

BROOKLYN

Family

The Best Guide for Parents

June 2011
FREE

**Special
Needs Focus**



The sibling **Bond**

It's not just rivalry

8 costly mistakes

Alerting special
needs parents

Survival guide to sleepovers



Find us online at www.webfamilyny.com

AVIATOR SUMMER CAMPS

the **NEW**

MAKE THIS A SUMMER YOU WILL NEVER FORGET

SIGN UP BEFORE JUNE 7th FOR ADDED SAVINGS
REGISTER AT AN OPEN HOUSE FOR 10% DISCOUNT
Schedules are filling up quickly! Come see why
Aviator Sports and Events Center provides the best
summer camp experience in Brooklyn.

3 Pools Keep Me Cool All Summer!

Making New Friends

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

- ★ over 20 activities under one roof ★
- Swimming
 - Rock Climbing
 - Field Sports
 - Theater
 - Dance
 - Day Trips
 - Soccer
 - Ice Skating
 - Team Building
 - Gymnastics
 - Night Trips
 - Art and Much More!

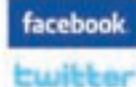


HIGHLY QUALIFIED COUNSELORS
First Aid and CPR certified,
Certified Teachers and Gymnastics Instructors, Trained in
Emergency and Abuse Prevention



FLEXIBLE CAMP SCHEDULES
Choose weekly or full summer
options, before and after
camp care available

AVIATOR SPORTS AND EVENTS CENTER HANGAR 5, FLOYD BENNETT FIELD / BROOKLYN, NY 11234
T: (718) 758-7510 / F: (718) 758-9801 / Camps@AVIATORSPORTS.COM / www.AVIATORSPORTS.com



Family June 2011

FEATURES

- 6 Challenging the 'Sib Fib'**
Why sibling rivalry can actually be a good thing
BY LAURA J. VAROSCAK
- 12 The painted ponies**
Prospect Park's historic carousel still spinning
BY MARY TOMASULO
- 16 8 costly mistakes**
Things to avoid when planning for your special needs child
BY JOSEPH P. DONLON, ESQ.
- 18 Facing the stress**
Overcoming the challenges of raising a special child
BY JULIA GARSTECKI
- 20 A double whammy**
When a second child is diagnosed with autism
BY JULIANNA GIL DE LAMADRID
- 24 Sleepovers: The survival guide**
BY MYRNA BETH HASKELL
- 26 Test-taking jitters**
Seven ways students can ease nerves and improve test scores
BY TUTOR DOCTOR
- 32 Best friends**
What to know before adopting a fluffy bundle of joy
BY RISA C. DOHERTY
- 34 She's having it all**
Mompreneur manages beauty biz and family
- 36 The danger zone**
Alcohol and pregnancy don't mix
BY REUEL S. AMDUR
- 42 The secret's out**
The chorus of Staten Island's PS 22 grapples with fame
BY MONICA BROWN
- 48 Follow your art**
The road to opening an art studio for children
BY LAURA VAROSCAK-DEINNOCENTIIS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 51 Going Places**
Take the family out and find out what's going on in your town

SPECIAL SECTIONS

- 19 Special Needs Directory**



66

COLUMNS

- 8 Healthy Living**
BY DANIELLE SULLIVAN
- 10 Newbie Dad**
BY BRIAN KANTZ
- 14 Good Sense Eating**
BY CHRISTINE M. PALUMBO, RD
- 22 Our Relationships**
BY JOAN EMERSON, PHD
- 28 Family Health**
BY RONALD SOAVE, DPM
- 30 Parents Helping Parents**
BY SHARON C. PETERS
- 38 Twice the Advice**
BY JACQUELINE AND KERRY DONELLI
- 40 Growing Up Online**
BY CAROLYN JABS
- 44 Cinematters**
BY LAURA GRAY
- 46 Lions and Tigers and Teens**
BY MYRNA BETH HASKELL
- 64 It Figures**
BY CYNTHIA WASHAM
- 66 New & Noteworthy**
The hottest new products



51



32

Letter from the publisher

Wonderful month of June

June is a gorgeous month. The days are the longest they are going to be and the weather is typically ideal. It is the month I was born in, the month my daughter was born in, the month I got married in, the month of our graduations, and the month when school vacation for our kids usually begins here in the city.

June smells good. It has the wonderful aroma of fresh flowers, clear skies, street fairs and barbecues. The strawberries are in and so are the blueberries, and the greenmarkets all over the city are lively with great produce and the early summer fruits and vegetables. How lucky we all are that our neighbor-



ing farmers are bringing their goods into so many communities throughout NYC. What a great partnership it is and how beneficial it is for all of us, farmers and city-dwellers alike.

Day camps are starting up and the kids are busy doing all the great things of summer: swimming, cycling, tennis, skateboarding, and just being outdoors a lot. The playgrounds are full and the swings are flying high. That's the best part of June, it's not too hot and not too cold and it's easy to be just hanging out. The beaches are open and the parks are welcoming the throngs of families who have made it through the long winter and are relishing the picnics, parties and cookout

opportunities. I smell grilling on my block almost every night and I'm certain it's in everyone else's neighborhood also.

I like June as a vacation month and lately we've been choosing to travel as soon as my daughter's classes are over. It's a good time for this and we relish the change of scenery and pace. The rates are lower and everything is less crowded than it is later on in the summer. We appreciate the long hours of daylight and get the most out of the possibilities. I also like coming back to a full summer of beach-going, and I'm an avid fan of our local beaches.

I don't know what your summer plans are, but I know that a lot of people are sticking closer to home than they have in the past. Many people are watching their pock-

ets carefully and are cautious in their expenditures, waiting to see how this economy will play out and when the recovery will really begin.

Maybe you have a recent graduate or a wedding in your family, or maybe, like us, a family loaded with birthdays. June is a special month to celebrate, and speaking of celebrations, happy Father's Day to all our dads! So many excuses and reasons to have a party this month and I hope all of them will turn out to be loads of fun.

Thanks for reading. Have a great month.

Susan Weiss-Voskidis, Publisher

STAFF

PUBLISHER / ADVERTISING / EDITORIAL:

Susan Weiss

PUBLISHER / BUSINESS MANAGER:

Clifford Luster

SALES MANAGER / ADVERTISING:

Sharon Noble

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Tina Felicetti

SALES REPS: Laurie Falco, Linda Smith, Muriel Puder, Stephanie Stellaccio, Jay Pelc, Andrew Mark

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Keith Oechsner

ART DIRECTOR: Leah Mitch

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR: On Man Tse

LAYOUT MANAGER: Yvonne Farley

WEB DESIGNER: Sylvan Migdal

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS: Arthur Arutyunov, Patty Coughlan, Mauro Deluca, Earl Ferrer

MANAGING EDITOR: Vince DiMiceli

ASSISTANT EDITORS: Meredith Deliso, Courtney Donahue

COPY EDITOR: Lisa J. Curtis

CALENDAR EDITOR: Joanna Del Buono

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

Risa Doherty, Allison Plitt, Candi Sparks, Mary Carroll Winingar

CONTACT INFORMATION

ADVERTISING: WEB OR PRINT

(718) 260-4554

Family@cnglocal.com or
SWeiss@cnglocal.com

CIRCULATION

(718) 260-8336

TFelicetti@cnglocal.com

EDITORIAL

(718) 260-4554

Family@cnglocal.com

ADDRESS

Family Publications New York/CNG
1 Metrotech Center North
10th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

www.webfamilyny.com



The acceptance of advertising by **Family Publications New York** does not constitute an endorsement of the products, services or information being advertised. We do not knowingly present any products or services that are fraudulent or misleading in nature.

Editorial inquiries, calendar information, advertising rates and schedules and subscription requests may be addressed to **Family Publications New York/CNG**, One Metrotech Center North, 10th Floor, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.

Family Publications New York can also be reached by calling (718) 250-4554, emailing family@cnglocal.com or by visiting our website, webfamilyny.com

Join the conversation on Facebook.

Family Publications New York has been recognized for editorial and design excellence by PPA.

Family Publications New York is published monthly by Family Publications New York/CNG. Subscription rate is \$35 annually. Reproduction of Family Publications New York in whole or part without written permission from the publisher is prohibited. All rights reserved. Copyright©2011 Readership: 220,000. 2010 circulation audit by CAC.



Aristotle Academy of Math and Sciences

affiliated with St. John's University

Grades Pre-k to 8th

Now accepting applications for the school year 2011-2012

FREE Universal Pre-k
Extended Day Available

- Class sizes limited to 15
- Highly qualified teachers
- A well rounded curriculum of academics, technology, sports & art
- State Certified

An environment fostering personal character, ethics and morals

1724 Avenue P.
Brooklyn, NY 11229 | 718.339.0280
Call, write or e-mail to request a brochure
Info@ThreeHierarchsBrooklyn.org

Greene Hill School
SUMMER CAMP 2011
JUNE 20 - JULY 29

FORT GREENE LOCATION
TO REGISTER, VISIT GREENEHILLSCHOOL.ORG
(KEYWORD: SUMMER CAMP)
(718) 259-3505 OR SUMMERCAMP@GREENEHILLSCHOOL.ORG

BT kids! presents
SUMMER FUN WEEK
GAMES, CRAFTS, MUSIC, SKITS, STORIES

a vacation bible school experience!

FREE BACKSTAGE with the BIBLE

JULY 18-22, 2011 1-4PM
registration begins at 12:15PM

preschool ages 3-5 yrs old
elementary ages 6-12 yrs old

THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE
180 LIVINGSTON STREET, BROOKLYN
PHN: 718-290-2097
ONLINE: WWW.BROOKLYNTABERNACLE.ORG

Summer is here, lets have some fun!

Bonjour New York French Summer Camp

July 5 to August 26
at PS 58 (Carroll Gardens)

- ★ Fun, relaxed, and nurturing environment
- ★ Lots of outdoor, engaging & fun activities: visual & performing arts, dance, team sports, water activities, field trips, hands on workshops, field day games, board games...
- ★ Exploration of the Francophone world
- ★ French language used in all the activities
- ★ Accommodating hours
- ★ Licensed by the NYC Department of Health
- ★ We like to see a smile on every face every day

Beginner French learners are welcome

Ages 4-9

www.bonjourny.com • info@bonjourny.com • (917) 348-7959

Challenging the ‘Sib Fib’

Why sibling rivalry can actually be a *good* thing

BY LAURA J. VAROSCAK

My 4-year-old son, Henry, awaited the arrival of his brother for nine months. I did not plan for him to find out the news so early, but an hour after taking a home pregnancy test, Henry pulled it out of the trash and exclaimed, “Two lines — you’re having a baby!”

In the months that followed, Henry had questions about his sibling: Would it be a girl or a boy? Did it pee and poop inside of me? How would it come out? We talked, read books, looked at pictures and observed my growing belly. Henry couldn’t wait for his little brother to come, and helped prepare for him with great anticipation and love.

I delivered Charlie via C-section. Henry was at the hospital waiting to meet his brother for the very first time. I looked forward to the expression on his face — the pride, joy and excitement. My expectations were shattered. Henry was not interested in seeing me, or Charlie. In fact, he opted not to visit us during my four-day hospital stay. When we were back home, Henry walked in and headed straight for his toys. He didn’t even glance at Charlie.

It is normal for some children to react this way — ignoring the

baby, displaying anger, regressing or acting out in other ways — but I was disappointed. I wanted Henry to embrace his brother wholeheartedly from day one. Fortunately, this phase was short, and by the next day, Henry was holding Charlie and helping to feed him — even if he vowed to never to change his diaper!

The relationship Henry and Charlie have developed during the past 11 months is a testament to the special bond siblings share. Brothers and sisters will go through trials and tribulations throughout their lives, but the benefits of having a healthy sibling relationship outweigh the challenges.

Most Americans have at least one brother or sister. Siblings provide one of the longest relationships an individual will experience, and the complexity and permanency of this connection creates intensity between siblings, bringing conflict as well as comfort and joy. Parents want harmony between their sons and daughters, but competition, jealousy and squabbling are all part of development, and should be expected. Sibling rivalry can be an asset if parents understand the dynamic and nurture their children appropriately.

Healthy sibling relationships... Contribute to overall well-being

Longitudinal studies reveal that strong ties between siblings during youth contribute to social, emotional and physical health in adulthood. These findings are independent of influential factors such as birth order, age spacing, gender or socioeconomic status.

What parents can do: be the best role model possible. If your children observe generosity, patience, and respect at



home, they will be more likely to practice these traits themselves, which will improve their relationships.

Provide companionship

Living with a playmate helps lessen feelings of boredom and loneliness. Participating in common activities, as well as sharing individual interests, strengthens the bond between people. Spending time together — playing, laughing, and joking — deepens the relationship and fosters trust.

What parents can do: as children grow older, life gets busier and siblings often go their separate ways. Reserve time for siblings to engage in meaningful activities together.

Develop social skills

Practicing important communication skills with siblings can help children interact more effectively with peers outside of the home. Loving brothers and sisters begin new relationships with positive attitudes.

On the playground

What do you like most about your sibling(s)?

“We do things together — like go to the park and play with toys.” (*Juan, age 6*)

“They make me laugh when I’m sad or mad.” (*Mo, age 7*)

“No matter what, my sisters love me.” (*Sophie, age 8*)

“She keeps my secrets.” (*Mia, age 9*)

“When I’m having trouble with something, my brother gives me advice or tells me what to do.” (*Ali, age 10*)



At first, Henry didn't like his new little brother, but now, Henry and Charlie have developed a healthy sibling relationship.

Studies indicate that children who have a strong connection with their siblings are more likely to make and maintain quality friendships.

What parents can do: practice building effective communication skills, especially when problems arise. This will prepare your child for interacting with peers and hopefully reduce potential conflict.

Decrease stress

Close sibling relationships provide protection and comfort, which can help to reduce stress, especially during difficult times. Research shows that children who have supportive brothers and sisters are less lonely, self-conscious and fearful than children without siblings.

What parents can do: when appropriate, encourage your children to rely on each other for emotional support. Suggest positive activities

for them to participate in together.

Encourage sharing

Siblings are expected to share everything from possessions and space to parental love. This concept is hard to grasp by young children, but over time, brothers and sisters learn the importance of sharing, and use it to their advantage when they participate in household chores and responsibilities. Sharing also has its benefits and joys: sharing family history through memories and stories is an invaluable gift that lasts forever.

What parents can do: point out the benefits of sharing. Help your children set and respect personal boundaries, then discuss why they are important.

Promote individuality

Comparison between siblings is inevitable, because they are form-

ing their identities and finding their roles in the family. This internal struggle can lead to competition and jealousy. However, this rivalry provides the perfect opportunity for children to examine their emotions and discover who they are. Working through this process helps to shape their identity.

What parents can do: support your children individually, equally, and without judgment.

Boost self-image

Healthy sibling relations contribute to a higher sense of self-worth and confidence. Compared to single children, siblings tend to be more assertive and take better care of themselves.

What parents can do: spend quality one-on-one time with your children. Siblings naturally strive for their parents' attention, which can lead to disappointment and frustration when there are others competing for the same thing at the same time.

Increase emotional awareness

Children learn to identify and manage their feelings by interacting with siblings on a daily basis. The at-home practice helps them to express their emotions more appropriately when they are outside of the home environment.

What parents can do: acknowledge and accept your child's feelings, and then help manage them appropriately. Use words to help your child identify the negative emotions and discuss safe ways to express them.

Encourage respect

Being part of a family means learning to love and respect others. Over time, siblings learn to recognize and appreciate each others' different perspectives. Sharing their lives with siblings naturally builds acceptance, tolerance and empathy in children. Consequently, this increases their ability to help others and get along with people from different backgrounds.

What parents can do: praise your

children when they respect others' points of view. Cherish the special bond they share, regardless of their differences; they will, too.

Teach conflict resolution

The more children talk through their problems instead of fighting, burying feelings or acting out, the easier communication will become. Living with a sibling provides endless opportunities to practice compromising, cooperating and working as a team to achieve peace. Children are also in their home environment where they can test limits safely. This gives them a chance to practice "fighting fairly," and provides good training for interacting with peers.

What parents can do: always start by allowing siblings to work through differences on their own. If they need your involvement, teach them problem-solving techniques. Explain that fair doesn't always mean equal. Discuss age-appropriate rules and ask your children to help you determine what is fair. Set rules and enforce consequences. Be consistent.

Influence positive behavior

Siblings shape each other in many ways. As they get older, they develop their own lives away from home and are more vulnerable to outside influences. How a child acts in different social environments has a significant impact on his sibling's behavior. It is not uncommon for younger children to emulate older siblings. If they observe their big brother or sister engaging in negative behavior, chances are, they will do the same.

What parents can do: be aware of your children's activities when they are not at home. Know where they are and who they are with. Maximize positive influences as much as possible. Let them know you care.

Parents of only one child — don't fret! Siblings may share built-in benefits, but single children can learn many of the same skills with friends and extended family. A healthy social life develops if young children have the opportunity to interact and play with others of similar age early on. This can be achieved through caregivers, play dates, play groups and preschool. Spending time with peers on a regular basis will teach sharing, empathy and conflict resolution. The rewards of establishing warm, loving relationships in childhood will last a lifetime.



HEALTHY LIVING

DANIELLE SULLIVAN

Time to play it safe

How dangerous is your local playground?

With school out this month, a chorus of “I’m bored” will be heard throughout our city as kids try to find activities to fill their days. For many parents and grandparents, the playground is nothing short of a lifesaver. Yet, increasingly, many area playgrounds are posing safety concerns.

The National Program for Playground Safety reports that each year, “200,000 children are treated for injuries sustained from unsafe playgrounds, and approximately 15 children are killed as a result of those injuries.”

The organization’s goal is to improve the safety and quality of

parcs, schools and other recreation areas across all 50 states. Its initiative, called National Playground Safety Week 2011, takes place each spring to bring awareness to the many safety hazards that disheveled playgrounds cause. Unfortunately, New York is not one of the states participating in this initiative, but the organization hopes that will change.

Annette Suarez hopes so, too. She says her 2-year-old daughter, Kayla, was playing at a playground inside Marine Park in Brooklyn when she tripped over a protruding corner of a play-mat while running to the swing set. Kayla fell directly on her face and knocked her two front teeth backwards.

“It was horrifying,” says Suarez. “She was screaming and there was blood everywhere. The dentist was able to save her two front baby teeth, but she is afraid to go back to the playground. And frankly, so am I!”

Suarez says the play-mats were not properly adhered and looked as though they came unglued, possibly due to winter weather.

In addition, she says at least five other play-mats were tripping accidents just waiting to happen, but she hadn’t noticed them until it was too late.

Play-mats can also become incredibly hot — long before summer officially starts.

The Indian Road Playground at Inwood Hill Park in the Bronx has play-mats that are heat traps. Parents who go there have reported that a child burned his hands on the mats when the temperature was just 66 degrees.

Moms and dads have become so enraged over the playground’s safety conditions, they created a Facebook page to alert other parents, grandparents, and caretakers.

Besides play-mats, there

are a few primary safety hazards that parents should look out for when taking their kids to the playground. The National Program for Playground Safety created a checklist of things to be sure of to create a safe environment at playgrounds:

- **Supervision**

Adult presence is needed to watch for potential hazards, observe, intercede and facilitate play when necessary. Strings on clothing or ropes used for play can cause accidental strangulation if they get caught on equipment.

- **Age-appropriate**

All children should play on age-appropriate equipment. Preschoolers, ages 2 to 5, and children ages 5 to 12 are developmentally different and need different equipment located in separate areas to keep the playground safe and fun for all.

- **Fall surfacing**

Nearly 70 percent of all playground injuries are related to falls, and what a child falls on can make a difference. Acceptable surfaces include loose-fill materials, such as hardwood wooden fiber; shredded rubber; sand; pea gravel; and synthetic surfaces, such as rubber tiles and mats; and synthetic poured surfaces.

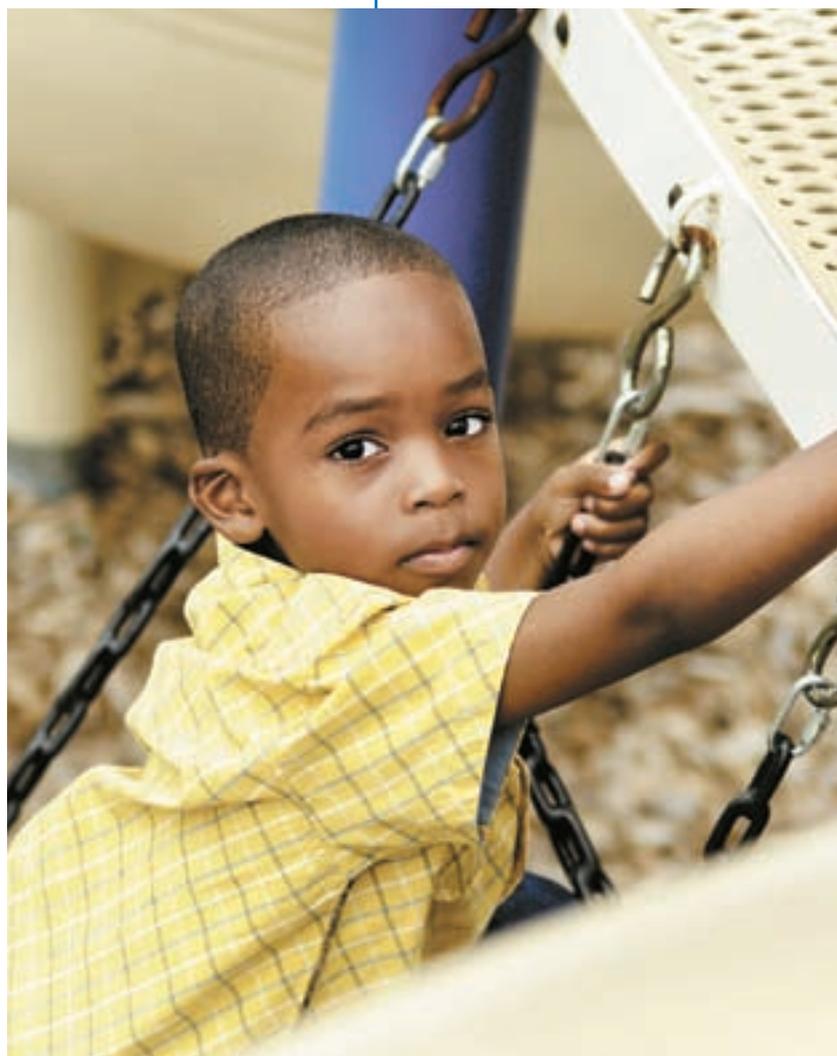
Playground surfaces should not be concrete, asphalt, grass, blacktop, packed dirt, or rocks.

- **Equipment management**

Check to make sure the equipment is anchored safely in the ground, all equipment pieces are in good-working order, S-hooks are entirely closed, bolts are not protruding, and there are no exposed footings, etc. Thoroughly inspect your child’s playground before allowing your child to roam freely.

For more tips on safety on the playground, check out playground-safety.org.

Danielle Sullivan, a Brooklyn-born mom of three, has worked as a writer and editor in the parenting world for more than 10 years, and was recently honored with a Gold award for her health column by the Parenting Publications of America. Danielle also writes for Babble.



YOUR CHILD CAN GET AHEAD THIS SUMMER

With One-On-One Tutoring...In Your Home!



- All Subjects • Pre-K to Adult • Study Skills • Math
- English Language Arts • Sciences • Foreign Languages • ESL
- Preparation for SAT, ACT, SHSAT, ISEE, GED & Regents Exams
- Your Child's Curriculum • Individualized Learning Plans
- Homework Help • Affordable Rates • Certified Teachers



DISCOUNTED SUMMER PACKAGES!
CALL FOR DETAILS.



718-483-8506
www.clubz.com/brooklyn

Reserve Your Summer Tutor Today!

BROOKLYN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Summer

at the Brooklyn Conservatory



July 5–August 29, 2011

Lessons, Ensembles, Classes, Camps, and More!



58 Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11217
718-622-3300

Check out our catalog online at www.bqcm.org

CBE Kids Summer Day Camps

A Camp For All Ages

Children of all Faiths and Ethnic Backgrounds are Welcome.

Entering Kindergarten Through 4th Grade

• **Elementary Day Camp**

Full Day program. Active outdoor sports, arts & crafts, nature, gymnastics, music & Swimming.

Trips in & around NYC

Entering 5th Through 9th Grade

• **Movin' On Travel Camp**

Five days of trips. Two overnights, mature, qualified staff.



Congregation Beth Elohim

Garfield Temple בית אלהים

8th Avenue & Garfield Place, Park Slope

www.CongregationBethElohim.org

For Elementary & Travel Camp Call: Bobbie Finklestein at: 718-768-3814 x210



NEWBIE DAD

BRIAN KANTZ

Dressing up

Will his boys discover the fun?

A few years ago, I had the pleasure of accompanying my mom and my aunt on a tour of their childhood home. They hadn't been inside the place in decades. A church owns the house now, so it looks quite a bit different than it did when they were kids. The living room serves as a Sunday school classroom, the dining room is a conference center, and the bedrooms have been converted to office and storage space.

Still, enough of the house's original character was left intact to spark some colorful memories — like the winter when they sprayed the basement floor with a garden hose to make an indoor ice rink (note to my boys: I know it's a sweet idea, but don't even think about it!); the time their little brother was launched head-first from a rocking horse that he rocked on too fast; and some wonderful Thanksgivings, including that November day back in 19... well, back when my mom was born. It was a thrill for me to hear all of those stories while standing in the house that was so integral to their lives.

As we walked up the stairs to the second floor, my mom and aunt were immediately drawn to the giant, floor-to-ceiling cupboards that lined the hallway. "Dress-ups!" the two joyfully said in unison. My aunt opened one of the cupboard doors and explained how the sisters used to keep their "dress-up" clothes in that very spot.

They loved to play dress-up and they had shirts, skirts, dresses, pants, coats, hats, gloves and shoes fit for a thousand adventures — a spot of tea with the Queen of England, dinner at the White House with the President of the United States, or an afternoon of being shipwrecked on an island in the South Pacific. Whatever the occasion, the girls could imagine themselves right in the middle of it, dressed the part.

In today's age of electronics, where traipsing an avatar through parallel universes is as easy as pressing the "on" button, dress-up may sound quaint, but it also sounds wonderfully refreshing. To be a kid with an imagination — a real imagination — is an awesome thing.

