### **\*\*AUTISM SOCIETY**

Improving the lives of All Affected by Autism Central Virginia

September 2014

Volume 22, Issue 8



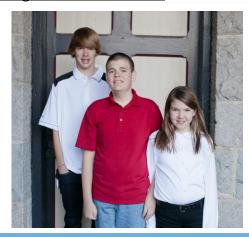


# SEPTEMBER 19 SOCIETY MEETING BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: UNIQUE CONCERNS, UNIQUE OPPORTUNTIES

Being the brother or sister of a person with a developmental disability is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing, and for many, somewhere in-between. This past August, our Outreach Coordinator, Tammy Burns had the opportunity to attend a 2-day training with Sibshops founder, Don Meyer. Sharing what she learned at our September 19 Society meeting, Tammy will describe the concerns and opportunities frequently experienced by brothers and sisters of people with developmental disabilities and what researchers, clinicians, and siblings themselves say about growing up with siblings with special needs. Finally, Tammy will explain what all of this means to us as parents or service providers. This presentation is appropriate for parents, providers, and mature siblings in grade 5 through adulthood.

Tammy received her BA from Virginia Tech in Elementary Education and is currently working toward a Masters of Education in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) from Arizona State. Tammy is a Partners in Policymaking Graduate and a volunteer Family Navigator for the Partnership for People with Disabilities, Center for Family Involvement. She and her husband, Troy, have three teenage children – Brett, Jared and Amber.

This meeting will begin promptly at 7 p.m. at River Road United Methodist Church, 8800 River Road, Richmond 23229. This meeting is free and open to the public but registration is required at https://siblingssn.eventbrite.com.







#### **Mission**

To improve the lives of all affected by autism by maximizing the self-sufficiency, independence, and quality of life for all living with autism.

#### **Vision**

We are the local voice and resource of the autism community in education, advocacy, services, and support, committed to meaningful participation and self-determination in all aspects of life for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

Any age. Any stage.

#### **Donate**

Your gift will help support autism education, awareness, advocacy and most importantly, enable us to assist families and individuals living with autism. You can help by making a donation today!

#### **BOARD OFFICERS**

President: Bill Thompson

Treasurer: Adam Bailey, CPA

Meeting Secretary: Shawn Kirk

Corresponding Secretary: Tim Jones

Past President: Sandi Wiley

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Chele Brandon

Norm Geller, Ph.D.

Nate Harry, CPA

Donna Sabel, Ed.D.

Katherine Gray. Esq.

Mary Bess Bolin

Angie Dykes

Taylor Bell Falls

Ashley Payne, Esq.

Paul Warner

#### **STAFF**

Executive Director: Becky Boswell, MBA

Program Director: Bradford Hulcher

Outreach Coordinator: Tammy Burns

Recreational Facilitator: Brie King

This newsletter is a publication of: Autism Society, Central Virginia.
P.O. Box 29364
Richmond, Virginia 23242-0364
(804) 257-0192

We accept for consideration any comments, personal vignettes, book reviews, information, announcements or advertisements for publication in our newsletter. The deadline for submission for the October newsletter is September 15. You may send your contributions to the above address or email contributions to <a href="mailto:info@ascv.org">info@ascv.org</a>.

The Autism Society, Central Virginia does not endorse nor promote any program or service provider. The information contained in this newsletter is provided for informational purposes only. The Society is a 501(c)3 organization providing information, support and encouragement to individuals with autism, their families and professionals in the Central Virginia area.

This edition was edited by ASCV staff.



# From Our Executive Director

I wonder, is anyone else thinking, "it can't possibly be September, where did the summer go?" The Autism Society Central Virginia hosted many events and activities in June, July, and August -- Sensory Movies at the Byrd, Squirrels and Kickers games, a Pool Party, Lego® Clubs, Adults with AS Interest Group, and Families of Adults Group, to name a few. We hope you were able to take part in at least one! Members of our Staff also attended many conferences and workshops, including the National Autism Society 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Indianapolis, the State Arc Convention, and a Sibshops Facilitator Training. We are excited about bringing back to our community all that we learned!

