

## **Resource Connection**

We are the **Center** of the **Autism** Community

Volume 20, Issue 76 Summer 2018



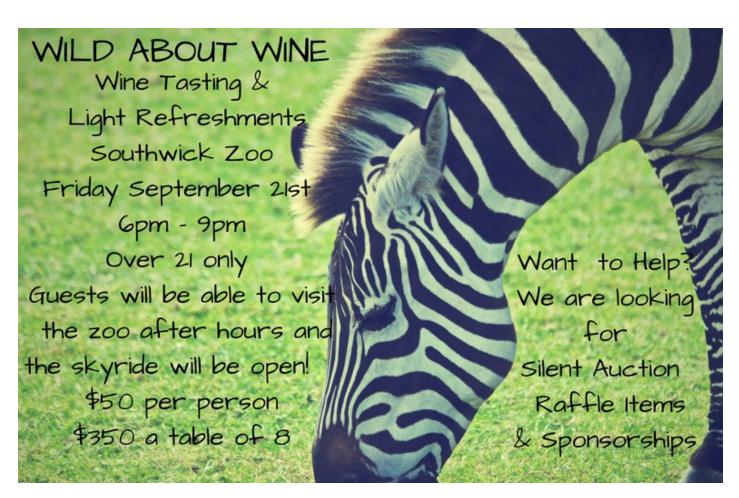
Volume 20, Issue 76 Resource Connection

# **Director's Note —We're Moving!**

It is with great excitement that we announce that HMEA's Autism Resource Central will be moving from our current location to a new home on Plantation Street in Worcester. This has been a wish for several years. We've been off a public bus line for 12 years, ever since we moved to our Sterling Street Location in 2006. When we first moved here we only occupied about 1/3 of the space in this location. In 2006 we had 5 staff members, 3 of which were part time employees. We now have 8 employees so the space has become a bit cramped. HMEA's IFF's program and MFOFC program share this space with us and will continue to share space with us in Worcester. This is a natural alliance, we all have similar missions: Family Support and Education. The big news is that we will also be sharing the new location with HMEA's Children's ABA Services as they expand, offering Center Based Services. This feels like another good fit and also meets a critical need for families in our area.

We'll have distinctly separate spaces but will share conference rooms and be able to better collaborate. This is a dream come true and we look forward to having an open house in the fall so you can all come and see our new home.

In other news, we are launching our Respitality Initiative this summer with two lucky families receiving a get away . Interested? See page 3 and submit your application for the drawing. In order to make this a regular offering for families we are hosting a special FUNdraising event on September 21, 2018. I hope you will all join us for what promises to be an enjoyable evening. Check it out below!



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### RESPITATLITY

We are quite excited to be launching a new initiative, Respitality. What is it?

HMEA's Autism Resource Central's Respitality will give caregivers a break, in a local hotel, with complimentary meals and extras such as gift certificates, spa services, flowers and tickets to local events. While caregivers are relaxing and enjoying their night off, a stipend covers the cost of care for the loved one with a disability by a person of the caregivers' choice.

We know that providing care for a child or an adult with autism spectrum disorder requires energy and commitment. At HARC we understand the demands placed on a caregiver; we know that caregivers are often in a continuous state of alert and we know this stress can take its toll on families and relationships. HARC's Respitality will give caregivers a minivacation to relax, reconnect, recharge, refocus, recommit and reduce stress.

HARC is always seeking to expand our array of services for families and realize our vision for a future in which people with autism will have every opportunity to learn, grow, work, live and thrive in our community. As a community, we also embrace the families who provide care and assistance to children and adults with autism spectrum disorders.

We will be seeking sponsors for this program. Sponsorships will cover the respite payment to a family's provider. Donations of gifts in kind, gift certificates, tickets for entertainment, and gift certificates for spa services will all be requested as well as donations of hotel accommodations. Couples will be drawn in a lottery for available overnight get aways. We will launch with 2 getaways and then expand the program next fall. Watch our website and weekly updates for more information. We ask that those who receive respite from other sources refrain from entering.

