

1st Annual Golf Tournament
September 17th Quail Valley Golf Club



The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information regarding Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related disorders.
We do not necessarily endorse the information printed in this newsletter.



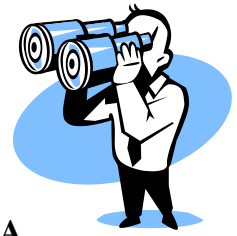
Calendar of Events

Inside this Issue	
	November 8 Baltimore County Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) Topic: <i>Twice Exceptional Learners</i> , Towson, 7:00 p.m.
Bowling 7	November 9 <i>Solution Circles</i> , Towson, 9:00 a.m.
This 'n That 9	November 9 Adult Autism Resource Group (AARG), Topic: <i>Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Guardianship and Related Issues</i> , Towson, 7:00 p.m.
Lavonnya 11	November 10 Professional Training Series: <i>Making Learning Sensational</i> , Baltimore, 8:00 a.m.
Movie Info. 13	November 11 <i>ASD and Language Processing</i> , Hunt Valley, 12:30 p.m.
November 13	Adult Issues Workshop Series: <i>Finance</i> , Columbia, 8:30 a.m.
November 13	Special Education Process and Legal Rights Workshop, Towson, 10:00 a.m.
November 14	Fourth Annual ASBC Bowling Social, Pikesville, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
November 16	<i>Sleep and Autism Spectrum Disorders</i> , Baltimore, 11:30 a.m.
November 18	Guy Talk Pot Luck, Towson, 6:30 p.m.
November 20	ASA/AMC Sensory Friendly Film: <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1</i> , White Marsh, 10:00 a.m.
December 1	Arc of Baltimore Moms Support Group, Towson, 6:30 p.m.
December 2	ASBC Support Group, Topic: <i>Anxiety and Effective Coping Strategies</i> , Mt. Washington, 7:00 p.m.
December 2-3	Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis: 13 th Annual Meeting & Pre- Conference Workshop, Baltimore
December 4	The Shafer Center Big Kids Club, Owings Mills, 11:00 a.m.
December 5-6	PECs Basic Training, Towson.
December 9	<i>Behavioral Issues in Autism: Why do they do that?</i> , Hunt Valley, 12:30 p.m.
December 11	ASA/AMC Sensory Friendly Film: <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i> , White Marsh, 10 a.m.
December 13	<i>Getting an Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnosis: Where do I go from here?</i> , Baltimore, 9:30 a.m.
December 13	Baltimore County SECAC, Towson, 7:00 p.m.
December 14	<i>Creating a Social Connection</i> , Towson, 9:00 a.m.
December 14	Adult Autism Resource Group (AARG), Towson, 7:00 p.m.
December 16	Guy Talk Pot Luck, Towson, 6:30 p.m.
January 5, 2011	Arc of Baltimore Moms Support Group, Towson, 6:30 p.m.
January 6	ASBC Support Group, Mt. Washington, 7:00 p.m.
January 10	Baltimore County SECAC, Towson, 7:00 p.m.
January 11	<i>More Than Words: How to Create an Effective Ad</i> , Towson, 9:00 a.m.
January 11	Adult Autism Resource Group (AARG), Towson, 7:00 p.m.



For updated events information, visit the BCC-ASA calendar at www.bcc-asa.org

Calendar Close-up



November 9th Adult Autism Resource Group (AARG)

The November meeting, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Ellen Feifarek in Towson, will feature *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Guardianship and Related Issues*, presented by **Sally Fite Stanfield, Esquire of Callegary & Steedman, P.A.**

Plan to join us for this informative evening. Call Ellen at 410-583-7633 during daytime hours if you plan to attend. If you have any specific questions, you can let Ellen know so that Sally will be sure to cover them. Hope to see you all!

December 2nd Support Group Meeting

Our **December support group** meeting will feature **Dr. Tana Hope** speaking about **anxiety and effective coping strategies**.

Looking ahead . . .

