



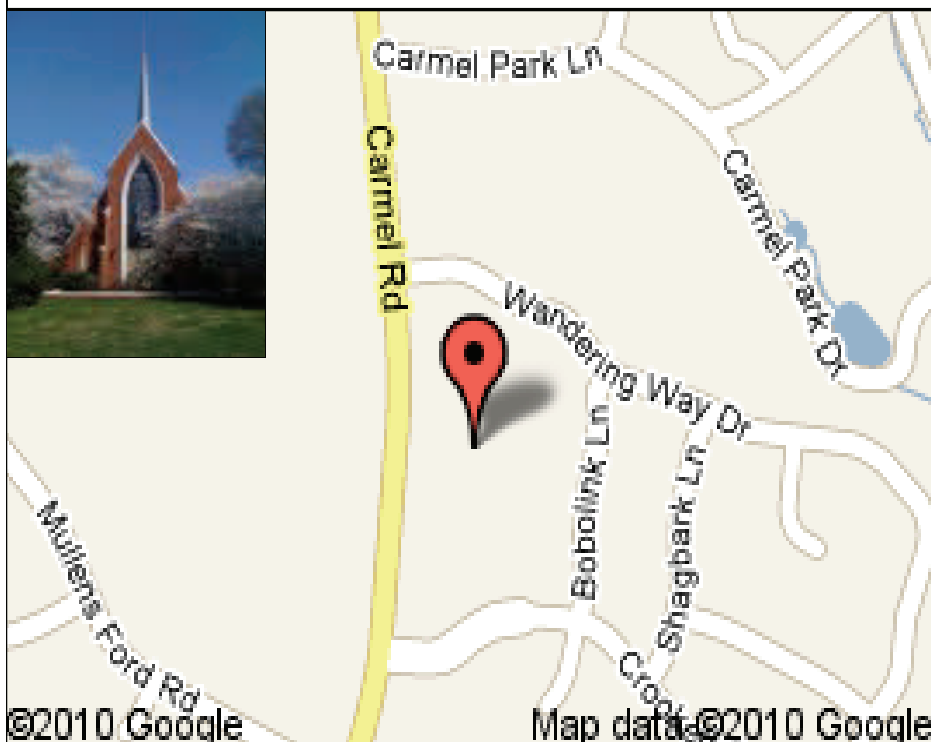
Walgreens
The Pharmacy America Trusts

This Place Changes Everything

Join us Thursday, Nov 3rd, at 7:00PM to hear Angela Mackey of Walgreens discuss strides Walgreens has made in developing an inclusive workplace. Over 40% of the workforce at the Anderson, SC, distribution center are employees with disclosed disabilities.

Next Meeting Dec 1 at 7:00PM. December's Program will be our Annual Christmas party.

Park in the back of the church. Meeting is in rooms 204 & 205. Doors Open at 7:00. Announcements 7:10. Meetings open to all regardless of membership. Come when you can and leave when you must.



Free Childcare for the first 12 children registered. Those not registered will be turned away. To ensure the safety of all children under our care during the meeting, we must know how many will be in attendance.

To register for childcare, contact Lauren Moore by Tues. Nov 1st: lpoder@gmail.com or 704-649-7440.



Inside this Issue—

President's Note	2
Calendar	3
News from ASNC	4
Belk Fundraiser	5
Mecklenburg County Opportunities	6-7
Membership Form	Last pg.

Meeting Location: - *St. John's Episcopal Church: 1623 Carmel Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226- 5097. The church is located across the street from the campus of Charlotte Country Day, close to the intersection of Fairview and Carmel Roads. It is located about 3 miles east of SouthPark Mall.*



President's Letter

Fall is in full swing. Many of our children have started school again, whether in public, private or home-school settings. This time of transition can be both stressful and liberating as summer schedules give way to school, homework and fall activities. I hope that you and your families are getting a good start to the school year, and are taking advantage of the support available through our chapter – whether our monthly support meetings, workshops for parents of newly-diagnosed children, parent coffees or other activities. You can find more information about each of these on our website (www.asncmeck.org), but below are some short descriptions of the monthly events in which you may want to participate:

Chapter Support Meetings: These are held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church in Charlotte (across from Charlotte Country Day School). The topic and content varies by month, and includes information about the resources available from the Autism Society, community events and topics of interest to families living with autism.

Parent Coffees/Brunches: We have three coffees/brunches every month: one at the Panera at Northlake Mall, one uptown at Matt's Chicago Dog and one at Café Carolina off Ballantyne Commons. You can find dates and times for each on our website and in the calendar of events in this newsletter.

