

Family Connections Center

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Police Departments in Minnesota, Massachusetts Locate Missing Children With SafetyNet by LoJack™ System

Police departments in Minnesota and Massachusetts successfully located missing children over the weekend of June 14-15 using the SafetyNet by LoJack™ system. In Milford, Massachusetts, a 17-year-old boy with Down syndrome was reported missing on June 15 at 4:21 PM. Officers from the Milford Police department arrived on location and began searching for the individual. After following the signal emitting from the missing individual's SafetyNet bracelet, the individual was located approximately a mile from the last point seen about thirty minutes after he was reported missing. The child was found hiding in the rear wheel well of an unoccupied tractor trailer that was backed into a loading dock.

In St. Paul, Minnesota, a 14-year-old boy with autism was reported missing on June 14 at 11:14 AM. Officers from the Ramsey County Sheriff's department arrived on location and began searching for the individual. Members of the St. Paul Fire Department also assisted with the tracking process. After following the signal emitting from the missing individual's SafetyNet bracelet, the individual was located approximately 1.5 miles from the last point seen about thirty minutes after he was reported missing.

The SafetyNet by LoJack service is designed to assist public safety agencies in locating persons who have cognitive conditions and have wandered off and are missing. SafetyNet clients wear a SafetyNet bracelet that emits radio frequency signals, which can be tracked by local public safety officials via their SafetyNet Search and Rescue Receivers.

The SafetyNet by LoJack service is available in various coverage areas. For more information on the SafetyNet by LoJack service and coverage areas, please contact (877) 4-FINDTHEM (877-434-6384) or visit www.safetynetbylojack.com.

Food for *Thought*

Chalk Word Lines of Separation

Words are used in many ways
Sometimes they are my friends

Others sometimes use their words
That sound like love and friend
Extending from them
To me

But in reality

These words only sound like love and friend
But in the end the sound of them
Does not ring true and good
And is not of love and friend

But instead these words draw lines
Dividing
Their group of US
From my group of THEM

Society says it is ok
In fact it is perfectly fine
And noble
Even though self-serving
Entirely acceptable
To divide out those THEMs
From Uses

As long as it's done
With a smile

Using words that are initially tolerable
Because

Society needs a way to talk about THEM
Because in the end
It is only for THEIR own good
To help them
To get services

To provide the spot for THEIR inclusion
(Once they have proven themselves able to
handle it)

Sneaky words said with a smile
While holding a piece of chalk
To draw the dividing line
Made by words
Sounding alright on the surface

But laden with
Otherness
Less Than
Different
Not US
And sometimes Not Quite Human

We are the people you call

- Special
- Low Functioning
- High Functioning

You say we are in need of a

- Peer Buddy
- Peer Pal
- Good Friend from Mrs. Jones Program

We are the

- Inclusion Student
- The community service hours other kids need

We sit

- At the Peer Buddies lunch table

- The Special Ed table in the Inclusion Room
- On the Special Ed bench waiting for our short bus

- Some of us are not quite special enough to get on a housing list and yet cannot maintain on our own so we stay living with our parents.

During the school day you will find us in the

- Inclusion Room (when it is our turn because they can only take one of us at a time)
- Cognitively Delayed Room
- Behavior Room
- Emotionally Disturbed Room
- EBD Room (Emotionally Behaviorally Disturbed)
- Special Ed Room
- Special Needs Room

As adults too many of us spend our days

- In Special Programs (if our county has them)
- At ARC (if our town has an ARC)
- At Sheltered Workshops (if one is available)
- In Supported Employment (if we qualify)
- Looking for a job (on the days we are able to)
- On the couch in our parents home (because other options are not available)

We are so doggone “special” that after school we attend

- Special Olympics
- Special Arts
- Special Night at the YMCA
- Special Needs Social Group

Because we are so deficient

In ever so many ways

Whenever we do something ordinary like zip up our jacket, ride a horse, or answer Jeopardy questions you describe us as

- Awesome
- An Inspiration

Where every participant is just as special
And those who are not special are our helpers

I don't understand this. If my friends and I are such awesome inspirations to the rest of you

When we grow up we live in

- Special Housing
- Some of us in Section 8 rentals
- Some in group homes
- Some in county care facilities
- Some of us are so special that there isn't even a special enough place for us so we stay living with our parents.

