

APRIL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH



ABOARD *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>

Special Needs and Financial Planning Workshop

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 30th, 2011

ABOARD OFFICE

35 Wilson Street, Pittsburgh (ETNA), PA 15223

Free but registration is required and limited to 40 seats!

The Duckworth Group at Merrill Lynch is happy to welcome Helen Sims to their team. Helen's experience in Special Needs Planning has been an excellent fit with their commitment to helping families and individuals with disabilities to plan for their care, as well as the future care of their loved one.

The workshop will be presented by Helen Sims, a Financial Advisor with The Duckworth Group at Merrill Lynch and Jillian Zacks, Principal of Zacks Law Firm, P.C.

For family members of a loved one with a disability, information about the following topics will be addressed:

- Planning for the future of their loved one
- Developing a care strategy
- Understanding the interplay between government benefits and programs
- Financial Planning
- Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning
- Age of Majority

For more information, or to RSVP for this workshop please contact:

For more information or to RSVP for this workshop please contact:
Helen Sims at 412-566-6479 or helen.sims@ml.com

Thank you to The Duckworth Group at Merrill Lynch for sponsoring!

(ABOARD) to Benefit from "Spring Fling for Autism" Blues Night

Parent of young man with autism sponsors four-band concert fundraiser in Wexford, PA on April 30th

The Advisory Board on Autism and Related Disorders (ABOARD) will be the beneficiary of the first annual "Spring Fling for Autism" rhythm and blues night on Saturday April 30, 2011 from 4pm until 9pm. The fun evening will also feature a Chinese Auction and will be held at Grazie's in the Oxford Athletic Club, 100 Village Club Drive, Wexford, PA 15090.

The Rozanne Matthews Band, Pamela Bick and the Warehouse Band, The Rump Shakers, and Miss Freddie and Blue Faze have generously donated their time to play the event.

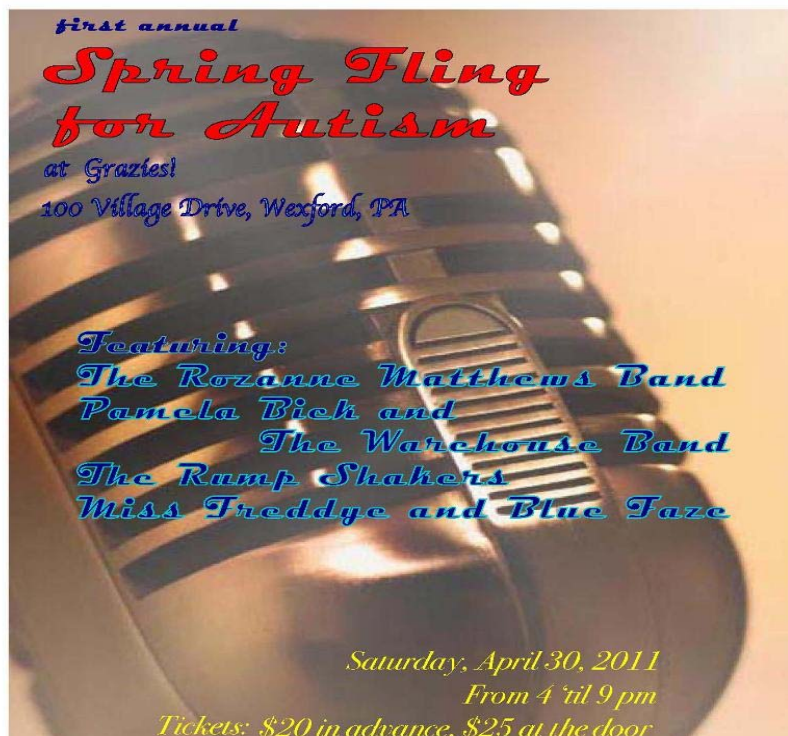
Tickets are \$20 if purchased in advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets maybe be purchased at <http://aboard.web.officelive.com/fundraiser.aspx> . All proceeds benefit ABOARD.

