

BROOKLYN

Family

Where Every Child Matters

June 2012
FREE

Special
Needs Guide

Mobile *mania*

Are they old enough for
their own cell phone?

Brand new father

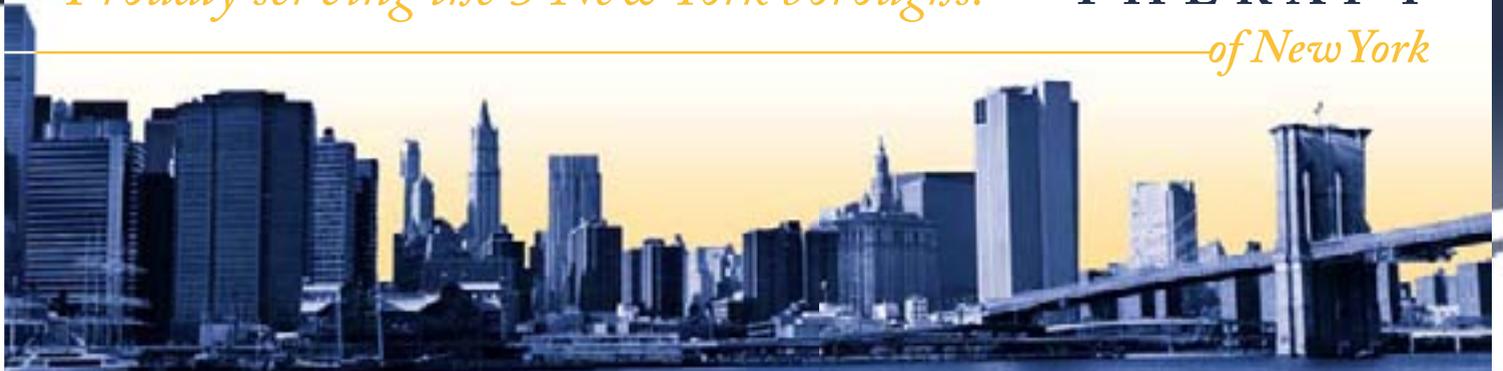
Surviving the first weeks



Find us online at www.NYParenting.com

EBS THERAPY *of New York*

Proudly serving the 5 New York boroughs!



Birth to Three • Preschool • School Age • Adult

EBS Therapy of New York is a multi-disciplinary team of highly-trained specialists with a passion for working to help children and adults move, communicate, and learn to their greatest potential. Our clinic is located in Brooklyn, New York, but our services reach far beyond—into schools, homes and the communities throughout the five New York boroughs. We work with families to determine the best and most effective places and times to meet the unique needs of each child. Our mission is to make a difference within the community by helping our clients achieve success in communication, learning, and movement.

It's not too late! Sign up for EBS Therapy of New York's Summer Program today!



phone: 718-238-0377 fax: 718-238-0344 email: info@ebstherapy.com web: www.ebstherapy.com

Family June 2012



FEATURES

- 8 TTYL, Mom!**
When should your kid get a cellphone?
BY RISA C. DOHERTY
- 10 Planning a perfect play date**
Follow these rules to make sure you and your little one have a great time
BY ALEXANDRA ESPINALL
- 12 By the book**
The Ezra Jack Keats bookmaking competition encourages art and literacy in public schools
BY LAURA VAROSCAK-DEINNOCENTIIS
- 14 Unraveling the mystery of colic**
Researchers find link to migraine-suffering moms
BY KIKI BOCHI
- 16 Getting pregnant**
One woman's five-year-long struggle to conceive
BY SANDRA GORDON
- 20 Heads up**
What you should know about brain injuries and concussions
BY KIKI BOCHI
- 22 Less stress, but more effective**
Book offers new treatment program to kids with ASD
BY JOANNA DELBUONO
- 24 A time of transitions**
Helping your special-needs child prepare for the end of school
BY REBECCA MCKEE
- 26 Summer's golden opportunity**
How camps can support the social development of kids with special needs
BY BRIAN FAUGHNAN
- 32 Brand new dad**
Surviving the first weeks of parenthood
BY TIM PERRINS
- 36 Learning on the job**
One mom's helpful tips for teens seeking summer employment
BY ALLISON PLITT
- 44 Believing in miracles**
Making a difference with the Miracle Project
BY AARON FEINSTEIN
- 52 Batter up!**
The Bronx Museum of Art exhibit features history of baseball in the Bronx
BY TAMMY SCILEPPI AND SUSAN WEISS

COLUMNS

- 6 Mommy 101**
BY ANGELICA SERADOVA
- 18 Healthy Living**
BY DANIELLE SULLIVAN
- 34 Death by Children**
BY CHRIS GARLINGTON
- 38 Ask an Attorney**
BY ALISON ARDEN BESUNDER, ESQ.
- 40 Good Sense Eating**
BY CHRISTINE M. PALUMBO, RD
- 42 Divorce & Separation**
BY LEE CHABIN, ESQ.
- 46 Growing Up Online**
BY CAROLYN JABS
- 48 Our Relationships**
BY JOAN EMERSON, PHD
- 50 The Book Worm**
BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER
- 54 Family Journal**
BY ROBERT MORTON
- 56 Family Health**
BY DR. PRAMOD NARULA, MD
- 58 Parents Helping Parents**
BY SHARON C. PETERS
- 60 Lions and Tigers and Teens**
BY MYRNA BETH HASKELL
- 62 A Teen's Take**
BY AGLAIA HO
- 72 It Figures**
BY CYNTHIA WASHAM
- 74 New & Noteworthy**
The hottest new products



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

SPECIAL SECTION

- 28 Special Needs Directory**



Letter from the publisher

CONGRATS TO OUR GRADS!

I know that during this month many of you will have the honor of attending the graduation of perhaps your preschooler, your high school student, or maybe even your university daughter or son.



I know what you will be feeling. I have been there myself many times, and each time, although I think I am prepared emotionally, I am overwhelmed with waves of tearful joy and amazement.

I am amazed at how quickly the time has passed and joyous at the juncture and at the achievement of my child. Proudly we watch as they graduate to yet another plateau, another level in their development and journey in this life experience. Sadly

and with nostalgia, we often conjure the vision of that baby we had, that little toddler, that youngster who first bawled, then crawled, then stood on its own two feet and took off, away from us and towards the independence we knew was coming and had trained it for.

There is truly nothing like it, nothing at all that can match that feeling of pride and of completion, that in spite of obstacles, the work has been done and your child has matriculated and is moving up. In this day of overwhelming competition and vocational uncertainty, there is little doubt that graduations are necessary; that continuing to be educated

is paramount and that our children need to "aim high."

We must be there along the way, to encourage, assist, tutor, and advise. There is little doubt that our job is ongoing, and that education begins at home, in the womb, in the nursery, in the house, and that we are the first and foremost teachers of our children. We set the tone, we create the priorities. We either give them confidence and direction or we don't and they flounder. It is not someone else's job. It is ours. Our children will only succeed if they are encouraged from the beginning by us, their parents, and informed from the start that success in every way is their destiny.

Congratulations to all of you who in these weeks will sit and watch your children collect their diplomas,

their proof that they have completed another level on the steps to adulthood and its inherent responsibilities. Snap your photos as we all do, but also take the time to really look at the ritual, to really look at your child and at all his friends, also moving up, who you also have watched grow to this point. Then, congratulate yourself as you congratulate them. It is your achievement as well as theirs. It's a huge job to be a good parent. I know.

Have a great month. Thanks for reading.

Susan Weiss-Voskidis, Publisher
Family@cnglocal.com

STAFF

PUBLISHER / EXECUTIVE EDITOR:

Susan Weiss

PUBLISHER / BUSINESS MANAGER:

Clifford Luster

SALES MANAGER / ADVERTISING:

Sharon Noble

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Tina Felicetti

SALES REPS: Lori Falco, Sharon Leverett, Stephanie Stellaccio, Jay Pelc

ART DIRECTOR: Leah Mitch

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR: On Man Tse

LAYOUT MANAGER: Yvonne Farley

WEB DESIGNER: Sylvan Migdal

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS: Arthur Arutyunov, Charlotte Carter, Mauro Deluca, Earl Ferrer

MANAGING EDITOR: Vince DiMiceli

ASSISTANT EDITOR: Courtney Donahue

COPY EDITOR: Lisa J. Curtis

CALENDAR EDITOR: Joanna Del Buono

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

Risa Doherty, Allison Plitt, Candi Sparks, Laura Varoscak, Mary Carroll Wininger

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

New York Parenting Media/CNG
1 Metrotech Center North
10th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

www.NYParenting.com

New York Parenting
MEDIA
Where Every Family Matters
www.NYParenting.com



The acceptance of advertising by **New York Parenting Media** 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 **New York Parenting Media**, One Metrotech Center North, 10th Floor, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.

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

Join the conversation on Facebook.

New York Parenting Media has been recognized for editorial and design excellence by PPA.

New York Parenting Media is published monthly by New York Parenting Media/CNG. Subscription rate is \$35 annually. Reproduction of New York Parenting Media in whole or part without written permission from the publisher is prohibited. All rights reserved. Copyright©2012 Readership: 220,000. 2012 circulation audits by CAC & CVC.





Brighton Ballet Theater

SCHOOL OF RUSSIAN AMERICAN BALLET

"Thousands have taken its dance classes, but students say they return year after year for more than lessons..."
- NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

BBT/School of Russian American Ballet Celebrates its 25th Anniversary!

Join BBT to commemorate the history and achievements of the past 25 years on June 13th, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center!

BRIGHTON BALLET IS LOOKING FOR THE NEXT GREAT DANCING STAR.

A great opportunity for all young dancers!

BBT/School of Russian American Ballet announces open auditions by appointment in Brooklyn for its Summer Intensive Program of Russian Ballet & upcoming performance opportunities on the stages of Kingsborough and Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Brighton Ballet is offering a few tuition-free scholarships for its Advanced Program, "Promising Students", for the 2012-2013 school year. A limited number of partial scholarships are available as well.

We are looking for talented dancers, age 8-18, for our 14-month Professional Development Program with the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM). The program provides professional training and culminates with a performance in the BAM's new Judith R. and Alan H. Fishman Theater Space in the Spring/Summer of 2013.

Arrange to take an open class at BBT as an audition.

Visit www.brightonballet.org for more information.

Call 718.769.9161 or email us at info@brightonballet.org to schedule an appointment.



Send bio & audition request to:
Brighton Ballet Theater,
c/o Kingsborough Community College,
2001 Oriental Blvd., Build. T7, Room 7211,
Brooklyn, NY 11235

CAMPUS DAY CAMP @ Brooklyn College

Accepting ACD & HRA Vouchers

AGES 5-14

- 9:00am - 4:15pm
- Early Drop Off From 7:30am
- Late Pick-Up Until 7:00pm
- Transportation Available
- Fully Licensed & Insured

JUNE 28, 2012 - AUGUST 17, 2012

INCLUDES: Trips, Extended Days, Overnights, Swimming (off site), Lunch & Snack Daily, Arts & Crafts, Music, Dance, Karate, Baking, Drama Club, Sports & More!

718.421.7575

2901 CAMPUS ROAD

Registration Is Now OPEN!!

Gan Inc. Summer Camp

in 2 locations

Ages 1-6

- Licensed Teachers
- Individual Attention
- Kosher Meals
- Over 14 Years Of Experience
- Quality, Safety, Educational
- Extended Hours & Transportation Available
- Outdoor Playground
- Indoor Gymnasium
- Vouchers Accepted
- Fun, Music, Arts & Craft
- Water Play

Still a few places available for Summer Camp 2012

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2012-2013

Brooklyn College	9502 Seaview Ave.
2901 Campus Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11210	Brooklyn, NY 11236
718-338-7575	718-968-7575



MOMMY 101

ANGELICA SERADOVA

The social network

Mom seeks balance between friends and family

Something crazy happens after you have a child. Well, actually, a lot of craziness happens, but I'm talking about what happens to your relationships. You remember, your friends?

When I was pre-baby, I had a somewhat active social life; dinner after work with friends, happy hour on Fridays with co-workers, and date night with my husband, which usually included meeting up with other couples. I got invited to places and events. I got to pick and choose where I wanted to go, how I wanted to spend my time, and with whom. There was a healthy balance between me-time, friend-time, and family-time.

It's understood that once you become a parent, your priorities change. Yes, I get that. But even after I've pureed my daughter's baby food, done her laundry, played with her, chatted with my husband, made dinner (occasionally), I still want to make time for my friends. It's because of my new priorities that my rare friend time is even more special.

Let me tell you, I am the first one to respond to any invite these days. Girls night? I'm in. Brunch? See you there. Recently, my husband and I attended a wedding. We had a babysitter (thanks, Mom!) for the night and planned on staying out all night long (read: after midnight). I visited the open bar often, and we

were that obnoxious couple at the wedding asking everyone where the after-party was.

Don't judge me. Before I had my daughter, I never understood why some of our friends always wanted to stay out so late. What's wrong with them? Don't they know when to go home?! I now realize that they, too, had children, and they were enjoying their big night out.

I'm not eager to get away, because I'm a stressed-out mom or because I'm looking to escape my motherly duties, but because I want to hold onto my identity as much as possible. Going from child-free to new mom is a lot to take in. I understand that a lot of mothers (myself included) feel overwhelmed when they take a step back and see how everything has changed dramatically after having a baby. Happy moms make for happy babies, right? It's because I've managed to hold onto a piece of my pre-baby self that I am, for the most part, a sane mother.

It's this same attitude that has made my transition back to work a lot easier than I expected. I had mentally prepared myself for the separation anxiety (mine, not hers) that would surely come once Olivia started daycare. But, rather ashamedly, I haven't felt any guilt yet. When I'm at work, I'm engaged, and I look forward to going home to my baby. When I'm home, it's all about her.

Nowadays, the party invites aren't coming in like they used to, although Olivia has some to attend soon. But, maybe my friends are busier with their priorities, too. That's life. On the occasion that I am spending time with friends, I treasure that quality time, because the truth is, these moments are few and far between. I can't get up and go anymore, and I have to think about somebody else before I accept an invitation to do anything. I'm struggling to hold onto my friendships so hard. Will it get worse if I decide to have more children? Will my children be my new BFFs? That wouldn't be so terrible, of course. But it would be terrible if I didn't even make time for my friends.



The best this summer has to offer! where Judaism is fun



Art

Ballet



Trips

Karate



Music

Swim



Breakfast & Lunch

- CARING & DEDICATED STAFF
- YOUR DAUGHTER'S SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY
- REASONABLE PRICE ~ SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
- TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FROM ALL OVER BROOKLYN

CAMP GAN ISRAEL OF KENSINGTON
PART OF THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF CAMPS

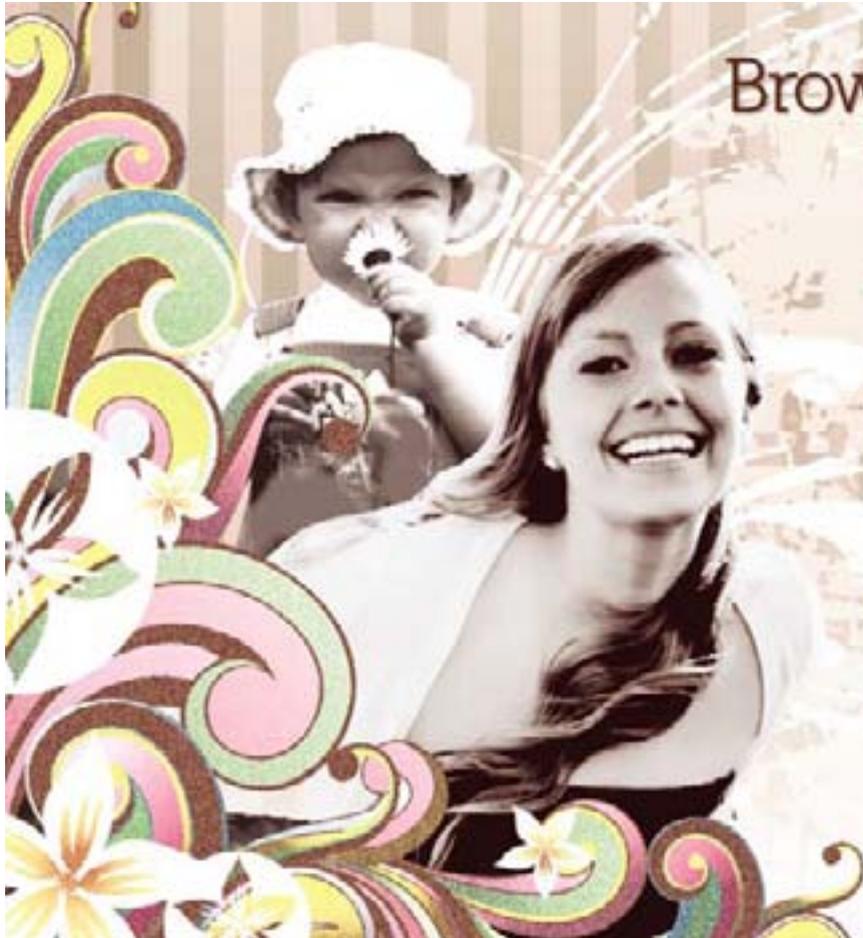
JULY 9 - AUGUST 19, 2012 ~ GIRLS AGES 5 - 13

APPLY BEFORE MAY 31 FOR 10% DISCOUNT



REGISTER TODAY! Call 646.963.4970

fun@ILoveMyCamp.org / www.ILoveMyCamp.org



Browse & pick

New York City's Exciting
Fashion Swap

PRESENTS:

**North Brooklyn
Summer Tour**

featuring



The Children's Swap
(Sizes 6 months to Size 8)



For the Ladies!
(Sizes 4 to 16)

BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY!

www.BrowseAndPick.com

TTYL, Mom!

When should your kid get a cellphone?

BY RISA C. DOHERTY

At what age should a child get a cellphone? Experts say that because children mature at varying rates and handle responsibility differently, there shouldn't be a set age. Yet it is surprising there are some second and third graders getting Smartphones, and, although it is not yet the norm, there is a definite trend of parents equipping their wee counterparts with the latest of everything. Child-rearing gurus we spoke with say that there are important steps a parent can take to make sure their child is ready to handle the responsibility of having a cellphone of their own.

The trend

"Parents are providing kids with more and more privileges and possessions at younger and younger ages," says clinical psychologist Dr. Michael Osit. Most kids who are now in their late 20s received their cellphones when they started



driving or went to college; my 21 year old got his at the end of eighth grade, and my 18-year-old daughter had one in sixth. A local PTA president tells me that now, "the last holdouts receive their phones by sixth grade."

Osit calls it "social and acquisition acceleration" and tells me "many kids are not ready for the privilege." He is concerned that a child who receives a privilege too early will be making increasingly grandiose demands as he gets older.

Early acquiescence to inappropriate demands can set the tone for future entitlement issues. In his

book, "Generation Text — Raising Well Adjusted Kids In An Age of Instant Everything," Osit addresses concerns over immediate gratification, which results in a failure to develop necessary coping mechanisms in adulthood.

Several parents I spoke with were apprehensive that their children would feel left out without a cellphone. Osit agrees with this concern over social marginalization — within limits. He explains, "If you don't provide your 15 year old with a texting plan, he will be out of the loop when it comes to maintaining peer relationships and making plans to get together."

Family cellphone contracts

Here are some possible provisions for your children if you choose to make a family cellphone contract:

- Compliance with school rules or school-wide ban
- Usage limited to specific hours (cellphone curfew)
- Required prompt responsive-

ness to parent contact

- No downloading from the web, dialing toll-free numbers, or posting photos or videos without parental permission
- Not sending hurtful, harassing, or threatening texts
- Requirement to pay charges exceeding the monthly fee

When are they ready?

Top Tips

According to the clinical psychologist Dr. Michael Osit, author of "Generation Text — Raising Well Adjusted Kids in an Age of Instant Everything," parents should ask themselves the following questions to determine the best age at which to get their kids a cellphone:

- How responsible is your child?
- How mature is he?
- Does he follow the rules, particularly with other electronics (computer, Internet, video games)?
- How adept is your child at social decision making?
- Is your child easily influenced by peer pressure?

Is there a need?

Lori Hiller, a school social worker in Brooklyn, believes that kids should get cellphones when they start to travel alone, which can be as young as fourth grade, but that children who are constantly chaperoned do not need them. She cautions that younger children do not need BlackBerries or iPhones, but that parents might want their children to have texting ability, since texts can often be easier to receive than calls.

Cellphones are also a convenience for the parents, so they can call kids to come outside for pick-up, stay connected with their tweens elsewhere in the mall, or text kids behind closed doors about dinner. (Yes, I do that.)

Lenore Skenazy, a Queens mom and syndicated columnist, explained to me that her kids wanted cellphones to arrange meetings with their friends in the park. Landlines are insufficient for most kids, because they keep their friends' contact numbers in their cellphones.

Most parents seem to feel that a cellphone is helpful, so they can keep tabs on their children or be reached in an emergency. Others consider a cellphone a safety device, because they know their children can deter a possible abductor by taking a photo.

Still, "[kids] want it for the games," one mother told me. And, cellphone society beckons to them constantly.

"Cellphones are so embedded in our culture that they are like a third appendage for kids. It is the only world they know," says Osit.

Well before they get their own phones, young children can recite texting acronyms, mimicking their favorite TV characters.

Kids notice that adults are "cell addicted," as Skenazy says, and they want to be part of the conversation, literally and figuratively. Moreover, most of us have witnessed parents handing their own cellphones to their infants and toddlers in public, to distract them

with games and videos. Is it no wonder that kids want their own?

Too close for comfort?

Despite her acceptance of cellphones for kids, as "a normal part of adolescence," Skenazy, author of "Free Range Kids," has concerns, too.



"Cellphones are so embedded in our culture that they are like a third appendage for kids. It is the only world they know."

"If they lose them, they only have so much earning power to pay you back," she says.

More importantly, Skenazy warns that a cellphone can become "the world's longest umbilical cord," impeding a child's growth toward independence. Kids with cellphones often call parents to help them make basic decisions, which they should be making on their own.

"It can create a sense of dependency and undermine a child's self-confidence," says East Hills Elementary School psychologist Christine Flanagan.

Skenazy agrees.

"Kids need some self-determination at some point," she says. "By the time they are 10, for example, kids should know to eat if they are hungry."

She even suggests that parents leave their cellphones home occasionally, so that they cannot be

reached, thereby forcing their children to rely on their own resources to make reasonable age-appropriate decisions, without using their parents as a crutch.

Some parents refuse to do that, but I personally like being out of touch for a bit, as long as my kids know where I am in a true emergency. Not only can the cellphone enable children to become too attached, but one New Jersey

mother confided in me that her kids "have a longer leash with a neurotic mother," as she has a constant need to be sure that they are safe.

Teens have complained that parents who shadow their every step and constantly track them by navigation systems are stalkerish. Parents need to be wary of the fine line between monitoring for safety and demonstrating a total lack of confidence in their children, and slowly permit their children more autonomy.

Set & enforce rules

Osit notes that the pervasiveness of cellphones in our lives can cause adults to reach hasty conclusions, as "parents tend to assume their child knows proper use of it." To the contrary, he has been privy to "horror stories" of unacceptable use by children and teens. Accordingly, he encourages parents to establish rules for phone use.

"The cellphone is a privilege —

not a right," he says. New York City banned cellphones in public schools in 2006.

"Parents need to be specific about what is appropriate and what is not," says Osit. "Cellphones are not needed during homework; they should be in the parents' possession or turned off at that time."

He also tells parents to take away the phone for a few days if the rules are broken, and return it with the proviso that the rules will be adhered to in the future.

In my family, a cellphone had been used for 3 am conversations on school nights, and thereafter spent every night on the kitchen table unused after a set hour.

In an effort to set down rules for their kids, some creative Long Island parents drafted family cellphone contracts based on forms found online. They require the child and the parents to comply with different sets of expectations, many of which limit the child's usage, but some of which require the parent not to unnecessarily invade his child's privacy.

Osit also believes that parents should tell their children that they will occasionally check the child's text messages, mindful of the "trust issue," yet more concerned with safety and inappropriate behavior.

Parents can also purchase "starter phones," or phones designed especially for younger children, which come with navigation systems for tracking and parental controls, so the child cannot text or surf the Internet. In this way, the child can stay connected with the parent, without worrying about inappropriate use or loss of a pricey phone.

Cellphones are inanimate tools. In the hands of responsible tweens and teens, they can be a wonderful means of communication and connection with parents, peers, and the outside world. But, they can be instruments for cyber-bullying, cheating, or any number of dangerous and unsuitable behaviors. Before we invite our children to join us in this fast-paced global electronic world, it is our responsibility to be sure they are prepared, well-mannered, and safe.

Risa C. Doherty is a freelance writer and attorney with a cellphone family plan. Read more at www.risadoherty.com.

Planning a perfect play date

Follow these rules to make sure you and your little one have a great time

BY ALEXANDRA ESPINALL

As my daughter, Ali, and I walked home from school, three weeks into first grade, she said to me, “I made a new friend. Her name is Hannah; she wants to have a play date.”

Play date. I had heard of them before, but since Ali is my oldest child, this was the first time I was actually asked to plan one. In my day, I would just run down the block to my friend’s house, and my mom would whistle from the front porch when it was time to come back. I have planned two-day conferences at work, put together dinner parties and hosted events, so how hard could a play date be?

I called the child’s mom, and we decided to meet at the park (which was a lot better than having to clean my house, so they wouldn’t see the mess).

Believe it or not, there are actually rules to follow to make sure you and your little one have a great play date — and save yourself from being the family that people talk about.

- Try and meet somewhere neutral for the first time. A park, library story time, a walk, or a kid-friendly café are great public places to meet, so you can get to know the other parent before she comes into your home.

- Be on time. I’m sure your child will be counting down the minutes in anticipation, and so will her new friend, so don’t make the children, and the other parent, suffer by being tardy. (It’s also a good time to teach your child how to tell time.)

- Bring a snack. Always make sure to ask the other parent beforehand

if her child has any food allergies. You wouldn’t want to bring some strawberries and have the other child watch as yours finishes them alone. If the play date is at your home, have some coffee or tea for the other parent and vice versa: if you are invited, bring a snack.

- Speak to your child about manners. Good afternoon, please, thank you, etc. Explain to her that she is a guest in her friend’s home, and

she must behave. No running or screaming inside, and when the play date is over, she must help clean up.

- Sharing can sometimes become an issue, especially with little ones, so be prepared. If there are some toys that are very special to your child, or expensive collectables that shouldn’t be played with, put them away. Be aware that you will eventually run into another parent who hasn’t learned to share and doesn’t think her child should, either.

- A play date should not last all

day. You have a life to get back to. One hour for the first date is fine — as you get to know each other, you can slightly increase the time.

