

CLALLAM CONNECTION

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May—June 2011

KSNAP BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

KSNAP Radio Variety Show is back for two star-studded performances in
"The Case of the Missing Dog!"



Snappy Players (from left to right) Alicia Stuber, Kim Wing, Donna Morris and Bonne Smith practice their lines for this year's performance.

*"To wish you
were someone
else is to
waste the
person
you are."*

~Unknown

The shows will be on Saturday, May 21, 2011 with the first performance at 2:00 p.m. and the next at 7:30 p.m. The performances will be at the Olympic Theatre Arts in Sequim, 414 N. Sequim Avenue. Suggested donation is \$5. *(Story continued on pg. 2).*

KSNAP RADIO SHOW RETURNS (CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)



Cassie Puff lights up the stage with her smile.



Jes McNeil rehearses his lines on stage.



Alicia Stuber and Kim Wing take a twirl with their umbrellas.

The Connection got a sneak peek at a rehearsal and a chance to talk to performers. Get ready for a show that has a mystery, a circus, songs, dances and lots of fun.

Jes McNeil describes the experience as people getting together and sharing their talents and telling a story. The cast is committed to their characters and to the character's relationship with each other. Just like last year, you'll laugh, you'll cry and you'll want the story to keep on going.

DARIUS RUCKER PERFORMS NEW ‘MUSIC FROM THE HEART’ AT 2011 ACM AWARDS



Country star Darius Rucker—formerly of the rock band Hootie and the Blowfish—debuted a brand-new and very special song called ‘Music From the Heart’ at the Academy of Country Music (ACM) Awards show on April 3rd.

To boot, Rucker performed the song with 25 of its co-writers. Twenty-five co-writers? Yes, 25 co-writers. The song was written by 25 young adults with developmental disabilities. They wrote the song when they attended the ACM Lifting Lives

camp in Nashville last summer and now they were onstage to perform it with Rucker.

This was an once-in-a-lifetime event Rucker said in a press release, “I am honored to join ACM Lifting Lives and the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center to highlight how music can better the lives of young people with developmental disabilities on country music’s biggest night.”

CHECK OUT THIS NEW WEBSITE— HTTP://WABILITIES.COM

Wabilities.com is a helpful website (also called a *blog*) about developmental disabilities issues in Washington State.

The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) started WAbilities to help keep people informed on issues related to developmental disabilities here and around the country.

The DDC wants your comments and suggestions. So if you have any local news or story ideas, send them in!

WAbilities

An informing, empowering and inclusive blog on developmental disabilities issues in Washington State.



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Unlocking the Future
Posted on March 30, 2011 by WAbilities
 Submitted by David Maltman, DD Council Staff.

Ten years ago, did you own a laptop? Since then, how many times a day have you seen or used one? The person who came up with the basic concept for the laptop, Alan Kay, once said “the best way to predict the future is to invent it.” Apparently, he was successful at it as the laptop is in use everywhere today.

Inventing the future or at least the basic conceptual design for the way people with developmental disabilities and their families participate in their communities, is what the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) had hoped to do when we initiated the process to consider the future. The DDC engaged a group of self advocates, their families, professionals in the field, and other advocates to contemplate the future for the DD system.

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WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

In 2007, the United Nations made April 2nd "World Autism Awareness Day" to make the international public more aware of developmental disabilities. It will also help to promote human rights and freedoms for all people with disabilities. This year the United Nations held a screening on March 31st of the movie *"Loving Lampposts: Living Autism,"* a movie made by a father of an autistic child.

In the movie the dad talks about walking his son through the neighborhood park and his son would say hello to every lamppost. His son saw each lamppost as different and had named them. The dad thought this was odd and soon his son was diagnosed with autism. The movie shows their journey to acceptance.

The movie touches on the fact that very little is understood about autism by doctors and by the public. "We hope that this film will at least help parents and the public see the consequences of the negative view of autism and help them understand that acceptance offers a better path," the father stated.



