



“Cookies and Cocoa with Santa” for Children with Special Needs and their Families

Saturday, December 8th

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh**



Family Support Network of Wake County and the **North Raleigh Rotary Club** are getting ready for our 11th annual holiday event. FSN/WC sponsors this holiday event every year for families who have children with special needs.

We have found in the past that a private event helps alleviate some of the stress around the holidays. It is a time when the entire family—children with special needs, their siblings, and mom and dad—can come to see Santa and have fun.

There will be no need to take your children to the mall and worry that all the stimulation will make them overreact and most of all, no need to worry if the people around you will understand your child.

Families will be able to come and have treats, make crafts, play games, visit with Santa, receive a gift, and have their picture taken with Santa. We will have volunteers available to take children to do crafts and play games, so moms and dads will be able to relax and know that their children are understood and loved by all.

Please join us on Saturday, December 8th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for “Cookies and Cocoa with Santa”. See page 4 for a map and directions. The event is free. No reservations are required.



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Support FSN of Wake County

Family Support Network of Wake County (FSN/WC) provides services to many families during the year – from Support Parent Matching, information and resources, social events, support groups, quarterly newsletters, parent list serve to parent information packets and more. All of these services are absolutely free to families. As I am sure you all know, however, these services do have a cost to our program. If you have received services in the past or are a supporter of FSN/WC, would you please find it in your heart to make a tax-deductible donation to our program?

There are several ways to do this. You can send in a one-time donation or pledge to donate \$10, \$15, or more per month. FSN/WC will send you a monthly, addressed, postage-paid envelope for your convenience in remitting your pledge.

Please help us continue to offer all of the things we do to families of children with special needs.

Family Support Network of Wake County
Board of Directors

Support Parent Training

Family Support Network will be offering a Support Parent Training Workshop on Monday, February 11th, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The purpose of the workshop is to orient/train parents who have “been there” so that they may support others by helping them cope with the initial shock and day-to-day challenge of a child with special needs. If you feel that you would like to help another parent by lending an ear through a difficult period, please join us to better prepare yourself by gaining pointers from other experienced support parents.

For more information or to register for the workshop, please call Rene’ Morrison at (919) 662-4600, ext. 257 or e-mail rene@familysupportonline.com.

Hydrocephalus Support Group

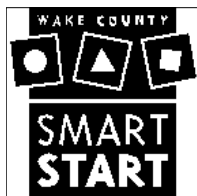
The Hydrocephalus Support Group meets the fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at West Raleigh Presbyterian Church, 27 Horne Street, Raleigh. There will not be a meeting in December due to the holidays.

The whole family is welcome. If someone arrives late, please call (919) 593-0427 or (919) 539-6648 so that someone may open the door.

For more information, contact Alice at alicali56@yahoo.com or Pam at ron_calliari@yahoo.com.



Family Support Network of Wake County is affiliated with Family Support Network of North Carolina



A portion of services provided by FSN/WC are made possible by our funding partner, Wake County SmartStart, an organization that ensures children are prepared for success in school and life.

Boy Scouting for Special Needs Population

Pack 357

Boy Scout Pack 357 meets every Wednesday from 7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. at Highland Methodist Church on the corner of Ridge Road and Lake Boone Trail. Boy Scouting is for any boy entering 1st grade and older. They have camping trips, train trips, and more activities planned for the year.

AJ Jourdan is the Den Leader for the Tiger and Wolf Dens (1st and 2nd graders). His son Gray, who has special needs, has been a Boy Scout for two years. He would like to invite any other boys entering the 1st grade and older with special needs to please join in the fun and experience of scouting. For more information, call AJ at (919) 782-5722.

Pack 239

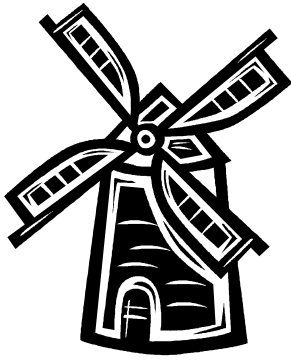
A few years ago when my son was finally healthy enough to attend school, I quickly realized how much in life he could not participate in due to his special needs. He couldn't play sports, but he loved group activities. He was curious, talkative, and full of energy. I wondered what he could do that would connect him with other boys his own age who would help him come out of the isolated medical world that he had known. We found a place where fit in, where he was accepted and encouraged. We found Scouting, specifically Cub Scouts. We went to two different packs to find the one that was just the right fit. Our pack is small but very friendly and open. The kids who attend love being there, and they work together to help each other. It is not only the Cub Scouts who benefit. Our pack takes the approach that Scouting is a family event. Younger siblings, older sisters, and parents all participate together. My son loves earning badges and beads. He gets recognition for achievement—which we all need. For an hour each week, he is just one of the boys. In this highly competitive, in-your-face type of world, it is comforting to know that my son has found his place. If you would like to know more about how Scouting can benefit your family, please contact smboylan1999@yahoo.com. We are located in Wake Forest and meet most Tuesday evenings from 7ish-8:15.