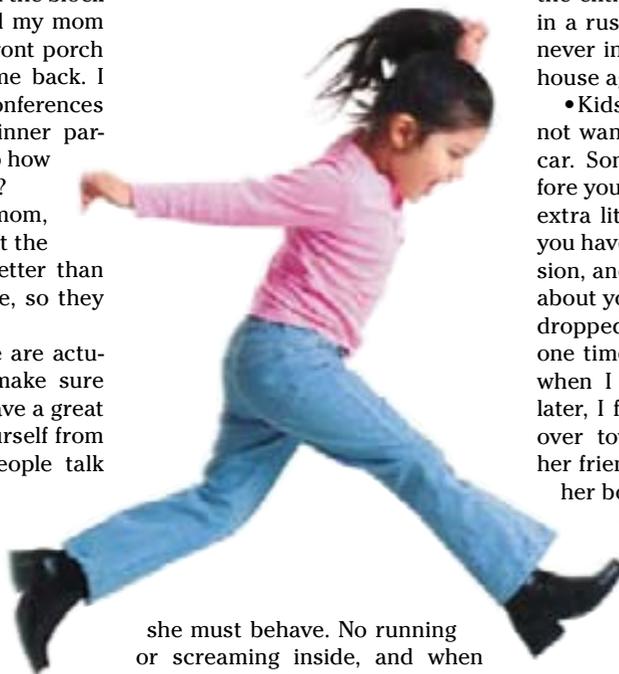
Make sure the pick-up time is clear to the other parent. Some think this is a baby-sitting service and will leave you with their kid for hours — so having a phone number is a good idea. If the play date is at their house, make sure that you are on time for the pick-up.

Keep in mind: play dates are not for parents. Unless you are invited to stay, don’t. I once had a mom drop her daughter off then settle into my couch and ask for something to eat. She stayed for three hours, and I had to entertain her the entire time. (I now pretend I’m in a rush when I see her and have never invited her child back to my house again.)

- Kids and cars. I, personally, do not want my child in anyone else’s car. Some people don’t mind. Before you decide to run errands with extra little ones in tow, make sure you have the other parent’s permission, and let her know how you feel about your kids getting in her car. I dropped my younger daughter off one time at her friend’s house and when I picked her up two hours later, I found out she had been all over town, running errands with her friend and her mom — without her booster seat! They even went to Queens to pick up a family member. Needless to say, after speaking to the other parent, I never sent her there again.

The most important thing is that your child learns how to interact positively with other children and play. After a while, you will get the hang of play dates, and then you can start reading articles to prepare yourself for when your little angel begins to go on real dates.

Alexandra Espinal lives in East New York, Brooklyn, where she is a mom to two girls, a dog named Chellita, a cat named Feathers, and a bearded dragon named Sandy.



DYNAMIC LEARNING CENTER
FOR TOMORROW'S LEADERS



ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

SUMMER CAMP
JULY 23 - AUG 17
9 AM - 5 PM

MATH - SCIENCE
READING - CHESS
WRITING - FRENCH
MUSIC - ETIQUETTE
FUN COMPUTERS
INTEGRATED SPORTS

— MON-FRI: 3PM-6PM —
(718) 998-6481
121 GRAVESEND NECK ROAD
WWW.DYNAMICLEARNINGCENTER.ORG



Greene Hill School

SUMMER CAMP 2012
JUNE 25- AUGUST 3

TO REGISTER, VISIT
GREENHILLSCHOOL.ORG (KEYWORD: SUMMER CAMP)
(718) 230-3608 OR
SUMMERCAMP@GREENHILLSCHOOL.ORG



CBE KIDS
Summer Day Camps
Children of all Faiths & Ethnic Backgrounds are Welcome

Register Now!

Entering Kindergarten Through 4th Grade

• **Elementary Day Camp**

Full Day program. On-site Swimming, active outdoor sports, arts & crafts, nature, gymnastics & music. Trips in & around NYC.

Entering 5th Through 9th Grade

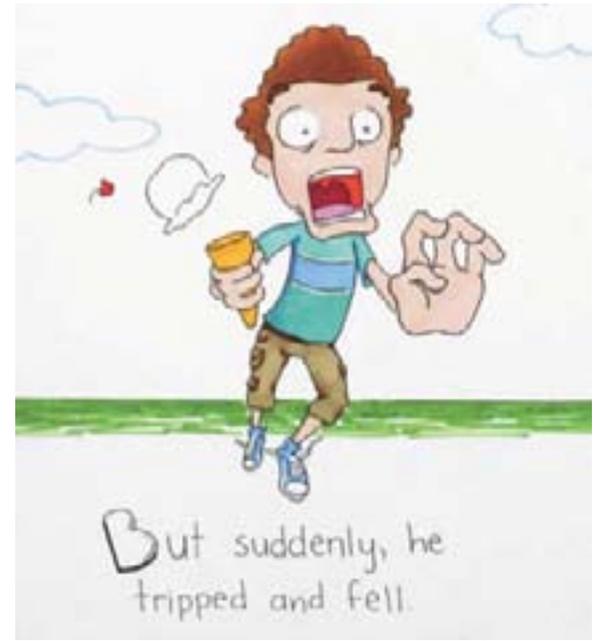
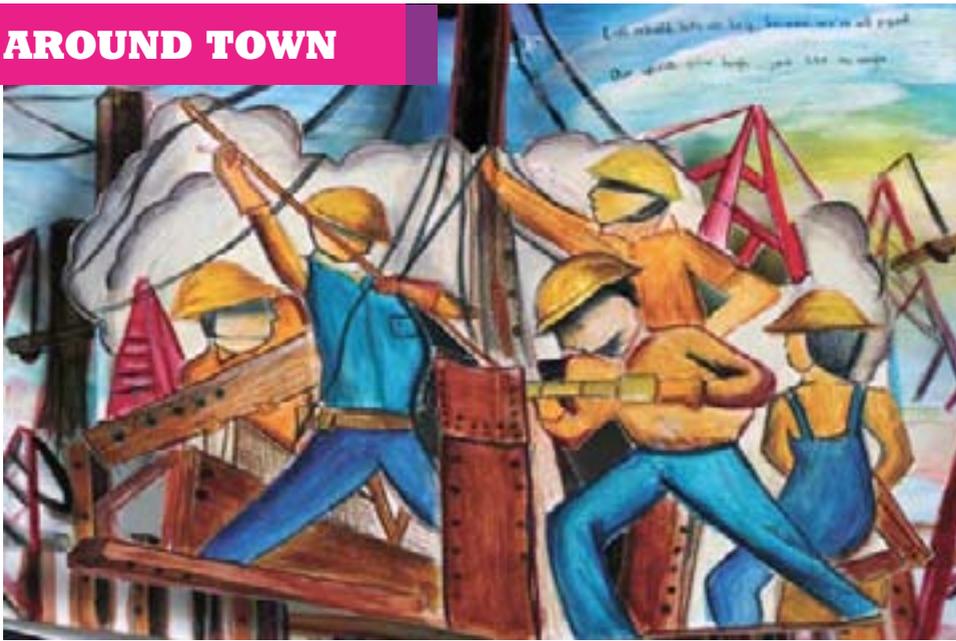
• **Movin' On Travel Camp**

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

**NEW THIS SUMMER:
Dual Language Groups
(Hebrew/English)
at Elementary Day Camp**

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

274 Garfield Place, Park Slope, Brooklyn • www.congregationbethelohim.org



By the book

The Ezra Jack Keats bookmaking competition encourages art and literacy in public schools

BY LAURA VAROSCAK-DEINNOCENTIIS

Ezra Jack Keats is one of our most beloved and influential children's book authors and illustrators. In 1962, his groundbreaking book, "The Snowy Day," introduced multiculturalism into mainstream children's literature and captured the hearts of readers all over the world. Today, third- to 12th-grade students are encouraged to write and illustrate their own stories through the Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition.

Born in Brooklyn in 1916, Keats and his family lived in an East New York tenement for most of his childhood. Exposed to poverty and anti-Semitism, he understood what it felt like to be an outsider, and this social isolation became a common theme in his work.

Growing up, he used art as a means of escape and learned that his talent could help him overcome obstacles in life. Despite Keats's passion, his father discouraged him from pursuing a career in art, terrified that his son would starve.



Pages from the winning books: (clockwise from top left) "Rebirth, New York," "Tyler Learns How To Tie His Shoes," "Detour to 1938."

Yet, Keats continued to draw and paint, encouraged by his teachers and librarians. Keats was first recognized and honored for his artistic talent when he was a young boy when his school presented him with a small pewter medal, which he treasured until his death in 1983.

The medal did not have significant monetary value, but it was meaningful to Keats. It reminded him that he and his work mattered. Keats appreciated the early support he received and wanted to give back by providing all children with opportunities to succeed. In

1963, he started the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation to support art and literacy in public schools and libraries.

After he died, he left the royalties of his books to the foundation. Among its many programs, including Minigrants and the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award, the foundation (in partnership with the city Department of Education) sponsors the annual competition.

This year marks the competition's 26th year.

All third to 12th graders enrolled in New York City public school programs are invited to participate. Students are supervised by teachers or librarians, but are required to complete 100 percent of the work themselves.

Deborah Pope, executive director of the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, explains the value of bookmaking in schools.

"Creating books advances curriculum, making it come alive for the kids," says Pope. "It becomes something that lives and breathes and encourages young people to read."



A page from "Arrows and the Butterfly"

One hundred twenty-five young writers and artists worked on their books for three months before submitting them to the jury for review. The judging panel, a group of local educators, librarians, artists, and scholars, enjoyed reading these handmade books covering a wide variety of subjects, ranging from the adventures of macaroni-and-cheese superheroes to the ravages of war. The judges collected books shaped like fans, folded into origami, and decorated with flip-ups and pop-ups.

They looked for excellence in art and writing, a strong connection between picture and text, and originality.

The four books chosen as the city-wide winners on April 26 vary in subject, style, genre, and artistry, but they were all created in Keats's spirit — beautifully illustrated stories that speak to readers in clear, simple language with compassion, humor, hope, and truth.

All four city-wide winners were awarded a \$500 prize and a medal, but the greatest gift they received

was a feeling of pride after accomplishing such rewarding work.

"If you work hard enough and long enough and give it all you got," says seventh-grade winner Anne Wang. "You will achieve something great."

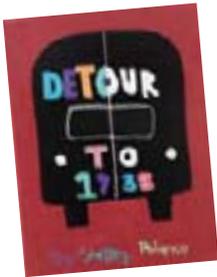
For info on how to make books with your child, visit www.ezra-jack-keats.org/we-love-books/. For a complete list of winners, visit www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/sites/default/files/files/pdf/events/ejk/Ezra_Jack_Keats_Bookmaking_Competition_Winners_with_annotations%20and%20HM.pdf.

Detour to 1938 by Shelley Polanco, fourth grade (winner in third-to-fifth grade category)

PS/IS 333, The Museum School in the Bronx

Including herself as the main character, Polanco created a fun, interactive literary experience that teaches a wide audience about an important hero in history. In a dream sequence, she goes back in time and encounters

a young Martin Luther King, Jr., who wants to grow up to be a famous jazz musician instead of a political figure. With the use of modern technology, like the Internet and a tablet, she gives the future



leader a glimpse of major life-changing events based on his work, including an introduction to our first African-American president. In the end, Polanco convinces the young boy to listen to her advice and stay focused in his fight for civil rights.

Tyler Learns How To Tie His Shoes by Deidre Darius, 11th grade (winner in the ninth-to-12th grade category)

LaGuardia High School in Manhattan

Darius's art teacher assigned a bookmaking project for her advanced illustration class. When the students brainstormed ideas, half joking, Darius proposed writing a book on how to tie shoes, since her laces always come undone.

Her teacher acknowledged her open laces and showed her a few shoe-tying tricks.

Then, Darius got busy with markers, pen and ink to create a story all readers



can relate to. In it, a boy walks down the street and trips over his shoelaces.

The book offers step-by-step instructions to help the boy — and the reader — learn to tie. Real shoelaces are included.

Rebirth, New York by Anne Wang, seventh grade (winner in the sixth-to-eighth grade category)

IS 259K, William McKinley in Brooklyn

The 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks inspired Wang's book, which commemorates the events with a story of rebirth and hope. She starts the book with dark colors. Through the clouds on the first page, the reader looks down on dirt, steel, and destruction. As the story progresses, more vibrant colors begin to replace the darkness. Through the use of watercolors, acrylic paint, and colored pencils, Wang rebuilds

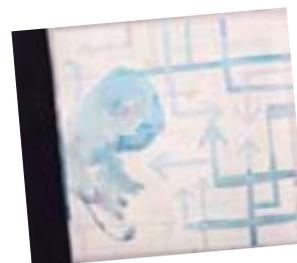


the city, including an intricate, handmade pop-up of the Freedom Tower, and shows how the world becomes brighter when people come together and work toward something positive.

Arrows and the Butterfly by Dyanara Banana, 12th grade (winner in the ninth-to-12th grade category)

James Madison High School in Brooklyn

Banana's story stemmed from her interest in the butterfly effect theory, and its relationship to time travel. Two strangers share a chance encounter, which results in dramatically different outcomes in their lives. The main characters struggle



with feelings of low self-worth and question their purpose in life. It is a thought-provoking book that raises many questions relevant to teenagers in an uncertain, often tumultuous, world.

Unraveling the mystery of colic

Researchers find link to migraine-suffering moms

BY KIKI BOCHI

The conventional wisdom about colic — a baby's endless, inconsolable crying that can drive new parents to the edge of despair — is that it is caused by some kind of gastrointestinal distress. But new research suggests there may be a different cause for all that fussing among otherwise healthy babies — offering new hope and fresh ways for moms and dads to cope with colic.

For generations, distressed parents have been told that colic is most likely connected to tummy trouble. It seemed to make sense, since colicky babies have a tendency to tighten their abdominal muscles and pull up their little legs as they cry, making it certainly appear that they are having digestive difficulties.

But, despite more than 50 years of research, no definitive link has been proven between infant colic and gastrointestinal problems. Studies have shown that babies who are fed solely breast milk are as likely to have colic as those fed formula, and giving colicky babies medication for gas does not help.

For some, it turns out, the problem may not be in the baby's gut, but in an immature or oversensitive neurological system. Researchers are exploring this premise at the University of California, San Francisco, where a recent study showed that mothers who suffer migraine headaches are significantly more likely to have babies with colic than mothers without a history of migraines.

The work prompts the question of



periodic syndromes, believed to be precursors to migraine headaches later in life.

Babies with colic may be more sensitive to stimuli in their environment, just as migraine sufferers. They may have more difficulty coping with the onslaught of experiences after birth as they are thrust from the dark, warm, muffled life inside the womb into a world that is bright, cold, noisy, and filled with touchy hands and bouncy knees, Gelfand theorizes.

Colic is defined as intense, unexplained crying lasting more than three hours a day, more than three days a week, for more than three weeks. It is often at its worst at around the same time each day, in many cases in the early evening. Typically, it appears within the first month of life — when new

parents are already feeling exhausted and overwhelmed — and often disappears rather suddenly by the time the baby is 3 to 4 months old.

If your baby is experiencing colic, take comfort that your mom is right: this, too, shall pass. When your baby is very young, cultivate a peaceful environment, with less background noise (yes, turn off the TV!) and minimal visitors. Seek advice from your doctor. You can try some of the traditional techniques for soothing your baby — turning her over on your lap to rub her back, rocking her, playing soothing background music, or even putting her carrier on top of a running clothes dryer. Just keep in mind that for some babies, the best strategy may be none of these. Some babies may actually need decreased stimulation and may do best swaddled in a darkened room.

whether colic may be an early symptom of migraines, and raises the possibility that reducing stimulation may help, just as reducing light and noise can alleviate migraine pain.

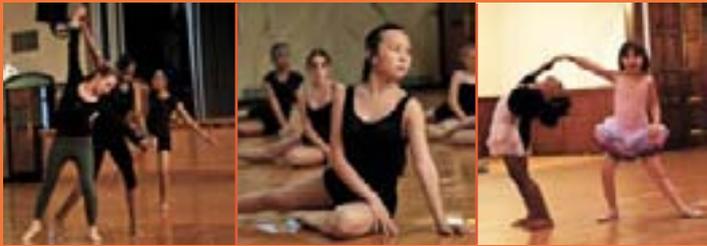
“We’ve known about colic for a really long time,” says Amy Gelfand, MD, a pediatric expert with the school’s Headache Center, who presented the findings at the American Academy of Neurology’s Annual Meeting in April. “But despite this fact, no one really knows why these babies are crying.”

In the study, mothers who suffered migraines were found to be 2.5 times more likely to have colicky babies. Overall, 29 percent of infants whose mothers had migraines had colic, compared to 11 percent of babies whose mothers did not have migraines.

Gelfand and her colleagues believe colic may be an early manifestation of conditions known as childhood

DANCEWAVE

Summer 2012 at Dancewave



Toddlers & Kids Summer Jam June 11-July 19 • 5 Week Session

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

Jammin' July for Kids & Teens July 9-August 2 • 4 Week Workshops

- Hip-Hop, Jazz and Ballet (7-11 yrs old)
- Ballet, Modern & Hip-Hop (12+ yrs old)

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

www.dancewave.org

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

*\$5 Off with
promo code
BKSummer!*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S Day Camps
SINCE 1972

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & YOUR CHILD IS INVITED!

#1 PRIVATE DAY CAMP IN BROOKLYN... SINCE 1972!

BOWLING, DANCE PARTIES & AMUSEMENT PARK

DAYS FILLED WITH FUN, FUN, FUN!

- ☺ For Boys & Girls, 4 - 14
- ☺ 2 - 8 Week Programs Available
- ☺ Operated By Licensed Teachers & Administrators
- ☺ We Offer Special Rates for Union Members
- ☺ Weekly Field Trips and Weekly First-Run Movies
- ☺ Sports With Instruction
- ☺ Arts & Crafts

AND MORE!

FREE TRANSPORTATION

CALL 1-718-951-9732 OR 1-800-DAYCAMP

OFFICE ADDRESS:
5410 Avenue N
Brooklyn, NY 11234

WWW.YPDC.COM

El Pequeño Artista

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
July 2nd-Aug. 3rd - Individual weeks available

Transportation available upon demand

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



Getting pregnant

One woman's
five-year-long
struggle to
conceive

BY SANDRA GORDON

The talk of having babies began as early as our wedding day. “Congratulations, Sandy and Ron,” the best man said. “May your lives be long, prosperous, and filled with babies!”

All of our guests raised their glasses and cheered. For the momentous event, Ron had shaved his whitish beard, the only solid evidence of his age.

“I don’t want to look so old,” he had said. He was 43 at the time. I was 31. Having babies — and my comparable youthfulness to pull it off — was very much a part of the deal. For some mysterious, innate reason, we both looked forward to them — or even just one — sooner rather than later. And our guests

had pegged us. “Forget about the wedding — get busy, you guys,” everyone seemed to be saying by their enthusiastic response, suppressed grins, and elbow jabs.

Trying with no luck

A year-and-a-half later, Ron and I felt jinxed. We were trying so hard to get pregnant — going on vacation, timing intercourse with ovulation predictor kits and a stop watch (OK, kidding), trying to relax, pretending we weren’t trying — but it was evident. Like about 10 percent of all couples around the globe, we were infertile (the inability to conceive after one year of trying).

Soon enough, I found myself a regular at the infertility specialist, along with the dozens of others I met along the way, thumbing

through non-parenting magazines in the reception area. We all had a common bond: we were all experts at giving blood. We all knew which was our “good” arm.

The stories I heard: There was Judy, who had been trying for five years and was on her third attempt at in vitro fertilization. Another, Maria, had a similar record, and said she burst into tears any time she saw an infant in a restaurant. I was a newcomer, having just endured one low-tech, assisted reproductive procedure, but I could still relate. The name of the game is hyping up your hormones, then tracking your menstrual cycle like the stock market with blood and ultrasound tests with one goal: to nab the whereabouts of that allusive egg.

For two weeks, I was lubed up with HCG and Clomid, infertility wonder drugs, and though I was glad for the technology, I was resentful.

"I just don't feel right about this," I said to Ron. Deep down, I knew we could do it on our own. But, of course, isn't that what every woman who is trying to get pregnant thinks in the beginning?

Left behind

Meanwhile, our friends were leaving us in the dust. One couple, Anna and Dan, were so perfect that their wedding photo was featured in a local magazine ad.

At a neighborhood party, Anna confided in me that she and Dan were going to start trying.

"What about you?" she asked.

"We've been trying for a year and a half," I revealed.

Then, two months later, when the four of us were out to dinner, Anna announced she was pregnant.

My stomach lurched. After only two months? Suddenly, I couldn't see my salad as — for the first time — I nearly came to tears, because I had been trying to so hard to be optimistic. Luckily, I pulled myself together as the conversation turned to sonograms, baby heart beats, and not being able to drink. Out of spite, I ordered another glass of chardonnay just because I could, since our attempt at intrauterine insemination didn't work. Later, as the guys talked, Anna turned to me.

"It's a relief to know you can," she said, as in, to conceive. I couldn't believe she actually said that — to me.

"It must be," I said, just to be nice.

It's not that I wanted a child so badly that I had to have one, like a drink of water on a scorching day. It was just that being pregnant and raising a child was a life experience that I would rather not pass up. After a while, when you don't get pregnant like you thought you would, you start to get a little crazy. Strollers in shopping malls pop out at you, especially those holding kids who match your or your husband's hair color. You feel like clobbering coworkers who calculate how long you've been married and then say, "So, do you guys want kids?"

Second thoughts

During this time, I had a real-

ization: I'd never had a child, so I didn't really know what I was wishing for.

Would I be patient and selfless like my mother? Or would I be short-tempered and bothered by the minutia of it all, like my father? I couldn't even imagine what our child would look like. Ron is a redhead and I'm blonde. Wouldn't that make our baby ... orange? And after listening to a weary stay-at-home dad of a 6-year-old admit, "Had I known it was going to be this hard, I wouldn't have become a parent," I even had second thoughts.

But every so often, I got a hint of the good stuff.

During the holidays, I picked up my mother and grandmother from a bed-and-breakfast they were staying at while in town, and we all watched the owner's 4-year-old granddaughter open presents. She was showing her new tea set to my grandmother, who was throwing her hands back in exaggerated delight, just like she did for me when I was little.

We were all so mesmerized by this little girl that we forgot we barely knew these people, and tore ourselves away.

Success!

The following September, after nearly three years, Ron and I finally got lucky. Two months after a round of infertility surgery on both of our parts — to fix some "plumbing" issues — Ron and I tried on our own and got two pink lines on the at-home pregnancy test. At the ripe age of 35, I was finally going to be a mom.

Soon, my elastic pants were tight and my boobs were as heavy as grapefruits. Who knew pregnancy could feel this good?

After nine-and-a-half months, my daughter, Rebecca, was born by C-section, weighing in at nearly 9 pounds with a full head of — surprise! — dark hair and long eyelashes.

"She's pretty," Ron said, sniffing while we were in the operating room.

What can you say about finally giving birth after not knowing if pregnancy was even possible? Nothing short of "this is the best day of my life."

Suffice it to say that Rebecca was much more than we had ever bargained for, and was definitely worth the wait.

yoga

pilates

rowing

cycling

childcare

senior fitness

pre/post natal

personal coaching

weight loss/nutrition

rehabilitation therapies

holistic health counseling

aerobic/functional exercise

children's classes

(fit play and tae kwon do)



www.elitetrainingandfitness.com
111 Union Street (off Columbia)
Carroll Gardens/Brooklyn

Sign Up
in May
and Receive 3
Months Free



Call for info:
718-596-0006



HEALTHY LIVING

DANIELLE SULLIVAN

Hormones in food and early puberty

According to the journal *Pediatrics*, 15 percent of American girls now enter puberty by age 7. For African-American girls, the percentage is 23 percent. Seven – it's unbelievable, isn't it? Doctors say girls are maturing faster than ever for reasons even they don't completely understand. They are reaching puberty younger than any generation in history. Perhaps we should look at our food supply.

When most of us were growing up, our food didn't have the amount of artificial preservatives and chemicals in it that it does today. Meat, in particular, wasn't pumped with loads of hormones. Back when we were young, meat was expensive and families bought it less than they do today. Now, meat has not only become more affordable, it is everywhere. Typically, the cheaper versions are pumped with hormones, preservatives, and chemicals and are widely found in children's food offerings.

Anyone who has seen Jamie Oliver's "Food Revolution," in which he breaks down exactly how the ground beef is made in school cafeterias, would be alarmed. The meat, which is usually reserved for dog food, is mixed with ammonia and chemically manufactured into what passes for edible ground beef, or in other words, "pink slime."

Carla Hastings, a mother of three from the West Village, says she is very concerned, and ever since



reading up on food and hormones, she will only buy organic meat.

"I can't even believe, knowing what I know now, that I would allow my kids to eat fast-food hamburgers and chicken nuggets, or even that I bought any meat at the supermarket. I'm kind of horrified," she says.

Food in general (and the synthetic material it is often made from) is also behind another theory about early puberty — the idea that girls are more overweight now than ever and it is the extra body fat that stimulates the early puberty. The statistics are startling. Overweight girls are 50 percent more likely to enter pu-

erty early, and those considered obese have an 80 percent chance of developing breasts before their ninth birthday. In this country, nearly one third of children and teens are overweight or obese.

Yes, of course, parents need to monitor their children's diet and health. But what is the accountability of the farmers and corporations that are intentionally creating unhealthy food for the sake of profit? The almighty dollar should never reign supreme over human health.

Some of us are fortunate enough to be able to buy organic milk and meat from cows that have been raised without antibiotics or hormones, but this is an extravagance many families cannot afford. Others are vegetarians who intentionally avoid the hormones and antibiotics found in meat.

While moms and dads ultimately select their child's food and the accountability falls on each individual parent, the Food and Drug Administration and the beef and dairy farmers are also responsible for choosing greed over quality and money over health. At the very least, food that is processed with hormones needs to be studied significantly more, especially in light of the growing number of boys and girls reaching puberty while still young children.

Danielle Sullivan, a Brooklyn-born mom of three, is a parenting and pet writer at Babble.com. Visit her blog, Just Write Mom, or find her on Facebook or Twitter (@DanniSullWriter).

SUMMER INTENSIVE NYC YOUNG DANCER PROGRAM

2012 AUDITION TOUR INFORMATION AT
WWW.JOFFREYBALLETSCCHOOL.COM

SUMMER INTENSIVE

JOFFREY BALLET SCHOOL

Relevé

Port de bras Adagio
Ballonné

Attitude
Pirouette

Ballon
Double Cabriole

Battu *Ballerina*

Sissonne
dégagé Battement

Barre Demi-plié
Deux Cabriole

Échappé Effacé
Coda

Grand Jeté Choreographer

sauté Jeté
Tour de force

Allégro

Tutu

Assemblé

Battement tendu

Ballotté

Balletomane

Cavalier

Brisé volé



Heads up

What you should know about brain injuries and concussions

BY KIKI BOCHI

Brooke de Lench was watching one of her sons play in a high school football game, and what she saw worried her. He looked slow. Confused. Uncoordinated.

No one else seemed to notice, but she saw enough to set off alarm bells. It wasn't just that he was having an off day. A visit to the doctor later confirmed her fears — her son was suffering from the residual effects of at least one concussion, and possibly more.

"I was told to never let his head be in a collision again," says De Lench, the founder of MomsTeam.com, a website whose mission is to empower parents of young athletes through information and resources. While her son recovered, De Lench has made a career of spreading the word about the dangers of concussions and other sports injuries.