Fredericka Stover, mom to a young man on the autism spectrum, and to an adult son who lives independently with a physical disability, contacted ABOARD in November, asking if she could organize a benefit concert.

"Freddie is such a dynamic force in the lives of her children, her nursing job at the VA, and in her musical career. It has been such a pleasure getting to know her this year, and we are really excited about enjoying the blues night with our friends while raising money to support families facing autism in our region," said Lu Randall, Executive Director of ABOARD.

"It's about time someone did this to help people with autism. I plan on doing this gig until I am 90!" says Ms. Freddie, who has already lined up bands, sound techs and an emcee for next year's Spring Fling.

Those interested in sponsoring or attending the event should contact Rebecca Williams Thomas at 412.449.0165 or autismnews@aboard.org



Drink and food specials, raffles, prizes
Purchase tickets online at www.aboard.org
Benefiting the Advisory Board on Autism And Related Disorders (ABOARD)

[Tickets on sale now](#) to get the early bird special!
Tickets will not be mailed for this event, but you are registered once you finish registration.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Fling for Autism .
Your receipt will be emailed to you.
Contact the Office at 412-449-0165 for more information!

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Click here to learn about
What's Happening
at ABOARD and all our upcoming
events, conference and seminars for
2011!

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



Save the Date for

Autism Outdoors

**A FREE Exploration
of fun things to do
outside.**

June 11, 2011

**More
Details
to
Come Soon!**



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



**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR HELPING PROVIDE THIS SERVICE
TO OUR FAMILIES FOR FREE!**

.....Feature.....

Shifting Focus: 8 Facts About Autism the Media Is Not Covering

Though I share many of same concerns, I feel compelled to shed light on the fact that families affected by autism are struggling on multiple levels. We need a shift of focus to share the spotlight with other often overshadowed issues that profoundly impact families daily.

To that end, below I highlight 8 things about autism the media is not covering enough. They are not hot-button, provocative or headline-grabbing, but with 1 in 110 children affected by autism (and rising), these issues desperately need more attention:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/holly-robinson-peete/shifting-focus-8-facts-ab_b_501183.html

Research



Families open up their lives to Hopkins researchers seeking causes of autism

When Ginny Russo goes into labor at the end of May, her first call will be to her doctor. Her second: to the researchers who will want to collect her placenta and the baby's umbilical cord blood and first dirty diaper. They're part of the same crew that, during the course of her pregnancy, has come to Russo's Carroll County, Md., home to vacuum (and take what got sucked up with them), collect dust samples and poke their noses inside her cabinets and closets, making note of cleaning supplies, hair products and other chemicals on hand. They also took blood and urine samples and had Russo check in regularly to report any medicines she was taking, what she was eating and whether she was wearing sunscreen.

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110410/FEATURES08/104100343/Families-open-up-their-lives-Hopkins-researchers-seeking-causes-autism>

Montreal researchers identify gene linked to autism and epilepsy

Researchers from Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal Research Centre have identified a gene that predisposes people to both autism and epilepsy.

Led by neurologist Patrick Cossette, the team was looking for epilepsy genes when they discovered another connection in the complex genetic architecture of autism.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/health/Montreal+researchers+identify+gene+linked+autism+epilepsy/4586618/story.html#ixzz1JJktQgVh>

Longmont riding center venue for \$1.3 million autism research grant

Members of the barn group shake baby powder on a stuffed horse named Boo to practice grooming skills at the Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center south of Longmont.

As the control group in a new four-year, \$1.3 million study to measure the effect of therapeutic horseback riding on children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, they also will watch slide shows of horses and keep scrapbooks of what they learn about horse anatomy, riding safety and how to saddle up Boo. But during the study, they never will ride. That activity goes to other kids with autism - a neurological condition that impairs social interaction and communication and narrows behaviors and interests - who were randomly selected by researchers at The Children's Hospital in Aurora to get genuine horse therapy in the rider group.

<http://www.timescall.com/health-story.asp?ID=26372>

Siblings play key role in child development

UQ researchers are exploring the influence siblings may have on the social behaviour of autistic children. The UQ study showed that children with ASD who had younger siblings performed well on ToM tests. The data also suggested that having older siblings had a detrimental effect on ToM development for the children with ASD. Ms O'Brien said older siblings might over-compensate for their younger ASD siblings in social interactions, thereby limiting opportunities for social growth.