The ASCV will not be slowing down this fall either! Chapter Meetings will start back up on September 19<sup>th</sup>, with our own Tammy Burns sharing information on "Brothers and Sisters of People with Special Needs – Unique Concerns, Unique Opportunities." The Middle School Social Group will also begin meeting again on September 19<sup>th</sup>. On four consecutive Friday evenings in October, our Staff will present an *IEP Boot Camp* for family members, and on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, we will host a **Volunteer Appreciation Open House**. We hope you will plan to stop in between 2:00-4:00pm this afternoon and help us thank ALL those who volunteer for the ASCV throughout the year! More details on all of these activities can be found throughout the September Newsletter.

We hope that you will help us share all of these opportunities with your family, friends, and networks! All the Best,

Becky

Becky Boswell, MBA director@ascv.org



#### SUPPORT THE ASCV THIS FALL!!

We will be participating in several important fundraisers this fall which will help us to carry out our mission, to improve the lives of all affected by autism by maximizing the self- sufficiency, independence, and quality of life for all living with autism. We hope that you will help us share all of these opportunities with your family, friends, and networks!

#### Ruby Tuesday Give Back Program

**September 12, 13, & 14, 2014.** The ASCV will receive 20% of the purchase amount for anyone who presents a flyer on those 3 days. Please note, the specific locations are listed on the bottom of each flyer found in this newsletter.

#### Amazing Raise

**6am, September 17 to 6pm, September 18th**. Hosted by GiveRichmond.org, this is a 36-hour online giving challenge that has empowered our community to raise \$3.3 million for local nonprofits in the past 3 years. Donations will be accepted for the non-profits of your choice and many incentive prizes will be awarded. For more information, visit the website — www.theamazingraise.org and watch more information on Facebook and our weekly E-Blasts!



#### Italian Street Festival

**September 27 & 28** We are so excited to have been chosen to be a part of this Richmond event at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Market. Visit their website -- <a href="http://richmonditalianfestival.org/">http://richmonditalianfestival.org/</a> for more information and volunteer opportunities!

#### Second Annual Poker Run

**October 11** We will be rolling into October with the Sons of Dominion Motorcycle Club. This event will start at the Colonial Heights Harley Davidson at 9 a.m. Join us for an exciting morning of riding, raffles, food, and great prizes! Visit <a href="https://www.sonsofdominion.com">www.sonsofdominion.com</a> for more details!



#### Martial Arts World US Open Exhibition Championships

October 25 All local locations will be coming together at Clover Hill High School for a day of thrilling competitions and an evening exhibition of Masters, all to benefit the ASCV! We are so honored that Martial Arts World selected the Autism Society Central Virginia to be the beneficiary of funds from this event and look forward to working with them on this and future programs and events!

Becky Boswell Executive Director

#### NEWS FROM THE AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VIRGINIA BOARD

In July and August the Autism Society Central Virginia worked to fulfill our mission to "improve the lives of all affected by autism" in the following ways:

#### **Services and Supports**

- Sponsored Autism Awareness Night @ the Diamond
- Sponsored Autism Awareness Night with the Richmond Kicker's
- Sponsored a Pool Party
- Sponsored 2 Inclusive Lego Clubs
- Sponsored 2 Adults with Asperger's Interest Groups
- Sponsored 2 Parents of Adults w/ Asperger's Interest Groups
- Partnered with the Byrd Theatre for 2 Sensory Friendly Movies

#### **Advocacy**

- Participated in a DD Coalition Meeting
- Participated on the Region IV REACH Advisory Council
- Attended at the Annual Arc of VA Convention
- Participated on the Senate Bill 627 Work Group
- Participated on the Autism Insurance Work Group
- Participated on the Department of Justice Settlement Agreement Stakeholder's Group

#### **Awareness**

- Exhibited at East End National Night Out
- Exhibited at the Arc of VA Convention

#### **Education**

Presented the ABCs of IEPs at the Arc of VA Convention

#### LOCAL PARKS & REC FALL PROGRAMS

Check out all the great opportunities offered this fall through local Parks and Rec programs. Many offer therapeutic rec and inclusive opportunities:

- Chesterfield: <a href="http://www.chesterfield.gov/Parks.aspx?id=3134">http://www.chesterfield.gov/Parks.aspx?id=3134</a>
- Hanover: https://online.activenetwork.com/hanoverparksrec/Start/Start.asp
- Henrico: http://henrico.us/rec/

For a comprehensive list of leisure and rec programs in metro Richmond, visit the ASCV online Resource Directory @ http://ascv.org/resources/resource-directory/

This September, the Autism Society, Central VA will sponsor or participate in the following events. All events take place at River Road UMC, 8800 River Rd, Henrico, unless otherwise specified. For information: 257-0192 or info@ascv.org.

