



# THE SPECTRUM

MARCH 2011

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ARC OF MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Friend,

It is our intent to share with you the importance of connecting with your own legislator so that the needs and values of people with disabilities and their families are represented on Beacon Hill.

The decisions made by the Massachusetts legislature directly affect the amount of money paid to Direct Care Workers, Personal Care Attendants (PCAs), Family Support Services, Vocational Training Opportunities, Early Intervention and Residential Programs. They also affect the future of the individuals we represent - where people can expect to live, to work and to choose with whom one shares one's life.

The priorities and amounts of money allocated for services that we depend on are directly affected by phone calls, letters and visits legislators receive from their constituents. **If persons with disabilities and their families are not alerting their own legislators to the need for more funding for services, transportation or salaries for direct care workers, their legislators assume that these are not important issues or that they are adequately funded.**

Democracy is all about the folks at home, the people who vote for individual legislators, the people who elect them to the State House. The more the disability community is aware of this and feels comfortable with the political process, the more successful we will be in expanding services as well as preventing cuts during these difficult times.

We hope you see that participating in legislative advocacy is simply the beginning of a long journey in political activism. We hope you can become leaders in your own local Arc's governmental affairs efforts. The times are not getting any easier. If we are not bold and fight as hard as we can, we are not doing justice to ourselves and our family member. Thank you for joining us in this journey.

Frederick M. Misilo, Jr., Esq.

Leo V. Sarkissian

President

Executive Director

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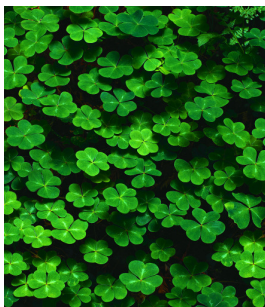
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## HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Stay in touch with advocacy organizations like the [Arc of Mass.](#) and [Northeast Arc.](#)
2. Get to know your state senator and legislator.
3. Share your family story and how services have benefitted your family member by completing the form on page 9, mail it to ASC.
4. Respond to legislative "alerts" by contacting your state legislators.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASC

### LifeQuest Workshop Series:

#### The Journey to Adulthood for Individuals with Disabilities

#### **Options: Work or College?**

Tuesday, March 8th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

6 Southside Rd, Danvers MA

Cost: \$5.00 per workshop

School to work is a stressful time for families. Learn about some of the options available, and gather information about agencies and schools that will assist you on this leg of your journey. Representatives from: Institute for Community Inclusion, Work Opportunities Unlimited, Northeast Arc, Best Buddies Jobs, EMARC School to Work, Futures, Spotlight, TILL, North Shore Community College, UMass/Lowell, Middlesex Community College and more.

For more information, contact Aymee Lucifora at 978-624-2381 or by e-mail at [alucifora@ne-arc.org](mailto:alucifora@ne-arc.org)

#### **Massachusetts Advocates Workshop**

When: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 10 am to 12 noon

Where: Lowell Area Office, Dept. of Developmental Services, 325 Chelmsford Street, Lowell

Presenter: Dena Steiling, Educational Advocate,

Massachusetts Advocates for Children, Autism Project

*What is the obligation of the public school systems to meet the unique needs of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)?*

This workshop will help parents understand the rights and procedures which ensure children with ASD receive educational opportunities which reflect competency and potential. *To ensure we have enough materials, please RSVP by February 28th. Contact Whitney Ryan at 978 624 2305 or email [wryan@ne-arc.org](mailto:wryan@ne-arc.org)*

#### **9th Annual Camp & Rec Fair**

March 3rd from 4-6 pm

6 Southside Road, Danvers

Check out what's happening in recreation and camp programs from all over. We will have activities to keep the kids busy while parents visit the exhibitors. For more info contact ASC at 978-777-9135.