<http://www.uq.edu.au/news/?article=22987>

Education



Autistic Kids Learn To Survive, And Thrive, In College

Colorado State is one of a handful of schools that have adopted programs to help ease autistic students' transitions in and out of college. For Heim, that means meeting with his peer mentor, Jayne Mohar, to practice the very social interactions that can be so challenging for someone with autism - things like working in groups.

<http://www.npr.org/2011/04/13/135345982/colleges-address-autistic-students-struggles>

Autistic student is crowned prom king at Celebration High

It was the first time Shane, 18, had attended a "regular" prom, said his mother, Cheryl Thomas, of Kissimmee. "As a parent, you work so hard to get him a good education and have him accepted," she said. "What greater acceptance is there than getting your child voted by juniors and seniors as prom king?"

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/features/education/os-autistic-student-prom-king-20110412,0,2204137.story>

Winning with autism

USM scholar raising awareness about condition

Treatment and therapy gave her control of anxiety she experienced from daily social interactions, and her high intellect blossomed. Today she is a Presidential Scholar at the University of Southern Mississippi, a National Merit finalist, member of the Honors College and holds a 4.0 grade-point average, according to a news release.

<http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20110412/FEAT05/104120323/1242/health/Winning-autism>

Of Interest



What's it like to live with Asperger's? John Elder Robison tells all

"Twenty years ago, this conversation would never have occurred between us," says John Elder Robison, his voice calm and unemotional. From across the table in a downtown Toronto boardroom, he looks me in the eye - briefly - then looks back down and continues to explain "the profound, positive transformation" he began to experience at the age of 40.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/relationships/news-and-views/sarah-hampson/whats-it-like-to-live-with-aspergers-john-elder-robison-tells-all/article1984127/>

Autism Diagnoses Bring Slew of Costs for Families

As part of the PBS NewsHour's Autism Today series, which begins airing on April 18, we explore some of the basics of autism, including the costs of treatment and therapy.

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/health/jan-june11/autismcosts_04-13.html

Generation of Autism, Coming of Age

Services for adults with autism exist, but unlike school services, they are not mandated, and there are fewer of them. Combined with shrinking government budgets, the challenges are daunting.

"We are facing a crisis of money and work force," said Nancy Thaler, executive director of the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services. "The cohort of people who will need services - including aging baby boomers - is growing much faster than the cohort of working-age adults that provide care."

<http://www.nytimes.com/ref/health/healthguide/esn-autism-reporters.html?ref=health>

Officer safety and autistic subjects

The recent 'pepper spray case' in Colorado offers a reminder about contact with subjects exhibiting behaviors common to persons with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) or a variety of mental and/or psychological health issue

<http://www.policeone.com/Officer-Safety/articles/3532176-Officer-safety-and-autistic-subjects/>

'Eye on the door': Life with autism wandering

Michael, who's about to turn 10, has a severe form of autism. People with the developmental disorder typically have difficulty communicating and socializing. But another sometimes dangerous aspect of autism has received less scientific attention and causes endless stress for parents: A tendency to run away from home or adult supervision.

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/HEALTH/04/11/autism.wandering.diagnosis/?hpt=C2>

Dr. Peter Gerhardt on the Needs of Adults with Autism

As you'll read, Dr. Gerhardt is among the growing community of autism experts who is concerned that we will soon be overwhelmed by a "wave" of adults with autism spectrum diagnoses. In his view, available resources are already swamped - and are unlikely to improve quickly in the present economic environment. Gerhardt outlines the issues, and then presents a challenge, paraphrasing Hubert Humphrey: "For generations of adults with autism and their families, this is a test we cannot afford to fail." Just how we will address the challenges, however, remains to be seen.