Until recently, I was getting a little concerned that my two boys, ages 4 and 6, may have been a little lacking in the imagination department. They just didn't seem to be into the whole

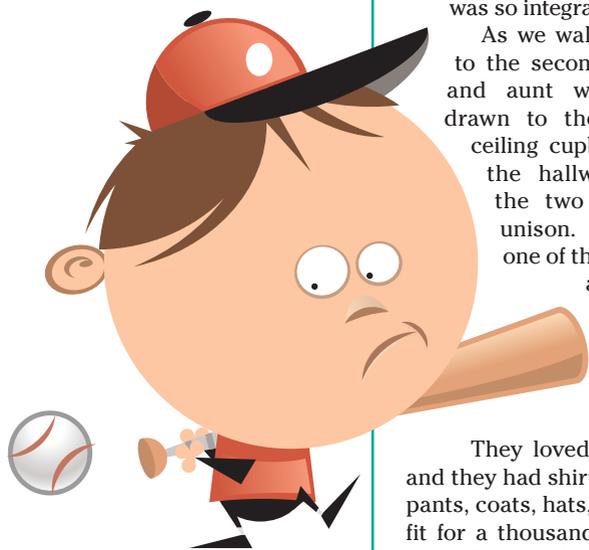
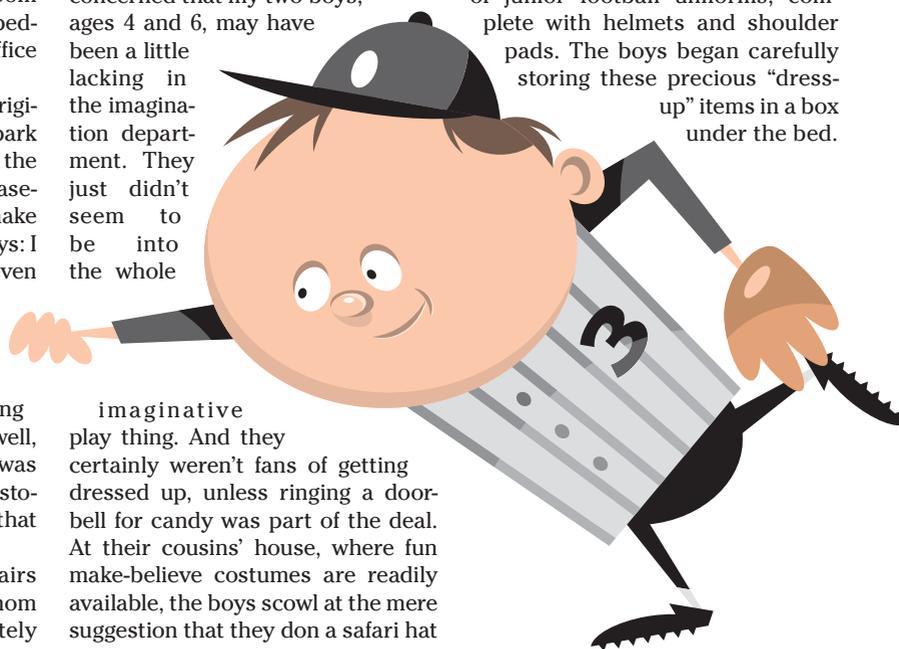
imaginative play thing. And they certainly weren't fans of getting dressed up, unless ringing a doorbell for candy was part of the deal. At their cousins' house, where fun make-believe costumes are readily available, the boys scowl at the mere suggestion that they don a safari hat and vest, or a hard hat and tool belt. Not no way, not no how.

The two boys were just not into dressing up, and it had me scratching my head. My brothers and I played cops-and-robbers and cowboys-and-Indians when we were kids. We put on the costumes. We became Superman and Captain America when we wore our Underoos (sing it with me: "Underoos are fun to wear!") and we were KISS when we painted our faces white and cranked up "Rock and Roll All Nite" on the record player. I remember that being pretty silly and fun, and I didn't want my kids to miss out.

Then, it happened. My older son joined his first Little League team last year and was issued a uniform. Not the generic red shirts and caps we were given as kids, but the real deal. A real Major League Baseball-

style uniform. Suddenly, he was a player for the New York Mets wearing a pin-striped jersey with his name and number on the back. And his imagination soared.

For the rest of the summer, even after Little League season had ended, my son would put on his jersey and baseball pants every single day and pretend he was in the big leagues, swinging a real bat outdoors and an imaginary one inside the house. We encouraged the whole thing by supplying miscellaneous sports gear like batting gloves, wristbands and face masks. My mom, the dress-up expert, sent her grandsons a couple of junior football uniforms, complete with helmets and shoulder pads. The boys began carefully storing these precious "dress-up" items in a box under the bed.



Now, at nearly any time of day, you can hear the sounds of sports-themed imaginative play in our house. It usually begins with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" (and the Canadian national anthem if they're playing hockey). The anthems are then followed by the introduction of the starting lineups and complete play-by-play calls of all the action.

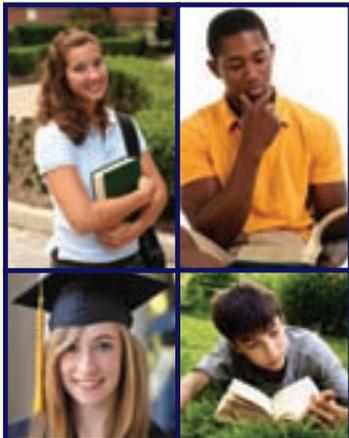
It's very cute.

Now, I wouldn't go and call their sports uniforms "dress-ups" in front of them. That might ruin the whole thing. But I do tell them how much I love their little imaginations.

Brian Kantz always played the part of star-eyed guitarist Ace Frehley. Visit Brian online at www.briankantz.com or drop him a note at thenewbieadd@yahoo.com.

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGES?

Summer Tutoring = Fall Success



- All Subjects • PreK-Adult
- Customized Preparation for SHSAT, SAT, ISEE & SSAT
- College Essay Assistance
- Study Skills Program for Middle & High School Students
 - Affordable Rates
 - Certified Teachers & Degreed Professionals
- No Long Term Contracts
 - Flexible Scheduling

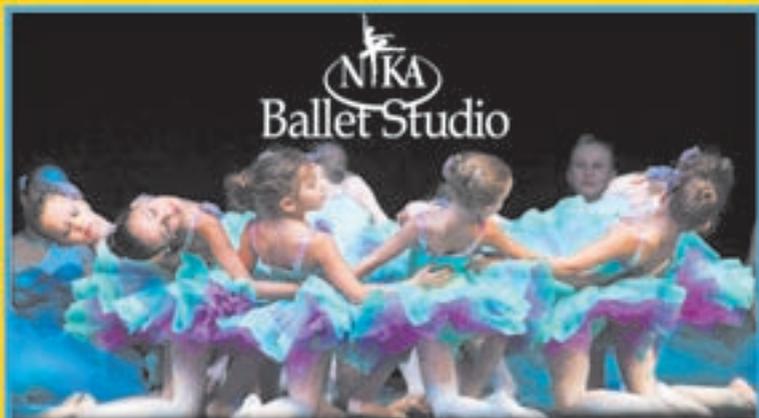
Discounted Summer Packages Available!



718-483-8506

www.clubz.com/brooklyn

Extra \$50 OFF!
SHSAT, SAT & Study Skills Packages



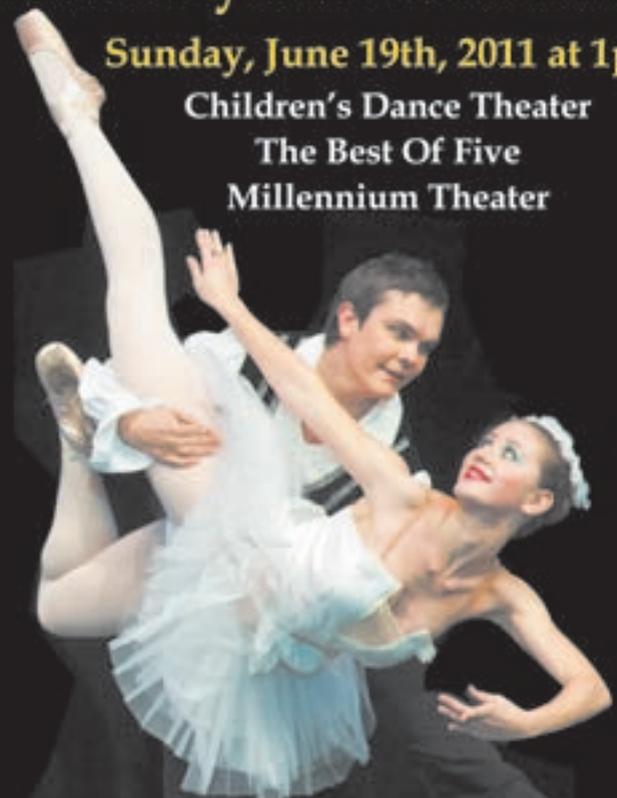
Anniversary Gala Performance

Sunday, June 19th, 2011 at 1pm

Children's Dance Theater

The Best Of Five

Millennium Theater



Magnificent Dance Extravaganza in two acts featuring classical and neoclassical ballet, as well as modern dance. Young artists show off original choreography influenced by the world-renowned traditions of the school of Russian ballet. Colorful show for children and adults.

APPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN
3yo and UP

Artistic director and Choreographer -
Anna Fateeva-Kazantseva (Bolshoi Ballet Academy)

FREE CONSULT

INSURANCE ACCEPTED

CALL US

\$500 OFF

HOUSE OF ORTHODONTIA

THE MOST AFFORDABLE BRACES IN TOWN!

718-852-4414

122 ATLANTIC AVE BROOKLYN NY 11201

WWW.HOUSEOFORTHODONTIA.COM

READ OUR REVIEWS ON

The painted ponies

Prospect Park's historic carousel still spinning

BY MARY TOMASULO

Catch a breeze during the hot days of summer on a painted pony as you ride 'round to the sound of old circus tunes and are transported back to the glory days of carnivals.

Riding the bobbing horses on a carousel is a right of passage for many kids, and the carousel in Prospect Park is the perfect opportunity for your little ones to experience the beloved pastime.

Carousels originated during the Crusades, when knights would prepare for jousting tournaments by practicing on elaborately-dressed wooden horses that would move up and down to simulate a real ride. They got the idea while in the Middle East, where locals played the game "carosella," or "little wars." It was only a matter of time before music was put to the bouncing horses and the modern carousel was born.

Prospect Park's historic carousel

was built in 1912, and has a stable of 53 carved horses, a lion, a giraffe, a deer, and two dragon-pulled chariots. It is also known for its Wurlitzer organ, which plays melodies that have been enchanting children and grown-ups alike for decades.

Now, riders don't have to be knights to ride the jewel-clad horses — but can pretend to be, or can be anything else going anywhere atop their leaping creatures.

"I love the merry-go-round because I think, 'I'm a cowgirl from the Wild West,'" said 9-year-old Jackie Mariano, who's been riding the carousel since she was in diapers, and now brings her sisters to this magical place.

"We spin, laugh, then have ice cream. The ride always seems to



go by too fast," said the third grader, who calls the carousel the perfect summer delight.

Many Brooklyn residents who enjoyed the carousel as children now bring their kids to experience the ride.

"It is a summer tradition," said one rider. "We get here early when there are no lines, then visit the zoo. We can simply pack a picnic lunch, and we are set."

The carousel operated at Coney Island until it was brought to the park in 1952. It was built by Russian-immigrant Charles Carmel, a master carver of the time who lived by Prospect Park, and was inspired by the nearby horse stable.

In 1990, the Prospect Park Alliance raised over \$80,000 to restore the merry-go-round, which had begun to show its wear and tear. During the restoration, 20 layers of paint were removed from the carousel, and its original colors were restored. In addition, more than 1,000 lights were added, and iconic Brooklyn scenes were painted onto the ride.

If you really, *really* like the ride, you can even adopt a horse through the Alliance — with the cost of the adopting going toward your horse's upkeep.

To date, there are not many golden-age carousels left standing. Of the 2,000 constructed in the early 1900s, only 200 remain intact.

The Carousel is located in the Children's Corner of the park, by Lefferts Homestead and the Prospect Park Zoo. It is one of the few carousels that are wheelchair accessible.

Carousel [In the Children's Corner, by Lefferts Homestead and the zoo, in Prospect Park (718) 965-8999] Tickets \$2 per person. Season runs from April 2 to Oct. 30, Thursday through Sunday, and holidays, noon to 6 pm. For more information, visit <http://www.prospect-park.org/visit/places/carousel>.



Photos by Tom Callan

Round and round and round again! Hazel Jean Walloga, 2, and her dad Paul Ard have the time of their lives.



at the
cosmic
cove!

SCIENCE IS COOL!



Carmelo Piazza
AKA: 'Carmelo the Marshmallow'

Join Carmelo The Science Fellow for an exciting hands-on learning experience. After school classes are offered for 5-11 year olds and to our mini-scientists ages 3-4.

Our Science Parties happen at the Cosmic Cove. We can make silly putty and slime and even work with weird moving Mega Mealworms!

We Offer:

Science Parties
Science Camps
Daily After School

for more info:
300 Atlantic Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11201
718.722.0000
718.344.4631



photos by heatherweston.com design by luistentindo.com

www.carmelothesciencefellow.com



GOOD SENSE EATING

CHRISTINE M. PALUMBO, RD

What kids eat & why

Starting in the womb, a mother's influence on her child's nutrition is irrefutable. Researchers are discovering just how much sway she has, along with other influencers in a child's world.

• **Maternal personality.** Mothers with many negative thoughts and feelings are more likely to give their children unhealthy food, according to a 2009 study published in *Maternal and Child Nutrition*. The mothers who were emotionally unstable, anxious, angry, sad, had poor self-confidence or a negative view of the world, were far more likely to give their children sweet and fatty foods. Yet there was no link between maternal personality and the amount of fruit and vegetables a child receives. The researchers suspect the moms may be trying to compensate for their negative emotions.

• **Parenting styles.** Parents with extreme parenting styles usually fail to serve as good dietary role models for their children, according to Oklahoma State University research. Parents who are strict in general also tend to have an authoritarian approach to their children's eating, such as banning certain foods or using pressure to get them to eat fruits and vegetables. On the other hand, permissive parents who let



their children eat whatever they wanted tended to be permissive in their parenting styles as well. Parents who fell somewhere between permissive and authoritarian were those who set limits on their kids' diets and enforced them through more positive approaches, such as leading by example, to get their kids to eat well. This authoritative approach is the best way to influence a child's diet.

• **Nagging.** Mothers who pressure their children to clean their plates may help produce a fussy eater, while tight control of what they eat could make children prone to overeating, according to a new study in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*. But parents' mealtime

strategies don't necessarily cause their children to overeat or become picky eaters. The researchers admit the parents' urges may be in response to eating habits their children already have.

• **Mothers and friends.** When a young child's mother is present, he tends to eat more nourishing foods than when he's with his friends. In a study in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, boys and girls ages 5 to 7 ate fewer calories from unhealthy snacks and desserts when their mothers were with them, compared to when their friends were alongside them.

• **Grandma.** Grandmothers can greatly influence the nutrition environment of their preschool-aged grandchildren. In a Maryland study, grandmothers shaped their grandchildren's fruit and vegetable consumption by purchasing and providing food for their daughters and grandchildren. However, grandmothers also reported consuming less than the recommended daily amount of fruits and vegetables, which suggests they might have a negative effect on how much produce their grandchildren eat.

• **Buying healthy foods, or not.** While parents prefer nutritious foods for the entire family, their preference for healthy foods is about 50 percent weaker when they're selecting products for the kids, rather than for themselves. The likely explanation is that parents give in at the grocery store — or before they even get there — compromising their preferences based on what they believe their children will accept, according to a study published in the *Journal of Consumer Behavior*.

Tip: While you provide the food your child eats, he decides what to eat and how much. Try to strike a balance between strictness and being overly relaxed.

Christine M. Palumbo, RD is an award-winning dietitian and mother of three from Naperville, IL. She wishes she'd had this knowledge when her children were preschoolers. Follow her on Facebook at Christine Palumbo Nutrition.

Beef, wild rice and mushroom bake

Total recipe time: 1 to 1 and 1/4 hours.
Makes four servings

INGREDIENTS:

1 pound ground beef (90 percent to 95 percent lean)
8 ounces assorted fresh wild mushrooms (such as cremini, shiitake and oyster) or button mushrooms, sliced
1 package (5.6 to 6.6 ounces) wild rice mix with seasonings
1/4 cup sun-dried tomatoes, not packed in oil
Water
1/2 cup shredded Italian blend cheese

DIRECTIONS: Preheat oven to 375°F. Heat large, nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add ground beef and mushrooms; cook 8 to 10 minutes, breaking into 3/4-inch crumbles and stirring occasionally. Remove drippings. Stir in rice, contents of seasoning packet and tomatoes. Spoon beef mixture into 2-quart baking dish. Stir in water amount indicated in rice package directions, plus 1/2 cup additional water. Cover with aluminum foil. Bake in 375°F oven 45 to 50 minutes or until water is absorbed. Uncover; sprinkle with cheese. Continue baking, uncovered, 5 minutes or until cheese is melted.

NUTRITION INFORMATION: (per serving) 380 calories; 11 g fat; 86 mg cholesterol; 822 mg sodium; 36 g carbohydrate; 2.1 g fiber; 35 g protein; 8.1 mg niacin; 0.4 mg vitamin B6; 2.3 mcg vitamin B12; 4.9 mg iron; 26.7 mcg selenium; 6.4 mg zinc. This recipe is an excellent source of protein, niacin, vitamin B6, vitamin B12, iron, selenium and zinc.

COOK'S TIP: Cooking times are for fresh or thoroughly thawed ground beef. Ground beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160°F. Color is not a reliable indicator.

Recipe courtesy of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

DANCEWAVE

Summer at Dancewave 2011



Summer Semester

Jammin' July for Kids & Teens
July 5-July 28 • 4 Week Workshops

- Broadway Dance Stars of Tomorrow (7-11 yrs old)
- Ballet, Modern & Hip Hop (12+ yrs old)

Toddlers & Kids Summer Jam
June 28-July 28 • 5 Week Session

- Creative Movement (18-36 mos)
- Creative Ballet & Creative Modern (3-6 yrs)

Classes held at Dancewave Center and
Old First Reformed Church in Park Slope

Summer Dance Intensive

Immerse yourself in dance in Brooklyn this summer!

August 15-26

Classes in Ballet, Modern, African, Jazz, Street Jazz, Flamenco,
Belly Dance, Hip Hop, Tap and Partnering

Beginning/Intermediate

Ages 10-18

Week 1: August 15-19

Week 2: August 22-26

Advanced

By Audition Only

Ages 15 to 21

August 22-26

at Old First Reformed Church in Park Slope, Brooklyn

www.dancewave.org

DANCEWAVE 45 Fourth Ave at Dean St, Brooklyn, NY
(718) 522-4696 • info@dancewave.org

Dynamic Learning Center (DLC)



for
**TOMORROW'S
LEADERS**

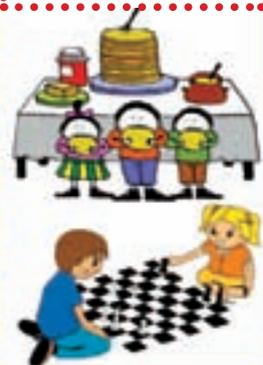
AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

www.DynamicLearningCenter.org

718-998-6481

121 Gravesend Neck Road



SUMMER CAMP
JUL. 25-AUG. 19

9 AM - 5 PM

- Weekly Trips
- Academic Integrated Sports
- Research and Fun Projects
- Arts and Crafts
- Etiquette Lessons
- Drama

*Are you pregnant,
but have no insurance?*

**DON'T FEAR, MPP is Available
At
EAST NEW YORK DIAGNOSTIC
AND TREATMENT CENTER**

Medicaid Prenatal Program

2094 Pitkin Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11207

For information, please call our MPP
Representatives are available

718-240-0469



8 costly mistakes

Things to avoid when planning for your special needs child

BY JOSEPH P. DONLON, ESQ.

We all hope to live long lives, but sudden illness or accidents are impossible to predict, so it's never too early to start making sure your loved ones will be taken care of when you're gone — especially if you have a child with special needs.

Unfortunately there are common mistakes people make when planning for the future that could cost a special needs child in the long run.

Here's how to make sure that he is provided for in case something happens to you.

MISTAKE 1: Disinheriting the child. Many disabled people rely on Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid or other government benefits to provide food and shelter. You may have been advised to disinherit your disabled child (the child who needs your help most!) to protect that child's public benefits. But these benefits rarely provide more than subsistence, and this "solution" does

not allow you to help your child after you are incapacitated or gone. When your child requires — or is likely to require — governmental assistance to meet his basic needs, you should consider establishing a Special Needs Trust.

MISTAKE 2: Ignoring the special needs when creating a trust for the child. A trust that is not designed with your child's special needs in mind will probably render your child ineligible for essential benefits. The Special Needs Trust is designed to promote the disabled person's comfort and happiness without sacrificing eligibility.

Special needs can include medical and dental expenses not covered by Medicaid, cutting-edge or non-traditional treatments or therapies, necessary or desirable equipment (such as specially equipped vans), training and education, insurance, transportation, and essential dietary needs. If the trust is sufficiently funded, the disabled person can also receive computers, books, games, vacations, movies, payments for a companion, and other self-esteem and quality-of-life enhancing expenses — the sorts of things you now provide.

MISTAKE 3: Creating a "generic" Special Needs Trust that doesn't fit your child. Even some Special Needs Trusts are unnecessarily inflexible and generic. In most cases, an attorney with some knowledge of the area can prevent a trust from invalidating the child's public benefits; however, many trusts are not customized to the child's specific needs. As a result, the child fails to receive the benefits that the parents provided when they were alive.

Another mistake is when lawyers put a "pay-back" provision into the trust, rather than allowing the remainder of the trust to go to others upon the death of the special needs child. These pay-back provisions are necessary in certain types of Special Needs Trusts — and not necessary in others. An attorney who knows when they should be used can save your family hundreds of thousands of dollars, or more.



A child without special needs can obtain more resources as he reaches adulthood, and can work to meet essential needs. Your special needs child may not have that opportunity.



MISTAKE 4: Procrastination. Since no one knows when they will die or become incapacitated, it is important to plan for your special needs child early, just as you would for other dependents, such as minor children. Unlike other beneficiaries, your special needs child may never be able to compensate for your failure to plan. A child without special needs can obtain more resources as he reaches adulthood, and can work to meet essential needs. Your special needs child may not have that opportunity.

MISTAKE 5: Failing to invite other people to contribute to the trust. A key benefit of creating the trust now is that your extended family and friends can make gifts to the trust or remember the trust as they plan their own estates. In addition to the gifts and inheritances from other people who love your child, you can leave your own assets to the trust in your will. You can also name the trust as a beneficiary of life insurance and retirement benefits.

MISTAKE 6: Choosing the wrong trustee. During your life, you and your spouse can manage the trust. When you and your spouse are no longer able to serve as trustee, the person or persons you specify in the trust instructions will become the new trustee, such as a professional trustee or a team of advisors. Make sure that whomever you choose is financially savvy, well-organized, and ethical.

MISTAKE 7: Relying on your other children to use their money for the benefit of your special needs child. This can be a temporary solution, such as during a brief incapacity, if your other children are financially secure and have money to spare. However, because of the potential problems, this solution will not protect your child after you and your spouse have died, or when siblings have their own expenses and financial priorities. For example:

•What if your child with the money divorces? His or her spouse

may be entitled to half of the funds and will not likely care for your special needs child.

•What if your child with the money dies or becomes incapacitated while your special needs child is still living? Will his or her heirs care for your special needs child as thoughtfully and completely as your child with the money did?

•What if your child loses a lawsuit and has to pay a large judgment or has other creditor problems? The court will certainly require your child to turn that money over to his or her creditors.

When you create a Special Needs Trust, you protect all of your children. The trust facilitates easier record-keeping and allows your other children to rely on the assistance of a professional trustee, if needed. Siblings of a special needs child often feel a great responsibility for that child, as they have all of their lives. When you provide clear instructions and a helpful framework, you lessen the burden on all of your children and build a loving, involved relationship that benefits your child with special needs.

MISTAKE 8: Failing to protect the special needs child from predators. Thieves, con men and other criminals look to take advantage of those who are most vulnerable, like your special needs child. A child trapped in the system with precious little resources and without anyone to look after his affairs can easily fall prey to these predators. When you establish a Special Needs Trust and properly structure your estate plan to protect your special needs child, you ensure that your child will never be left alone, will always be provided for, and will always have a trustworthy person — either a guardian or trustee, or both — watching over him.

Joe Donlon is an Estate Planning Attorney who has in-depth experience working with parents who have a special needs child. He offers the free article, "7 Key Questions Parents Should Ask About Special Needs Trusts." To receive a free copy, send an e-mail to joe@donlonlaw.com.

A Special Educator



Drawing by Martha Perske
© 2007 www.PerskePrints.com

A Tutoring Service To Support & Assist Learning Disabilities

- Teaching Social & Communication Skills To Enhance Life And Academic Success
- Patient & Creative Teaching In A Customized And Non-Threatening Learning Environment

**Tutoring Is Conducted One-To-One Or In Groups
A Customized Learning Program Is Developed
With Parents**

- Social & Communication Skills
- Academics

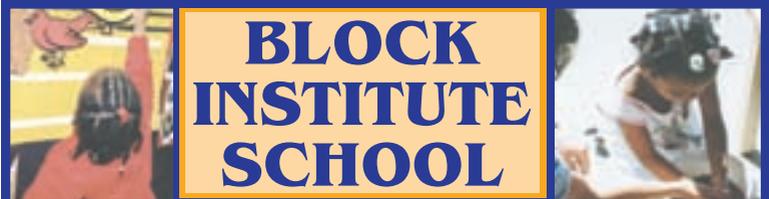
Families & Students Receive Continuous Progress Reports

Each Session Lasts One Hour

Mark Golubow - 718-622-3655

mdgolubow@gmail.com

Please visit - **www.aspecialeducator.net**



**Programs for Preschool and School Age Children
with Disabilities 3-8 Years Old
Full Day Classes**

- Breakfast/Lunch
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Program
- Parent Workshops
- Indoor Gym & Heated Swimming Pool
- All Therapies
- Fully Funded Services
- Transportation
- Enriched Curriculum
- Sensory Integration
- Feeding Therapy
- Computers
- RN/LPN
- Martial Arts
- Drama

New Integrated Preschool/Child Care Program

Modern, Air Conditioned, Caring Learning Environment

State of the Art

**Educational and Therapeutic Program
for Children with Special Needs**

Please Call for more information

718-906-5400

376 Bay 44th Street

(Belt Parkway-Exit 5 at Bay Parkway—on water's side)

Facing the stress

Overcoming the challenges of raising a special child

BY JULIA GARSTECKI

Parenting a child with a disability comes with its own set of unique frustrations: the level of exhaustion might be tripled; evaluations and assessments are often scary and stressful; and there may not be one best way to move forward with therapy.

Fortunately, most mothers of children with disabilities are positive, proactive, and energetic. They lead

cles her experiences with her daughters. “All I Can Handle; I’m No Mother Theresa” is funny, sad, and informative. When asked what helped get her through the worst of times, she said that there were moments in which all she could do was hope.

Kim suggests parents let their emotions take course; if you need to cry, do it. It can be cathartic. She says she remembers feeling like a hamster on an exercise wheel. She was exhausted, but knew that her girls needed care. There will not be an end to the demands, she says, so you need to learn to deal with it.

To start, Stagliano suggests building a support system.

Family members or neighbors can offer love and — hopefully — periodic babysitting, but parents of special-needs kids also need to find families in similar circumstances.

Find national websites that provide information and research, as well as ones that offer an online community of parents whose needs mirror your own, and with whom you can chat. Look to see if there are support groups near you. Through these websites and support groups, you may also find therapy tips, nutrition and diet information, and possible social outlets for you

and your family.

- Julie McAllister, a mother of one child with Asperger’s Syndrome and one child with food allergies, has had her share of depression. Before her children were diagnosed, she says she began to feel lonely, guilty and isolated as she did her best to raise her sons. There was very little sleeping going on at her house, she says, and between the exhaustion and her sons’ mysterious meltdowns, McAllister rarely left her home. She says she finally began to treat her depres-

sion by making self-care a priority. She focused on nutrition, and sought the help of educated professionals. Because she made time for herself, she says, she had more energy and enthusiasm for her family.

Stagliano echoes Julie’s sentiment about needing to have a life. While taking an exercise class or going out with friends might be best, that involves finding child care, which can be tricky. If the only option is watching a favorite television program, or reading a good book, do it. To maintain the endurance necessary for raising a child with special needs, it’s important to lose yourself in another world from time to time. It’s in those moments that you might determine what you need for yourself, whether it’s rearranging the therapy schedule, getting help with chores, or getting out of the house by yourself for an hour or two a week. There are also activities that your whole family can enjoy, and they include special assistance. One, Programs to Educate All Cyclists, helps individuals with disabilities develop cycling skills for recreation, fitness and transportation. You can also try horseback riding. Therapeutic riding facilities are common, and children who never thought to get on a horse are amazed at the independence and enjoyment riding can offer. So, explore the Internet, ask questions, and keep an open mind. Finding a new family hobby can bring a feeling of accomplishment, bonding and fun.