The spotlight was refocused on concussions just before the Super Bowl, when former professional football players attempted to band together in federal court, claiming the concussions they suffered as players cause dementia, degenerative brain diseases, depression,

and other mental ailments. At least 300 former football players are plaintiffs, claiming that the NFL didn't warn them of the long-term risks of repeated head injuries.

Well, the word is out — and it has been for a while. The question is whether parents and youth coaches are paying attention.

Kids continue to suffer concussions and return to play far sooner than they should on sports fields all across the country. Sometimes players and parents wrongly believe that it shows strength and courage to play injured. Battling pain is often glamorized. But in doing so, young athletes risk their health, their future, and even their lives.

"I think parents really need to understand the ramifications," says De Lench, who is also the author of "Home Team Advantage: The Critical Role of Mothers in Youth Sports."

Concussions can happen in any sport, not just football. They occur in soccer, baseball, lacrosse, basketball, wrestling, hockey, cheerleading and volleyball, among other sports. No activity is immune. With

kids playing harder than ever in today's ultra-competitive world of youth sports, it only makes sense.

Concussions are brain injuries that occur when a blow to the head or body causes the brain to move rapidly inside the skull. Concussions can also be caused by a fall, or a collision between players or with an object, such as a goalpost. Even a mild blow to the head — a ding or getting your bell rung — can have serious consequences.

Recent research has shown that because of the way their brains are growing, adolescents are more sensitive to the effects of a sport-related concussion than adults or children.

"The frontal regions of the brain are more vulnerable to concussions. These areas oversee executive functions responsible for planning, organizing, and managing information. During adolescence, these functions are developing rapidly, which makes them more fragile to stress and trauma," says Dave Ellemberg, a neuropsychologist who oversaw the study published in the journal, *Brain Injury*.

In addition to long-term damage, young athletes who have suffered a concussion are at risk of second impact syndrome, a rare but usually fatal condition. If a child who has not completely recovered from a concussion receives a second blow to the head, it can cause massive swelling in the brain that can lead to sudden death.

Various studies reveal some frightening numbers: Forty-one percent of student athletes returned to play too soon after a concussion, according to guidelines of the American Academy of Neurology. The study found that a shocking 16 percent of high school football players who lost consciousness during a concussion returned to the field the same day. More than 20 percent of concussions in boys' and girls'

Warning signs of a concussion

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, athletes who experience any of the signs and symptoms listed here after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body should be kept out of play until a health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion says they are symptom-free and that it's OK to return to play.

Signs observed by coaching staff or parents

- Appears dazed or stunned

- Is confused about assignment or position

- Forgets an instruction

- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent

- Moves clumsily

- Answers questions slowly

- Loses consciousness, even briefly

- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes

- Can't recall events either prior to hit or fall, or after

Top Tips

Symptoms reported by athlete

- Headache or a feeling of pressure in head

- Nausea or vomiting

- Balance problems or dizziness

- Double or blurry vision

- Sensitivity to light

- Sensitivity to noise

- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy

- Concentration or memory problems

- Confusion

- Does not "feel right" or is "feeling down"



soccer and basketball were repeat concussions. In fact, 16.8 percent of high school athletes suffering a concussion had previously suffered a sport-related concussion, either that season or in a previous season.

De Lench, a former athlete herself and strong supporter of youth sports programs, understands the pressure for kids to return to play.

“Kids should not be pulled out of sports. Sports are critical — critical! — for some kids. Pulling them out is not the remedy here,” she says. “We

need to empower parents to make sure coaches are trained

properly, to make sure

kids get the right kind

of physical training

— such as

neck-strengthening

— and to

make sure kids

are taught to

self-report symptoms.”

While some

school districts

around the country

are requiring young

athletes to undergo

cognitive testing prior

to participating, so they

can have a “baseline”

to determine when a

player can safely return

to play, such information

is only useful if students

understand the importance of

reporting symptoms, and if

parents and coaches are vigilant about

taking note of possible injuries.

So what are the most important

things a parent — and coach —

should know about concussions?

First, seek professional medical

attention if your young athlete

shows any sign of injury, such

as appearing dazed, stunned,

confused, or clumsy, or if he

exhibits a loss of memory, mood

and behavior changes, or even

a brief loss of consciousness.

Some symptoms may not

show up for hours or days, so

parents need to be tuned in.

A young athlete with a

diagnosed concussion should

not be allowed to return to

play on the day of injury,

regardless of the medical

resources available or his level

of athletic performance. All

Sometimes players and parents wrongly believe that it shows strength and courage to play injured. But in doing so, young athletes risk their health, their future, and even their lives.

concussion management guidelines, old and new, agree that no athlete should be allowed to return to play while exhibiting post-concussion signs or symptoms. Some call for at least one symptom-free week before returning to practice or play. Because activities that require concentration and attention might exacerbate the symptoms and delay recovery, children should limit exertion and school-related activities until symptom-free (e.g. no homework, no text messaging, or videogames, and staying home from school).

For young people ages 15 to 24, sports are second only to motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of brain injury, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But even far younger children have suffered concussions on the field and on playgrounds.

“The more parents know, the more they can make a difference,” De Lench says. “I always tell parents to think about the life-cycle of their child. Think about how that child will feel when they are 30 or 40, and they have cognitive issues or pain from injuries. You, as a parent, need to understand that you are the guardian of your child and their future.”

Additional information on concussions and youth sports, including an online training course for coaches, can be found on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/index.html. For more, visit www.MomsTeam.com.

KiKi Bochi is the mother of two and an award-winning writer and editor who specializes in family topics.

Less stress, but more effective

Book offers new treatment program to kids with ASD

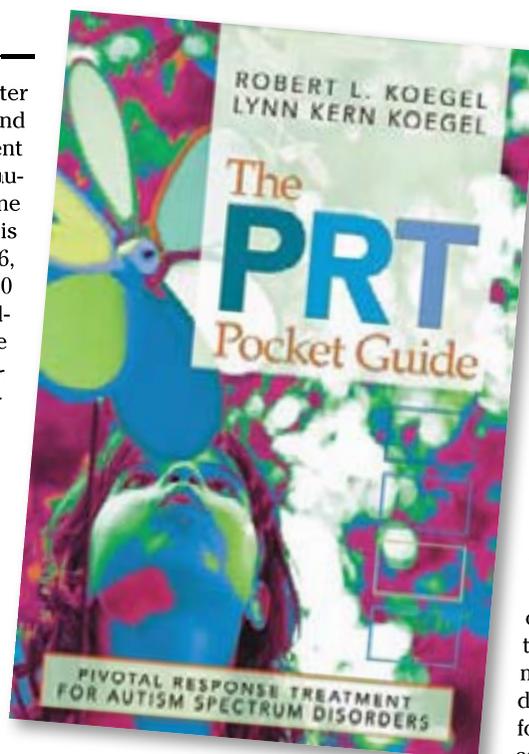
BY JOANNA DELBUONO

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the present rate of children born with autism spectrum disorder is one in 88 children. This number is far higher than figures in 2006, when the ratio was one in 110 children diagnosed. What is additionally troubling is that the rise took place only over a two-year period. The CDC also reported that autism was more prevalent in boys than girls, with one in 54 boys compared to only one in 252 girls.

Although there are many theories about what causes autism, and experts disagree more often than not on any one particular cause, the one aspect that all agree on is that early diagnosis and intervention is key to successfully integrating autistic children into mainstream education and a functional life.

Autism was first recognized in the early 1900s when it was linked with other psychological conditions, but since the 1960s, doctors have had a better understanding of how it affects children. Treatments in the early days ranged from medications such as lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) to electric shock and behavioral modification techniques, which relied on pain and punishment. Thankfully, in the 1980s and '90s, experts focused treatment on behavioral therapy minus the pain.

But with hundreds of authorities writing a plethora of self-help guides providing so much information and different therapies for treatment, which one does a parent choose?



There is as much stress for parents in choosing a therapy as there is in helping with the children who are diagnosed. The latest installment, and what has proven to be a very successful therapy is, Pivotal Response Treatment for autism spectrum disorder, as outlined in the "PRT Pocket Guide" by the team of Robert L. Koegel and Lynn Kern Koegel. The book presents real-life stories, cutting-edge therapy methods, worksheets, and common-sense solutions to everyday problems.

Robert Koegel, PhD, is an expert in the field, specializing in language intervention, family support, and school inclusion; he is also the director of the Koegel Autism Center at the University of California in Santa

Barbara and has written more than 200 articles and papers and published six books all on the treatment of autism spectrum disorder.

Lynn Koegel, PhD, is also an expert in the field and is the director of Clinical Services at the Koegel Autism Center and director of the Eli and Edythe L. Broad Center for Asperger's Research. She has published books and papers regarding the development of first words, grammatical structures, and social conversations, along with field manuals that are currently used in school districts throughout the United States.

The guide explains what Pivotal Response Treatment is and the importance of family involvement and intervention in day-to-day living. It also explains how to focus on the core, keystone areas, called pivotal areas, which produce widespread and rapid treatment gains. Each chapter outlines a specific area with specific options for children diagnosed at every level of autism spectrum disorder. Pivotal Response Treatment motivates children with natural reinforcers, reduces disruptive behavior, encourages communication and social initiations, assesses children meaningfully in natural environments, and decreases parents' stress.

This is a must-read for every parent who has a child that has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

"The PRT Pocket Guide: Pivotal Response Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders" by Robert L. Koegel and Lynn Kern Koegel (Brookes Publishing Co., \$19.95, 216 pages).

The SCIENCE CARMELO FELLOW

at the Cosmic Cove!

- After School Classes
- Birthday Parties
- Science Summer Camps
- Trips
- Toddler Classes
- Science Play group

Photo by Heather Weston

Children are born scientists; they investigate every facet of life. The Cosmic Cove takes a child's curiosity and investigative nature and inspires their minds to explore all aspects of the world around them.

By using a hands-on inquiry based approach to teaching science, I have motivated thousands of children in the many disciplines of science. Children learn in an atmosphere where they are allowed to laugh and learn. They work in collaborative groups, and are encouraged to communicate and share their findings.

The Cosmic Cove is a place where children can call Carmelo the Science Fellow the big marshmallow because learning should be fun.

www.carmelothesciencefellow.com

Parent's Picks
winner!
PARENT'S CONNECT.COM
Best Party Entertainer & Best Day Camp in Brooklyn!

Carmelo Piazza
'Carmelo the Marshmallow'

The Cosmic Cove
300 Atlantic Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11201

for more info:
718.722.0000
718.344.4631

A time of transitions

Helping your special-needs child prepare for the end of school

BY REBECCA MCKEE

The school year is ending and summer is on its way. For any family, planning transitions from school to camp, home to vacation, vocational site to rec center, or any other form of change is key for accommodating schedules. For families of children with special needs, transitional planning is even more important to ensure that the child will be comfortable with changes in routine.

The definition of transition is the passage or change from one position or state to another. For people with autism spectrum disorder,

or other special personality, these passages may be difficult to cope with. Regardless of how minute or momentous changes are to us, to others, it may be the antecedent to emotional turmoil. While some may say we should try our best to avoid these moments of anguish and anxiety that result from change, the truth is that life is full of variety, passages, and movement.

Here are some ways you can plan for transitions to help prevent the breakdowns brought upon by familiar routines ending and novel events beginning.

Make note of transitions

Work with your child on changes to his schedule by mapping them out on the calendar. Highlight the months of June, July, August, and September (depending on your specific school schedule) as summer months. Mark half-days of school and specify where lunch will be eaten.

Mark the first official week of summer break. Identify when your child's activities — such as camp, pool, free time, and family vacations — begin. Locate major summer holidays and jot down some possibilities of celebratory festivities. Star the end of the summer and first day of the new school year.

Take walk-throughs

If your child is attending camp this summer, you can help alleviate nervous jitters by taking virtual tours on websites, and following up with actual one-on-one tours of the grounds. As the camper tours, have him take photographs. Looking through the pictures prior to the first day of attendance will be most beneficial. You can also physically de-sensitize a camper who is feeling uneasy by washing, drying, and folding the camp T-shirt.

Communicate with school

The sooner you iron out details, the less hectic it is for all. Articulate with the current support team at

school to gain a better grasp of the physical transitional changes that will occur within the classroom. This would include: cleaning out desks, taking home books, removing artwork from walls, and more.

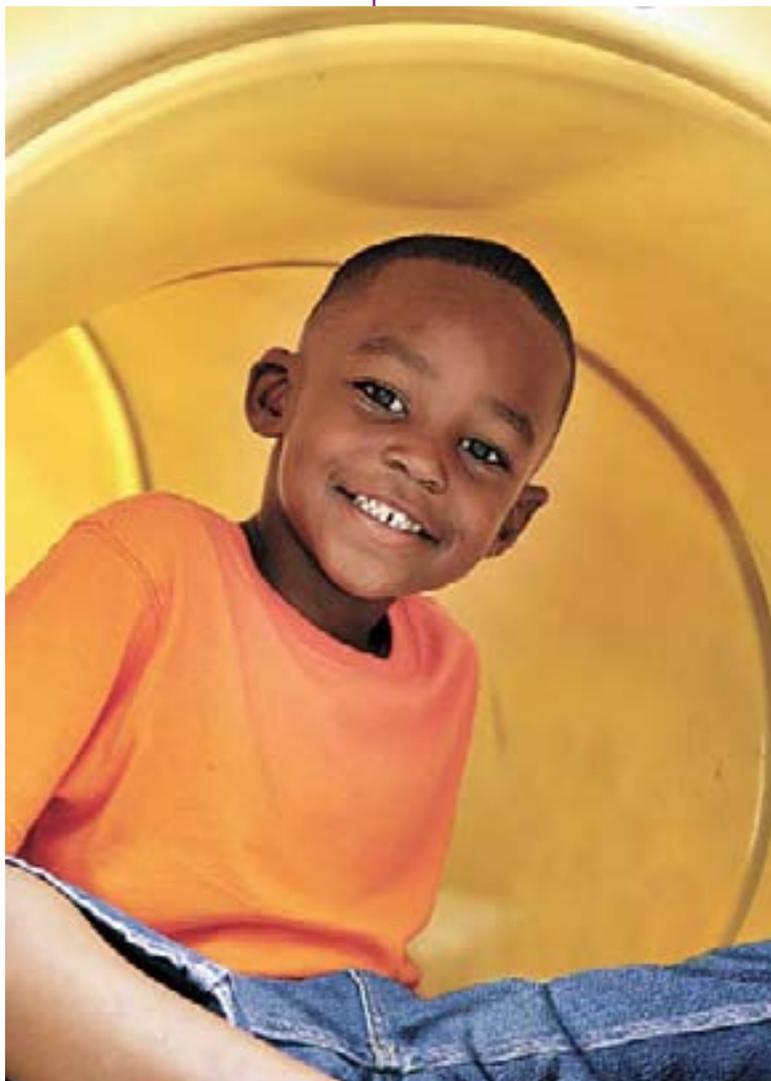
Use this information to make a checklist at home for your special-needs child. Keep it on the refrigerator. As each task is completed, he checks it off and moves on mentally. Ask the school support team to make a copy of the reinforcement system that worked well for your child. Keep this. The new team may have a fresh outlook of ideas that work better for your child after a summer of maturity, but this will provide worthwhile background information.

It is important to respect and consider the rules of each school. However, having knowledge of the future school year is most beneficial. This would involve who the teacher is, the main focus of the curriculum, the exact location of the classroom, and maybe more.

Photographs speak volumes to people with limited preparation skills. With permission, take pictures of the new classroom setting and create a scrapbook titled, "My New School Year." If your child tends to display stressed-out behaviors when the workload in school is difficult, pre-teach some of the trickier curriculum in a fun, hands-on method. For example, if your child struggles with money and that is a major focus in math for the upcoming year, sell lemonade during the summer to raise money for charity.

•••

The overall message behind transition planning for a person with special needs is to touch, taste, journey, and experience a future change in small doses before the actual passage takes place. The goal is to have the person move from state to state and setting to setting, smoothly. Planning a transition will not only help with the present passage, but will also help him understand the concept of change.



FUN-LEARNING ALL SUMMER LONG!

Educational Summer Adventure / Ages 3-10

FasTrackKids®

Flexible
Weekly
Enrollment
Options

Full and
Half Day
Programs
Available

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 Ready, Set, Travel 1:
7/9-7/13 Visiting China, India, Australia & Mexico
- camp 2 Earth Science:
7/16-7/20 Young Scientists; Old Bones
- camp 3 Speech Drama & Art:
7/23-7/27 Performing Magic
- camp 4 Ready, Set, Travel 2:
7/30-8/3 Visiting Egypt, Italy, USA, & Brazil
- camp 5 Destination Constellation:
8/6-8/10 Exploring Outer Space, Stars, Moon, Planets
- camp 6 Biology:
8/13-8/17 Studying Plants & Animals
- camp 7 Natural Science:
8/20-8/24 Magnets, Molecules & More!
- camp 8 Anatomy:
8/27-8/31 Journey through the Human Body

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

Williamsburg
(60 Broadway)
347.987.4450

Bay Ridge/Dyker Heights
(7612 131st Ave)
718.748.3000

Sheepshead Bay
(1605 Voorhies)
718.891.5437

Park Slope
(150 4th Ave)
718.260.8100

the BerkeleyCarroll School

Jul. 2 - Aug. 2, 2012
Children 8-14

EVERYONE
SELECTS 5
COURSES

• Ages

The Program enrolls boys and girls, ages 8-14. (No one younger than entering 3rd graders). There are advanced classes for 11-14 year olds.

• Hours

9am-4pm Monday-Friday
Earlybird 7:45am - 8:45am • Latebird 4pm-6pm

• Transit

Located in Park Slope and easily reached by public transportation.

- Professional Staff
- Facilities and Lunch
- Noontime Program
- Festival Day
- Visual Arts
- Music
- Drama
- Dance
- Writing
- Digital Arts
- Athletics

Ceramics • Mosaics • Miniature Doll Houses
Horror Writing • Graphic Stories • Make-A-Movie
Major and Mini Musicals • Digital Photography
Runway Fashions • Rock Bands
Lego Robotics • Soul Train • Improv

181 Lincoln Place, Brooklyn NY 11217

www.berkeleycarroll.org/summerprograms/creative-arts-program



WINDMILL MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Accredited Preschool, Elementary,
JHS & Academic Summer Camp

A PEACEFUL PLACE TO LEARN SINCE 1941

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

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

**OPEN
HOUSES**
Thursday, July 12
Thursday, July 26
Thursday, Aug. 7
9:00-10:30am



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 2012
Monday, July 2nd to Friday, August 10



Summer's golden OPPORTUNITY

How camps can support the social development of kids with special needs

BY BRIAN FAUGHNAN

Too often, out-of-school time presents an underrated opportunity for child development, especially for children with special needs. When thinking about children with exceptionalities, we frequently identify their barriers to success around intellectual difficulties. As a result of this notion and the amount of time they spend in school settings, many of the interventions we provide to those with developmental disabilities are academic in nature. These supports often fail to address underlying social deficits.

Encouraging increased social proficiency among children with disabilities can improve overall outcomes

not limited to social skills, but also improved mental health and career readiness. One of the best times to do this is during school breaks.

Children with a wide variety of special needs are often less able to naturally acquire social concepts as well as their typically developing peers. We can better support these children by providing opportunities to practice and understand pragmatics of language. A foundational component of this skill set would include an understanding of the purpose of language.

For example, some children do not naturally understand that language can be used to introduce oneself to another, or appropriately request a want or a need. Children with a range of exceptionalities can benefit from

graphic organizers depicting the different purposes for using language, as well as key phrases to support those purposes.

Assess functioning and potential

When parents are deciding how to best support their children's social development during the summer months, they should focus on their child's current level of social functioning and underlying potential. There is no substitute for a parent's intuition. Some measures of this are clear — including whether or not the child is willing to play with others — while other dimensions are not directly observable, but are important to understanding

When parents are deciding how to best support their children's social development during the summer months, they should focus on their child's current level of social functioning and underlying potential.

a child's social potential. One such idea is that of Theory of Mind, which is the notion that individuals will have different thoughts than our own, and an awareness of these thoughts should inform our interactions with individuals. Obviously, this is a concept not readily articulated by most children, but it is a concept that underlies the ability to be socially successful.

Parents should be comfortable asking their children's teachers for a qualitative assessment of the child's level of socialization. Given the work schedules of many parents today, school teachers often have more of an opportunity to observe the child in social settings than parents.

Your child's special-education teacher should be expected to give specific examples of positive social interactions he has witnessed the child having, as well as examples of interactions that could have been more successful. The teacher should also be comfortable enough to identify social skills that can be developed to improve upon these interactions.

Professionals with more clinical expertise — including your child's speech-and-language pathologist, social worker, or psychologist — should also be able to identify discreet social tasks that can support the development of these potential social skills.

Appropriate activities to develop social skills during times when children are not in school can include after-school or weekend programs, and enrollment in summer camps supporting the social development of children with special needs. Assessing the appropriateness of each type of activity depends upon your child's level of readiness.

Finding effective programs

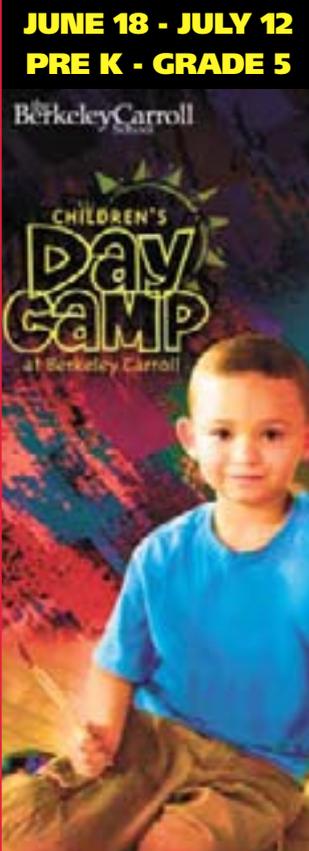
Most children with special needs benefit from a combination of both unstructured and structured social learning opportunities. Effective summer recreational programs will have the benefit of both. An eight-hour camp day may include 40 minutes devoted to explicit instruction around predetermined areas of social interaction. Program staff would then attempt to elicit these skills within the activities during the other parts of the day. This not only serves to directly foster children's development of these skills, but also serves to ensure that staff members are watching for and cultivating the utilization of these skills.

When selecting your child's program, you should ask staff to identify the range of developmental disabilities that they are equipped to support, as well as the structures built into their program to support that range of needs. Programs should be able to describe their process for hiring and training direct-care staff, as well as the expected benefits that parents should see from their specific program. It is not enough for programs to be merely providing respite for a child's caretaker. Staff should be able to articulate how acquired social skills can be generalized throughout their program, rather than taught and exhibited in mere isolation. The summer break months or weeks can be quite formative and should not be seen as less developmentally important than typical school time.

Scholarships and financing

Enrollment in such programming can be expensive and represent a difficult burden for families in these difficult economic times. Parents should not hesitate to raise this issue with program staff and inquire about scholarship opportunities from the providing agency, as well as outside foundations. In addition to financial support from individual programs, some families are able to receive support from charitable foundations and other agencies. Parents should ask what their options are and know that there are many ways of financing what may seem daunting and unaffordable.

Brian Faughnan is the Special Needs Director at the JCC of Staten Island. Faughnan holds an Master of Science degree in Special Education.



JUNE 18 - JULY 12
PRE K - GRADE 5

JUNE 18-JULY 19 Young Campers Club PRE K-K • 5 WEEKS An enriched early childhood program for the day camp's youngest participants. Every group has a head counselor, an assistant counselor, & a counselor in training. Young Campers participate in learning activities that emphasize creativity and social skills. Specialist teachers in art, music, and physical education/swimming give the children an enriched camping experience.	JUNE 18-JULY 6 CLASSIC DAY CAMP GRADES 1-3 • 3 WEEKS Campers have a traditional day camp experience, combined with field trips, special events and swimming in the Athletic Center Pool is an essential element of the program. Music • Visual Arts Afternoon Options Physical Education Swimming Trips & Special Events
JUNE 18-JUNE 27 MINI CAMPS GRADES K-5 • 1 WEEK Programs described subject to change. Grades listed are for Sept. 2012. NEW THIS SUMMER Yogi Kids • Grades 2-3 Berkeley Carroll Kitchen Grades 3-4 Summer Math Mania Grades 3-5 Music Guild • Grades 3-5	JULY 9-JULY 19 EXPLORATION CAMPS GRADES K-4 • 2 WEEKS In "Explorations" session, children choose to specialize in 1 of 4 mini-camps. Outdoor recreation time & swimming are part of the schedules. Hours All Sessions* 8:30am-3:30pm Earlybird 7:30am Latebird 6pm Young Campers' Full 8:30am-3pm Young Campers' Half 8:30am-1pm

712 and 701 Carroll St. • Brooklyn, NY 11215 • 718.534.6620
www.berkeleycarroll.org/summerprograms

Leif Ericson Day School

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

* Nursery - Grade 8 *

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

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

Register for our
Summer
Creative Arts
& Music Program
June 25 - August 3, 2012

1037 - 72nd Street • 718-748-9023
<http://ledsny.org>

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 Needs

DIRECTORY

Block Institute

376 Bay 44th Street
718-906-5400 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.

Brooklyn Autism Center

Ray Cepeda, BCaBA
Executive Director
111 Remsen Street
Phone: 718-554-1027 or Cell: 201-841-1705

Email: rcepeda@brooklynautismcenter.org or www.brooklynautismcenter.org

Brooklyn Autism Center Academy admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs. This email message (including attachments) contains information which may be confidential and/or legally privileged. Unless you are the intended recipient, you may not use, copy or disclose to anyone the message or any information contained therein or from any attachments that were sent with this email. Unauthorized disclosure and/or use of information contained in this email may result in civil and criminal liability.

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 audio-logical suite.

Heaven's Hands Community Services, Inc., 882 Third Avenue, 10th Floor, Brooklyn 718-788-5252 or www.hhcsny.org

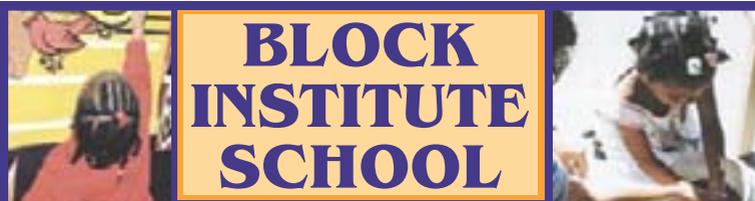
Heaven's Hands Community Services, Inc., established on October 6, 2000, is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) corporation committed to providing rehabilitative and support services to persons with development disabilities, living in New York City. The organization supports the life goals of each person as they manage daily obstacles and challenges associated with living with disability in the home and in the community. Heaven's Hands Community Services, Inc. takes special interest in individuals residing alone or at home with their family and requires special assistance to live more independent and fulfilling lives. Heaven's Hands Community Services, Inc. serves individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities and is devoted to assisting them and their families in navigating the complexities of the developmental disabilities service system.

