



NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH



April is Autism Awareness Month and provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of support for research, early intervention, timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

Autism is a complex brain disorder that often inhibits a persons ability to communicate, respond to surroundings, and form relationships with others. Autism affects people of all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The national statistics are startling. One in 68 children in the United States is diagnosed with Autism spectrum disorder (ASD). ASD signs typically appear during early childhood. ASD is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum condition" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause of autism, but increased awareness and early diagnosis/intervention and access to appropriate services/supports lead to significantly improved outcomes. Some of the behaviors associated with autism include delayed learning of language; difficulty making eye contact or holding a conversation; difficulty with executive functioning, which relates to reasoning and planning; narrow, intense interests; poor motor skills' and sensory sensitivities. Again, a person on the spectrum might follow many of these behaviors or just a few, or many others besides. The diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder is applied based on analysis of all behaviors and their severity.

Autism is treatable. Children do not "outgrow" autism, but studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes. Though there is no medical cure for ASD, research shows that frequent treatment and well-rounded therapy is the most effective way to ensure success for children with ASD. The greatest success rates are reached through a combination of therapies that include applied behavioral analysis (ABA), speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and social skills training. ABA involves reinforcing positive behaviors and is one of the most clinically proven, evidenced-based interventions for children with ASD.

For more information, contact the Autism Society at: 1(800)3AUTISM or email info@autism-society.org.

PACER'S 13th ANNUAL HOUSING RESOURCE AND INFORMATION FAIR IS APRIL 15



9:00 a.m. – noon, PACER Center

Families of teens and young adults with disabilities won't want to miss this invaluable event. Service providers and representatives of many local organizations and government agencies will be available to discuss planning for the future, including housing options, services, supports and related issues.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WEBINAR APRIL 6

PACER's partner, Think College, is offering a free webinar, "Let's Talk about the Money: Planning for College." Participants will learn about planning for and funding college, including personal and public resources and financial aid options.

For assistance and information, please contact pacer via email: pacer@pacer.org, phone: 952-838-9000 or visit their website: www.pacer.org/newsletters/enews



PCA DISCOUNTS

Crayola Experience at the Mall of America - PCA gets in free with paid admission of client.



MINNESOTA ZOO

PCA gets in free with paid admission of client – although if the client is a part of any program (below) they also get in free. They just have to pay \$7 for parking.

Do you qualify for FREE Minnesota Zoo Admission? Free to Explore provides free admission for a qualifying guest and their dependents. Parking and fees for any special programs, events, or exhibits are not included.

To qualify for Free to Explore, you must be enrolled in one of the programs listed below. Simply show the approved documentation along with photo ID and proof of Minnesota residency.

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)	MN EBT Card
MFIP (MN Family Investment Program)	MN EBT Card
SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)	MN EBT Card
MFAP (MN Food Assistance Program)	MN EBT Card
General Assistance	MN EBT Card
Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare	MHCP Card
WIC (Women, Infants & Children Program)	WIC Folder
HeadStart	Acceptance Letter

Dakota County's newest park, 456-acre White-tail Woods Regional Park, is located in Empire Township in the center of Dakota County, one mile north of the Vermillion River. Whitetail Woods Regional Park has cabins for rent. They are handicapped accessible and the cost is \$75 per night. These are beautiful cabins and it is a great way for a close by camping experience. It can be a relaxing weekend getaway or a fun-filled family vacation. Get reservations in early. You can check it out on the web: www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails/WhitetailWoods or by calling 952-891-7000.



Fare For All pickup date is March 29th from 3 - 5 pm at the Diamondhead Education Center in Burnsville. The Shoe Bus will be there this month. This is a great way to save some money on shoes. The shoes are donated from retailers and adult shoes are \$5 and children shoes \$2. *Until next month....Jim*



Happy Easter!



Easter Trivia Facts

- After Halloween, Easter is the top-selling candy holiday.
- More than 90 million chocolate Easter bunnies are manufactured each year.
- The most famous Easter parade is held in New York.
- In the United States, traditional Easter foods include ham, chicken, and lamb.
- Americans consume over 16 million jellybeans on Easter, enough to circle the globe more than three times. Cherry is the most popular jelly bean flavor.
- Easter is a "movable feast" – one that is set according to the phases of the moon – so the dates are different each year.
- The first Easter eggs were colored red, in memory of the blood Jesus shed during his crucifixion.



To sanitize washed surfaces and utensils, mix 1 tablespoon unscented liquid chlorine bleach in 1 gallon of water.



Brooke Stephens has been selected for Superior Home Care's Employee of the Month for April 2017. Brooke has been a PCA with Superior Home Care for 1 year. We are grateful for her hard work and dedication. Thank you Brooke!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



01 - Joni	13 - Jennifer
01 - Shelly	13 - Angel
02 - Daniel	15 - Emily
03 - Natalia	15 - Greg
03 - Lynn	16 - Qing
03 - Ang	16 - Orion
03 - Joshua	17 - Deven
03 - David	19 - Doug
03 - Paul	20 - Bonnie
05 - Michelle	20 - Barb
07 - Jamie	21 - Elizabeth
07 - Eman	21 - Eileen
08 - Carol	22 - Brenda
08 - Christina	22 - Kiz
08 - Rhonda	23 - Edwin
08 - Alexis	24 - Sarah
09 - Karen	24 - Tracy
10 - Deanna	25 - David
11 - Daniel	27 - Jeanne
12 - Sophia	

DID YOU KNOW...



The safest car color is white
and
white cats with blue eyes are
usually deaf.

Submitted by Sandy (client)



April Showers Bring May Flowers



"You can find hope in despair. Dwell on positive thoughts."

- Lailah Gifty Akita -
Submitted by Sandy (client)



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BUSINESS



SUPERIOR HOME CARE

10597 165th Street West, Lakeville, MN 55044
Phone: 952-898-4911 Fax: 952-898-3088
Email: info@superiorhomecare.org