It won’t always be easy, but there is help.

If you are struggling to find resources, contact your school district. Or, if the school cannot help you, start making phone calls and don’t stop until you find what you are looking for.

Kim Stagliano’s book, “All I Can Handle; I’m No Mother Theresa,” is available in bookstores now. You can also visit her website, www.kimstagliano.com.

Julia Garstecki is a freelance writer living in western New York. Her passion for writing is second only to her passion for her family. Contact her with your stories at juliagarstecki@gmail.com.



support groups, are activists in the special education community, and are champions for their children.

However, even the most optimistic of these mothers has struggled with anxiety and worry at one time — or 100. Here are some suggestions from parents who have been there — and what they’ve learned along the way.

- Kim Stagliano, a mother of three autistic daughters, is somewhat of an expert on the subject. She’s even written a book in which she chron-

Special Needs

DIRECTORY

Block Institute

376 Bay 44th Street
718-946-9700 or www.blockinstitute.org

Providing special education and evaluation service to children with special need, ages 3-8. The staff consists of NYS- certified Special Education/ Early Childhood teachers, a variety of therapist, and RN and LPN, and consulting developmental pediatrician. Free half day Universal Pre-K program. Block offers interim alternate bilingual placements, before and after school care for children ages 3-8, and nationally recognized nutrition programs. Approved to accept A.C.D funding for the day care. Approved by the NYS and NYC Department of Health.

The Downtown Brooklyn Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

Located at Long Island University, corner of Flatbush and DeKalb avenues, Metcalf Building, Second Floor
718-488-3480 or www.brooklyn.liu.edu

Provides state-of-the-art evaluation and treatment services seeing patients of all ages who present a wide range of communication disorders. Specifically, children are referred to the clinic who have problems such as delayed development of speech and language, stuttering problems and language-learning disabilities. Adult clients include individuals who suffer from communication problems related to stroke, head trauma and voice disorders as well as those that stutter. Audiological services include both hearing screenings in the community and complete hearing and auditory processing assessments in our audiological suite.

Rivendell School

277 3RD Avenue; Bet Carroll & President Street
718-499-5667, ext. 14 or www.rivendellnyc.org

A Montessori pre-primary inclusion school was founded in 1977 as The Children's House of Park Slope and incorporated into Rivendell School in 1998. Rivendell provides a respectful,

inclusive community that helps children feel powerful and confident as learners and as social and emotional beings. Toddler, half day and extended day programs are available (two through six years). Rivendell School offers beautiful Montessori classrooms, an excellent student/teacher ratio, and a warm, cooperative atmosphere where children learn to work and play. Shelly Wolf Scott is the Admissions coordinator.

A Special Educator Tutoring Service

Mark Golubow
718-622-3655 or www.apediaeducator.net

A Special Educator is a tutoring service that supports and assists individuals of all ages with learning disabilities, such as autism and ADD/ADHD, who have special social and academic needs.

A Special Educator emphasizes teaching social and communication skills for individuals with learning disabilities in order to enhance their personal, professional and academic lives.

We will work with parents and student in improving the confidence and independence of individuals with learning disabilities by building essential social and communicative skills through a customized, structured and non-threatening learning environment.

Our staff is available seven days a week at a convenient time and day for the clients.

Special Sprouts

453 6th Avenue, in Park Slope
718-965-8573 or www.specialsprouts.com

Has been helping children with developmental challenges from the ages of three to five years for more than 15 years. They offer a therapeutic nursery school with a small student-teacher ratio, a full range of therapeutic services, including speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy, as well as door-to-door transportation, all at no cost to parents. In addition, they provide Special Education Itinerant Teachers (SEIT) and related therapeutic services to children who attend general education settings. They service children from throughout Brooklyn.

THE DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN SPEECH-LANGUAGE HEARING CLINIC

A STATE-OF-THE-ART CLINICAL FACILITY
At

LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

MAIN BUILDING - 2ND FLOOR
CORNER OF DEKALB AND FLATBUSH AVENUES

A FULL RANGE OF DIAGNOSTIC AND
THERAPEUTIC SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
OF ALL AGES:

- Speech-Language and Hearing Evaluations
- Auditory-processing evaluations
- Oral-motor treatment
- Fluency (stuttering) specialist
- Post-stroke rehabilitation
- Bilingual Spanish and Russian
- Sliding fee scale
- Hours from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
- Contemporary treatments

*For More Information or to Schedule an Appointment
Please Contact:*

Jeri Weinstein Blum, Clinical Director

*At
718-488-3480*

Special Sprouts

Serving families of children
from 2.5 through 5 years old.

Center-based classrooms,
SEIT and Related Services available.

We provide:

- Full Developmental Evaluations
- Special Instruction
- Speech/Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Counseling

**ALL EVALUATIONS AND SERVICES
ARE PROVIDED AT NO COST**

For more information,
call Briseida or Eleanor at

718-965-8573

Located in the heart of Park Slope
Since 1988

www.specialsprouts.com

A double whammy

When a second child is diagnosed with autism

BY JULIANNA GIL
DE LAMADRID

Lately, we are seeing a lot more attention in the media being paid to the prevalence of autism. Those who are not affected by autism may skim through the news, recent findings, and fresh research that is available to the autism community, thinking, "What are the chances that I or a loved one will actually be affected by this?" Sadly, the answer to this question is given to us with every autism ad, commercial, statistic, book, article, etc.: "ONE IN 150 CHILDREN," or "ONE OUT OF 70 BOYS."

So, when a family is given the

news, "Your child is on the autism spectrum," what are the chances that this family will be given this news twice? When exactly does a family have to be cautious of having more children?

My first son was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder - Not Otherwise Specified at the age of 2. Like many families who are given this diagnosis, our son went through a stage of alarming regression in which his speech, along with his social skills, drastically weakened.

Unlike with other families, my son, at the age of 2, already had a baby brother who was 8 months old. Truth be told, my 2-year-old should have been diagnosed months

prior to his second birthday. I cannot say my husband and I were in denial, because we did not even know what autism was, or that our son truly had a problem at all. Along with comments from friends and family who constantly said, "well, boys develop slower than girls," or "just give him time," we simply thought he was going through a phase, and had put off his evaluation for almost three months.

Battling with the idea that something may in fact be wrong with him, we completely ignored the alarming delay his baby brother exhibited. How could we have been so blind? We had a son who had developed typically up until his regression, with which to compare our youngest, and still, we had not addressed the fact that our second born was completely in his own world.

At this point, denial had set in. There couldn't possibly be two of them in the family ... could there? During our youngest son's evaluation, I felt my heart drop as I answered the psychotherapist's ques-

tions: *No, he never looks at us when we speak to him. No, he does not express his needs/wants. No, he does not like to play with us or his brother. Yes, he does rock back and forth and flap his arms...*

There we were, faced with two boys, both diagnosed with autism. In as little time as it took for these professionals to observe my boys and come to their conclusions, my dreams for them had been taken from me.

What kind of school will they end up in? Will they have girlfriends? Be married? Be able to work? Will they be dependent on me their entire lives?

Suddenly, I looked at them differently; as though I hardly ever knew them to be my own. I didn't know how to speak to them, how to relate to their needs.

Were they even listening to me? Did they love me? Do they even know who I am?

I did my share of research, and slowly, I began to accept the fact that I was given these two boys for a reason. As I read about other families, I also began to accept the fact that there was hope for my sons through the intense early intervention they were receiving. I went from a dark place in which I hardly knew my own children to a place where I felt comfortable knowing I would do everything in my power to help them develop and become all that I had hoped they would be on the day they were born.

To this day, three years after my sons were diagnosed, I have devoted my life to their development and the well-being of all who suffer from autism. My boys are strong, each in their own way, and they have encouraged me to be the same. Today, I study not only for their future, but also for the future of all the children who are, and will, be part of this prevalence. I see the changes that intense intervention and — most importantly — love, has made on my boys, and it gives me nothing but hope for their futures. Every day is a battle, but slowly, I am rebuilding those dreams that were once knocked down by a diagnosis.



Looking for fun
with the kids?

WIN TICKETS



For you &
your family (4)
to local
family friendly
shows

Visit our website
www.webfamilyny.com
and register to win

Attention All Writers! We're looking for personal essays

about you, your family and life
in your community.

Partner with us and share your
stories and your memories.

Email family@cnglocal.com to
have your piece included in our
magazine and on our website.



RIVENDELL SCHOOL

*Rivendell School provides a warm,
creative environment where children
develop independence, respect for each
other, and a lifelong love of learning.*



A Montessori inclusion school
serving children two to six years old
for more than thirty years.

277 3rd Avenue
(bet. Carroll & President Streets)
718-499-5667

Become a fan of

BROOKLYN

Family

on

facebook

Facebook Search: Brooklyn Family



OUR RELATIONSHIPS

JOAN EMERSON, PhD

Affair to remember

After there's been an affair, it's not unusual for a couple to come in for counseling — as long as there is still love and commitment between the couple, when preserving the marriage is important and both want to work on recovery. Amazingly, I have seen that even with the pain present — ultimately, if both want it — an affair can be a catalyst for a new honesty and closeness between both people, and an immense opportunity for the relationship to grow. How can this be?

or she loves, and the betrayed partner is feeling totally devastated and doesn't know whether the trust can ever be there again.

As the therapy begins, the partners speak of an extreme relief over not keeping secrets anymore. Because both people often don't understand it themselves, they exhibit a willingness to figure out how something like this happened. What slowly emerges is an awareness of feelings of having unmet needs that were being kept inside (that perhaps weren't even at a conscious level), allowing for a vulnerability and hopes of getting them filled elsewhere.

These painful feelings can be attributed to a growing emotional isolation between the partners because of demands of work, children, money, or house-keeping — real distancing issues resulting in feelings of loneliness, and not being understood or valued. As the partners talk about these feelings they were keeping secret, even from themselves, and see that the other person can listen and even be glad to be learning more about these needs, a tremendous gratitude and appreciation can begin to grow. The strayer now has a new awareness

that, if he can communicate with his partner more honestly and deeply, he can work toward getting his needs met within the relationship. And this new, deeper connection will eliminate future vulnerability to temptations outside of the relationship.

The hard part, of course, is for the victim of the affair to forgive and have the courage and willingness to move on. After all, the victim was having the same painful feelings of disconnection, but didn't stray from the relationship.

Listening to the affair experts talk, it seems to me that the painful feelings from betrayal linger for long periods of time, and the only way these feelings can become more manageable is if the couple shifts to exploring lost warmth and connection.

What enables the recovery of some of this lost closeness is a new, total openness between the couple. The betrayer must express remorse; be willing to answer any questions about the affair in a non-defensive, patient way; and must make this conversation available in a calm, caring way. He must verbally recommit to the relationship, telling his partner why he still wants to be with her, and he must be prepared to say this not just once, but on an ongoing basis. Atonement for this hurt is the betrayer's responsibility to communicate forevermore.

Finding a way to accept the apology and begin some sort of forgiveness process is the task of the victim.

In order to move on, the goal must be to commit to honest communication about what each person is going through on a day-to-day basis. There has to be an acceptance that there are two subjective realities, and that is a tremendous relief for both people, because they will be able to express their feelings and feel that they are being heard and understood. Both have to be willing to listen to each other.

With no secrets about feelings, a closeness can develop that enables a couple to weather the storms ahead and stay connected. Keeping feelings to oneself results in turning away, distancing, and thus, the danger of giving up and looking elsewhere to feel truly understood. Having a partner who can listen to you talking about your feelings — which aren't easy for you to discuss and that you know are even a little crazy — creates trust, and trust has been described as the basic ingredient for success in a relationship.

Affairs are probably the most painful thing that can happen in a committed relationship, but however unbelievably, if an affair does happen, there's still hope. But both partners must be willing to work to understand what happened and to learn new ways to help the relationship grow.

Dr. Joan Emerson is a New York psychologist who specializes in couples therapy. Visit her website at www.JoanEmerson.com.



I have heard researchers say that affairs happen in about 30 percent of couples, and they often occur in the first two years of the relationship. They have found the affairs don't usually have to do with sexual satisfaction or because the person was going out looking for it, but happen because an opportunity presented itself. Affairs can range from using someone else as an emotional confidante, to sex talk over the phone or Internet, to actual meetings with or without sexual consummation. Affairs can even happen in good marriages.

When a couple comes to therapy because of an affair, obviously, there is anguish on both sides: the partner who strayed is distraught for having inflicted such pain on the person he



249 20th St., near 5th Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11215
718.965.1406
www.elpequenoartista.com

Montessori-based,
Spanish Immersion Preschool Program
✧ & SUMMER Program

- Ages: 2 1/2 to 5
Mixed-age approach.
- 2-Day, 3-Day and 5-Day
Part-time or Full-time.

SAVE \$50
On Preschool
or
Summer Program
WITH THIS AD

✧ Bilingual Summer Program, Ages 3 to 6
June 27th-Aug. 5th - Individual weeks available

Transportation available upon demand

For weekly themes, go to www.elpequenoartista.com/schedule.html

Mention Brooklyn Family and receive
\$50 off birthday parties, camp, or classes.

- Indoor playground
- Drop off play
- Classes
- Birthday parties
- Play dates
- Camp

www.klub4kidz.com



4 Tier Playground

Rock Climbing Wall

klub kidz
Imagination at play

159 North 4th Street T. 718.599.5900
Brooklyn, NY 11211 info@klub4kidz.com

**Who cares about Beyonce?
...Lea Michelle who?
Be your own Star!**

Show the world how amazing you are
at Dimensions On Stage

Acting • Singing • Voice Lessons • Drama

Productions in our "Black Box" style theatre • Movement • On-Camera Film & TV • Private Coaching

Be confident, be prepared, be a triple threat, and always be your own star!

Register now for a summer you'll never forget!

Broadway In Brooklyn Camp • Ages 7-13 • Curtain's Up Camp • Ages 4-7

"Glee" Summer Series • Ages 11-17

7601-3rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209 • 917-995-8408
www.DimensionsOnStage.com • DimensionsOnStage@gmail.com

Sleepovers

The survival guide

BY MYRNA BETH HASKELL

Are you thinking of inviting several of your child's friends over for a sleepover bash, but you are not sure you can handle all those exuberant and tireless kids for more than three hours?

It's OK, sleepovers can be overwhelming and exhausting. Let's face it: they can be a downright nightmare. It will take quite a bit of planning and forethought, but both you AND your child's friends can have a positive experience if you take the time to think things through before the first excited guest appears at your door.

Rule 1: Establish the rules from the get-go

Sleepovers are different from other parties hosted in your home in that the kids know their own parents won't be picking them up until the next day. This gives them a "no holds barred" attitude toward the night.

After hosting several sleepovers for both my son and daughter, I've found that kids will respond well to rules if you establish them right away. Hold a "welcome meeting," in which you tell the guests about all the great activities you have planned. Then, give them a list of rules to follow. Make sure that they understand these are YOUR rules, not your child's. Tell them if things go well, you have a special activity planned (this can be a blockbuster movie or a game with really cool prizes).

Rule 2: Prepare your home and plan ahead

Find a place in your home that will be suitable for several kids bunking out and playing group games. This might be a playroom, or any large space with sparse furnishings. Remove any breakable or valuable items, so you won't become a nervous wreck if a pillow fight ensues. Make sure that the eating area is properly protected. If you don't have

easy-to-clean tile or vinyl flooring, prepare the floor with some plastic splash mats or drop cloths.

Keep in mind that your child's friends may not know their way around your house very well, especially in the middle of the night. Place nightlights in bathrooms and hallways to make your home easy to navigate when it is dark. It's a good idea to stock up on a few extra supplies, too. Make sure you have toothbrushes, pillows, and socks — in case one of the guests forgets to bring them.

Most parents agree that too much free time is a recipe for disaster, so plan ahead. Make sure you have scheduled several controlled activities besides dinner, cake and opening gifts.

Rule 3: Sanity is in the numbers

Larger groups of kids tend to get more unruly.

"I had 12 10-year-old boys for my son's sleepover a few years ago," recalls Mary Kiernan, a mother of five. "This was way too many. They were wild!" Kiernan suggests that the maximum number should be about eight, including your own child. Most parents also agree an even number works best — to avoid the "odd-man-out" scenario.

A good rule of thumb is to invite those children whose families you know. Many parents today are leery about sending their children to sleepover parties if they don't know the family. In order to avoid inevitable disappointment due to declined invitations, put a message on the invitation such as, "Party continues after 8 for those who would like to sleep over." This will enable guests to decline the sleepover part, but to

Kids have advice for kids

And for the kids, here's some tips from kids across the country so your first sleepover can be perfect:

Ways to be prepared:

"Make sure you get a good night's sleep the night before. You will be up late!"

Trevor, age 12, Salt Point, NY

"Bring your mom and dad's cell-phone numbers."

Samantha, age 8, Narragansett, RI

"Bring your favorite snack and make sure there is plenty to share!"

Dominique, age 7, Richmond, VA

Most important thing to bring:

"Bring money, just in case you end up going somewhere like the movies."

Andrew, age 12, Hyde Park, NY

"Yourself!"

Spencer, age 11, Indianapolis, IN

"Bring cute pajamas!"

Savannah, age 8, San Diego, CA

What to do if you don't like the food:

"If you don't like the breakfast, say you and your family have to go to your grandparents' anniversary brunch." *Nicole, age 10, Cary, NC*

"I bring a hidden snack."

Evan, age 11, Narragansett, RI

Keeping track of your stuff:

"Make a list of what you are bringing."

Lauren, age 10, Hopewell Jct., NY

"Always label your things so you'll be sure it's yours."

Emily, age 12, Portland, OR

Other:

"Whenever I'm at a sleepover, I always tell myself to let NOTHING get in the way of having a fun time. You're only a kid for so long, and sleepovers are supposed to bring out the kid in you!"

Morgan, age 14 - Indianapolis, IN



join the festivities and celebrate with your child early in the evening.

Rule 4: Activities make or break a party

It's imperative that you have a list of various activities planned.

"You have to plan lots of activities to wear them out," says mom Christina Castelonia. However, for indoor activities, she suggests anything that will keep the kids calm. "For girls, painting nails and doing hair always works," she says.

If you are having a sleepover for boys and you are worried about them spending too much time in front of the computer or video games, schedule some group activities.

Boys enjoy team activities, so organize a mystery game or sports trivia game and break the kids up into teams. Kiernan also advocates planning group activities.

"Charades and bingo are always a hit," she says. "Make sure you have an alternative planned in case one or two don't want to play the game."

Crafts are enjoyable for any gender. The best crafts are those that also serve as party souvenirs:

- Photo frames (take a digital group picture, print and insert in each child's custom frame). Glue magnets on back for bulletin boards
- Pillow cases, tote bags or T-shirts — use fabric markers or paint to decorate (don't forget the party date and signatures of all those who attended)
- Bookmarks or book bag chains that celebrate the theme of the party

Rule 5: Fun food, happy campers

You will probably be serving dinner, snacks and breakfast, so the food will play an important role in making the party successful.

Mixing food and fun is always a hit.

"I always do pizza," says Kiernan. "I had the kids make their own individual pizza at one of the parties and that made a great activity, too. The kids loved it!" In lieu of traditional

birthday cake, set up bowls of toppings for make-your-own-sundaes or make-your-own-cupcakes. You can always put a candle on the birthday child's concoction!

I made the mistake of not having enough drinks at my son's first sleepover. Remember, popcorn and chips are laden with salt. The kids will be thirsty, so you'll need to stock up on a variety of drinks that quench thirst.

Keep breakfast simple.

Avoid making omelettes or scrambled eggs, which only serve a few at a time. Kiernan prefers pancakes and French toast to feed a large group.

"It's easy to make, easy to keep warm, and you can make a large quantity for not too much money," she says.

"I like to serve chocolate chip pancakes or M & M pancakes," adds Castelonia. "The kids love anything with chocolate!"

Don't forget to check on food allergies. As a mother of five children, Kiernan is all too familiar with allergies. She says that it's imperative that you ask parents ahead of time if their children have food allergies.

"Always keep cereal on hand in case someone is allergic to eggs," she says.

Be prepared for the occasional vegetarian, as well. Making sure you have at least one meatless choice is not a difficult task, and it will save you the trouble of whipping something up if one of the guests is a budding vegetarian — I've had a few at my house!

Quick food tips:

- Less fuss is a must
- Use paperware and paper tablecloths for easy clean up
- Provide a healthy-choice snack, such as carrots and dip
- Don't serve caffeinated items close to bedtime (i.e. cola or chocolate)

Rule 6: Yes Virginia, there is a bedtime!

Uh-oh ... it's bedtime! Even for the most organized party host or hostess, getting the kids to bed at a "respectable" hour can prove to be an insurmountable task. Castelonia remarks that although sleepovers can be some of the most talked about celebrations, you have to have reasonable expectations about how things will go.

"That's the price you pay. The kids will be up late and cranky the next morning," she warns.

Kiernan suggests putting a movie in at the very end of the evening once the kids have prepared for bed.

"The kids will be ready to relax," she claims. Make sure that the movie is age-appropriate (when in doubt, ask for permission from parents beforehand). Any type of calming activity will suffice late in the evening — just make sure you've completed all endeavors that encourage hysterical enthusiasm (such as piñatas) early on.

Plan to separate groups of kids if some seem to want to whisper and pass notes via a pen light while others are ready to crash. At my daughter's last sleepover, I separated them into two groups. The sleepyheads made a beeline for the family room, while those who wanted to chit-chat remained in the playroom. This seemed to quell any impending arguments.

Rule 7: There's got to be a morning after!

After a night of ghost stories, giggling and gossiping, your child's bleary-eyed guests may not be ready to "get with the program" the next morning. Here's a perfect solution: a contest. Give your child's guests a specified time to get dressed, clean up, and pack their things. Tell them there will be a surprise treat if they are successful. This may be a good time to give out goodie bags with a little something extra, such as energy bars or drinks, because they will need the energy!

Hopefully, you remembered to list the pick-up time on the invitations, and to remind parents of this time when they dropped their children off the night before. Castelonia suggests that pick-up time be no later than 11 am. "Most will be leaving to go to other activities anyway," she says.

Finally, when the last guest has stepped out the door, grab yourself a cup of herbal tea and head for the couch. This respite will be well deserved!

For theme ideas, creative activities and other tips, check out these books:

"Slumber Parties," by Penny Warner (Meadowbrook Press)

"52 Slumber Party Activities," by Lynn Gordon (Chronicle Books, LLC)

"Slumber Parties," by Brooks Whitney (American Girl Library: Pleasant Company Publications)

Or, visit http://www.birthdaypartyideas.com/html/sleep_over.html for a list and detailed description of award-winning sleepover parties for both boys and girls.

Test-taking jitters

Seven ways students can ease nerves and improve test scores

BY TUTOR DOCTOR

Test-taking can be stressful for both students and parents. Most people are familiar with the butterflies that flutter up inside your stomach before taking a test. While it is normal for most students to experience some level of jitters before and during an exam, it has proven to become a real problem for others, affecting their scores so much that the tests can't be an indi-

there while he takes the test, you are there in spirit. It is a simple gesture that goes a long way toward comforting your child.

You can pack the kit in a colorful bag or box and even label it with the student's name. Inside the kit, place a notebook (moleskin notebooks work great), a healthy snack (something small and tasty such as an apple), and a little bottle of aromatherapy oil (I recommend lavender).

The **notebook** will help your child work through his anxiety. There are two ways in which he can do this:

- Write down anxieties before a test: A recent study in the journal *Science* explains that students can greatly benefit from writing down their anxieties before taking an exam. The study suggests that releasing anxieties onto paper will clear students' minds during a test and help them to focus.

- Counter apprehensions by writing down positive responses: In a guide to reduce dread before taking tests, Claire Stone, a Berkeley therapist, explains that it is beneficial to write positive responses to the negative anxieties or thoughts that students just wrote. This will ensure that all the negatives will be cleared from students' minds while taking a test.

The **healthy snack** is in the kit to remind your child not to take his test on an empty stomach. There are a few reasons for this:

- There is a correlation between positive test scores and a healthy diet: Students should be sure not to take an exam on an empty stomach, and should make sure that they are eating the right foods. Joe Landsberger, creator of the Study Guides and Strategies website, www.studyguidesandstrategies.com,

www.studyguidesandstrategies.com, offers fruit and vegetables as a recommended option to reduce stress. Avoid processed foods, artificial sweeteners and foods containing preservatives, as they are considered "stressful foods."

- A physically fit is more likely to be a good student: According to Lesley Cottrell, an associate professor of pediatrics at West Virginia University, children's physical fitness is associated with their academic performances. Students who stay physically fit during the week generally experience better test scores.

- Getting enough sleep makes the mind work better: Many students struggle to get adequate sleep at night, but it is important that they try to get between seven and nine hours.

"Sleep keeps students well-rested. It gives them a good attention span, along with a more stable mood, which increases concentration," says psychologist John Markovich. Getting enough sleep at night will help students focus while taking tests.

The **aromatherapy bottle** is to help your child activate his memory and approach the test from a calmer perspective.

It has been proven that essential oils, such as lavender and rosemary, can stimulate the brain and improve concentration and learning abilities. Students can benefit by lighting a lavender candle while studying, which can help them retain information before the test.

Even if a child has the first-aid kit, he still needs to be prepared — and reparation for tests should be a group effort. A student's parents, teachers and tutors should all work together to set the student up for success.

Studying with a friend, when possible, can help students better understand the material and learn from one another.

Hopefully, these tips will get you and your child on the path to better results in test-taking.

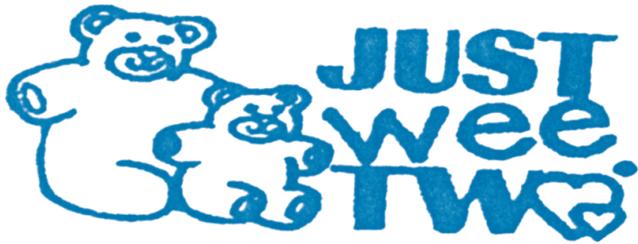
For more helpful tips, visit www.hometutorsnyc.com.



cation of the student's ability.

There are many techniques that students can use to improve concentration and ease their nerves, and there are many ways in which you can help them.

The morning of the test, surprise your child with his own anxiety-busting first-aid test kit. This is a perfect way to start the day and show him that although you can't be



where children and grown-ups learn and play together

For 8 months - 3 1/2 years

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER AND FALL PROGRAMS

Brooklyn Heights Location
250 Cadman Plaza West

Park Slope Location
8th Ave. & 14th Street

Join Us For Fun

- Arts & Crafts
- Music • Stories
- Creative Movement
- Playtime
- Narrow Age Spans
- Maximum 10 Children Per Class
- 1 1/2 Hour Classes
- Professional Staff

"Just For Me"
2 1/2 - 3 1/2
Separation Program

Partial Separation Classes
Also Available

Infant Classes (Parent & Child) and ABC Enrichment Classes Also Available

**For Information Call 1-800-404-2204 or 516-433-0003
Or Log Onto Our Website: www.justweetwo.com**

Other Locations: Bayside, Plainview, Manhasset, Greenwich, & North Stamford, CT

THE Brooklyn DANCE Centers
The School For Professional Dance Training



Fairy Princess Dance Camp

An enchanted session of Dancing, Creative Movement, Tumbling and Arts & Crafts presented with favorite fairy tale theme. Ages 4 to 9, two 3 week sessions, 10am - 1:30pm two to 4 days a week, starts July 5th

Video Dance Camp for Pre-teens

The latest music and dance trends make for lots of fun in this summer dance session!

Teen and Adult Summer Classes

- Ballet • Pointe • Jazz • Hip Hop • Tap • Contemporary • Bellydance
- Breakdance • Flamenco • Body Workout • Pilates • Yoga



SUMMER DANCE INTENSIVE FOR PRE-TEENS AND TEENS at BDC1

Session includes BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ, TECHNIQUE & REPERTORY. July 12th through July 28th.

