



STAR NEWS

NOVEMBER 2005

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Scholarships Update

The scholarship approval meeting will be held in April 2006. Application information will be presented in the January newsletter and on our website in the near future.

Contact Us:

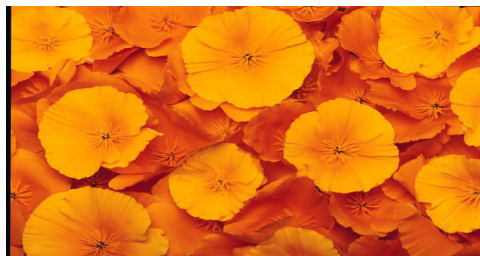
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Welcome to the November issue of the Star News. In this bi-monthly newsletter, we are happy to bring you all the latest news about autism, ABA, and the foundation. Look for up-coming feature articles from parents, teachers, and professionals working with children with autism. We hope this will be a place you can get some local and national information about autism and related topics.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Parker Autism Foundation is a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization dedicated to serving children with autism spectrum disorders and their families. Our goal is to raise funds to provide services, scholarships, and programs for those children who so desperately need them. We also believe that education of parents, family members, and the community is critical. We believe that every child with autism deserves the chance to succeed!

Note from the Executive Director

Wait until you see what we have been up to! I am so excited about all of the changes that have been going on with the Parker Autism Foundation. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new board members to the foundation. We have a great new team of leaders from the community, joining together as executive members and volunteers. You can read more about them in this month's newsletter. As you

may have noticed, our mission statement has undergone some improvements. We have broadened our purpose to include more family and community support. We are continuing our financial support to families in the Charlotte area, while extending our services to include scholarships for Camp SOAR, other autism related camps, workshops for parents and professionals, and Relationship Development Intervention

(RDI.) We are continuing to build our lending library and welcome you to use it as a personal resource. Read on to find out more details. I am looking forward to all of the upcoming events we have planned and hope to see you there!

Thank you for your continued support,
Shelley Reilly
Executive Director/President

New Additions

"Each handicap is like a hurdle in a steeplechase, and when you ride up to it, if you throw your heart over, the horse will go along too."

Lawrence Bixby

We have several new faces joining us at the Parker Autism Foundation! At our October meeting, the current executive members voted in Allison and Dan Quigley as co-vice presidents and Lauren Poeder as secretary. All members of the board are actively working together to help children with autism succeed. The Parker Autism Foundation extends a warm welcome to its new members.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Shelley Reilley- President/Executive Director
Alison and Dan Quigley- Co-Vice Presidents
Lauren Poeder- Secretary
Bob D'Amelio- Fundraising Coordinator
Jackie Reilley and Jocie Kearns- Co-Treasurers



Parker's Pepper Chili

Special thanks to student volunteers from Dr. John Beattie's UNCC Special Education class



The Parker Autism Foundation was overjoyed to take part in this year's annual Chili for Charity event at the Charlotte Shout festival in September. This friendly competition consisted of eight local non-profit organizations cooking off for the best chili recipe. The winner received \$1,000 towards their organization, while the remainder of the

proceeds were divided amongst the other participants. TPAF impressed chili tasters with its delicious Parker's Pepper Chili and was successful in sharing its mission with the Charlotte community. Unfortunately they did not win first place; however the experience and public exposure made the weekend a great success!

Save the Date: February 18, 2006

SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE:

Our website is currently under construction. We hope to have it up and running in the very near future. For any questions, please feel free to contact us by phone or email. 704-875-0985 ParkerAutism@aol.com

The Parker Autism Foundation is hard at work to prepare for the third annual Reaching for a Star Silent Auction. More information will be provided in the January newsletter, but here are some brief details to show you what is to come. This year's event will take

place at Jolina's TexMex BBQ Saloon, located on South College St. across from the Convention Center in Uptown Charlotte. Festivities begin at 7:00 p.m.. Hot appetizers and beverages will be provided. Parking will be free. Back by popular demand, the Melt-

ing Pot will be providing a chocolate fondue fountain and all of the goodies to go with it. Proceeds will directly benefit children with autism and their families. Attend this event and help us reach our goal to give at least 20 full camp scholarships to Camp SOAR.