Family Support Network of Wake County Board of Directors

MISSION STATEMENT

SUPPORTING, EDUCATING, AND INFORMING FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Debby Brooks.....	Board Chair, Parent	Dr. Donathan Hudgins..	Professional
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Carla Bass.....	Parent/Professional	Jennifer Runyon.....	Professional
June Cherry.....	Professional	René Morrison	Program Director, Parent
Danielle Cooper.....	Professional	Sara Dara	Outreach Coordinator, Parent
Renee Floyd.....	Parent	Jodi Kopala	Program Assistant



“Holland Tour Group” Gatherings

*Brooks Avenue Church of Christ
700 Brooks Ave., Raleigh*

Based on the “Welcome to Holland” story, these parent gatherings are designed to bring together families of children with special needs for information, sharing, and social time. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Dinner and social time—bring a sandwich, and we’ll provide drinks and dessert

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Speaker

1/15/08

“What’s Up With This Behavior? It’s Driving Me Crazy!”
Dr. Ann Marie Turnier, M.D., Behavioral Child Psychologist

2/19/08

“How Do I Become the Most Effective Advocate for My Child?”
Exceptional Children’s Assistance Center

This session will be from 6:30 – 8:30 with dinner being served for both children and adults.

3/18/08

Sensory Integration/Apraxia/Dyspraxia—What Are They? What’s the Difference?
Linda King-Thomas, MHS, OTR-L; Director of Developmental Therapy Associates

4/22/08

“What is Single Portal and Why do I Need to Sign My Child Up?”
Suzanne Goerger, Single Portal Coordinator

Come and hear about Single Portal of Entry, CAP-MR/DD, CAP-C, Availability of CAP funding now and in the future, and Case Management.

5/20/08

“Let’s Dance and Sing” Music Therapy

Bring the kids – this is an Interactive Session with child involvement.. Come and ask the different music therapists your questions and see what they have to offer our children.

6/17/08

Mom’s Night Out—“We’re Going On a Picnic!”

Relax and Enjoy Good Food, Friends, and Great Conversation.

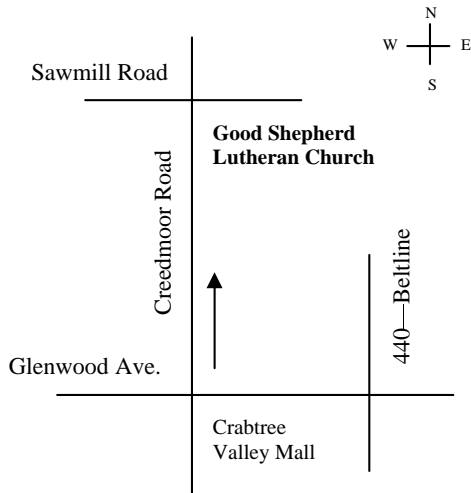
Bring your blanket, your favorite drink and FSN/WC will supply the rest. We guarantee you won’t regret coming! Let Sara know if you will be joining us by 6/13/07. **No child care at this event.**

Free on-site childcare is available for all but the June meeting. To reserve child care or for more information, please contact Sara at (919) 662-4600, ext. 257 or sara@familysupportonline.com.



Directions to Cookies and Cocoa

From Glenwood Ave. (Rt. 70) - turn north onto Creedmoor Road (Rt. 50 North) at Crabtree Valley Mall. Travel approximately 2.5 miles. Good Shepherd is on the right at the intersections of Creedmoor and Sawmill Roads. (Map is not to scale).



19th Annual Leo Croghan Conference on Developmental Disabilities

December 3, 2007

7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham, N.C.

A conference for parents and professionals concerned with the care and development of young children. Parent stipends are available for parents of children birth through age 5. For more information, visit their website at www.croghanconference.org

Wintergreen Adaptive Ski

Wintergreen Adaptive Ski (WAS) Program's mission is to teach the joys of alpine skiing to individuals with a disability. Set in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, WAS offers fun, exhilaration, and the chance to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends to people of all ages and with every imaginable disability.

WAS is equipped with trained volunteers and specialized equipment to get anyone up and skiing regardless of the independence level of the person.

Check out their website at www.skiwas.org or telephone (804) 325-2007.



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