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 to 2



BDC1-2106 West 6th St. (2nd floor) • 718-996-0319
BDC2-6720 20th Avenue • 718-256-5320
www.TheBrooklynDanceCenter.com

FUN-LEARNING ALL SUMMER LONG!

Educational Summer Adventure / Ages 3~10

FasTrackKids®

Flexible Weekly Enrollment Options

Full and Half Day Programs Available

Early Bird Discounts Before April 15th

FasTrackKids share in exciting learning experiences that will captivate their imagination and make their summer full of wonder and surprise.

www.brooklynenrichment.com | www.fastrackkids.com

SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

- camp 1 Earth Science: 7/5-7/8 Exploring the Earth: Oceans & Volcanoes
- camp 2 Ready, Set, Travel 1: 7/11-7/15 Visiting China, India, Australia & Mexico
- camp 3 Spencer Learns Sports: 7/18-7/22 Exploring Different Sports
- camp 4 Dinosaurs: 7/25-7/29 Young Scientists: Old Bones
- camp 5 Speech Drama & Art: 8/1-8/5 Performing Magic
- camp 6 Ready, Set, Travel 2: 8/8-8/12 Visiting Egypt, Italy, USA, & Brazil
- camp 7 Anatomy of Me: 8/15-8/19 Exploring the Human Body
- camp 8 Destination Constellation: 8/22-8/26 Exploring Outer Space, Stars, Moon, Planets
- camp 9 Technology: 8/29-9/2 How Things Work

Time off from school doesn't have to be time off from learning!

Williamsburg
(60 Broadway)
347.987.4450

Bay Ridge/Dyker Heights
(7612 13th Ave)
718.748.3000

Sheepshead Bay
(1605 Voorhies)
718.891.5437

Park Slope
(150 4th Ave)
718.351.7333

FAMILY HEALTH

RONALD SOAVE, DPM
Chairman of Podiatry, New
York Methodist Hospital

Nailing this down

What's causing your child's foot problems?

My child came home from a school field trip complaining of pain in his big toe. I looked at it, and it was very swollen and red. He wore shoes all day, so I am wondering what caused the swelling and how to treat it and prevent it from recurring.

It is likely that your child has onychocryptosis. While that sounds obscure, it is the medical term for what would otherwise be referred to as an ingrown toenail, which is quite common among older children and teens.

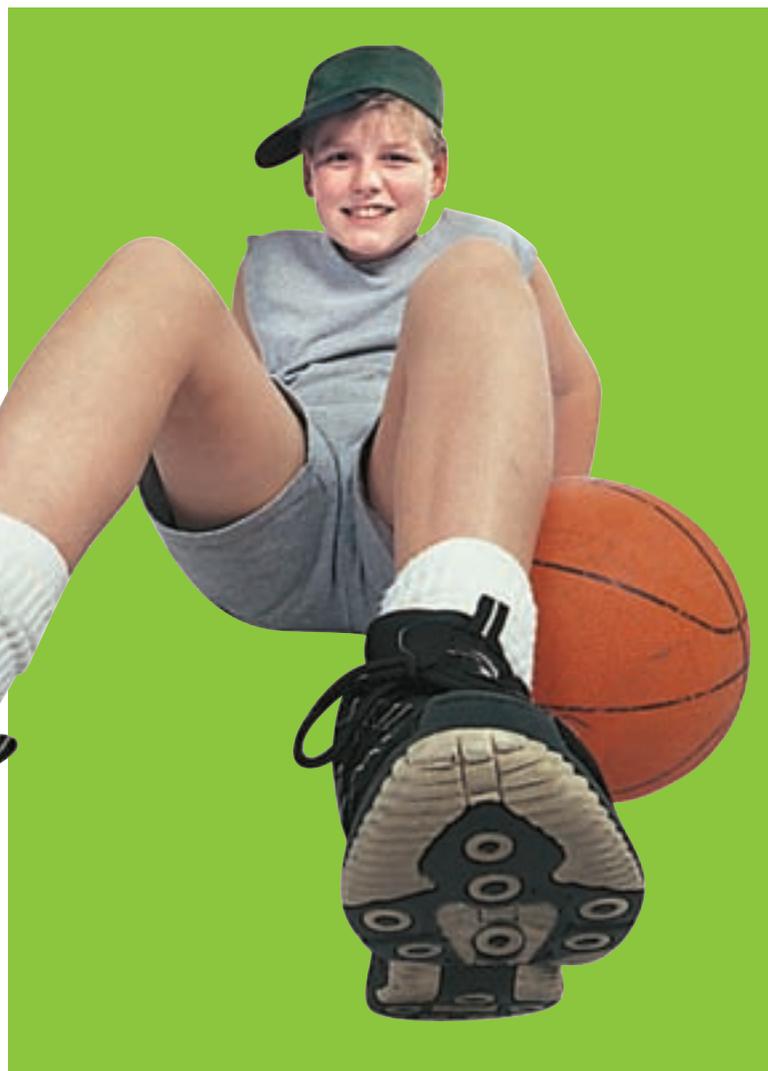
The big toe is most likely to develop the condition, although any toe can be affected.



Ingrown toenails usually develop when people wear tight-fitting shoes or trim their toenails too close to the skin. In both of these situations, pressure is put on the toenail, which, as you know, is always growing.

As a result, the toenail grows under the nail fold instead of growing outwards. In addition to tight shoes and nails cut too short, excessive sweating can also contribute towards the formation of ingrown toenails because it softens the skin surrounding the nails, making it easier for the nail to inflame or puncture the skin.

The symptoms are fairly clear and include pain, swelling, erythema (redness) and sometimes even drainage of pus.



To treat the condition, you can give your child pain relievers such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen to offset the pain.

As for dealing with the toenail itself, soaking the affected toe in warm water for 10 to 20 minutes, twice a day, should help the toe grow out properly.

You can also try placing a bit of cotton or dental floss under the edge of the toenail to encourage it to grow properly.

If none of these treatments seem to work, your child's pediatrician or podiatrist can perform a partial lateral nail avulsion, if necessary.

This is a surgical procedure that removes part of the ingrown toenail.

In some cases, the ingrown toenail may become infected, and this will require antibiotics to prevent the spread of infection to other parts of the body.

To prevent ingrown toenails from forming and coming back, cut your child's nails straight across and be sure not to cut them too short. Following these steps and checking to see that your child's shoes fit properly (neither too loose nor too tight), will make ingrown toenails old news.



MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

Math Tutoring Experts.

Enrolling Now

- ✦ Boosts Confidence
- ✦ Proven Method
- ✦ Math Skills and Concepts
- ✦ Pre-K through Pre-Calculus
- ✦ Fun Environment
- ✦ Affordable
- ✦ Personal Attention
- ✦ Skilled Instructors

ASK ABOUT OUR SUMMER PROGRAM

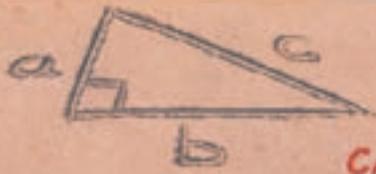
Bensonhurst:
(347) 762-8411
6806 20th Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11204

Brooklyn Heights:
(718) 858-6284
392 Atlantic Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11217

WARNING:
YOUR CHILD
COULD BECOME
CRAZY
ABOUT
MATH

\$75 off
Registration and Testing
Limited Time Offer!

www.mathnasium.com



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

CATCH UP, KEEP UP, GET AHEAD.



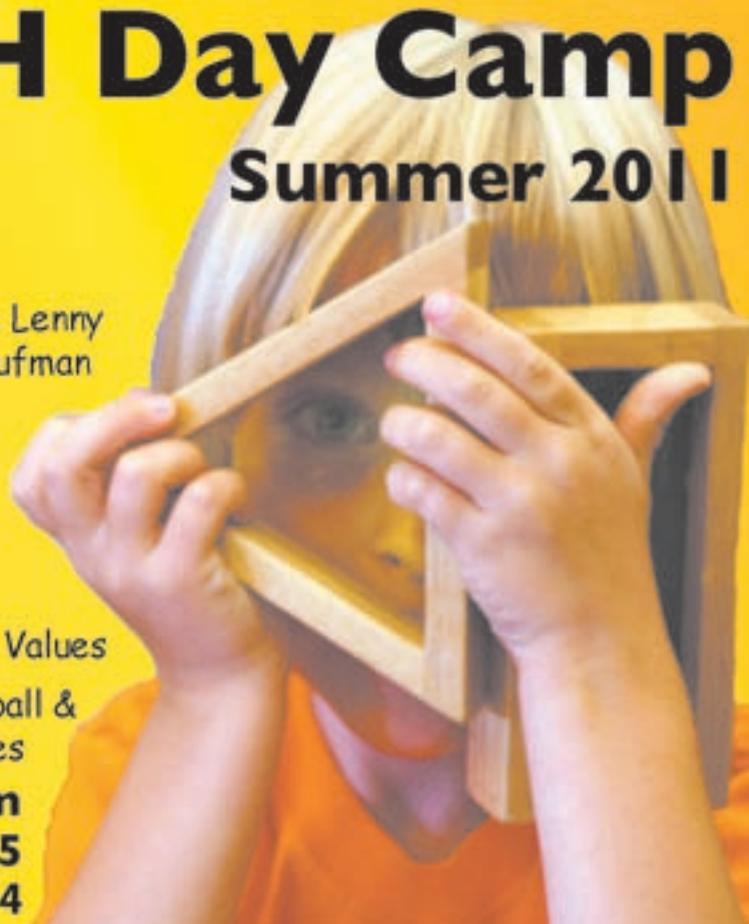
Marks JCH Day Camp

June 29th - August 18th

Summer 2011

This Summer I will:

- * **Learn to Swim** with Olympic Champions at the Lenny Krayzelburg JCC swim academy at the Henry Kaufman Campgrounds
- * **Travel** to exciting overnights including Washington DC, Hershey Park, and Boston
- * **Be Creative** and build skills in our Dance and Art Programs
- * **Experience** Israeli Culture & embrace Jewish Values
- * **Play Sports** and compete in Soccer, Flag Football & Floor Hockey Leagues and win medals and trophies



www.jchcamp.com
718.331.6800 ext 145
7802 Bay Parkway * Brooklyn NY 11214



PARENTS
HELPING
PARENTS

SHARON C. PETERS, MA

Should the family dog share the bed?



Dear Sharon,

Our 5-year-old son sleeps with our dog every night (a loving and tender Irish setter). We're concerned that he is too dependent on him for company and will not be able to sleep alone in the coming years. What do you think?

Dear parents,

When I first saw your question, I happened to be with a 22-year-old friend of mine who loves animals, particularly dogs. Her reaction to your concern was, "I have a 25-year-old friend who sleeps with his dog. He loves his dog. It's great to love your dog." I generally agree that it is wonderful for children and adults to love their pets. I, too, know many people who sleep with their animals and enjoy doing so.

It is also true that many people, children and adults, would rather not sleep by themselves. I have rarely met a young person who chooses to

sleep alone — even though there are many reasons it might be best for him to do so.

Many parents to whom I speak have to sort through if, how, and when to have their children sleep by themselves when there is resistance to doing so. Oftentimes, music, soft blankets, favorite stuffed animals, or siblings become sleepmates to fill the void and help with the transition to sleeping alone. It is also common that pets help provide company to a "lonely" child and help him sleep through the night with some much appreciated company.

It is difficult for parents to remember that children develop in stages. The interests and levels of independence of a 5-, 10- and 15-year-old child are very different. As little ones get older, their needs at night (and during the day) change a great deal.

Most children develop an interest in their own physical space and personal autonomy, especially as they get close to adolescence. As children grow in size and emotional understanding, a pet — such as an Irish setter — who climbs into bed every night can start to take up too much physical space or be "troublesome" in other ways.

Parents of a child of any age should probably be concerned if their son or daughter is relying on a pet for extensive companionship during the day, when ongoing relationships with friends and adults should be primary to a young one's social life and overall development.

If a child's connections with their parents and other children are going well, then I believe that sleeping with his beloved dog at night is probably fine.

Sharon C. Peters is a mother and director of Parents Helping Parents, 669 President St., Brooklyn (718) 638-9444, www.PHPonline.org.

If you have a question about a challenge in your life (no issue is too big or too small) e-mail it to Dear Sharon at SWeiss@englocal.com.



Couples Counseling

Joan Emerson, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist

Consultation, coaching and ongoing therapy is available. Couples issues tend to be rather universal, so you're not alone. It helps to learn what will work better.

Park Slope Location

718-499-0373

Drjoanemerson@aol.com • www.joanemerson.com



Our 39th Year!

#1 Private Day Camp in Brooklyn!

Days Filled with FUN, FUN, FUN!

- ☺ Arts and Crafts, Games, Karate, Talent Shows...
- ☺ Sports With Instruction: Swimming, Soccer, Basketball, Softball...
- ☺ Weekly Field Trips, Movies & Bowling, Barbecues, DJ Dance Parties...
- ☺ For Boys, Girls 4 - 14
- ☺ 2 - 8 Week Programs Available
- ☺ Operated by Licensed Teachers & Administrators
- ☺ We Accept All Union Rates
- ☺ Conveniently Located Camp in Brooklyn

And More!!!

www.ypdc.com

Call Now For Information
On Our Next

OPEN HOUSE!

**1-718-951-9732 or
1-800-DAYCAMP**

Free Transportation



**Register Now &
Receive Seasonal Rates!**

ENROLL 4 Weeks - Receive **\$50 OFF!**
ENROLL 8 Weeks - Receive **\$100 OFF!**

Expires 6/30/11

Ft. Greene Pediatric Dental

Over 10 Years Experience | Most Insurances Accepted

State-of-the-Art, Fun, Attractive Office with a Nurturing, Warm Atmosphere

- LEAD FREE, MERCURY FREE FILLINGS
- DIGITAL X-RAYS

Convenient to the C Train to Lafayette Ave. & All Trains to Atlantic Ave.

Untray T. Brown, DDS

NYU College of Dentistry - Clinical Assoc. Professor-Pediatric Dentistry

55 Greene Avenue (Carlton) Suite C (lower level) | 718-230-7676 | Email: yartnu@gmail.com

BROOKLYN FENCING CENTER

Fencing Classes for All Ages

COMPETITIVE OR JUST FOR FUN!
NEW CLASSES STARTING EACH MONTH

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CLASS SCHEDULE:
WWW.BROOKLYNFENCING.COM
718-522-5922 62 Fourth St. (x Hoyt St)

BEST FRIENDS

What to know before adopting that fluffy bundle of joy

BY RISA C. DOHERTY

During my junior year of college, my roommate brought home a kitten, which I named Tess, after the title character of the 1979 Roman Polanski movie. Although I never had a pet before, I attempted to adapt to the new little creature cohabiting with me — moving swiftly across my furniture, settling on top of any open book I was reading, and shredding entire rolls of paper towels when she felt she had been left home alone for too long.

After two months, my roommate decided that Tess was not worth half the cost of her food and kitty litter and wanted to get rid of her.

But it was too late for me. I already loved her. So I kept the kitten — and dumped the roommate.

Later, I married a dog person. Years after Tess was gone, and our nuclear family seemed complete, he suggested we get a dog, like his family had done when he was growing up. I was not about to become mother to a canine that was large enough for a toddler to ride on (complete with doggie smell), but when my then 6-year-old daughter asked for a dog that would “stay a puppy,” my husband and I compromised, and we got a miniature dachshund.

Milton has always been a source of unbridled joy for our family. He has a special relationship with my children — who literally grew up with him, and my daughter has always referred to him as her “younger brother.”

Despite some initial trepidation, I was in favor of introducing the furry bundle of joy into our family. I understood that bringing home a pet was not exactly like bringing home a cuddly stuffed animal.

Veterinarian Ann Hirschegger equates adopting a pet with adding “an additional child, especially [if you bring home] a puppy.”

So, if you’re considering adding a

pet to your family, there are several factors to consider.

Practice

If you’re considering a new pet, acclimate your children to the idea of being around and caring for animals. Dr. Susan Bartell, a family psychologist, suggests pet sitting for a friend before introducing your new addition into your home. I also suggest encouraging your children to volunteer at a local pet shelter. (But first, check to see if your children meet the age requirement, and make sure you are comfortable with the extent of the commitment required.)

Set guidelines

Each breed or type of pet will need to be handled in a certain way. Since our dachshund was small and needed to be lifted and carried in a particular manner, we taught our children to handle him carefully. Children also have to be taught that certain foods, like chocolate, can be dangerous to dogs. Different breeds will have various temperaments and needs, so it will involve some research in advance.

Training

It seems simple and straightforward, but it is not. I recommend that families unfamiliar with dog handling be sure to learn how to best manage a new dog, whether by hiring a private trainer, reading books, or researching online. We hired a dog trainer to help us understand how to manage Milton.

Dogs are pack animals, so when they are first brought into a new home, they need to understand their position in the family hierarchy. They need to know that they are not higher in importance than even their smallest human counterpart, because if this order is not established, a seemingly sweet and tame dog could nip a child.

Milton’s trainer also warned against allowing a dog to walk his owner. I see dogs leading their owners around my neighborhood all the

time. To set the tone, the dog should always enter the house after the humans.

Responsibility

Having a pet is a big responsibility, and, as such, the duties should be carried out by the whole family. Expecting a child to shoulder the entire burden of pet ownership is unfair and unreasonable, warns Bartell.

“Kids are just not responsible enough, [however] well-intentioned,” agrees Hirschegger.

Still, with some guidance, children who are allowed to care for pets are given an early opportunity to contribute to the family.

Beware, though, that even in families in which parents are diligent about children regularly helping to care for a pet, kids’ time is much more limited by the time they reach middle school. Their free time is quickly consumed with homework, sports, and after-school activities.

Costs

Caring for a dog or cat can become expensive. In addition to the cost of food, kitty litter, or dog licensing fees, there are bills for ongoing veterinary care, and the possibility of great expense if the animal becomes ill. Worm, flea, and other medications will also need to be purchased and administered.

Keep in mind that most animals need to be groomed and bathed, whether that involves buying your own supplies to routinely upkeep your pet, or paying a professional groomer to do the job. Teeth and nails also need to be maintained. Plus, dogs need to be boarded when a family goes on vacation. If you are lucky enough to have a friend who will take care of your dog for free, you can avoid the boarding fee, which can run from \$20 per day in a local kennel to \$30 per day for the neighborhood dogsitter, to \$80 per night for the suite in Barkingham Palace in Port Washington. Boarding, for dogs with medical issues, starts at \$180 per night. Another option is to stay at a pet-friendly hotel, but there can be extra fees and



Milton, the author’s miniature dachshund, is now an important member of the family.

some pets do not travel well.

Cats — and some breeds of dogs — are a little less work when it comes to grooming, as they are mostly self-cleaning, much like Milton and my kitchen oven.

However, even with the expense and responsibility, most pet owners will tell you the experience is worth it and that their pet is a family member.

Pets and kids

Having a pet can be a great experience for children. A pet can provide an only child with additional companionship, or, as in my family, can provide a child with someone younger to boss around.

Pets also help children grow emotionally. For example, a child learns tenderness when she cares for a small pet, says Dr. Nina Malik, a veterinarian. She says a child also learns about experiencing the different stages of life through her pet, as the animals often join families as kittens or puppies, and share their middle and golden years with the same family.

“Children learn how to attach, how to love, and to lose,” Malik explained to me.

This could prepare the child for later in life, when she may have to cope with the loss of a family member, or a friend who moves away.

Also, a 2002 article in the *Journal of American Medicine* referenced a study that showed babies who live in a home with two or more pets may be less likely to develop allergies to pets.

There is, of course, always the possibility of sibling rivalry. A child can get jealous when her parents need to devote time to caring for an animal, or, more often, a pet could have a hard time adjusting to the introduction of a new baby.

Unconditional love?

Many people believe that pets can offer their owners unconditional love.

In his book, “Dogs Never Lie About Love,” psychoanalyst Jeffrey Mousaieff Masson adamantly asserts that dogs indeed feel love. Stanley Coren takes a somewhat different approach in his book, “How Dogs Think,” advocating what he calls “classical conditioning,” by way of hand-feeding a dog to teach him love.

Jan Fennell, author of “The Dog Listener,” assured me via e-mail that



Expecting a child to shoulder the entire burden of pet ownership is unfair and unreasonable.

dogs merely have a natural loyalty to their pack members for survival. “[Dogs] are loyal to those they survive alongside,” explained Fennell. “This shouldn’t be interpreted as devotion.”

While some veterinarians deny that dogs can experience such a human emotion, I tend to side with

Masson. In his book,” he captures the indescribable sense of elation a dog exhibits whenever his favorite human appears.

Despite their stubborn independent streak, I believe cats experience love, too. They may be more subtle, but they also let their owners know when they are ready for company.

A child’s dog can undoubtedly behave like president of her fan club. Who wouldn’t want a creature that is always available and appears to think you are the greatest all the time?

• • •

When you decide to make an addition to your family, make sure that this is truly what you want. It can be difficult for a child if her parents adopt a pet, and then decide to give the pet away because the expense

is too great, much like my college roommate. Bartell points out that a child may get attached to a pet more quickly than an adult, and if parents hastily rush to adopt and then change their minds, the child may experience a rollercoaster of emotions.

I am in no way trying to discourage you from adopting a cute, furry friend for your tyke; but I am recommending that you go in with your eyes open. Pets are accepting of their owners, warts and all, and this can be reassuring, even to a socially well-adjusted kid.

To help select the right pet for your family visit petfinder.com.

For more information on children and pets, visit www.aspc.org/pet-care/kids-and-pets and www.petco.com/caresheets/dog/Dog_ChildSafety.pdf.

She's having it all

Momprenneur manages beauty biz and family

“Momprenneur” Eva Asmar has created an opportunity for herself to balance the two most important parts of her life: running her own business and spending plenty of time with her family.

Asmar has combined the experience she earned in the beauty biz — as global product manager of L’Oreal and The Body Shop — with her passion for women’s rights and the environment, to create her own line of beauty products for moms and babies.

She conceived the line, called Bionee Organic-Certified Maternity Skin Care, when she and her husband, Georges, were living in Philadelphia, and he was attending business school. Pregnant with their first child, she quit her position at The Body Shop to pursue her dream. No one knows the effects pregnancy can have on a woman’s skin and hair quite like — well — a pregnant

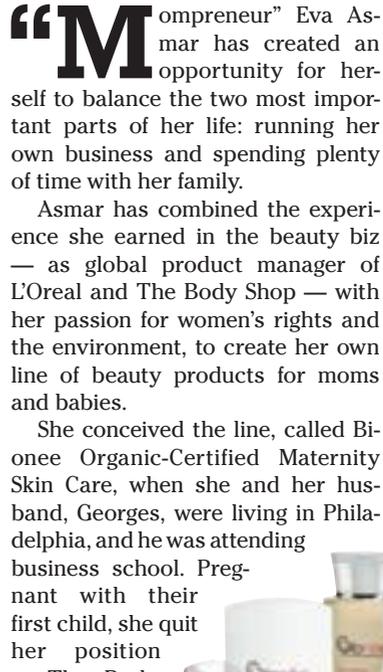
woman, and Asmar quickly realized how important it was to have products that could safely cater to mothers both during and after pregnancy, as well as to their babies.

“I felt that there was not enough out there and not enough good-quality products that were offered for women expecting children, and for the children as well,” explains Asmar.

She knew that above all else, her products had to be effective, safe, natural, and green.

“During my pregnancy, I learned a lot about safety,” she says. “Everything you put on your skin gets into your bloodstream, and you have to be careful about what you use, especially during pregnancy and for newborns.”

Asmar and her husband trav-



Eva Asmar with her son Gabriel. (At left) Her Bionee cosmetics line.



When her son, Gabriel, was born, so was her beauty line.

As important as work is to Asmar, her family is even more so. That’s why she made sure that she can run her line from her home on Manhattan’s Upper West Side, where she can care for her son and work on expanding her business.

“It was, and still is, and will be, very important for me to be independent and be my own boss, and choose the time I want to give to my child and to my job,” explains Asmar. “I can go to the park with him and then work when he sleeps. I do work late, but I have flexibility, which is really, really important.”

Born in Poland, Asmar has lived all over the world, including Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States. While living in

Paris, she attended the Sorbonne University and completed a Masters at ESSEC Business School. It was while in the City of Lights that Asmar took an interest in cosmetics, and soon, established herself as a cosmetics industry leader, with high-ranking positions at Yves Rocher, L’Oreal, and later, The Body Shop.

As her work experience grew, so did her ideas for women’s products. During her time at The Body Shop, her commitment to safety and women’s rights strengthened, as well. She felt that products should have safe, natural in-

gredients and support fair trade.

Now, her brand has been organically-certified and received numerous safety and quality certifications from top organizations in Europe, Australia and the U.S.

Asmar set out to make sure that women have access to effective, safe, natural, and green beauty products for themselves and for their babies. Now, she encourages other women to create their own employment model that gives them the life they want.

“We really want to encourage women and young moms,” she says. “No one should have to give up one or the other. You have to give yourself what’s important to you.”

As a result of her labors, her line has developed eight Bionee products, with 11 more on the horizon — and Asmar has a new baby on the way, too! She set out to make sure that no matter how well her business did, she stayed a dedicated mom. Mission accomplished.

For more information and to buy products, visit www.bionee.com.

We offer the latest advances in orthodontics
and we do it at reasonable prices.

COMPLIMENTARY EXAM
with mention of this ad



Hanson Place
ORTHODONTICS

One Hanson Place, Suite 707
Brooklyn, NY 11243
718-622-2695
HansonPlaceOrtho.com



AROUND THE BLOCK, IN THE CLOCK-TOWER BUILDING. EASILY ACCESSIBLE FROM BROOKLYN, MANHATTAN, QUEENS AND LONG ISLAND.

www.joesmusiccenter.org



Joe's Music
Music Lessons for All Ages!



Summer Program - Group Lessons

Ask about our **Birthday Parties!!**

3 Different Disciplines - Singing ♦ Dancing ♦ Instruments (Piano, Drums, Violin, Guitar & Saxophone) & Music Theory

3 wk. program w/ concert • Aug. 1-19 • 9am-3pm • Early drop off • Late pick-up

Summer Arts Academy: Group classes available in music/audio production, musical theater, & more

Joe's Music Academy Locations

114-04 Farmers Blvd. ♦ St. Albans, NY 11412
718.454.3036

5712 Church Ave ♦ Brooklyn, NY 11225
718.774.0700

Joe's Music Store ♦ 114-02 Farmers Blvd. ♦ St. Albans, NY 11412 ♦ 718.454.3030

New York Fencing Academy

- Discover the thrilling sport of sword fighting
- Fence in NY, the epicenter of US fencing
- Get athletic scholarship at the best colleges
- Have fun staying fit

2896 West 12th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11224
718 996 0426

www.nyfencingacademy.com



A Gentle Pediatrician For All Your Children

- Experienced In All Areas Of Pediatrics
- Routine Physicals & Childhood Vaccinations
 - School, Work & Camp Medical Forms
 - Immigration Medical Requirements

Ages 0-20

Office Hours By Appointment
(Late Hours And Weekends Available)

R. K. Dua, M.D.
Scott Medical Center
2035 Ralph Avenue, Suite B-8
(Corner of East 72nd Street & Ralph Avenue)
718-968-2534

Affiliated with N.Y. Methodist and Brookdale Hospitals
Most Insurance & Union Plans Accepted



WINDMILL MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Accredited Preschool, Elementary,
JHS & Academic Summer Camp

A PEACEFUL PLACE TO LEARN SINCE 1941

OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, June 1
9:00-10:30am

Windmill's environment encourages children to

- learn naturally at their own pace
- find and develop their own interests, and
- get the individual attention needed to thrive

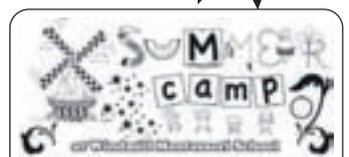
CURRICULUM ADVANTAGES

Montessori Method, French, Computer Skills,
Physical Education, Yoga, Music, Art

PLUS MORE

Small Class Size, Outdoor Recreation,
A/C Classrooms, Curriculum-based Trips,
Dedicated Staff, Door-to-Door Bus Service,
After School Program (3:40-5:45pm)

Happy Learners and Happy Campers



Academic Montessori Summer Camp
for 3-6 year olds
Academic Montessori Creative Writing Camp
for 6-9 and 9-12 year olds
Group Games ♦ Weekly Themes ♦
Age-appropriate Trips ♦ Arts & Crafts ♦ Carnival ♦
Enclosed Wading Pool ♦ and more....

