



A C T Autism Community Together of Northeast Indiana

Volume 3, Issue 3

Spring 2005

2005 Walk-To-Talk It's All About the Team

This **SATURDAY APRIL 23rd**, we are expecting 500 people for the 2005 Walk-To-Talk. Over **40 teams** will be competing for some awesome prizes from a Suite at a Wizards game, 12-dozen Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, and gift certificates from Biaggi's and The Oyster Bar. Go online to

"Donate Online "

www.ACTpositive.org/WalkToTalk

and see the personal web pages the 465 pre-registered participants have created. Remember, the proceeds of the walk go to benefit Summer Programming in Northeast Indiana. Applications for Summer Programming must be postmarked by Friday April 29, 2005 (no fax copies or e-mail applications will be accepted). If you haven't registered yet, you may do so the day of the walk. We look forward to seeing you there!

Walk Agenda

- 12:00 Registration and Festivities begin: **Musical** Entertainment by Songbird Promotions as well as a **Clown** and other characters **Sensory Tent** with face painting, an obstacle course, **Moon Walk**, a Trackless Train, a Huge Slide and various sensory fun **Drum Circle** facilitated by Music Therapist **Hot dog** and other refreshments **Awareness Materials** for sale
- 2:00 Sentimental dedication by **Councilman Tom Didier**, Balloon Launch, **Walk Commences**
- 2:30 Entertainment by Lance Weirick, Juggler and Entertainer

Up and Coming Events:

- ♦ April 11th, Autism Appreciation Day!
- ♦ April 18th, Michele Trivedi on Autism and Insurance
- ♦ April 23rd, Walk-To-Talk at Lawton Park
- ♦ May 13th, Paula Aquilla on Sensory Integration

Continuing Language Development

Once a child with Autism's production of speech is within acceptable norms, where does language development go from there? Language, a complicated subject and core deficiency of Autism, has many nuances that are not explicitly taught in a typical classroom. As such, supplemental programs are often introduced to meet this need. The marketing of these programs can often mislead you. The following sound like just reading programs, but they are so much more:

Reading A-Z, The Online Reading Program which offers printable books and lesson plans to teach guided reading, phonemic awareness, fluency, and reading comprehension. A-Z has thousands of resources to teach reading including leveled readers, reader's theater scripts, benchmark books, running records, reading comprehension worksheets, high frequency word books, etc. Contact them online at www.ReadingA-Z.com.

Language for Learning: A Program that Builds The Foundation For School Success! helps develop strong language skills in children as well as teaching them how to think. They learn how to group objects in different ways, to see the logic behind rules and strategies on how to apply them. This program helps fill the gaps many children with Autism have in communication skills. A follow-up to this program is Language for Thinking. For more information call 1-888- 772-4543.

Reading Mastery: Distar Reading: All the Tools for a Total Reading Program by Siegfried Engelmann. Help your students develop into fluent, independent and highly skilled readers with this comprehensive reading program.

Can't Make It, Be a
**SLEEP-WALK-TO
TALKER**

APPLICATIONS FOR FREE SUMMER SERVICES ARE DUE ON APRIL 29th.



P.O. Box 422
Leo, IN 46765

Email: info@ACTpositive.org
www.ACTpositive.org



Engaging and Supporting those
surrounding those impacted by
Autism Spectrum Disorder.



ACT's role is to engage and support individuals, families, medical professionals, therapists and educators on effective methods to improve the lives of individuals with autism and their families in Northeast Indiana. By focusing on the front-line service providers and high-tech solutions, we will be able to build communities of providers and promulgate best practices for enhancing the lives of people with autism. ACT's key programming consists of:

- Parent Mentor Network
- Lecture Series
- Community website
- Summer Programming for individuals with Autism
- Training Sponsorship for professionals

In addition to these initiatives, ACT is working on community development projects with educators and medical professionals.

2005 Autism Appreciation Day Nominations

By overwhelming support of her colleagues, we highlight **Patty Hartman** as this year's recipient of our second Annual Outstanding Service to the Autism Community. We also salute those listed below who have been nominated for the service to our community. During the month of April, please take time to recognize all the people in the Autism world that continue to do outstanding work.

Mrs. Adams	Gail Dembickie	Carrie Kracium	Rebecca Richmond
Lorie Ailor	Deb Edwards	Beth Lash	Mr. Riley
Patty Atkins	Susie Ehlerding	Matt Loshe	Mrs. Robison
Rhonda Baker	Susan French	Michelle Martin	Holly Rothenbush
Angie Baxter	Cathy German	LaDonna McBride	Cindy Roy
Lisa Bergeron M.D.	Mrs. Gibson	Mr. Morlin	Mrs. Shroyer
Mrs. Bickford	Denise Gordon	Mrs. Murphy	Mrs. Snyder
Darla Bowen	Sarah Harmon	Sandra Nowels	Ellen Sollenberger
Mrs. Bowlin	Larry Heimann	Jan Patterson	Thelma Standiford
Deb Brand	Mrs. Heinz	Ms. Peckham	Laura Stoll
Lori Brown	Holly Horman	Cathy Pratt	Lowell Timm
Mr. Burton	Mrs. Kennedy	Nancy Rathburn	Michelle VanMeter
Mrs. Coleman	Rebecca Klenke	Tracy Ray	Patricia Vidal
Deb Cooper	Jane Kliene	Marcia Rayl	Jodi Warner