

FAMILY FOOTNOTES

May 2005

What's New at FSRC

MADISON AREA CHILDREN RALLY TO BRING BACK SIBS CAMP

After 8 straight years full of fantastical fun and hilarious hijinks packed into wonderfully wacky weekends, the **Mystery of 2004** was "Where did FSRC's SIBS Camp go?" Not satisfied with answers like, "Maybe the mosquitoes carried it off," or the ever useful, "I don't know," children followed in their parents' footsteps and successfully advocated for its return. First, former and future SIBS Campers organized a letter writing campaign to "**Dear Aunt Blabby.**" Then they lured FSRC staff from their headquarters with the aroma of fresh s'mores and the promise of a hike up the slippery sloped "Peanut Butter Mountain."

Thanks to these young advocates, in September your child can look forward to returning to school **AND** SIBS Camp!! We'll spend the weekend of **Sept 23rd - 25th**, at the Upham Woods Environmental Center, located less than an hour away near the Wisconsin Dells! What's more, for the very **1st** time, campers and counselors **travel by bus to and from camp**. Thanks to volunteer counselors associated with FSRC, we're able to keep costs at a minimum. That means your child can become a SIBS Camper for a mere **\$40 (camperships are available)**. So, now that your child can't wait for summer break to end, what else do you need to know about SIBS Camp?

First, all campers need to be the sibling of a child with a disability and be in **3rd through 6th grade next fall**. And your family needs to be on the waiting list or receiving services from the Family Support and Resource Center. **For more info or to have your child become a SIBS Camper, just call FSRC by June 30th and ask for Alice 221-4611 (ext 18) or Amy Lyle 221-4611 (ext 15).**

Inside this Issue: Get ready for those lazy days of summer!

- ◆ **Spring celebrations**, featuring our sports stars & grads
- ◆ **Better Together: FSRC's Inclusion page**, featuring "No Limits," and stories of Kid-Powered Inclusion, & inclusive art activities
- ◆ **Respite News:** Ideas for summer fun
- ◆ **Dane County Area Events Listing**— June-August
- ◆ **Community Connections:** FSRC in our community

Goodbyes are Sad

As many of you already know, I am sad to announce that I will be leaving Family Support & Resource Center at the end of September 2005, as my husband and I are expecting our first baby in October. This is a decision that did not come easy given the incredible job that I have been so lucky to have, accompanied by the privilege of working with such wonderful kids, families, and co-workers.

I will continue to work through the end of September. It is the goal of the program to hire a case manager before I leave in order to have some overlap and familiarize the new person with the families I serve. We will do our best to make this a smooth transition.

It has been, and continues to be, an honor to work with you all. I cannot begin to thank everyone enough for their support throughout my time at FSRC, including my decision to stay home with our baby. You all have enriched my life both professionally and personally and I am truly changed by having been here. Thank you to all of the children and their families for teaching me more than I could ever hope to have learned. I will sincerely miss you all.

—Amy Lyle

Welcome Back
Lauren!

After a number of years working as the group coordinator for Jewish Social Services I have returned to FSRC to work with the Family Support Program. Some of you may remember me from my years working with the Respite Care Program

I am currently in the office three days a week, and will be assisting families on the waiting list.

It has been a pleasure coming back to both the new and familiar faces in the office. I am very happy to be back.

—Lauren Meyers





CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE!

Congratulations Kristin Kilmark! Kristin won 1st place in the recent essay competition for Madison Metro . The essay needed to be 300 words or less talking about "Why is Madison Metro an important part of your life." Two reasons Kristin included were freedom and independence.

A **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to **Jonathon Hahn**, a fifth grader at Muir school. He pairs with a buddy and works with the indoor safety patrol to help out his school.

SPORTS

Jason Lichtfuss can't be stopped. He recently added 2 new plaques to his trophy collection. Jason participated with his team at the Madison Area City Tournament for Junior Bowlers. There were 2000 kids participating and Jason's team took 5th place in their division. Jason took home the award for 4th highest series in his age group!!!!