9/6	9 am	Preschool Music Group details and registration: <a href="http://ascvpreschoolsept.eventbrite.com">http://ascvpreschoolsept.eventbrite.com</a>
9/6	10 am	Inclusive Lego Club – Chester details and registration: <a href="http://inclusivelegoclub.eventbrite.com">http://inclusivelegoclub.eventbrite.com</a>
9/12 - 9/14		Ruby Tuesday Give Back 20% of purchase goes to ASCV @ 6 locations; see flyer inserts
9/13		Board Meeting
9/17 - 9/18		The Amazing Raise please support the ASCV!
9/19	7 pm	Society Meeting: Brothers and Sisters of People with Special Needs: Unique Concerns, Unique Opportunities details and registration: <a href="http://siblingssn.eventbrite.com">http://siblingssn.eventbrite.com</a>
9/19	7 pm	<b>Middle School Social Club</b> ASCV members, check your e-mail for invitation
9/21		<b>Bowling Leagues</b> for children, youth and adults w/ ASD; free for ASCV members; check your e-mail for Eventbrite invitation
9/22	7pm	Adults with Asperger's/HFA Interest Group (open only to adults w/ Asperger's/HFA)
9/22	7pm	Parents of Adults with Asperger's
9/27	10 am	Inclusive Lego Club - Downtown details and registration @ <a href="http://inclusivelegocity9.eventbrite.com">http://inclusivelegocity9.eventbrite.com</a>
9/27 – 9/28		Italian Street Festival ASCV will receive a portion of proceeds from this event

AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VIRGINIA

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

#### **Back-to School Resources**

The Autism Society of America has a special page on their website dedicated to providing easy-to-understand, practical information related to autism on a wide range of topics. The resource materials include tips on transitioning through the school years. Some good reading as you begin the school year! Check it out here: <a href="http://www.autism-society.org/about-the-autism-ociety/publications/resource-materials/">http://www.autism-society.org/about-the-autism-ociety/publications/resource-materials/</a>



#### SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

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Sept. 5	Children's Museum Chesterfield; adapted material, special activities, a cool-down space and reduced number of visitors; free from 5:30-7:30pm
Sept. 9	<b>Progressing through Transition</b> Justin George is a young man with AS, ADHD, and anxiety. This FREE webcast will be delivered by Justin. In his own words, he will discuss how strategies, people and placements helped him move from middle school, high school and now to college <a href="http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/te/webcasts/details.cfm?webcastID=302">http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/te/webcasts/details.cfm?webcastID=302</a>
Sept. 10	Chesterfield County Special Education Advisory Committee meets at the Career and Technical Center @ 13900 Hull Street Road. Call 594-1732 for details; open to the public
Sept. 16	Monkey Joe's Special Needs Nights from 5pm to 7pm; kids ages 2-12 w/ special needs

Sept. 25 Self Determination, Discovery and the Customized Employment Process free webcast from VCU's Center on Transition Innovation; <a href="http://centerontransition.org/training/webcastDetails.cfm/296">http://centerontransition.org/training/webcastDetails.cfm/296</a>

For additional information on autism conferences and workshops in VA, visit www.autismtrainingva.org

#### **DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR ASCV ACTIVITIES**

Two years ago the Richmond community rallied as we began our inclusive Lego® Club, donating thousands of Lego® bricks to the ASCV! We are currently seeking donations for the following items to enhance our Lego® Club experience:

- Lego® figurines (most needed)
- Lego® accessories (most needed)
- Lego® kits
- Lego® instruction booklets
- K'NEX bricks, rods and connectors
- Lego® bricks

Our middle school social club is in need of:

- Yoga balls
- Modeling Clay

Contact <u>outreach@ascv.org</u> to make a donation.



### AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VA ADVOCATING FOR THE AUTISM COMMUNITY

The ASCV works diligently to represent the voice of the autism community with local and state policymakers. We serve on many local and state work groups, committees, coalitions, and advisory councils to insure that the needs of our community are represented in conversations and decisions impacting individuals with autism and their families. We'll highlight the work of one of these groups each month. This month we'll share information on the Waiver Design Advisory Committee; ASCV Program Director Bradford Hulcher has served on the Eligibility Subcommittee of this group for the past several months.

#### Waiver Redesign

The U.S. v Virginia Settlement Agreement requires the Commonwealth to provide services and supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the most integrated setting, regardless of the complexity of their support needs. Public input was collected in 2013 by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and Human Services Research Institute (HSRI), Virginia's contractor. Later that year, HSRI made recommendations on the Commonwealth's waiver redesign, primarily to "establish a cohesive ID and DD system under DBHDS, taking steps to integrate services across the two populations and eliminate separations based on diagnosis and/or IQ."

#### Waiver Design Advisory Committee and Subcommittees

In response to the recommendations from HSRI, DBHDS formed a Waiver Design Advisory Committee (WDAC) and related subcommittees in Spring 2014 to "consider the recommendations made by HSRI, provide input on the new waiver redesign, and make suggestions regarding means of enhancing system processes." The WDAC subcommittees include: Case Management, Services Array, Waiting List Management and Eligibility. For the necessary language/funding to be incorporated into the Governor's budget, Waiver Design proposals will need to be finalized very soon. For an excellent synopsis and analysis of the recommendations of the WDAC and its subcommittees from the Arc of VA, visit http://www.thearcofva.org/blog/.

#### Individual and Family Support Program (IFSP) Update

The Individual and Family Support Program (IFSP) is designed to assist individuals on the waiting list for the Intellectual Disability (ID) or Developmental Disability (DD) Medicaid Waivers to access short-term resources, supports, and services that will help them remain in their own community homes. Families may request up to \$3,000 in funding; applications for the IFSP can be found at <a href="http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-IFSP.htm">http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-IFSP.htm</a>. They should be postmarked on or after September 15, 2014. Funding is allocated on a first come, first served basis.

#### **Thank You To The Following Volunteers**

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. ~Winston Churchill

Ashley Graham Aadarsh Nair Tracy Stuaffer

Stacy Lee

Steven L'Heureux

Bhagya Nair

Shari Robinson

Kai Graham

Becky Early

Ryan Robertson

Zipporah Levi-Shackleford

Jordan Miller

Jocelyn Miller

Alexann Rahimi

Christine Del Bueno

Matthew Del Bueno

Matthew Merroto

Amber Thatcher

Rebecca Walters

Skills Development Center

Sam Hulcher

Kyle McKenna

Sandi Wiley

Mary Bess Bolin

Keli Keener

Shawn Kirk

Allison Thurman

Nancy Andelin

Lisa deGroot

#### Thank You For the Following Donations

All donations stay in the Central Virginia area to support individuals and families affected by autism.

Kelly Fender

Eric Schmude

Michael O'Donnell

Dee Thomas

King and Queen Elementary School

Mary Noon

Brendan Moran

Angelina Weiler

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Deana Buck

Kings Dominion

L. Bryan Rowe

Dianne Corsello

**Gregory Workman** 

Paul Daniel McNamara

Phillip Sandino

Aja Shenay Wells

Ellsworth McLean

Richard Raines

**Timothy Criss** 

Lisa Keene

Brian Long

John O'Connell

James Paul

Christopher Szymonik

Bill Thompson

Betty Anne Flynn

Made in Asia Restaurant

Uptown Alley

Buz and Ned's

Richmond Squirrels

The Byrd Theatre

ChikNEgg Farmer's Market

Weinstein JCC



# Learn, Live, Work, and Play! Free

#### Conference, Resource Fair & Legislative Panel

For Students and Adults with Developmental Disabilities, Families, Educators and Service Providers