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,

Continued on page 30



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

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)

A Special Educator

For All Age Groups



A Tutoring Service To Support & Assist Learning Disabilities

Drawing by Martha Perske
© 2007 www.PerskePrints.com

- 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

Brooklyn Autism Center

"Helping each child reach their potential"



A School for Children
with Autism, Serving
all of New York City

Applied Behavior Analysis,
1:1 Ratio

The Brooklyn Autism Center Academy admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

brooklynautismcenter.org
(718) 554-1027



Heaven's Hands Community Service, Inc.
Dedicated to providing habilitative services and support to
individuals, families and communities in need.



- Community Habilitation Services
- Day Habilitation Services
- Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC)
- Non-Medicated Service Coordination
- After School Recreation
- In Home Behavior Management
- Bridges to Health Waiver Program (B2H)
- Respite Service

Supporting the Dreams, Aspirations and Lives of People with Developmental Disabilities.

882 Third Avenue, 10th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11232 Tel: 718-788-5252

www.hhcsny.org

NY'S SOURCE ON PARENTING

Currently, New York Parenting Media is seeking a highly motivated full-time sales representative to sell advertising in our magazines and digital properties. Join our dynamic team and become a part of our family.

Requirements include:

- Prior sales experiences (print and digital ad sales a plus)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- The ability to develop new business and grow existing business
- Car and valid driver's license required

Our office is located in downtown Brooklyn, but knowledge of the entire city is essential.

Please submit your resume to snoble@cnglocal.com.

New York Parenting

MEDIA

Where Every Family Matters

www.NYParenting.com



Special Needs

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 28

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.

Sensory Street Pediatric Occupational Therapy P.C. 178 Flatbush Avenue 718-398-8000 or 516-589-2721

Sensory Street is a specialized Occupational Therapy practice servicing young clients. It is the route where your child will be appropriately challenged to developing the skills that are essential for greater independence in life. Our Mission is to enhance the lives of young clients so they can be successful in meeting their daily childhood occupations (self-care, play, socialization, school). Therapeutic Activities and exercises geared to improve a variety of skills. For general information please call 718-398-8000. To contact the OT and Appointment please call 516-589-2721.

A Special Educator Tutoring Service

Mark Golubow
718-622-3655 or www.apiealeducator.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

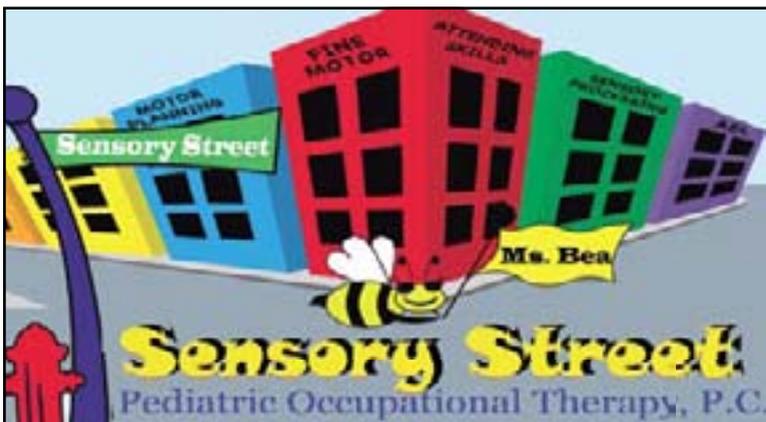
453 6th Avenue, in Park Slope
718-965-8573 or www.specialsprouts.com

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.

Winston Preparatory School

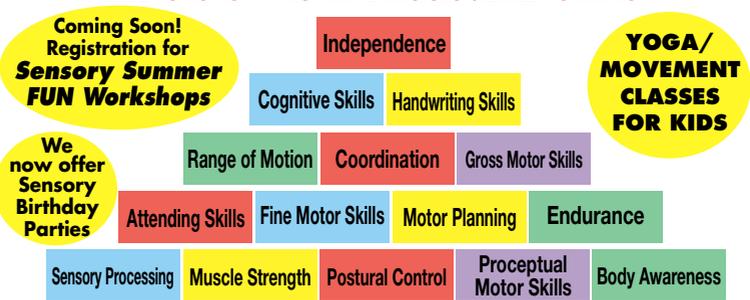
126 W. 17th Street, in Manhattan
646-638-2705 ext 619 or ext 634 or www.winstonprep.edu

Winston Prep is a highly individualized and responsive setting for high-potential middle and high school students with learning differences, such as language-based learning difficulties, nonverbal learning difficulties as well as attention deficit and executive functioning difficulties. Winston's program is designed to challenge each student's strengths while developing the essentials of reading, writing, mathematics, organization and study skills. Each individualized educational program is based upon a continuously modified understanding of each student's dynamic learning profile that evolves as the student progresses and matures. Small classes of 8-12 students help to facilitate the individualization of course work. All students participate in a daily one-to-one instructional period called Focus, designed to serve as the diagnostic, instructional, and mentoring centerpiece of their experience. Art, music, gym and a variety of enrichment choices are offered within the school day as well as after school. For information on Open Houses, please visit our website, www.winstonprep.edu, or contact the admissions office 646-638-2705 ext. 619 or ext. 634.



Sensory Street is a specialized Occupational Therapy practice servicing young clients. It is the route where your child will be appropriately challenged to developing the skills that are essential for greater independence in life. Our Mission is to enhance the lives of young clients so they can be successful in meeting their daily childhood occupations (self-care, play, socialization, school).

THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES GEARED TO IMPROVE:



Beatrice C. Hector OTR/L • 178 Flatbush Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11217
 General Info (718) 398-8000 • To contact the OT and Appointment (516) 589-2721

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

Winston Preparatory School

Summer Program

Education for the Individual





- ◆ A unique individually designed program aimed to develop:
 - Reading Comprehension
 - Decoding and Spelling
 - Writing
 - Expressive Language
 - Organizational Skills
 - Study Strategies
 - Math
- ◆ Small class sizes for students in 4th through 12th grades
- ◆ After-school activities include basketball, photography, art, acting, music, yoga, computing, and dance
- ◆ One-on-one classes and independent study program available during July and August

June 29 – July 27, 2012

126 West 17th Street New York, NY 10011
 646-638-2705 ext. 688 • summer@winstonprep.edu
applications available online at www.winstonprep.edu



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



Brand new dad

Surviving the first weeks of parenthood

BY TIM PERRINS

Parenting will always bring challenges, but there's something uniquely difficult about those earliest weeks with your first child. As a newly minted dad who's just survived this grueling period, I may be able to shed some light on it. First of all, to really make sense of things, we need to look back a few trimesters.

When you are a first-time expecting parent, all of your energy becomes consumed with scaling the "mountain of pregnancy." You

can read and prepare all you want, but if you haven't had a baby before, the part about actually having a baby is as much as your excited, anxious brain can handle. During this stage, expect to have only enough mental stamina to focus on two things: preparing for labor, and getting all the stuff.

At long last, and still too soon, you're in the thick of the birth experience. Among other things, this period of time includes all the stages of labor — early labor, active labor, screaming labor — plus whatever combination of a la carte

factors happens to be included in your customized delivery package. Just be aware that the particulars of delivery are like a sandwich from a bad deli — whatever you planned for is not what you're going to get. Still, as long as you have your baby and everyone turns out OK, there's no sense in getting too hung up on the details.

As manic and magical as labor and delivery may be, it's all over before you know it. And only now that you've crested the "summit of pregnancy" can you see that it was just the first in a whole moun-

These first weeks are meant to push you to your limit — they're priming you for the years to come.



tain range of challenges that lay beyond.

Now, unless your name is Beyoncé and you've employed a platoon of nannies to keep your new baby from interfering too much with your life, pretty quickly you're in the trenches of parenting. Here, you find yourself frantically asking questions like: "What does it want?" "How do I make it stop?" "It's getting too big — what comes after onesies? Twosies? WHY DIDN'T WE PUT TWOSIES ON OUR REGISTRY?!"

Even if you are reasonably prepared for this, as the weeks wear on, you find that you're being pushed nearly over the edge. Sleep deprivation and the nerve-shattering scream of a tiny infant are the main causes, but there's another, less tangible one that you may not have allowed yourself to fully consider.

You see, during pregnancy, friends and family shower you with wisdom about how your life will forever change ("but in a good way!"), and about how you will feel love like you have never felt before. This creates a vision of unicorns drinking from a fountain while an enchanting harp plays and celestial light twinkles in the eyes of the cherub staring up at you. But instead, after a few weeks of running yourself ragged attending to your tiny baby's constant needs, you still can't tell if this odd little creature even realizes that you exist.

From the moment your baby was born, you instinctively felt like you would throw yourself in front of an oncoming yellow taxi to protect her, and yet, when you kiss your cherished weeks-

old infant on the cheek, she just flinches and turns her head away like you're a stray dog licking her face. All the while, she stares off into space and moves her little arms and legs according to some arcane ritual, as if she's communicating with the alien mothership. For all you know, you're just the silly earthling who is foolishly providing sustenance to the demanding creature that is engineering the enslavement of your entire world. Silly human! Silly, exhausted, distressed human, to be exact.

It's a little bit funny that you've turned your life completely upside down for a person you know almost nothing about, and who, at some point in the next 16 years, is going to slam a door in your face and scream, "I HATE YOU!" Even your baby's few recognizable traits could disappear. In the coming months, that brown hair may fall out and come back blond, and those blue eyes could turn green, or hazel, or who knows what.

So, in short, becoming a parent includes dealing with the fearful anxiety that your baby is an alien. Worse still, is that this leads to terrible guilt — at a time when you should be nothing but self-sacrificing, you find yourself wondering, "Why did I do this? What's in it for me?"

It's OK to have those thoughts — it just means you're human. (And for the record, your baby is, too.) These first weeks are meant to push you to your limit — they're priming you for the years to come. Parenting will be wonderfully gratifying, but it's essential to understand from the start how desperately your little one relies on you. There can't be any confusion about whose needs come first.

After the better part of two months, when all of that has had time to sink in, your little one will finally reward you with a sly look and a little grin. That, of course, is one of the most beautiful sights in the world, and no matter what else happens in the next 16 years, you'll always keep that with you.

Tim Perrins is a part-time stay-at-home dad who lives with his wife and their brand new tiny human in Park Slope, Brooklyn. More of his thoughts about babies and other things that confuse him can be found at www.RevoltOfTheImbeciles.blogspot.com.

LAUREN'S PLACE

A Montessori Home Day Care

All materials provided follow the Montessori Curriculum

Ages 3 Months to 5 Years

Open Mon.-Fri. 8am - 6pm



- Licensed By DOH
- After School Program
- Breakfast/Lunch & Snacks
- Field Trips
- Art
- Music
- Computers
- Playground
- Open During Summer

658 St. Marks Avenue
2 blocks

from Brooklyn Children's Museum

917-449-7271

PAERDEGAT

Infant & Toddler Center

Ages 6 Weeks to 24 Months

Open Mon. - Fri. 7am - 7pm



- Developmental and Interactive Activities
- Curriculum Based Program Including Baby, Toddler Gym
- All Staff Fully Trained in CPR/First Aid
- Licensed by NYC Dept. of Health
- Transition to School Program for Toddlers
- Parking Available for Easy Drop Off and Pick Up

Coupon

\$100 OFF
Registration Fee
Good Thru 6/30/12

A.C.D, HRA, 1199 - Union Vouchers Accepted

CALL NOW... Enrollment is Limited!

Paerdegat Infant & Toddler Center
1500 Paerdegat Ave. N.
Canarise, Brooklyn
718-531-1111





DEATH BY CHILDREN

CHRIS GARLINGTON

Home alone, dude

Torment ensues when dad leaves son in charge

My wife and I had to go out of town.

While engaging in the NASA-level logistics required by travel, our recently teened son volunteered to stay behind to watch the house and menagerie, causing my wife and I to swoon after realizing the money we'd save on pet sitters, house sitters and someone to maintain surveillance on our Canadian neighbors.

I would like to report that at this juncture, as professional parents, we sat down for a long talk with the kid about responsibilities and curfews, but all I remember is arriving breathless and poorly packed at O'Hare. We were somewhere over Ohio when we looked at each other and realized what we'd done.

"I bet he's on fire right now."

"The dogs are gonna starve."

"It's OK, they'll

probably eat his corpse."

We worried through a hideous parade of catastrophes until the plane landed. I called him immediately.

"ARE YOU OK?"

"Dad, I'm in the middle of a game. When are you guys leaving?"

This held us over through renting a car, but as soon as we were on the road, hellish visions of disaster struck again. What if the pilot light goes out? What if a plane crashes on our house? What if he gets a tattoo? We pulled over.

"CHECK THE STOVE!"

"Dad, seriously. I'm in an Orc campaign. People depend on me. You guys have to learn how to be on your own."

He was right. We had spent 14 years turning him into the remarkably responsible young man he had become. He knew how

to run the house, take care of pets, order Chinese. Really, truthfully, except for bartending and finances, our work was done. He was fine.

So we did what any confident, highly accomplished parents do. We forgot about him.

Two days of micro-seminars and macro-martinis later, I get a call.

"Dad, did you leave your office light on?"

"No, I..."

"I think there's a burglar."

"If there was a burglar, the dogs would be — wow, the dogs are really barking, aren't they?"

"I'm 99.9 percent sure it's OK, but I'm going upstairs to check."

"What if there is a burglar!?"

"It's OK — I have a knife."

Abrupt signal loss.

As a parent, 800 miles away in the middle of nowhere with a bad connection and overactive imagination, I can tell you I was jumpy. My kid's shoe size is listed as Sasquatch. He ducks under doors. He can pick up a car. However, he is unduly skittish. His reaction to spiders, for instance, is insanely comical — like he's doing yoga really fast. Plus, he's clumsy.

So my vision of him confronting a burglar with a knife ended with multiple self-inflicted stab wounds and a note from the crook: "Dear parents, what is wrong with you people?"

I shot out of the conference into the rain, fear tears streaming down my face, sealing contracts with various lesser deities, apologizing to the great wheel of karma for leaving my only son home alone, pointing my phone into the stratosphere for bars, when he called back, his voice tight with urgency.

"DAD! DAD! OH MY GOD! DAD!"

"OH SWEET JESUS, BOY WHAT IS IT!?"

"There's no more frozen pizza!"

They say a sound was heard that night, in the far reaches of the North Carolina hills near a conference center, a snarling, depraved, nearly human wail, guttural, almost forming words. They say it might be proof that Sasquatch lives.

I can assure you: not for long.



have a

FUNderful SUMMER

at léman manhattan

Outdoor play. Everyday.
 Daily swim. World-class gym.
 Arts & crafts. Lots of laughs.
 Lemonade. In the shade.
 Workshops. Flip-flops.
 Film school. Super-cool.
 Shoot some hoops. Ice cream scoops.
 Learn to cook. Come have a look.
 Lots of friends. Fun never ends.
 Enroll now. And here's how:
 212.232.0266 ext 254
lemanmanhattan.org/summercamp



 **CAMP LÉMAN**

June 18th – July 27th
 (3s – entering 3rd grade)
 Children enjoy daily swim lessons by certified Red Cross lifeguards, arts & crafts, woodworking, performing arts, sports, special events and much, much more.



 **LÉMAN SUMMER WORKSHOPS**

June 18th – July 20th
 (entering 4th – 8th grade)
 Children focus on special interests in our weeklong programs. Workshops include: Music, Fine Arts, Culinary Arts and Film.



For more information, email summercamp@lemanmanhattan.org
 Léman Manhattan is located in the heart of the Financial District
 41 Broad Street • 1 Morris Street

Learning on the

JOB

One mom's helpful tips for teens seeking summer employment

BY ALLISON PLITT

The warmer months always remind me of my summers as a teenager — entering into the rite of passage of finding and holding a summer job. My real work history began at age 12 with a steady stream of neighborhood babysitting gigs, but it was my summer jobs in high school that gave me my first exposure to the working world. None of these jobs were exactly what I thought they would be, but each experience taught me an invaluable lesson about how to survive in the workplace.

Don't be afraid to ask

When I was 14, there was a girl in my class who I always looked up to. One day, she told me that she volunteered as a candy striper at the local hospital. When I asked her why she was volunteering, I was expecting an altruistic response. Instead, she told me that the experience would help her get a better job in the future.

Since that sounded like a good enough reason as any, I signed up to work as a candy striper at the hospital. I envisioned that my responsibilities would include walking around and fluffing up patients' pillows and pouring them water.

In reality, I ended up working as a waitress in the hospital's coffee shop. Since I was very shy and often nervous and klutzy around people, I feared every day when I went to work that I would drop a plate on the floor, and the entire restaurant would become silent and stare at me.

During my summer as a candy striper, I overcame my shyness and never dropped a plate, glass, or utensil on the floor. My self-confidence soared. The last week on the job, however, a customer ordered an iced coffee. Since this was the 1980s — before any semblance of a Starbucks had appeared in our neighborhood — I had never heard of an iced coffee before.

Instead of asking a fellow worker how to make the drink, I pulled out a wax-coated paper cup, poured some hot coffee into it, and then gave it to

the customer with some milk and sugar on the side. As I walked away from his table, I noticed there was wax on my hand. Slowly turning around, I saw the customer bring the drink to his lips as the cup fell apart and the coffee dripped down his white shirt.

The man jumped out of his seat and yelled that the scalding hot coffee had burnt his chest and legs. I rushed to give him more napkins and apologized for my cluelessness. Needless to say, he didn't want to hear my excuses, and walked out of the coffee shop and probably to the nearest doctor who could treat him for his burns. Thus, I learned lesson number one: if you don't know how to do something, ask someone.

Never do something you'll later regret

When I turned 15, I got the opportunity to earn my first real paycheck. I played a lot of tennis growing up and was offered a job teaching tennis at a summer day camp. The head of the camp was a tennis pro, and he hired four teachers who were all enrolled in schools nearby. My friend and I, both students at an all-girls school, were the two female teachers, and two boys from the public high school were the male instructors.

At the beginning of the camp session, I had a great time playing tennis, working with the kids, and finally getting a chance to flirt with boys. I had absolutely no clue how to act around boys, since I was leading a monastic life attending an all-girls school. Of course, the summer heat was contributing to the delusion in my head

that one of the male instructors had a crush on me. I knew he was shy, so one evening, when we were about to leave work, I kissed him.

Big mistake. He looked at me with a dumbfounded expression, since he had not anticipated the kiss at all. Not only did I learn the next day that he was not interested in me, but for the rest of the camp session, every time I walked by him and the other male teacher, they would snicker at me. I kept imagining all the horrible, humiliating things they were saying about me, which leads to lesson number two: never do anything in the workplace that you may regret the next day.

Despite the social gaffes and embarrassing experiences, I continued to work at the camp. When the camp session ended, I spent a month taking classes to obtain my lifeguard certification. Once I became certified, I got a job as a lifeguard at local pools during the summer, and worked an evening shift at the neighborhood YMCA in the winter.

If there's a problem, tell your boss

During my evening shift at the Y, there was a swimmer who would never leave the pool at closing time. I would end up waiting 15 minutes for him to finish his laps, which I felt was unfair since I could not put the extra time on the time sheet. Whenever I asked him to leave, he would hold up a finger (which I assumed was a silent attempt to tell me to wait one more minute) and then continue to swim.

One evening I had decided that



enough was enough, and I was going to show this swimmer that his time was up. When the pool was supposed to close, I detached the lane line, passed it over his head, turned off the lights and left the swimmer alone in the pool.

The following week when I came in for my evening shift, my boss was sitting on the bleachers next to the pool. That was not a good sign, since the only time I had ever seen my boss was when he interviewed me for my job.

My boss told me that I had jeopardized the man's safety and created a potential lawsuit for the Y if anything had happened to the swimmer. I apologized and recounted my previous at-

tempts to get the swimmer out of the pool at closing hours. My boss then proceeded to tell me about lesson number three: if you don't know how to handle a situation, tell your boss.

Always double-check your facts

Thanks to all my experience as a lifeguard, I eventually landed a summer job after graduating from high school — working as a pool manager at an apartment complex. I was really excited about this opportunity, because I got to hire two lifeguards and the hours of the pool were from noon to 8 pm.

Two months before graduat-

ing from high school, I asked two friends, Rebecca and Mia, if they wanted to work as lifeguards at the pool. I told them the hours, the good salary, the 40-hour work week, and the classes they had to take to get certified. My friends thought the situation sounded ideal and agreed to take me up on my offer.

Two weeks before the pool opened, I realized that I had made a mistake — one of the lifeguards could only work 20 hours a week. When I told Mia, who had less work experience, that I had to cut her hours, she became infuriated with me, and rightly so. I was essentially saved when she found another part-time job, but not

without enduring a couple of weeks of the silent treatment, which helped me understand lesson number four: always double-check your facts.

Put yourself in someone else's shoes

After the rocky start, my friends and I had a good summer managing the pool. Since my friends and I were punctual and conscientious, none of the tenants who used the pool ever complained.

Halfway through the summer, Rebecca became quiet and withdrawn. When Mia and I asked her what was wrong, she said her parents were separating and that her life at home had become emotionally unbearable. Despite Rebecca's attempts to arrive at work each day looking happy and cheerful, Mia and I could tell she was in a lot of pain.

One of the stipulations in our employment contracts was that if we worked until the end of the summer, we would receive bonuses. We were all looking forward to heading off to college with our bonuses, but the week before the pool was to close for the summer, Rebecca decided she couldn't stand living at home another day and left for college early, thus, losing her chance to get her bonus.

In hindsight, I wished I had been more sympathetic toward Rebecca's situation — perhaps offering her a place to stay at my family's home or hanging out with her in the evenings when we finished work.

But I didn't do that. Instead, I hugged her, told her I was sorry about what was going on with her family, and watched her leave. I still feel some remorse about what had happened that summer, which taught me the most significant lesson of all: always put yourself in someone else's shoes to understand her feelings.

My daughter is only 6 years old, but I know that one day I will recount these anecdotes to her in the hopes that she will make better decisions than the ones that I made. Nevertheless, no matter how much we as parents try to prepare our children for the real world, kids will only learn life's most important lessons from their own mistakes.

Allison Plitt is a contributing writer for New York Parenting Media and a mother living in Queens with a 6-year-old daughter. Share your ideas about topics for articles or resources for families at allisonplitt@hotmail.com.



ASK AN ATTORNEY

ALISON ARDEN BESUNDER,
ESQ.

Looking out for pets

I have a beloved puppy, as well as a few cats and a parakeet. How do I ensure my animals will be well taken care of if something happens to me?

Domesticated animals and pets have gained increasing prominence in our lives. Sometimes, pets assume as much importance in our lives as children, even more so in the case of clients without children. Many clients ask how they can ensure that their beloved pets are properly cared for after death. This is far from an unusual or uncommon question. For many people, the care and well-being of the pet is a very important consideration in their estate planning.

When considering how to plan for the care of a pet, a pet owner should not only consider what should occur in the event of his death, but also what arrangement should be made during the interim period between his death and the admission of the will to probate, as well as in the event that he should be hospitalized or incapacitated? In other words, you should arrange for access to your

home to permit the care and feeding of the pet during such periods.

A will can make provisions for the care of the pet, but the executor cannot officially take action to carry out these provisions until the will has been admitted to probate, and the executor has received the authority to proceed by the issuance of letters testamentary. Since there can be a period of weeks, if not months, between death and the issuance of letters testamentary, plans should be made to ensure the care for the pet during this interim period.

You can designate a suitable caretaker for your pet in your will. This matter should be discussed in advance with the potential caretaker to make sure the animal will be cared for appropriately. It should be noted that the person who receives an animal as the result of a bequest in a will becomes the owner and, as such, has all the rights and responsibilities of ownership (including the right to euthanize the animal). It is prudent to name alternate caretakers in the will in case the first-named person is unable or unwilling to take the animal when the time comes. Alternatively, the will can provide the executor with the discretion to select an appropriate caretaker.

Since you cannot leave any part of your estate outright to an animal, you may leave a sum of money to the person designated to care for the pet. You should leave a reasonable amount of money for the care of any pet, since a large sum of money could prompt relatives to challenge the will. If the bequest is conditioned upon the beneficiary's proper care for the pet, the executor will be obligated to ensure that the person receiving the bequest fulfills her commitment.

If there is no appropriate person to take the pet, you should consider naming a

charitable organization (such as a humane society or shelter) to care for or place your pet.

New York law also provides for the creation of a trust for animals (sometimes called a pet trust). A pet trust cannot exceed 21 years, even if the life span of a particular animal is longer. (Turtles can live 50 or more years; horses have a life expectancy of 25 to 40 years, and some cockatoos can live as much as 80 years!) The trustee appointed in the trust will be directed to the trust instrument to use the funds to care for the animal.

It may also be advisable to include a provision in a will that permits the executor to use estate funds to care for the animal for the period before the animal goes to the new home you designate. The will should state that the costs of food, veterinary care, transportation, and other expenses incurred by the executor is to be paid from the estate as an estate administration expense, whether or not the expenses are deductible for estate tax purposes.

A concerned pet owner might also consider keeping a short written note in his wallet containing emergency instructions in the event that he is injured or hospitalized and unable to return home to care for his pet. The fire department also offers stickers to place on the windows of your apartment or home to alert them that animals are inside in the event of fire.

In short, the best way to assure proper care for a pet is to make both short-term and long-term testamentary arrangements for your animals as part of your estate and crisis-planning process.

Alison Arden Besunder is the founding attorney of the Law Offices of Alison Arden Besunder P.C., where she assists new and not-so-new parents with their estate-planning needs. Her firm assists clients in New York City, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties. You can find Besunder on Twitter @estatetrustplan and on her website at www.besunderlaw.com.



Disclaimer: This column is provided by the Law Offices of Alison Arden Besunder P.C. and New York Parenting Media as a public service to inform readers of legal issues. It is not intended to advise. Since legal issues vary with an individual's situation and needs, one should consult with an attorney. It is impossible to cover all aspects of the law in an article. Please be advised that the laws are constantly changing. The content in this article reflects the current law. Nothing contained in this article is intended as advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship between the reader and the firm. Individual consultation with an attorney is required to determine the specific facts and circumstances of any particular situation. A written retainer agreement between you and the firm is required before any attorney-client relationship may be created. Circular 230 Disclosure Notice: To ensure compliance with Treasury Department rules governing tax practice, we inform you that any advice contained herein (including in any attachment) (1) was not written and is not intended to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalty that may be imposed on the taxpayer, and (2) may not be used in connection with promoting, marketing or recommending to another person any transaction or matter addressed herein.

ADELPHI ACADEMY OF BROOKLYN

Effectively preparing young people for college, career and life, one day at a time.

~ Celebrating 150 Years of Educational Excellence ~



THE PRIVATE, INDEPENDENT, CONTINUING, CO-EDUCATIONAL, COLLEGE
PREPARATORY DAY SCHOOL OF CHOICE

~ PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SENIOR YEAR ~
ESTABLISHED 1863

The cornerstone of the Adelphi philosophy goes beyond academics. We rear young men and women to become productive valuable members of society. We take what is especially unique in each student and nurture their talents with encouragement and devotion. Our curriculum is designed to broaden the scope of each student's thinking and to instill an appreciation for learning. Not just for the sake of learning, but for the purpose of growing both mind and spirit. For 150 years Adelphi has passed the torch of learning that shines on the importance of self expression. Every student is given the confidence to feel that whatever they conceive by mind, they can achieve by action.