#### **IEP Clinic @ ASC: March 15th from 12 noon to 1:30 pm**

**Special Transitioning Clinic.** What is a Transition Planning Form? How should the form look for a student who is age 14? What does the law require in terms of transitioning? Learn what other parents are doing to ease their child's transitioning to adulthood by using the IEP to ensure a smooth transition. Advocates will advise about goals, benchmarks and creative solutions. Limited appointments. Fee: \$15. More info? Call Susan at 978-624-2302 or Gloria at 978-624-2301.

LIFE QUEST  
...a great  
opportunity to  
network with  
other families,  
your greatest  
allies as you  
proceed on  
your journey.

## Understand and Reduce Challenging Behaviors: A four-part series for parents of children on the autism spectrum.

### THE AUTISM SUPPORT CENTER

Guest speaker:

Renee Dean, M.A., Ed., BCBA

Educational Consultant

Melmark New England

March 9, 16, 23, & 30 at 6-8 pm

6 Southside Road, Danvers

Cost: \$80 per family\*



**Renee Dean of Melmark New England** will be providing four 2-hour sessions on dealing with behavior challenges in the home. Ms. Dean will discuss using reinforcement to increase skills and decrease challenging behavior; communication issues; visual supports; and other relevant topics. The format will provide opportunities for parent questions and discussion. Professionals are also welcome.

*\*Scholarships may be available to low-income families on an as needed basis. Please contact Gloria Ricardi Castillo & 978-624-2301 or Susan Gilroy @ 978-624-2302*

Please RSVP by calling Stephanie at 978-624-2311 or email [sgammons@ne-arc.org](mailto:sgammons@ne-arc.org).

The \$80 fee is payable prior to the start of the series.

## ASC SUPPORT GROUPS

### Acton

*ASC Sponsored; Target Group: Mandarin-speaking parents.*

Acton Memorial Library, 486 Main St (Rt. 27) Acton; bi-monthly meetings TBA

Parent facilitator: Wen Li

Contact ASC 978-777-9135 or [asc@ne-arc.org](mailto:asc@ne-arc.org)

### Danvers

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Grandparents*

6 Southside Road, Danvers; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 10-11:30 am

Contact facilitator Susan Gilroy 978-624-2302 or email [sgilroy@ne-arc.org](mailto:sgilroy@ne-arc.org)

### Danvers

*ASC/AANE sponsored; Target Group: Adults (over 18) with Asperger's syndrome*

6 Southside Road, Danvers; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm

Contact facilitator Gail Kastorf at 617-393-3824 ext. 42 or [gail.kastorf@aane.org](mailto:gail.kastorf@aane.org)

### Danvers **NEW!**

*ASC/AANE sponsored; Target Group: Parents of Adults with Asperger's syndrome*

6 Southside Road, Danvers; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm

Contact facilitator Gail Kastorf at 617-393-3824 ext. 42 or [gail.kastorf@aane.org](mailto:gail.kastorf@aane.org)

### Lawrence

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Spanish-speaking parents of children with disabilities*

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, 700 Essex St, Lawrence; 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 9:30-11:30am

Contact facilitator Gloria Castillo 978-624-2301 or [gcastillo@ne-arc.org](mailto:gcastillo@ne-arc.org)

### Lowell

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Parents of children with ASD*

DDS Lowell Area Office 325 Chelmsford St. Lowell; 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10:00 to 12:00

Contact facilitator Whitney Ryan 978-624-2305 or [wryan@ne-arc.org](mailto:wryan@ne-arc.org)

### Newburyport

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Parents of children with ASD*

Newburyport Public Library, 94 State St, Newburyport; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:30-8:30pm

Parent facilitator: Nancy Lucier

Contact ASC for more info 978-777-9135 or email [ASC@ne-arc.org](mailto:ASC@ne-arc.org)

### Reading

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Parents of children with ASD*

Location: EMARC, 34 Gould Street, Reading, Date to be determined; at 7pm

Contact parent facilitator Kim Gargano 781-526-9171 or [kimgargs@yahoo.com](mailto:kimgargs@yahoo.com)

### Woburn

*ASC sponsored; Target Group: Parents of children with ASD*

Location: CM Family Support Center, 100 Sylvan Rd, Suite G-800, Woburn, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 6 pm