We are planning to have a discussion on **Relationships** and how to maintain and improve them within our families while facing the challenges of raising a child with autism. Although originally planned for our November meeting, we have moved this discussion to next year due to unforeseen circumstances.

Students from Towson University may be attending support meetings at times from November through January. We welcome them and appreciate that they are interested in learning more about our kids and the challenges and joys of living with a child with autism. These visits will certainly increase their effectiveness as teachers. See the article on Page 8 for more details about the students and their studies.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

In looking over the Calendar, did you see a workshop or seminar you *really* want to attend but *really* can't afford to at present? Keep in mind that each year, current BCC-ASA paid members are able to access funds to offset the cost of trainings, conferences, or workshop attendance. These funds are available from the **Charles Fowler, Sr. Memorial Fund** established to honor the memory of Chuck Fowler. To utilize these funds, submit a request before the event detailing the date, the event and funds requested. After the training, submit a copy of the registration form to BCC-ASA, P.O. Box 10822, Baltimore, MD 21234 or electronically to questions@bcc-asa.org and reimbursement will be mailed to you. That's quite a benefit for a \$10 investment in membership!

Autism Society's Options Policy . . .

Just a reminder that the Autism Society of Baltimore-Chesapeake adheres to the Autism Society's options policy that states *no single type of program or service will fill the needs of every individual with autism and that each person should have access to support services. At the very core of parent choice philosophy is the belief that no single program or treatment will benefit all individuals with autism. Providing information and education to help in decision-making are more highly regarded at the Autism Society than is advocating for one particular theory or philosophy.*

DETAILS, DETAILS, DETAILS . . .

(ABOUT THE CALENDAR ITEMS)

Monday, November 8, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Baltimore County Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting (this month, held in conjunction with The Citizens' Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education)

Twice Exceptional Learners

This committee is responsible for advising and making recommendations to the Board of Education on matters pertaining to students with disabilities in Baltimore County. Membership is open to parents, students, family members, community representatives, members of disability organizations, educators, administrators, and all other interested persons. Monthly meetings throughout the school year are held in Room 114 of the ESS Building, located on the Baltimore County Board of Education's Greenwood campus, 6901 Charles St., Towson. This month's topic: Twice Exceptional Learners presented by Karin Tulchinsky Cohen, Director of Training, Weinfeld Education Group. This presentation will focus on looking through the lens of four best practices: Teaching to learners' strengths, direct support in areas of need, adaptations and accommodations, and effective case management and home-school partnerships. Through film clips, case studies and discussion participants will learn about characteristics of 2E students, identification methods, exceptional program models, and parenting tips. FMI: Mary Baskar, Chair: 410-453-6644 or MARYAF@aol.com.



Tuesday, November 9, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Solution Circles

A presentation in the Toolkits and Takeaways Workshop Series, a new hands-on workshop series, hosted by Pathfinders for Autism, Shared Support Maryland, and Abilities Network. Presenter: Marian Frattorola-Saulino. Designed by Marsha Forest, Jack Pearpoint and John O'Brien, Solution Circle is a powerful tool that takes no more than a half hour to use. Solution Circle is effective in getting "unstuck" from a problem in life or work and builds capacity. It assumes and demonstrates that every person - in any community or work place - have the capacity to help if asked. No cost, but you must register to attend. Location: Abilities Network Training Institute, 8503 LaSalle Road, Towson. For more information and to register, go to www.pathfindersforautism.org or call 443-330-5370.

Wednesday, November 10, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Professional Training Series: Making Learning Sensational

Sponsored by the Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Presenter: Rondalyn V. Whitney, Ph.D. candidate in Health Sciences, OTR/L. An interactive workshop on the relationship between sensory issues and learning for social workers, teachers, parents and anyone working with children who struggle to learn despite sensory processing deficits. CEUs available. Location: Kennedy Krieger Institute, Center for Autism and Related Disorders, 3901 Greenspring Avenue, Creamer Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room. Includes continental breakfast and lunch. Cost: \$150. For more information and to register: www.sensorytraining.kennedykrieger.org or johnsonjoy@kennedykrieger.org.