"Loving Lampposts: Living Autism" is available on iTunes and Amazon by Todd Drezner.

DON'T FORGET



DDAC Meeting —Thursday, May 5th 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at Sequim Prairie Garden Club Pioneer Park, 387 East Washington Street in Sequim. The meeting will not be teleconferenced with Forks.



Sunday, May 8th is Mother's Day

Monday, May 30th is Memorial Day.

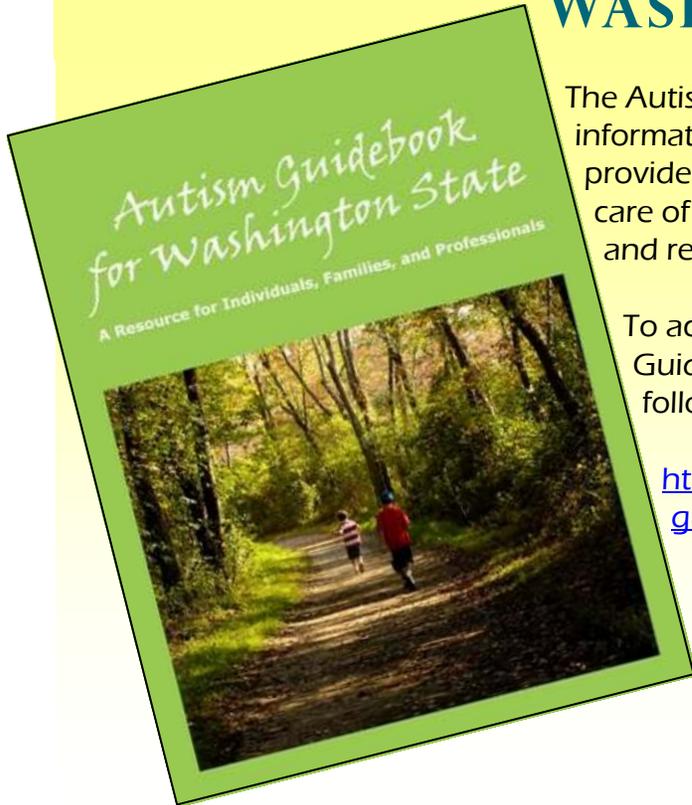


Sunday, June 19th is Father's Day.

Tuesday, June 21st is the first day of Summer!



NEW AUTISM GUIDEBOOK FOR WASHINGTON STATE



The Autism Guidebook for Washington State has a bunch of information for families, educators, medical professionals, care providers, and other people who make decisions about the care of children and adults with autism spectrum disorder and related disorders.

To access your own downloadable copy of the Autism Guidebook for Washington State, please visit the following website:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/mch/Autism/guidebook.htm>.

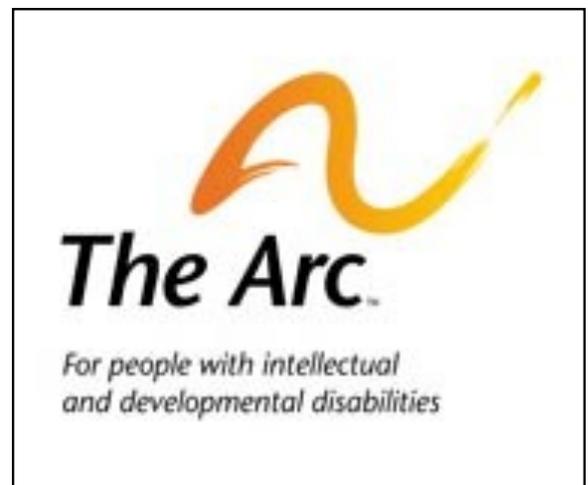
Hard copies are also available by contacting the Clallam County Health and Human Services Department, Developmental Disabilities section at 360-417-2275.

NEW LOGO FOR THE ARC

The Arc has a new logo or “brand” as they call it.

The Arc is the largest organization serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There are over 700 chapters nationwide.