<http://autism.about.com/b/2011/04/10/dr-peter-gerhardt-on-the-needs-of-adults-with-autism.htm>

Preparing to Enter the Work Force With Autism

Parents and teachers of children on the autism spectrum have created, implemented and modified teaching programs that enhance important academic, social and behavioral goals. The long-term goal of this work, for many children on the spectrum, is a full or part-time job.

<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/04/08/preparing-child-autism-enter-work-force/>

Events/Info



ABOARD Support Group Meeting

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

Just Us Parents - Autism Support Group

Find support, encouragement and help in your parenting of a child on the Spectrum Autism, PDD-NOS, Aspergers. Meet other parents; Support one another; Share information and ideas; Get resource information; Meeting the needs of those who attend.

Location/Address Panera Bread Company at 7217 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (Across from Ross Park Mall)

Time 7pm to 9pm

Monthly First Monday of the month.. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 2

Contact Name Astrid Camille Arroyo and Maureen Wirth

Contact Phone 412-358-0393 or 724-625-0284

Contact Email la.bella@verizon.net or mhwirth@gmail.com

CPC Family Support Network

Support Group for family, friends and caregivers touched by autism

Location/Address 814 E. Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg PA 15601

Time 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Monthly Second Wednesday of each month

Contact Name: Desiree Pollard

Contact Phone 724.875.1675

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF APRIL AUTISM AWARENESS EVENTS SEE
[APRIL AUTISM AWARENESS CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

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.

Camp Sequoia Open House

Camp Sequoia is an innovative overnight summer camp for children ages 8-18 who are diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, high-functioning Autism and high-functioning PDD-NOS. The focus of our camp is building social skills through a traditional camp program combined with utilizing the principles of the Social Thinking curriculum. Located on the campus of a prestigious boarding school in Pottstown, PA (40 miles northwest of Philadelphia) Camp Sequoia serves a segment of campers diagnosed with ASD who are bright, creative kids who need help developing their social cognition. We offer two separate 3-week sessions, a full 6 week season and a "First Timers" week for campers who are new to the overnight camp experience. We are hosting an Open House on Saturday April 23rd, please RSVP if your family would like to attend. 610-771-0111

FBR and AERI Bring William Stillman to Western PA - FREE WORKSHOP!

Oftentimes parents, caregivers and educators are at a loss about how best to support individuals with autism because they are overwhelmed by out-of-control, aggressive "behaviors," inundated with disrespectful prognoses and clinical jargon, or confused by technical information. This workshop is the perfect introduction for participants to begin to discern the functions of mental health issues from autism. William Stillman demystifies such perplexing challenges using language, examples and anecdotes that are concrete and understandable for all. Join us April 26, 2011 from 9AM-4PM at the Four Points Sheraton for this FREE event! Registration begins at 8:30AM. For a registration form, visit www.familybehavioralresources.com or send email to autismservices@familybehavioralresources.com. Events also listed on our Facebook page!

Camp R.O.C.K. -Recreational Opportunities Connecting Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder

An outdoor inclusive day camp for youth ages 14 to 21 with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their peers. The camp focuses on introducing youth to a variety of lifelong physical activities, while building recreational and social skills. These physical activities include: music and movement, track events, hiking, low and high ropes course activities, rock wall, aquatics, biking, canoeing, horseback riding, and fishing on Slippery Rock's campus. June 20-24, 2011. \$50. <http://www.sru.edu/academics/colleges/education/pe/apa/Pages/camprock.aspx>

Westmoreland IU & University of Pittsburgh Greensburg Autism Conference

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

The First Annual Autism conference sponsored jointly by the Westmoreland IU and UPG offers practical ways to respond to youth on the Spectrum. The opening keynote presentation by Dr. Nancy Minshew will focus on understanding the cognitive and physical basis of autism. Dr. Minshew, Director of Pitt's Autism Center of Excellence will review her 25 plus years of research on brain connectivity and information processing for persons on the spectrum. Afternoon sessions feature practical responses to "Sensory Processing", "Social Skills Training", "Responses to Agitation, Escalation & Meltdown", and "Career Development/Employment Experiences". Sessions on "Parent Partnership Development" and "Advances in Assistive Technology" are also scheduled. Contact Ms. Kelly Heitchue, (724) 836-2460 Extension 2324 www.wiu.k12.pa.us

DASH Advocacy Training

DASH is presenting a skill building training for disability advocacy groups at six different locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Different Advocacy Approaches and Advocacy with State and Local Government. To enroll, email Lan Do at Ldo@drnpa.org. The training is held on April 26 at the Luzerne County Annex Building, on May 9 at the Three Rivers Center for Independent Living, on May 10 at Voices for Independence in Erie, on May 23 at Vision for Equality in Philadelphia.