Bounce Times: Both Bounce U and Monkey Joe's support the special-needs community by offering free bounce times for our children and their siblings every month. You can find dates and times for each on our website and in the calendar of events in this newsletter.

Sensory Story Time: The Mecklenburg County Library provides storytime for children with special needs. Locations, times and dates vary, so check the calendar on our website or newsletter for each month's offerings.

Sensory Friendly Films: Most months, AMC Theaters partners with the Autism Society to show a movie, but in a "sensory-friendly" way. The lights aren't turned completely down, the sound is not quite as loud, and there is a friendlier atmosphere for our children who may need a break, who may be a little more active or a little more vocal, etc. Again, dates vary on these, so keep an eye on the website and newsletter for dates, times and which movie is being shown each month.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving, and that you are looking forward to cooler weather and enjoying fall. I also hope to see you at one or more of the events above!

Bill Farnsworth
President
Autism Society of North Carolina – Mecklenburg County Chapter





November Calendar

Nov 1st (Tu) Caregiver's Summit Support Group; 6-7:00 PM; Donato's/Bojangles; 6555 Morrison Blvd; FREE; Karen Howard 704-432-4325 Karen.Howard@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

Nov 3rd (Th) ASNC- MCC Support Meeting: Angela Mackey will talk about employment at Walgreens Distribution Center; 7-9:00; St. John's Episcopal Church, 1623 Carmel Rd. Charlotte, 28226 info@asncmeck.org

Nov 4th (F) Special Needs Sensory Conference: 7:00AM-4:30PM; Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S. College St., Charlotte; \$70-\$160; 877-775-8968 or <http://www.sensoryworld.com>

Nov 4th (F) Tweens & Teens at the Movies; 6:45-8:30PM; Myers Park Presbyterian, 2501 Oxford Place, Charlotte; To be announced; Free; RSVP Allyson Anderson 704-927-1271 Stewart Tonissen at tonis-sen03@yahoo.com

Nov 5th (Sa) ASNC Sensory Friendly Films: *Puss in Boots*; 10:00 AM; Concord Mills 24; 2421 Concord Mills Blvd; Concord NC, \$5.00.

Nov 5th (Sa) Belk Charity Sale: 6:00-10:00AM. Belk Department stores at Northlake Mall, SouthPark Mall and Carolina Place Mall; Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.

Nov 8th (Tu) North Coffee: 9:00 AM; Panera Bread Northlake Mall; 9309 Center Lake Dr. RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.

Nov 8th (Tu) Bounce U Victory Bounce: 5-6:00PM; 10624 Metromont Pkwy Charlotte; FREE; families with Special Needs children; Please call to reserve: (704) 921-8771 or fill out a [reservation request](http://www.bounceu.com). www.bounceu.com

Nov 9th (W) TEACCH FORUMS: 9:00-10:00AM & 10:30-11:30AM; Autism 101; Introduction to TEACCH, Introduction to Visual Strategies; concurrent hour-long sessions; To enroll, contact TEACCH 704-563-4103.

Nov 12th (Sa) Sensory Story Time: 11:00AM; Steele Creek Library, 13620 Steele Creek Road, Charlotte. Register at 704-416-6800.

Nov 14th (M) Fuel For Life: 6-7:30 PM; SouthPark Food Court; young men 16 and up; \$10.00; Angela Tate 704-432-4329 angela.conti@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Nov 15th (Tu) Downtown Brunch; 11:30AM Matt's Chicago Dog on the Green, 435 South Tryon St, #140. RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.

Nov 17th (Th) Parents of Newly Diagnosed children with Autism Spectrum Disorder; 9:30AM-Noon; 209 Delburg St. Davidson NC; Workshop on Autism by Autism Society Advocates; FREE; Must RSVP. Nancy Popkin 704-894-9678 npopkin@autismsociety-nc.org

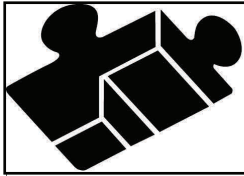
Nov 18th (F) Supper Club: 6-7:00 PM; Marion Diehl Center, 2219 Tyvola; ages 13 and up; \$7.00; 704-432-0237 TRinfo@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Nov 18th (F) TR Dance-Fall Ball: 7-9:00 PM; Marion Diehl; 13 and up; \$8.00. 704-432-0237 TRinfo@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Nov 21st (M) Spill Your Beans: 6-7:30PM; Caribou Coffee, Park Rd Shopping Center; women 16 and up; guest speaker will discuss health and safety; \$10.00; 704-432-4327 or Ariel.Kliem@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

Nov 23rd (W) Monkey Joes Free Bounce Time: 6-8:00 PM; Any location in Mecklenburg; Kids 12 and under with autism & their sibs! NOTE: Monkey Joe's no longer closes to the public for this event so certain locations may be crowded.