We are thrilled to be partnering with Publick House in Sturbridge, which has donated two overnights with Dinner & Breakfast included. The Courtyard by Marriot in Westboro has donated accommodations for two with breakfast .

To apply to be considered for a Respitality Get Away, please fill out the application below and submit by June 29, 2018. Applicants must be family members registered with the Center. Winners will be selected in a random drawing.

\*

| Please fill in the | following information and return to                          |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| HMEA's Autism      | n Resource Central, 71 Sterling St , West Boylston MA        |   |
| Name:              |  |   |
|                    | licable):  |   |
|                    |  | _ |
|                    |  |   |
|                    |  | _ |
|                    | I 'm applying for a Respitality mini-vacation!               |   |
|                    | I own a business and would like to donate goods              |   |
|                    | or services to the Respitality program!                      |   |
|                    | I want to make a donation, Please contact me. Phone or email |   |
|                    | My donation is analosed                                      |   |

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### **Donations & Memorial Gifts**

### **DONATIONS**

Fran & Cathy Joyce

The First Parish Church Unitarian— Northboro

School Supplies from Reliable Bud

### In Memory of Florence Sullivan

Family Health Dental Center

Willows Remembrance Fund

### In Memory of George Tsoutsis

Joanna & Dimitrios Voyiatzis

Kristina Kyros

Goldie & Gorge Goros

**JUNE 28, 2018** 



### DR SEUSS MUSEUM

21 Edwards St Springfield, MA 10:45 AM

### SUMMER FUN BEGINS

JUNE 25, 2018



THE BUTTERFLY PLACE
120 TYNGSBORO RD,WESTFORD MA
10:30AM
PACK A PICNIC LUNCH
\$3 P/P UNDER 3 FREE.

DO YOU LIKE CAMPING?
JOIN US FOR FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND
JULY 20- 22



COME EXPLORE DURING THE DAY.

JOIN US FOR SATURDAY POT LUCK 6 PM

WILLARD BROOK AT DAMON POND

WE'VE RESERVED THE YURT - (LIMITED SPACE)

OTHER SITES AVAILABLE AT RESERVEAMERICA.COM
FOR THOSE WHO'D LIKE TO CAMP FOR THE WEEKEND

# FRIENDS & FAMILY MOVIES

July 13th & August 17th at 10 AM West Boylston Cinema - \$3/pp

40 40 40 40



### **DAD'S NIGHT OUT**



AUGUST 4, 2018
Arena Football @ DCU Center
Worcester Pirates vs LeHigh Valley
7 PM -\$7.00 pp

Family Fun Day at Breezy Picnic Grounds



10 AM- 1 PM

560 Northwest Main St Douglas

\$6 p/p under 2 free

August 15, 2018

Summer Fun for Teens & Young Adults

LaserGraze

166 Milk St. Westboro 6-8 PM

\$15 includes 2 games of laser tag, slice of pizza & \$5.00 arcade money

Parent Night Out
Runs Concurrently
Spices Punjabi Dhaba
164 Milk St







FAMILY FUN DAY AT GREAT WOLF LODGE SUNDAY SEPT 23RD SPONSORED BY



Register for Events @ www.autismresourcecentral.org or call 508-298-1610 Fees for Events are as stated on site

### **JUNE**



June 2 -3, 2018 Mother's Retreat

Colonial Hotel 630 Betty Spring Road Gardner, MA Fee: \$100.00

**Registration Closed** 

(\$50 refund upon arrival)

June 6, 2018

Parents of Adults Support Group
Parent Night Out
The 99 Restaurant
West Boylston St Worcester
7 –9 PM

June 12, 2018
CANDO Educational Series
Research & Clinical Trials

Lucy Lorin 6:30- 8 PM

June 13, 2018
Parents of Children
Support Group
7-9 PM

June 20, 2018
Parents of Teens & Teen Group
6-9 PM
Pizza & Movie

SUMMER VACATION FUN June 25, 2018 The Butterfly Place

120 Tyngsboro Rd Westford MA 10:30am

Pack a picnic lunch \$3 pp under 3 free.