Thursday, November 11, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

ASD and Language Processing

A presentation in the ASD Brown Bag Seminar Series sponsored by Pathfinders for Autism and Confident Student. Speaker: June Goodman-Kessler, Trellis Services. Tools/strategies to help increase effective communication through language. Location: Trellis Services, Inc., 164 Lakefront Drive, Hunt Valley. No cost but registration is required for each session. **Limited spaces for childcare, ages 2-6, available for a non-refundable fee of \$20 per child.** You must register for childcare 2 weeks prior to workshop session. For more information and to register: www.pathfindersforautism.org or 443-330-5370. Please direct all childcare questions to Erin Bell, Trellis Services, at 443-622-4955.



Saturday, November 13, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Adult Issues Workshop Series: Finance

Sponsored by Pathfinders for Autism and the Howard County Autism Society. A new workshop series focused on issues that affect adults with Autism. Speakers: Mary Turos (session targeting adults on the Autism spectrum) and

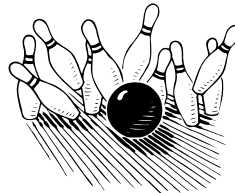
DETAILS, DETAILS, DETAILS . . . (CONTINUED)

Diann Jones (session targeting parents and caregivers). Effective financial planning and management is very important for autistic adults living independently. Mary Turos, Founder, Confident Student, applies critical executive function strategies to this important area to strengthen money management practices. She'll review bill organization and timely payment strategies, budgeting, managing credit/debt, and long term investment issues. For those with Asperger's or high functioning autism, financial success can be achieved with overall organization improvements and by establishing new habits. Diann Jones, Special Needs Financial Planner, Nationwide will help with planning for the future of a loved one with a disability. It's easy to become overwhelmed at the thought of organizing your financial and estate planning. For families who have a child (regardless of age) with a disability, the task is even more daunting. Without proper planning, your child may lose entitlement to needs based benefits such as Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and other government programs. This workshop is intended to assist families through the complicated maze of special planning techniques. Location: The Bain Center, Columbia. Cost: Free, but registration required. For more information: www.pathfindersforautism.org.

Sunday, November 14, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Fourth Annual Bowling Social

See flyer on Page 7 for details. See you there!



Tuesday, November 16, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sleep and Autism Spectrum Disorders

A presentation in the Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger's STAR Training Series. Sleep problems are common in typically developing children, and even more common in children with autism. This presentation will review how sleep develops, what sleep problems affect children with autism, and how disorders of sleep can be diagnosed and treated. Presenter: Dr. Accardo trained in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. She completed her Sleep Medicine fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and returned to KKI to establish a sleep disorders clinic and laboratory for children with developmental disabilities. Audience: parents, family members and professionals. No cost. Location: 3901 Green-spring Ave., Creamer Building, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room. For more info. & to register: <http://novemberstartraining.eventbrite.com>.

Thursday, November 18, 6:30 p.m.

Arc of Baltimore Guy Talk Pot Luck Dinner

A support group for dads only with discussion of the challenges and joys of having a child with a developmental disability. Meets the third Thursday of every month. Location: The Arc of Baltimore, 7215 York Road, Towson. For more information contact Dorothea Nikas at 410-296-2272 ext.5349 or visit www.arcofbaltimore.org.

Saturday, November 20, 10:00 a.m.

ASA/AMC Entertainment Sensory Friendly Film

White Marsh AMC

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1. Voldemort's power is growing stronger. He now has control over the Ministry of Magic and Hogwarts. Harry, Ron, and Hermione decide to finish Dumbledore's work and find the rest of the Horcruxes to defeat the Dark Lord. But little hope remains for the Trio, and the rest of the Wizarding World, so everything they do must go as planned. Rated PG-13 for some sequences of intense action violence and frightening images. See flyer on Page 13 for more details about the Sensory Friendly films.