The mission of The Arc is to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes and without regard to diagnosis.



If you want to find out more about The Arc, log onto www.thearc.org today.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH RUN



Clallam Connection had the chance to speak with Ron Cameron, Clallam County Sheriff's Department Chief Criminal Deputy, about the Special Olympics Torch Run. Here's what he had to say:

Each year, law enforcement agencies throughout Washington State make the trek of running the torch for the Special Olympics of Washington. There are several parts of the run from each corner of our state.

Ours begins in the Laird's Corner area where we run with a lit Olympic-style torch to the east side of the Hood Canal Bridge where we pass it on to Kitsap County. They take it to Pierce County the next day that culminates the run at Fort Lewis where the Summer Special Olympic Games are held.

This year, our part of the run is on June 1st and we are once again ready to carry the torch. Every criminal justice agency in our two county area joins in, including the Clallam County Sheriff's Office, National Park Service, U.S. Border Patrol, Port Angeles Police, Sequim Police, U.S. Coast Guard, LaPush Police, Port Townsend Police, Clallam Bay Correction Center and the Jefferson County Sheriff. The games begin June 4th.

The race itself doesn't raise any funds, but t-shirts sold to the runners and the public raise a lot of money for the program. T-shirts can be purchased before the race for \$20 by contacting Ron Cameron at the Sheriff's Office at 417-2570. Orders close May 6th. There are other events throughout the year, too, including the Applebee's Tip-A-Cop in September, that raise funds for the program. Last year, our area finished #2 in the state for amount raised at the Tip-A-Cop losing by about \$80 by Lakewood Applebee's!



Special Olympics



SNAP SPRING 2011

Snap is very excited to offer a wonderful collection of classes and events during the spring of 2011. Spring catalogs are available now. Sign up early. Classes include: Positive Work Habits, Theatre and Talent Show, Recreation Club, Bowling Club, Project Outreach, Art, Drumming and Mariners. Special events include participating in the Irrigation Festival and sailing on the historic schooner *Adventurers*. On May 21, 2011 the Snappy Players will be putting on the production of the KSNAP Radio Show, *"The Case of the Missing Dog."* Join us at Olympic Theatre Arts for two performances, open to the public.



This summer be sure to sign up for the YakaKoda Camp Retreat Aug. 18-21st. And last but not least is the return of the NYC Sprout Film Festival on Oct. 15th at the Olympic Arts Theatre. Join us for lots of fun this year.

Please check out our website at www.snapforall.org. For more information, please feel free to call Jenell DeMatteo, Executive Director at 360-379-8934.

WORDS BOOKSTORE DEDICATED TO THOSE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

One of the many things that make **Words Bookstore** in Maplewood, New Jersey stand out from other bookstores is its dedication to those with developmental disabilities. The store has hosted many events focusing on autism and other developmental challenges. **Words** has been the site of training for local special needs students, and is known as a welcoming shop for all. Now they have added the "Second Sundays" program. The purpose is to "provide a safe environment for kids to experience many fun and different activities." Once a month, children with special needs and their families are invited, free of charge, to participate in a creative activity—music, art, cooking, acting and more. Second Sundays exists because of generous contributions of time and energy from various community members.

One Sunday, Geralyn Robinson of Geralyn's Art Studio donated her time. Robinson has played host to children with autism in her regular classes, but this was her first time doing a session completely comprised of children with special needs. She planned for the kids to work with heart images because "there should be more love in this world."



As the children began working with paints and brushes, one mom said that her seven year old was "loving it!" She added, "This event is very unique and I'm very grateful for it." Another mom brought her four year old, "He enjoyed being in a space where he could express himself in his own unique way." Second Sundays began with music, continues with "Acting with Emily," cooking with Gabrielle Kaplan-Meyer and a singing performance with Miriam Rosenberg. Karate is also planned.

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Got a Story? Got News? Contact Lorraine Eckard at
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SPREAD THE WORD
TO END THE WORD
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