### June 26, 2018 Mulligan's Mini Golf

124 Leominster Rd Sterling MA 10:30am Golf and either pizza/hotdog, chips and 20 oz drink \$5p/p

> June 27, 2018 Gardner Ten Pins

560 W Broadway Gardner 10:30 AM bowling and pizza \$5 pp

> June 28, 2018 Dr. Seuss Museum

21 Edwards St Springfield, MA 10:45AM \$5 pp under 3 free

June 29, 2018 Old Sturbridge Village

I Old Sturbridge Village Rd Sturbridge MA 10:30am \$5 pp 3 & under free

JULY
July 4, 2018
CENTER CLOSED

July 13, 2018 Friends & Family Movie

West Boylston Cinema
Rt 12 West Boylston 10 AM \$3 pp

July 20 – 22, 2018
Family Camping Weekend
Willard Brook State Park

10 Townsend Rd Ashby

July 24, 2018
Family Fun at the
Worcester Bravehearts
6:30pm

\$3 pp under 3 free

July 29, 2018 Family Fun Day at Breezy Picnic Grounds

560 Northwest Main St Douglas 10am \$6 p/p under 2 free

### **AUGUST**

August 4, 2018
DAD'S NIGHT OUT
Arena Football @ DCU CenterWorcester Pirates Vs LeHigh Valley

Worcester Pirates Vs LeHigh Valley 7 PM—\$7.00 pp

August 7, 2018 Family Fun at Urban Air Adventure Park

189 Mechanic St Bellingham MA 10:45 AM

\$12.00 per child participating includes Trampoline, Ropes Course, Climbing Wall and 2 pieces of pizza & drink . Parents wishing refreshments add \$5.00

August 15, 2018 Summer Fun for Teens & Adults

LaserCraze
166 Milk St Westborough
6PM -8pm
\$15 (2 games of laser tag, slice of pizza, and \$5.00 in arcade money)

Parent Night Out

Runs Concurrently at Spices Punjabi Dhaba 164 Milk St

> August 17, 2018 Friends & Family Movie

West Boylston Cinema 10 AM \$2.00/pp

August 21, 2018

Ecotarium

10:30am \$5 pp under 2 free

# **NEED HELP?**



# Does your family include someone with a developmental disability?

When a family includes a child with special needs parenting becomes even more of a challenge. There are no manuals and finding the help that is available becomes a full time job. Nobody has time for THAT! Learn how to navigate the system, receive assistance with applications, connect with others facing similar challenges, and give your other children the chance to explore their feelings about the difference in their family while having fun by participating in a Sibshop!

Through a grant from the Massachusetts Developmental Disability Council, HMEA's Autism Resource Central will bring this program to your Community Health Center and help you get a footing for the road forward. With the right supports your and your family can achieve more, feel the confidence that comes with knowledge, and experience less stress.

This program is open to ALL with a child diagnosed with a developmental delay. Call today to register.

# Free One Day Conference for Families with Disabilities Centro 437 Main St, Fitchburg MA July 25, 2018 10AM-4PM

### 10:15 AM — 12 PM SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW

Learn how to work effectively with your child's school to support your child to achieve goals and to learn.

### 12:15 PM – 2 PM SENSORY PROCESSING

Many children with disabilities also experience sensory challenges.

Learn how to make your child more comfortable in his world.

### 2:15 PM — 4 PM ACCESSING PUBLIC SUPPORTS

Learn about public supports that will help you raise your child with a disability. Get assistance with applying to DDS, Mass Health & more

### SIBLING SUPPORT 10 AM-1 PM

Brothers & Sisters often have questions and concerns about their sibling. Sibshops address the unique challenges these special siblings face in a fun format including games and food!



CHILDCARE, INTERPRETERS AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

508-835-4278



71 Sterling Street West Boylston MA

Phone: 508-835-4278 Fax: 508 -835-3723

Email: autism@HMEA.org

www.autismresourcecentral.org

SUMMER HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9 AM- 5 PM Friday 9 AM-3 PM

### We are the CENTER of the autism community

The Resource CONNECTION is a quarterly publication of HMEA's Autism Resource Central

The Autism Resource Center does not endorse any treatments, programs or products. Articles, announcements and resources are provided for information purposes only.

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