- ✓ Small Class Sizes with an 8 to 1 Student -- Teacher Ratio
- ✓ 100% College Placement Rate
- ✓ New York State Regents Exempt Program
- ✓ Individualized Attention
- ✓ Intimate, Safe, Caring and Nurturing Environment
- ✓ Member of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
- ✓ Celebrating 150 years of Education Excellence

Award Winning Programs Include:

Special Needs ~ Tutoring and Independent Study ~ SAT Prep ~ College Guidance
Before and After School Care ~ Extra Curricular Activities ~ Interscholastic Athletics ~ Fine
Arts ~ Community and School Service ~ Drivers Education ~ Online Summer School
Summer Day Camp

**OPEN HOUSE:
JUNE 13TH, 2012, 6:00PM
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

**PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH THE BEST
OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE, CAREER
AND LIFE....**

...*EXPERIENCE ADELPHI!*



GOOD SENSE EATING

CHRISTINE M. PALUMBO, RD

How to make your baby food at home

After the first feeding decision a new mom makes — mother's milk or formula? — comes another one: homemade baby food or store bought?

Nikolina Gubernat of suburban Chicago decided early on.

"My mom raised my siblings and me on homemade baby food, so I wanted to do it, too," she says. "Also, I decided that it would be healthier for my baby since I knew exactly what I would be putting in the food."

The benefits

"When you make homemade food for your baby, you can decide exactly what does — and doesn't — go into it," explains Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics spokesperson Karen Ansel, MS, RD. "In addition to better nutrition, homemade baby food also tastes better, and you can modify the texture to suit every stage of baby's development."

You can experiment with more interesting ingredients, helping to shape baby's palate, so he will grow to be a more adventurous eater. Store-bought baby food is blander in taste, which will train baby to prefer only bland food.

Often overlooked are the social and emotional benefits to feeding babies the same foods you eat. When all family members eat the same meals, often, the pattern of eating together continues even when the

children are older.

It's environmentally-friendly, too. Making your own can be considered a "green" alternative, with very little packaging to throw into landfills or even to recycle.

"Making baby food from scratch does involve a little advance planning, but the benefits far outweigh the small time investment. Making food for baby in big batches, and then freezing them in single servings, can be a huge time saver," according to Ansel, a mother of two and author of "The Baby & Toddler Cookbook."

Money saver

"Because you're not paying for packaging or other costs baby food companies may incur, like advertising, making baby food from scratch is far more economical," Ansel says.

Gubernat agrees.

"It came out to be a big money saver not having to buy ready-made baby food."

Easiest way to start?

Gubernat, whose son is 1, uses the batch-cooking method.

"I peeled any skin; chopped up the produce; boiled it until it was soft-

ened; then blended it up in a blender or food processor (with some liquid that it was boiled in); let it cool down; poured into little, two-ounce plastic containers; and froze everything," she says.

•Start with single ingredient foods. Introduce them one at a time to see if baby has a reaction, such as an allergy or upset stomach.

"We were once told that cereals should be baby's first food, but now we know that babies can also start with sweet fruits like apples or pears or mild vegetables like butternut squash," explains Ansel.

•It's easy to set aside some of the ingredients and mash or puree them for baby.

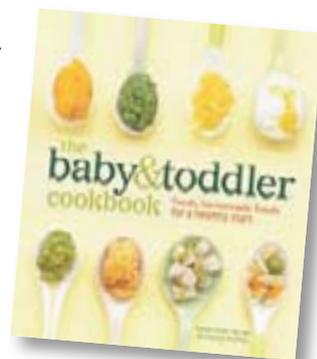
•Does baby show a fondness for a certain fruit or vegetable? Gradually combine it with other similar foods to create a new flavor favorite. For example, if he enjoys peaches, combine it with mangoes or strawberries.

•Utilize your freezer. Cook and puree fruits and vegetables and freeze portions in ice cube trays. Once they are frozen, transfer them into a quart-sized freezer bag that you label and date. When you're ready to serve, thaw carefully in the microwave or refrigerator. Use within six weeks of freezing.

You can give your baby the best nutrition available and do it in less time than you think. All in all, Gubernat is satisfied with her decision to make her own.

"It really was very easy," she says. "And [it] made me feel good that I did this for my son."

Christine Palumbo is a nutritionist based in Naperville, Ill., who found it deliciously easy to create her own babies' food at home. She can be reached at Chris@ChristinePalumbo.com. Follow her on Twitter @PalumboRD or on Facebook at Christine Palumbo Nutrition.



Baby's guacamole

Avocados are high in folate and healthy fats, with a neutral flavor and creamy consistency that make them an ideal choice as one of baby's first foods. If you use organic English (hot-house) cucumbers, which are unwaxed and have small seeds, you can skip the step of peeling and seeding them.

Makes about 3/4 cup (6 fl oz) of guacamole.

INGREDIENTS

1 large ripe avocado
1/2 cup (2 1/2 oz) peeled and seeded

cucumber
1/4 teaspoon ground cumin

DIRECTIONS: Cut the avocado in half lengthwise around the pit, and twist the halves to separate. Remove and discard the pit. Using a spoon, scoop the flesh of the avocado halves into a food processor or blender, discarding the skins. Using the large holes of a box grater-shredder, shred the cucumber, then add it to the food processor or blender along with the cumin.



Process to a smooth puree, or, depending on baby's age and chewing ability, you can leave the puree a little coarser. If necessary, add enough water, breast milk, or formula to thin the puree

to a consistency your baby can handle.

STORE IT: Refrigerate in an airtight container for up to one day. (Some discoloration may occur during storage.)

Reprinted with permission from "The Baby & Toddler Cookbook" by Charity Ferreira and Karen Ansel. Copyright 2010 by Weldon Owen Inc.

Smiling Faces Christian Day Care Center



Infants/Toddlers

6 Weeks – 2 Years Old
7:00am – 6:00pm

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- 2 Snacks

Licensed by DOH



1677 St. Johns Place
718.493.4040

Preschool

2 Years - 6 Years Old
7:00am – 6:00pm
After-school: Ages 4-13 Years

Bilingual/Certified Teachers
We accept special needs children
Sign language for hearing impaired
Referrals for early intervention
Breakfast • Lunch • 2 Snacks
Licensed by DOH

381 Myrtle Ave.
718.852.7020

SUMMER CAMP 2012



Rock Climbing, Visit to Museums & Technology Lab, Picnics, Parks, etc.

INTENSE ACADEMIC OFFERINGS:
Math, English Language Arts, Earth Science
Preparation for next grade level

JULY	AUGUST
2 nd - 6 th	6 th - 10 th
9 th - 13 th	13 th - 17 th
16 th - 20 th	20 th - 24 th
23 rd - 27 th	27 th - 31 st
30 th - Aug. 3 rd	

CAMP HOURS:
8a.m. - 4p.m.
(extended hrs. until 7p.m.)
Affordable rates. 1/2 Day
Camp Offerings. Debit &
Credit cards accepted.
Payment plans available.

Kids will leave
excited & happy
for the next day



1657 Bedford Ave. (Bet. Crown & Montgomery) • 347-406-5552



Bethel SDA Elementary School

Educating For Now and Eternity

Summer Program Starts
July 2nd – August 17th
Ages 3-14

Open 7:30-5:30pm M-T • Fri: 7:30-4:00pm

Open Childcare June 18th -29th

- Call for more info -
- Ongoing Open Enrollment
- Tours By Appointment



457 Grand Avenue • 718-783-3630

Find **Family** online at
www.NYParenting.com

REGISTRATION
2012-2013

ST. JAMES & ST. JOSEPH ELEMENTARY

The Anchor of Lower Manhattan!

EDUCATING CHILDREN
FROM
PREK-3 TO 8TH GRADE

Safe Environment
Breakfast & Lunch
Program

After School Program
Computers, Music, Art,
Choral Program
Excellent Placement
in High Schools



1 Monroe Street • New York, NY 10002
Early Childhood Center • 83 Madison Street

www.stjamesstjoseph.org

CALL TODAY FOR A TOUR!

212-233-5152

Register
NOW!

SUMMER CAMPS

August 8th-11th & August 13th-18th

Brooklyn Heights - Call Beth: 718 - 852 - 3208

Ages 4 - 6 Performing Arts half-day Camps.

Mini Musicals - Arts and Crafts. Monday - Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Ages 6 - 16 Broadway Performing Arts Camps.

Dance, Drama and Singing class as well as workshops with Broadway Stars!
Monday - Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm.

All Classes at PS58 The Carroll School, Brooklyn

Reasonable Rates and Sibling discounts.
All levels welcomed, previous experience is not necessary.

Applications for our Fall Term are now available!

Fall Saturday classes starting September 8th 2012

World's Largest Part Time Theatre Arts Schools

SING! DANCE! ACT NOW!



www.StageCoachSchools.com



DIVORCE & SEPARATION

LEE CHABIN, ESQ.

Dollars and sense

Understanding the intricacies of alimony

*“Hello Oscar boy, your alimony’s due
If you don’t pay up, I’ll sick the cops
on you
And you’ll spend Christmas in the clink
With other bums like you.”*

Iremember these words well. In an episode of the TV sitcom “The Odd Couple,” Blanche had this message delivered (via singing telegram!) to her ex-husband, Oscar Madison, who owed her an alimony payment following their divorce.

Not surprisingly, the subject of alimony doesn’t get a lot of laughs in real life. It is a serious matter, complicated by a lack of information about its potential uses and advantages,

and our own feelings and emotions.

What is alimony? Alimony (also known as spousal maintenance) is a series of payments made by one spouse to the other under a divorce or separation agreement. The payments can also be made to a third party (for instance to a bank for a loan) on behalf of the receiving spouse.

Recently, I spoke with Diane Rivers, a New York City divorce coach, neuro-linguistic programming master practitioner, and former tax lawyer and certified public accountant with estate planning experience. We discussed alimony — how it can be used, the emotions spouses may feel, and certain changes that have taken place over the years.

As the status of women has changed in the workplace and in society, so, too, have expectations surrounding alimony. With the large increase in the number of women receiving higher education and entering the work force, a woman may well be the payor today, rather than the payee. Men can, and do, receive alimony.

Another difference in the way spousal maintenance is approached today concerns the type or nature of the alimony agreed to or awarded. “Lifetime” alimony has become less common, though it may still be appropriate, especially in long-term marriages.

Instead of lifetime alimony, what can often be expected is rehabilitative alimony (or durational maintenance), which is financial support that is provided for a relatively short period of time, or even in a lump sum. It allows the receiving spouse time to adjust and hopefully become self-supporting. Frequently, this money is used to pay for the spouse’s job training, education, or therapy.

Alimony can also be employed to balance a division of property. Let’s say the spouses agree that the husband will keep his business, which the wife has a claim to. It is an asset of significantly greater value than the house, which the wife will keep, and which the husband has a claim to. As part of their deal, the parties

further agree that the husband will make alimony payments to the wife so that both get their fair share.

Alimony can even be used — indirectly — to pay for child care.

Rivers points out that divorce comes with tax implications, and couples should look at all of their assets, liabilities, cash inflows, and outflows; alimony may not be necessary as part of their settlement. She teaches her clients to be self-sufficient, always encouraging them to question advisers, such as tax planners and accountants, about whatever is not understood until they are comfortable with the answer and fully grasp it.

People can often be tripped up by their feelings or shortsightedness about paying alimony. Perhaps you can afford alimony but, feeling angry, refuse to pay. Perhaps you could receive alimony, but don’t like the idea of getting anything from your ex, or of paying taxes on the money. Such reactions, if they result in your not making use of alimony, may cost you.

And imagine a payee who happily receives alimony, but fails to save for emergencies or for estimated taxes. As April 15 or the final payment approaches, with no income to replace it, there can be feelings of panic and despair.

If alimony is an option, get the information and advice you need. Consider it carefully, and try not to let your emotions get in the way. Efficient tax planning may keep you from leaving money on the table at a time when every penny counts.

New York City and Long Island-based divorce mediator and collaborative divorce lawyer Lee Chabin, Esq. helps clients end their relationships respectfully and without going to court. Contact him at lee_chabin@lc-mediate.com, (718) 229-6149, or go to lc-mediate.com/home.

Reach Diane Rivers at Diane@DianeRivers.com or (212) 722-4084.

Disclaimer: All material in this column is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Discussing your particular case and circumstances with a legal professional before making important decisions is strongly encouraged.



SHABBAT FOR TOTS!

Everyone invited!
Every Friday at 4:00 p.m.

Singing, dancing, and a little Hebrew for toddlers, preschoolers, and their adult guests — with kids' favorite song leader Yoshie. Every week!

Plus — learn about our films, adult ed, music events, and much more!
Sign up for weekly email blasts: uniontemple@uniontemple.org.
Or visit us on Facebook.



Union Temple

Reform • Egalitarian • Inclusive

17 Eastern Parkway

Across from the Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza

718-638-7600

www.uniontemple.org



where children and grown-ups learn and play together

For 8 months - 3 1/2 years

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER AND FALL PROGRAMS

Park Slope Location
8th Ave. & 14th St.

Brooklyn Heights Location
250 Cadman Plaza West

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



OPEN HOUSE DATES

Saturday, June 9

10am - 2pm

Saturday, June 16

10am - 2pm



718-251-6200
5945 Strickland Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11234
millbasindaycamp.com

SUMMERS OF FUN & ADVENTURE!

Summers are for having fun. A time to spend with friends, make memories & share experiences that last a lifetime.

That's what MBDC is all about!

Register Early For 2012 & Save Money!



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
Includes: All Trips, T-Shirt, Camp Bag, Water Bottle, Lunch Box

MBDC - "Because You Love Your Kids"



All Programs & Facilities On Site!

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 FOR 2012
CLAYMATION STUDIO
3D MOVIE THEATRE
VIDEO GAME DESIGN LAB

Believing in MIRACLES

Making a difference with the Miracle Project

BY AARON FEINSTEIN

I was a young, Los Angeles-based theater director discovering my path in life when I met Elaine Hall. She was an acting coach for kids, a mom of a nonverbal child with autism, and was the person who encouraged me to become the director of the first Miracle Project team — a group that produces musical theater productions with kids who have autism. Totally baffled and excited by the possibility, we set off to create a play written and performed by the kids in the program. It was in those first days that the true power of the Miracle Project took shape. We were proud to build an organization that was fully committed to the idea of pure acceptance.

Our first day, there were kids doing the things that autistic kids sometimes do, like hiding under tables and flapping their arms. Yet, rather than looking at the kids in our group as children with disabilities, Hall taught me to see each child as an individual with individual means of expression. Each had a distinct way of looking at and experiencing the world!

Creating a play was a huge undertaking but we found that the kids in our program had an intense desire to express their individuality and passions on stage. And because of this, our performance became a way for these incredible kids to become part of something larger than themselves. I was hooked on The Miracle Project and wanted nothing more than to learn about children with autism and to use my talents in the arts as a vehicle to connect with them. I continued working



with the project in Los Angeles as the two-time Emmy Award-winning documentary “Autism the Musical,” filmed our efforts, focusing on a few of the kids in our program. So, naturally, when I moved to New York five years ago, I was determined to bring the Miracle Project to the east coast with me.

This past year I had the pleasure of leading a Miracle Project group of 12 teens at the 92nd Street Y in Manhattan for 20 weeks on Sunday mornings. The Y has been a great New York partner for us — the organization has a long history of doing great programs for kids with autism and special needs. Melanie Mandel, the longtime director of special needs programming at the 92nd Street Y, was directly involved with the kids and helped oversee the program. Hall flew out from LA to do a training series for my staff while I trained the teen and adult volunteers at the Y. Along with Gabriel Lit, the musical director at

Miracle Project New York, we interviewed all the teens this past October and accepted everyone that we interviewed into the program. I remember thinking that it was a truly diverse group of kids with interests ranging from Japanese Manga comics to Michael Jackson, and the presidents of the United States. Yet, I couldn't help but worry how we were going to respect each of their individual talents while maintaining the focus of the collaborative work that goes into building an ensemble performance.

We got to know each other by doing a lot of improvisation-based activities. Kids with autism commit to their own ideas in incredible ways, but it can be difficult for kids on the spectrum to embrace new ideas. Improvisation — built on the idea of accepting your partner's idea and then expanding upon that idea as a team — is the Miracle Project's way to get kids on the spectrum to become involved in



their peers' ideas. Acceptance is key and it is what allows improvisation to work.

We also had unexpected tantrums, outbursts, and other expressions of individuality that we had to accept. We all have little moments of fear, anxiety, and nervousness — those moments for kids with autism can be challenging because it is more difficult for them to express their feelings in a typical way. That said, this group of teens was extremely encouraging toward one another. They were also incredibly patient and tolerant of each other's "moments." Our fantastic staff and our teen and adult volunteers kept the environment safe and fun, even in the most difficult moments. We also had a group of supportive parents who were willing to commit and be excited about the process through its various triumphs and tribulations. As a whole, this little community was determined to create a show that would delve into the passions and interests of everyone during our Sunday sessions.

The result was "A Brief History of All Things," a musical performed

on May 15 at the 92nd Y in Tribeca. The play was about a group of super geniuses trying to figure out the most important things to resolve in the past if they could travel in time. Throughout the course of the play each of the smarty-pants characters attempted to do something significant in time that was important to each of the autistic teens. This included saving Abraham Lincoln at the Ford Theater, watching Michael Jackson at his Bucharest concert, and singing a song to eulogize Whitney Houston.

What happened throughout the rehearsal process was mirrored in the stage performance. They worked together to explore each other's interests and passions, but the teamwork was not without its arguments and disagreements. Everyone had different ideas that defined and shaped their diverse personalities. Every kid got the chance to express their passions and talents on stage while becoming part of a true ensemble.

Through the Miracle Project process, we saw these unique individuals come out of their shells and work

together to create an entertaining, heartfelt, funny, and enlightening piece of musical theater. It was astonishing and truly worthy of the standing ovation the kids received at the end of their final performance. Autism was on stage, but so was an ensemble that was committed to singing the songs, saying the lines, and supporting their fellow performers in the show. I think Hall says it best: "It may take a village to raise a child, but we say it takes one child with special needs to raise the consciousness of the village."

This production was performed by a true ensemble raising consciousness for the community while celebrating their abilities, talents, and unique interests that are not limited to, or defined by, the autism diagnosis.

Aaron Feinstein is the director of the Miracle Project New York, a musical theater program for children of all abilities, and executive director and founder of Actionplay, which provides training and program development for museums and cultural centers to meet the needs of children with autism and developmental disabilities.

Improvisation is the Miracle Project's way to get kids on the autism spectrum to become involved in their peers' ideas.



GROWING UP ONLINE

CAROLYN JABS

Apps for summer

Keep your child's mind sharp with these tools

A few years ago, educators starting warning parents about “summer slump.” This drop-off in academic skills during summer vacation forces teachers to spend the first weeks after Labor Day re-teaching things their students knew at Memorial Day.

Of course, summer won't feel much like vacation if it's crammed with workbook exercises. Instead, parents can keep young brains fresh by encouraging kids to imagine, explore, and inquire about things that interest them. Whether it's done with paper or pixels, reading continues to

Apps are organized by grade level, so you can pinpoint what works for preschoolers or fifth graders. And you can sign up for an e-mail that will alert you to new apps in particular areas (www.mindleaptech.com).

- Common Sense Media now reviews apps in addition to movies, video games, TV shows, websites, books and music. Run by a non-profit, this site uses an easy-to-understand rating system that helps parents zero in on content that is developmentally appropriate. Reviews also include a “learning rating,” which considers engagement, learning approach, feedback, and support (www.common Sense Media.org/mobile-app-lists).

- Digital-storytime reviews picture books that have been adapted for the iPad. In addition to a candid assessment of the book, each review includes screen shots and videos, so you know what you're getting before you buy. There are also some helpful top-10 lists, many organized around topics that appeal to the author's young son, such as elephants, pirates, and planets (www.digital-storytime.com).

- International Children's Digital Library offers a free app that gives children access to more than 4,000 books

from around the world. Many of the books have been translated, so kids can listen to stories in more than one language. The Digital Library also offers an app that helps children write and share their own stories (<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>).

- Storia is another free app that gives readers easy access to many of the popular books available from Scholastic book clubs. You can choose five free books when you download the app. After that, you'll pay from \$1.95 to \$20 per book (www.scholastic.com/storia).

- Apps in Education reviews 1,000 apps each week to identify the ones that are most likely to be useful to teachers. This is a great place to look for apps that will help a child catch

up on fractions or some other subject that he didn't quite master last year (www.appsineducation.com).

- Teaching Appz is another good source for apps endorsed by teachers in Great Britain. The reviewers are quite selective, so you don't have to wade through a long list to find top-notch apps in various subjects. Reviews also include tips about how to use each app to stimulate learning (www.teachingappz.co.uk).

- Several apps make each day a learning opportunity by delivering new content to your mobile device every 24 hours. Read Me Stories provides a daily book ideal for children who are just learning to read (www.8interactive.com). Brain Pop offers a mini-movie about a random topic likely to interest elementary-age children (www.brainpop.com/app).

To be honest, kids from families who can afford Smartphones and tablet computers are less likely to experience summer slump.

“All children backslide in math,” says James Kim, a Harvard researcher who has studied summer slump. “In literacy, the gap between high and low socio-economic status children widens. Low-income students, who may not have the same level of access to books and literacy resources, tend to decline more than wealthier students.”

Parents can help close this gap by getting involved in local literacy projects. Sort through your family library and donate outgrown books, games, and educational toys to programs such as firstbook.org. Or, use the interactive map under “Volunteer” at RIF.org to find and support a literacy initiative in your school district. You may find that the best way to prevent summer slump is by joining with other parents to be sure that all the kids in your community have loads of opportunities to learn this summer.

Carolyn Jabs, MA, raised three computer-savvy kids, including one with special needs. She has been writing Growing Up Online for 10 years. Visit www.growing-up-online.com to read other columns.



be one of the best ways to nurture young minds, followed closely by activities that motivate children to think their way through problems.

Happily, both of these activities are a prominent part of many of the apps designed for children. The challenge for parents is to sort through the thousands of apps being produced to find the ones that will actually intersect with a particular child's age and enthusiasms. These websites should help. All do independent reviews, and most sort apps by age group and subject area.

- Mind Leap Tech reviews educational apps with three things in mind: Does the app trigger genuine learning? Do kids enjoy using it? Will they want to use it more than once?

Midwood Montessori



Pre-School & Kindergarten

Summer Program
Transportation Available

2825 Bedford Avenue • 253-3242
at Glenwood Road

Early Registration Special

SUMMER CAMP at NOVA

KEEP LAST YEAR'S PRICES BEFORE APRIL 1ST

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

LUNCH INCLUDED!

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST!

AWARD WINNING PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES

34 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

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

ЗАНИМАНИЯ ПРОВОДЯТСЯ ОПЫТНЕЙШИМИ ТРЕНЕРАМИ
РОССИИ И США

www.novaathletics.org

CITY VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

RUSSIAN SPEAKING COACHES AVAILABLE

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 9th

11 to 3 pm

Paerdegat Day Camp

AGES 2-15

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

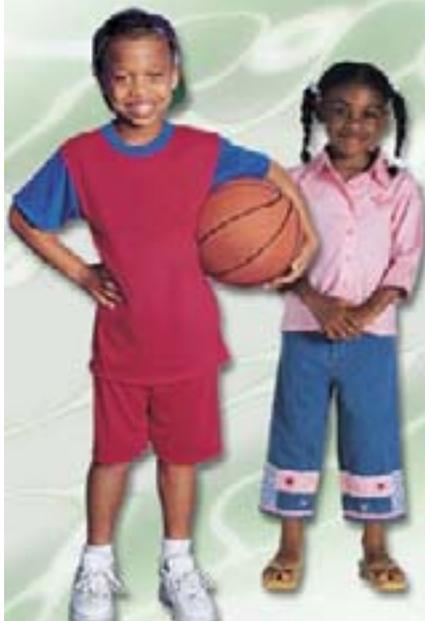
DOOR TO DOOR TRANSPORTATION

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

Video Security System

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

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



REGISTER NOW
For 2012/2013
FREE Universal Pre-K Program
For Children Age 4
By Dec. 31, 2012



OUR RELATIONSHIPS

JOAN EMERSON, PhD

Knowing what to say

As the years pass in my couples practice and in my own marriage, it becomes ever more clear that certain problems are built in to the marriage relationship, no matter how evolved we try to be. Even when there is love and good intentions on both sides, things do not continuously run smoothly.

Temperament plays a big part in the challenge of keeping things on track. One partner wants more time together, deep talk, intimacy, and activity than the other, and unless he is careful to take his partner's style into account, he can be, and act, overwhelming and controlling. If he is the more reserved temperament, he has to assure that his partner doesn't see his need for time alone as a personal rejection.

Sometimes, one of us has mood issues that the other has to be understanding about — like anxiety, depression, or obsessiveness — traits that can lock us into our own world. Our history, of course, also shapes us and makes us supersensitive to certain needs or fears. All of these differences go along with being human, and nobody's right or wrong. However, even though we know all this rationally, these disconnections still lead to hurt feelings and, in spite of the love between us, some less-than-ideal coping behaviors.

Since these disconnection times are unavoidable, it seems that the best we can do in a relationship that we want to last for the long haul is to agree together

that when we're going through these periods), we will follow certain rules with each other, and that these rules will be sacrosanct.

The obvious first rule is the absolute prohibition against physical aggression, no matter how angry or hurt we are. We also must agree that we will not walk out of the house and disappear for periods of time, that we will not yell and scream, that we will not act out in front of friends or family, and, especially when the kids are there, that we will keep our business between us. This means that there will be periods of time when we both have to be willing to contain our emotions, and perhaps go through the motions until we each calm down and have a chance to talk in a constructive way.

When we finally do sit down, both ready to talk about how we're missing each other and wanting to figure out how to improve things, there are guidelines to what works and what backfires. Research has found four communication styles that predicted divorce with 91 percent accuracy: first, the "harsh startup," where conversations get started with anger, sarcasm, or accusations; second is when one or both use criticism, contemptuous tones, defensive reactions, or

stonewalling during the talk; third is when one of us just won't let up, even though our partner is getting emotionally and even physically overwhelmed and shutting down; and last, when talk gets to such a high pitch that, if we were in the doctor's office, faster heart beat, raised blood pressure, and higher secretions of adrenaline would be measurable.

So, we know what doesn't work and can figure out from there what would work better. Is this easy? No! It's a lifetime of self-awareness and effort. But there's no alternative if we're committed to each other and want to keep the love alive. That's why we have to make sure we're both willing to do this hard work: containing our negative impulses when problems occur and, instead, sharing with our partner the desire for a helpful talk when the time is right.

If we do have this behavioral commitment and can actually see each other trying, the rest of what we need to do becomes much easier. A confidence and assurance that we can trust our partner to handle emotion appropriately creates the feeling of safety that we need above all else.