- Why is it that we are in two distinct groups – US and THEM?
- Why is it that your group always holds the chalk?
- Why do you keep using your chalk to draw lines that divide us?
- Why do you want me on the other side of your line – away from you?
- And why do you think this is good?



Judy Endow, MSW

Judy has autism and is an author and international speaker on a variety of autism related topics

See more at: <http://ollibean.com> or on her website www.judyendow.com

Available Resources

FREE FUN FRIDAYS!

66 MUSEUMS & CULTURAL VENUES
OPEN FOR FREE ON FRIDAYS ALL SUMMER



JUNE 27TH
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
CAPE COD MARITIME MUSEUM
WORCESTER ART MUSEUM
TANGLEWOOD
THE SPORTS MUSEUM
MASS MOCA
MIT MUSEUM

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
COMMONWEALTH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
AMERICAN TEXTILE HISTORY MUSEUM
THE DISCOVERY MUSEUMS
HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE
CONCORD MUSEUM
MAHAWE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



JULY 4TH
HERITAGE MUSEUMS & GARDENS
EDWARD GOREY HOUSE
JACOB'S PILLOW DANCE FESTIVAL
AMELIA PARK CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
FALMOUTH MUSEUMS ON THE GREEN

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
CLARK ART INSTITUTE
WENHAM MUSEUM
USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AT HOLYOKE
VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME
FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM



JULY 11TH
JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM
WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM
FRUITLANDS MUSEUM
CAPE COD CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PILGRIM HALL MUSEUM

THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART/BOSTON
PLIMOTH PLANTATION
GARDEN IN THE WOODS
MUSEUM OF RUSSIAN ICONS
FITCHBURG ART MUSEUM
HISTORIC DEERFIELD
REAGLE MUSIC THEATRE



JULY 18TH
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON
OCEAN EXPLORIUM
THE ERIC CARLE MUSEUM
LARZ ANDERSON AUTO MUSEUM
SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS
MASS AUDUBON'S BOSTON NATURE CENTER
SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
NEW BEDFORD WHALING MUSEUM
OLD MANSE, TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS
BERKSHIRE MUSEUM
EMILY DICKINSON MUSEUM



JULY 25TH
THE FREEDOM TRAIL FOUNDATION
BATTLESHIP COVE
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM IN EASTON
TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN
ARNOLD ARBORETUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAPE COD MUSEUM OF ART
DANFORTH ART

BUTTONWOOD PARK ZOO
ECOTARIUM
CAPE COD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM
THE MOUNT: EDITH WHARTON'S HOME
GRIFFIN PHOTOGRAPHY MUSEUM



PLEASE VISIT HIGHLANDSTREET.ORG OR CALL 617.969.8900 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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WCVB TV 5
BOSTON abc
wcvb.com



**Massachusetts
Department of
Developmental Services**



**Shriver Clinical
Services**



**New England Eye
Southeastern Massachusetts**

**450 Pleasant Street
East Bridgewater, MA**

Office: 617-680-8447

New Vision Clinic Opens

New England Eye Southeastern Massachusetts is now open to all individuals served by the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Individuals living throughout the Commonwealth are welcome to schedule an appointment. The Clinic is open each Wednesday from 9am to 5pm.

Eye Care

Eye examinations at the Clinic are provided to determine a person's eye health, to better understand how each person uses his or her vision, and to maximize visual function. Each appointment is scheduled for one hour, allowing time for the exam, and to ensure all questions are answered. Because we are a teaching Clinic, Christine Sacco, OD and an optometry intern will work together to provide the eye exam. During the visit, eyeglasses and/or vision aids may be prescribed; appropriate therapies developed, and/or advice offered on rehabilitation or educational considerations. In addition, recommendations/referrals may be made to other specialists for in-depth testing of visual field, to ophthalmologists as needed; and/or to opticians for the selection and fitting of eyeglasses. Before leaving, any needed paperwork will be filled out. A full eye report will be written and mailed to each person at home.