CAMP 2011
Wednesday, June 29th to Wednesday, August 10th

718-375-7973 ★ 718-375-4277

e-mail: windmont@windmillmontessorischool.org

Windmill is non-sectarian. Licensed by The New York City Department of Health
Affiliated with The American Montessori Society

1317 Avenue T @ East 14th Street Brooklyn, NY 11229

The danger zone

Alcohol and pregnancy don't mix

BY REUEL S. AMDUR

Who is advocating for children affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, a condition that is perhaps the most common birth defect, but one that also could be easily prevented? Most often, it is the adoptive parents of children with the disorder, and they are tirelessly working for not only better education about the condition, but better rights for those children and adults affected as well.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum, caused by a woman drinking alcohol while pregnant, is identified by the presence of three factors: growth problems, brain damage, and certain

facial characteristics. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder covers a broader range, including people with some, but not all, of the markers of the spectrum. The disorder is perhaps the most common birth defect, and some 10 to 12 percent of all children are affected to the extent that they require special education, according to Bruce Ritchie, moderator of Faslink Fetal Alcohol Disorders Society based in Bright's Grove, Ontario, Canada.

The disorder can involve birth defects of many organs, such as the heart, fingers and toes, kidneys, and a cleft palate, among others. About a quarter of the children affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum are mentally deficient, and while most children with the disorder have intelligence in the normal range, the condition is the number one cause of mental deficiency.

They are also likely to have poor judgement, including poor moral judgement, poor memory, and difficulty managing money and time. As a result, they are easily led astray, and many get in trouble with the law. Psychological difficulties they face include depression, panic attacks, schizophrenia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Many students with these conditions are suspended or expelled from school because of their behavior caused by these conditions.

Education for children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder needs to take into account some common difficulties they have: difficulty in transforming words into actions; difficulty in generalizing, and hence, a tendency to repeat mistakes; difficulty organizing one's time; easy over-stimulation; misreading cues from other people, and consequent difficulties in relating to them. Unfortunately, schools often lack the skilled teachers and other personnel to meet these children's needs.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum cannot be diagnosed at birth, but rather only when the infant or child fails to meet certain milestones, or exhibits certain behaviors associated

with the spectrum, according to Dr. Russell Kirby, professor and Marrell endowed chair in the Department of Community and Family Health at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL. Misdiagnosis is common, especially for minority children, as doctors are often likely to not recognize the facial characteristics correctly because of lack of sufficient experience with such children, especially native Indians.

"Many people don't recognize that their children have the problem," says Johnna Breland, a Decatur, AL, woman who, with her husband, has adopted a number of disabled children, including some with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Failure to identify and treat Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder early and appropriately can mean that the person may be permanently lost. While some may require lifelong support of one sort or another, many can become functioning members of society in appropriately supervised settings. However, if they do not get help early, they risk a lifetime of legal and personal difficulties. Incarceration and homelessness are common.

The good news is that Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is 100 percent preventable. Put simply: pregnant women should not drink alcohol.

"Alcohol exposure in the first three months is more apt to have effects on the embryo," says Kirby. "Most basic structures of the body are basically formed in the first 10 to 12 weeks of pregnancy."

Even mild alcohol use at any stage in the pregnancy may be risky. Drinking later in pregnancy could have other serious effects, such as smaller size at birth and greater risk of mental deficiency.

If your child, biological or adopted, has Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, you may want to join with other parents in advocating for better screening, appropriate special education, and better public education.

Reuel Amdur is a social worker and freelancer living in Quebec, Canada.



Discounts Available FOR EARLY REGISTRATION

SUMMER CAMP
at
NOVA

32 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE THROUGH SPORT
Gymnastics • Dance • Karate • Soccer • On-Site Pool • Music
Basketball • Crafts • Weekly Trips • Air Conditioned Gym • Beach Access

KOSHER BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED!

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST!

AWARD WINNING PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES

3701 Surf Avenue
SEAGATE PRIVATE SEASIDE COMMUNITY
1 BLOCK FROM THE BEACH
Call: 718.996.2229

занятия проводятся опытнейшими тренерами
РОССИИ И США

\$25.00 OFF with this ad

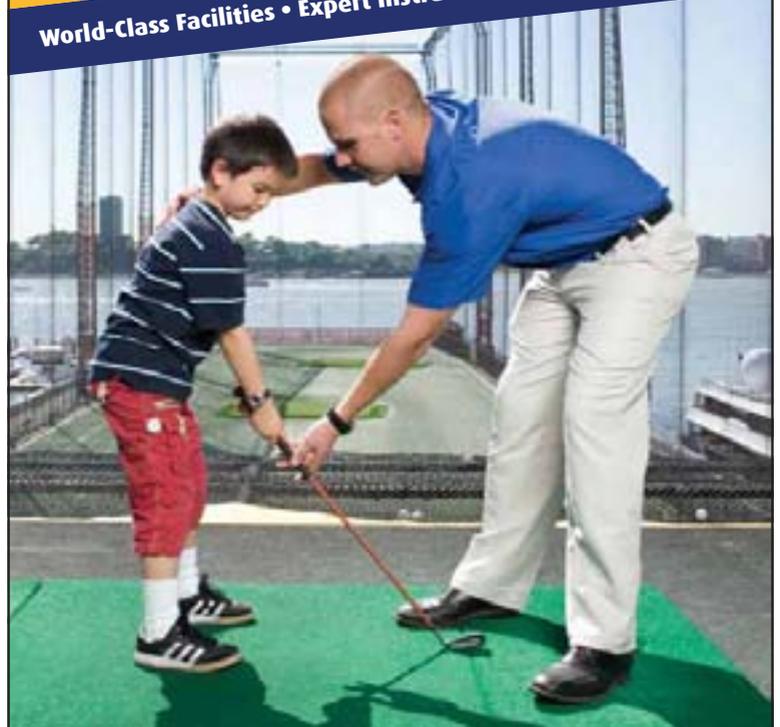
RUSSIAN SPEAKING COACHES AVAILABLE

CITY VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

www.novaathletics.org

Simply the Best.

World-Class Facilities • Expert Instruction • Dynamic Curriculum



Leif Ericson Day School

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Nursery - Grade 8

- Small Class Size
- Professional, Caring Staff
- State Approved Curriculum
 - Music Performance
 - Computer Technology



Register for our
Summer
Creative Arts
& Music Program
June 27 - August 5, 2011

1037 - 72nd Street • 718-748-9023
<http://leds.home.mindspring.com>

NYC's Best & Most Flexible Day Camps!

**Transportation from Brooklyn.
Early Bird Pricing Ends June 13th!**

Enroll for 1, 2 or more weeks

Camps run June 20 - September 2

Ages 3 to 18 Years • 15 Camps to Choose from

Instant Online Enrollment • Lunch Provided

After Care Available

Summer Sports Camps at

CHELSEA PIERS

23rd Street & Hudson River Park

212.336.6846 | www.chelseapiers.com/camps

Visit chelseapiers.com for a complete listing of sports classes available for both kids and adults.



TWICE THE ADVICE

JACQUELINE AND
KERRY DONELLI

At what age can a child be left **alone?**

Dear Twins,

My boyfriend, "Dan," has a 7-year-old daughter. I agreed to watch her recently. There is a gym on the third floor of our apartment complex, which I decided to go to for about a half hour. I made sure his daughter was all set in the apartment on the couch with her computer. In any case, Dan's ex-wife called while I was gone and found out her daughter was there by herself, and all hell broke loose. Now, he's furious at me because she is fighting for full custody and accusing Dan of being unfit to have a child! If I am in the building, is it OK to leave a child in the apartment? Or did I make a disaster?!

Kerry says: I think the mother is overreacting, but nonetheless, you still shouldn't have left the child out of your sight, even in the same building. A half hour is plenty of time to do damage — she could have let in a stranger, started a fire, or hurt herself. Allow her to bring her computer games and toys to the gym with you next time.

Jacqueline says: In any custody proceeding, the most important priority is the welfare of the child. Dan's ex-wife is using her own personal agenda to attempt to get custody of the child. I'm assuming Dan has not done this type of thing before — and now she's blaming him for your mistake. Nonetheless, this one-time incident is not going to be enough to give the ex full custody. She has to demonstrate that her ex-husband is a disaster. To answer your question, many state agencies have published guidelines as to what age is appropriate for a child to be left alone; most recommend 12 years of age.

Dear Twins,

Our 13-year-old son is a little chubby, and is being bullied by two



boys at school. Fortunately, one of the teachers took notice and reported it to the principal, and the boys were expelled for a period of time. Unfortunately, the same two boys hang out at the school after classes and in our neighborhood, and continue to taunt our son — and now it's getting worse. Should my husband go to their homes to speak to their parents, should we report it to the school, or should he attempt to speak to those boys? Those boys don't respect authority at any age. Our son is terrified to leave the house. We're considering moving over this!

Jacqueline says: Of course your husband should speak to the parents of the bullies. (And you could do the same, by the way.) Furthermore, you should report it to the school and the police. What are you waiting for — your son to get hurt? Bullying is a serious issue. Do everything you can to prevent this from getting any worse. Your son's well-being is dependent on your next actions.

Kerry says: I totally agree. You and your husband should report it to the parents AND the principal. Tell them that if these boys don't stop bullying your son, you will take it to the furthest extent of the law. Bullying is a serious issue.

Dear Twins,

We just moved to a new city due

to my husband's job transfer, and we have a new, 3-month-old baby. I'm a stay-at-home mom and very happy, and we have wonderful neighbors. However, one neighbor keeps asking me to watch her 1-year-old for "just a few minutes" while she runs to the store to get some formula, etc. These "few minutes" stretched into hours, then into half days, and finally into whole days. What should I say to her? She is really taking advantage of me!

Jacqueline says: Yes, she is taking advantage of you. The question is: why are you letting her? The next time she asks you to watch her kid, simply say "no." If she asks why, tell her it is because she is taking advantage of you.

Kerry says: Tell her you are unable to watch her child as you are so busy, you barely can keep an eye on your OWN. Leave it at that. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: no one can take advantage of you unless you let them.

Dear Twins,

My 12-year-old daughter is very bright and gets excellent grades in school (no brag, just fact). However, she tells me that the boy who sits next to her is constantly cheating and copying her answers on tests that are given in class. She says she tries to hide her paper, but somehow he manages to see most of the answers, and receives a much higher grade than he deserves. She's afraid to report him, because she says he's a "real tough kid." What should she (or I) do?

Jacqueline says: Call the teacher and explain exactly what you said to us. Be clear that your daughter is afraid of him. I'm sure the teacher will take appropriate measures.

Kerry says: I disagree — no need to start a war. Instead, have her tell the teacher that she would rather not say names, but she suspects a fellow student is cheating and would like to move her seat during testing.

Jacqueline and Kerry Donelli, twin sisters, are multiple award winning filmmakers. They are currently getting their Masters in Mental Health and have a radio show on WBCR-AM also called, "Twice the Advice" — where one twin gives advice and, often, the other completely disagrees! Please e-mail them at TwiceTheAdvice2@gmail.com.

www.webfamilyny.com



Are you ...

- Looking for family friendly activities?
- Wanting to connect with other parents?
- Interested in parent focused articles to inform and intrigue?

Our growing Web Community is waiting for you!
Places to post, vote and have your voices heard
too. Check It Out Today!

Education, Activities, Party, Camp, Special Needs,
Baby; these are just a few of the reasons why MOMS
are coming to www.webfamilyny.com





GROWING UP ONLINE

CAROLYN JABS

Keeping vacation photos G-rated

Summer vacation photos used to mean snapshots of kids posed in front of landmarks or goofing around with cousins at a family reunion. Only a decade ago, parents knew exactly what photos their kids took — if only because the camera was family property and parents had to pay to have the photos developed.

Now that cameras are embedded in most cellphones, children can take — and distribute — photos

forward photos of naked boys.

Technology that will allow parents to preview photos before children send them is likely to be available by the end of the year. For this summer, parents will have to talk — often — about what kinds of photos kids are allowed to take and share.

Here's what you need to know:

- **Start young.** Middle school students seem to be at especially high risk for sexting, perhaps because they are just discovering their own sexual feelings and they crave the attention of the opposite sex. Girls, in particular, may consider using an intimate photo as a way of showing boyfriends how much they care. In one of the most thorough studies of sexting to date, researchers from the Crimes against Children Center at the University of New Hampshire pointed out that a large proportion of the pictures involved in sexting are taken and sent voluntarily by children as young as 9.

- **Have repeated conversations.** Young people are growing up in a highly sexualized culture. The message that sexting is cool comes from music videos, and even an ad that aired in last year's Super Bowl. Pornographic images are less shocking because they are so readily available online. Most young people have seen, or at least heard about, sexual photos of their peers, so they often start with a "no-big-deal" attitude. Parents will need to talk about this topic often to convince them otherwise. Lectures are pointless. Instead, take advantage of news reports about sexting to start open-ended conversations.

- **Predict consequences.** Adolescents are not developmentally ready to think carefully about how today's impulse may lead to future problems. They need adults to help them anticipate potential difficulties created by sexual photos. Talk your child through various scenarios. If a relationship breaks up, how will the partners feel about sexy pictures they've sent to each other? How will

they feel if the photo gets forwarded to one person, or 1,000 people, or 10,000 people? What if a pedophile gets hold of the picture and puts it on a website? What if the photo is seen by the principal at school, the pastor at church, younger siblings, or older relatives? Making these consequences vivid makes it less likely that a teen will impulsively send a compromising photo.

- **Explain legal issues.** Sending sexual photos of someone under 18 fits the legal description for distribution of child pornography. Police and prosecutors vary a great deal in how stringently they enforce the law. As a result, many teens don't understand the legal risk they incur if they press "forward" on a racy picture. Be sure your child knows that some young people have been prosecuted and labeled as sex offenders, a designation that can have lifelong consequences.

Even if your child would never send a sexually explicit photo, he may receive one from peers. Encouraging kids to report such messages puts them in a conflicted position. No teen wants to be responsible for getting a friend in trouble. You can, however, make it clear that your child can do something positive simply by deleting the photo. Sharing sexually explicit photos may actually make your child an accessory to a crime. Pressing "delete" is a small kindness to the young person foolish enough to distribute the photo in the first place.

Like any discussion with teens about sexuality, conversations about sexting can be awkward. It's also natural for parents to think their own children couldn't possibly be involved. The truth is that even "nice" kids get involved in sexting, so parents need to be proactive. Talking to children now makes it less likely they will share summer vacation photos that will haunt them when they go back to school in the fall.

Carolyn Jabs, MA, is the mother of three computer-savvy kids.

© 2011, Carolyn Jabs. All rights reserved.



without any consultation with parents. As a result, many young people already have embarrassing and potentially risky photos posted on social networking sites and stored in the cellphones of friends — and even strangers. During the summer, when some kids are bored and less supervised, the odds of making mischief with a camera increase.

The thought that some of a child's vacation photos might be provocative — or even nude — is understandably distressing to parents. Teens, however, aren't as appalled as they ought to be. One in four teens has participated in "sexting" and even more have seen or forwarded photos. Both genders are involved, though girls suffer disproportionate consequences because boys rarely store or

**HEALTH FAIR/ CAMP
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY JUNE 18TH
12:00 TO 5PM**

Special Discounts
Available Open House Day only

Paerdegat Day Camp

AGES 2-15

REGISTER NOW
For 2011/2012
FREE Universal Pre-K
Program
For Children Age 4
By Dec. 31, 2011



Where Success = Happy Campers

Paerdegat Day Camp, The Premier Value In Day Camping In The Brooklyn Area,
Is Committed To Creating Wonderful Summer Memories For Your Child.

Our Summer Program Includes:

(ALL PROGRAMS ON-SITE)

- Lunch & Snacks Included
- Trips Included
- Camp pictures, bag & shirt included
- Full Red Cross Swim Program
- Professionally Trained Staff
- Full Gymnastics Center
- Outdoor Pools with Double Tube Slide
- Adventure Challenge
- 7 Racquetball Courts
- Softball
- New! Indoor Softstep Turf Field
- Soccer
- Computer Lab
- Arts/Crafts
- Dance
- Basketball
- Poolside Parties
- Olympic Games
- Talent Show
- Drum Line
- Fashion Show

**DOOR TO DOOR
TRANSPORTATION**

We gladly accept:
ACD, HRA,
1199, TWU
&
UNION
VOUCHERS

CALL NOW...Enrollment is Limited!
Paerdegat Athletic Club
1500 Paerdegat Ave. N. • Canarsie, Brooklyn
718.531.1111

Video Security System

CAMP OFFICE HOURS
7 DAYS A WEEK
9AM TO 9PM
For Directions go to
www.paerdegat.com

IT STARTS WITH A SMILE



LIMITED TIME ONLY
BRACES
STARTING FROM
\$107
Per Month
We Offer Clear Braces and The Invisalign (Invisible Braces)

ORAL DENTAL CARE
AFFORDABLE IMPLANTS

If you need braces for your teenager or need an implant that suits your budget Dr. Farha & Associates can help
abc (as seen on abc and fox) **FOX NEWS**

INTEREST FREE FINANCING
Most Insurance plans accepted

BROOKLYN
461 77th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11209

718.833.6895
www.oraldentalcare.com

STATEN ISLAND
1412 Richmond Road
Staten Island, NY 10304

The secret's out

The chorus of Staten Island's PS 22 grapples with fame

BY MONICA BROWN

Gregg Breinberg is battling a cold. While the PS 22 chorus director is escorting me into the school, he lets it slip that he was out sick earlier in the week — but today is different.

"Today is chorus day," he says, with a hoarse laugh. "And I can't miss that."

We head to the auditorium, tucked away in the back of the Graniteville school, where he gradually begins to teach the kids how to hit a high note in a new song they're working on. This prompts "Mr. B," as the kids call him, to remind them that he's not feeling 100 percent today, and that he expects them to work as hard as he is. He plays the notes again on the piano, taking them through the routine one more time.

Sopranos and altos finally find synergy, hitting the notes together, perfectly. The result is breathtaking harmony.

Breinberg is pleased.

To call him dedicated would be a gross understatement. Now in his 12th year at the school (11 directing the chorus), Breinberg seems to bring his A-game to every facet of his job. He's part music instructor, part composer, and part motivational speaker.

"Remember, you have to believe to achieve," he reminds the students during practice, pushing them to hit the high notes.

The PS 22 chorus has hit several high notes over the years. Breinberg catapulted the 2006-2007 school year chorus into Internet stardom, after posting some videos on a Tori Amos fan page. Celebrity gossip blogger Perez Hilton picked up the videos, word spread, and the kids quickly became an overnight sensation on YouTube.



Greg Breinberg, center, is surrounded by fifth grade members of the PS 22 Chorus.

"I knew from the get-go. I knew something special was going on in this auditorium," says Breinberg. "We always used to say our chorus was the best-kept secret on Staten Island. And now the secret's out in a major way."

Singing with the stars

The 2007-2008 chorus performed at a sold-out concert for the New Zealand band Crowded House, and several members were featured on the children's show, "The Electric Company."

The following year, the chorus performed on "Good Morning, America," VH1, and at Madison Square Garden, singing with R&B artist Rihanna and Fleetwood Mac singer Stevie Nicks.

The 2009-2010 group was invited by Billboard magazine to perform for Beyonce and Lady Gaga at an awards ceremony.

It also performed for President Obama at the White House Tree Lighting in 2009, and, in February of 2010, sang with the musical group Celtic Woman at Radio City Music Hall.

This year's chorus — among other highlights — was invited to perform at the 83rd Academy Awards. The students followed that with a post-Oscar show for Oprah Winfrey, alongside singer Katy Perry. The chorus is currently nominated for a Best Fan Cover award for the MTV Video Music Awards.

The chorus continues to be fea-



The chorus got the chance of a lifetime when it walked the red carpet and performed at the 2011 Academy Awards in Hollywood.

AP/Amy Sancetta

AP/Bebeto Matthews

tured on several national news and music networks, and according to its blog, its videos have been watched more than 31 million times.

The chorus meets twice a week during school hours to practice. There is an audition process to select the best talent each year, and anyone who watches them in action can't help but be captivated.

"There's an energy to these kids, to their singing," says Breinberg. "There's a unique sound. For public school kids — fifth graders, not trained — it's pretty impressive, the sound that they get."

Publicity machine

Breinberg is making sure the world knows it.

He spends a good portion of every day returning e-mails, fielding phone calls, and blogging — and that's on top of his daily duties as chorus director. (He also teaches daily music classes to the fourth and fifth graders who are not in the chorus.)

Clearly, heading to Hollywood was the experience of a lifetime for these kids, but on top of all the hype and national attention, some of them will tell you that their favorite part of the whole trip came smack in the middle of the actual performance. It's their love of singing, of music, of performing, that they say they will always remember. The song that was chosen for them — "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" — was, they tell me, perfect.

"It's a really strong song," says Brianna C., a soprano. "It's really down to earth, and you can really feel the words."

Being "down to earth" is a concept these 10-year-olds seem to be familiar with. And that's the way Breinberg wants it. He says he tries hard to prepare them for the price of fame. There have been less-than-flattering comments about their performances, including one by talk show host Andy Cohen, who issued a brief tongue-lashing shortly after their Oscar performance ended. (Cohen later apologized for his comments).

Breinberg takes it all in stride, and says he tries hard to teach them to do the same thing.

"I try to tell them, and this is the God's honest truth, that you haven't made it in this life until you have haters," he says. "When you're doing something that's powerful, that's unique, that is going to make people take notice, you're going to

have that contingent of people who aren't going to get it, or that won't be responding to it the way you thought they would. There's a yin and yang, you can't expect to just get all accolades in life."

The "publicity machine," as Breinberg calls it, "could shut down tomorrow. It's not why we do what we do," he says.

For the love of music

The kids seem to agree. For many of them, music may just be a way of life that will continue to take center stage in their lives, well after they graduate this June. Brianna comes from a musical family, and says she's been singing for as long as she can remember. A soft-spoken violin player, Brianna says she and her family members are no strangers to performing on stage.

"We'd be at family gatherings and my grandpa would start singing," she says. "Block parties, restaurants — he'd sing Beatles songs and he's always invited my brothers and me to come sing with him."

Abigail S., an alto, says her family sings, too, and plays a bunch of different instruments. She likes dancing, and says of her life after the Oscars, while "more people know us now," nothing much has changed outside of school — including her relationships with her friends.

"Everything's exactly the same. It's not like there's any jealousy or anything," she explains. "We can pretty much just hang out and be friends, like before."

Ah, the innocence of youth.

The students had been wooed and surrounded by movie stars on the red carpet. They were hounded by fans wanting their pictures and autographs (including while they were in the airport bathroom coming home from the West Coast), but, with a humility that some adults couldn't embrace, it seems these kids never lost sight of the big picture.

"I consider us a whole group doing this together," says Abigail. "Sometimes people feel bad because they're cut from the chorus. But I feel like they're still a part of it, because we're representing them. We're representing the whole school."

A high note, indeed.
Monica Brown is a television news anchor who lives on Staten Island with her husband and two children. She can be reached at monicaldbrown@gmail.com.

KID'S EAT FREE EVERY NIGHT!
ENJOY AN DINNER ENTRÉE OR SPECIAL
GET A FREE KID COMBO, PIZZA, PASTA OR MAC & CHEESE
EVERY DAY AFTER 5:30PM

THE MOXIE SPOT Restaurant & Play Space

81 ATLANTIC AVE (@ HICKS) 718-923-9710
SERVING BREAKFAST, LUNCH, & DINNER ON TWO FLOORS
MON-WED 10AM - 6:30PM, THURS-SUN 10AM - 8:30PM

2 BLOCKS FROM BKLYN BRIDGE PARK PIER 6 PLAYGROUND

FUN EVENTS			
DAYTIME			
Singalong w Lloyd Tuesdays, 11a	Storytime w Emily Mon/Wed/Fri, 12p	Dance w Nat Thursdays, 11a	Sunday Singalong 12 Noon, 1st & 3rd Suns
EVENING			
Beatles RockBand Night 1st Saturdays, 6p	Family Disco Party 2nd Saturdays, 6p	Nintendo Wii Night 3rd Saturdays, 6p	
Plus Friday Free Movie Night, & Sunday Bingo			

EVENING ACTIVITIES ARE ALL FREE, CHILD FEE IS \$2.50/CHILD M-F 10AM-5:30 PM
FUN ALL DAY LONG: TOYS, ART, GAMES, PUPPETS, FOOSBALL, COMPUTERS!
VISIT WWW.THEMOXIESPOT.COM FOR MORE INFO



cinematters



LAURA GRAY

Feuding gnomes attempt teamwork

Gnomeo and Juliet *Rated G*

Like many kids, your son is Mr. Independent. He refuses help on every project, whether it's homework, hobbies or chores. But when he decides to build a treehouse — by himself — he discovers he may have bitten off more than he can chew. Still, he insists on completing the project alone.

You keep an eye on his progress from behind the kitchen curtains. It's hard not to step in when his creation sags, then drops to the ground, yet again. As the day turns to dusk, your son admits defeat. The next day, you offer, once more, to help. This time, your son accepts your offer. By day's end, he has a sturdy new treehouse to enjoy.

He learns that, together, we can accomplish a lot more than we can apart. It's a lesson learned, as well, by the feuding yard gnomes in "Gnomeo and Juliet," now available on DVD. Watch it with your family and use our Talk Together ideas to start



Juliet and Gnomeo celebrate with their friends Nanette and Benny.

Play together: Team us!

You will need:

- Blindfolds
- Obstacle course items, such as a Hula Hoop, jump rope and bell

Head outside to an open area where you can set up an obstacle course. Some ideas for the course are: have players crawl through the Hula Hoop, walk along a jump rope on the ground and ring a bell.

Do not let players see the course before the game begins. Pair players up and blindfold one

player on each team. Explain to players that they will have to help their blindfolded partner maneuver through the obstacle course using only spoken instructions — no hands-on help allowed!

Time teams as they attempt to go through the course as quickly (and as safely) as possible. Mix up the course and let blindfolded players try to get through the course by themselves with no guidance. They will see the difference it makes to work together to accomplish a goal.

a discussion about cooperation. Then, play "Team Us!" from our Play Together activity to show how teaming up can bring success.

Based loosely on Shakespeare's classic play, "Gnomeo and Juliet" features gnomes from warring "families" who live next door to each other. Like their cranky homeowners, they look for any opportunity to "one-up" their nemeses. They race lawn mowers, spray-paint graffiti on each other's homes, and lob insults at one another.

But when blue gnome Gnomeo meets the beautiful Juliet, who is from the family of red gnomes, he is smitten. Despite their differences, the two sneak off to spend time together, with help from Featherstone, a one-legged pink plastic flamingo.

The war heats up when the blue gnomes attack the red family with a super lawnmower called the Terrafirmator. The monster machine goes berserk and begins destroying everything in both families' gardens. The gnomes soon realize they must work together to restore their homes — something that would be nearly impossible on their own. The feud is ended, and Gnomeo and Ju-

liet marry with both their families present.

