



**AUTISM SOCIETY**  
*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*

*Nebraska*

## NEWSGRAM



February 25, 2010

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# 2010 ASD State Conference

The Nebraska ASD Network will hold its 7th annual ASD Conference in Kearney, NE on April 8th and 9th. Speakers will include Fern Sussman, Ruth Aspy, James Emmett, Barry Grossman, and Mary Schlieider. They will also hold a speakers dinner with individuals on the autism spectrum.

This year the conference will include a new vocational strand sponsored by Voc Rehab & Region 7 TACE as well as a parent track sponsored by the Autism Society of Nebraska.

You can register [here](#) or download the conference flyer [here](#). Be sure and take advantage of the Early Bird pricing!

The Autism Society has some funding set aside for scholarships for parents to attend the state conference. You can download a **Supporting our Families Scholarship Application** [HERE](#).

Act fast because completed scholarship requests must be postmarked on or before March 1st, 2010.

Not a member? Click [HERE](#) to join the Autism Society of America

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## **Autism Society - Omaha Support Group hosts a showing of the HBO Film: TEMPLE GRANDIN**

You are invited to join the Omaha Support Group for a showing of  
the  
HBO film: TEMPLE GRANDIN

Thursday, March 11

6:30pm - 9:00pm

FREE

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
15002 Blondo St

Download a flyer [here](#)

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## **Join the Omaha Support Group for an Easter Egg Hunt!**

Saturday, April 3rd  
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm  
Hunt starts promptly at 2:00 pm



Enjoy Camp Brewster and Kiewit Lodge underneath the arching canopy of 200 year old oak trees. come and have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny and hunt bright colored Easter Eggs.

- For children and their siblings ages 0 -12 years
- Bring your own containers to collect eggs

This event is being sponsored by the Autism Society - Omaha Support Group and Parent to Parent of Ollie Webb Center, Inc. To attend you must RSVP by Wednesday, March 31st. Please contact Annie at 346-5220 ext. 23 or [aanderson@olliewebbinc.org](mailto:aanderson@olliewebbinc.org)

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## OMAHA: Upcoming Sensory Friendly Movies

The Autism Society of America and AMC Entertainment have worked together to create sensory friendly films in an attempt to accommodate families with special needs. This is not only for autism families but also for any families with special needs.

The movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up, the sound turned down, and AMC's "Silence is Golden<sup>®</sup>" policy will not be enforced. There will be no previews before the film so plan to arrive early as the movie will start at 10am! AMC is also being very generous and letting our families bring in their own GFCF snacks. Regular concessions are also available to purchase.

Questions - contact Michaela Newman at (402)933-1216 or [bnewms@cox.net](mailto:bnewms@cox.net)

### DIARY OF A WIMPY KID

Saturday, March 20  
10:00 am  
Omaha's AMC Oakview 24  
3555 S 140th Plaza  
\$5 per person

### HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

Saturday, April 10th  
10:00 am  
Omaha's AMC Oakview 24  
3555 S 140th Plaza  
\$5 per person

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## LINCOLN: Autism Family Network gets "Lost in Fun"

Join AFN at Lost In Fun...

Thursday, February 25th 6:00 pm—8:00pm

...including fun from toddler area to playsets, foam pits, basketball court, video game area, snack space, etc.

It's \$4 for the mini pass and \$5.50 for the mega pass. They sell snacks/drinks there but ok if families need to bring their own snacks as well. *AFN will cover what you cannot pay.*

Located in South Lincoln. At 8431 Cody Dr. off of Yankee Hill  
14<sup>th</sup> and 27th Streets.

<http://www.lostinfun.com/fun/openbrochure.jsp>

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**SAVE THE DATE!  
SATURDAY  
MAY 1, 2010**

**3rd ANNUAL  
AUTISM SOCIETY OF NEBRASKA  
PUZZLE WALK**

## **2010 PUZZLE WALK NEWS**

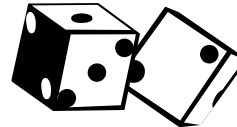
Join the **UNO NSSLHA** group for a Pancake Feed fundraiser in support of the 3rd Annual Autism Puzzle Walk!