Thursday & Friday, December 2 & 3, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis: 13th Annual Meeting & Pre- Conference Workshop

Featured speakers: Marc Branch, James Carr, A. Charles Catania, Gina Green and Mark Sundberg. Location: Intercontinental Harbor Court Hotel, Baltimore. For registration and more details: <http://www.marylandaba.org>.

DETAILS, DETAILS, DETAILS . . . (CONTINUED)



Saturday, December 4, 11:00 a.m./12:00 p.m./1:00 p.m.

The Shafer Center Big Kids Club

This club is for children with autism ages 4-6 years who have conversational or emerging conversation skills. Kids will have fun meeting and playing with new friends with adult support (3:1 child to adult ratio) with obstacle courses, art projects, bounce houses, outside games, and group games. Location: 132 Business Center Drive, Reisterstown. Admission is free and families are welcome to enjoy one hour of free respite care. Please sign up for one one-hour session starting at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. Enrollment is first come, first served. To sign-up contact the Shafer Center at 410-517-1113 or info@ShaferCenter.com.

Monday & Tuesday, December 5 & 6, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PECS Basic Training

Presented by Pyramid Educational Consultants. Presenter: Anne Overcash Hoffman, M.Ed. Participants will leave this workshop with a fundamental understanding of how to implement PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System). Location: to be determined. Cost: \$395 for professionals, \$295 for parents. To register: www.pecs.com or 888-732-7462.

Thursday, December 9, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Behavioral Issues in Autism: Why do they do that?

A presentation in the ASD Brown Bag Seminar Series sponsored by Pathfinders for Autism and Confident Student. Presenter: Steven E. Lindauer, Ph.D., Developmental Disabilities Clinic, Kennedy Krieger Institute. Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders frequently display a variety of problem behaviors. This presentation will focus on factors that contribute to why children with Autism Spectrum Disorders often choose problem behaviors instead of appropriate communication to get their wants and needs met. Common functions of problem behaviors and the functional behavioral assessment process will be reviewed as well as common interventions to reduce problem behaviors. No cost but registration is required for each session. **Limited spaces for childcare, ages 2-6, available for a non-refundable fee of \$20 per child.** You must register for childcare 2 weeks prior to workshop session. See November 11th listing for details on location and registration. Please direct all childcare questions to Erin Bell, Trellis Services, at 443-622-4955.

Saturday, December 11, 10:00 a.m.

ASA/AMC Entertainment Sensory Friendly Film

White Marsh AMC

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader Rated PG-13 for some sequences of intense action violence and frightening images. See flyer on Page 13 for more details about the Sensory Friendly Films.

Monday, December 13, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Getting an Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnosis: Where do I go from here?

A presentation in the Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger's STAR Training Series. Cathy Groschan, LCSW-C, clinical social worker, leads this discussion and takes your questions about getting a diagnosis, finding services, the education system and more. No cost. Location: 3901 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore 21211, Creamer Building, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room. For more information and to register: <http://december1startraining.eventbrite.com>.

Tuesday, December 14, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Creating a Social Connection

A presentation in the Toolkits and Takeaways Workshop Series. Presenter: Abilities Network. This interactive training will provide participants with a complete introduction to Carol Gray's Social Stories. Social stories were originally created for children with ASD in order to increase their ability to take in "social information," also known as pragmatics or pragmatic language. Social stories are also beneficial to all children because of their sentence structure, content and use of pictures. Participants will learn how social stories can be beneficial to all children. Participants will first learn about, and then practice writing, the different types of sentences that are often included in social stories and then write a complete social story about an activity or skill that will impact a child or children in their care. See Nov. 9th Toolkits and Takeaways Workshop Series listing for details.



4th Annual Bowling Social

Sunday November 14, 2010

1:00pm – 3:00pm

AMF Pikesville Lanes
1723 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, MD 21208
(410) 486-1444

All are welcome for duckpin bowling! All members of BCC-ASA and their children will bowl for free! Pizza and drinks included. Register by November 11, 2010, by calling the chapter phone line 410-655-7933 or RSVP online at rsvp@bcc-asa.org.