About Christine Sacco, OD

Dr. Christine Sacco received her optometry degree from NECO and completed a residency at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Brockton, MA. An attending optometrist at NEE, she has clinical experience in providing primary eye care to diverse populations, including as a consultant with a multidisciplinary group caring for people in long term and assisted care facilities. Dr. Sacco has a special interest in providing optometric services to individuals with cognitive and/or physical impairments.

Insurance Information is Required to Schedule an Exam

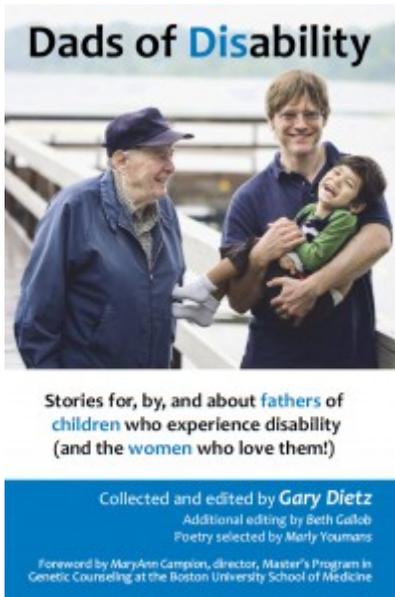
- **Referrals:** MassHealth and Medicare do not require referrals for eye care appointments. If a referral is needed, we will contact you.
- **Co-Pays:** Any needed co-payments will be billed to you after your appointment.

To Schedule an Appointment

Please call: 617-680-8447 or email: JonesS@neco.edu

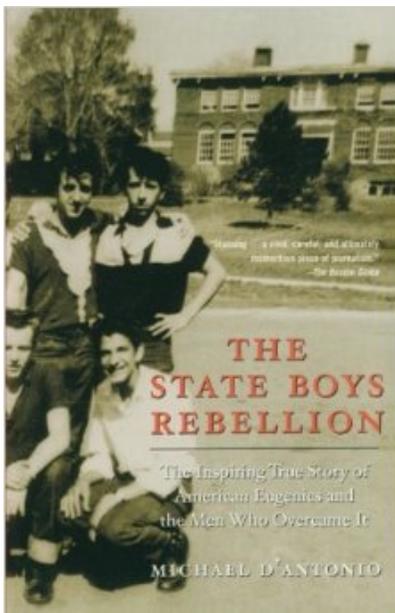
Literature

Check out some of the new books recently added to the Louis Nisenbaum Memorial Library!



Dads of Disability *Gary Dietz*

Dads of Disability™ is a collection of 41 essays and poems rich in context and imagery that illustrate a father's perception of and reaction to being a father of a child that experiences disability. From before and through birth, to diagnosis, to the workplace, to serious medical or behavioral issues, to father's support circles, and much more—including aging and death—many inflection points are explored by the fathers themselves as well as the mothers and children in their lives. Each entry focuses on male and fatherhood themes. This is not a 'how-to' book or a book of '5-ways to do this' or '10-ways to do that.' Rather, this collection uses a storytelling approach to illuminate the emotional lives of these fathers. Dads of Disability will begin or extend the conversation between and amongst fathers, mothers, extended families, care circles, and individuals with disabilities themselves.



The State Boys Rebellion *Michael D'Antonio*

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist tells the amazing story of how a group of imprisoned boys won their freedom, found justice, and survived one of the darkest and least-known episodes of American history.

The State Boys Rebellion conveys the shocking truth about America's eugenic era through the experiences of a group of boys held at the Fernald State School in Massachusetts starting in the late 1940s.

Meticulously researched through school archives, previously sealed papers, and interviews with the surviving State Boys, this deft exposé is a powerful reminder of the terrifying consequences of unchecked power as well as an inspiring testament to the strength of the human spirit.

For information on the Louis Nisenbaum Memorial Library or to find out how you can borrow a book from the Library, please call 508-999-4436.

Information to *Share*



11th Hearts & Hands Walk for

The Hearts & Hands Walk has a new home at the beautiful Francis Farm in Rehoboth, MA! The 11th Annual Hearts & Hands Walk for Autism will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 9:30AM-1:30PM. For all of you who have attended in the past, you can expect the same great Family Fun Activities, in a safe, fun and beautiful environment!