When good times return, we have to nurture those comforting, warm feelings we're re-experiencing by making sure we tell our partner of our love and appreciation. To say and hear this makes it easier to get even closer; it strengthens the foundation that helps get us through the hard times.

During these good times, we can invite each other to sit down to share what's going on in our lives — both emotionally and practically. This kind of talk would hopefully become an almost daily practice. It's when we feel this safety that we can talk about ongoing issues and how to handle them better. When the talk is calm, there's eye contact, both are able to express what the upset was about and what would help heal things. And we each feel thoughtfully listened to, because we're using the right connection tools and are on the way back to the good times.

Dr. Joan Emerson is a psychologist specializing in couples therapy. Visit her website at www.JoanEmerson.com or e-mail her at DrJoanEmerson@aol.com.





Marks JCH Day Camp

Ages 3 - 14



Putting smiles on faces daily...

June 28th, 2012 - August 17th, 2012

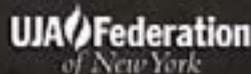


camp@jchb.org

www.jchcamp.com

718-331-6800 ext. 145

7802 Bay Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11214



DANCEWAVE



Summer Dance Intensive 2012



Classes in Ballet, Modern, African, Jazz, Street Jazz, Flamenco, Contact Improv, Hip-Hop, Bhangra and Belly Dance!

Beginner/Intermediate Advanced
August 20-31

(Ages 10-18)

Week 1: August 20-24

Week 2: August 27-31

Park Slope, Brooklyn

Advanced Intensive with Gallim Dance
August 13-17

(Ages 16-22)

Clinton Hill, Brooklyn

By audition only, June 16th 2-4pm

Email: RSVP@dancewave.org to reserve your audition spot.

Audition for a scholarship! Saturday June 16th, 4-6pm

RSVP@dancewave.org to reserve your audition spot today!

www.dancewave.org

DANCEWAVE 45 Fourth Ave at Dean St, Brooklyn, NY

(718) 522-4696 • info@dancewave.org •

What If The Unthinkable Happens?

Parents, what will happen to your children in the event of death, a serious health crisis or other disabling event?

Do you have a plan in place? An emergency can leave children without custodians, no one to handle bills or make financial and other important decisions.

Julie Stoil Fernandez, Esq., a compassionate and experienced Park Slope attorney, will help you create a plan, and prepare the documents necessary to protect your family.



Law Office Of Julie Stoil Fernandez



21 Webster Place, Brooklyn, NY 11215 • (718) 965-4025

Email: jfsqlaw@gmail.com • Website: www.jsflaw.net

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

718-522-5822 62 Fourth St. (x Hoyt St)





THE BOOK WORM

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Streaking in his birthday suit

Does your child act like he's allergic to pants, shirts, and underwear? A new book about a little boy who likes being naked but loves his father even more might help change your tiny one's tune.

"Birthday Suit," by Olive Senior (Annick Press), tells the story of Johnny, a free-spirited kid who likes to run around au naturel. Johnny enjoys waking up early when the weather is warm and running down to the beach, poking his toes in the salty water, and splashing around in the buff. He's been doing this since he was a little baby and the fish never seem to mind what he does — or does not — wear.

But when Johnny turns 4, his mom tells him that he's now a big boy and needs to start wearing clothes — like some fancy, red swim trunks she has bought him that are just right for a boy like him to wear to the beach. Johnny puts them on, but the

second his mama isn't looking, off come the trunks, and the frisky 4-year-old is back in the ocean wearing nothing but sand and water. Johnny's mother decides to try other types of clothing, like a pair of overalls. But they snap on too tight and make Johnny cry. Even the fish at the beach hate the overalls, so Johnny figures out a way to wiggle out of them.

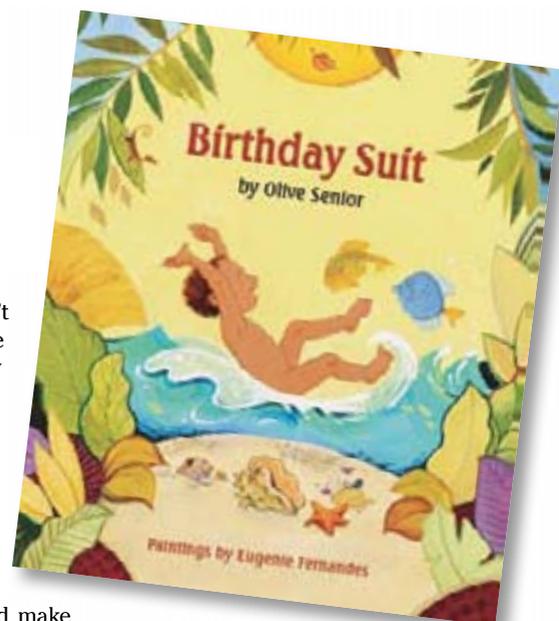
But then Johnny's dad gets a great idea that makes overalls and swim trunks feel absolutely natural for a growing boy to wear.

Every toddler who's ever peeled off his clothes and raced through the room will love this story. Senior's mischievous main character is lovable, relatable, and like most happy-

go-lucky toddlers, knows the freedom of skipping through warm waves at the beach without his pants.

This book is tasteful, cute, and though it's meant for 3-to-5-year-old streakers, it'll make adults smile, too. If your child needs to hold his britches, "Birthday Suit" will fit them like a tailored suit.

"Birthday Suit," by Olive Senior. [32 pages, 2012, \$8.95].



A smart, fun read about friends

Is your teen upset about moving? A new book about two girls who leave their hometowns and make great friends in a new neighborhood might be just what she needs.

In "Boyfriend Season: Cali Boys," by Kelli London (Dafina Teen), Jacobi Swanson, a teenage girl who loves following the stock market and is looking for creative inspiration when her father gives her an awesome, new video camera, is bummed. She's just moved to the suburbs of Los Angeles and is stuck in a one-bathroom house with two dorky brothers — Hunter, who's a pain, and Diggs, who's even worse.

She wants nothing more than to physically develop a feminine, hourglass figure (she is, after all, a 15-year-old woman!) and move back to her old neighborhood

where she'd left behind her two best friends, Katydid and Scooby. She especially misses Scooby, since she always had a crush on him and now will never know if he liked her the way she liked him.

Jacobi's one silver lining is Alissa, her new next-door neighbor, who's her same age. Alissa has lived in the neighborhood for most of her life and once the two girls meet, they know they're meant to be friends.

Kassidy Maddox is also new to town and hates it as well. The southern California neighborhood she has just moved to is nothing like her old home in New York City — a place where she truly belonged. Back in the Big Apple, Kassidy had a modeling career and boyfriend. But her mother decided to elope with some guy from the City of Angels and now Kassidy is living with a step-daddy-dearest and a nasty, overweight, and overeating stepsister who doesn't know a single thing about fashion.

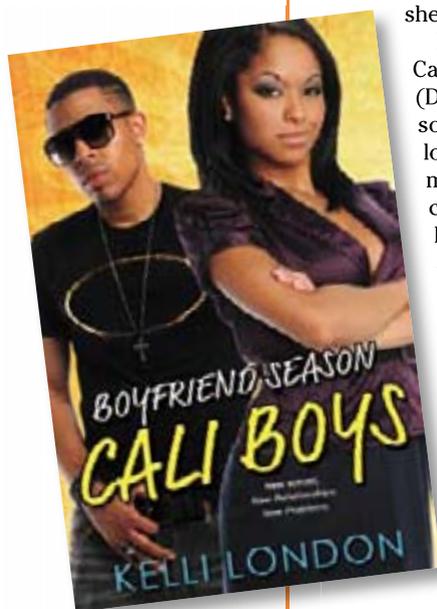
At least Kassidy has a new friend, Faith, who knows how to make a big-city girl like her feel at home by introducing her to the Cali boys — who

are interesting diversions — but not nearly as fine as the guy Kassidy left back in New York.

Judging by its title, it's easy to assume that "Boyfriend Season: Cali Boys" is, well, boy-crazy. Yet once you're a few pages in, it becomes evident that this book is so much more. Sure, the main characters have their sights set on romance but Jacobi and Kassidy both have well-rounded lives, interests, and dreams that go beyond crushes and kisses. Like all young adult novels by London, the teens in this book are spunky, smart, and do fun things that attract quality boyfriends in the end. Plus there's a parental bonus — zero profanity! This book is recommended for 12- to 17-year-old girls and is so good they'll want to share it with all of their friends — old and new. Really, what's not to love?

"Boyfriend Season: Cali Boys," by Kelli London [241 pages, 2012, \$9.95].

Terri Schlichenmeyer has been reading since she was 3 years old, and she never goes anywhere without a book. She lives on a hill with two dogs and 12,000 books.



PARK EXPLORERS DAY CAMP

SUMMER OUTDOOR FUN & HOLIDAY CAMPS

www.parkexplorers.com
718-788-3620

- Swimming
- Sports & games
- Gymnastics
- Karate
- Arts & Crafts
- Trips
- Special Events
- Special programs: Theater & Gymnastics



PARTY GYM™

"Private Parties"

1130 Avenue Z • 718-891-8500
www.partygym.com

Specializing in Private Parties For Over 15 Years!

Book Your Party Now!

We offer complete party packages.

Recently renovated, with a new toddler area, rock climbing wall and outside adult seating area.

Now Registering For Our Summer Program



Open Play Time \$7 per child
Mondays and Thursdays 11 am to 3 pm
Tuesdays 4 pm to 7 pm

\$25 OFF ANY PARTY

- Not to be combined w/any other offer - Does not apply to parties already booked
Expires 6/30/12

Brooklyn College

The City University of New York

The Preparatory Center for The Performing Arts

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

Over 30 years of offering music, theater, and dance classes for children age 3 and up.



Summer 2012
Register now though June 30 • Classes begin on July 2

- Creative Arts Program for ages 3-5
- Dance Classes for ages 3 & up
- Theater Classes
- Introduction to Suzuki Violin
- Group Piano and Guitar Classes
- Puppetry
- 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 – Information session and interviews – June 16
- please call for an interview for the 2012-2013 school year

Telephone: **718-951-4111** • Visit our website at www.bcprepcenter.org



Photo by Charles O'Neal

The Installation "Baseball in the Bronx: Nine Innings of Bronx Baseball" at The Bronx Museum of the Arts brought out (above) Mrs. Elston Howard, widow of the Yankee legend. (Far right) A photo of the Corona Park Little League (1950s) was part of the exhibit.



Photo by Bob Williams

Batter up!

The Bronx Museum of Art exhibit features history of baseball in the Bronx

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI AND SUSAN WEISS

It's baseball season and Little Leaguers across the city have begun to hit the diamond. The boys and girls of summer are at it again so it's no wonder that in the Bronx — where the national pastime has united residents from diverse backgrounds since the Civil War — recently celebrated the sport with a terrific exhibit. The Bronx Museum of the Arts' "Baseball in the Bronx: Nine Innings of Bronx Baseball" was recently on view in this lovely museum on the Grand Concourse.

Of course, the Bronx is synonymous with the Yankees, and Yankee Stadium, the cathedral of the sport that was built in 1923, was the stage for legends including Lou Gehrig,

Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Red Ruffing, Hank Bauer, Whitey Ford, Joe DiMaggio, Yogi Berra, and Bill Dickey.

The exhibit included the Yankees' logo from atop the home team's dugout, along with photographs, vintage uniforms, memorabilia, and artifacts from baseball's bygone days. Visitors got a chance to see home movies filmed by Elston Howard (the first African-American Yankee), and a brief history of Latino baseball in "El Bronx."

But it wasn't just about Major League Baseball. It featured material about Bronx Little League teams from Hunts Point, Crotona, Riverdale, and Van Nest; along with college baseball at Fordham University and New York University — painting a vivid picture of how the sport helped shaped the borough.

"The exhibit examined the role of baseball in the Bronx from — immediately after — the Civil War through the present day," said curator Brian Richards, who is also museum curator at the new Yankee Stadium on River Avenue, which replaced the original in 2009. "It really mirrored the social history of the Bronx. Baseball has shown the borough's growth and evolution over the past century-and-a-half." The Bronx wouldn't be the Bronx without the Yankees, and the team played a major part in putting it together.

The Yankees moved to the South Bronx in 1923 from Manhattan, bringing national attention and real excitement to the area: the team christened the Stadium with its first World Series championship that October, defeating the crosstown New



Photo by Mel Rosenzhal

South Bronx circa. 1975 to 1983.

York Giants four games to two in the first “Subway Series.”

Hundreds of exhibit visitors viewed DiMaggio’s bat, Howard’s Golden Glove, and vintage pics of the Negro League World Series at Yankee Stadium in 1930. The “ninth inning” of the exhibit showcased digital projections of nearly 100 baseball photos from the 1950s to the present that were submitted by the public.

Private collections from Fordham University, the Bronx County Historical Society, New York University, The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, and artifacts provided by Arlene Howard, widow of Elston, were on display.

“There’s never been anything like this,” said Goodman. “The Bronx is the mecca of baseball, and the exhibit celebrated all the different aspects of baseball: Little League, high school, college, the Negro Leagues that were here, and of course, the Yankees.”

Children and young adults have played baseball in parks or on empty sandlots since the game became popular in the 1800s. Organizations that promote professionalism and fair play among sandlot athletes, such as the Greater New York Sandlot Athletic Alliance, have formed and expanded over time. The Public School Athletic League, Police Athletic League, and the Catholic Youth Organization also sponsor leagues on local baseball fields throughout the city. High school baseball rivalries inspire intense competition and team pride among competitors.

Thanks to Williamsport, Penn-

sylvania’s Carl Stotz, organized baseball for pre-teen boys became a reality in 1938. He called it “Little League,” and baseball history was made on June 6, 1939, when Lundy Lumber played Lycoming Dairy in the very first Little League game in Pennsylvania.

Little League’s popularity exploded in the wake of World War II. The Crotona Park baseball team’s photo from the 1950s that was displayed in the exhibit showed the excited faces of the young players anticipating their next game. The decades haven’t changed the excitement children experience before, during, and after a well-played game — whether their team wins or loses.

The Little League World Series is a baseball tournament for children ages 9, 10, 11, and 12. The road to Williamsport begins every July with hundreds of teams throughout the United States competing for regional titles and a chance to play in the World Series. The tournament has gained popularity, throughout the United States, where games from the series and even from regional tournaments are broadcast on ESPN in August.

There are youth, high school, and college baseball programs across the city, and the sport, through the excitement of the game, continues to be an integral part of summer for both boys and girls alike.

For more information about Little League for your child please log onto www.littleleague.org/east. For more information about The Bronx Museum of the Arts log onto www.bronxmuseum.org.

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.

Dentistry for Adults and Children

Tracey H. Joseph, D.D.S., PLLC

Gentle, Friendly and Nurturing Care for Your Family

- School Forms
- Extractions
- Flexible Partial
- Dentures



- 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)

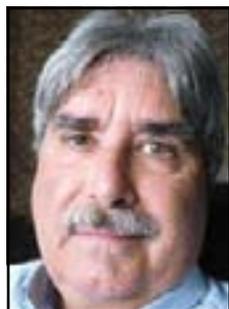
718-377-1319

www.brooklynfamilydds.com

WE SPEAK SPANISH

Most Major Insurances and Medicaid Accepted





FAMILY JOURNAL

ROBERT MORTON

Tips for coaching your kid's ball team

Dear Mr. Morton,

I volunteered to coach my son's Little League baseball team with his fifth-grade classmates. I really want to have a positive impact on them. Any tips?
— Anxious Dad

Dear Anxious Dad,

Thanks to parents like you, the number of kids participating in adult-organized sports programs is growing at an unbelievable rate: 28 million boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 18 participate in community sports programs. As a coach,

you can create a constructive and upbeat baseball season for your son and his classmates — one that they will always remember.

Researchers examined the impact of coaching behaviors on 152 boys (ages 10 to 12) participating in Little League baseball programs. They uncovered major results with far-reaching implications.

Half the coaches attended a Coaching Effectiveness Training Program two weeks before the season began — the other half did not. The trained coaches learned ways to relate more effectively with child athletes.

Throughout the season, the trained coaches readily praised kids for their efforts and good performances. The other coaches did not. When a Little Leaguer made an error, the trained coaches gave corrective instruction in a supportive and encouraging way. The other coaches did not.

The trained coaches noticed kids being good and rarely overlooked improving performances, using praises such as: "Johnny, I like your stance while at bat."

Kids with trained coaches heard encouraging words and reassurances when they made a mistake, such as: "That's OK, Tommy, you'll get it next time!" The other kids did not.

Kids heard more criticizing remarks and punitive responses from untrained coaches when they made mistakes on the baseball field, such as: "How many times do I have to tell you to use both hand, stupid!"

Preseason and postseason interviews with the 152 Little League boys uncovered major findings: the boys enjoyed playing for the trained coaches better and their wor-

ship for the game of baseball outshined the others. They also ended up liking not only their coaches better but their teammates as well. Friendships were forged.

And here's the kicker: all 152 boys completed a measure of general self-esteem before and after the baseball season. Boys with low self-esteem playing under the trained coaches showed dramatic rises in their feelings of self-worth; boys with low self-esteem playing under the untrained coaches did not.

After reviewing the training program and listening to the wishes of parents who have had children in summer baseball leagues, my idea of a great kid's baseball coach is one who:

- Is aware of the growing number of kids with low self-esteem and those who come from single-parent and dysfunctional families, and who believes his most important job is to build confidence and feelings of self-worth.

- Believes winning is important, but that kids always come first. Poor and skilled batters bat equally.

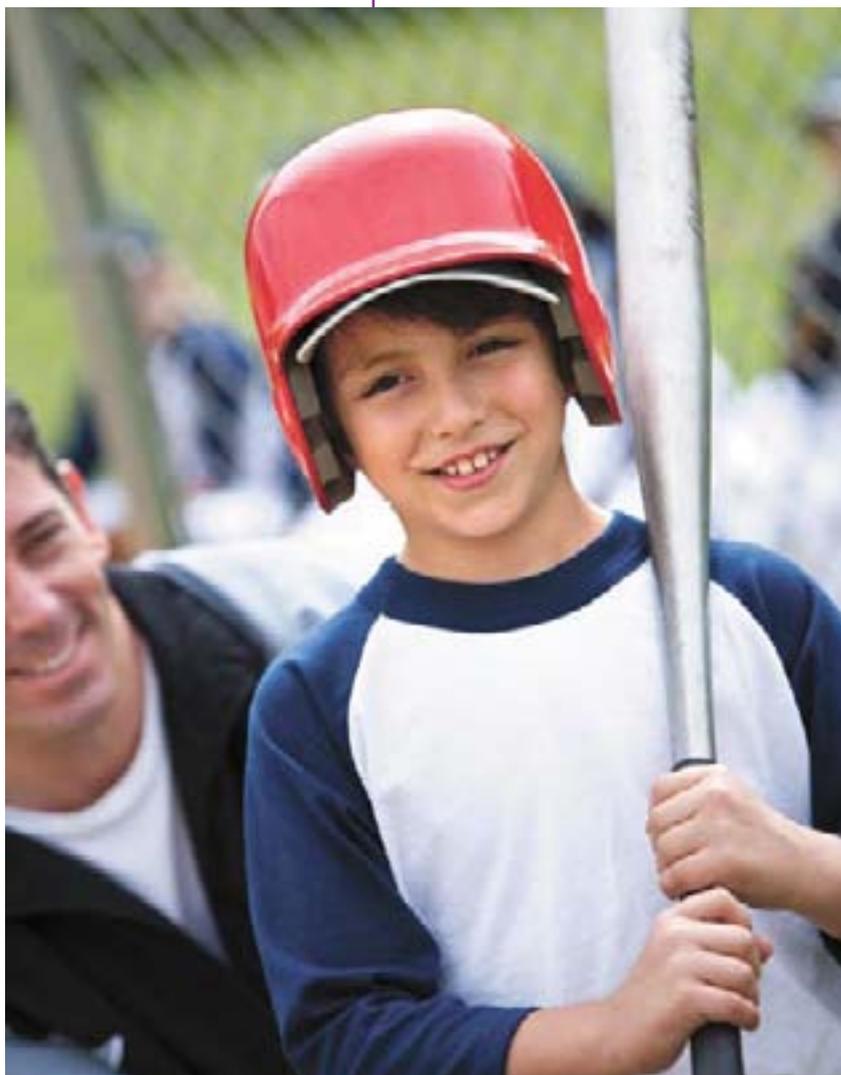
- Focuses on what went right, preaches maximum effort, and if the team loses, watches blooper videos of pro baseball teams.

- Builds team spirit and has parents form a cheering section. All kids are cheered for effort and no kid is booed.

- Passes out sponge balls to parents to throw at adults who yell discouraging remarks from the bleachers.

Here's the bottom-line: the win-loss records between trained coaches and those with a "take no prisoners" approach to Little League baseball were identical.

Robert Morton, MED, EDS, is a retired school psychologist and former adjunct professor in the School of Leadership and Policy Studies at Bowling Green State University. Concerns about family, parenting, educational, or those of a personal matter? Contact him at robertmorton359@gmail.com.



KID'S EAT FREE EVERY NIGHT!

ENJOY AN DINNER ENTREE 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 Sums

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



Soccer Gear & Equipment Drive

Do you have uniforms, balls, shin guards, shoes, etc. that your kids have outgrown?

Did they play in A.Y.S.O. & does their team have different uniforms this season?

***Give-A-Ball Foundation
will collect used soccer gear
and distribute it to children
in Haiti in July 2012***



For more information please visit

www.giveaball.org

or call

1-888-607-0043 x 2

www.NYParenting.com

*Where every family matters and where
New York parents find help, info and support.*

- Great Articles
- A Happening Calendar
- Informative Directories
- Ticket Give-A-Ways:
*Everyone's a winner.
Log-in, enter & find out.*



SCAN
HERE



NYParenting Media/CNG

NYParenting@cnglocal.com • 718-260-4554



FAMILY HEALTH

DR. PRAMOD NARULA, MD
Chairman of Pediatrics
New York Methodist Hospital

How to help your teen fall asleep



My adolescent daughter has been having problems falling asleep. How can I help her doze off?

Insomnia is a prevalent sleep disorder among adults, but it's also quite common for children to experience difficulty falling asleep. Children generally need between nine and 11 hours of sleep a night. Continual sleeplessness can result in your daughter feeling exhausted, and can make it difficult for her to concentrate on her schoolwork during the day. Constant fatigue might also compromise her immune system and make her susceptible to illness.

The good news is that once you identify the source of your daughter's insomnia, you're well on your way to treating it. One possible cause is stress. Talk to your daughter and find out how she's doing academically and socially — perhaps

she's struggling with a particular class or had a recent fight with a friend. If so, she might be worrying about this problem at night, which could prevent her from dozing off. High caffeine intake or an upset stomach could also be causing the problem, so take a look at your daughter's diet as well. Asthma, poor sleep habits — such as going to bed at different times each night — certain types of medication, or even growing pains or muscle cramps can keep a child up.

After you determine what's causing the problem, get your daughter back on a healthy sleep cycle by instilling good bedtime habits. Only allow her to use the bed to sleep; have her avoid doing her homework or watching television in bed. Enforce a schedule where she wakes up and goes to bed at the same time.

Also, make sure she avoids cer-

tain stimulating activities, such as playing video games, 30 to 60 minutes prior to her consistent bedtime. Regular exercise during the day and avoiding caffeine (which is found in carbonated cola drinks) can help, as can encouraging her to learn certain relaxation techniques, like meditation, which she can do before going to bed. If she has problems nodding off, make sure she gets out of bed and does something relaxing, such as reading, rather than tossing and turning under the covers.

If your daughter still can't sleep, seeing a counselor or child psychologist, as well as your pediatrician, could help. A licensed medical professional might be able to spot a problem that you weren't able to see, or even suggest certain types of medications that your daughter may need in order to get her sleep schedule back on track.

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.



**Reserve Your
Summer Tutor
Today!**

718-483-8506

www.clubz.com/brooklyn



PARENTS
HELPING
PARENTS

SHARON C. PETERS, MA

Is home-schooling right for my kids?



Dear Sharon,

I have been home-schooling my two kids for the past three years. They are twins and are 8 years old. Friends and other family members have told me I'm crazy, and that I should let them go to school, because I am depriving them of learning social skills and interacting with a variety of people. What do you think? Is this harming them?

Dear home-schooling parent,

I have known families who have educated their children at home, in private or public settings, and by doing a combination of all three. I believe there can be excellent reasons for parents to choose all of these options and suggest that moms and dads review the inevitable pros and cons of each for their families.

I think that it is useful for parents of homeschoolers to find ways for their children to be around people their own age — who are not part of their immediate family — on a regu-

lar basis. This gives young people the experience of sorting through the intricacies of peer relationships — an important part of life.

It can also be helpful to find classes or activities that children can attend, giving them the opportunity to accomplish goals as part of a group — another important part of childhood development.

In New York, there are strong networks of home-schooling parents who have sorted through ways to provide a variety of options to their children that include ongoing contact with other home-schooled children. New York City Home Educators Alliance is one organization that is an excellent source of support and information.

It is not unusual for parents to find themselves in a “defensive”

position when explaining their parenting decisions. This is especially true when their opinions are different than “mainstream” thought.

I believe that parents know their children and should make decisions about the priorities they want to stress in their families. As they do so, I also suggest that they look for places to receive honest and thoughtful feedback about their ideas from adults they trust. It can also be helpful to take their children's ideas into consideration as well. (For example, many home-schooled children I know have wanted to try attending a traditional school at some point during their education.)

Best wishes as you sort through the details of a wonderful learning environment for your young ones.

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 Family@cnglocal.com.

THE PARK SLOPE DAY CAMP

5 LOCATIONS 1 GREAT SUMMER!

Flexible Schedules 2 to 9 weeks



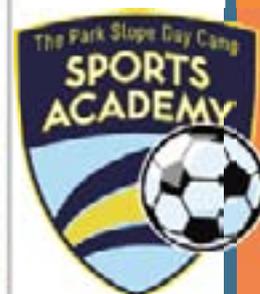
- **Traditional** outdoor, fun, stimulating Day Camp for ages 3.5 to 14.
- **Soccer & Circus** specialty programs that can be easily combined with Traditional Camp
- **On Wheels** travel camp for grades 6 – 8
- **Leadership Experience** for grades 9 & 10



Transportation available from most Brooklyn locations



in Park Slope
Grades 1 - 5



Each 2 week session is a unique, action packed, and fun-filled camp experience. New themes and skills every session.



in Carroll Gardens
Grades PK - 5

Acrobatics, circus skills, clown-comedy, dance and costumes-sets under professional instruction.



www.parkslopedaycamp.com
718.788.PSDC (7732)





LIONS AND TIGERS AND TEENS

MYRNA BETH HASKELL

Party for less

Planning a Sweet 16 party that won't bust your budget

I was dreading it because of the stress of it all! My daughter had been talking about hosting a Sweet 16 party since she was 14. I tried numerous ways to talk her out of it. I suggested everything from a trip to New York City with her closest friends to a day at the spa. But she was adamant: she wanted a dance party with all of her friends there. It seemed nothing else would make her happy, so I took the plunge.