Talk together

We never learn why the gnomes hate each other — and some of them don't seem to know why, either. What are some of the negative effects of their fighting? How does it nearly cost Juliet her life?

Gnomeo doesn't know that Juliet is a red gnome when he first meets her. How does he discover her true identity? How does this affect his feelings for her? What do you think would have happened if he told his mother about Juliet right away?

Why does Benny order the Terrafirmator online? When does he realize he made a mistake in purchasing the mower?

What makes Lord Redbrick, Juliet's father, and Lady Blueberry, Gnomeo's mother, decide to end their long-standing feud? How do the gnomes react? What happens when they decide to work together, rather than against each other?

Missed a Cinematters column? Visit us at [Facebook.com/Cinematters](https://www.facebook.com/Cinematters) and read recent articles for your family's next film adventure!

© 2011, Cinematters.



SAINT SAVIOUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

701 Eighth Avenue Brooklyn NY 11215
718-768-8000 • www.stsaviourschool.org

Saint Saviour Elementary School is delighted to announce the expansion of



Our Nursery Program for 3-Year-Olds

Our Nursery classes take place in recently renovated rooms fully equipped with age-appropriate materials. Professional teachers develop a child-centered curriculum which give children the opportunity to play, explore and learn in a nurturing environment. We offer a choice of full or part time programming.



Limited spaces are available.
Come tour our school.
For more information please call
Maura Lorenzen, Principal at 718 768-8000.

PARK EXPLORERS DAY CAMP

SUMMER OUTDOOR FUN

\$ HOLIDAY CAMPS
for school breaks

8th Ave & 6th St Brooklyn NY
ages 4 to 14 weekly & monthly enrollment
Weds June 29 through Friday Sept 2

Call 718-788-3620
www.parkexplorers.com

Prepare Your Children For The Future With Quality Education and Care

- Pre K - 8th Grade
- Small Class Sizes
- Individualized Attention
- Foreign Language
- After School Program
- Computer Lab



PARKWAY SCHOOL

One of Brooklyn's premier private schools.
5566 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York 11203
Tel: 718-346-0369 Fax: 718-346-0371
www.parkwayschool.org



LIONS AND TIGERS AND TEENS

MYRNA BETH HASKELL

Lazy days of summer

Picture this: Your teen is sprawled out on the couch with a bag of Doritos in hand watching MTV. What's wrong with this picture? Do you envision yourself being frustrated by your teen's laziness all summer long?

Relaxation after a stressful and frenzied school year is probably much needed; but, after a few days of rest, your teen should start thinking about taking advantage of her free time and expanding her horizons.

Jobs are scarce these days, and many internship opportunities are filled in late winter. However, it's not too late for your teen to plan a constructive summer.

Do 'something'

Teenagers who volunteer, work, or taking classes, get noticed by college admissions officers — and future employers.

"An internship or volunteer experience is the first step to building a

resume," says Carole Jabbawy, Ed.D, founder and director of Internship Connection in Newton, MA. "Teens gain career exposure, which will be very helpful in sorting out a college major."

Teens who plan to seek employment right after high school will also benefit from field experiences like:

- Resume building
- Exploration of interests
- Making "connections" in a specific industry
- Setting oneself apart from the crowd

Opportunity knocks

Small businesses, hospitals, churches, and nursing homes are always looking for extra help, and usually welcome teen applicants. For last-minute opportunities, it's best for teens to canvas their neighborhoods and ask about positions in person.

"While June may be too late for some internships, non-profits are still quite busy in June and July," says Jabbawy. "Late spring is a busy time for fundraising events and extra hands are always welcome."

Finding a paying job for the summer at this late date might be difficult; however, motivated teens can still find openings. Full-time employees often have vacation plans, so part-time positions become available.

"Business owners tell me that they don't have enough time in the day to keep up with social networking," Jabbawy explains. "They would love a teen to work on a project promoting their business through Facebook, blogging or Twitter."

And summer colleges classes are always an option.

"Universities will allow prospective students to enroll in summer courses right up until the first day of class," explains Jim Sirianni, PhD, assistant dean and director of summer college at Stanford University. "Students should check with multiple institutions in their area to see when summer classes begin."

Many colleges offer competitive scholars programs, academic camps or traditional classes that high school students can take in the summer. It's imperative that students check to see if there is an age mini-

mum, a required placement test, or documents their high schools needs to submit before applying.

Volunteer!

Volunteers are rarely turned away — especially in a down economy. Plus, teens can feel good about making a difference.

"It's wonderfully satisfying to volunteer for an organization that you care about," agrees Jabbawy.

Teens should search for positions that will help guide them toward their long-term goals. For example, aspiring veterinarians should find a position at an animal shelter.

"An internship or volunteer experience begins the process of creating a professional network and can lead to a paid position," says Jabbawy.

Entrepreneurship

It's never too late to start your own business! Possible entrepreneurial ventures include lawn mowing, house painting, caring for pets while people are on vacation, fixing neighbors' computers, or cooking for the elderly. Teens can distribute fliers around their neighborhoods to get the word out. Still stumped for ideas? Try these websites:

www.dosomething.org
www.volunteermatch.org

Tips and tales

"Senior citizen centers are always looking for teens to volunteer to help serve lunch meals and clean up."

Tracy Critelli-MacQueen, Glen Oaks, NY

"Our church has a vacation bible school and we're always looking for teen members to help, even if it's last minute."

Beth Ackerman, Staatsburg, NY

Share your ideas

Upcoming topic: Your teen didn't make varsity — alternatives to keep him playing?

Please send your full name, address, and brief comments to myrnahaskell@gmail.com, or visit www.myrnahaskell.com.

Myrna Beth Haskell is a feature writer and columnist specializing in parenting issues and child and adolescent development. She is the mother of two teenagers.





SAINT SAVIOUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

701 Eighth Avenue Brooklyn NY 11215

*“Educating and nurturing the minds, hearts
and souls of students for over 100 years.”*

NURSERY - 8TH GRADE

For more information or to schedule a tour
Call 718-768-8000 or
visit our website at
www.stsaviourschool.org

Maura Lorenzen, Principal
Gail Harvey, Assistant Principal
Marcia McKenzie, Director of Admissions

Midwood Montessori



Pre-School & Kindergarten

Summer Program
Transportation Available

2825 Bedford Avenue • 253-3242
at Glenwood Road



The Preparatory Center for the Performing Arts

**The Preparatory Center
for the Performing Arts
at Brooklyn College**
is an exciting, nurturing
environment where children
can develop their skills and
a life-long love for music,
theater and dance.



SUMMER 2011

- ✧ Theater Classes
- ✧ Creative Arts Program for ages 3-5
- ✧ Dance Classes for ages 3 & up
- ✧ Beginner to advanced instrument and voice lessons for children and adults
- ✧ Jazz Improv and Chamber Music programs for children and adults

Suzuki Programs for Violin, Cello, Recorder, and Flute – please call for an interview for the 2011-2012 school year

END OF YEAR CONCERT OPEN TO ALL – JUNE 18

Please call 718-951-4111 for information on classes and registration or visit our website www.bcprepcenter.org

The Brooklyn College Preparatory Center for the Performing Arts

234 Roosevelt Hall, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11210

Follow your art

The road to opening an art studio for children

BY LAURA VAROSCAK-DEINNOCENTIIS

Boxy Robots dripping with wet paint welcomed me to The Art Room, a fine arts school for children ages 3 and up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. The boxy inventions — assemblages of cups, bottle caps and other recycled materials — are now free from their maker's little hands and stand proud and beautiful.

The art teacher, Leigh Holliday, cleans up from her last class, cheerfully wiping paint from the table. As an artist and instructor of young children, Holliday values exploration and process over finished product, but can't deny that her students do create some amazing work.

Holliday believes children are intrinsically curious and drawn to exploration. Working with different materials in an open, nurturing environment allows them to expand their unique perspective of the world.

"Children experience mental, physical and tactile stimulation while they create, which is why art is essential to their development," Holliday explains. "When they are

busy in The Art Room, they have the flexibility to exercise their imaginations and the freedom to experiment, which boosts confidence and creativity."

When the children are busy in The Art Room, they have the flexibility to exercise their imaginations and the freedom to experiment, which boosts confidence and creativity. While Holliday values introspective quiet time in her studio — which she calls "painting from the heart" — she also encourages peer interaction and support as an open outlet to connect art and life.

Holliday believes that art is an invaluable tool in helping kids develop a strong sense of self. A black-and-white photo hanging on the wall in a large oval frame captures a young artist donned in a paint-splattered smock in front of her work. The little girl in the photo is Holliday at 3 years old. It was her love of art — and kids — that helped her make several important decisions that ultimately shaped her life and put her in a position to inspire others with her artistic talent.

Opening a fine arts school for

children was inevitable for Holliday, but her road to The Art Room had a few detours.

Growing up as the only child of a single mother in Washington DC, she enjoyed a childhood filled with friends and activities, including ballet and art classes.

"I always loved art, but as a kid, I never really thought about what I wanted to do in life," she remembers. Holliday and her mother decided she would study psychology at Beloit College in Wisconsin, as she had always been a good listener and friend, and enjoyed being with people.

While there, Holliday spent most of her time painting and drawing, and pursued other creative interests, like ceramics and photography, while her psychology books began to gather dust. By the end of her first year, Holliday had created an impressive art portfolio, which led to a pivotal decision in her life.

Without telling anyone, Holliday organized her portfolio and applied to the Art Institute of Chicago and Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington. Both schools accepted her, and she shared her in-

Holliday's advice for parents

Say "yes" to the mess: As a teacher, Holliday often observes parents who worry too much about the messiness of art. They do not allow art projects at home, which can hinder kids' creativity, even when they are in a place where splattering paint all over the table is acceptable.

While you do not want your little one painting on your leather couch or kneading clay into your carpet, there are ways to safeguard your home against damage. And cleaning the kids is as easy as turning on the shower. Allow children to cover their hands in glue and paint their bodies with washable, non-toxic paints. Encouraging unbridled, creative expression

is one of the most precious gifts a parent can give.

Appreciate your child's work "as is": When it comes to making art, there is no right or wrong way. It is common for adults to point out "mistakes" in their children's art work: "The sky is blue, not green." "You made the hands way too big." "You forgot to add a tail."

This kind of criticism not only disrupts the creative process, but can also discourage kids from wanting to work on art projects altogether. Young people are constantly constructing new ways of viewing themselves and the world around them. Embrace their uniqueness and individuality. By judging their works, you are criti-

cizing them, which can be detrimental to their self-esteem and personal growth.

Emphasize process, not product: Holliday says she notices some parents caring too much about the finished product, instead of appreciating the process behind the creative work. The greatest rewards in the studio come when children freely experiment and discover new ways of interacting with the materials without getting distracted by how the end result will turn out. Concentrating too much on the product takes away from the value of working in the moment and experiencing the media.

Holliday stresses a process-oriented perspective. She encourages students to slow down and focus on the step on which they

are working, instead of impatiently jumping to what comes next.

Value art: As a parent, it's important to show your child your enthusiasm for art. Take your kids to museums, and discuss the art you see. Learn about different artists together. Engage in conversations about how you and your kids see the world, and respect each other's differences.

Set aside time to do art projects together — such as taking a walk with a few pieces of chalk and drawing pictures on the sidewalk. Be open to different ideas and enjoy the process. Get messy and have fun. Invite friends over for an art party. Sign up for an art class. Teach children that art is an important part of life by helping them to experience it firsthand.

tention to attend art school with her friends and family.

Concerned about her daughter's financial security and future as an artist, her mother did not support her decision, but Holliday followed her heart and left Beloit for Corcoran.

During Holliday's junior year, she majored in mixed-media sculpture. Inspired by New York artist Joseph Cornell, she focused on assemblage, and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

In September 1996, Holliday and a friend, whom she had nannied with during college, decided to combine their love of kids and art, and started a children's art school in a small, converted garage in Washington. Named Fingers at Play, the school began with a single student, but after a year and a half, expanded into a commercial space. Holliday enjoyed seven successful years at Fingers At Play — which is still open and thriving today — before deciding to follow her heart once again. This time, she left for New York with the man with whom she had fallen in love.

For years, she worked in the banking industry and, later, with a real estate developer, but Holliday felt she had lost her positive spirit and creative energy.

"I thought the stress of my last job was going to kill me. I was losing myself, but it was the push I needed. It was time to take a risk."

This low point in her life became another critical turning point, which led Holliday back to her passion for children and art.

Holliday's fiancé, Justin, encouraged her to open another art school. While taking a walk in Bay Ridge, she passed a vacant storefront for rent just a few blocks away from her apartment. She saw this as a good omen, and took a leap of faith again.

Using the same model as Fingers At Play, Holliday opened The Art Room in June of 2010 to nurture kids' natural love and need for artistic expression.

Holliday, 38, is currently enjoying the fruits of her labor. The corporate world is behind her, although she says she appreciates the lessons she learned from the experience. Now, she is free to focus on her true passion: introducing young people to art.

Holliday's personal journey from a young, messy painter to a successful



artist, teacher and business owner is a testament to how art can empower someone to make great changes. Allow your children's ideas and interests to inspire them. By meeting kids where they are, instead of where you want them to be, you will help them to develop richer, more meaningful life experiences.

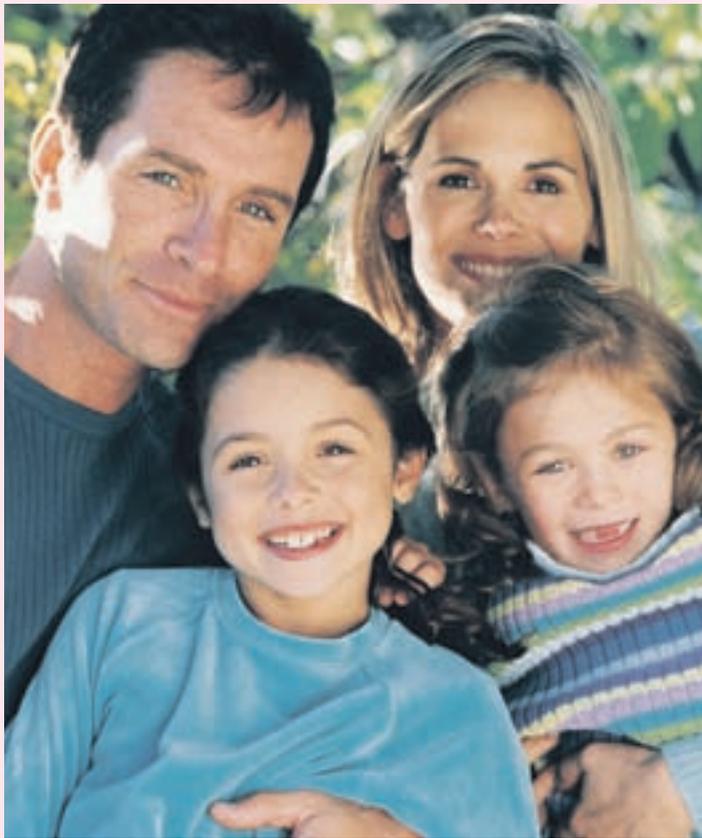
By the time my interview is over, the robot sculptures have dried and Leigh enthusiastically prepares to display them in the window of The Art Room. She smiles, recalling the artists and their creative experiences. She describes a little girl who had her tongue out, to-

tally immersed in working with glue. Her hands were covered with it. She was in heaven. "That's what it's all about," Leigh says, "losing yourself in a lot of messy fun."

The Art Room [8710 Third Ave. in Bay Ridge, (347) 560-6572].

Laura Varoscak-DeInnocentiis is an educator and freelance writer. Her articles appear regularly in Brooklyn Family Magazine and have won editorial awards from Parenting Publications of America. She holds master's degrees in writing, education and psychology. Varoscak-DeInnocentiis lives in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and is the proud mom of two sons, Henry and Charlie.

Art teacher Leigh Holliday in a paint-splattered smock at age 3.



BROOKLYN
Family
PRESENTS

Great Family Deals!

Deals, discounts and savings of up to **90%** at your favorite family-friendly restaurants, classes, stores, attractions, and much more!

BORO DEAL
FOR THE STREET-SMART SHOPPER

Sign up today!
BoroDeal.com



Practical Solutions that Strengthen
Relationships at Home

www.phponline.org

Common Sense Parenting Tips

Parent Workshops

Individual Appointments

Parents Helping Parents, 669 President Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11215

718-638-9444 Brooklynphp@gmail.com www.phponline.org

John Tartaglia's
IMAGINOCEAN
The LIVE glow-in-the-dark family musical!



NW TELECHARGE.COM or 212.239.6200
140 West 50th Street, NYC ImaginoceanTheMusical.com
NEW WORLD STAGES

Going Places

LONG-RUNNING

Storytime: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, noon, \$2.50.

"Play it Safe": PS 3 The Bedford Village School, 50 Jefferson Ave. near Franklin Avenue; (212) 724-0677; www.shadowboxtheatre.org; Wednesday, June 1, 10:30 am; \$10 (\$15 at the door).

A puppet and people musical addressing safety issues. For children, ages 3 to 7, presented by the Shadow Box Theater.

Movie night: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Fridays, 6:15 pm, Free.

Shorts and a full length family-appropriate movie.

Dinosaur display: American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street in Manhattan; (212) 769-5000; www.amnh.org; Daily, 10 am–5:30 pm, Now - Jan. 2, 2012; \$24 (\$18 students, \$14 children).

Children learn about the largest dinos, the long-tailed sauropods, by examining the innovative model.

Pre-school story time: Pacific Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 638-1531; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Fridays, 10:30 am, Now – Fri, July 1; Free.

Classic books and songs.

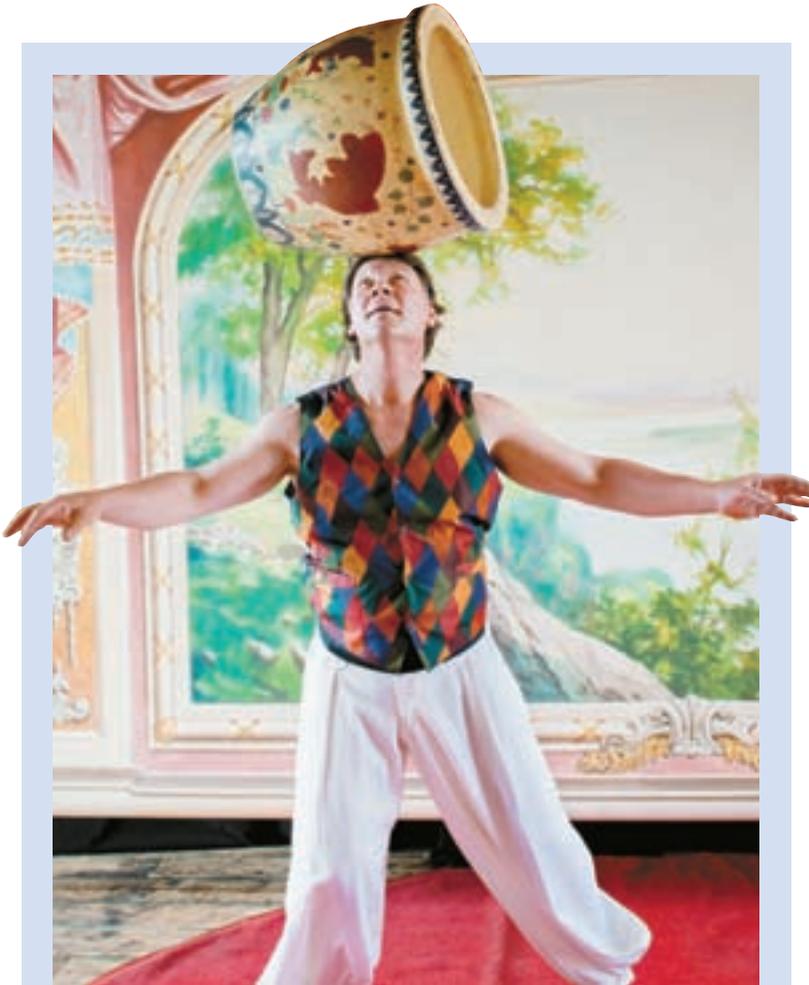
"Brooklyn Shtetl": Rohr Jewish Center, 541 Myrtle Ave.; (215) 704-2205; info@hadasgallery.com; www.hadasgallery.com; Daily, 1–6 pm; Now – Thurs, June 30; Free.

Jewish art gallery, Hadas, hosts the exhibition "Brooklyn Shtetl" by painter Ali Spechler. The featured artwork addresses the diversity within the Jewish culture.

Arts and crafts: Pacific Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 638-1531; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; Fridays, 4 pm, Now – Fri, June 24; Free.

Children make a fun project.

Blooming Babies: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; Saturdays and Sundays, 11:30 am, Now – Sun, June 26; Free with museum admission.



Circus is afloat!

Step right up and take a seat at the center ring as "Showboat Shazzam," the little big top at sea, takes over the Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge to the delight of children of all ages.

The Waterfront Museum brings back good, old-fashioned, family fun with a different show every Sunday that is chock full of classic circus artistry, juggling and acrobatics galore.

This summer's international roster of talent includes Adam Kapilow, Megan & Marui, the Sor-

bet Sisters, Tanya Solomon, Will Shaw, Aerial Emery — all the way from Quebec, and the classic clowning of Josephine, direct from Paris.

"Showboat Shazzam" at the Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge [290 Conover St. at Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 624-4719], June 5, 19 and 26 at 1 and 4 pm. Also, [Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier 6 off of Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn Heights], July 24 at 1 and 4 pm. Tickets \$15, \$10 in advance. For tickets, call (877) 238-5596. For info, visit www.waterfrontmuseum.org.

Submit a listing

Going Places is dedicated to bringing our readers the most comprehensive events calendar in your area. But to do so, we need your help!

All you have to do is send your listing request to calendar@cnglocal.com — and we'll take care of the rest. Please e-mail requests more than three weeks prior to the event to ensure we have enough time to get it in. And best of all, it's FREE!

Children 18 months to 2 and one-half years participate in interactive activities with their caregivers.

"Wizard of Oz": Puppetworks, 338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street; (718) 965-3391; www.puppetworks.org; Saturdays and Sundays, 12:30 and 2 pm, Now – Sun, Aug. 21; \$8 (\$7 child).

Adapted for marionettes by Nicholas Coppola.

Science power hour: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Saturdays and Sundays, 1–2 pm, Now – Sun, June 26; Free.

Children join with a naturalist for cool activities and experiments.

Arts and crafts: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Saturdays and Sundays, 2–3 pm, Now – Sun, June 5; Free.

Children make projects using natural materials.

Nature crafts: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Saturdays and Sundays, 2–3 pm, Now – Sun, June 26; Free.

Children make fun projects.

Tutoring: Rugby Library, 1000 Rugby Rd. at Avenue H; (718) 566-0054; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Saturdays, 2:30 pm, Now – Fri, June 24; Free.

Black United and Proud of Our Heritage offers homework help for students in grades one through six.

Bingo night: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic

Continued on page 52

Going Places

Continued from page 51

Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Sundays, 6-7:30 pm, Free.

Prizes and fun for the whole family.

Baby story time: Greenlight Bookstore, 686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue; (718) 246-0200; greenlightbookstore.com; Sundays, 11 am, Now – Sun, June 26; Free.

Toddlers listen to stories and songs.

Arty facts: Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue; (718) 638-5000; www.brooklynmuseum.org; Sundays, 11 am and 1:30 pm, Now – Sun, June 26; \$10 per family (\$5 for gallery/studio families and members).

Children, ages 4-7, explore the exhibits and enjoy a family activity in this 90-minute program.

Story play with First RIF: Gerritsen Beach Library, 2808 Gerritsen Ave. between Bartlett Place and Gotham Avenue; (718) 368-1435; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Mondays, 11 am, Now – Mon, June 27; Free.

Children up to 5 years old play with toys, hear stories and earn free books by reading.

Chess: Bay Ridge Library, 7223 Ridge Blvd. between 72nd and 73rd streets; (718) 748-5709; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; Mondays, 3:30 pm, Now – Thurs, June 23; Free.

For all ages.

Singalong: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Tuesdays, 11 am, \$2.50.

Come clap, dance, sing or just watch!

Story play with First RIF: Pacific Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 638-1531; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays, 2 pm, Now – Tues, June 28; Free.

Children up to five years old play with toys, hear stories and earn free books by reading.

Arts and crafts: Leonard Library, 81 Devoe St. between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street; (718) 486-3365; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Tues, June 21; Free.

Toddler time with First RIF: Brooklyn Heights Library, 280 Cadman Plaza W. at Tillary Street; (718) 623-7000; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 1:30 pm, Now – Wed, June 29; Free.

Children 18 to 36 months engage in interactive play and hear stories.

Babies and books: Flatlands Library, 2065 Flatbush Ave. at Avenue P; (718)



'Dream' in the park

With puppets, construction vests and hard hats, it's a Shakespeare comedy like you've never seen it before.

In what's become a summer tradition, Prospect Lefferts Gardens Arts' annual production of "Daydream" — an adaptation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" — returns to Prospect Park's Imagination Playground.

In the reworking, a crew of construction workers wander into Prospect Park to rehearse a

play and stumble upon a battle between the King and Queen of the Faeries.

The free, outdoor performances run throughout June. Stick around after the show for children's activities or bring a swimsuit to splash in the dragon fountain.

"Daydream" at the Imagination Playground in Prospect Park [Enter at Ocean Avenue, (718) 393-7733], Saturdays at 11 am and Sundays at 2 pm from June 4-26. Free. For more info, visit www.plgarts.org.

253-4409; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Wed, June 29; Free.

For children up to 18 months.

Arts and crafts: Sheepshead Bay Library, 2636 E. 14th St. at Shore Road; (718) 368-1815; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Wed, June 22; Free.

Children make homemade projects.

Game day: Pacific Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 638-

1531; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Wed, June 15; Free.

Reading is Fun: Flatbush Public Library, 22 Linden Blvd. at Flatbush Avenue; (718) 856-0813; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 pm, Wed, June 1 – Thurs, June 30; Free.

Children read to earn free books.

Arts and crafts: Sunset Park Library, 5108 Fourth Ave. at 51st Street; (718)

567-2806; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 4 pm, Now – Wed, June 22; Free.

Children make homemade projects.

Reading is fun: Sheepshead Bay Public Library, 2636 E. 14th St. at Shore Road; (718) 368-1815; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 4 pm, Saturdays, 10 am, Wed, June 1 – Sat, July 9; Free.

Teens and children earn free books by reading.

Dance-around: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Thursdays, 11 am, \$2.50.

Story and crafts: Pacific Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 638-1531; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Thursdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Thurs, June 30; Free.

Children create art projects based on stories.

Tween time: Sunset Park Library, 5108 Fourth Ave. between 50th and 51st streets; (718) 567-2806; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Thursdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Fri, July 1; Free.

Read, play games and listen to music.

After-school homework help: Cortelyou Library, 1305 Cortelyou Rd. at Argyle Road; (718) 693-7763; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Thursdays, 3:30 pm, Now – Thurs, June 23; Free.

Provided by trained adult volunteers.

Tween time: Mapleton Library, 1702 60th St. at 17th Avenue; (718) 256-2117; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Thursdays, 4 pm, Now – Thurs, June 30; Free.

Read, play games and listen to music.

Story time: Brownsville Public Library, 61 Glenmore Ave. at Stone Avenue; (718) 498-9721; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 3 pm, Fridays, 10:30 am, Fri, June 3 – Fri, July 1; Free.

From birth to 5 years, finger play and songs.

Homework help: Sunset Park Public Library, 5108 Fourth Ave. at 51st Street; (718) 965-6533; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Mondays and Wednesdays, 4 pm, Mon, June 6 – Wed, June 29; Free.

For children of all ages.

