

April 7, 2017

Celebrate the Children

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Light It Up Blue!

We had a great time rockin' out with [Brady Rymer](#) and the Little Band That Could at our annual Light It Up Blue event last Friday!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

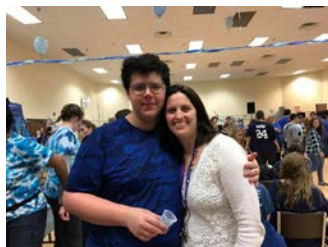
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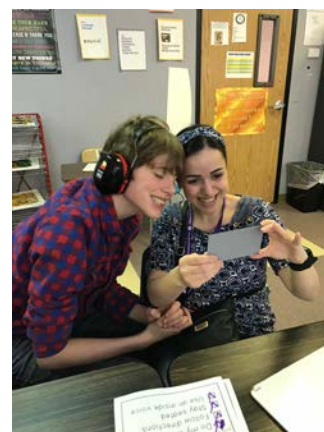
A PEAK INTO THE CLASSROOM PAULA'S CLASS

Both of my Language Arts classes have been reading a book called "Building Wings: How I Made It Through School." The book was about a boy named Don who struggled in school until he found his passion: Space, Astronauts and the Space Race. The students were very interested in learning about the astronauts and space so our culminating project was to choose an astronaut they wanted to learn more about and create a poster about them. The students had to look up pictures and facts and include them as well as make a rocket, planet, or moon to add to the poster.

One of the chapters in the story talked about how Don felt like an alien from another planet when it came time to read or remember facts. The class was then challenged to think about how they would look if they were a space alien. Many different types of materials were put on the table and the students were asked what they would look like if they were an alien. Would they have legs, eyes, a nose, hair, fur, feathers, arms, or a mouth? We had so much fun creating our aliens and each one was so different!

My homeroom also created a beautiful canvas to put up on our bulletin board for Autism Awareness Month. They painted the background blue and then created a puzzle piece using the autism ribbon colors with tissue paper. Each one was unique just like the students in the class.

Our Social Skills class has been working on Emotions/Making Faces and reading peoples' faces. Each student was given a mirror and along with a staff member practiced making faces for different emotions such as happy, sad, surprised, angry. It was fun watching everyone try to make faces like their staff member.



A PEAK INTO THE CLASSROOM ANDREW'S CLASS

On Thursday March 30th and Thursday April 6th, Andrew's US History I classes took trips to Jockey Hollow National Historical Park in Morristown. Jockey Hollow was the site of General George Washington's winter encampment in the winter of 1779 - 1780 during the Revolutionary War. That winter was the harshest of the winters during the Revolution. Soldiers lived together and were cramped in log cabins they had to build themselves.

We were treated to experiential activities by Rangers Tom and Pam. We explored the equipment a Revolution-era soldier would have carried with him in his pack. Soldiers carried everything from soap to fire-making supplies to musical instruments. Students even got to dress up in soldier uniforms! Then, we were allowed into a replica log cabin ten soldiers would have lived in together. Normally visitors are only allowed to look into the cabin from above, but we, as a school group, were allowed inside!

Finally, we walked over to the Wick House, which is the original home of the Wick family that owned the property. The house is set up as a small museum, and Ranger Pam led a scavenger hunt around the house to find household items the original inhabitants would have used.



A PEAK INTO THE PROGRAM SFSS

Stefanie D'Amore, School Counselor (SFSS), and six students gave a presentation on Autism for the student body at Sussex Technical School in Sparta, NJ on Thursday, April 4, 2017. The Sussex Technical School's Annual Wellness Week is a series of presentations that educate the students about important issues. Stefanie was accompanied by Gil, Dhruv, Marina, Vickie, Sagarika and Natalie. Each student wrote a statement prior to the event for the PowerPoint and participated in a question and answer panel. This was a positive experience for our students and an opportunity for them to learn self advocacy. The students and the staff were welcoming and appreciative to have our students and staff at the Wellness Event.



