

Abilities Center March News

248.926.0909

www.abilitiescenter.com

**MARCH
2009**

Upcoming Dates of
Interest:

**MARCH IS
"NATIONAL PAR-
ENTING AWARE-
NESS MONTH!"**

- **DSG at the Palace**
March 20—Discounted tickets help raise \$ for the Down Syndrome Guild of Southeast Michigan
Visit www.dsgsemi.org for more info
- **"Able Abe's Winter Wonderland"**
Preschool Open House
March 26th, 7—9 PM
Visit our website for more details
- **P.L.A.Y. Project Seminar**
March 28, 2009
Visit our website for more details.
- **Parenting Special Needs Children with Love and Logic**
April 16, 2009
Visit our website for more details.



Abilities Center
2075 E. West Maple,
Suite B-204
Walled Lake, MI
www.abilitiescenter.com
248.926.0909

Abilities Center offers Saturday appointments!

Call the scheduling desk for available openings.



Social Skills Groups Forming

Social Skills Groups are in demand, and Abilities Center is striving to respond to the many requests recently received. The summer schedule (a work in progress) is as follows:

Group	Age	Day	Date	Time
Social Butterflies	4—7	Wednesday	6/24—8/14	4—5 PM
Social Butterflies	4—7	Thursday	6/25—8/15	1—2 PM
Motor Mouths	3—5	Friday	6/26—8/16	10:15—11:15 AM
Let's Get Messy!	4—6	Tuesday	6/23—7/28	2—3 PM
Kids Klub	7—11	Tuesday	6/23—8/13	4—5 PM
Teen Builders	12—15	Wednesday	6/24—7/29	2:30—3:30 PM

Still in the works . . . Spinning Wheels Bike Riding and Martial Arts groups. Visit our website at www.abilitiescenter.com for complete group descriptions, information and schedules. Some groups may also be added to the schedule before summer. Call Abilities Center at 248.926.0909, ext. 0 to register for all programs.

The Outreach Program for Soccer (TOPS)

TOPSoccer is an amazing soccer program for ANYONE interested in playing soccer and who has a developmental, emotional, learning or physical disability. This program is geared towards development and teamwork, not necessarily competition.

TOPSoccer will be fun and meaningful for your soccer player. Soccer is adapted in ways that ensure your player learns at his/her own pace and has a good time doing so. It will also help improve the overall fitness and self-esteem of your child while giving them the experience of belonging to a team. TOPSoccer focuses on the player's ability, not disability. Player involvement is the key to the success of this program, and most importantly, above all else, the focus is on teamwork and FUN! FUN! FUN!

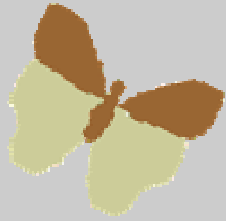
The Spring TOPSoccer season begins at the end of April and runs through the second week of June. The cost is \$18.50 for those who can afford it and \$0 for those who can not. Players receive a jersey, socks and lots of fun. Players as young as four and as old as 22 years are accepted. Games are played every Sunday at Drake Sports Park from 1 to 2 p.m.

In addition, season ending parties, team and individual photos and occasional group events during the off season are part of the fun of TOPSoccer! There is also a Fall season. Every child is accepted and each individual need is accommodated by the "on the field buddy system."

TOPSoccer is sponsored by Lakes Area Youth Soccer League. To register, please visit www.layslonline.com or email tops@layslonline.com or call Franci Silver at 248-505-9007.



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To the "Able Abe
Girls,"

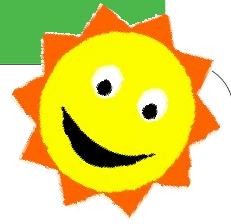
Thank you for
all the time, pa-
tience and
heart you in-
vested in Jake
this summer.
Yours was the
destination of
choice for Jake.
I know he loved
being with you
all...



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Summer Camp

Abilities Center offers two camps this summer!



Able Abe's Preschool Camp is offered at Abilities Center for two four-week sessions. Preschoolers attend half days (you choose morning or afternoon) for either five, three or two days per week. Session One begins June 22, Session Two begins July 20. Visit www.abilitiescenter.com for complete details and camp registration form. Don't hesitate, sessions are filling fast!

For the older camper (grade K-3) **Able Abe's Awesome Summer Camp** is offered at Covington School in Birmingham for eight one-week sessions. Campers may choose either full or half days. Session One begins June 22, seven sessions follow for consecutive weeks until Session Eight, which begins August 10. Visit www.abilitiescenter.com for complete details and camp registration form. Don't hesitate, sessions are filling fast!



Specialized Summer Support Services

If your child currently receives support services at school, don't let the summer slow him or her down!

Our **Specialized Summer Support Services** program uses your child's existing IEP to maintain and build on the progress that has oc-

curred during the school year. Students who receive Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy or Physical Therapy services at school work with an Abilities Center Therapist on the goals and objectives stated in his or her IEP or evaluation.

At the end of the summer, the transition back into school is a breeze! Call Abilities Center at 248.926.0909, ext. 0 to schedule your **Specialized Summer Support Services** before the summer schedule fills up!

Welcome Stephanie

Abilities Center is excited to welcome **Stephanie Aberlich** to our family!

By now you have hopefully had the pleasure of meeting Stephanie at our front desk. Since her arrival, she has been busy organizing and streamlining our scheduling and intake procedures.

Stephanie has returned to her Michigan roots after living in Tampa, Florida for the past two years. A Michigan State University alumni, Stephanie taught seventh grade language arts while in Tampa. Florida's loss is certainly Abilities Center's gain!

If you haven't already done so, please stop by the front desk and welcome Stephanie to the Front Desk team at Abilities Center!

Summer Tutoring Keeps Skills Sharp

Are you concerned that your child will lose momentum over the long summer months? Are you concerned that you will lose patience if you try to keep a routine without support over the long summer months? No worries—Abilities Center

has professionals here to help!

Our Education Specialists have extensive experience working with students who face learning challenges. Students receive an individual approach based on needs and skill level.

The focus is on subject matter as well as organizational and practical skills such as key boarding and effective study skills. Call Abilities Center to schedule a session with a caring and dynamic Education Specialist.