**Sunday, March 7th, 2010**  
UNO Thompson Alumni Center.  
12:00pm - 4:00 pm  
\$5 for adults  
\$4 for children



Join the **Nebraska Methodist College** for a Casino Night fundraiser in support of the 3rd Annual Autism Puzzle Walk!

**Friday, April 16th, 2010**  
Nebraska Methodist College  
720 N 87th Street  
6:00pm - 9:00 pm  
\$5 for adults  
\$20 for a family



Join the **UNO NSSLHA** group for Dance fundraiser in support of the 3rd Annual Autism Puzzle Walk!

**Friday, April 23rd, 2010**  
Prairie Lane Church  
3111 South 119th Street  
6:00pm - 10:00 pm  
\$5 for adults  
\$3 for children



Do you have a contact that would be interested in donating a raffle prize for our event? The raffle is always amazing! Help us make it even more spectacular and raise even more funds for a great cause! Contact us at [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) to make a donation!

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# Excellence in Autism Award

Every year the Autism Society of Nebraska awards an individual who shows outstanding commitment to the Autism Community. Anyone who touches the lives of individuals with ASD's is eligible. This award will be presented at the Statewide Annual Conference held this year in Kearney on April 8th & 9th.

Nominations should be emailed to the Nomination Committee at [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) prior to March 1st, 2010.

Please include the name of the person being nominated, contact information for yourself and the nominee, and a one page narrative on why you think this person should be awarded the Excellence in Autism Award from the Autism Society. Please help us honor those who work so diligently to improve the lives of those affected by autism.

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## OMAHA: Ollie Webb announces Powerful Tools for Caregivers

The Ollie Webb is announcing a new session of their program, "Powerful Tools for Caregivers"(PTC). This is an educational program adapted to provide persons, who are raising and caring for individuals with disabilities, the tools needed to care for themselves.

Attendees will learn how to: reduce stress, balance life, improve self confidence, and better communicate feelings. Here is what one past participant said about the program: "For eight years, I felt so alone, caring for my special needs son. PTC opened the door for me to a world of caregivers that felt just like me. Now I am no longer alone. I know others who walk in my shoes each day and this is so comforting. PTC has given me the tools to cope with my life and the validation that what I do each day for my son is special and meaningful".

When: (6 Week Program)  
Tuesday evenings from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
March 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13, 20

5:30 - 6:00pm Dinner  
6:00 - 8:30 pm Class

Cost: \$35 single or \$45 couple (covers book and dinner)

Where: Ollie Webb Center, Inc, 1941 S 42nd St, Suite 122

Download the registration flyer [here](#).

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## OMAHA: Support Group for Siblings of children with Autism

Siblings of children with autism have unique needs. The Support Group for Siblings of Children with Autism may increase siblings' understanding of their brother or sister's disability and help them feel more positive about themselves and their role with their sibling.

•Sponsored by Autism Action Partners—no cost for

- Sponsored by Autism Action Partners—no cost for participation!!!
- Meet weekly for four weeks
- Age groupings (younger elementary, upper elementary, middle school, high school)

You can register your child for one of the following sessions by filling out the online registration on the Munroe-Meyer Institute web site at [www.unmc.edu/mmi](http://www.unmc.edu/mmi) Download their flyer [here](#).

