



**Autism Society of
Cumberland County**

Jackie Pfuntner, Editor

Calendar of Events:

- § April 6 @ 5:45 pm ~ HFA Support Group at Spainhour
- § April 6 @ 6:30 pm ~ Parent Ed. Mtg. at Spainhour
- § April 7 @ 11:00 am ~ ABA Support Group at Jason's Deli
- § April 14 @ 11:30 am ~ ALC Support Group at Olive Garden
- § April 22 @ 9:30 am ~ ABC Support Group at Ckick-Fil-A on Skibo
- § April 28 @ 11:00 am ~ Board of Directors Mtg. at Omni Family Resource Center

Board of Directors:

- President: Chris Leacock
- Vice Pres.: Anna Finch
- Treasurer: Gwen Scott
- Secretary: Mary Potter

General Board Members:

- Cynthia Billops
- Dr. Debra Gillum
- Brenda Brown

Director of Programs and Outreach

Jackie Pfuntner

Program and Outreach Assistant

Jennifer Cashwell

Monthly Parent Education Program

Lisa Townsend,
Autism Society of NC Parent Advocate
Will Present
Taking Autism to the Doctor

Discussion will include information about:

1. Preparing a person with autism for appointments with doctors, dentists, specialists, and visits to the hospital;
2. The differences between a picture schedule, a written schedule, and an object schedule;
3. Portable visual schedule systems and how it helps with transitions while out in the community and;
4. Strategies to manage the stress and uncertainty of visits to the doctor with accommodations that address the core features of autism.

Join us April 6, 2009
at 6:30 pm at the
Dorothy Spainhour Center
223 Hull Road, Fayetteville, NC

For your convenience, free respite care is available on site through Community Based Developmental Services. Contact Cynthia Billops at least 24 hours prior to reserve your space at 488-5820/488-4584. You may leave a message to reserve your space; you will not receive a return phone call.



Save The Date:

3rd Annual Autism Awareness

Golf Invitational

May 30, 2009 @ Cypress Lakes Golf Course

More information on pages 3 and 4

Do you know of a business that would be more than willing to donate items (gift certificates, gift baskets, etc) for a great cause? The ASCC is currently soliciting prizes for two upcoming fundraisers. The Hogs and Rags event will be held April 25 and the 3rd Annual Autism Awareness Golf Invitational will be held May 30. Both events will be doing raffle drawings as a thank you to participants.





April is Autism Awareness Month

What is autism?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) refers to a group of developmental disabilities—including classic autism, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS), and Asperger's Syndrome—that affect a person's ability to understand what they see, hear, and otherwise sense. It is a brain disorder that impacts communication, social interaction, and behavior. Individuals with ASD typically have difficulty understanding verbal and nonverbal communication and learning appropriate ways of relating to other people, objects, and events. No two people with ASD are the same. As its name implies, ASD is a spectrum disorder that affects individuals differently and with varying degrees of severity. Additionally, ASD is often found in combination with other disabilities.

How common is autism?

Autism spectrum disorder is the second most common developmental disability following mental retardation. ASD is more common than childhood cancer, cystic fibrosis, and multiple sclerosis combined. It is estimated that one out of every 150 people born today has some form of ASD. Roughly translated, this means as many as 1.5 million Americans today are believed to have some form of autism. And this number is on the rise. Based on statistics from the U.S. Department of Education and other governmental agencies, autism is growing at a startling rate of 10-17 percent per year. Autism knows no racial, ethnic, social boundaries, family income, lifestyle, or educational levels and can affect any family, and any child. And although the overall incidence of autism is consistent around the globe, it is four times more prevalent in boys than in girls.

Information for kids:

People with ASD are born with brains that work differently than others, so they learn differently. Many times a person with ASD will have a hard time talking with people and understanding what

they are saying. Some people with ASD cannot talk, while others talk a lot. Certain things may not feel, sound, smell or taste the same to a person with ASD, and sometimes this difference is upsetting. Sometimes people with ASD rock back and forth or wave their arms and hands. They may not know they are doing this or how it looks to others. It is important to remember that each person is different whether or not he or she has ASD. We all have unique qualities that make us special.