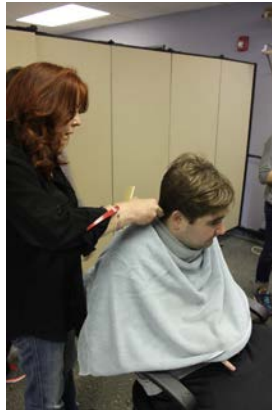
Hair Cutting Day

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CTC held its first Haircut Day on April 5th from 9:30-2:30! HUGE thanks to Mickey Long (Patrick Long's mother) and Dawn Smith (CTC's part time OT assistant) for generously donating their time to provide this valuable service to our kids and parents! There was an outpouring of interest and Mickey/Dawn successfully completed 15 stylish and sensory friendly haircuts. They were patient and sensitive to every students' individual profile and each "customer" left the "salon" with a smile and proud expression on their face.

A total of \$295 was raised for the Patrick Long Memorial Fund in honor of Mickey's late son Patrick, who passed away on November 11, 2016. All of the money that was raised will be put towards sponsoring CTC students in the after-school program. Patrick is dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. This is a beautiful way for the Long family to remain connected to the CTC community and give back to the school that their son loved so much.

Upcoming Haircut Day's are scheduled on May 10th and June 7th. A copy of the registration flyer will be sent home in backpack mail next week. If you have any questions or want to sign up for an upcoming event, contact Joanne Keilty in the Student and Family Support Services department at jkeilty@celebratethechildren.org.



CTC CONNECTIONS - RESOURCE WEBSITE

...everything you need to navigate the journey!!

On this site you will find access to a vast array of Local, State, & National Resources and Organizations dedicated to supporting children, families, and professionals. You can sign up for newsletters & publications, locate workshops, seminars and conferences, access webinars, and find publishers, connect to other families, get homework help, and the list goes on!

We encourage you to explore, connect, and utilize the vast resources available to you through these organizations. The knowledge you will gain, the confidence it will afford you in your journey, and the community connections you will secure are invaluable!

Look for "CTC Connections" on the home page of the CTC School website

Go to the "MORE" tab, click on "RESOURCES", then "CTC CONNECTIONS"

<http://www.celebratethechildren.org/ctc-connections.html>

Featured CTC Connections Page TRANSITION!

[CTC Connections Transition Page](#)

CTC Connections Web Site offers access to a vast array of Local, State, & National Resources dedicated to supporting children, families, and professionals. Our Transition Page connects you to the following organizations:

- Family Support Center of NJ and their "Transition Matters" page
- Autism Speaks Transition Tool Kit
- NJ Dept of Ed Transition info
- SCARC Guardianship Services
- Think College website
- Support Coordination Resources
- Planning for Adult Life
- ...and more!

It's never too early to prepare for the road ahead! We encourage parents, students, and professionals to visit our curated Resource Site often for info on this topic and many, many more!

Morris County HOW

Our "HOW" Hands On Workshop Series
Is your student ready for life after high school?
Are you?

"HOW" is a five-part workshop series to help families navigate the transition from school to adult life.

Our NEXT MEETING of the
2016-2017 School Year is

Monday April 10, 10:00-11:30am

RSVP REQUIRED

email Cheri_calexander@celebratethechildren.org

**TOPIC: "Guardianship & Supported
Decision Making: Just the Basics"**

Monday May 8, 10:00-11:30am

RSVP REQUIRED

email Cheri_calexander@celebratethechildren.org

TOPIC: "Housing 101"

April 26, 2017 - 12:30

Parent Healing Group, Meditation & Tonglen

RSVP REQUIRED

Contact Jen Mandato at

jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

Don't Need It Anymore?

Don't Throw It Away!

DONATE IT AND SUPPORT OUR



USED CLOTHING DRIVE

TO RAISE FUNDS FOR
Celebrate the Children School

COLLECTING THESE ITEMS:

CLOTHING/SHOES

All Types / Styles of
Used Wearable Clothing
(Men, Women and Kids)
All Sneakers and Shoes

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Blankets Table Cloths
Sheets/Pillows Drapery/Curtains
Bedspreads Bath Rugs
Quilts Kitchen / Bath
Comforters Accessories
Towels (made of fabric)

NO Books/CD's, VHS Tapes, Kitchen Appliances,
Outdoor Toys or Furniture, Please.

PLEASE PUT ALL ITEMS IN WELL TIED TRASH BAGS.

We are working with clothingdrivefundraiser.com and we'll receive
a monetary donation based on the total weight of the items we collect.



ACCESSORIES

Purses, Backpacks,
Briefcases, Belts,
Hats / Gloves,
Under garments,
Socks, Scarves / Ties &
Baby Accessories

TOYS

Soft Toys:
-Stuffed Animals, etc.
Hard Toys:
Cars, Airplanes,
Playsets, Blocks
, Etc.