Contact facilitator Scott Buchanan at 978-624-2347 or [sbuchanan@ne-arc.org](mailto:sbuchanan@ne-arc.org)

### Lynn

*Northeast Arc sponsored; Target Group: Parents of children with DD*

Location: Lynn Public Library, 5 No. Common Street, Lynn; 10 am Date to be announced

Contact: Aymee Lucifora, Co-director, Family Resources 978-624-2381 or [alucifora@ne-arc.org](mailto:alucifora@ne-arc.org)



### Board

meeting:

March 8 @ 10

a.m. is the

next meeting

of ASC's

Parent

Advisory Policy

Committee

(PAPC).

Contact Susan

or Gloria at

978-777-

9135.

## SIBSHOPS

### The Sibshop Collaborative of the North East

105 Elliot Street, Danvers, MA 01923 [Sibshopcollaborativene@gmail.com](mailto:Sibshopcollaborativene@gmail.com)

An exciting program just for brothers and sisters (4-7, 8-13 or Teens) of a child with any developmental, behavioral health, medical or mental illness

**Next meeting for 8-13 year olds: April, day to be determined 10:00-2:00pm**

**Next meeting for 4-7 year olds: March, day to be determined 9:30-noon**

**Email [sibshopcollaborativene@gmail.com](mailto:sibshopcollaborativene@gmail.com) to register for each Sibshop.**

Mail fee (\$20 for 8-13yr old Sibshop, \$15 for 4-7 yrs) to sponsoring agency 7 days ahead.

**For the 2010/2011 Calendar go to:**

<http://nsmc.partners.org/cmsLibrary/documents/Sibshop2010-2011calendar.pdf>



"Sibshops acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing, and for many, somewhere in-between."

## CONFERENCE

### Visions of Community 2011

Keynote speaker: Actor, screenwriter, and essayist - Marianne Leone author of *Knowing Jesse - A Mother's Story of Grief, Grace, and Everyday Bliss*

The Federation for Children with Special Needs is excited to announce this year's **Visions of Community Conference** - Informing, Educating, & Empowering Families and the Professionals Who Serve Them will be held **Saturday March 12, 2011** at the Seaport/World Trade Center-Boston. The conference features dozens of break-out sessions (many presented and/or translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and Cantonese) with topical strands and information covering Early Childhood, Special Education, No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Health Care for Children with Special Needs, Transition, Social/Recreation Opportunities and more. Network with other parents and families and pick up free resources in our exhibit hall packed with more than 60 vendors. <http://fcsn.org/conferences/voc2011.php>

## WORKSHOP

### Building Confidence, Not Walls: Helping Kids Cope with Bullying

Join us for a special two part workshop series that will give parents, teachers and caregivers the skills they need to help kids cope with the bully dynamic. Learn ways to help kids avoid becoming the victim or the bully. Learn what you can do to help them manage tough situations in a positive and productive way.

PRESENTER: Kathleen Bartolini, M.A.

DATE: Part 1: March 10, 2011

Part 2: March 24, 2011

TIME: 7:00-9:00pm

TO REGISTER CONTACT: [Kathleen@greatparentsgreatkids.net](mailto:Kathleen@greatparentsgreatkids.net)

\$40 for both workshops; \$25 for each individual workshop

LOCATION: Stepping Stones - *new location*

640 Primrose Street, Haverhill, MA 01830

## CREATIVE MOVEMENT

The Northeast Arc Recreation Department will once again offer our creative movement program led by Mary Beth Trapeni, MA, ADTR.

When: Saturday mornings for 6 weeks, March 5th to April 9th

Where: 6 Southside Road, Danvers

9:30 to 10:15 (45 min for 3 to 7 year olds) Fee \$60

**EXPRESSIVE MOVEMENT (Ages 3-7):** This group will allow children to express themselves through movement in a relaxed and creative atmosphere. Bring your energy and creativity! Movement repertoire will develop and movement confidence will shine. The therapeutic goals for the group will be on improving body image and body awareness, motor skills, social skills, and stress management.