Nov 29th (Tu); South Coffee: 9:00 AM; Café Carolina; Promenade on Providence; 5361 Ballantyne Commons # 200, RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.



Autism Society
of NORTH CAROLINA

Providing Support...
Promoting Opportunities...

Breaking News! President Obama Signs Combating Autism Reauthorization Act

September 30, 2011

By Autism Society

The Autism Society is pleased to report that the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act (CARA) was signed by the President this afternoon. CARA is very important legislation as it helps many living with autism by funding research, training and education. But it does not accomplish everything that needs to be done to help all those living with autism. We must do more.

As we celebrate today, we must address a critical concern with the bill. The re-authorization continues the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC), a federal advisory committee that serves as a key coordinating body for delivery of services and addressing autism research efforts. The Autism Society does not currently have a seat at this table. With government funding reduced, the need for the Autism Society, the largest grassroots organization helping families today, has never been as critical. The Autism Society continues to work with lawmakers and the President's staff to secure our seat at this table, as well as representation for our partner autism organizations.

With CARA passed, the Autism Society is setting its sights on reforming Medicaid. We need to ensure that valued Medicaid service funding provided to so many through state waivers is properly addressed in the current deficit reduction committee deliberations. Already, lobbyists are lining up to advocate for continued funding of various Medicaid efforts, which have been found not to be nearly as effective as the important in-home and community services provided by states through the Medicaid waiver. Without the Autism Society's involvement in this discussion, we fear the voices of those needing Medicaid services will not be heard.

Our collective work on the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act shows the success we can have when grassroots autism advocates and groups such as the Autism Society, Autism Speaks, the ARC of the United States and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) work together to help all those living with autism.





Belk Charity Sale

The Belk Charity Sale is Sat **Nov 5th**, from 6-10am. You must have a charity ticket to take part in the sale. Our chapter is selling tickets, \$5.00 per ticket, but you will receive \$5.00 off your first purchase. A ticket allows you to do a pre-sale the day before, and pick up items by 10am on Sat. A Belk Card allows you to do a pre-sale and pick up at your convenience. This is one way we raise money for our projects such as our events for the community, our teacher grants and Ruth Fuller Scholarships.



Volunteers We need volunteers the day of the event 6-10am. Contact su-mitra.ganesh@gmail.com

Teacher Grants

Attention Teachers: Grant information will go out shortly in an email blast. (Flash: Bigger grant amounts this year!) Start thinking about supplies or materials you need for your classroom.



Dilworth United Methodist Church Open Door Worship

DUMC invites you to a special ministry for adults with developmental disabilities. It's held the first Sunday of every month. The next one is:

Sunday, Nov 6th

3:30 p.m.

**Dilworth United Methodist Church
605 East Boulevard, Charlotte,
NC 28203**

Jones Building, Fellowship Hall

Open Door Worship is an interactive service incorporating drama, video and music. It includes a short message that speaks to the Bible Story of the day and focuses on the interdenominational theme, "God loves you."

At the end of the service, attendees receive instruments to make music as they sing and dance. The service lasts about 40 minutes and is followed by snacks and fellowship.

For more information, contact Reverend Rhonda Herman at 704-333-4173, ext. 150 or Karen Martin at 704-516-1688.



First in Families Wish List

First In Families (FIF) partners with families, individuals and the community to fulfill the needs and goals of families with developmental disabilities. FIF offers resources and assistance to help individuals and families become self-sufficient or meet a basic need, such as housing (rent or mortgage payments), utilities, food, clothing, furniture or appliances.

Requests for beds (all sizes) and sofas have increased greatly. FIF is in need of these "gently used" items and will pick up donations. Contact [Constance Finch](#), Project Coordinator, to make arrangements.

First In Families of Mecklenburg County
A Project of InReach (formerly Residential & Support Services)
704-536-6661 ext 437



WISH LIST

This program can help when all other options have been exhausted!

Take the SURVEY now and let your voice be heard!