Congratulations to the many athletes who have been participating in Special Olympic events all over Dane County. Many of you are moving on to the state competition in Stevens Point. Thanks to those who sent their good news along to share. **Alex Bausch** from Oregon took 2nd in the butterfly stroke and is going on to Stevens Point. **Emily Peterson** of Stoughton is taking the multi-talented approach to reaching the state meet. She took 1st place in the 25 meter backstroke and 3rd in the 25 meter free style races at the Special Olympics Aquatic Meet. She also placed 2nd in the softball throw and 6th in the 100 meter dash at the Track and Field Meet. A blue ribbon in the 50 yard dash gave **Hannah Kitzman** her state qualifying win. **Cindy Lien** is also an award winning athlete taking 3rd in the softball throw and 4th in the 50 meter run. **Jason Lichtfuss** scored in yet another sport, bringing home a gold metal in basketball skills from the state Special Olympics Tournament in Oshkosh. **Way to go everyone!!!**

rites of Spring



2005 grad Hassan Manu

June brings the final days of school for a number of students. Graduating with her class at Monona Grove High School is **Cindy Lien**. After enjoying her summer, Cindy will return to MGHS for post grad work on vocational training and job skills.

Several people have finished their vocational training and are leaving high school and transitioning to various jobs in the Madison area. **Hassan Manu** will say good-bye to Madison Memorial High School, while **Andy Doelger** and **Jeff Poffinbarger** will finish at Monona Grove High School. **Kristin Kilmark** will complete her school years at East High School in Madison. **CONGRATULATIONS**

AND BEST WISHES TO ALL.

Congratulations also go out to **Kristin** for attending and participating in the state autism conference, held in Green Bay earlier this year.

Steven McConnell looked handsome in his tux as he attended the Verona High School Prom. Steve joined a group of classmates and friends for the gala event at the Monona Terrace Convention Center.



Steve McConnell

Respite News

“How many times do I have to go to the zoo today ?”

A few summers ago, a respite provider shared with me that upon her announcement to the child she was spending the afternoon with that they were going to the zoo, he responded “ How many times do I have to go to the zoo today ?” I tell this story not to discount the value of a trip to the zoo, but to challenge providers and families to help kids think beyond the zoo. We’d certainly like to hear of places you’ve gone and have the chance to mention them to others. So if your interested, we’ll award a pizza gift certificate to the most unique summer respite and mention the winner in the Fall newsletter.

Fortunately, the tourism bureau and most community chambers of commerce are more than interested in helping us with this challenge. Here are a few suggestions to get you started—check www.visitmadison.com, www.discoverwisconsin.com or contact the Respite Care Program for a copy of “The Kid Connection” from Madison Public Library for more possibilities.

By Patti Becker

Options for Getting Out of The City

Blue Mounds

Cave of the Mounds

www.caveofthemounds.com

National Natural Landmark. 20 miles west of Madison, off Hwy. 18/151. Guided tours, gemstone mine & fossil dig, gift shop. Open year-round.

Cambridge

Hinchley Dairy Farm Tours—pet a cow, travel through the corn maze 608-764-5090

Tours 10am-2pm by reservation. Dairy Farm Tours last 1-3 hours. Please phone or e-mail prior to your visit.

Marshall

Little A-Merrick-A - Go-karts and 19 holes of adventurous miniature golf. Kids, parents, and grandparents will all thrill as they take a scenic ride on Wisconsin’s Premier Light Railway. Passengers will see ducks, geese, llamas, peacocks, sheep, swan, emus, long horn, a watusi bull, and even zebra. Little A-Merrick-A is “Fun in the Country.”

Mt. Horeb

Mount Horeb Mustard Museum & Gourmet Foods Emporium Open 10-5 Sun-Sat
100 West Main Street Mount Horeb.

New Glarus

Heidi Festival June 24-26, 2005

Visit Switzerland for the day or for a festival. The Heidi Festival weekend is filled with great food, entertainment, music, and fun for the whole family. Heidi events are complemented by the Taste & Treasures of New Glarus.

Oregon/Stoughton

Eugster’s Farm Market 3865 Hwy 138, Stoughton 873-3822. Petting zoo and market. Open daily 9-6pm.

Madison International Speedway 1122 Sunrise Rd. Oregon. Friday night races. For tickets call 835-9700.

Sun Prairie

Dolphins Cove—Prairie Athletic Club, Sun Prairie. Dolphins Cove is Dane County’s BEST and Madison’s ONLY outdoor water park, offering more than 36,000 square feet of fun in the sun for the whole family! Some of the park’s features are: 250-gallon water bucket dump, Lazy River, more than 800 feet of high speed water slides, more than 30 interactive play water options, “Parrot-dise Palms” outdoor bar and party deck, water basketball and rope climbing, sand-volleyball courts. Non club members \$20.00 per person.