Children with Hyperactivity & Autism Research Study For more information please contact: David Maloney at 412-235-5407 or maloneyd3@upmc.edu. The UPMC Center for Autism & Developmental Disorders at Monroeville Child Outpatient Clinic is conducting a study

maoneyjz@upmc.edu The UPMC Center for Autism & Developmental Disorders at Merck Child Outpatient Clinic is conducting a study to examine the use atomoxetine and/or parent training vs. placebo for symptoms of ADHD in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. It includes 10 management sessions and an optional 24 week follow-up involves monthly visits to our outpatient clinic. This is open to children 5-13 years of age who are not on medication or are on medications that are not working well.

The Watson Institute Summer Programs - Still Accepting Applications!

The Watson Institute operates summer programs for children and teens diagnosed with ASD. We are still accepting applications for our WISP, STAT, and ACCLAIM programs. For more information about our programs, visit us online at www.thewatsoninstitute.org, or contact us at (412) 749-2889.

Autism Awareness Month Parent Advocacy Training

Workshop for Parents of Children with Autism. Parents will have the opportunity to learn more about the services offered by the Pressley Ridge Day School as well as Perfect Fit Canine's service dog program for children on the autism spectrum. These dogs can enrich the lives of children with autism as well as help them gain independence. April 19, 2011, 5pm-7pm at Pressley Ridge Day School Johnstown 445 Schoolhouse Road. To RSVP please call 814.262.9514 or email cadams@pressleyridge.org.

Theiss Early Autism Program of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) Open Enrollment for Spring 2011

The Theiss Early Autism Program (TEAP) provides care for 6 children ages 2-5 years of age. The children follow an individualized program and receive one-on-one instruction through Applied Behavior Analysis, including Discrete Trial Teaching, Applied Verbal Behavior, and Natural Environment Teaching. Each individualized treatment program is designed to address a child's cognitive and language skills, self-care and adaptive behavior, and social-emotional development. Daily activities also include circle time, gross motor, playground activities, pretend play, early language arts, art and sensory activities, early cooperative play in small groups, self-help activities, meal time (lunch and snack), and socialization activities (play opportunities with typically developing children from an adjacent child care facility twice a week). The program is located at the Hill House Association, 1835 Centre Avenue, WPIC Autism Suite 200, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Hours are 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. The program runs for 12 months a year, Monday through Friday. Although transportation is not available, families can enrolled in MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program) for reimbursement for travel. To discuss our services, schedule an observation of our program while in session, take a tour of our facilities, or to make a referral, contact Danielle Saad at Saadd@upmc.edu or call 412- 235-5386.

Sensory Friendly Showin of Rio

Saturday, April 30, 2011, 10:00 am

AMC Theatres® and The Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis. With Sensory Friendly Films, the movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down. For tickets to this unique experience, please visit the theatre's box office the day of the event. AMC Waterfront 22, 300 West Waterfront Dr. West Homestead, PA 15120
412-462-6550

Autism Sharing and Parenting

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

6:15pm-8pm

CBH

8th & Market, 7th floor

Philadelphia, PA 19107

(8th St. entrance across from 'ROSS')

Light meal provided

Executive Function for Individuals on the Spectrum

Presented by Dr. Rosemarie Manfredi - Center for Autism Research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Executive function is an area rarely explored nor understood by families and teachers, yet these difficulties can have a significant impact on academics, daily life and social functioning. Issues in executive function are not limited to attention and organization, but include emotional control and regulation, flexibility, planning, processing, sequencing, inhibition, initiating, working memory and much more! In this talk, Dr. Manfredi will discuss what executive functions are, as well as strategies that parents and teachers can use to help individuals with executive functioning difficulties.