Firstgiving is up and running! Please go to www.community-autism-resources.com and visit [FirstGiving](#) to register and/or create your fundraising page by clicking "Join Now". For those of you who aren't familiar with Firstgiving, it is a safe and secure FREE online fundraising tool that we have been using for quite a few years as a safe and easy way, for individuals and teams to register and raise funds for the walk!

The Hearts & Hands Walk for Autism and Family Fun Day is our SIGNATURE fundraiser! Although CAR is partially funded by DDS, we depend on our annual walk to raise funds to continue to provide the FREE and vital services & supports to children, adults and their families, as they face the everyday challenges of living with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Autism Spectrum Disorders are a group of developmental disabilities that can affect people of all ages and abilities. They are caused by differences in the brain.

Save the Date

September 27, 2014

Building a Home
A Statewide Conference
Creative Community Living

DCU Center
50 Foster Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Keynote Speaker
Michael Kendrick, PhD

The planning of the 2014 Building a Home is underway. It will be another full day of motivation, showing families how to BUILD A HOME and LIFE for their loved ones with disabilities giving them interdependent full lives in their community. This conference will give you an opportunity to network and meet individuals who are making it work. Join us to learn the planning steps, what tools are available, how to build a budget, where to find financial resources and how to make your vision a reality.

CAMP FLAGSHIP

Cool Movies for a Hot Summer!

2014 @ FLAGSHIP CINEMAS

FREE Movies!

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday @ 10:00 am

Groups & General Public

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 AM.

We recommend that groups reserve in advance to ensure proper seating.

Call for Reservations & Information

NEW BEDFORD

500 KINGS HIGHWAY • 508-998-8825

JUNE 24-26

ICE AGE
CONTINENTAL DRIFT **PG**

JULY 1-3

DREAMWORKS
TURBO **PG**

JULY 8-10

DREAMWORKS
KUNG FU PANDA 2 **PG**

JULY 15-17

DREAMWORKS
PUSS IN BOOTS **PG**

JULY 22-24

DREAMWORKS
THE CROODS **PG**

JULY 29-31

DREAMWORKS
MADAGASCAR 3
EUROPE'S MOST WANTED **PG**

AUGUST 5-7

DREAMWORKS
THE SMURFS 2 **PG**

AUGUST 12-14

DREAMWORKS
CLOUDY
with a chance of
MEATBALLS 2 **PG**



Statewide Transition Conference for Parents

8:00am – 8:45am Registration, Networking and Resources

9:00am – 4:00pm Program

Hogan Center at Holy Cross College | 1 College Street, Worcester, MA 01610

\$75.00 per person (fee includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Hosted by The Arc of Massachusetts with gratitude to The Arc of the United States and the Walmart Foundation

This full-day statewide Transition conference has been specifically planned for parents of children with disabilities between the ages of 14 and 22 who are transitioning from school into the adult world.

The Conference program will include:

- An opportunity to learn about state-of-the-art, best practices around transition, covering topics focused upon creating seamless, successful transitions into the adult world.
- Keynote presentation by JoAnn Simons, President/CEO, Cardinal Cushing Centers of Massachusetts. Ms. Simons is the author of “The Down Syndrome Transition Handbook” and the chapter author in several books regarding legal, planning and transition issues. Ms. Simons has an adult son with an intellectual disability.
- Lunchtime presentation by Maria Paiewonsky, Ed. D., Transition Specialist, Institute for Community Inclusion and Director of the Massachusetts Transition Leadership Initiative, a personnel preparation program that prepares Master’s Level Transition Specialists at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.
- 25 workshops, offering 7 in each session. It is important to select your workshop preference for each session when you register. See the workshop description link below.
- A “Technology Playground” which will be available all day staffed by experts who will share their knowledge about IPAD’s, IPOD’s, tablets and appropriate APP’s for preparation for adult life and independence.

Registration by Friday, August 29, 2014

For special accommodations (including interpreter), dietary needs, registration inquiries, or other questions about this event, contact Pat Pakos by August 1, 2014 via pakos@arcmass.org or 978 440-7609

the nemasket group

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Family Connections Center

Joint Project of The Nemasket Group and
DDS (*Greater New Bedford Department of Developmental Services*)
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Phone: 508-999-0077
Fax: 508-997-9239



Creating a network of family support
for individuals with developmental
disabilities and their families