10:30 to 11:15 (45 min for 8 to 10 year olds) Fee \$72

**FITNESS FUN (ages 8-12):** This 45-minute class will start with a daily warm-up that will become familiar to all participants by the session's end. After the warm-up, we will explore a motor activity of the day. These activities will focus on balance skills, eye hand coordination, team skills and good old-fashioned gross motor fun. Let's exercise for fun!

To register for either of the Creative Movement courses contact the Recreation Department either by phone at 978-624-2308 or via email at [recreation@ne-arc.org](mailto:recreation@ne-arc.org)



## UNDERSTANDING SERVICES AND BENEFITS

### Understanding Services & Benefits for Children & Youth With Special Health Care Needs:

A free opportunity for providers and parents to learn about resources, services and supports

When: Thursday, April 14, 2011, 9:00-4:00 (Coffee & registration starts at 8:45AM)

Where: Tewksbury Hospital Events Room, 365 East Street, Tewksbury, MA

Lunch provided

Register by Wednesday, April 7 to: Michelle Woodbury at (978) 851-7261 or

[Michelle.woodbury@state.ma.us](mailto:Michelle.woodbury@state.ma.us)

If you have a change in plans: Please call, so those on our wait list may attend.

Early Intervention Competency 5.6 Available

Please bring information about your program for our resource table

Sponsored by Department of Public Health CYSHCN's Care Coordination, Family TIES, Early Intervention, Department of Mental Health Children's Services, & Department of Developmental Services

DON'T MISS IT!!

The Autism Support Center is pleased to present

# The 9th Annual Camp & Recreation Fair

Thursday, March 3rd

4 to 6 pm

6 Southside Road, Danvers

Contact ASC at 978-777-9135 for more information or check our

website [www.ne-arcautismsupportcenter.org/](http://www.ne-arcautismsupportcenter.org/)



## MARCH 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Lowell MAC workshop 10 am	2 Woburn group 6 pm	3 FAIR! 4-6 pm	4	5
6	7	8 Parents of Adults with AD 6:30 LIFEQUEST 6:30 PM	9 Behavior workshop 6pm	10 Newburyport group 6:30 pm	11	12
13	14	15 IEP CLINIC 12 NOON	16 Behavior workshop 6pm Adults with Asperger's Group 7 pm	17	18 Spanish group/Lawrence 9:30 am	19
20	21 Grand- parents group 10 am	22	23 Behavior workshop 6pm	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Behavior workshop 6pm	31		

Please see page 4 for support group details; see page 2 for workshop details.

## TEN INFORMAL RULES OF LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

The Ten Informal Rules of Advocacy or

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Advocacy But Never Thought to Ask

1. **Consider yourself an information source.** Legislators have limited time, staff, and interest on any one issue. They can't be as informed as they might like on all the issues - or the ones that concern you. You can fill the information gap.
2. **Tell the truth.** There is no faster way to lose your credibility than to give false or misleading information to a legislator.
3. **Know who else is on your side.** It is helpful for a legislator to know what other groups, individuals, state agencies and/or legislators are working with you on an issue.
4. **Know the opposition.** Anticipate who the opposition will be - organized or individual. Tell the legislator what their arguments are likely to be and provide them with answers and rebuttals to those arguments.
5. **Make the legislator aware of any personal connection you may have.** No matter how insignificant you may feel it is, if you have friends, relatives, and/or colleagues in common, LET THEM KNOW. Our legislative process is very informal and though it may make no difference in your effectiveness, it may make the difference.
6. **Don't be afraid to admit you don't know something.** If the legislator wants information you don't have, or asks something you don't know, tell them and then offer to get the information they are looking for.
7. **Be specific about what you are asking for.** If you want a vote, information, answers to a question - whatever it is - make sure you ask directly and get an answer.
8. **Follow up.** It is very important to find out if your legislator did what he/she said they would. It is very important that you then thank them if they did, or ask them for an explanation as to why they did not vote as they said they would, etc...
9. **Don't "burn any bridges."** It is very easy to get emotional over issues you feel strongly about. That's fine, but be sure that no matter what happens you leave your dealings on good enough terms that you can go back to them. Remember, your strongest opposition on one issue may be your strongest ally on the next.
10. **REMEMBER YOU ARE THE BOSS!** Your tax money pays the legislators' salaries, pays for the paper they write on, the phone they call you on. You are the employer and they are the employee. You should be courteous, but don't be intimidated. They are responsible to you and nine times out of ten, legislators are grateful for your input.