What is the ASCC doing?

- Awareness ads in April:
 - The Fayetteville Observer
- Public Service Announcements:
 - Beasley Broadcast Group
 - Cumulus
- Collaborating with Hogs & Rags on their April 25 Spring Rally to Myrtle Beach
- Planning the ASCC Third Annual Autism Awareness Golf Invitational scheduled May 30

What can you do?

- Write a letter/article for your child's school newsletter or your church bulletin
- Create a display board for your child's elementary school, YMCA, or place of worship
- Provide ASCC brochures to your pediatrician's office or local police department
- Wear your ASCC t-shirt often and answer questions when asked

For more information about autism spectrum disorder contact the Autism Society of Cumberland County by calling (910) 826-9100 ext. 2266/2268 or visit www.autismcc.org.



Third Annual Autism Awareness Golf Invitational Saturday, May 30, 2009

The ASCC will be hosting a 4 Man Team, Captain's Choice Tournament. Tournament will be held at Cypress Lakes Golf Course in Hope Mills, NC. There will be a shotgun start at 8:30 am.

Team Captain: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

2nd Player: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

3rd Player: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

4th Player: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____ T-shirt size: _____

The fee is \$50 per person. Fees will include Golf Cart, Green Fees, Range Balls, Raffle Ticket, T-shirt and Lunch.

I would also like to be Hole Sponsor for an additional \$100: \$_____

I would like my Hole Sponsor sign to read:

_____ is a Hole Sponsor in Honor of _____.

Sorry, I am unable to attend the ASCC Golf Invitational. Please accept my tax-deductible donation of \$_____.

If you have any questions, please call Jackie Pfunter at (910) 826-3004.

Please make check payable to: Autism Society to Cumberland County

Mail to: ASCC, 351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 410, Fayetteville, NC 28303

*ASCC is a non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible within IRS regulations.

Please consult your accountant. NOTE: Golf Registrations are not tax-deductible.



The Fayetteville Dogwood Festival Event

4th Annual Spring Rally



Enjoy a fun & relaxing escorted ride to the beach.

Saturday, April 25, 2009 • 8am—3pm

*The Airborne & Special
Operations Museum*

Rocking A Ranch

N. Myrtle Beach

Raffles • Silent Auction • Fun • Food • Fellowship

**A fundraiser benefiting Autism, American Cancer Society
and Our Kids Can Read Foundation.**

Register NOW www.hogsandrags.com • 910-263-5475

The registration fee is \$50 per entry and \$30 for each additional passenger.

351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 410
Fayetteville, NC 28303

Tel: 910-826-3004/3005
Fax: 910-868-5881
E-mail: autismcc@ccpfc.org
Web: www.autismcc.org

Winner of the Autism Society of
North Carolina affiliate of the Year
Award—1996, 2002, & 2003

Return Service Requested

Supporting Individuals Within The Autism Spectrum



The Autism Society of Cumberland County is an affiliate of the Autism Society of North Carolina

Mission Statement

The Autism Society of Cumberland County is committed to providing support and promoting opportunities which enhance the lives of individuals within the autism spectrum and their families.

Vision Statement

The Autism Society of Cumberland County strives to create a community where people within the autism spectrum and their families receive respect, services, and supports based on individual differences, needs, and preferences.

Funded In Part By:



Donations

Please remember the ASCC with your **tax-deductible** charitable contribution!

Checks should be made payable to:

Autism Society of Cumberland County
PO Box 35600
Fayetteville, NC 28303

Name _____

Address _____

Amount of Contribution _____

The Nicholas Fasul Finch Autism Fund was established in 1998 by Hank and Anna Fasul Finch, in honor of their son Nicholas. The fund is a donor advised fund of the Cumberland Community Foundation and was created for the purpose of supporting programs and services for individuals with autism in the Cumberland County area. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Checks should be made payable to:

Cumberland Community Foundation
PO Box 2345
Fayetteville, NC 28302-2345

***Please write "For the Nicholas F. Finch Autism Fund" on your check.**