Respite News

Options for Staying in the City

Downtown/Campus:

Babcock Hall Dairy— 1605 Linden Drive on campus. Open 9:30-5:30 M-F and 10-1:30 Saturday. www.wisc.edu/foodsci/store

Views From Tall Buildings on Campus:

No need to register for a class to see these views. Call ahead to confirm building hours.
WARF Building—1044 ft 263-3043,
Van Vleck— 1052 ft. 262-2930,
Educational Sciences—1013 ft 263-4250

Madison Fire Department—call 266-4420 to arrange a tour of the Community Education Unit or at a station near you

Mad-City Ski Shows—The MadCity Ski Team performs Sunday evenings at 6:00pm at Law Park, next to Monona Terrace and Convention Center. Memorial-Labor Day. Shows are Free.

North:

Walking at Governor Nelson State Park – Enjoy a one-hour walk or picnic on your own. Transportation leaves from Tenney Park for \$10. June 5, 1-4pm www.msqr.org.

East:

Governor's Mansion tours—99 Cambridge Road, Maple Bluff. Tours Thursday 12-3 all summer.

Madison Mallards Baseball—2920 N. Sherman Ave, Madison, WI 53704. Call 608-246-4277 for ticket info.

South:

Ward Brodt Music Hall Tours— 2200 W. Beltline Hwy. Call 661-8670 to arrange a tour.

Gymfinity—6300 Nesbitt Road. Open gym for gymnastics. Weekday and weekend

GO RETRO!!!

Long ago, when I was kid, we played at the neighborhood school ground during the summer. One of the highlights was always the “Fourth of July Doll Buggy parade.” Everyone, regardless of age, decorated something....bikes, wagons, younger siblings, and pets were all targets of reams of colored crepe paper. It was the event of the summer with neighbors turning out to watch.

When I told my young daughters about this, they both requested to have a parade “like Mom did in the old days!” So, a neighborhood tradition began. We gathered, we decorated, we built floats, we baked cookies and bought ice cream. Everyone participated at some level and had a great time snacking and visiting afterwards. It was an opportunity to get to know new neighbors, visit with the honorary Grandmas and Grandpas, put the teens to good use on safety patrol (a little responsibility goes a long way), even the little ones enjoyed hanging posters and spreading the word. Try it! The memories and pictures are delightful, I promise!

Nostalgically Submitted by:
Cheryl Bailey



Better Together: FSRC's Inclusion Page

"No Limits"

A regular feature by Dennis Granzen

What older youth have done over the summer as children may not be what they want to do now. Day camps or other structured activities that were engaging when they were younger may no longer hold much of an appeal, if they're even available. Sometimes teens just want to hang out, without having a rigid schedule to follow. Also, once they reach a certain age they're not as interested in having a parent, either their own or someone else's, present all the time.

While such a loose arrangement may be satisfactory for the young people, it's not as easy for parents to be comfortable with, especially if their child is more vulnerable than others. What then is a parent to do in order to satisfy their older child and to also make sure that everyone is safe and has an engaging and worthwhile summer? Here are a few ideas.

Establish a "hang out spot," or discover one that already exists. This may be your house or it may be another family's. It's the place where young folks naturally gather. It may be a house of a parent who doesn't work, works part time, or is comfortable having a bunch of kids there when the adults aren't home. It's usually near a park or schoolyard and has a usable backyard, cable television, a VCR and/or DVD player, a video game player, and *definitely* plenty of snacks.

For many years, the hang out spot in my neighborhood was next door to my house at the home of Pat Hansbro. With five children – four of them boys – Pat and her husband Robert's house was the place where their children and their friends spent much of the time. Whether it was playing catch on the sidewalk, football in the street, listening to music and playing video games in the house, or going down to the playground at Sherman Middle School, things were happening at the Hansbro's. They're a family that doesn't stand on ceremony, so a cluttered yard or living room was never a concern.

"While a loose arrangement may be satisfactory for the young people, it's not as easy for parents to be comfortable with, especially if their child is more vulnerable than others. What then is a parent to do...?"

While Pat wasn't always present, she had a way of knowing what was going on and trusted her own children to keep things from getting out of hand or to reach her if they needed to. And while Pat was known at times to complain about the traffic in and out of her house and some characteristics of some of her sons' friends, she would advocate for them at all times. (I remember one time when she got a bit annoyed with me for simply agreeing with her complaints.) Pat – who was an FSRC board member – passed away last January and, though I've missed her every day since, I know I'll miss her even more this summer, when I won't hear her laughter resonate up and down the block as she would arrive home and make sure everyone was in line and well fed. Pat was a mom to many children beyond her own, including my two.