Saturday November 15, 2014

8:30am - 4:30pm

**River Road United Methodist Church** 

8800 River Road Richmond VA

**Keynote:** Pat Carver with Community Drive, Inc.

Sessions on:

A Home of My Own	Medicaid Waivers & a Life in the Community
Post-Secondary Options	Person Centered Planning
Residential Options	Legislative Panel – VA General Assembly
Community Connections Road Map	Personal Networks and Circles of Support

### The Conference is FREE; details and registration@ https://lifeinthecommunity2014.eventbrite.com

Learn more by contacting a sponsoring organization:

Autism Society, Central Virginia - info@ascv.org (804) 257-0192

Hanover Arc - info@hanoverarc.org (804) 798-2400

Down Syndrome Association of Greater Richmond dsagrprograms@gmail.com (804) 525-7731)



Now Enrolling!

RAIN After School & RAIN Academy

Social Skills, Life Skills, Academics!

804-754-0000

www.RichmondAutism.org



Announcing Club Snow!

Club Snow is a new

social skills group for children in fourth through eighth grade operating in Hanover County. The group is supervised by a licensed behavior analyst and the structure will adhere to the principles of ABA.

Please contact christy@snowflakesaba.com or 804-310-1128

for your child. Sessions begin in September. PAID ADVERTISEMENT

if you are interested

The Center for Behavioral Services at The Faison School is pleased to announce the launch of a social skills training group this coming September! We have set out to offer this new service for students who may benefit from extra, guided practice in the areas of conversational skills, making friends, social boundaries,

self-advocacy, and much more! In addition we are making this service available after school, beginning at 2:15 and ending at 3:45 pm (Monday through Thursday; \$30 per day).

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www.thefaisonschool.org 804-612-1947 contact@thefaisonschool.org



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#### **Richmond Autism Connection**

Social, Life, and Vocational Skills Courses for College-Aged Students.

Beginning September 2014

May be funded through the Individual and Family Support Program application process for those on the ID and DD Waitlist.

www.rva-autism.com

info@rva-autism.com

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



#### You Are Invited:

We invite you as a patient or caregiver, to an ADHD/Autism seminar presented by Baylor Rice RPh, FIACP. He will be reviewing the compounding and nutritional (herbal/vitamin/mineral) options, as well as dietary changes, that help support brain and gut function for ADHD/Autistic patients.

Our monthly seminars are designed to help improve the quality of life for all of our patients. We hope to see you there!

When: Wednesday September 24, 2014 at 6PM

Where: 3656 Mayland Drive (Our Richmond West End Location at the intersection of Gaskins Road and Mayland Drive)

Visit our website to learn more about our FREE informative monthly seminars like •Stress •Thyroid •BHRT •Weight Loss •Optimal Aging



At South
River We
Customize
Medication
And
Specialize
In Using
The Natural
Approach
To Address
Health
Concerns.

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# SONS OF DOMINION MOTORCYCLE CLUB

2nd Annual Autism Poker Run Saturday, October 11th 2014

> Registration begins at 9am Ride from 10am-12:30pm

Start at: Colonial Harley 1701 Temple Pkwy, Prince George, VA

Join the Sons of Dominion Motorcycle Club as we support the Autism Society of Central Virginia in raising funds and awareness for the cause of Autism. Enjoy a beautiful morning of *riding, raffles, food, and great prizes* - all in support of the ASCV. \$20 per rider, \$5 per passenger. Proceeds support the ASCV.



Not a rider? You can still participate. Many prizes to be raffled off! Go to <a href="https://www.sonsofdom.com"><u>WWW.SONSOFDOMINION.COM</u></a> for more details.

#### **Ruby Tuesday Give Back Choose Your Location**

ENJOY A MEAL WITH US AND WE'LL GIVEBACK.

# RubyTuesday

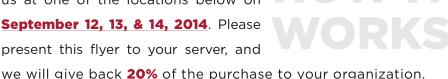
### COMMUNITY GIVEBACK PROGRAM

100% OF THE GIVEBACK AMOUNT IS DONATED DIRECTLY TO THE ORGANIZATION.