Read and play: Flatlands Public Library, 2065 Flatbush Ave. at Avenue P; (718) 253-4409; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1 pm, Tues, June 7 – Wed, June 29; Free.

For children birth to 5 years old.

BoCoCa Arts Festival: (917) 499-5762; info@bococaartsfestival.com; www.bococaartsfestival.com; \$18 (\$15 in advance).

A 10-day festival at various locations.

Continued on page 54

Tutoring Club®

A Class Above. Guaranteed.™



**OUR CORE PROGRAMS ARE:
READING • MATH • WRITING • STUDY SKILLS**

Our reading program's format is the one selected by the NYC Board of Ed.

Our beginning reading program is open to 5-year-olds and up.

We offer test prep for SAT, TACHS, SSSHAT, ISEE, SSAT, and GED.

718-74-TUTOR

Bay Ridge Center • 7811 3rd Ave. • Brooklyn
BRINGING 24 YEARS OF SUCCESS TO BROOKLYN

FREE for Kids at UNION TEMPLE

FAMILY SERVICE & POTLUCK DINNER

Friday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Snacks at 6:00. Music-filled, kid-friendly Shabbat service at 6:30.

Then meet and greet other families at a Pot Luck dinner. Can't cook?

We think store-bought is delicious, too. Monthly, every first Friday.

TOT SHABBAT

Friday, June 17 at 4:00 p.m.

Singing, dancing, and a little Hebrew for toddlers, preschoolers, and their adult guests. Monthly, every third Friday.

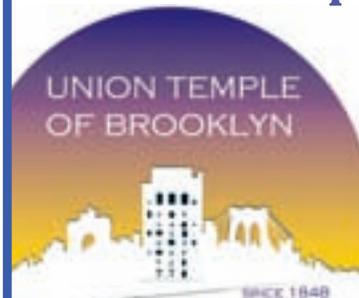
Union Temple of Brooklyn

17 Eastern Parkway

Across from
the Brooklyn Public Library
at Grand Army Plaza

718-638-7600

www.uniontemple.org
uniontemple@uniontemple.org



Summers are for having fun. A time to spend with friends, make memories and share experiences that last a lifetime. That's what MBDC is all about.

OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sat	April 09	10am-2pm
Sat	April 16	10am-2pm
Sat	May 07	10am-2pm
Sat	May 14	10am-2pm
Sat	May 28	10am-2pm
Sat	June 11	10am-2pm
Sat	June 18	10am-2pm

5945 STRICKLAND AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11234
718-251-6200 WWW.MILLBASINDAYCAMP.COM

SUMMERS OF FUN & ADVENTURE!

All Programs and Facilities On Site!

Register Early For 2011 & Save Money!

Mill Basin Day Camp



Summer Memories



- OUTDOOR POOL (3 SLIDES)
- DANCE STUDIO
- BASKETBALL COURTS
- MINI GOLF COURSE
- MOVIE THEATRE
- COMPUTER LAB
- JUNGLE GYM
- VOLLEYBALL
- VIDEO GAME ROOM
- BAKING CENTER
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- KARAOKE STUDIO
- GYMNASTICS
- DAY & OVERNIGHT TRIPS
- OLYMPIC GAMES
- CARNIVAL
- COSTUME BALL
- HANDBALL COURTS
- BLACK TIE GALA
- SOCCER
- PRIVATE LOCKER ROOM
- JEWELRY DESIGN
- DRAMA THEATRE
- KARATE
- BINGO
- FASHION DESIGN
- NEW! "WII" ROOM

PK—9th Grade 4 to 9 Week Program 3, 4 & 5 Day Weeks
Doorfront Bus Service Early Drop Off Late Stay Fully Air Conditioned Video Security System Daily Snacks
Includes: All Trips, T-Shirt, Camp Bag, Water Bottle, Lunch Box

Going Places

Continued from page 52

Wii and Nintendo: Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Saturday, June 18, 6 pm; Saturday, July 16, 6 pm; Saturday, Aug. 20, 6 pm; Saturday, Sept. 17, 6 pm; Saturday, Oct. 15, 6 pm; Saturday, Nov. 19, 6 pm; Saturday, Dec. 17, 6 pm; Saturday, Jan. 21, 6 pm; Saturday, Feb. 18, 6 pm; Saturday, March 17, 6 pm; Saturday, April 21, 6 pm; Saturday, May 19, 6 pm; Saturday, June 16, 6 pm; Saturday, July 21, 6 pm; Free.

Prizes, games and food.

Camp Friendship: Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue; (718) 638-5000; info@campfriendship.net; www.brooklynmuseum.org; Daily, 8 am; Wed, June 29 – Fri, Aug. 26; \$1,000 for 9-week session.

Fast-paced, fun filled and fully interactive.

Park play: Brooklyn Bridge Park, Old Fulton St. at Furman Street; (718) 802-0603; www.nycgovparks.org; Thursdays and Fridays, 11 am–7 pm, Thurs, July 7 – Fri, Aug. 26; Free.

Fun for the whole family.

FRI, MAY 27

Shakespeare festival: IS 201, 8010 12th Ave. at 80th Street; (718) 833-9363; 9:45 am–1:30 pm; Free.

Students perform the Bard's most renowned plays, dress up in period clothing and step back in time. (Rain date 6/10/11).

SAT, MAY 28

Planting party: Lefferts Historic Homestead, 452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway; (718) 789-2822; www.prospectpark.org; 1–4 pm; Free.

Till the soil, plant seed potatoes and then churn some butter.

Rolie Polie Guacamole: Gumbo, 493 Atlantic Ave. between Nevins Street and Third Avenue; (718) 855-7808; 4–4:45 pm; \$18 (\$2 siblings, free for adults).

Rock, sing and dance with kids band.

SUN, MAY 29

Street festival: Eighth Avenue, between 39th and 49th streets; (718) 444-6028; info@streetfairsny.com; 10 am–6 pm; Free.

Food, vendors, games, a visit from the North Shore Animal League and the FDNY Fire Safety house.

Eighth Avenue Spectacular: Eighth Avenue between 39th and 49th streets; (718) 444-6028; info@streetfairsny.com; www.streetfairsny.com; 10 am–6 pm; Free.



Weekend to remember

The Revolutionary and Civil wars are more than just chapters in a history book this month.

On June 4 and 5, the New Utrecht Reformed Church hosts "Liberty Weekend," two days of reenactments, cannon fire, film screenings and concerts.

On Saturday, there'll be movies, lectures, Civil War re-enactors, exhibits, a rare tour of the colonial-era New Utrecht Cemetery, a performance by the In-

terschool Orchestras Symphonic Band, and even the firing of an authentic 1863 Civil War cannon.

Festivities on Sunday include a parade and raising of the New Utrecht Liberty Pole — just like they did it in the 1700s!

"Liberty Weekend" at New Utrecht Reformed Church [84th Street and 18th Avenue in Bensonhurst, (718) 256-7173], June 4 from 10 am-4 pm and June 5 at 12:30 pm. Free. For info, visit www.historicnewutrecht.org.

An annual street fair extravaganza.

Planting party: 1–4 pm. Lefferts Historic Homestead. See Saturday, May 28.

WED, JUNE 1

Explorers Club: Ruben Museum of Art, 150 West 17th St., between 6th and 7th avenues in Manhattan; (212) 620-5000 X 344; www.rmanyc.org; 11 am–noon; \$10 per child/adult pair (\$5 for members; \$5 for each additional child).

Children, ages 3-5, learn about everything from the tallest mountains to the deepest seas. Pre-registration required.

Little Scientist: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children five and older investigate the

world of natural science with hands on activities.

Babies and books: Bushwick Public Library, 340 Bushwick Ave. at Seigel Street; (718) 602-1348; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 1 pm; Free.

Children up to 18 months old and their caregiver/parent.

Family story tours: Ruben Museum of Art, 150 West 17th St., between 6th and 7th avenues in Manhattan; (212) 620-5000 X 344. www.rmanyc.org; 3:30–4:15 pm; \$10 per child/adult pair (\$5 for members; \$5 for each additional child).

Children, ages 5 and up, accompanied by an adult partake in an interactive walk through the museum.

Arts and crafts: Crown Heights Public Library, 560 New York Ave. between Maple Street and Lincoln Road; (718) 773-1180; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children make projects.

Knitting: Jamaica Bay Public Library, 9727 Seaview Ave. at Rockaway Parkway; (718) 241-3571; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Teens get help with projects.

THURS, JUNE 2

Gaming: Clarendon Public Library, 2035 Nostrand Ave. between Farragut and Glenwood roads; (718) 421-1159; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Play Wii with friends.

Film screening: Leonard Public Library, 81 Devoe St. between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street; (718) 486-3365; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children, ages 6 and up, enjoy a kid-friendly flick.

Homework help: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

For children of all ages.

Teen time: Bushwick Public Library, 340 Bushwick Ave. at Seigel Street; (718) 602-1348; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free. Books, games and music with friends.

Gaming: Cortelyou Public Library, 1305 Cortelyou Rd. at Argyle Road; (718) 693-7763; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

PlayStation and Wii.

Reading time: Mapleton Public Library, 1702 60th St. between 16th and 17th avenues; (718) 256-2117; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Twins enjoy books and games with their friends.

Inventing Brooklyn: People, Places and Progress: Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street; (718) 222-4111; http://www.art-walk2011.com; www.brooklynhistory.org; 5:30–7:30 pm; Free.

Art exhibit opening party.

FRI, JUNE 3

First RIF: Bedford Public Library, 496 Franklin Ave. at Fulton Street; (718) 623-0012; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 11 am; Free.

Children from birth to five years.

Teen time: McKinley Park Public Library, 6802 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy. at Ovington Avenue; (718) 748-8001; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

Books, games and music.

Fun Fridays: Eastern Parkway Public Library, 1044 Eastern Pkwy. at Kingston Avenue; (718) 778-9330; www.brook-

Going Places

lynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children of all ages enjoy PlayStation, anime and Wii.

Teen time: Pacific Public Library, 25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street; (718) 596-4114; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Share books, games and music.

SAT, JUNE 4

"Daydream": Imagination Playground, Prospect Park, Ocean Avenue at Lincoln Road; (718) 393-7733; www.plgarts.org; 11 am; Free.

Adaptation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

"Mi bebe es un heroe": Repertorio Espanol, 138 E. 27th St. in Manhattan; (212) 225-9920; www.repertorio.org; Noon; \$12.

Bilingual puppet show that teaches the importance of love and family values. For children ages 2 and up.

Film screening: McKinley Park Public Library, 6802 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy. at Ovington Avenue; (718) 748-8001; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Noon; Free.

Suitable for all ages.

Children's workshop: New York

Transit Museum, Boerum Place at Schermerhorn Street; (718) 694-1600; http://www.artWalk2011.com; www.mta.info/mta/museum; Noon-5 pm; Free.

Also, two-for-one admission into museum. Part of Atlantic Avenue ArtWalk 2011.

Kids film fest: indieScreen, 289 Kent Ave. between South First and South Second streets; www.kidsfilmfest.org; 1 pm; \$10 (free children 12 and under).

Films are rated G for all ages and consist of short animation and narrative selections.

Invisible Dog Children's Art Workshop: Invisible Dog, 51 Bergen St. between Boerum Place and Smith Street; (347) 981-4186; http://www.artWalk2011.com; www.theinvisibledog.org; 1-3 pm; Free.

Part of Atlantic Avenue ArtWalk 2011.

Summer Solstice at Stonehenge: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 2:30-3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 6 and up, learn about the ancient location.

Creativity workshop: WORD, 126

Franklin St.; (718) 383-0096; www.wordbrooklyn.com; 4 pm; Free.

With Laura Lee Gulledege.

Afro-Latin culture: Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue; (718) 638-5000; www.brooklynmuseum.org; 5-11 pm; Free. Target First Saturdays explores culture, art, music and performances. Also featuring the film "Adios Momo."

SUN, JUNE 5

Children's workshop: Noon-5 pm. New York Transit Museum. See Saturday, June 4.

Kite Festival: Citistorage, 5 N. 11th St. at Kent Street; kezia279@yahoo.com; Noon-5 pm; \$1.

Go fly one and help raise much needed funds for PS 132. Entertainment provided by The Hungry Marching Band and Audra Rox.

Brooklyn Bridge Park Family Festival: Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier 6, Furman Street and Atlantic Avenue; http://www.artWalk2011.com; www.brooklynbridgepark.org; 1-5 pm; Free.

Part of Atlantic Avenue ArtWalk 2011.

Invisible Dog Children's Art Workshop: 1-3 pm. Invisible Dog. See

Saturday, June 4.

"Showboat Shazzam": Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge, 290 Conover St. at Reed Street; (718) 624-4719; www.waterfrontmuseum.org; 1 and 4 pm; \$15.

The little big top at sea hosted by the Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge, featuring a variety of circus performers from around the globe.

Batter Up!: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 1:30-2:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 4 and up, learn about America's favorite sport, baseball.

"Daydream": 2 pm. Imagination Playground, Prospect Park. See Saturday, June 4.

MON, JUNE 6

Read and play: Greenpoint Public Library, 107 Norman Ave. at Leonard Street; (718) 349-8504; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 10:30 am; Free.

For children from birth to five years; playtime for children with and without disabilities.

Continued on page 56

DAY CARE COUNCIL OF NEW YORK, INC.

Our Professionally Trained Phone Counselors Can Offer You **FREE** Child Care Referral Information On:

- The Location Of Child Care Programs
- Infant/Toddler Programs
- Licensed And Registered Family And Group Family Day Care
- After School Programs
- Nanny Services
- Nursery Schools
- Summer Camps
- Head Start Programs
- Becoming A Child Care Provider

Offering Child Care Information And Technical Assistance To The Five Boroughs Since 1952

212-206-7818

(Mon. - Fri. 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM)

12 West 21st Street, 3rd Floor, New York, N.Y. 10011
(www.dccnyinc.org)

Dentistry for Adults and Children

Tracey H. Joseph, D.D.S., PLLC

Gentle, Friendly and Nuturing Care for Your Family

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Forms • Extractions • Flexible Partial • Dentures 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Fillings • Sealants • Nightguards • Implants
---	---	---

- Teeth Whitening (Zoom)
- Special Attention To Nervous And Apprehensive People
- 1 Hour Root Canal Treatment

New Ultramodern Facility Conveniently Located At
1655 Flatbush Avenue • Suite A 104

Flat Screen TV & Patient Headset

(Philip Howard Apartments)

718-377-1319

www.brooklynfamilydds.com

Digital Xrays & Intraoral Camera

WE SPEAK SPANISH

Most Major Insurances and Medicaid Accepted



Going Places

Continued from page 55

Babies and books: Mill Basin Public Library, 2385 Ralph Ave. at Veterans Avenue; (718) 241-3973; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 1 pm.

Children to 18 months old and their caregiver/parent hear stories, listen to songs and rhymes.

Gaming: Kings Highway Public Library, 2115 Ocean Ave. at Avenue R; (718) 339-2783; <http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org>; 3:30 pm; Free.

Teens play Wii and PlayStation 2.

Dance time: Coney Island Public Library, 1901 Mermaid Ave. at West 19th Street; (718) 265-3220; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Play twister, make lanyards and dance.

Game day: Borough Park Library, 1265 43rd St. between 12th and 13th avenues; (718) 437-4085; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 5 pm; Free.

For all ages.

TUES, JUNE 7

Toddler time: Sunset Park Public Library, 5108 Fourth Ave. at 51st Street; (718) 965-6533; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 10:30 am; Free.

Children 18 to 36 months along with caregiver/parent enjoy finger play and stories.

Toddler time: Ulmer Park Public Library, 2602 Bath Ave. at 26th Avenue; (718) 265-3443; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 11 am; Free. For children 18 to 36 months.

First RIF: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 1:15 pm; Free.

Children, from birth to 5 years, enjoy stories and play time.

Summer Solstice at Stonehenge: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 2:30–3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 3 and up, learn about the ancient location.

Gaming: Homecrest Public Library, 2525 Coney Island Ave. between Gravesend Neck Road and Avenue V; (718) 382-5924; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Teens enjoy PlayStation, Wii and other electronic games.

Chess: Kings Highway Public Library, 2115 Ocean Ave. at Avenue R; (718) 339-2783; <http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org>; 3:30 pm; Free.

For all ages.

Gaming: Leonard Public Library, 81 Devoe St. between Manhattan Avenue



For tiny cinephiles

This film festival is for the kids.

On June 4, the Brooklyn Film Festival presents its seventh annual “kidsfilmfest,” which promotes children’s filmmakers and educates young movie-goers about the art of film production.

The program will be tailored for children of all ages (films will be rated “G”), consisting of numerous short animation and narrative films from five countries.

Children can meet the people behind the movie magic during a Q&A with the directors and actors, as well as a director’s interactive workshop following the screenings.

Brooklyn Film Festival’s “kidsfilmfest” at indieScreen (285 Kent Ave. at South Second Street in Williamsburg, no phone), June 4 at 1 pm. Tickets are \$10, free for children 12 and younger. For info, visit www.kidsfilmfest.org.

and Leonard Street; (718) 486-3365; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children get together and play classic board games.

Arts and crafts: McKinley Park Public Library, 6802 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy. at Ovington Avenue; (718) 748-8001; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

For children ages 5 and up.

Gaming: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children of all ages play electronic and board games.

Reading is Fun: Rugby Public Library, 1000 Utica Ave. at East 49th Street; (718) 566-0054; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Teens earn free books by reading.

WED, JUNE 8

Explorers Club: 11 am–noon. Rubin Museum of Art. See Wednesday, June 1.

Little Scientist: 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm. Brooklyn Children’s Museum. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: Borough Park Library, 1265 43rd St. between 12th and 13th avenues; (718) 437-4085; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 1:30 pm; Free.

Songs and rhymes for babies up to 18 months and caregiver/parent.

Resume writing: Brooklyn Public Library’s Central branch, Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza; (718) 230-2100; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; 3 pm; Free.

For teens and adults. Helpful hints.

Anime: Clarendon Public Library, 2035

Nostrand Ave. between Farragut and Glenwood roads; (718) 421-1159; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

Teens watch episodes of their faves.

Reading is Fun: 3 pm. Brownsville Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Chess: Crown Heights Public Library, 560 New York Ave. between Maple Street and Lincoln Road; (718) 773-1180; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Beginners welcome.

Creative writing: McKinley Park Public Library, 6802 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy. at Ovington Avenue; (718) 748-8001; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Teens get helpful hints.

Reading is Fun: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Creative writing: Jamaica Bay Public Library, 9727 Seaview Ave. at Rockaway Parkway; (718) 241-3571; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Teens get helpful hints.

Kids Korner: Clinton Hill Public Library, 380 Washington Ave. between Lafayette and Greene avenues; (718) 398-8713; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4:15 pm; Free.

Children play games, watch movies and make art projects.

THURS, JUNE 9

Avery Johnson: Brooklyn Public Library’s Central branch, Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza; (718) 230-2100; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; 10:30 am; Free.

The Nets coach reads to kids as part of the library’s Summer Reading Kickoff.

Summer reading kickoff: East Flatbush Public Library, 9612 Church Ave. at East 96th Street; (718) 922-0927; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 2 pm; Free.

Sign up for the challenge; fun and games.

Summer reading kickoff: Ger-ritsen Beach Public Library, 2808 Ger-ritsen Ave. between Bartlett Place and Gotham Avenue; (718) 368-1435; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 2 pm; Free.

Children of all ages sign up for the challenge, enjoy activities and receive a free book.

Summer reading kickoff: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 2 pm; Free.

Children of all ages sign up for the challenge, enjoy games and arts and crafts.

Going Places

Summer reading registration: Bedford Public Library, 496 Franklin Ave. at Fulton Street; (718) 623-0012; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Sign up for the 2011 challenge and enjoy games.

Twilight trivia: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Teens test their knowledge about the vampire trilogy.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Clarendon Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Film screening: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Homework help: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Arts and Crafts: Flatlands Public Library, 2065 Flatbush Ave. at Avenue P; (718) 253-4409; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

For children of all ages.

Teen time: 4 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Gaming: 4 pm. Cortelyou Public Li-

brary. See Thursday, June 2.

Tween time: Jamaica Bay Public Library, 9727 Seaview Ave. at Rockaway Parkway; (718) 241-3571; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children, ages 9 to 12, play games, do crafts and get together with their friends.

Reading time: 4 pm. Mapleton Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

FRI, JUNE 10

Teen time: 3 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Danette Vigilante: Red Hook Public Library, 7 Wolcott St. between Richards and Dwight streets; (718) 935-0203; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Author reads from her book "The Trouble with Half a Moon." For teens.

Philosophy group: New Utrecht Public Library, 1743 86th St. between Bay 16th and Bay 17th streets; (718) 236-4076; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

For adults. Topics vary week to week.

Teen time: Clinton Hill Public Library, 380 Washington Ave. between Lafay-

ette and Greene avenues; (718) 398-8713; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Read, play games and listen to music.

Fun Fridays: 4 pm. Eastern Parkway Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Teen time: 4 pm. Pacific Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Camping: Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Ave. U; (718) 421-2021; 7 pm; Free.

Food and tents provided. Family limited to four participants. Register in advance.

Spring celebration: Kumble Theater at Long Island University, DeKalb and Flatbush avenues; (718) 488-1624; info@dancewave.org; www.brooklyn.liu.edu/KumbleTheater; 8 pm; \$25 (\$15 children 12 and under).

Modern dance performed by Dancewave's pre-professional youth company.

SAT, JUNE 11

Sports expo: Boys and Girls High School, 1700 Fulton St. at Utica Avenue; (718) 346-5852; jjudson.bodysculpt@gmail.com; 10 am-4 pm and 1-3 pm; Free.

Body Sculpt's eighth annual children's fair offering archery, hula hoop, tennis, fencing, dance, golf, jump rope, volleyball and more. There will also be screenings, nutrition clinics and weight counseling.

Community Awareness Day: PS 170, 7109 Sixth Ave. at 71st Street; (718) 748-0333; afigueroa9@schools.nyc.gov; 10 am-2 pm; Free.

Families may obtain information on programs available.

Health fair: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 250-8344; www.tbhc.org; 10 am; Free.

Screenings, face painting, and giveaways.

Renegade Craft fair: McCarren Park, Bedford Avenue at North 12th Street; www.nycgovparks.org; 10 am-8 pm; Free.

Handmade goods, crafting workshops, food and beverages.

Health fair: House of the Lord Church, 415 Atlantic Ave. at Bond Street; (718) 596-1991; holchealth@yahoo.com; www.holcnj.org; 11 am-5:30 pm; Free.

Screenings and children's events.

Continued on page 58

**"A HEAVENLY GOOD TIME!
AN OVER-THE-TOP, PULL-OUT-THE-STOPS,
FAMILY-FRIENDLY
BIG BROADWAY MUSICAL!"**
— *New York Observer*

**WHOOPI GOLDBERG
& STACE ENTERTAINMENT
PRESENT**

Sister Act

"THE SEASON'S HAPPIEST SURPRISE!" — *NY POST*

TELECHARGE.COM or 212-239-6200
BROADWAY THEATRE, BROADWAY AT 53RD ST. • SISTERACTBROADWAY.COM

AMERICAN EXPRESS
PREFERRED SEATING
FROM WWW.AMERICANEXPRESS.COM
RESTRICTIONS APPLY

PHOTO BY ANDREW ECCLES

Going Places

Continued from page 17

"Daydream": 11 am. Imagination Playground, Prospect Park. See Saturday, June 4.

Movie time: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 5 and younger, watch children's stories on the screen.

"The Butt Book": Barnes and Noble Park Slope, 267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street; (718) 832-9066; Noon; Free with museum admission.

Author Artie Bennett reads from his classic "behind" book.

Film screening: Noon. McKinley Park Public Library. See Saturday, June 4.

Sun tales: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 2:30–3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 3 and up, explore ancient Egypt.

Cake Contest: IKEA Brooklyn/IKEA waterfront, 1 Beard Street; (718) 789-1746 or (718) 622-2492; kristenlagrua@gmail.com; www.relayforlife.org/ikearehookny; 5–6:30 pm; Free.

Best Birthday Cake in Brooklyn Contest to take place on the IKEA waterfront. Sponsored by Fairway Market.

SUN, JUNE 12

Renegade Craft fair: 10 am–8 pm. McCarren Park. See Saturday, June 11.

Scavenger Hunt: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 723-3218; 1 pm; Free.

Follow the clues to hidden treasures.

"Daydream": 2 pm. Imagination Playground, Prospect Park. See Saturday, June 4.

MON, JUNE 13

Read and play: 10:30 am. Greenpoint Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

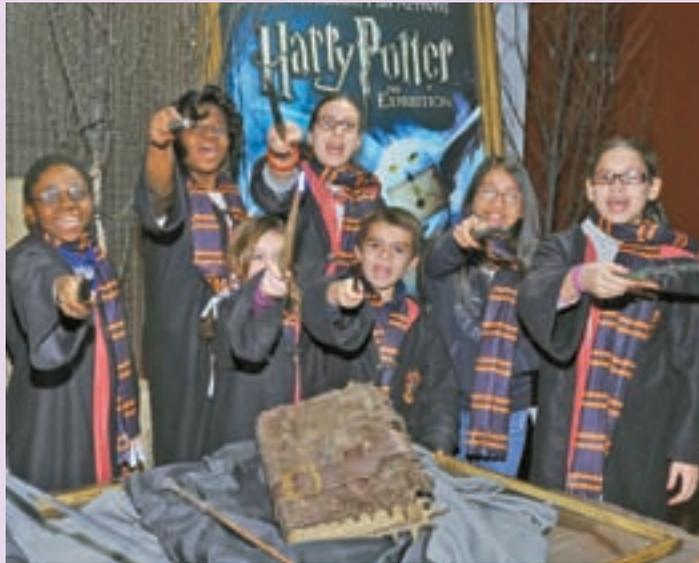
Toddler time: 11 am. Gravesend Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Mill Basin Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Hollywood Squares: Coney Island Public Library, 1901 Mermaid Ave. at West 19th Street; (718) 265-3220; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children compete for prizes in this



Magical exhibition

The magic of "Harry Potter" comes to life in this new exhibition at the Discovery Times Square museum.

You and your little Hogwarts fan can explore more than 200 authentic costumes and props from the popular films, displayed in settings inspired by the sets.

While touring the exhibition space, you can even discover iconic items such as Harry's original wand and eyeglasses, the Marauder's Map, Gryffindor school uniforms as well as costumes

worn at the Yule Ball. Enter the Quidditch area and toss a quaffle, pull your own mandrake in the herbology vignette, encounter Buckbeak the hippogriff and even a giant Acromantula spider. The only thing missing is Daniel Radcliffe himself!

"Harry Potter: The Exhibition" at Discovery Times Square [226 W. 44th St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Manhattan, (866) 987-9692], now through Oct. 5. Tickets \$25, \$22.50 for seniors, \$19.50 for children. For info, visit www.discoverytsx.co.

classic tic-tac-toe game.

Game day: 5 pm. Borough Park Library. See Monday, June 6.

TUES, JUNE 14

Toddler time: 11 am. Ulmer Park Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Story time: Borough Park Library, 1265 43rd St. between 12th and 13th avenues; (718) 437-4085; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

Toys and stories for babies up to 5 years old.

Arts and crafts: Bedford Public Library, 496 Franklin Ave. at Fulton Street; (718) 623-0012; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children of all ages enjoy gaming, projects and reading.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Homecrest Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Chess: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Arts and crafts: Leonard Public Library, 81 Devoe St. between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street; (718) 486-3365; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children make fun projects.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Arts and crafts: Homecrest Public Library, 2525 Coney Island Ave. between Gravesend Neck Road and Avenue V; (718) 382-5924; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Teens make a gift for dad.

WED, JUNE 15

Explorers Club: 11 am–noon. Rubin

Museum of Art. See Wednesday, June 1.

Little Scientist: 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Chess: Dyker Public Library, 8202 13th Ave. between 82nd and 83rd streets; (718) 748-6261; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

All ages welcome.