DATES / TIMES

Thursday, April 27 9-3 Friday, April 28, 2017

Last Drop-Off Time Friday at 10 AM

If you are unable to drop off your items on these dates and times, to make arrangements, please contact:

973-989-4033 Ext. 199

LOCATION

Celebrate the Children School Campus

230 Diamond Spring Rd. Denville - Please drop by the back door

Items will be sent to support people in need of wearable used clothing via micro-enterprise programs around the globe.
Items not suitable for reuse will be recycled.



CTC PROM

April 28 @ 6:00pm

Don't forget to buy your prom bids! Prom is open to Celebrate the Children High School and Young Adult students. Contact Kristin with any questions 973-989-4033 ext. 199 kpolster@celebratethechildren.org

Celebrate the Children Prom

The Great Gatsby

Friday, April 28 6 PM

\$60

Cannon Gate, Picatinny Arsenal



School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles
Developmental Individual Relationship-Based Intervention®

www.celebratethechildren.org

230 Diamond Spring Road Denville, NJ 07834

Phone: 973-989-4033 Fax: 862-244-4969

Parent Training Group

Topic: *Parent Healing Group:
Meditation and Tonglen*

April 26, 2017 at 12:30 pm



Presenting:

Glenn Ben-Ezra, Teacher of Healing and Meditation. We all become bogged down with the daily stressors in our lives. These not only have an impact on us, but on our children as well. Glenn will provide you with a series of practices that are accessible for you and your child.

Be sure to wear comfortable, loose fitting clothing as this is an experiential class.

Space is limited in the yoga studio, so we have a limited number of spaces. Please RSVP early to hold your seat!

Location:

CTC's Yoga Room

RSVP required by April 24 to:

Student & Family Support Services

Jennifer Mandato

(973) 989-4033 x 413 or jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

Matty's Art Show!
April 29, 2017 from 2:00-4:00pm



@ the Fine Grind
101 Newark-Pompton Turnpike (Rt 23
south)
Little Falls, NJ 07424

McCARTER
THEATRE CENTER
ACCESS TO THE ARTS

LAURIE BERKNER, solo acoustic SATURDAY, APRIL 29 – 11am **RELAXED PERFORMANCE**

This performance has been adapted to provide a welcoming and judgement-free environment for individuals with autism, learning differences, or other sensory and communication needs so that they and their families can enjoy live performance together.



Recognized as "the queen of children's music," Princeton native Laurie Berkner has been a longtime fixture of children's TV shows, starting with *Noggin* (now *Nick Jr.*) and *Jack's Big Music Show* and currently to *Sing it, Laurie!* on the Sprout channel. What sets her apart? Her music speaks to kids without talking down to them, charming youngsters without boring grownups.

Special for this Relaxed Performance, Laurie Berkner will perform a one hour solo acoustic set.

All tickets are \$15 with promo code: RELAXED

www.mccarter.org | 609.258.2787 | 91 University Place, Princeton, NJ 08540

McCarter Theatre Center is a participant in the Audience (R)evolution Cohort Grants program, funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the professional not-for-profit American theatre.

This Relaxed Performance is sponsored by the Karma Foundation



Special Thanks to





Sensory Sensitive Sundays

A safe and fun space for children with autism or other special needs.

Now available at your **East Hanover, NJ** location!

The first Sunday of every month,
from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM!

973-887-3020



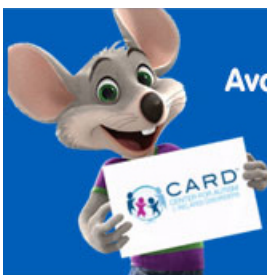
**Reduced Lighting
and Noise**



**Food and
Games Offered**



Trained and Caring Staff



Available at select locations near you. Contact your local
Chuck E. Cheese's for more information.

[SEE PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS](#)

entertaining and memorable films featuring people
with intellectual and developmental disabilities



sprout film festival

2017

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th
DOORS OPEN AT 10:30AM
11:00AM - 1:30PM

Middlesex County College
West Hall, Parkview Room
2600 Woodbridge Ave. Edison, NJ

Tickets are \$10 and can be
purchased at www.SproutNJ.org



Thank you to our event host

MIDDLESEX
COUNTY COLLEGE

For more information, please contact
the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project
at NJSAP@ArcNJ.org or 732-246-2525, ext. 22

Thank you to our sponsor
New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

NJCDD
newjersey.org

The Calm Within The Chaos

A Monthly Yoga Circle for Parents of Children with Disabilities

(If your idea of relaxation is locking yourself in the bathroom with a glass of wine, please consider joining our circle.)