"....nine times out of ten, legislators are grateful for your input."

The Arc of Massachusetts

217 South Street

Waltham, MA 02453-2769

(781) 891-6270 [arcmass@arcmass.org](mailto:arcmass@arcmass.org) [www.arcmass.org](http://www.arcmass.org)

# Legislative Share Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

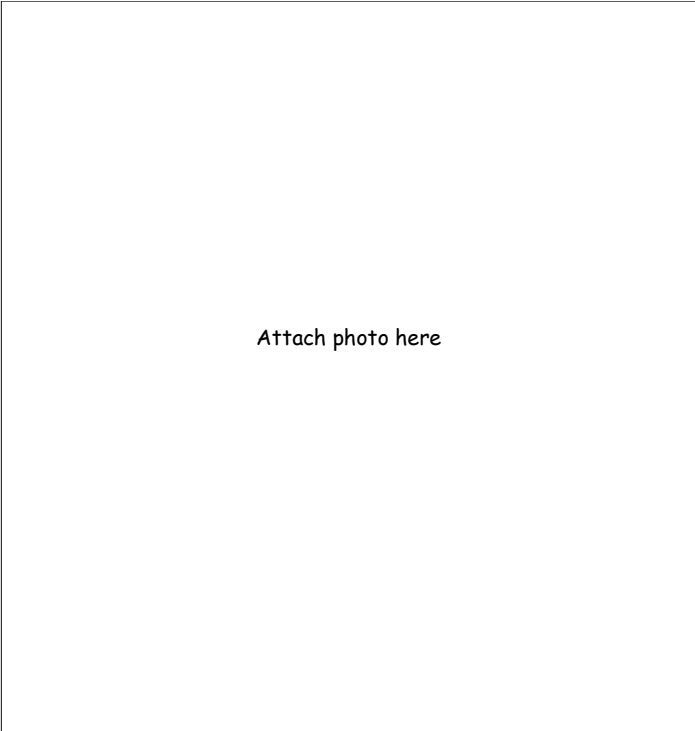
*Family Member Contact (if different from above)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



*Why the services I receive are important to me and my family:*

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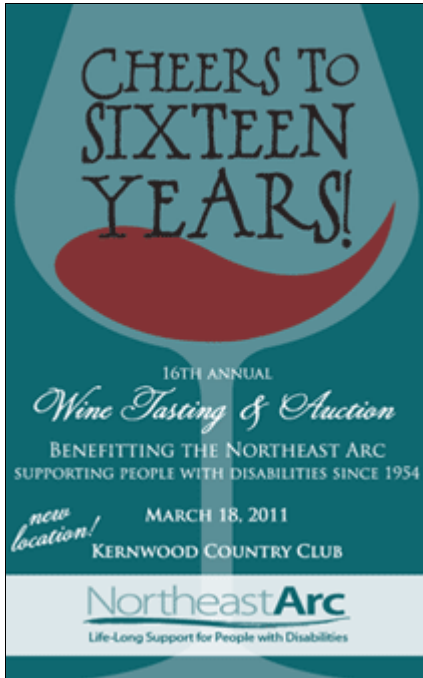


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◇ Please check here if we can post your story on the NeArc website.

Mail your completed form to: ASC, 6 Southside Road, Danvers, MA 01923. We will share your comments with Massachusetts legislators.

## Please Save the Date



16th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction to benefit the Northeast Arc.

