Dichroic glass puzzle piece
jewelry and gifts www.designsbyja9.com*

ABOARD will receive a donation of \$10 for each puzzle purchased.

*Autism...
Together we can solve the puzzle!*

CLICK HERE TO MAKE A PERSONAL DONATION TO ABOARD!

Your donation qualifies as a charitable deduction. ABOARD is registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State Bureau of Charitable Organizations. To receive a copy of the official registration and financial information, please call 800-732-0990 within Pennsylvania or visit www.dos.state.pa.us.

ABOARD is a member of the The Chamber of Commerce



United Way

United Way of Allegheny County Contributor Choice Agency Number 9817

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Find us on Facebook 

You can also

add a CAUSE Toolbar so every web search will help ABOARD generate funds! <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/toolbar>



GOODSEARCH.COM or GOODSHOP.COM - Select "ABOARD

OUR MISSION

ABOARD IS DEDICATED TO MAXIMIZING THE SOCIAL, EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL POTENTIAL AND POSSIBILITIES OF PENNSYLVANIA CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS WITH AUTISM AND RELATED DISORDERS. THROUGH FAMILY SUPPORT, INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, EDUCATION & TRAINING, AWARENESS BUILDING AND COLLABORATION, WE PROVIDE HOPE AND HELP TO PENNSYLVANIANS CONFRONTED WITH THE CHALLENGES OF AUTISM.

412 - 781- 4116 or 800 - 827- 9385

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