It's all about choices

There are numerous ways to celebrate this milestone, such as a special dinner out with close friends, various day trips, or a weekend away at the beach. Your teen's style should

set the tone. Is she a traditionalist? If so, she might want a traditional party with the typical ceremonies (candle ceremony, etc.). Perhaps a location party is more her style (beach, ice rink, etc.). What matters most is that her celebration is a reflection of who she is.

Susan Kuczumski, EdD, author of "The Sacred Flight of the Teenager: A Parent's Guide to Stepping Back and Letting Go," broaches a less stressful approach to celebrating.

"Try a 'blank canvas' project. It involves a group of teens painting together on a single canvas with each member selecting a portion of it. For 20 teens, get a large canvas and mark off 20 spaces with a ruler. Be sure to have each person sign it, and don't forget to date it. Have your daughter hang it in her room." She also suggests an outdoor concert with a picnic planned — a great warm weather idea where dancing, food, and fun are had by all!

Reduce party stress

If a party is in the cards, there are ways to ease the stress.

"Have a couple of talks, way in advance of the planning, to make sure the party is actually meaningful," says April Masini, author of Ask April, a relationships advice column at www.AskApril.com. "The competition on the Sweet 16 circuit is cutthroat. If a party is not what she really wants, it can be a recipe for a disaster."

Masini proposes pooling resources with a couple of friends who are turning 16 around the same time. This will cut down on the price tag, and you will have more help with the planning.

Be sure to delegate jobs to family and friends. To avoid stress over declined invites, talk to your daughter about inviting friends she has always counted on, instead of worrying about inviting the "right" people.

Cutting costs

It is easy to get carried away

with the pomp and circumstance, especially when comparisons run rampant in her peer world. Your teen can have an elegant and memorable celebration without breaking the bank. Try some of these cost-saving ideas:

- Opt for a church hall, community center, or local firehouse — restaurants can be pricey.
- Hire a teen DJ who is just starting in the business.
- Search for catering specials.
- Shop post-holiday for great discounts on garland and other party-appropriate items.
- Make your own decorations and centerpieces.
- In lieu of a cake from an upscale bakery, ask a creative relative to bake.
- Skip the photographer — have a friend take photos.
- Inexpensive favors: homemade chocolate lollipops, craft frames for a group photo, etc.

Tips and tales

"We had my daughter's at a VFW hall. I decorated myself, got a reasonably priced DJ, and had the local pizza place cater the food. The VFW provided soda."

—Tracy Critelli-MacQueen,
Glen Oaks, NY

"We rented a bus and got reduced-price tickets for Lake Compounce (a family amusement park in Connecticut)."

Debbie St. Onge, Poughkeepsie, NY

"I planned a Hollywood-theme party. We took pictures of the kids on the red carpet as they entered. We printed out the pictures, put them in frames from the Dollar Store, and handed them to the kids as favors."

—Liza Zarowitz, party consultant,
Woodstock, NY

Want to share your ideas?

Upcoming topic: Is your teen typical? Is he impulsive, unpredictable, and egocentric at times? Tips to deal with the teen mindset.

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, columnist and author of the newly released book, "Lions and Tigers and Teens: Expert advice and support for the conscientious parent just like you" (Unlimited Publishing LLC).



NEW YORK **SPECIAL CHILD** LONG ISLAND **SPECIAL CHILD**

Trusted since 2008

Informing & Enriching "Special Needs" Families throughout NYC & Long Island

For more information about distribution or how to get your free copy, please e-mail us at family@cnglocal.com.

Visit us online at

www.NYParenting.com

Like us on our Facebook page, NYParenting or follow us on Twitter



To advertise your business and or services contact us at 718-260-4554 or e-mail us at family@cnglocal.com



Family Publications New York/CNG
1 MetroTech Center North - 10th Fl. • Brooklyn, NY 11201
718-260-4554 • family@cnglocal.com



A TEEN'S TAKE

AGLAIA HO

I love national parks

Living in New York City, it is difficult to appreciate nature in its pure form. City parks offer great weekend fun, but it's hard to escape the hustle and bustle of the urban setting. It's no surprise that most teenagers are more interested in their gadgets than the great outdoors. However, one great way to foster a passion for Mother Nature is to visit America's national parks.

During the past few summers, my parents and I have visited some of the beautiful and unique parks around the country. It's something that we all enjoy, because we love the scenery and change of pace. Not

by a range of hills — the park was a sanctuary from the weather. My first taste of a national park couldn't have been sweeter. We walked through the trails and couldn't stop taking pictures of the majestic mountain ranges wrapped in the fog.

Then, we headed to Olympic, which was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Walking through the moss-covered forests was like walking through a rainforest. The drizzle barely fazed us. We drove up to Hurricane Ridge to view the mountains, but, on our way down, it started to pour. It was a bumpy ride down, but a memorable one all the same. Best of all, we had pleasant weather for the rest of our trip.

Our third stop was Mount Rainier, where the sun lit up the snow-capped mountains, and little wildflowers dotted the green meadows.

Explore and experience

There are so many activities for families, kids, and teens at these parks. My fondest memory is when we went canoeing at Jenny Lake at the Grand Tetons. It was serene and so much fun to paddle through the pristine water on a summer day. The city's architecture is a far cry from the natural edifices of the parks.

We also enjoy having a picnic lunch whenever we can. All national parks have designated picnic areas, many with breathtaking views. When we visited Yosemite National Park, we had a relaxing picnic lunch by the meandering river. It was absolutely stunning. Many parks also offer a maze of hiking trails. Grab some water and your family, and explore the more intimate enclaves of the park. When my family and I visited Joshua Tree National Park, we took a long hike through the desert-like environment to see some ancient caves with pictographs on them.

Additionally, many offer special programs and activities for everyone. On our trip to Hawaii, we visited active volcanoes. The park hosted a nighttime walk through the rocks to

see the lava flow. It was completely pitch black, and my parents and I stumbled through the rocks with only one flashlight among us. Nevertheless, it was worth it. Not only was the lava flow like nothing I've ever seen before, but we really bonded while there.

Learn and discover

National parks aren't just fun vacation spots, they are educational, too. You can learn so much by experiencing wildlife in its natural environment. And park rangers are friendly and eager to share their knowledge about the park's history, the animals that live there, and the plant species.

Often, you get to meet naturalists or environmentalists. While at Yellowstone, we met a couple who were documenting a nest of birds. They allowed us to look through their state-of-the-art binoculars and showed us the babies who had just hatched and were learning to fly. It was like living in a nature documentary, and it was rewarding when the birds finally took flight.

Appreciating nature

Throughout my experiences, I've found that nature has so much beauty and excitement to offer us. I learned that there are no souvenirs or even photos that can match the grandeur of an actual memory. For example, the towering trees at Sequoia cannot be taken home with you. It is also impossible to capture the immense scale on camera. I just had to take in the "Land of the Giants" and cherish the moment.

• • •

National parks were founded in order to preserve some of America's most unique and beautiful regions for future generations. Nothing is better than sharing these magnificent locations with your family. Plan your next vacation at one of America's great national parks. There are so many to choose from!

Aglaia Ho is a 16-year-old student from Queens who enjoys writing. Her work has been published in Creative Kids, Skipping Stones, Daily News-Children's Pressline, and The State of the Wild.



to mention, we get to bond over experiencing something new together. It's become a tradition to spend our summers hiking, canoeing, animal-watching, and exploring in national parks.

My first parks

On our first trip, we visited three national parks in Washington. Maybe it was just my awful luck, but the first few days were nothing but a drippy, rainy mess. Isn't it supposed to be sunny in the summertime? Despite the conditions, we proceeded on to North Cascade.

Known for its glaciers that melt into magnificent waterfalls, North Cascade was surprisingly dry. Located in the rain shadow — a region sheltered from rain-bearing winds



Like Us on
facebook
to **WIN**
tickets or
prizes

Visit us at our
NYParenting page
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.



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
Representative Available

718-240-0469

THE RHYTHM OF NEW YORK



\$40 Sundays @5:30PM
Tue-Fri @ 8, Sat @ 3&8, Sun @ 2&5:30

ORPHEUM THEATRE

Second Avenue at 8th Street [ticketmaster](http://ticketmaster.com) (800) 982-2787

www.stomponline.com

VOCAPEOPLE
Music is Universal.

"THE COOLEST SHOW EVER!"
 JIMMY FALLON, LATE NIGHT JIMMY FALLON

"BLUE MAN GROUP MEETS GLEE!"

TELECHARGE.COM • 212-239-6200
 For groups & birthday parties contact 1-877-401-8542 or VocaPeopleGroups@gmail.com
 New World Stages, 340 West 50th Street • VocaPeopleNYC.com

[f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [y](#)

PHOTO BY GUY LAWRENCE

"ENCHANTING"
 - NY TIMES

Gazillion
Bubble Show
 THE NEXT GENERATION

Wed 11 & 2, Sat 11, 2 & 4:30, Sun 12 & 3
 For groups & birthday parties visit our website or call
1-866-6-GAZ TIX (1-866-642-9849)
GazillionBubbleShow.com
TELECHARGE.COM or 212.239.6200
NEW WORLD STAGES NY 340 WEST 50th ST.

Like us on

facebook

or follow us on

twitter

Facebook Search: [NYParenting](#)

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

"THE MOST MUSICALLY EXCITING SHOW OF THE SEASON!"
 TIME

NEIL SIMON THEATRE, 250 WEST 52ND STREET
TICKETMASTER.COM ★ 877-250-2929
SuperstarOnBroadway.com

Going Places

LONG-RUNNING

Winning books on exhibit: Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch, Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza; (718) 230-2100; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265.

Three students, Brooklyn students, who were awarded top honors in the 26th Annual Extra Jack Keats Book-making Competition will be on exhibit from May 2 to 31 at the Brooklyn Public Library.

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

Shorts and a full length family appropriate movie.

Cartoon exhibit: New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th St., at Avenue of Science; (718) 699-0005 X353; www.nyscience.org; Weekdays, 9:30 am–5 pm, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 am–6 pm, Now – Sun, Sept. 2; \$11 \$8 children 2-17, college students and seniors.

Featuring characters from the Cartoon Network, including larger than life graphics, animation from concept to finished product, storyboarding, character design and drawing.

Fleet week: The USS Intrepid, 700 W. 46th St. at 12th Avenue; (212) 245-0072; www.intrepidmuseum.org; Wednesday, May 23, 10 am; Thursday, May 24, 10 am; Friday, May 25, 10 am; Saturday, May 26, 10 am; Sunday, May 27, 10 am; Monday, May 28, 10 am; Tuesday, May 29, 10 am; \$24 (\$20 seniors, students; \$19 youth 7-17; \$17 veterans; \$12 children 3-6; Free for Active Military and Retired US Military).

Celebrate the men and women in the US Armed Forces at the 25th annual gala. Participants climb aboard the tall ships, watch movies, and live entertainment; check the museum's fleet week calendar for a complete listing of all events.

"Little Miss Muffet's Monster Sitting Service": The Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre, West Dr. at 79th Street Transverse; (212) 988-9093; cityparksfoundation.org/swedishcottage.html; Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10:30 am and noon, Wednesdays, 10:30 am, noon and 2:30 pm, Now – Sun, Aug. 26; \$8 (\$5 children under 12).

Based on the nursery rhyme, "Little



Nina's free concerts

Sing along with Miss Nina at two great locations this month. The swinging, singing, strumming sensation sweeping the nation brings her upbeat tunes played on her famous pink guitar to Greenlight Bookstore on June 3 and to Putnam Triangle Plaza on June 8.

Miss Nina serenades the little ones, 3 and younger, with songs, stories, and interactive play at Baby Story Time at 11 am on June 3.

Then, she'll energize the crowds at FAB Fridays at Putnam Triangle Plaza in Clinton Hill

Miss Muffet", this version tells the story of Molly Muffet, the descendent of the original Miss Muffet. Run time is approximately 50 minutes and is suitable for children 3-9.

on June 8 at 10 am. Festivities continue with arts and crafts between 3 and 6 pm for school children. FAB Fridays is presented by the Fulton Area Business Association.

Both events are free.

Miss Nina at Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Portland Avenue and S. Elliott Place in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlightbookstore.com]. June 3 at 11 am. FAB Friday at Putnam Triangle Plaza [22 Putnam Ave. between Fulton Street and Grand Avenue in Clinton Hill, www.fballiance.org]. June 8 from 10 to 11 am.

"Play it Safe": PS 3 The Bedford Village School, 50 Jefferson Ave. at Franklin Avenue; (212) 724-0677; www.shadowboxtheatre.org; Wednesday, May 23, 10:30 am; Thursday, May 24, 10:30 am;

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!

Friday, May 25, 10:30 am; Tuesday, May 29, 10:30 am; Wednesday, May 30, 10:30 am; Thursday, May 31, 10:30 am; Friday, June 1, 10:30 am; \$10.

Puppets and people — musical safety adventure with Chicken Little, Goosey Lucy and Ducky Lucky.

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

Come hear a few stories with a simple craft to go with it.

Carousel: Prospect Park Children's Corner, Enter at Flatbush Ave. and Ocean Avenue; www.prospectpark.org/calendar; Thursdays – Sundays, Noon–5 pm, Now – Sun, June 24; \$2 per ride.

The iconic ride is open for rides for the whole family.

Reading is fun: Homecrest Public Library, 2525 Coney Island Ave. between Gravesend Neck Road and Avenue V; (718) 382-5924; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays, 3:30 pm, Fridays, 2:30 pm, Now – Thurs, June 28; Free.

Teens read for free books.

Reading is Fun: Sunset Park Public Library, 5108 Fourth Ave. at 51st Street; (718) 965-6533; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Fridays, 3:30 pm, Now – Fri, June 29; Free.

Teens and tweens enjoy books, games and music.

Teen time: Greenpoint Public Library, 107 Norman Ave. at Leonard Street; (718) 349-8504; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Fridays, 4 pm, Now – Fri, June 29; Free.

Get together with friends and read

Continued on page 66

Going Places

Continued from page 65

books, play games and listen to music.

"A Comedy of Errors": The Cranberry Street Theater Space, 55 Cranberry St. between Henry and Hicks streets; (718) 624-3614; theater2020.com; Thursday, May 24, 7 pm; Friday, May 25, 8 pm; Saturday, May 26, 8 pm; Sunday, May 27, 3 pm; Thursday, May 31, 7 pm; Friday, June 1, 8 pm; Saturday, June 2, 8 pm; \$18.

Family friendly production of Shakespeare's play about mistaken identity, love and marriage. Theater 2020 uses actors and puppets in this fast paced 90 minute version of the classic.

Conservatory garden tour: Central Park's Conservatory Garden, Fifth Ave. at East 105th Street; (212) 860-1370; www.centralparknyc.org; Saturdays, 11 am-12:30 pm, Now - Sat, May 26; Free.

See tulips, daffodils, twin crabapple allees, and more.

"The Jungle Book": Puppetworks, 338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street; (718) 965-3391; www.puppetworks.org; Saturdays and Sundays, 12:30 and 2:30 pm, Now - Sun, Aug. 19; \$8 (\$7 for children; \$6 group rates).

Rudyard Kipling's charming story, with Mowgli, Kikki and Tikki, and Shere Khan comes to life with puppets, songs, beautiful scenes and costumes. Recommended for children 4 years and older.

Arts and recreation: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Saturdays and Sundays, 1-3 pm, Now - Sun, July 1; Free.

Craft activities and fun nature games.

Nature's helpers: 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 24; Free.

Help keep the park and the waterways clean and enjoy the day.

Race around the yard: Lefferts Historic Homestead, 452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway; (718) 789-2822; www.prospectpark.org; Saturdays and Sundays, 2-3 pm, Now - Sun, June 24; Free.

Participate in potato sack races, spoon races, stilts, and other old-fashioned games.

Yoga: Greenpoint Public Library, 107 Norman Ave. at Leonard Street; (718) 349-8504; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Saturdays, 3:45 pm, Now - Sat, June 30; Free.

For individuals 18 years and older.

"The Amazing Max and the Box of Interesting Things": The MMAC



Safety with the FBI

Do you have what it takes to be an FBI agent? Find out when agents from the FBI, Homeland Security, and the Secret Service visit the Jewish Children's Museum on June 10 from noon to 5 pm.

The fun family event features fingerprinting, arts and crafts, and hands-on programs, along with a tour of a coast guard boat and a mobile command post. Families will also get the chance to meet an FBI Swat Team, and see how

bomb technicians do their important work.

Safety with the FBI at The Jewish Children's Museum [792 Eastern Parkway, between Kingston and Albany avenues in Crown Heights, (718) 907-8805, www.jcm.museum]. June 10 from noon to 5 pm; free. The museum is open Mondays through Thursdays from 10 am to 4 pm, Sundays from 10 am to 6 pm, and closed on Fridays and Saturdays. General admission is \$10 per person and free for children under 2 years of age.

Theater, 248 W. 60th St. between Amsterdam and West End avenues; (212) 239-6200; www.telecharge.com; Saturdays, 4:30 pm, Now - Sat, June 30; \$29.50 (\$49.50 VIP seating).

The magic show with a mind of its own. Magician Max Darwin makes objects appear out of thin air.

Family disco night: The Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Saturdays, 6 pm, Now - Sat, July 14; Free!

Eat, drink and shake your groove thangs!

Sunday singalong: The Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Sundays, 12:15 pm, Now -

Sun, July 22; Free.

Come sing, clap, dance or just watch.

Discover tour: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Sundays, 3 pm, Now - Sun, June 24; Free.

Take a walk with a naturalist and watch for animals while investigating little known facts about the park.

Chess club: Call for location; (917) 957-1714; deborahfeiner@gmail.com; Sundays, 4 pm, Now - Sun, June 24; \$100 (for whole six months).

Club forming for children 6 to 10 to meet and play. A coach will be on hand to help students hone their game skills. Admission fee provides for the coach, supplies and hopefully tournament costs.

Sponsored by Town Square.

Teen time: Ulmer Park Public Library, 2602 Bath Ave. at 26th Avenue; (718) 265-3443; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Mondays, 4 pm, Now - Mon, June 25; Free.

Children 13 and up read books, play games and listen to music.

Singalong: The Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Tuesdays, 11:00, \$2.50.

Come clap, dance, sing or just watch!

Little Learners club: St. Anselm's Church, 365 83rd St. between Third and Fourth avenues; (718) 745-7643; Tuesdays, 9:30-10:45 am, Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 am, Now - Thurs, June 28; \$125 per month.

Story-time, playtime and arts and crafts for children 2 years old and their moms/caregivers.

Reading RIF: Ft. Hamilton Public Library, 9424 Fourth Ave. at 94th Street; (718) 748-6919; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays, 2:30 pm, Now - Wed, June 27; Free.

School age children earn free books by reading.

Story and play: Leonard Public Library, 81 Devoe St. between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street; (718) 486-3365; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Tuesdays, 4 pm, Now - Tues, June 26; Free.

Infants to 5 years old hear stories and listen to songs.

Bereavement support group: St. Joseph's High School for Girls, 80 Wilmoughby St. at Bridge Street; (646) 739-1005; kfinneran@calvaryhospital.org; www.calvaryhospital.org; Tuesdays, 4:30-6 pm, Now - Tues, June 26; Free.

For children 6-12 years old who are grieving the death of a loved one. Pre-registration required.

Yak Packers: Rubin Museum of Art, 150 West 17 Street, between 6th and 7th avenues; (212) 620-5000 X 344. www.rmanyc.org; Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 am, \$10 (\$5 seniors and students; Free for children under 12 and members).

Children 2 to 4 years old explore the exhibits and collections, play, listen to stories, and crafts.

Toddler time: Gravesend Public Library, 303 Ave. X between W. First and W. Second streets; (718) 382-5792; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, 11 am, Now - Wed, June 27; Free.

For children birth to 5 years.

Story time: Ulmer Park Public Library, 2602 Bath Ave. at 26th Avenue; (718) 265-3443; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; Wednesdays, Noon, Now - Wed,

Continued on page 67

Going Places

Continued from page 66

June 27; Free.

Children 3-5 years old enjoy classic songs and books.

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

For children.

Bereavement support group: St. Joseph's High School for Girls, 80 Wiloughby St. at Bridge Street; (646) 739-1005; kfinneran@calvaryhospital.org; www.calvaryhospital.org; Thursdays, 4:30-6 pm, Now - Thurs, June 28; Free.

For children 13-18 years old who are grieving the death of a loved one. Pre-registration required.

Stars of tomorrow: Hudson River Park Pier 45, Christopher St. and the Hudson River; (212) 627-2121; www.hudsonriverpark.org; Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm, Tues, June 5 - Tues, Aug. 21; Free.

Talented students from the New School Jazz and Contemporary Music and Mannes College The New School for Music perform Bach to Bebop. (Accept July 3.)

"The Adoration of the Magi": Museum of Biblical Art, 1865 Broadway between W. 61st and W. 62nd streets; (212) 408-1500; www.mobia.org; Tuesdays - Sundays, 10 am-6 pm, Fri, June 8 - Sun, Sept. 9; Free.

The beautiful early Italian Renaissance alterpiece by Bartolo di Fredi, (1330-1410), will be displayed in its entirety. (Closed 7/4/12.)

Amazing Water: New York Aquarium, 602 Surf Ave. between W. Eighth and W. Fifth streets; (718) 265-3448; www.nyaquarium.com; Daily, 10 am - 5 pm; Fri, June 8 - Sun, Sept. 9; Free with general admission.

It's the newest feature at the aquarium, a 1,500-foot maze learning environment, where participants learn all about the environmental factors that threaten our waterways.

Wii and Ntendo: The Moxie Spot, 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets; (718) 923-9710; themoxiespot.com; Saturday, June 16, 6 pm; Saturday, July 21, 6 pm; Free.

Prizes, games and food.

FRI, MAY 25

"Response to Intervention": Community Education Council District 20, 415 89th St. at Fourth Avenue; (718) 759-3921; cec20@schools.nyc.gov; 9 am-3 pm; Free.

Workshop for teachers and administrators, presented by Javier Muniz, principal at PS 200; Pre-registration required by May 23.

"My Fair Lady": St. Patrick's Au-



A comedy of errors

Slapstick and comedy join hands in "The Comedy of Errors," at the Cranberry Street Theater Space, now through June 2.

Theater 2020 puts on Shakespeare's original rom-com — full of mistaken identities, plot twists, love, and marriage — using actors and puppets. This 90-minute version is family friendly and

is guaranteed to amuse everyone.

"A Comedy of Errors" at The Cranberry Street Theater Space at Our Lady of Assumption Church [55 Cranberry St. between Henry and Hicks streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-3614, www.theater2020.com]. May 27 at 3 pm, May 31 at 7 pm, and June 1 and 2, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$18, cash at the door.

ditorium, 97th St. at Fourth Avenue; (718) 482-3173; nct@ncttheaterny.com; https://www.nyctheaterny.com; 8 pm; \$20 (\$15 seniors and students under 21).

Production of the Lerner and Loewe classic about a flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, who is transformed by Professor Henry Higgins into a lady. Performed by the Narrows Community Theater troupe.

SAT, MAY 26

Memorial day weekend: Prospect Park Band Shell, Prospect Park West and Ninth Street; (718) 965-8900; www.prospectpark.org/calendar; 9 am-9 pm; Free.

The carousel is open, and all the plants are in bloom — enjoy a fun-filled day in the park. View the website for a complete listing of all events.

Potato days: Lefferts Historic Homestead, 452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway; (718) 789-2822; www.prospectpark.org; 1-4 pm; Free with zoo admission.

Help till the soil and plant potatoes for this year's harvest, then churn fresh butter and enjoy a piece of homemade cornbread.

"My Fair Lady": 8 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium. See Friday, May 25.

SUN, MAY 27

Memorial day weekend: 9 am-9 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell. See Saturday, May 26.

Potato days: 1-4 pm. Lefferts Historic Homestead. See Saturday, May 26.

"My Fair Lady": 3 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium. See Friday, May 25.

MON, MAY 28

Memorial day weekend: 9 am-9 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell. See Saturday, May 26.

WED, MAY 30

Trio Tritticali: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, 58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue; (718) 622-3300 or email: rfrank@bqcm.org; www.bqcm.org; 7:30 pm; \$5-\$10.

Celebrate the official release of this eclectic string trio's debut CD, Issue #1.

Chamber concert: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, 58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Av-

enue; (718) 622-3300 or email: rfrank@bqcm.org; www.bqcm.org; 7:30 pm; \$10 (\$5 students and seniors).

Trio Tritticali, an eclectic string trio will perform jazz, classical, Arabic, Chinese and avant-garde selections; featuring Helen Yee on violin, Leanne Darling on viola, and Doren Dempster on cello.

FRI, JUNE 1

Resource conference: Long Island University, DeKalb and Flatbush avenues; (718) 998-3000; brooklynparent-center.eventbrite.com; 8:30 am-4 pm; Free.

For parents, grandparents and caregivers of children with disabilities. Pre-registration required.

Summer festival: PS 15, 71 Sullivan St. (718) 643-6790 X113; www.red-hookfest.com; 6-9 pm; Free.

This year's theme, "Women's Work: healing our communities." The 19th annual day features female led bands and dance companies, kayak rides, poetry and story telling.

Choreography showcase: BAX - Brooklyn Arts Exchange, 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-0018; www.bax.org; 7:30 pm; \$5.

Students and director perform original dance routines, as well as the works of young choreographers ages 9-14.

SAT, JUNE 2

Kinder Kritters: Central Park Zoo, 830 Fifth Ave at E. 65th Street; (212) 439-6583; www.centralparkzoo.com/programs; 10-11 am; \$25 (\$30 non-members).

Incredible insects — for 4- and 5-year-old children. Instructors lead the children through songs, dances and games, as well as creative animal themed crafts.

"Morgan's Big Biology Test": Hatch Auditorium-Guggenheim Pavilion, 1468 Madison Ave. at 100th Street; www.mimplay.eventbrite.com; 10 am-noon; \$35 (\$25 students).

Interactive play that teaches young people about healthy living and careers in the biomedical sciences.

Walk-A-Thon: Canarsie Park, Seaview Ave. at E. 93rd Street; (718) 251-0527; www.mytimeinc.org; 10:30 am; Free.

Sponsored by My Time Inc., fundraiser creates awareness and understanding of parents of children with developmental delays and autism.

Animal Tales Extravaganza: Bronx Zoo, 2300 Southern Blvd. at Boston Road; (718) 220-5103; www.bronxzoo.com; 11 am-4 pm; \$29.95 (\$19.95 children 3-12 \$24.96 seniors).

Arts and crafts presented by Bright Horizons, Animal tales by Plum Organics, Ferdinand the Bull, Nat And Alex Wolf

Continued on page 68

Going Places

Continued from page 67

with the Music Unites Youth Choir (Sat. only), Maisy Mouse, Kristi Yamaguchi reading *It's a Big World*, Little Pig, and the Rainforest Parade. It's all family fun all weekend long.

Arts festival: Old Stone House, Fourth St. at Fifth Avenue; (718) 768-3703; www.puppetryarts.org; 11 am–5 pm; Free (rides, crafts and snacks separate).