Towson University's Special Education Students Gain Valuable Experience Sharing in Support Group Meeting

Special Education students from Towson University who are enrolled in the course entitled, *Working with Families of Students with Disabilities* have had the opportunity to attend one of the BCC-ASA support group meetings during their course. The purpose of the assignment was to enable the students to hear first-hand about the “golden moments” (or life celebrations) and challenges faced by family members of individuals on the autism spectrum. One of the course goals is to examine the role of the family system and the impact of having a child with a disability on that system throughout the lifespan. Through assigned readings and experiences within the community, students gain an understanding of the information families need to support their child's development and achievement in the educational process and how to provide resources to empower families to successfully advocate for their child. Dr. Kay Holman, one of the course instructors commented, “The experience, respect, and insight the students gain from attending the support group is something that cannot be learned from a textbook. It is an invaluable way for the students to obtain a more authentic understanding of the lives of the families with whom they will be working.” This fall has proved to be a busy time for student visits at our support group meetings. The families are so warm and welcoming, and they are leaving a significant impact on the heart and mind of our future special educators! We have included below a thank you note shared by one of the special education students after attending a support group meeting.

Dr. Holman,

I can't even begin to describe the power of the meeting tonight. I have worked for the ARC for over 4 years but never have I been on that side of the table. I am so thankful I was given this opportunity. As a mother I think I have always taken for granted my son's health, not anymore. These parents are truly my heroes. They are so inspirational and again I will never be able to describe the ways in which each one of these parents have influenced me to just be accepting of whatever comes my way. I have had my share of setbacks but have never been able to handle them with the dignity these parents have. I have recently decided to get out of the education program but after going to this meeting tonight I really feel strongly that I want to do something to help these parents and really advocate for them. I am not sure what it is exactly I want to do, but I know it's something. So thank you again for giving me this opportunity.

One of the most useful resources available on the internet, I believe, is the series of Monthly e-Newsletters from Pathfinders for Autism. Helpful, practical suggestions are available on such topics as back to school, making swimming fun and safe, explaining autism using everyday examples and building employment skills.

To access the collection of newsletters, visit the Pathfinders for Autism website (www.pathfindersforautism.org) and click on **Local Information** and then, at the bottom, **Read articles on topics of interest to those living with autism** and finally, **PF Tips for Parents**.

~ ed.

ASBC EXTENDS OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO THESE RECENT DONORS

Damon Hughes
Patricia Richards
Louis Vigliotti
LaCricia Wallace

In memory of Merrill Jon Egorin, M.D.
P.J. and Helen Shafer

The Emmanuel Lutheran School PTL has made a wonderfully generous donation to our chapter. We are most grateful for their thoughtfulness. Their gift will directly help children with autism and their families.



Thank You

Welcome, New Members

The chapter extends a warm welcome to anyone who recently attended their first support group meeting. The Autism Society exists as a resource for parents or anyone involved with a child or adult diagnosed with autism. We understand the challenges of autism and are here to help in any way we can. We hope to see you at our next meeting!

CH - CH - CH - CHANGES . . .



OLD: Rolling Access
NEW: Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)

The Developmental Disabilities Administration has contracted with licensed Providers to provide Low Intensity Support Services (LISS), previously known as Rolling Access. The program uses a "request form" to gather the necessary information about the person and the services they are seeking.

For more information about the program, a list of the Providers, and to complete a request form please visit the DHMH website at <http://www.ddamaryland.org/liiss.htm>.

Crafty Conrads donate to the Autism Society



At our October support group meeting we were delighted to welcome Devan Conrad, a co-founder of the Crafty Conrads, a family-run business that sells **Boo-boo Buddies**, adorable hand-crafted ice packs for "boo-boos." They have donated \$1 from the sale of each Boo-boo Buddy to the Autism Society, and Devan graciously presented their donation and brought some of the buddies for the membership to see.