Friday, March 18, 2011  
7:00 PM

Kernwood Country Club  
Salem, Massachusetts

Auction items to include artwork, vacation trips, gift baskets, sporting events, and much more.

[Order tickets online](#)

For more information, contact Becky Landry at 978-624-2401 or email [blandry@ne-arc.org](mailto:blandry@ne-arc.org)



The Northeast Arc is hosting a grand opening reception for the new ArcWorks Community Art Center on 22 Foster Street in Peabody. The grand opening celebration, free and open to the public, will take place on Thursday, March 3, 2011 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The evening will commence with an exhibit; "Visions of the Past" followed by a reception to celebrate the new Community Art Center and the masterful restoration of the Old Bull Pen mural by Waldo Peirce, 1940.

[More Information](#)

## CAREGIVER NEEDED

Respite/skills trainer to work with a well behaved 16.5 year old teenage boy who has autism is non-verbal and has epilepsy, although not usually during the daytime. This person would need to be able to be involved in activities such as swimming, snowshoeing, movies, bookstores, out to eat, for walks, or the mall. The hours are Saturday 11am-5pm and/or school vacations Mon - Fri: 11am-5pm.

If you are interested please contact: Kerry Cavanaugh at Tyngsboro Public Schools for more information: (978) 649-8914 or email: [kerry.cavanaugh@tyngsboroughps.org](mailto:kerry.cavanaugh@tyngsboroughps.org).

## RESEARCH

I am seeking parents of 3-21 year olds with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). My name is Kathleen Ryan and I am a 5th year doctoral student in Psychology at Antioch University New England. My dissertation is on the needs of parents who have a child with ASD. The questionnaire is anonymous and its purpose is to identify specific services parents feel they need for themselves and their families.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ASDParentalneeds>

Please use this link for additional information or to take the survey. If you would prefer a paper survey form please contact Kate Ryan at [ASDKateRyan@gmail.com](mailto:ASDKateRyan@gmail.com)

### North Shore Area families needed!

Teens' Recreation and Activity Choices (TRAC) research study

Opportunities to take part in the study in **Peabody and Salem**. The goal of the TRAC study is to learn more about what teens ages 13-18 with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) or autism spectrum disorders (ASD) do in their free time. Our overall goal at the Shriver Center is to develop health promotion initiatives (prevention and intervention programs) for children and adults with developmental disabilities. In terms of the TRAC study, we hope that a better understanding of how teens with ID or ASD spend their free time will be an important first step toward designing effective health promotion programs for them.

For info contact Melissa at 781-642-0292 or [shriverhealth@umassmed.edu](mailto:shriverhealth@umassmed.edu)

## LECTURE

The LURIE CENTER LADDERS of MGH Program is proud to offer the Annual Roger A. Bauman Parent Lecture Series

Thursday March 24, 2011, "Early Screening/Diagnosis/Treatment/Supporting Families And Providing Resources For Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders", Dr. Roula Choueiri, Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician, Tufts Medical Center Floating Hospital/CCSN, Dr. Sheldon Wagner, Behavioral Psychologist, Bernadette Bentley, Autism Resource Specialist, Autism Consortium/Tufts Medical Center Floating Hospital/CCSN.

**Where:** Charles River Center, Needham, MA (59 E. Militia Heights Rd, located at the top of Dwight Rd, off of Central Street) located in the Paul D. Merritt Building, basement conference room [www.charlesrivercenter.org](http://www.charlesrivercenter.org)

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8:30pm To register, Please contact Julie O'Brien, Family Support Clinician, LURIE CENTER LADDERS of MGH for Children at 781-860-1726 or [jobrien20@partners.org](mailto:jobrien20@partners.org)

*\*Childcare may be available by preregistration and confirmation prior to the workshop*

## FARM DAYS FOR TEENS

**The Holland Project: Farm Days Program for Teens (14-20)** with Autism and Other Developmental Delays is back for another session.

An integrated farming and agricultural Saturday program for teens diagnosed with autism and other developmental delays. The program is designed for the teens to have a typically developing volunteer from the community to assist them. Each program participant will experience the many educational, therapeutic, vocational and social benefits of working on a farm with a peer and caring for shelter animals on a farm setting.