Special guest Noel MacNeal, puppeteer behind *Bear of the Big Blue House* and Lionel from *Between the Lions* leads a workshop; hands-on fun for puppet lovers of all ages and a 45-minute live fully orchestrated performance featuring selections from *"Anthropomorphic."*

'N' Awlins: David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center, Broadway between W. 62nd and W. 63rd streets; (347) 703-5207; milstrills.com; 11 am – 3 pm; Free.

Mil's Trills makes it to Lincoln Center and debuts *"Million Trillion"* Brass Marching Band.

Peter Brown: Greenlight Bookstore, 686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue; (718) 246-0200; greenlightbookstore.com; 11 am; Free.

The author does a reading and drawing at this fundraiser; raffles, prizes, and baked goods.

Concerts in the park: Warren/ St. Marks Garden, Warren St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues; www.spokethehub.org; 11 am–noon; Free.

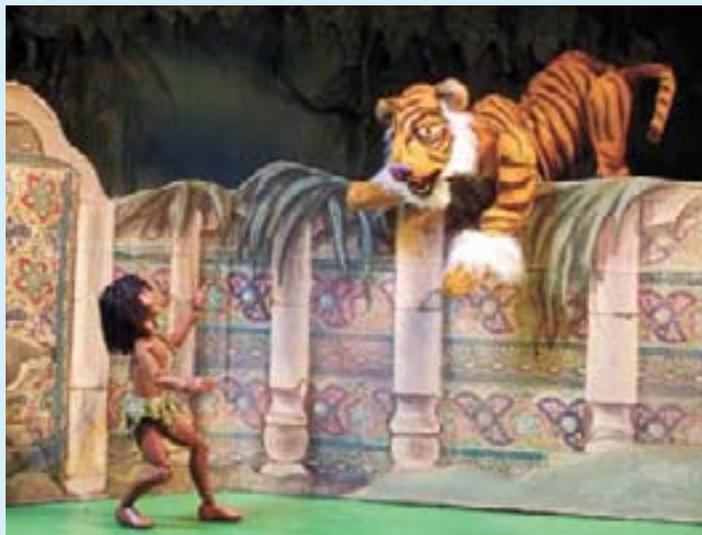
Spoke the Hub and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music is hosting the 19th annual Local Produce in the Gardens, an all day event of music, theater and dance. Abigail Block, dance; children's guitar workshop with Ezra Maoz; Funi-kijam, and restorative yoga with Mina Hamilton.

Summer festival: Louis J Valentino Jr. Park & Pier, Coffey and Ferris streets; (718) 643-6790 X113; www.redhook-fest.com; Noon–7 pm; Free.

This year's theme, *"Women's Work: healing our communities."* The 19th annual day features female led bands and dance companies, kayak rides, poetry and story telling.

Concerts in the park: Garden of Union, Fourth Avenue at Union Street; www.spokethehub.org; 12:30–1:30 pm; Free.

Spoke the Hub and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music is hosting the 19th annual Local Produce in the Gardens, an all day event of music, theater and dance. ASHA, dance; Beauty Shop Quartet, Brooklyn Conservatory musicians; Kaina Quenga, Polynesian dance; Lou-mingou Night, vocals, accordion and autoharp; STH Modern Dance students.



Fun in the jungle

Mowgli's tales of life with the animals in the jungles of India comes alive with puppets at Puppetworks' production of *"The Jungle Book"* on Saturdays and Sundays, now through Aug. 19.

Adapted by Nicolas Coppola with Adam Kilgour, the book by Rudyard Kipling tells the tale of the little boy Mowgli who is lost in the jungle and adopted by a pack of wolves. Mowgli learns the laws of the land by his teacher, Baloo, the brown bear, and shares his adventures with Shere Khan the

tiger and other animals of the jungle.

This production features an original score, with scenery and costumes based on motifs of India and is suitable for children 4 and older, with two performances at 12:30 and 2:30 pm.

"The Jungle Book" at Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391, www.puppetworks.org]. Saturdays and Sundays through Aug. 19, 12:30 and 2:30 pm. \$7 for children, \$8 adults, \$6 each for groups of 20 or more. No credit cards accepted.

Open House: Bay Ridge Sports and Theater Camp, 74th St. between Third and Fourth avenues; (718) 745-7776; www.bayridgesportscamp.com; 1–4 pm; Free.

Tour the premises and learn all about the summer camp programs.

Open House: Dyker Heights-Bensonhurst Sports and Theater Camp, 65th St. between 12th and 13th avenues; (718) 745-7776; www.bayridgesportscamp.com; 1–4 pm; Free.

Tour the premises and learn all about the summer camp programs.

Concerts in the park: Greenspace @ President Street, President St. at Fifth Avenue; www.spokethehub.org; 2–3 pm; Free.

Spoke the Hub and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music is hosting the 19th annual Local Produce in the Gardens, an all day event of music, theater and dance. BCM Music partners, sing-along

with PS 295 and Bob Goldberg; Caitlin Bailey, dance; Chia-Hui Cheng, dance; Kathleen Stansell, and Wildwood Sisters.

Read with Wilbur: Grand Central Library, 135 E. 46th St. between Lexington and Third avenues; (212) 621-0670; www.nypl.org/locations/grand-central; 2 pm.

Children ages 5-12 read with Wilbur, a specially trained therapy dog. This event is first come, first serve, so sign up in advance.

Choreography showcase: 7:30 pm. BAX – Brooklyn Arts Exchange. See Friday, June 1.

SUN, JUNE 3

Miss Nina: Greenlight Bookstore, 686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue; (718) 246-0200; greenlightbookstore.com; 11 am; Free.

Children enjoy a story and the music

of Miss Nina and her pink guitar.

Torah parade: Chabad Neshama of W. Brighton Beach, 311 Seabreeze Ave. at W. Fifth Street; (718) 946-9833; www.chabadneshama.com; 12:30 pm; Free.

Celebrate the completion of the Torah Scroll; the parade features, flags, clowns, acrobats music, dancing and food.

Children's books: PowerHouse Arena, 37 Main St. at Water Street; (718) 666-3049; kids.powerhousearena.com; www.powerhousearena.com; 4–5 pm; Free.

Author Ame Dyckman reads from *"Boy and Bot"* and author Diane Kredensor reads from *"Ollie & Moon: Fuh-geddaboudit!."* RSVP requested. For children 3-6.

TUES, JUNE 5

Divorce seminar: Rehearsal Studios, 853 Seventh Ave. between 54th and 55th streets; lc-mediate.com; 7–9 pm; \$25.

Parents learn helpful hints from Cheryl Lazarus, divorce and relationship coach and Lee Chabin, mediator and collaborative lawyer. RSVP requested.

THURS, JUNE 7

Summer reading block party: Brooklyn Public Library's Central Branch, Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza; (718) 230-2100; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; 10:30 am–3:30 pm; Free.

Join in the fun for the annual kick off to the 8th annual summer reading program, Dream Big.

FRI, JUNE 8

Children's concert: Putnam Triangle Plaza, 22 Putnam Ave. between Fulton Street and Grand Avenue; (718) 928-3322; www.fballiance.org/news/fab-fri-arpil-20-2012; 10–11 am and 3–6 pm; Free.

Featuring Miss Nina; A musical performance for kids with a pink guitar; followed by arts and crafts events as part of FAB Friday celebrations.

SAT, JUNE 9

Fitness expo: Boys and Girls HS, 1700 Fulton St. (www.bodysculpt.org); 10 am – 4 pm; Free.

The ninth annual event features healthy living tips and sport clinics, games, and cooking demos.

Kids in Motion: Maria Hernandez Park, Knickerbocker Ave. and Suydam St. (718) 965-8935; www.nycgovparks.org; 11 am–4pm; Free.

Fun filled ay of fitness and sports.

Fama Jama Sing Song: YMCA

Going Places

Grosvenor House, 176 W. 105th St. (212) 749-8500; www.ymcanyc.org/grosvenor; 2-3 pm; Free.

Children's concert performed by Feldiken and Friends.

Camping: Marine Park, Gerritsen Ave. at Gotham Avenue; (718) 421-2021; 6 pm; Free.

Break out the s'mores and have a fun filled sleep out under the stars.

Adoption workshop/meeting: St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets; (212) 304-8479; <https://www.sfc.edu>; 7 pm; Free.

Last meeting of the season; candle lighting; information and support for potential adoptive parents. RSVP requested. Sponsored by the Adoptive Parents Committee.

"A Comedy of Errors": Pier One at Brooklyn Bridge Park, 1 Main St. at Furman Street; (718) 624-3614; theater2020.com; 7 pm; \$18.

Family friendly production of Shakespeare's play about mistaken identity, love and marriage. Theater 2020 uses actors and puppets in this fast paced 90 minute version of the classic.

Book and DVD sale: Clinton Hill Library, 380 Washington Ave. at Lafayette Ave. (718) 398-8713; www.brooklyn-publiclibrary.org/branch_library_detail.jsp?branchpageid=265; 10 am-4 pm; Free.

Help the Friends of Clinton Hill raise funds to benefit programs the library branch. There will be family activities, books, DVD, VHS, and CDs on sale.

SUN, JUNE 10

Carousel: Prospect Park Children's Corner, Enter at Flatbush Ave. and Ocean Avenue; www.prospectpark.org/calendar; Noon-5 pm; Free.

Celebrate the 100th birthday with free rides all day and fun at the Children's Corner.

"The Wizard of Oz": The Brooklyn Friends School, 375 Pearl St. (917) 753-3291; www.upbringdance.com; Noon; \$10.

Presented by UpBring Musical Theater, featuring actors 6 to 10 years old.

Safety first: Jewish Children's Museum, 792 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 907-8805; www.jcm.museum; Noon-5 pm; Free.

Do you have what it takes to be an FBI agent? Find out when the FBI visit the museum for a day of fun and learning activities; fingerprinting; arts and crafts and plenty of hands-on programs.

Brooklyn Day: Von King Park, Lafayette Ave. at Tomkins Ave. www.bindlestiff.org; 4 pm; Free.

Presented by SummerStage Kids and



Discover the Magi

The Magi comes to New York with The Museum of Biblical Art's exhibition of the famed Renaissance altarpiece "The Adoration of the Magi" by Bartolo di Fredi from June 8 to Sept. 9.

This beautiful work of art painted during the golden age of Sieneese painting is now visiting the United States for the first time in almost 200 years, and to only two locations: the Museum of Biblical Art and the University of Virginia. To celebrate the occasion, the museum is offering free admission to the general public.

Families can visit the museum's extensive collection of religious objects de art, as well as view a fantastic exhibit of scrip-

tures in their original bindings to demonstrate the innovation and creativity of Gutenberg, the art of book-making, and the printing press. The museum offers many family-friendly walk-in workshops that coincide with the exhibits and are appropriate for children of all ages.

"The Adoration of the Magi" at the Museum of Biblical Art [1855 Broadway, between W. 61st and W. 62nd streets in Central Park West, (212) 408-1500, www.mobia.org]. June 8 through Sept. 9. Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am to 6 pm, and Thursday, 10 am to 8 pm. \$7 for adults, \$4 seniors, students, and active military personnel. Free children 12 and under, and members. Sunday free for everyone.

Disney, a fun filled day of circus performers, golf workshops, sports lessons and so much more.

"A Comedy of Errors": 7 pm. Pier One at Brooklyn Bridge Park. See Saturday, June 9.

Pop culture fuses with high art with contemporary dance performances.

WED, JUNE 13

Keigwin & Company: 7:30 pm. The Joyce Theater. See Tuesday, June 12.

"Kung Fu Panda 2": Hudson River Park Pier 46, Christopher St. and the Hudson River; (212) 627-2121; www.hudsonriverpark.org; 8:30 pm; Free.

Rated PG, children enjoy the voice of Jack Black in this sequel.

THURS, JUNE 14

Keigwin & Company: 8 pm. The Joyce Theater. See Tuesday, June 12.

FRI, JUNE 15

Kids in Motion: McCarren Park, N. 12th St. at Driggs Avenue; (718) 965-8935; www.nycgovparks.org; 3-7 pm; Free.

A Fun-filled day of fitness and sports.

Keigwin & Company: 8 pm. The Joyce Theater. See Tuesday, June 12.

SAT, JUNE 16

Family festival: PS 170, 7109 Sixth Avenue at 71st Street; (347) 347-4548; afigueroa9@schools.nyc.gov; 9 am-2 pm; Free.

Get to the know the staff, the programs and your community.

Keigwin & Company: 8 pm. The Joyce Theater. See Tuesday, June 12.

SUN, JUNE 17

Craft day: Prospect Park Audubon Center, Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue; (718) 287-3400; www.prospectpark.org/audubon; Noon-4 pm; Free.

Celebrate dads by making a card out of recycled materials and then take a discover tour in the park.

Keigwin & Company: 2 and 7:30 pm. The Joyce Theater. See Tuesday, June 12.

Sing-a-long: Lefferts Historic Homestead, 452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway; (718) 789-2822; www.prospectpark.org; 3 pm; Free.

Celebrate dads with Rory Dineen and warble up traditional favorites and enjoy strawberries and cream.

SAT, JUNE 30

Arts and crafts: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center, Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park; (718) 722-3218; 1 pm; Free.

Make eco-crafts with Ranger.

theMarketplace

BALLET

718.769.9161
www.brightonballet.org

Brighton Ballet Theater
SCHOOL OF BRIGHTON BALLET



hip-hop
rhythmic
pre-ballet
latin dance
gymnastics
classical ballet
ballroom dance
modern and popular dance
performance opportunities

2001 Oriental Blvd, Bld. T7, 2nd fl. Room 7211, Brooklyn, NY 11235

FAMILY LAW

Divorce & Family Law
Robert A. Ugelow, Esq.
25 Years of Experience • Free Consultation
Specializing In Divorce

Separation Support Custody Adoption Protection Orders Annulment Visitation

Robert A. Ugelow, D.C.
A Specialist in Family and Matrimonial Law.
Sometimes There's A Need.

26 Court Street, Brooklyn, NY 11242 718-852-8641

HOME BASED OPPORTUNITY

Wanted Distributors & Sales Agents
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. 917-833-7643 Ask for Barrett
E-mail: bjmlingerie@gmail.com • www.bjmlingerie.com

HOME BASED OPPORTUNITY

HERBALIFE
Live Healthy - It's In



Lose weight, gain weight or maintain your weight!

- Childrens' Health
- Skin & Hair Products
- Weight Loss Challenges
- Vitamins
- Shakes
- Relaxation
- Joint Support
- Circulation
- Snack Control

Call Maryellen Seger • 718.836.6115 • mseger55@gmail.com
www.greatshapetoday.com • Free samples & catalogue

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

Piano Lessons For Children
Bay Ridge
Ages 4 & Up



Lessons include:
Music Theory with Use of Computer
NYS Licensed Teacher
718-238-7106 • www.riddlemusic.com

MUSIC LESSONS

Piano Lessons For Everyone



(Turner Towers) Eastern Parkway
across from the Brooklyn Museum
Experienced, friendly teacher with MA in Music
Student recitals twice a year • Six foot concert grand piano
Near 2, 3, 4 & 5 Subways
Call me and let's talk about
what you or your child would like to learn
Call Beth Anderson-Harold: 718-636-6010
or Email: beth@beand.com

REAL ESTATE

Escape the City to the Country with this
FULLY Furnished Bungalow with Large Pool.
Beautiful Monticello Location.

- 3 rooms, fully furnished w/bunk beds for kids. Living room, kitchen, porch.
- Great price: \$10K. Yearly maintenance of \$3K covers water, tax, elec., etc.

Call: 917-538-7213



SPEECH THERAPY

ProCare NYC
Educational & Therapeutic Services

- Speech & Language Therapy
- Professional Tutoring
- College Preparation

IN HOME SERVICES

Infant - Adult Private Pay

Procarenyc@hotmail.com • 347-702-6419

TUTORING

Specializing in Wilson and Fundations Reading Program
Tutor: Art/Academic

- All academic areas K-6: Reading, Math, ELATest Prep, Remedial and Special Needs
- Art: Private or Small Group
- High School/College Portfolio Prep
- Will travel to your home or my South Slope office
- 30+ years experience in public schools in Art, Special Ed, Resource Room, and Test Prep

• General / Special Ed Academic Tutor K-6
• Home & School Organization • Art Education Specialist
• Portfolio Consultant

www.risajohnson.com
Tel. 718.369.0647 • Cell. 917.692.6184

**TO PLACE AN AD
IN OUR LINE OF
FAMILY PUBLICATIONS,
PLEASE CALL
718.260.4554**

VIOLIN LESSONS

The Little People Violin House



For the little people with great minds to explore the violin and so much more

Stories in Music: for ages 2-3
"The Little Violinist" Program: for ages 3½-6
"The Young Violinist" Program: for ages 6 & up
Special Weekly Violin Program

Ask about our new Chinese classes • Programs for Children & Adults
Call for info & schedule Sharon 347-981-5301
2482 West Third Street, Gravesend

Party Planners



Rico The Clown
Magician Comical Nerd
 • Magic • Balloon Sculpting
 • Comedy • Roasting
 • Educational Shows
 • Adults/Kids

As seen on TV
 Rico is a University Professor of Speech and Communication

718-434-9697 • 917-318-9092

ARE YOU READY TO PARTY?
 Professional Entertainment at One Low Price
 Specializing in Christenings, B'days & Communion

VIP Package Includes:
 State-of-the-Art DJ System,
 4 Hours of Non-Stop Music,
 Disco Lights, Glitter Tattoo & Face Painting,
 Animal & Sword Balloons, Activity Pop-Up
 & Musical Games, Parachute,
 Plus 2 FREE Costume
 Characters of Your Choice

DJ Delux/Childrens Party Time
718-634-6113
 Many Theme Parties Available
 Princesses, Heroes, etc.

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

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

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

Music Parties with Richard
 Award-Winning Kids' Entertainer
 brings fun, games and music to your child's party.
 Lots of participation for a memorable time.

FREE CD for Every Child Guest
917-538-7213
www.richardyounger.com

Have A Kid's Party That's Very Different!

• We bring the zoo to you!
 • All ages & all occasions
 • Bug & Reptile Shows
 • Barnyard Petting Zoo
 • Pony Rides
 • Exotic Pet Program
 • Nature Programs
 • Pet Therapy
 • U.S.D.A. Licensed & Insured

Party Pets.com
 \$20 Off with ad code: party
 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 & Bees

SEND IN THE CLOWNS ENTERTAINMENT CORP.

NY BANDS
INFLATABLE WATER RIDES
INFLATABLE BOUNCES
Obstacle Courses

CORPORATE PARTIES, BAR/BAT MITZVAH'S, BIRTHDAY PARTIES, BUCKS PARTIES, DJ'S, AND MUCH MORE
(516) 354-1515 • (718)-353-8846
www.sendinthecloons.com
 50 Nassau Terminal Road New Hyde Park, New York

Free Cotton Candy w/ Party

Puppy Parties
 PUPPIES BROUGHT TO YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY...

Real Live Puppies

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

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 \$90*
PARTY ROOM AVAILABLE
 95-25 Jamaica Ave, Woodhaven, NY 11421

Brand New PARTY ROOM w/Soft Play Area

STAY CONNECTED
 To advertise with us please call **718-260-2587**



It figures

BY CYNTHIA WASHAM

FATHERHOOD FACTS



15:
Percent of
single parents
who are men

160: Number of children 84-year-old Kenyan polygamist Acentus Akuku believes he fathered through his more than 100 marriages

50,000: Estimated number of fundamentalist Mormons practicing polygamy today, in spite of its condemnation by the Mormon church

100 million: Number of neckties sold each year in the United States

210 B.C.: Year Chinese emperor Shih Huang Ti was buried wearing what's thought to be the world's first necktie



SUMMER SNIPPETS

27: Percent of children who consider ice-cream shakes the best summer thirst quencher

26: Percent who prefer lemonade



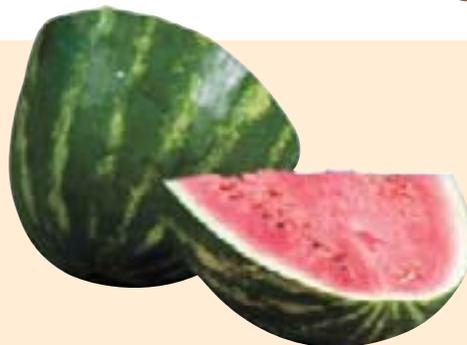
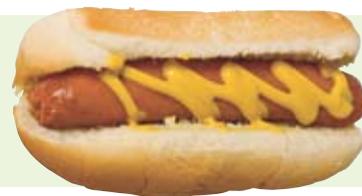
38: Percent of children who consider Disney World their favorite amusement park

\$1,845: Cost per night to stay in a three-bedroom grand villa at Walt Disney World's new Bay Lake Tower



\$3,995:
Cost for a week at Princess Prep, a London-based camp to teach girls ages 8–11 how to behave like royalty, airfare not included

50: Percent of people who would go ahead with an outdoor barbecue they planned even if it rained



42: Percent of children who bring watermelon to the beach for a snack

36: Percent who bring potato chips

Sources: Census.gov, Infoplease.com, Scholastic.com, Maclean's, Notmuch.com, Ducksters.com, Disneyworld.disney.go.com

www.NYParenting.com

Where every family matters and where New York parents find help, info and support.

- Great Articles
- A Happening Calendar
- Informative Directories
- Ticket Give-A-Ways: *Everyone's a winner. Log-in, enter & find out.*



**SCAN
HERE**



NYParenting Media/CNG

NYParenting@cnglocal.com • 718-260-4554

New & Noteworthy

BY LISA J. CURTIS

Creature comforts

Your little girl will keep her shoes on her feet this summer — if she has a pair of these magical seahorse sandals by Lemon Loves Lime. And they are easy to put on with their Velcro closures. (The buckles are decorative.) These pretty pink-and-silver sandals feature lined, cork footbeds and non-slip rubber soles, and they are embellished with just enough beads and sequins to catch the eye of the most discriminating mermaid.

Seahorse sandals by Lemon Loves Lime, \$44. www.chasing-fireflies.com.



Say cheese!

Artist Alicia Schultze has dedicated her Etsy Shop, Creative Cuteness, to crafting the perfect accessory for your infant: moustache pacifiers! Here, Schultze has bedecked a turquoise and lime-green orthodontic NUK with a dark brown mustache that Burt Reynolds himself would be proud to sport.

This latex pacifier is for babies

ages six months and up. Important note: Schultze advises that this pacifier only be used while child is under adult supervision — in case the child manages to pull the stash off and tries to eat it. But of course he's going to be under adult supervision! Your whole family is going to be standing right there, taking a million pictures of your future Magnum, P.I.!

Mustache Pacifier, \$9. Creative Cuteness shop on www.etsy.com.

Mooning over 'Girl'

A stunning combination of artistry and prose, "Red Knit Cap Girl," the first picture book by Red Hook, Brooklyn author-illustrator Naoko Stoop, is certain to become an instant classic.

Red Knit Cap Girl yearns to talk with the moon, and enlists the help of several equally adorable forest friends in pursuit of her dream. Ultimately the girl — and the 5-year-olds the book will most appeal to — reaps the reward by taking a moment to turn off the lights and noise, so that she



can enjoy the natural world around her.

Stoop uses plywood as her canvas for the adventures of the child and her friend, White Bunny; the unexpected wood grain adds depth and whimsy to the illustrations. And we're not the only ones to have been charmed — this book is the first of a series; we can't wait to find out what the Red Knit Cap Girl will do next.

"Red Knit Cap Girl" by Naoko Stoop (Little Brown and Company), \$15.99. www.lb-kids.com.

'Wilder' wall designs

Your kid will be saying "Domo arigato, Mr. Robot-o" when he sees Aimee Wilder's new Big Robots wallpaper in his room, and he won't think twice before bidding a grateful "sayonara" to his old nursery decor. Each robot measures about 9-and-a-half-inches tall by about 5-inches wide.

The print is solid color, and it's available in a choice of three: Tin (gray), Robin (blue) or Sphinx (me-



talic gold). The pattern is hand silk-screened onto clay-coated paper, which can be gently wiped clean with a damp cloth. Wilder isn't just a talented artist, she's green, too! Her papers are manufactured with responsibly sourced fiber.

Big Robots Wallpaper by Aimee Wilder, \$150 per roll. <http://aimeewilder.bigcartel.com/product/robots-multi>.

Carnival of sound

Kindie rock band Recess Monkey has stuffed its latest album, "In Tents," with songs inspired by the circus. The CD is recommended for kids ages 3–8, but the whole family will enjoy these songs, some of which are reminiscent of the great ringmasters of the pop arena (Elvis Costello, Squeeze, The Beatles, Bee Gees) and all are about perennial childhood delights, like "Bouncy House," "Human Cannonball," and "Lemonade."



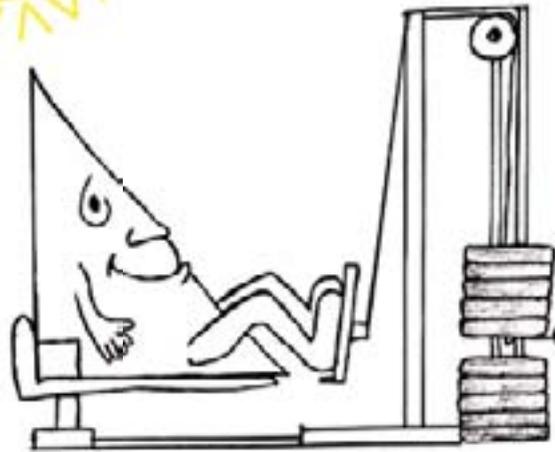
It includes a 32-page booklet that tells a tale about a band tricked into joining the circus.

This is Recess Monkey's eighth studio album, so it's no surprise that the band — Jack Forman, Daron Henry, and Drew Holloway, joined on this CD by Dean Jones — have perfected the art of clowning around.

"In Tents" CD by Recess Monkey (Monkey Mama), \$14.99. Release date: June 19, 2012. www.recessmonkey.com.

Introducing

Mathnasium's K-12 Summer Program



A gymnasium develops the body...
Mathnasium develops the **mind**.

Get a head start on next year's **MATH!**

Call for a free assessment!

MATHNASIUM[®]
The **Math** Learning Center

Boerum Hill

392 Atlantic Ave

718-858-6284

Bensonhurst

6806 20th Ave

347-762-8411

www.mathnasium.com

AVIATOR SUMMMER CAMPS

**OPEN HOUSE
SAVE 10%**

**Sunday, June 3rd
Saturday, June 9th
Sunday, June 10th
Saturday, June 16th
Saturday, June 23rd
12pm-4pm**

the **NEW**



3 Pools Keep Me
Cool All Summer!



Making New Friends



TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE



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



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

Over 20 activities under one roof

- Fitness
- Soccer
- Theater
- Rock Climbing
- Ice Skating
- Dance
- Field Sports
- Team Building
- Day Trips
- Gymnastics
- Swimming
- Art and Much More!



AVIATOR
sports and events

The Aviator Sports and Events Center ~
Floyd Bennett Field, 3159 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234

T: 718-758-7510 / F: 718-758-9801

Email: camps@aviatorsports.com Also visit aviatorsports.com.

Parking is always FREE!

