

# THE ECHO

Volume 6, Issue 5

January 2008

Jackie Pfuntner , Editor

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>ALC Support Group at Georgia Brown's</i>	Jan. 8, 2008 11:30 am
<i>ASC Support Group at Mash House</i>	Jan. 10, 2008 6:30 pm
<i>HFA Support Group at Spainhour</i>	Jan. 14, 2008 5:45 pm
Monthly Parent Ed. Meeting at Spainhour	Jan. 14, 2008 6:30 pm
<i>ABC Support Group at McDonald's—Skibo</i>	Jan. 16, 2008 9:30 am
<i>ASCC Board of Directors Meeting, Omni Family Resource Center</i>	Jan. 22, 2007 11:00 am

## Autism Society of Cumberland County Monthly Parent Education Program:

**Dr. Steve Kroupa**

Clinical Director, Fayetteville TEACCH Center

*Will Present*

***Autism 101:***

***What Do You Need To Know?***

Discussion will include:

1. How autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are defined, diagnosed, and differentiated from other disorders of childhood.
2. Current research into the causes, early detection, and impact on brain development and functioning of ASD.
3. Current best practice models for the treatment of autism.

**Join us on January 14, 2008 at 6:30 pm**

**at the Dorothy Spainhour Center**

**223 Hull Road, Fayetteville, NC**

*Please note that a brief membership meeting will begin at 6:30 pm ;  
the presentation will follow.*

As a courtesy to our speaker, PLEASE be prompt!

Please help contribute to our refreshment table.

### Board of Directors

President	Anna Finch
Vice President	Chris Leacock
Treasurer	Gwen Scott
Secretary	Chontelle Thompson

### General Board Members

Brenda Brown	Dianne Farris
Dr. Debra Gillum	Cathy Howell
Cynthia Billops	

### Director of Programs and Outreach

Jackie Pfuntner

### Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Cashwell

**Disclaimer:** The Autism Society of Cumberland County does not take any position regarding studies of ASD, nor endorse any particular form of treatment, intervention, or therapy. This newsletter allows us to pass along current information in the field of ASD to our families and organization members.

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.

## ATTENTION FAMILIES

### Camp Sunshine Applications are in the mail!

Camp Sunshine applications were mailed out to families and teachers on December 12. If you have not received an application for camp then please call our office immediately at 826-9100 ext. 2266/2268.

It is of utmost importance that families interested in having their child attend camp this summer, submit the application by the due date. Camp is an extremely lengthy process for our office staff, QP (Qualified Professional) and families.

Specific dates and location are yet to be confirmed. The application, however does include a memo regarding tentative dates, location, and other pertinent information. Please retain the memo for future reference. DO NOT send the attached memo back to the office.

We ask for your diligent cooperation in assisting us to successfully provide this service.

## *A Resource for **TEACHERS** in North Carolina*

Sara Handlan Autism Resource for Educators  
Where Can We Go Together?

### SHARE

#### Vision Statement

SHARE will create new connections that identify, celebrate and promote where teachers are succeeding in helping children with autism learn and grow. Share is dedicated to helping teachers learn, communicate and practice skills that lead to the highest quality in education we can achieve.

For more information about SHARE

and to read articles of interest, please visit:

[http://www.autismsociety-nc.org/html/for\\_teachers\\_.html](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org/html/for_teachers_.html)



Autism Society  
of NORTH CAROLINA

## Puzzled by Autism?

# Cape Fear Children's Center has the Pieces to Help You!

Good news for families of children who have been diagnosed with  
(or have been determined to be at risk of) an autism spectrum disorder.

Easter Seals UCP: Cape Fear Children's Center  
serves you with an intensive early intervention program called  
**AEIM (Autism Early Intervention Model)**

- ◆ 10 children aged 18 – 48 months will be served
- ◆ 6 hours of service per day, Monday –Friday (Hours: 8:30 am – 2:30 pm)
- ◆ 1 hour per day "At Home" Parent Participation Commitment Required
- ◆ \$100 per Month Fee for Service – (Some scholarship funding available)
- ◆ Transportation assistance available
- ◆ Developmental assessments and parent participation orientation to begin ASAP
- ◆ Program to start Jan 7, 2008 and to end June 27, 2008

To obtain an application or to get further information, call the  
Easter Seals UCP Cape Fear Children's Center in Spring Lake, NC at (910) 436-1211.