Program Structure:

6 Wk Saturday program beginning April 2nd from 9:30:am - 11:00 am.

- 1:1 ratio participant to volunteer
- 7 participants
- Additional volunteer staff include special needs teachers and a LICSW.

Activities: include working in the barn or in the shelter

Participant Requirements:

- Ability to handle the physical aspects of the program and interact with animals
- Behavioral assessment/intake questionnaire completed by parent, caregiver, or educator prior to start of program.
- Screening for medical conditions or allergies that might interfere with the participation of the program

Questions?: Eileen Mitchell [info@thehollandproject.org](mailto:info@thehollandproject.org) Phone: 978-510-1527

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Youth Leadership Forum is an overnight conference for transition age (ages 16-24) youth with disabilities. It is an opportunity for youth to learn resources that can help them in their adult lives.

Participants of the YLF sleep in dormitories at Bridgewater State University during their YLF experience. Activities include workshops & discussions on topics such as assistive technology, independent living, employment, college & higher education, advocacy, the disability rights movement, and how to contribute to the community. Presenters include disability community leaders, legislators, celebrities, and other adult role models who have disabilities.

The Youth Leadership Forum will be held at Bridgewater State University in July 2011. To learn more, or to apply, please contact: Colleen Flanagan, [cflanagan@eastersealsma.org](mailto:cflanagan@eastersealsma.org) , 1-800-2756 ext. 410.

## TEEN (14-19 YRS.) TRANSITION GROUP

### Spotlight Transition Group

Saturdays 1:30-4:30 pm April 2nd—May 21st at 6 Southside Road, Danvers

Curriculum Includes Community Based Field Trips, Guest Speakers, Support Groups.

Skills Worked On: Independence, Self Awareness and Identity, Community Living (planning, budgeting, public transportation), Understanding Dating and Relationships, Community Interactions

Daily Living (personal presentation, organization, hygiene), Healthy Living, Education and Employment

To apply, register or for more information, contact Rebecca Girard at [rgirard@ne-arc.org](mailto:rgirard@ne-arc.org) or 978.624.2314



SAVE THE DATE!

*20<sup>th</sup>*

*Anniversary Celebration  
Autism Support Center*

*Special guest:  
Karen Levine, Ph..D.*

*April 29, 2011, 7p.m to 11 p.m.*

*Spinelli's  
Route 1 South, Lynnfield  
Details to come.....*

Check our website!

[www.NE-arcAutismSupportCenter.org](http://www.NE-arcAutismSupportCenter.org)

## THE AUTISM SUPPORT CENTER

Center for Developmental Excellence

6 Southside Road

Danvers, MA 01923

Phone: 978-777-9135

E-mail: [asc@ne-arc.org](mailto:asc@ne-arc.org)



The Autism Support Center is celebrating 20 years of supporting and empowering families in northeastern Massachusetts.

## THE SPECTRUM

*The Spectrum* is a monthly electronic publication of the Autism Support Center:

6 Southside Road

Danvers, MA 01923

978-777-9135 or 800-7-AUTISM (in Eastern MA)

E-mail: [asc@ne-arc.org](mailto:asc@ne-arc.org)

[www.ne-arc-autismsupportcenter.org](http://www.ne-arc-autismsupportcenter.org)

This newsletter is published to inform parents and professionals of resource information, upcoming events, and other autism-related topics. ASC is funded primarily by

the Mass. Dept. of Developmental Services. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the funding source. ASC does not endorse any product, service or theory referred to in this newsletter. Articles, resources and announcements are included for information only.

Anyone wishing to contribute information for this newsletter should send it to [asc@ne-arc.org](mailto:asc@ne-arc.org) or to our mailing address above. Parent contribu-

tions are encouraged. *Announcements are included as space is available.*

### NEWSLETTER STAFF

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**NortheastArc**  
Life-Long Support for People with Disabilities