We send our heartfelt thanks to Devan, Quinn and Gannon, the talented and generous business owners of the Crafty Conrads.

Does Your Child Wander?

Check out this *highly* recommended, not-to-be-missed webpage:

www.nationalautismassociation.org/safetytoolkit.php

Heidi Shoemaker, Scott Greenholtz, and the Autism Society of Baltimore-Chesapeake would like to thank the following people and businesses for their support. We are proud to announce that *over \$4,500* was raised to support the work of the chapter! Without the help, donations, and volunteer work from those listed below, the tournament would not have been so successful:

First, a huge thank you to **all the golfers** who attended and generously gave their time and money in support of raising Autism Awareness.

Thank you to **Quail Valley Golf Club** for allowing us to host our event at their facilities. Everything was top notch and exceeded our expectations!

Thank you to **Mike Matthews** for designing the flyers *and* for putting up with Heidi and Scott's ever-changing demands. Great job! Our thanks also to **Rhoten's Printing and E Street Signs** for printing the flyers and the hole sponsor signs. Fantastic work!

Thank you to our volunteers who kept the tournament running smoothly and did everything asked of them to ensure everyone was taken care of. Namely, **Karen and Haven Shoemaker, Amanda Roberts, Erika Sorg, Amanda Heilman, April Nelson, Debbie Page, Maureen Rushton, Helen and P.J. Shafer, and the rest of the ASBC board members.** Also, thank you to **Dave Savick** for speaking at the luncheon and providing the golfers with an insight as to why they were truly there, and who they were helping.

Thank you to our sponsors and prize donors - your contributions truly made the tournament:

Great Moments, P.F. Changs, Chick-Fil-A, The Baltimore Orioles, CL McCoy Framing, Happy Creek Farms, Finch Services, Chillcraft, Airpark Animal Hospital, Tracey's Lounge, The Perfect Cut, Steve Rehman, Lockett's Auto Care, Mike Kelly Plumbing, Frisco Pub, Towson University's Department of Special Education, Johansson's Dining House, Munch's Café, Carroll Independent Fuel, Maggie's Restaurant, Bond Distributing, Wantz Distributing, Republic National, Legends, Progressive Insurance, and F.P. Winner

And, to our largest sponsor, **The Shafer Center**, a heartfelt thank you for sending us teams, sponsoring holes, and giving so generously throughout the day.

To anyone we may have missed, our apologies, but please do know that the tournament was better thanks to your involvement along with everyone listed above.

And the Autism Society sends a **BIG THANK YOU** to **Heidi and Scott**, whose enthusiasm and energy knew no bounds in creating this fund-*and* friend-raiser for the chapter.!

See you all next year . . .



You've got a Text . . . from Lavonnya

Over the past year we have all benefited from the presence of Lavonnya, an Autistic, at our support group meetings. In the March edition of the BCC-ASA News we learned a little about her in a biographical piece that she wrote. Now Lavonnya has written a three-part article to help us understand her and her world better. The first installment appeared in our September issue, the second installment is here, and the remaining installment will be in the January 2011 edition.



AUTISM IS NOT AS BAD AS U THINK IT IS

I have 3 points & I will b out of your way. B 4 I get 2 them I should tell u that I text a lot so that is y things look as they do. Helpful hints. 9 means not good or bad or no. niiirriiirrr means what-ever if u say so. 9y is pronounced ninny long y. yeee excitement. So when u hear me say these u no what it means. When I do speak it is n autistic speak. And remember this doesn't apply 2 all. Autism is a very wide spectrum. What I'm about 2 reveal fits the majority.