But what about safety? As the old saying goes, "Idle hands are the devil's playground." Even good kids with not enough to do can veer off into troubling behavior. The key is to give them some things to do (but not too much – remember the "hang out" factor) and to stay in contact. When I asked the group of 7th graders at Waunakee Middle School who are participating in a Circle of Friends/Lunch Bunch about spending unsupervised time with their friends with disabilities, they had some great responses. Chief among their concerns was to know as much as possible about a friend's disability and what might be important regarding behavior, medical issues and safety. They all expressed confidence in being able to deal with any situation as long as they had a way to contact either their own or their friend's parent – and all agreed that having a cell phone available would be necessary if they were going to do something outside of the house. (Remember that providing a cell phone also lets you check in at any time.)

The most gratifying part of the group's discussion was when they said they'd want to know what activities and interests their friend with a disability enjoyed and how they could help them engage in them. When I asked them if they'd forgo an activity they enjoyed if their friend wasn't able to participate, they said they would, at least some of the time. (Note: A good resource on adapting games so as to include those with physical and/or cognitive disabilities while still retaining the competitive fun of them is the book *Inclusive Games* by Susan L. Kasser.)

What's needed most to create a positive unstructured summer is some mutual trust and responsibility, and the willingness to take a few risks. Pat did it, and I think the rest of us can too.



Better Together: FSRC's Inclusion Page

A Helping Hand for Autism: Kid-Powered Inclusion

By Jessica A. Focht-Perlberg

Garner Moss has some pretty amazing classmates and friends in his fifth grade class at Glenn Stephens Elementary School. Supported by energetic and proactive teachers and parents, they have together created an exciting model for inclusion, outreach, education and acceptance of autism for kids, of kids and by kids, school-wide. It started over a year ago at a lunch meeting between a teacher and a thoughtful student, who was interested in getting a better understanding of why her classmate Garner acted in certain ways related to his autism and what she could do to help stop teasing by other classmates. That meeting blossomed into a full-fledged, active student group of nearly 30 fourth and fifth-graders; both of Garner's teachers, Kara Meyers and Brent Lodewyk; Garner's parents, and of course, Garner himself. So, what *is* A Helping Hand for Autism and what does it do?

Well, that first lunch meeting last year turned into weekly lunch meetings, and a few more kids started to show up to talk about what autism is and to discuss ways to curb teasing and promote friendship for Garner and other kids like him. By the end of the school year, the group had named itself A Helping Hand for Autism (AHHFA). When last year's 5th graders left for middle school, the 4th grade members decided to keep the group going. It wasn't until October 2004 that Garner's parents, Beth and Duncan, found out how invested the kids and teachers were in AHHFA. Beth joined the Thursday lunch meetings, along with Garner, his teachers, and a growing group of interested students. As more and more kids joined and more young leaders emerged, Beth said the group started to focus on what they could do: what action they could take to make a difference in their own school. One of AHHFA's first efforts in raising awareness was to adorn all the classroom doorways with traced students' hands, signifying diversity and the existence of many different "*helping hands*".

With some ideas Beth shared from national autism organizations, the kids became enthusiastic about creating their own t-shirt design. Their t-shirts feature a puzzle piece, courtesy of the Autism Society of America, representing that much of autism is still a mystery; the bright green color represents hope. Garner's grandmother sent 30 autism awareness bracelets, donated from the East Tennessee Chapter of the ASA. Beth marveled at the motivation and leadership of the kids involved. She said, "I think they felt like adults; they enjoy getting to be involved in planning and decision making and feeling like they are really doing something important." She feels that the group's membership and activities have continued to flourish because students genuinely like and care for Garner, because he is so unique, so ingenuous, and kids enjoy just being silly and having fun with him.



April was Autism Awareness Month, and AHHFA was in full swing, traveling from classroom to classroom with their colorful Autism poster and giving presentations to each class. This was very relevant for all students of Stephens Elementary, where Garner is one of 12 students with autism—3% of the student population. Also, the themes of the presentation of acceptance, inclusion and friendship are universal to all kids. Beth was so impressed with the maturity, sensitivity and confidence the kids displayed in presenting to their peers and younger children and in fielding some difficult questions about the subject. Beth recalls her apprehension when she first heard a younger student ask the question, "Is it a bad thing to have autism?" Garner's peer did not hesitate in his response: "Having autism is not really good or bad...there are definitely good things about it, like Garner can hear things really, really far away, which is cool, and he is very smart..." Beth was heartened by this affirming response.