***This special early intervention program is funded by the state of NC  
through the Autism Society of North Carolina.***



Autism Society  
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## ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR CHILD TO EAT HEALTHY?

Maybe a harmless trick is the solution!  
It worked for one of our parents...here's the recipe she shared!

Hannah Keeley's Black Bean Brownies (on Rachael Ray)

### Ingredients

- 1 15-ounce can black beans
- 3 eggs, divided
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter, plus additional for greasing the pan
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 2.25-ounce jar baby food prunes
- 2 cups sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 3/4 cup cocoa

**Yields:** about 12 brownies

### Preparation:

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Rinse beans thoroughly and shake off any excess water. Blend beans and one egg in a food processor until the mixture is completely smooth.
- Melt the butter in a mixing bowl in the microwave. To the butter, add bean and egg mixture, the remaining two eggs, vanilla and baby prunes, and mix thoroughly. Add sugar, flour and cocoa to the bowl; stir to combine.
- Bake in buttered 9x13 pan for approximately 30 minutes, or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

## NIH Infant Brain Imaging Study (IBIS) Network At UNC-Chapel Hill

### Purpose

- To **study brain overgrowth in autism**. Previous studies have shown that the onset of brain overgrowth and autistic behavior both occur toward the end of the first year of life.

### Plan

- We plan to enroll approximately **500 infant siblings of children with autism for MRI scans** at 6, 12 and 24 months of age at four sites around the country including **UNC**, The University of Pennsylvania (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia), Washington University in St Louis, and the University of Washington in Seattle.

For more information visit the IBIS website at [www.ibis-network.org](http://www.ibis-network.org) or call **1.800.793.5715**.

### Support Group Info:

ASCC Monthly Support Groups are open to parents, professionals, and anyone else who wishes to attend. Our support groups are a great place to network with other parents and share your ideas or concerns. Find a support group meeting to fit your busy schedule.

The **Autism Breakfast Club (ABC)** Support Group will meet **Wednesday, January 16** at 9:30 a.m. at McDonald's on Skibo. This group is for parents of ages pre-school—elementary with autism.

The **Autism Lunch Club (ALC)** Support Group will meet **Tuesday, January 8** at 11:30 am at Georgia Brown's. This group is for parents of ages middle school—adults with autism.

The **Autism Supper Club (ASC)** Support Group will meet **Thursday, January 10** at 6:30 pm at The Mash House. This group is for parents of preteens/teens with high-functioning autism/aspergers. Call Cathy Howell by December 12 to reserve your seat at 433-2797.

The **High Functioning Autism (HFA)** Support Group will meet **Monday, January 14**. This group is for parents of individuals with high-functioning autism/aspergers.



Mailing Address:  
 Autism Society of Cumberland County  
 P. O. Box 35600  
 Fayetteville, NC 28303

Office Location:  
 351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 410  
 Fayetteville, NC 28303

Phone: 826-3004/3005  
 Fax: 910-868-5881

E-mail: [autismcc@ccpfc.org](mailto:autismcc@ccpfc.org)  
 On the web at [www.autismcc.org](http://www.autismcc.org)



Winner of the Autism Society of North Carolina Affiliate of the Year Award -1996, 2002 & 2003



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:



A community service agency that plans, coordinates, and provides mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services.



PFC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported by public and private funds through Smart Start - North Carolina's Early Childhood Initiative, tax-deductible donations, and grants.

Visit the Partnership for Children on the web at [www.ccpfc.org](http://www.ccpfc.org) the virtual first stop for families.

The **NICHOLAS FASUL FINCH AUTISM FUND** of the Cumberland Community Foundation is a tax deductible fund created for the purpose of assisting all of the autistic population in the Cumberland County area. You may make donations to the endowment fund.

**Checks should be made payable to:**

*Cumberland Community Foundation  
 P.O. Box 2345  
 Fayetteville, NC 28302-2345*

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

Please remember us 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 \_\_\_\_\_