November 14th is coming—so is the US Department of Education and they want to hear from you! Parents of children with disabilities birth - 21 are critical stakeholders in their child's educational planning for early intervention services and special education programs. It is very important that parents and families in every part of NC participate by completing a survey about their and their child's experiences.

Online survey:

Survey for Parents of Infants and Toddlers (Part C of IDEA)

Survey for Parents of Children 3 through 21 (Part B of IDEA)

Find the Surveys at <http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/>

You may also download the surveys, complete and return by mail or scan and email to us at the address included in the survey.



THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL

TEACCH Forums: Wed, Nov 9th

The Charlotte TEACCH Center offers one hour morning information forums on a monthly basis. Forums are open to family members of clients of the Charlotte TEACCH Center. Some sessions recommend previous participation in an introductory level session. Enrollment required. **Call 704-563-4103 to enroll.**

Autism 101 (9:00 & 10:30)

This introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders helps parents better understand how autism affects behavior, learning and interactions within the family.

Introduction to TEACCH (9:00 & 10:30)

General information and introduction to the TEACCH program including information about diagnosis, assessment, and treatment for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Introduction to Visual Strategies – (9:00 & 10:30)

Introductory information about using schedules, work/activity systems and visually structured teaching activities to provide support and improve learning.

Future Wednesday Forum Date: December 14, 2011.

Sensory-Friendly showing of:

AMC Concord Mills 24
8421 Concord Mills Blvd
Concord, NC 28027
704-979-019721

Sat. Nov 5
10:00 AM \$5.00



Puss in Boots



ASNC-MCC does not endorse any company, therapy, or program. We offer information and it is your job as the parent to decide what is appropriate for your family.

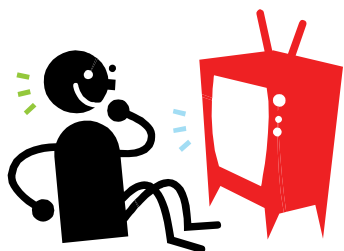


Coffee/Brunch Times:

North Coffee: Nov 8th (Tu) 9:00 AM; Panera Bread @ Northlake Mall; 9309 Center Lake Dr. ~ RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.

Downtown Brunch: Nov 15th (Tu); 11:30 AM — Matt's Chicago Dog on the Green, 435 South Tryon St, #140 ~ RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.

South Coffee: Nov 29th (Tu); 9:00 AM; Café Carolina— Promenade on Providence (Providence @ 485); 5361 Ballantyne Commons # 200 ~ RSVP: Sumi 704-837-2806 or support@asncmeck.org.



Great Television Show

The T.V. series "Parenthood" is being recognized by a U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initiative!

This is a great show for anyone working with children with autism or for parents who live with autism every day.

Beyond the Bell: Teen Afterschool Program

For teens ages 13-21 with disabilities
Marion Diehl Recreation Center
Monday- Thursday
(\$30 for 2 days)(\$60 weekly)
2pm-6pm



Contact:
Megan.Hotze@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov
Ariel.Kliem@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov
704-432-4327

SPECIAL NEEDS SENSORY CONFERENCE

for Managing Behavior Issues

Featuring author of the worldwide bestseller

The Out-of-Sync Child



**Carol
Kranowitz, MA
and**

**Barbara Sher,
MA, OTR**

The Power of Play



**Charlotte, North Carolina
November 4, 2011**

Addresses sensory issues associated with:

- Autism
- Asperger's Syndrome
- ADD/ADHD
- Down Syndrome
- SPD • OCD • Cerebral Palsy
- And more!



<http://www.sensoryworld.com>

We Need Your Help - Become a Member!

Join the Autism Society of North Carolina
Membership Form

ASNC Membership (circle level)

Individual/Family - \$40
Contributor - \$75
Supporter - \$150
Agency/Service Provider - \$200
Life - \$1,250
Student - \$25

*indicate ASNC Chapter name below and ASNC will give back \$10 to your local chapter.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (h) _____ (w) _____

Email _____

ASNC Chapter Name _____

Type of membership(s) (e.g. asnc-family) _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

**Mail all memberships to ASNC to:
Autism Society of North Carolina
505 Oberlin Road, Suite 230, Raleigh, NC 27605-1345
To charge memberships call 1-800-442-2762**

ASNC – Mecklenburg County Chapter
c/o Lois Stickell
620 Lamar Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28204

If you would like to receive *Autism Matters* via email, send a request to eeshka@hotmail.com

Thank you!