2. MY WORLD IS NOT YOUR WORLD MY WAYS R NOT YOUR WAYS

Take a trip with me in to a world like no other. A world where a sound is way 2 loud or incredibly enchanting. A world where lights r either painful or mesmerizing. A world where an otherwise normal food could make u sick or only b able 2 eat it. A world where a smell could send u running from a room. Or captivate u 2 such a degree that u r spellbound. A world where a simple touch could send u into hysterics or soothe u like a mommy 2 a baby. For me certain works, colors, foods, sounds, activities, etc. can either set me off or put me in a trance. I m often confused by way 2 many things going on @ 1 time. For instance, when I go into a room, the first thing I notice isn't usually the people who may be there. I have 2 try 2 figure out whether or not it is going 2 b 2 loud for me or whether or not it is going 2 b 2 bright for me or whether or not some 1 may try to grab me. I am usually more interested in things that the person may have that I can play with then I am in the actual person. I also love the sounds of ripping paper, sissers cutting paper, and zippers. I also engage in a lot of stimulatory behaviors. I e rocking, flapping my hands, spinning in circles, rubbing my face and hands on soft material some even jumping so I can feel safe. Making sound and walking back and 4th serve a dual purpose part stimulatory and some memorization.

To be continued . . .



Autism and The Boy Scouts of America

<https://sites.google.com/site/autismandboyscouts>

This site was created to give information to parents of autistic children considering if Scouting is right for their child and for Scout Leaders and Volunteers (Scouters) who have autistic children in their unit. It was created by a volunteer for the BSA who is the parent of a child diagnosed with ASD/PDD-NOS. This site is not affiliated with BSA and does not speak on behalf of BSA nor any Autism related organization. Contact your local Council Office for official communications of The Boy Scouts of America. Items printed on the site may be reproduced and used locally by Scouting volunteers for training purposes consistent with the programs of the Boy Scouts of America or other Scouting and Guiding Organizations.

Before You Let an Autism Diagnosis Drive You Crazy

By Lisa Jo Rudy, About.com Guide

Parents with a child on the autism spectrum tend to overwhelm themselves with research, treatments, and general anxiety over their child's welfare. While this is natural, it's not particularly good for you, your child, your marriage or the rest of your family. And the truth is, it really isn't necessary. Here's why:



You're Not Too Late to Help Your Child

Whether your child with autism is two, ten, or twenty-five, he or she will still benefit from therapy. In fact, while early intervention is always helpful, the proverbial "window of opportunity" for treatment is a bit of a myth. So whatever your child's stage of life, you're not too late to make a difference.

You Didn't Somehow Miss "The Cure" for Your Child's Autism

Did you somehow miss out on a pill, a supplement, a special treatment or a new therapy that could be "the one" that could have cured your child's autism? The truth is, while many children respond well to various therapies, even children who are supposedly "recovered" still have some autistic tendencies. Since there is no cure for autism (at least at this point in history), there's no need to worry about it.

You Don't Need to Do Any More Research . . . Tonight!

Is there another article on Applied Behavioral Analysis? Is RDI better than Floortime? Is fish oil really going to help my child? There's always another question - and the web holds a million answers. But right now is a good time to take a break, have a bubble bath, and re-connect with your partner and the rest of your family. You can always dive back into research again tomorrow.

You Don't Need to Track Down the Cause of Your Child's Autism

The media is full of stories of what causes autism, and you'll find answers galore, from TV to pitocin, from vaccines to Lyme Disease. Could one of these answers be correct? Absolutely. Do we know for sure WHICH is correct? Absolutely not. You can sift and weigh the evidence and formulate an opinion, but as of today no one really knows what causes autism. As a result, you're free to focus on the future instead of the past.

You Don't Have to Cope with Autism Alone

When your child is diagnosed with autism, you feel like you've just been tossed out of the "parent club." After all, your child is different, which means you'll never fit in again. Luckily, there's a whole world of support groups, listserves, buddy clubs, parent groups and events where you're more than welcome. In fact, your presence is requested!

You Don't Have to Give Up On Your Child

Your child's autistic - so you shouldn't expect much. That's just realistic, right? Wrong. People with autism may speak or not speak. They may have great talents or great challenges. But all of them, including your child, are worthy of love and respect.