Do you need:

- Time away from the responsibility of life
- Space to move and stretch safely
- Quiet time to reflect on YOU
- Simple tools to help throughout your day
- Freedom to feel without guilt or shame
- The luxury of deep relaxation

We will:

- Reconnect with our bodies through gentle movement
- Relieve stress with simple techniques you can use daily
- Restore our souls with deep, luscious, relaxation exercises
- Share rituals that bond and connect us
- CELEBRATE the monumental things we achieve on a daily basis.



Because what we do is HARD. Really HARD! LIFELONG HARD.
Let's learn to be as tender with ourselves as we are with our children

**Introductory Yoga & Support Meeting at Purple Om Yoga,
Sunday, May 7th, 1-4pm**

\$40 for the Introductory Yoga & Support Meeting

Register at www.purpleomyoga.com

3118 Route 10 W, Denville, NJ 07834

Monthly Web Meetings, Summer Retreat and a Follow Up Meeting at Purple Om in the fall.

Contact Jane Kleiman at jk999@verizon.net or 732-778-2912 for more info!



I am the parent of a 14 yr. old with a developmental disability. My yoga practice has saved me from some dark moments of despair when I felt like inadequacy and uncertainty would swallow me whole. When I thought that taking care of my family meant giving up ever wanting anything for myself. Now, because I have made my LIFE my yoga practice, I am able to find joy, feel freedom and gratitude, and forgive myself when I can't do it all, when I lose my temper or succumb to self doubt. It happens daily. But it's ok. And it's ok for you too.



Young Child Expo & Conference
Autism Intervention Summit Day
Tuesday, May 2, 2017
 New York City



Early Bird and Group Discounts Available

Cross the Bridge Between Behavioral and Developmental Models



Explore the assumptions, goals and methods to advance children on the Autism Spectrum with these latest ABA and Developmental models:

ESDM - Early Start Denver Model

Jamie Winter, PhD, BCBA-D, Assistant Professor of Psychology in Clinical Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medical College, NY

JASPER - Joint Attention, Symbolic Play, Engagement, Regulation

Suzanne Bracaglia, MSE, JASPER Consultant/Supervisor of Groups, New York Center for Infants and Toddlers, NY; Maria Kodjoe, MEd, Vice President – Behavioral Services, New York Center for Infants and Toddlers, NY

VB - Verbal Behavior ABA

Marilena Drakopoulou, MSED, Director of ABA Services, Los Niños Services, NY

Developmental Language / Dual Language Models

Sima Gerber, PhD, Professor of Speech-Language Pathology in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Disorders, Queens College, NY

Functional Emotional Developmental Levels in DIR

Christie Virtue, PhD, Senior Faculty, Profectum, NY

Sensory Processing and Motor Development

Michele Parkins, MS, OTR, Assistant Faculty, Profectum, NY

For more information: **Nancy Evangelista, MSW, Conference Coordinator**

Phone: 212-787-9700 ext. 333

UPCOMING EVENTS

Morris County HOW

Next 2 Meetings for the 2016-2017

School Year are:

Monday, April 10, 10-11:30am

TOPIC: "Guardianship & Supported Decision Making: Just the Basics"

Monday, May 8, 10-11:30am

TOPIC: "Housing 101"

RSVP REQUIRED FOR BOTH

Email Cheri at

calexander@celebratethechildren.org

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May 10th & June 7th

RSVP to

jkeilty@celebratethechildren.org

Young Child Expo & Conference

Autism Intervention Summit Day

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

New York City

**Cross the Bridge Between
Behavioral and Developmental
Models**



**CTC Science Fair
Thursday, May 25th
5-6:30pm**

Special Oylmpics

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017

Hackettstown High School

Registration 8-8:30am

Opening Ceremonies 9am

For questions contact:

Lisa Bruno or Danielle Dieckmann @

973-989-4033 x 123



Celebrate the Children

A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

Phone: 973.989.4033

www.celebratethechildren.org