Better Together (continued)

For Garner, having the opportunity to feel a part of something that puts living with autism in a positive light for a change has been a key part of AHHFA's impact for him. Beth notes that Garner never leaves for school on Thursday mornings without his green t-shirt, and while he has always enjoyed being around his peers during the lunch meetings, she has seen a growing comfort level in Garner amongst this group of peers. Earlier, he would sit off on his own, needing his space, until classmates would come and seek him out. Now, at a recent AHHFA meeting, Garner just plopped down comfortably right between two boys for lunch.

Garner's parents are glad that many of his closest friends and core members of AHHFA will be moving with him to Jefferson Middle School next year. AHHFA members have begun to discuss the future of the group, both in helping Garner get to know new classmates and a new school and in continuing AHHFA. The group is working on capturing their accomplishments so that AHHFA can continue on at Glenn Stephens and begin at both Jefferson and Spring Harbor Middle Schools where many current AHHFA members will go next year. They hope AHHFA can be a model for kid-powered inclusion in other classrooms, schools and communities for other children with autism or other disabilities.

One way AHHFA is working to do this is by creating a DVD which will feature Garner's life history and his personal experience living with autism and will also explain AHHFA. Another effort underway is to put together an "AHHFA Kit" to include materials which will help other kids form their own group, such as the group's history, an example of a *Helping Hand*, the t-shirt design, pictures of the Autism Awareness presentation board and outline, examples of weekly discussion topics and (if funding can be found) a copy of the DVD. These kits can be distributed to interested schools, families or groups who would like to start their own chapter of AHHFA or a similar group based on this youth-generated model of inclusion. Of course, these projects cost money, so AHHFA is in the process of applying for grants from the Wisconsin Council of Developmental Disabilities and the Junior League. They have received some funding assistance from the Stephens PTO to support their broadening efforts.

Having fun is another part of AHHFA. Over winter break, the Moss family took members of the group skating. AHHFA would like to continue fun outings and to include all of the growing membership. They plan to go on a mini golf excursion this month, with AHHFA parents pitching in as chaperones, to celebrate their many accomplishments. Beth also hopes to host a gathering over the summer break as well, both to enjoy a picnic and to continue to work on putting together the AHHFA kits. It will be a neat opportunity for these kids to gather as a group again, before some will go their separate ways to different middle schools. Beth hopes they can all carry this experience with them and will continue to be leaders amongst their peers.



The success of AHHFA has received some well-deserved attention through a May 6th article in the *Wisconsin State Journal* and, potentially, a presentation to the Madison School Board. Hopefully, some of the positive coverage will lead to additional resources to support more efforts of this group, as well as the formation of new groups in other classrooms and schools. Garner's parents know the experience of AHHFA has improved their son's sense of inclusion, belonging and friendship in his class and at his school. Although they are concerned, as any parents would be, about his upcoming transition to middle school next year, knowing that Garner will enter middle school with a positive peer experience, alongside friends and fellow AHHFA members, gives them confidence about his success, happiness and inclusion.

If you are interested in starting a group similar to AHHFA in your child's school, please contact Jessica Focht-Perlberg at FSRC at 221-4611, ext. 36, to be connected to the family or teachers who have been involved.



Better Together: FSRC's Inclusion Page

Art Project at East High School Involves All Students

By Kitty Bonde, Cross Categorical Teacher, East High School

During the Spring of 2004 the Eken Park and Emerson East Neighborhood Associations co-hosted a meeting for residents about issues related to East High School. One of the main concerns raised by attendees was about the amount of trash around the school campus. Someone suggested getting students more invested by involving them in projects to decorate the school, such as turning garbage cans into artistic statements. This idea soon became reality as staff and students at East High School started up an Art Club last Fall. One of the first projects taken on by the Art Club was decorating garbage cans.