You Don't Have to Give Up On Your Life or Your Family

When your child is autistic you may feel ostracized from the ordinary world. In fact, though it may be a bit tougher, you can join in most of what life has to offer, even WITH a child on the spectrum. From vacations to family holidays to visits to grandma - most of it is a matter of planning, patience, and a sense of humor. And for some people, success is even sweeter when it requires overcoming a challenge.

Sensory-Friendly showing of:

Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows, Part 1

Saturday, Nov. 20, 2010

10:00 am

AMC Entertainment® and the Autism Society of America 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.

<p>AMC Columbia Mall 14 10300 Little Patuxent Parkway Columbia, Md 21044 410-423-0510</p>	<p>AMC White Marsh 16 8141 Honeygo Blvd. Baltimore, Md 21236 410-933-9428</p>
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For tickets to this unique experience, please visit the theatre's box office the day of the event.



Fantastic

Thank you!
Thank you!

I found the experience very enjoyable and my son enjoyed it also

Great

We love what you're doing here and really appreciate allowing our family to have a fun movie day out

- a sampling of comments from attendees at our sensory-friendly movies



Programs, Programs, Get Your Programs Here!

The JCC of Greater Baltimore is offering special needs programs for every age group and disability level. Classes include **Toddlers in Motion, Karma Dogs, Sunday Funday, Art, Lights Camera Action!, Keep Living And Learning for Every Season, City Hoppers, the Getting Together Club, the Chaverim Club and a Ceramics/Crafts Class.** For more info on these exciting opportunities, contact Stacy Israel, Coordinator of Special Needs, at 410-356-5200x384.

Noted . . .

Baltimore County Public Schools has hired a new director of special education. **Kalisha Miller, M.Ed.** comes to BCPS from the MD State Dept. of Education. Prior to that assignment, Ms. Miller was a special education teacher in Baltimore City and an administrator in Baltimore County. Welcome!

Officers and Board Members

Co-Presidents: Debbie Page
David Savick
Past President: Heather Thoms-Chesley
Vice President: Stephanie Savick
Treasurer: Mary Ellen Curtis
Secretary: Helen Shafer
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Maureen Rushton
P.J. Shafer
Heidi Shoemaker
Newsletter: Mary Ellen Curtis
Website: Will Cassano

Chapter Phone: 410-655-7933

Website: www.bcc-asa.org

E-mail: questions@bcc-asa.org

Support Group Meeting

The next support group meeting will be **Thursday, December 2nd** at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital. Support group meets on the **first Thursday** of every month. Childcare is *not* available.

Directions to Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital:

FROM NORTH OF BALTIMORE:

Take the Beltway (I-695) to the Jones Falls Expressway (I-83) south. From I-83, take the Northern Parkway exit, 10B West. Make a right turn off the exit ramp and make an immediate right turn onto West Rogers Ave. (the first street off the exit ramp). Go north on West Rogers Ave.; the hospital is on the right.

FROM BALTIMORE AND SOUTH:

Take the Jones Falls Expressway (I-83) north to the second Northern Parkway exit, 10B West. Turn right onto West Rogers Ave. (which is just past the on-ramp from southbound I-83). Go north on West Rogers Ave.; the hospital is on the right.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

AUTISM SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE-CHESAPEAKE

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail (required for newsletter delivery): _____

Child's Name: _____ Child's Birthday: _____

Child's School or Program (Optional): _____

If you prefer to receive a hard copy of the chapter newsletter by mail, please check here and add an additional \$10 to your dues payment to help offset the cost of printing and mailing.

Additional donation to BCC-ASA: _____ Thank You!

Make checks payable to BCC-ASA and mail to:

BCC-ASA, P.O. Box 10822, Baltimore, MD 21234

Please note:

BCC-ASA does not share information on our members with any other organization

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00

CIRCLE ONE:

Individual with Autism

Family

Professional

Student