*Call RSVP Line: 215-413-7106 ~or~ Email: NASYA06@MSN.COM

Save the Date: May 14th - ASP's FUNdraiser -Line dancing, Prizes & much more!

Everything parents should know but aren't being told about their child's IEP" Woodlands Wellness Speaker Series

Woodlands Wellness Center presents Lori Breen "Everything Parents Should Know But Aren't Being Told About Their Child's IEP". Please join us for this free event at the Woodlands 134 Shenot Road, Wexford PA 15090. RSVP to Sarah Fagan at 724-935-5470 x227.

THE CAMP ar FAMILYLINKS

A Specialized Summer Program for Children on the Autism Spectrum. Aug. 8-12 & Aug. 15-19 from 10am-3pm - Safe & Nurturing Environment - Qualified Staff - Daily Outdoor Activities Sensory Activities - Socialization Opportunities

The camp will be held at 2644 Banksville Road, Pittsburgh PA 15216

For more information contact Mia Tamburri at 412.942.0609 or visit our website www.familylinks.org

The NH TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer)

Team is for children ages 8 to 19 with any disabilities. Our goal is to give children exercise and a sense of pride in themselves while teaching them sportsmanship and teamwork. They even learn to play soccer in the process!

Sponsored by the North Hills Soccer Club since 1997, the program is open to children from any community. The cost is only \$10 per player per season.

We meet on Saturday mornings beginning in April, 10:15 AM to 11:30 AM, at Tyler Field on Sangree Road in Ross Township.

For more information and a registration form, contact Janet Wargo, by April 12, 2011, at coachjanw@aol.com or 412-366-0984.

Family Fun Day at New Story School

Thursday, May 12, 2011

3 to 8 p.m.

New Story School, 715 Bilberry Road, Monroeville, PA 15146

www.newstory.com, phone 412.373.5235

A fun-filled event with all sorts of activities including a bounce house, games, crafts, and fun food! Also, a panel discussion on "Navigating the Systems-What to Do if a Child is Diagnosed with Special Needs. . .". Performance by M&M Dance Academy and a performance by Magician, Bill Heh! Free Admission, All are Welcome!

Families in Japan with ASD Loved Ones Need Your Help

Tsuyoshi Kitahara of Japan, one of the founding members of the Global Autism Alliance, wrote to me recently and described the current situation in Japan.

"More than 300,000 people became refugees, had to abandon their home due to problem hit by the earthquake, the tsunami, and the radiation leak. They all live in indoor tennis courts, gym, basketball gym or any other facilities, areas offered by Governments etc. Families with children under spectrum suffer further challenge as often kids do not stay that quiet and they have to live or sleep in vans, cars in order not to trouble the others who are already under severe stress and fatigue. Here again, there is another stress and challenges for these families, I am trying to find what kind of assistance I could provide besides praying the best for them."

ARI has called on doctors and researchers within our network to provide nutritional and medical advice to these families, and they have been very responsive.

In addition, ARI will work closely with a family support organization in Japan called "5A Families," which stands for Autism, Asperger, ADD/ADHD, Asthma and Atopy. We appreciate any financial help from the autism community to support ARI's collaborative efforts with "5A Families."

[CLICK HERE to donate & help relief efforts for Japanese families](#) - In the field marked "Donation in Honor of," please type: "Families in Japan" - we can assure you that 100% percent of the monies donated to this cause will be dedicated to working with "5A Families" to

provide help to these families.

CINCO DE MAYO DANCE

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011

7:00 PM-10:00 PM

\$10.00 Per Person

7:00 PM-10:00 PM

Dance For Teens with
intellectual and developmental disabilities
(Ages 13-21)

You must be between ages 13-21 to attend.

Enjoy soft drinks, cookies, cheese and pepperoni, and chips, take home your own party favor, get a chance to win door prizes, receive 3 tickets for our special drawing and enjoy music from our professional DJ. We have a Chinese Auction raffle and we have friendly volunteers to get everyone up and dancing!