Elizabeth Doyle, an Art Teacher at East High and a resident of the Emerson East neighborhood, began talking to students in her classes to get them involved in the project. As Co-Chair for the Eken Park Neighborhood Association and a Special Education teacher at East, I was interested in supporting the efforts as well. Fil Clissa from Family Support and Resource Center made me aware of Project Teen grants available from the Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities (WCDD) to support projects to include students with disabilities. With financial support from the Council, the Garbage Can Project evolved further by pairing up students with disabilities and students without disabilities to work together to turn the garbage cans into pieces of art. The Madison School and Community Recreation (MSCR) after school club at East has been able to provide staffing assistance for the project to help support student pairs.



Gabe Groskreutz and a fellow East High student plan their art designs.

The Garbage Can Project was kicked off with a pizza party in January, and twenty students attended the orientation meeting. In the four months that followed, students met on Thursdays after school to plan out designs and make stencils to prepare for the painting itself. Students chose a variety of artistic patterns: stars, pizza slices, anime cartoons, hand-prints, and other designs. One will even look like a grape soda can! Approximately six to twelve students participated each time, with half of the group being students with disabilities. The painting, recently completed on Saturday mornings to allow time for paint to dry, resulted in twelve new garbage cans with various designs ready to place around school. On Wednesday May 25th from 7 to 8:30 pm, students hosted an Art Reception in the Mall at East High School to present their finished garbage cans to families, friends, staff, and community members.

More about Art:

The Monroe St. Fine Arts Center has just ended its first session of "Everybody Learns More" (ELM), Art Explorations class. The Class was a huge success. Students with and without disabilities worked collaboratively to create fun and interesting art work which was then on display for patrons of the art center to see. The project was "sparked" by funding received through a QQUE (Quality Communities Utilize Everyone) grant sponsored by Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities with support from another non-profit agency, Integrated Community Connections (ICC). ICC provided an aide and assisted in the planning for the class.

Everybody Learns More (ELM) Series for Expanded Communities—Art Exploration for children ages 7-12. This new, inclusive studio experience is open to students interested in exploring a variety of media. It includes individual and collaborative work, with interaction encouraged by our experienced art therapist instructor! Offered in collaboration with Integrated Community Connections, the ELM series classes bring together students with autism and other special needs and their typically developing peers.

Sessions are three weeks long, 6 classes, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-6:00. Session I begins Jun 14, Session II: July 12, and Session III: August 2.

Call 608-232-1510 for more information about the ELM classes.



Dane County Area Events Listing

Ongoing Area Events

- Every Saturday AM** **Dane County Farmers Market**-Rain or Shine find the freshest in fruits, vegetables and flowers!
- June 2-July 28** **Bank One Concerts on the Rooftop** Monona Terrace, Madison. Time is yet TBD. Call 261-4000 for more information.
- June 7-July 26** **Olbrich 's Concerts in the Garden** Olbrich Gardens, Madison. Music starts at 7pm. Bring your own seating and picnic! \$1 donation suggested.
- June 9-August 25** **Concerts in the Park** Rennebohm Park, Madison. Music starts at 7pm.
- June 13-August 8** **Concerts at McKee Park** Fitchburg. Concerts begin at 6:30pm at McKee Farms Park. Food and beverage vendors will be available.
- June 7-July 5** **Oregon Community Band Concerts** Waterman Park, Oregon. Music from 7pm to 8pm Tuesdays during the months of June and July.

JUNE

- June 2-June 5** **Mount Horeb's Summer Frolic** Kick off the summer with food, entertainment, fireworks, parades, carnival and much more! Thur. 5-10pm, Fri. 5-Midnight, Sat. 8a-Midnight, Sun. 8am-7pm.
- June 3-June 5** **Festa Italia** McKee Farms Park, Fitchburg. Come experience a taste of Italy!
- June 4** **30th Annual Cambridge Art Fair** Village Square, Cambridge. 9am to 4pm.
- June 11** **Cows on the Concourse** Capitol Square, Madison. 7am to 2pm. See cows, calves, and other animals on the S. Hamilton and King St. walkways.
- June 11** **TerraceFest** UW Memorial Union, Madison Noon to Midnight. Kick off another great summer of food, music, movies, and fun at the Terrace.
- June 16** **Strawberry Fest** Agora Pavilion, Fitchburg. 3pm to 6pm. Enjoy ice cream, music and loads of strawberries!
- June 18** **Juneteenth Day** Penn Park, Madison. 10am to 6pm. This festival commemorates the freeing of the last African-American slaves on June 19th, 1865. Learn about heritage and history while enjoying ethnic food, dance, and live music. Special events for kids.
- June 18** **Feasts with the Beasts** Henry Vilas Zoo, Madison. 12pm to 8pm. Great fun, music, food and entertainment. Tickets are \$5 each and \$15 per family.
- June 19** **Grand Opening Olbrich's Rose Garden**-Ribbon cutting at 2PM- Free
- June 23-26** **Oregon Summer Fest** Kiser Firemans Park, Oregon. Activities include a carnival midway, marching band competition, sport tournaments, beer tent, family activity tent, talent show, bingo, arts and crafts, food vendors, fireworks, and much more!
- June 24-25** **The Great Circus Festival and Great Circus Parade** Circus World Museum, Baraboo. Celebrate Wisconsin's heritage at the birthplace of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus! The festival runs from Friday at 8am to Sunday at 6pm, with the Great Circus Parade capping off the festival on Saturday from 12pm to 4pm in downtown Baraboo.
- June 26** **Fit City Madison "Get Psyched for Summer" Pool Party!** Goodman Aquatic Center, 7762 Cty Hwy PD, 1pm to 4pm. Get your summer off to a splashing good time with a family pool party at Goodman Aquatic Center. 608-204-3000 for info.