Session A: **February 2, 9, 16 & 23** (younger & upper elementary) 4:30-5:30 pm

Session B: **March 9, 16, 23 & 30** (middle & high-school age) 5:30-6:30 pm

\*\*Sessions A & B will be held at the South Omaha Library (2808 Q Street)\*\*

Session C: **April 6, 13, 20, & 27** (younger & upper elementary) 4:30-5:30 pm

Session D: **May 4, 11, 18, & 25** (middle & high-school age) 5:30-6:30 pm

\*\*Sessions C & D will be held at the Millard Library (13214 Westwood Lane)\*\*

Session E: **June 1, 8, 15, & 22** (younger & upper elementary) 4:30-5:30 pm

\*\*Session E will be held at Munroe-Meyer Institute (44<sup>th</sup> and Dewey Ave)\*\*

If you have question, please contact Teri Sedersten at (402)559-5732

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## **KEARNEY: ARC of Buffalo County activities**

The Arc of Buffalo County is a non-profit organization partially supported by The United Way which provides services and advocacy to people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc of Buffalo County provides respite, recreation, advocacy, training and information to more than 100 adults and children with developmental disabilities in our area. Through People First of Kearney, free respite at the Kid-Zone Children’s Museum, childcare for parent support groups, Arc at the Y, Buddy Bowling, support for an ecumenical Sunday School Class, Teens in Action and individualized and group recreation programs we encourage inclusion into all areas of community life for adults and children with developmental disabilities.

For more information please download their current newsletter [HERE](#).

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## **KIRP: Kearney Inclusive Recreation Program**

The Kearney Inclusive Recreation Project (KIRP) is a three year federally funded grant, funded through the U.S. Department of Education. The grant partners with four recreational agencies, The Arc of Buffalo County, Buffalo County 4-H Extension office, Kearney Family YMCA, Kearney Parks & Recreation. The agencies provide a framework to expand recreational opportunities for individuals with and without disabilities throughout the community.

This program is designed for youth and young adults. The hope of KIRP is for the eventual inclusion of people of all ages.

Download their flyer [HERE](#).

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**Spring / Summer Registration deadline**

# Spring / Summer Registration deadline

Spring is just around the corner... (Yeah right!)...and apparently it is time to start thinking about activities.

## **OMAHA: TOPSoccer**

Visit their web site [here](#) to learn more and to download the registration forms. The cost is \$20 if you register before March 1st. That VERY reasonable rate gets your child 6 weeks of games, a soccer jersey/socks, and a medal or trophy the last week during a free pizza party.

## **OMAHA: Challenger Baseball**

The Omaha Challenger Baseball league has opened registration for their Summer season. This league is for individuals between the ages of 6 and 21 with any developmental or physical disabilities.

All forms for registering can be found at [www.challengerlittleleague.org/register.html](http://www.challengerlittleleague.org/register.html) Forms MUST BE received by February 28th, 2010.

## **Easter Seals Camp**

The new summer dates are now posted on the Easter Seals web site. [www.site.campeastersealsne.com](http://www.site.campeastersealsne.com) They will not be mailing applications to all previous campers but rather families must contact Easter seals to receive a 2010 camp application.

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## **OMAHA: Support Group Calendar of Events**

### **Pump It Up**

Monday, March 1st 6:00pm—8:00pm

### Movie Showing of **TEMPLE GRANDIN**

Thursday, March 11th 6:30pm—9:00pm

Covenant Presbyterian—150th and Blondo

### **The Barn**—Sensory Friendly Open Play

Saturday, March 13 10am -2pm

Call (402)301-6829 to register or for more information

### **AMC** Sensory Friendly Movie — **DIARY OF A WIMPY KID**

Saturday, March 20th 10am

Easter Egg Hunt— RSVP to Annie at 346-5220 ext 23

Saturday, April 3rd 1:30—3:00 pm

Stay tuned to Omaha support Group events at [www.autismnebraska.org/omaha](http://www.autismnebraska.org/omaha)

To have your event added to our calendar please email [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org) or you can post it directly into our calendar. Please be aware that your posting may take up to 24 hours to appear on the ASN calendar. We would appreciate your help including

Be sure and check the [ASN Web Site](#) and [Calendar](#) between Newsgrams!

All information on this newsgram is also available by visiting our web site at

**All information on this newsgram is also available by visiting our web site at**

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