Ruby Tuesday is extremely proud to be part of your hometown and believes in giving back. As a fellow member of the community, we invite you to participate in...

#### Ruby Tuesday's Community GiveBack Program.

Grab your family and friends and join us at one of the locations below on September 12, 13, & 14, 2014. Please present this flyer to your server, and



(We apologize but we cannot accommodate coupon usage or other discounts in conjunction with our GiveBack Program.)



To make a reservation, simply call us or visit us online at rubytuesday.com

Organization's Name: AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Event's Name: RUBY TUESDAY GIVES BACK FOR AUTISM

Date of Visit: September 12, 13, & 14, 2014

#### **Participating Locations:**

GASKINS ROAD • 9830 WEST BROAD STREET • 804-346-0082 CHESTERFIELD MARKETPLACE • 1101 CARMIA WAY • 804-897-9281 **HULL STREET • 10419 HULL STREET ROAD • 804-674-8916** 



For the nearest restaurant or a peek at the menu, visit rubytuesday.com

### Ruby Tuesday Give Back Choose Your Location

ENJOY A MEAL WITH US AND WE'LL GIVEBACK.

# RubyTuesday

### COMMUNITY GiveBack PROGRAM

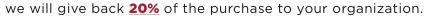
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 $(We apologize \ but \ we \ cannot \ accommodate \ coupon \ usage \ or \ other \ discounts \ in \ conjunction \ with \ our \ GiveBack \ Program.)$ 



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Organization's Name: AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Event's Name: RUBY TUESDAY GIVES BACK FOR AUTISM

Date of Visit: September 12, 13, & 14, 2014

#### **Participating Locations:**

**SOUTHPARK** • 431 SOUTH PARK CIRCLE • 804-524-2240 **BROAD STREET** • 5310 WEST BROAD ST • 804-282-8405 **HOPEWELL** • 5107 OAKLAWN BLVD • 804-452-3713



For the nearest restaurant or a peek at the menu, visit rubytuesday.com



#### **MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Join with hundreds of individuals with autism, their families and other caring individuals; become a part of a larger community - the Autism Society, Central VA. We can't be heard alone, but with more voices joining daily, that small voice can become a roar. We invite you to become a part of a community of hope.

#### Membership in the Autism Society, Central VA provides the following benefits:

- ASCV's monthly newsletter, the local resource for information regarding local and state autism-related issues, workshops, and community events
- ASCV's weekly e-mail updates
- Access to ASCV lending library
- Free ASCV sponsored social/recreational activities; discounted workshops

Membership Levels:					
\$5 ~ Self-Advocate (Adult w/ ASD) \$25 ~ Household \$1500 ~ Lifetime					
Names(s):					
Address: Phone #					
City: State: Zip:					
E-mail address:					
Additional Donation:					
\$25\$50\$100please specify amt.					
Payment information:					
Check (made payable to <b>Autism Society</b> ) Visa Mastercard					
Name on card: Expiration:					
Card #:					
CVV# (security code on back of card) or join online at www.ascv.org					
Signature:					
How would you prefer to receive your newsletter: $\Box$ by mail $\Box$ electronically					
Which free gift may we send you: □ car magnet □ autism pin □ refrigerator magnet					
New Members, how did you hear about the ASCV? ☐ family ☐ friend ☐ internet ☐ other					

Please mail or fax w/ payment to:

Autism Society, Central VA P.O. Box 29364 Richmond, VA 23242 (804) 290-0286 (fax)

#### Autism Society Central Virginia

P.O. Box 29364 Richmond, VA 23242-0364 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Richmond, VA Permit No. 132

Address Service Requested



## Would you like to place an Ad in "Into The Light"?

Our newsletter reaches over 600 families, professionals and educators on a monthly basis. If you would like to place an advertisement, please email it to <a href="mailto:info@ascv.org">info@ascv.org</a> or mail it to us at P.O. Box 29364, Richmond, VA 23242. Deadline for entry is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Ad Rates: \$50.00 1/4 page \$75.00 1/2 page \$100 full page

The Board reserves the right to refuse to place an advertisement.

Non-Profits / Long Term Ads may have negotiated discount rates with Board approval.