Dane County Area Events Listing

JULY

- July 2** **Rhythm and Booms** Warner Park, Madison. Madison's premier Independence Day Celebration and fireworks display! The fireworks begin at dusk and are choreographed to music broadcast by WOLX.
- July 8-10** **Art Fair Off the Square** Monona Terrace, 3-8 p.m.
- July 11** **Teen Flicks** Sequoya Library, 6 pm. Call 266-6385 for information.
- July 12** **Care for Critters: Animals of the Night** Sequoya Library, 6 pm.
- July 15-16** **Maxwell Street Days** State Street, Madison. Best Madison Sidewalk sale of the summer! State Street merchants bring out excellent deals to the street! Also live music and great food!
- July 15** **Teen Movie Night** Alicia Ashman Library, 7PM . Contact 824-1780 for more information.
- July 16** **Kid's Day at the Zoo** Henry Vilas Zoo, Madison. 10am to 4pm. Many interactive activity booths for lots of fun for the kids!
- July 16** **Greek Fest 2005** Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, Madison. 4pm to 7:30pm. Come experience Christianity at its roots! The Greek Orthodox church encompasses a rich mixture of ethnicities that include Greeks, Russians, Armenians, Serbians, Slavics, Ethiopians, and Albanians.
- July 20-24** **Dane County Fair** Alliant Energy Center, Madison. More information will become available as the time approaches. Visit the website at www.danecountyfair.com.
- July 20-Aug 4** **Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies** Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison. Learn about butterflies, butterfly-attracting plants, and lots of kids' activities.
- July 22-23** **Women's Resource Fair** Garner Park, Madison. This fair provides enrichment, education, and enjoyment through the presentation of 40 educational lectures by area groups in the fields of children & families, education, bodywork, health & wellness, holistic nutrition and retreats & counseling.
- July 23** **Bike for Boys and Girls Club**, 10, 30, or 50 miles bike ride starting and finishing at Edgewood High School, sponsored by Trek. See www.trekforkids.org.
- July 24** **Fiesta Hispana** Warner Park. More information at www.centrohispanomadison.org.

AUGUST

- August 6** **Atwood Summerfest**-12 pm-7pm-2000-2100 Blocks of Atwood Ave. Check www.atwoodcc.com for more information.
- August 7** **Big Brothers Big Sisters Raffle drawing for The Incredible House Drawing**-see friends@bbbsmadison.org for more information.
- August 13** **Great Taste of the Midwest** Olin-Turville Park, Madison.
- August 21** **Triangle Ethnic Fest** see: bayviewfoundation.org for more information.





FSRC's COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Bowling Event Raises \$3000 for the Allison Smith Foundation

The Allison Smith Foundation's 5th annual bowling event on May 14 raised over \$3000.

Thanks to the Smith family, Schwoegler's Park Towne Lanes, Dave Phaneuf at the Holiday Inn and Suites, and all the families who bowled and/or contributed to this great event!

The Allison Smith Foundation provides weekend getaways and grants for equipment and activities that enable families to enjoy family time together.