Arts and crafts: Clarendon Public Library, 2035 Nostrand Ave. between Farragut and Glenwood roads; (718) 421-1159; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Children of all ages make fun projects.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. Crown Heights Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Creative writing: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Kids Korner: 4:15 pm. Clinton Hill Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Travis Nichols: WORD, 126 Franklin St.; (718) 383-0096; www.wordbrooklyn.com; 7 pm; Free.

Author of "The Monster Doodle Book" will also be giving doodle demonstrations.

THURS, JUNE 16

Nature class: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 2:30–3:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, 3 and older, learn about the Grassland National Park in Canada.

Arts and crafts: Bushwick Public Library, 340 Bushwick Ave. at Seigel Street; (718) 602-1348; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

For children of all ages.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Clarendon Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Film screening: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Homework help: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Arts and crafts: Homecrest Public Library, 2525 Coney Island Ave. between Gravesend Neck Road and Avenue V; (718) 382-5924; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children make a gift for dad.

Teen time: 4 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Gaming: 4 pm. Cortelyou Public Li-

Going Places

brary. See Thursday, June 2.

Reading time: 4 pm. Mapleton Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

"Winged Migration": Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 5:30-7 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children of all ages watch the movie.

Kristen Balouch: WORD, 126 Franklin St.; (718) 383-0096; www.word-brooklyn.com; 7 pm; Free.

Author of "The Little Little Girl with the Big Big Voice."

FRI, JUNE 17

Arts and crafts: Gerritsen Beach Public Library, 2808 Gerritsen Ave. between Bartlett Place and Gotham Avenue; (718) 368-1435; www.brooklyn-publiclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

For all ages.

Teen time: 3 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Craft day: Red Hook Public Library, 7 Wolcott St. between Richards and Dwight streets; (718) 935-0203; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children of all ages create a Father's

Day project.

Teen time: 4 pm. Clinton Hill Public Library. See Friday, June 10.

Fun Fridays: 4 pm. Eastern Parkway Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Teen time: 4 pm. Pacific Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Camping: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 722-3218; 7 pm; Free.

Food and tents provided. Family limited to four participants. Register in advance.

SAT, JUNE 18

"Daydream": 11 am. Imagination Playground, Prospect Park. See Saturday, June 4.

Puppetry arts show: Barnes and Noble Park Slope, 267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street; (718) 832-9066; Noon; Free.

Children of all ages enjoy a show and books.

Film screening: Noon. McKinley Park Public Library. See Saturday, June 4.

Sign Language Storytime: WORD,

126 Franklin St.; (718) 383-0096; www.wordbrooklyn.com; 1:30 pm; Free.

With Lilit Marcus.

SUN, JUNE 19

Archaeology adventure: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 722-3218; 11 am; Free.

Sift through sand and learn about the different methods that scientists use.

Father's Day: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Noon-5 pm; Free.

Make a craft out of recycled materials and then enjoy a sing-a-long.

"Showboat Shazzam": 1 and 4 pm. Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge. See Sunday, June 5.

Catapult craze: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 1:30-2:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 5 and older, learn about the military invention.

"Daydream": 2 pm. Imagination Playground, Prospect Park. See Saturday,

June 4.

Family day: Herbert Von King Park, Lafayette Avenue at Tompkins Avenue; info@cityparksfoundation.org; www.nycgovparks.org; 3 pm; Free.

Entertainment featuring Black Girls Rock, a multi-faceted youth enrichment and mentoring service to girls.

Banners and Cranks festival: Brooklyn Bridge Park, Old Fulton Street at Furman Street; www.nycgovparks.org; 4-8 pm; Free.

Great Small Works presents puppets and musicians for an evening of stories and songs.

MON, JUNE 20

Read and play: 10:30 am. Greenpoint Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Toddler time: 11 am. Gravesend Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Mill Basin Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Game day: 5 pm. Borough Park Li-

Continued on page 60

Family Discounts Available!

VOCAPeOPLE

The musical sensation that's out of this world



See the global phenomenon in action! Over 20 million YouTube hits!

Telecharge.com • 212-239-6200

Family fun for ages 5-105.

"Intergalactic Superstars!" - CBS TV

Westside Theatre, 407 West 43rd Street • VocaPeopleNYC.com



"It's Sex and the City meets Chelsea Handler!" - The Advocate

A Girls Night Musical

ON AIR

Girl Talk



"Perfect for bachelorette parties, birthday parties, divorce parties, or just an enjoyable evening out with the ladies!" - TheaterMania.com

The Midtown Theater @ HA! Comedy Club
163 W. 46th Street, New York, NY 10036 (Between 6th & 7th Avenues)

For Tickets go to www.girltalkthemusical.com
or call 1-877-386-6968

Going Places

Continued from page 59
brary. See Monday, June 6.

TUES, JUNE 21

Toddler time: 10:30 am. Sunset Park Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Homecrest Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Chess: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Teen time: Bedford Public Library, 496 Franklin Ave. at Fulton Street; (718) 623-0012; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Books, games and music with friends.

Scrapbooking: Red Hook Public Library, 7 Wolcott St. between Richards and Dwight streets; (718) 935-0203; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4:30 pm; Free.

Teens begin work on a summer jour-

nal or sketchbook.

WED, JUNE 22

Explorers Club: 11 am–noon. Ruben Museum of Art. See Wednesday, June 1.

Little Scientist: 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: 1:30 pm. Borough Park Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Chess: 3 pm. Dyker Public Library. See Wednesday, June 15.

Chess: 3:30 pm. Crown Heights Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Creative writing: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Reading is Fun: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Arts and crafts: Jamaica Bay Public Library, 9727 Seaview Ave. at Rockaway Parkway; (718) 241-3571; www.brook-

lynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Children explore projects from around the world.

Kids Korner: 4:15 pm. Clinton Hill Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

THURS, JUNE 23

Butterfly workshop: Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 1:30–2:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 4 and up, learn how caterpillars turn in to beautiful butterflies.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Clarendon Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Film screening: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Homework help: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Teen time: 4 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Gaming: 4 pm. Cortelyou Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Tween time: 4 pm. Jamaica Bay Public Library. See Thursday, June 9.

Reading time: 4 pm. Mapleton Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

FRI, JUNE 24

"Bessie's Big Shot": Brooklyn Bridge Park, Old Fulton St. at Furman Street; www.nycgovparks.org; 10:30 am; Free.

Root for Bessie in this variety show.

Teen time: 3 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Movie time: Bedford Public Library, 496 Franklin Ave. at Fulton Street; (718) 623-0012; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3:30 pm; Free.

Kid friendly selections.

Philosophy group: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Friday, June 10.

Teen time: 4 pm. Clinton Hill Public Library. See Friday, June 10.

Fun Fridays: 4 pm. Eastern Parkway Public Library. See Friday, June 3.

Writing workshop: Barnes and Noble Park Slope, 267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street; (718) 832-9066; 5 pm; Free.

Teens get helpful hints from author

Continued on page 62

8 weeks only!
June 16–Aug 7

Show Times
Thursday: 11AM
Saturday: 10AM, 12PM & 3PM
Sunday: 12PM & 3PM

Buy tickets
ticketcentral.com
212.279.4200

The Ohmies
Dancing, Stretching, Giggling.



Come join the ultimate play date and dance, stretch and giggle with your new BFFs – The Ohmies. It's much more than theater; it's a one-of-a-kind interactive musical experience for kids ages 3 to 8. We'll have so much fun together!

Peter Jay Sharp Theater 416 West 42nd Street
TheOhmies.com

"A THRILL RIDE!"
TIME OUT NEW YORK

FUERZA BRUTA
Look Up

BroadwayOffers.com
or call (800) 432-7250
Recommended for Ages 10+

USE CODE: FBSUB45

\$37.50
(Reg. \$79)

Daryl Roth Theatre
101 E. 15th St. (@ Union Sq. East)
LookUpNYC.com





The new issue of
New York Special Child
Is Coming Soon!

Please call 718-260-8336
or email us to get more info,
find out where you can pick up a copy,
have a copy mailed to you, or get distribution.

To advertise call 718-260-4554
family@cnglocal.com

Going Places

Continued from page 60
Sarah MacLean.

SAT, JUNE 25

Film screening: Noon. McKinley Park Public Library. See Saturday, June 4.

SUN, JUNE 26

Annual Avenue M Mardi Gras: Avenue M between East 13th Street and Ocean Avenue; (718) 444-6028; info@streetfairsny.com; www.streetfairsny.com; 10am–6 pm; Free.

Avenue M is holding their annual “Mardi Gras” that will include an appearance from the North Shore Animal League and the FDNY.

Colonial living: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 723-3218; 11 am; Free.

Take a trip back to 1776 and play games, enjoy a cookout and make a candle.

“Showboat Shazzam”: 1 and 4 pm. Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge. See Sunday, June 5.

Build a bridge: Brooklyn Children’s Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St.

Marks Avenue; (718) 735-4400; www.brooklynkids.org; 1:30–2:30 pm; Free with museum admission.

Children, ages 4 and older, learn all about the span.

MON, JUNE 27

Read and play: 10:30 am. Greenpoint Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Toddler time: 11 am. Gravesend Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public Library. See Monday, June 6.

Hollywood Squares: 4 pm. Coney Island Public Library. See Monday, June 13.

Game day: 5 pm. Borough Park Library. See Monday, June 6.

TUES, JUNE 28

Story time: 3 pm. Borough Park Library. See Tuesday, June 14.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. Bedford Public Library. See Tuesday, June 14.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Homecrest Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Chess: 3:30 pm. Kings Highway Public

Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Tuesday, June 14.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. McKinley Park Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Tuesday, June 7.

Stories in the Garden: Hoyt Street Garden, Hoyt Street and Atlantic Avenue; (718) 237-0145; cusackart@aol.com; 7 pm; Free.

WED, JUNE 29

Explorers Club: 11 am–noon. Rubin Museum of Art. See Wednesday, June 1.

Little Scientist: 11:30 am–12:30 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm. Brooklyn Children’s Museum. See Wednesday, June 1.

Babies and books: 1 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Chess: 3 pm. Dyker Public Library. See Wednesday, June 15.

Arts and crafts: 3:30 pm. Crown Heights Public Library. See Wednesday, June 1.

Creative writing: 3:30 pm. McKin-

ley Park Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

Kids Korner: 4:15 pm. Clinton Hill Public Library. See Wednesday, June 8.

THURS, JUNE 30

Arts and crafts: Gravesend Public Library, 303 Ave. X between West First and West Second streets; (718) 382-5792; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 3 pm; Free.

Children make fun projects.

RIF Teens: 3 pm. Dyker Public Library. See Thursday, June 16.

Gaming: 3:30 pm. Clarendon Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

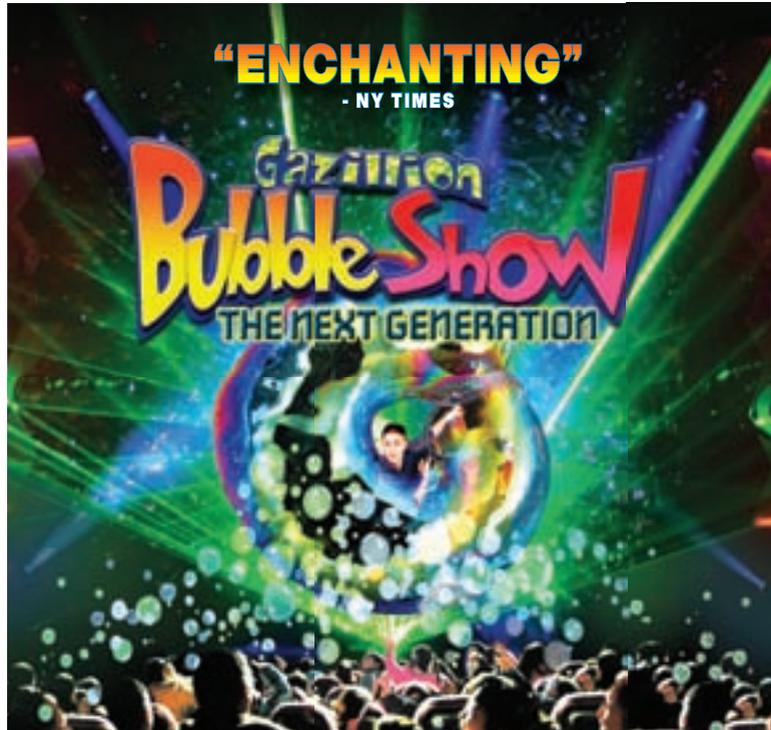
Film screening: 3:30 pm. Leonard Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Homework help: 3:30 pm. New Utrecht Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Teen time: 4 pm. Bushwick Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Gaming: 4 pm. Cortelyou Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.

Reading time: 4 pm. Mapleton Public Library. See Thursday, June 2.



Wed at 11 & 2, Fri at 7, Sat at 11, 2 & 4:30, Sun at 12 & 3.

For groups & birthday parties visit our website or call 1-866-6-GAZTIX

GazillionBubbleShow.com

TELECHARGE.COM or 212.239.6200

NEW WORLD STAGES 340 WEST 50th ST.

2 FOR \$99* TICKET OFFER (regularly \$158)
use code: LLLSP77



Daryl Roth
presents
**Love, Loss,
and
What I Wore**

an intimate collection of stories

Nora Ephron and Delia Ephron

based on the book by Ilene Beckerman

directed by Karen Carpenter

April 27 - May 29:



CONCHATA
FERRELL
(“TWO AND A HALF MEN”)



MINKA
KELLY
(“PARENTHOOD”)



ANNALYNNE
McCORD
(“NOTIF”)



ANNE
MEARA
(“SEA AND THE CITY”)



B.
SMITH
(“A SMITH WITH STYLE”)

BroadwayOffers.com or (212) 947-8844
WESTSIDE THEATRE 407 West 43rd Street

*Offer expires August 7, 2011. Standard rates may apply. Regular service charges may apply to all prices and on the orders. Cash and electronic payment accepted. Subject to availability. Offer is non-transferable and may be voided at anytime. The exchange of refunds. All sales final. *Award for excellence with any other offer. Not valid for group purchases. Limit 1 tickets per order.

Community Marketplace

BALLET LESSONS

718.769.9161
www.brightonballet.org

Brighton Ballet Theater
SCHOOL OF RUSSIAN BALLET

no-nop
rhythmic
pre-ballet
latin dance
gymnastics
classical ballet
ballroom dance
modern and popular dance
performance opportunities



2007 Oriental Blvd, Bklyn, T7, 2nd fl. Room 7211, Brooklyn, NY 11235

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

**Wanted Distributors
& Sales Agent**

**Earn Big Money! Set Your Own Hours!
Be Your Own Boss!**

USE YOUR HOME OR PLACE OF BUSINESS
TO EARN EXTRA INCOME

Selling Ladies Lingerie & Accessories
Customer Service 24 hours
Tel. 1-800-396-5947

E-mail: bjmlingerie@hotmail.com • www.bjmlingerie.com

FAMILY LAW

Divorce & Family Law

Robert A. Ugelow, Esq.
25 Years of Experience • Free Consultation
Specializing In Divorce

Separation / Adoption / Annulment
Support / Protection / Visitation
Custody / Orders

Robert A. Ugelow, P.C.
A Specialist in Family and Matrimonial Law.
Sometimes There's A Need.

26 Court Street, Brooklyn, NY 11242 **718-852-8641**

HELP WANTED – EDUCATION

ABA Special Educators

NYS Cert, DOH EI Approval, ABA Exp
Home-Based ABA Program
for ASD toddlers in Bklyn, Queens & Stat Is

CHALLENGE
Early Intervention Center

Email Resume:
Ibel.Challenge@thejnet.com
Fax: **718-972-0696**

HELP WANTED – THERAPY

**Physical & Occupational
Therapists**

Home-Based Birth-3 Cases
Bklyn, Queens & Stat Is.
NYS Lic & DOH Approval

Fax Res: **718-972-0696**
E-Mail: Ibel.Challenge@TheJnet.com
CHALLENGE EI CENTER

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Coming Soon

**KIN
WOR**

THANKS FRIEND
CARE GIVE
LOVE
AWESOME CHERISH
JOY PEACE HOPE
GRACE
ESIGN
LLC

Personalized Graphic Design
custom invitations & announcements
www.kindworddesign.com

MUSIC LESSONS

SOUNDS OF MUSIC

Seasoned Performing Musicians with
Extensive Teaching Experience

**Private Lessons for Children
& Adults at All Levels**

- Piano • Keyboard
- Violin • Oboe
- Recorder • Saxophone
- Flute • Clarinet • Vocal

718-232-2703 • Cell 646-752-7973
Daniel & Diana Barkan • daniel_barkan@hotmail.com
www.soundsofmusicarts.com



MUSIC LESSONS

HERBALIFE

Live Healthy - It's In

Lose weight, gain weight or maintain your weight!

- Vitamins
- Shakes
- Relaxation
- Joint Support
- Circulation
- Snack Control

Call Maryellen Seger 1-888-471-1635
mseger55@gmail.com www.greatshapetoday.com



To place an ad in this section,
please call 718.260.2587

It figures

BY CYNTHIA WASHAM



DAD'S DATA

84 Percent of dads who say moms are treated better on Mother's Day than dads are on Father's Day.

39 Percent of people who consider Ben Stiller the best celebrity dad.



25 Percent who consider Brad Pitt their favorite.



312 million
Number of hits from Googling "mother."

270 million
Number from Googling "father."

More than 30 Percent of an average man's sperm that's normal and healthy.



Less than 10
Percent of normal, healthy sperm in triathlete males, presumably from miles spent on a bike saddle in tight shorts.

TRAVEL TRIVIA



67 Percent who consider family vacation a time for "fun, action and adventure."

18 Percent who consider it a time for "rest and relaxation."

39 Percent of parents who say they would take their children out of school for a family vacation.

11 Percent who say they would never do that.

43 Percent of parents who say their kids are very involved in planning family vacations.

11 Percent who say the adults decide when and where to go.



Sources: PRweb.com, Parentdish.com, babytalk, Mayoclinic.com, Urology Times, DisneyFamily.com, Familyvacationcritic.com

PARTY PLANNERS

Rico The Clown
Magician Comical Nerd
 As seen on TV
 Rico is a University Professor of Speech and Communication
 • Magic • Balloon Sculpting
 • Comedy • Roasting
 • Educational Shows
 • Adults/Kids
 718-434-9697 • 917-318-9092

The Twisted Balloon Company
 Award-winning Balloon Art & Entertainment

Todd Neufeld
 featured entertainer
1-212-748-9798
 1-800-505-TWIST (800-505-8947)
 www.twistedballoon.com
 todd@twistedballoon.com

HAPPY HENRY
 "The Wizard/Magician Clown"

Close Up Magic AT ITS VERY FINEST
 • HANDS-ON MAGIC
 • BALLOON ANIMALS
 • FACE PAINTING
 • ILLUSIONS AND HUNDREDS OF COSTUME CHARACTERS
 Birthdays, Bar Mitzvahs, Christenings, Children's and Adult Parties
 CORPORATE ACCOUNTS WELCOME
917-617-3698
 www.HappyHenrytheWizard.com

Finally in New York!
 Jane Stratten presents
Penny and the Puppets

 Memorable, Interactive Musical Puppet Shows (camps, schools, birthday parties, festivals, libraries)
 Also, Special Shows for One and Two Year Olds!
 We bring the show to you!
 917-474-9364 www.pennyandthepuppets.com

UNIQUE KIDS BAKING PARTY
 Kids will love it and no mess!
 • Baking & Decorating Cookies
 • Making Chocolate Candies
 • Making Their Own Goody Bags
 CATERING FOR THE KIDS & THE ADULTS TOO
 CALL TODAY: **917-640-3373**
 EMAIL: mei@uniquekidsparty.com

Have A Kid's Party That's Very Different!

 • We bring the zoo to you!
 • All ages & all occasions
 • Bug & Reptile Shows
 • Squirrel Petting Zoo
 • Pony Rides
 • Exotic Pet Program
 • Nature Programs
 • Pet Therapy
 • U.S.D.A. Licensed & Insured
 Visit our website: www.partypets.com
 Hands-on learning about exotic animals from around the world
 WE ADOPT UNWANTED EXOTIC PETS!
 All Day Enrichment Programs Available to Schools, Scouts, Libraries, & Private Occasions - BOOK EARLY!
 Call 516-766-1100 • Party Pets, Inc. • P.O. Box 439 • Baldwin, NY
 Tortoise • Chinchilla • Hedgehog • Alligator • Snakes & Bugs

Best Clowns
 Clowns • Costume Characters
 Princess Parties • Magicians
 Face Painters • Balloon Art
 Caricaturists • Toddler Games
 Cotton Candy & More
1-800-75-CLOWN or 212-614-0988
 Bi-Lingual Performers Available * Private & Corporate Events
 All Boros, L.I. & Westchester

ALL IN ONE ENTERTAINMENT INC.
 ALL AT A REASONABLE PRICE
(718) 441-5764
(718) 441-7796
www.allinoneentertainment.com
 Clowns • Magicians • Cartoon Characters
 DJ Service • Arts & Crafts
 All Types of Bounce • Face Painting Sand/
 Spin Art • Balloon Artists
 Private Events • and much more!!!
 WEEKDAY SPECIAL STARTS AT \$9000
 PARTY ROOM AVAILABLE
 95-25 Jamaica Ave, Woodhaven, NY 11421

What do you do before the cake has been served & the presents opened?
HAVIN' A PARTY
9520 Ave. L, Brooklyn
 • Magicians • Clowns • Face Painters
 • 100s of Costume Characters To Choose From
 • Balloon Animals & Sculptures
Mention this ad & get \$10 OFF any show
 Serving families in our communities since 1984
718-251-0500 • www.havingaparty.com

Puppy Parties
 PUPPIES BROUGHT TO YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY...
 Really, Really Fun
 Totally Interactive
 Great for ages 1½ to adults
 call **718-258-2342**
 to book your next puppy party
 See the puppies at
www.PuppyParadise.com

To place an ad in this section,
 please call 718.260.2587

New & Noteworthy



The bow show

This is the how-to for hair.

Learn how to make boutique bows, baby clips, tutus, braided barrettes and more with these online tutorials.

Birdsong Bows has 20 guides to making fun or fancy accessories for your little girl, niece or granddaughter, complete with easy-to-read descriptions and plenty of photos.

Geared towards beginners, you can make crafting hair accoutrements an engaging activity with your child, or a new hobby all to yourself.

Bows for beginners bundle packages, \$35. For info, visit www.etsy.com/people/birdsongbows.

'Zoo' story

Butts are so useful — not only do they enable us to sit, they can even teach us how to draw!

The new activity book "Everything Butt Art at the Zoo" teaches children ages 4 and older the core principals of step-by-step drawing. And every drawing originates from the outline of — yes — a butt.

This creative and educational activity book by Brian Snyder and illustrator Alexis Moniello is designed to encourage young artists with a fun and effective technique,



which Snyder has found to be successful with his own daughter.

In addition to providing step-by-step instructions for sketching 15 zoo animals, "Everything Butt Art at the Zoo" offers unique facts about each of the characters alongside colorful illustrations your own child will be making in no time.

"Everything Butt Art at the Zoo," \$9.95. For info, visit everythingbuttart.com.

Hop to it

With a name like HuggyBunny, you know these clothes are soft and comfortable!

This line of Peruvian Pima cotton baby clothes is just that, in a variety of styles, including sleeveless onesies, T-shirt onesies, long sleeve onesies, skirt onesies, rompers, classic gowns, and convertible gowns, as well as footsies, blankets, hats, and bibs, with as many precious screen-printed images, including hummingbirds, butterflies, monkeys



and bananas, frogs, and this kangaroo romper. There's also, of course, a gown with a bunny printed on the front — and back.

Girl romper by HuggyBunny, \$36. For info, visit www.huggybunny.com.

'Bugs' to be released

"Bugs" for sale!

Favorite kids musician Mister G has a new record ready to infest your CD player just in time for summer BBQs and pool parties.

A follow-up to his beloved 2009 album "Pizza for Breakfast," "Bugs" features 13 original songs by Mister G — aka Ben Gundersheimer, a critically acclaimed singer-songwriter who spent 20 years as a rock



frontman and solo artist before making the transition to family music.

"Bugs" features musical styles that bounce engagingly from bluegrass to bossa nova, ska to folk and rock. The song themes vary from world travels to a shark in the bathtub to annoying siblings and, of course, bugs!

"Bugs" by Mister G. For info, visit www.mistersongs.com.

Word up

During your next family road trip or play date, little wordsmiths looking to pass the time have a fun new game.

From the makers of Bananagrams comes ZIP-IT, a two-player crossword race that can be played anytime, anywhere, in as little as 20 seconds.

To play ZIP-IT, each person takes 12 cubes and races to form his own crossword grid using any side of the cubes. The first player to use all his cubes calls, "ZIP!" and scores a point by moving his or her own



zipper up the pouch.

The first person to score 10 points shouts, "ZIP-IT!" and wins the game.

Geared towards players ages 7 and up, ZIP-IT features 24 high-quality letter cubes packaged in a unique cloth pouch with scoring zippers, so everything you need to play is — literally — in the bag.

ZIP-IT, \$14.95. For info, visit www.bananagrams.com.



Park Slope Day Camp June 29 - September 2

- Free morning transportation from most Brownstone Brooklyn neighborhoods.
- Door to door transportation available from most other Brooklyn locations.
- Very flexible registration; extra long season and accomodating hours.
- Outdoor, fun, stimulating programs for campers ages 3.5 to 14.



Program & Activities

- Pee Wee, Junior, Middle and Senior Camp for campers entering Pre-K through 6th grade.
- Cirque d'Ete for grades Pre-K - 5 featuring acrobatics, circus skills, clowning and more.
- On Wheels: travel camp for campers entering grades 6 - 8 features daily and overnight trips.
- Leadership Experience for teens entering grades 9 & 10

New Soccer Camp

Want your child to bend it like Beckham while still having fun? For children entering grades 1 - 5. Co-ed.

End of Summer Mini Camp

August 29 - September 2
5 days of trips & activities
based in Park Slope.



Now Hiring

Experienced Staff Welcome.
Apply Online.



- ✓ **New Skills**
- ✓ **New Thrills**
- ✓ **New Friends**

YMCA Camp.
It's what kids want
for summer.

Hurry! It's not too late to register. Space is still available!



Come In. Be Cool.

We've got your Value Pass to Summer Fun!

Just **\$200** for an adult, or **\$275** for the whole family!

Ask about our **Summer Membership Special**
 and get connected with Y Personal Fitness!

**SUMMER'S HERE AND WE'VE
 GOT AWESOME CAMPS FOR
 KIDS AND YOUR VALUE PASS
 TO SUMMER FUN!**

YMCA Branches

Brooklyn	
Bedford-Stuyvesant	(718) 789-1497
Dodge	(718) 625-3136
Flatbush	(718) 469-8100
Greenpoint	(718) 389-3700
N. Brooklyn	(718) 277-1600
Prospect Park	(718) 768-7100
Park Slope Armory YMCA	(212) 912-2580

...AND OUR SLEEPAWAY CAMPS

New York YMCA Camp (Huguenot, NY)	(845) 858-2200
---	-----------------------

**Call (212) 630-YMCA or visit
 ymcanyc.org for more information.**

New York City's YMCA
 We're Here for Good.

Financial assistance available.



"Summer Membership" offer is valid on new memberships at YMCA of Greater New York locations only. The offer runs from May 14, 2011, to June 27, 2011. "Summer Memberships" are valid from date of registration through September 5, 2011; Family Membership includes 1 or 2 adults with children under 18 years of age all living in the same household; must be paid in full at time of registration; cannot be combined with any other offer; and are non-transferable. Valid photo ID is required. Park Slope Armory YMCA, Ridgewood YMCA and Flatbush YMCA do not offer a swimming pool. Some pricing exceptions apply.