These dances are a fun way to help teens develop social skills and healthy friendships with their peers.

The dances listed above will be held at Peters Place Restaurant,
1199 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017, Kirwin Heights - Exit 55 (Old Exit 12) off I-79.
You must be between ages 13-21 to attend.

Ways to register: Mail or fax the form attached below to Exceptional Adventures ▪ Email sblonski@pfq.org or acampbell@pfq.org ▪ Register online at www.exceptionaladventures.com ▪ Register by phone. (Phone registrations are only acceptable with a Credit Card Payment.) We recommend that you pre register for this dance to ensure admission; however, we will take registrations at the door - if space is available. If you have questions about registering please call 412-446-0713.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

www.walkforahealthycommunity.org



**Select ABOARD as the organization that
you would like to support.**



Come out and walk for ABOARD!

Walk Details:

WHERE: Heinz Field, Pittsburgh

WHEN: Saturday May 21, 2011

REGISTRATION: Starts at 7:15am

5K WALK START: 9:00am

ONE-MILE FUN WALK START: 9:15am

Call 412-781-4116 or email autismwalk@aboard.org with any questions.

ABOARD and the families that we serve thank you for your support!

Spring will be here soon and it's time to start thinking about supporting ABOARD at the 9th annual Walk for a Healthy Community presented by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. This year's fundraiser benefits 67 local health and human service agencies in Southwestern PA, including ABOARD. Because all costs are underwritten by Highmark ABOARD receives 100% of the money that is collected.

To register, go to www.walkforahealthycommunity.org and select ABOARD as the

organization that you would like to support. Would you like to be a team leader? On the website you can register as an individual walker, team leader or just make a donation. Pre-register and donate \$25 to receive a t-shirt on walk day!

Here is a way to see a great show & support ABOARD all in one night!



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
COMMUNITY PARTNERS CONCERT WITH
BOYZ II MEN
JUNE 23, 2011 • 7:30 PM • HEINZ HALL

PSO
LOH
LARAIA

Join the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Resident Conductor Lawrence Loh for the eighth annual PSO Community Partners Concert. This year's performance features the sounds of Boyz II Men and the winner of the renowned 2011 Sphinx Competition, Paul Laraia. The PSO's Community Partners Concerts have raised more than \$539,000 for partnering nonprofit groups since they began in 2004.

Pittsburgh Symphony Community Partners Concert
Featuring BOYZ II MEN
WOW TWO GREAT EVENINGS ONLY THAT BOTH BENEFIT ABOARD!

**Now the Great Fortnight is off that both benefit ABOARD.
Thank you to our supporters who are hosting these events for ABOARD.**



first annual
**Spring Fling
for Autism**
at Grazie!
100 Village Drive, Wexford, PA

Featuring:
The Rozanne Matthews Band
Pamela Bick and
The Warehouse
The Rump Shakers
Miss Freddie and Blue Taze

REGISTER

Saturday, April 30, 2011
From 4 til 9 pm
Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door
Drink and food specials, raffles, prizes
Purchase tickets online at www.aboard.org
Benefitting the Advisory Board on Autism and Related Disorders (ABOARD)



ABOARD & Castle Family
Fund Present....

*The Royal
Masquerade
Bowl*

benefitting families of
Autism Spectrum Disorders

Saturday May 7 • 9pm
Prior's Tap & Tavern
inside Princess Lanes
540 Waymen Road
412.882.5557

Tickets (21+)

General Admission \$20-
includes: 2 drink tickets, Hors
d'oeuvres, bowling, specialty drinks,
silent auctions, costume prizes and
more!

\$20 before April 18th
\$25 April 19th-May 6th
\$30 at the door

costumes & masks
enthusiastically
encouraged!

to purchase tickets go to
aboard.org or call
412.449.0165

[Tickets on sale now](#) to get the early bird special!

Tickets will not be mailed for this event, but you are registered once you finish registration.

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

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This workshop is specifically designed to meet IEP, Transition, United Way of Allegheny County Contributor Choice Account Number 68817.

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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.



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