Thank You! 2005 Donors to Families Can't Wait

- ◆ Madison Rotary Foundation
- ◆ Alliant Energy Foundation
- ◆ SBC Foundation
- ◆ Monsanto Company
- ◆ Jen McNulty, ATTAIN
- ◆ Betty Froemming
- ◆ Neil Froemming
- ◆ Nino & Susan Pedrelli
- ◆ Dean Pierringer
- ◆ Roland & Gisela Rosenkranz

Dane County's Celebrity Dinner at Nakoma Golf Club is scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2005. Proceeds of the event go to FSRC's Families Can't Wait campaign, supporting families who are on waiting lists for services.



Above, Family Support Program Director Heidi Rossiter receives the Arc-Dane County Community Support Award, presented by Ron Johnson, Arc President at the April awards banquet.

On Board!

FSRC's Board of Directors welcomes four new members:

- ◆ **Kelli Betsinger** is the mother of a 5-year-old son who has cerebral palsy. Kelli has a background in marketing and advertising.
- ◆ **Molly Immendorf** is the mother of a 8-year-old son with autism. She is president of the Madison Autism Society and works for UW -Extension in instructional technology.
- ◆ **Mike Schlageter** is Managing Director at Madison Investment Advisors.
- ◆ **Mary Alice Sicard** is the mother of a daughter with autism, President of the National Autism Assoc-WI, and also teaches Spanish and French at Lafollette High School.

Congratulations to our new Board officers: **Sharron Hubbard-Moyer** has assumed the duties of President, **Dan Nordloh** will be vice-president, and past-president **Mike Shultz** will be Secretary/Treasurer.

And finally a BIG thank you to former Board members **Barbara Katz, Terry Tuschen, Nancy Valentyn, Gayla Divelbiss, and Marcia Gevelinger-Bastian**. Although they have completed their terms as Board members, we know they'll still be here to help!



The 4th Annual Connecting Families Event took place on May 15, 2005 at the Alliant Energy Center. Families and children participated in panel discussions regarding advocacy strategies, social connections and preparing for adult life. Deb Wisniewski gave a spectacular keynote from a parents' perspective. Approximately, 120 people attended panels, visited vendors and enjoyed free lunch and childcare. Thanks to LINK members, IDS for donating childcare, Waisman Children with Special Health Care Needs and *The Capital Times* Kids Fund for supporting this year's event .



Family Support & Resource Center
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 Dan Nordloh—Vice-President
 Michael Shoultz—Secretary
 Molly Immendorf
 John Shaw Kelli Betsinger
 Michael Pugh Annetta Wright
 Michael Schлагeter
 Mary Alice Sicard

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Terri Johnson-Exec. Director
 Roberta Stolt-Business Manager
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 Sandi Kettle-Office Manager

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Heidi Rossiter-Director
 Chris Benson Chris Williams
 Amy Polka Becky Ziemba
 Pam Staab Amy DeWald
 Alice Thorson Amy Lyle
 Trina Menges Emmie Coan
 Paola Perez Lauren Meyers
 Jessica Focht-Perlberg
 Sara Russell

Respite Care Program:

Patti Jo Becker-Director
 Cheryl Bailey Jeremy Sanford

Inclusion Facilitators:

Dennis Granzen Fil Clissa

FAMILY FOOTNOTES-BACK PAGE

Family to Family

Wanted:

- Flaghouse Trampoline- with 2 handles on the side
- Therapeutic Trike-Larger/Heavier-for individuals up to 130 lbs & inside leg length of 20" to 25"
 Contact Trina at 221-4611

Wanted-Family interested in purchasing a used swing set. Needs to be very sturdy and able to hold up to 100 lb child. Contact Becky at 221-4611.

For Sale-Workman, Side by Side Team Dual Trike (3 speed) with dual coaster brake (foot) and front Drum Brake. 3 gears allow each rider to choose the speed that is right for them. New over \$1000, now HIGHLY negotiable. Contact Amy Polka at 221-4611.

Summer Activities

Creative Dance for Teens with Developmental Issues, Hancock Center for Movement Arts & Therapies, Wednesdays, 4:15—5:15 p.m., June 22-Aug 17, \$120. Call 251-0908 x12 for more info.

Challenger Little League, a non-competitive softball league for children with any kind of disability, plays every other Sunday during the summer at Warner Park. For more information, to play or to volunteer, contact Kirsten at 242-8484, x 228, or kirstene@accessdind.org. Kirsten also has a **free 10-page booklet listing summer recreation opportunities for youth with disabilities in Dane County.**

"Family Footnotes" is a quarterly publication of the Family Support and Resource Center, a non-profit organization serving Dane County families who have members at home with developmental disabilities. For more information, call us at 221-4611.