

# CAROL'S KIDS NEWS

Volume 2, Issue 6  
July 2008

## SECOND FAMILY GATHERING PLANNED JULY 13!

Many of our camp families came out to the gathering at the Walczaks and the weather couldn't have been better!

The menu offered foods that were GF/CF friendly, including hamburgers, Hebrew National hot-dogs, Chips, fruits and vegetables. Items which contained gluten, such as buns (and beer), were available to those who would like them.

"I think the children enjoyed the trampoline— and a few of the fathers bounced around too" said Betsy Burman. "I know several of the mothers were taking photos. I hope we can get those up on the website soon"

The families were able to meet and enjoyed the opportunity to gather in an environment where

everyone else understood the issues they faced in a very positive and personal way.

The next meeting will be on July 13 and held again at the home of the Walczaks. It will be the fourth family gathering for the past two years. Directions and a phone number are listed on the Upcoming events portion of our newsletter.

## COUNTRYWIDE GOLF TOURNAMENT AND WINE PAIRING DINNER PLANNING BEGINS!

Planning for the third annual Countrywide golf tournament and wine pairing dinner is underway. The first organizational meeting was held on July 10. The dinner and the tournament will benefit the Autism Resource Foun-

dation (for more info visit [www.theautismresourcefoundation.org](http://www.theautismresourcefoundation.org))

The date of the tournament has been changed to October 13, Columbus Day, to avoid the sweltering heat that accompanied the summer dates in the past.

The wine pairing committee is committed to improving on the past dinners and wine selections to make this event an even more wonderful meal and evening out if that is possible!

If you are interested in either attending or helping support the event, please feel to contact Jeff Walczak at 714-8464.

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL CONCEPTS, INC. OFFERS:

INCLUSION

INCIDENTAL TEACHING

DISCRETE TRIALS

1:1 OR 2:1 STUDENT TEACHER RATIO

BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES

SCHOOL OBSERVATIONS

TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

THOROUGH EVALUATIONS

## EMILY STOOKEY BECOMES A NEW MOTHER!

Many of you have asked about Emily and the impending birth of her first child. I am pleased to tell you that mother and child are doing well and are at home!

Savannah decided to enter into this stage of life nearly a month earlier than expected!

Emily writes of her newborn:

"Savannah Kate was born June 28, 2008 at 5:48p. She came a little over 4 weeks early but is doing great! She weighed 6 lbs, 9 oz

and is 18 inches long. She's got a head a head full of hair and very long fingers and toes!! She is her mother's child!! Mom and Dad couldn't be happier!! And as the first grandchild on both sides, Savannah is already a spoiled little lady!

To the right is a picture of Savannah Kate wearing the gown that her mother wore home from the hospital!!!

We wish Emily a speedy recover delivery and many good naps as she adjusts to the numerous mommy roles!



## Summer camp news continues!

We finished up our June summer camp and welcomed five more campers to our program joining the campers who were here in June!

Campers continue to enjoy the activities provided by Ms. Kim Cantrell, who has chosen to be our camp planner this year. There is particular emphasis on fine motor and sensory experiences from working with scissors and crayons to using sand and glue—on the hands and the feet!

Camp leaders have all gotten the schedule and activities down to a science, timing and planning in the morning to help ensure a smooth transition.

Each Friday continues to be our

“splash day” event, which most of the children really enjoy.

Many of the children have learned classroom skills that they may take back to school in the fall, such as sustained group attention, transitions and circle time behavior—taking turns coming to the camp leader and returning to their spots in the circle.

“It is a basic principle of ABA to use shaping techniques” said Carol Vancil, BCBA. “We never force the children to do anything, but to push them as far as they are comfortable and work from there.”

Included in our day is the opportunity to sit on the toilet to practice for toilet training and during lunch we are working on feeding issues.

Several parents have noted the children appear happier and are singing the songs learned during camp to increase language at home. Others have noticed their children now remain at the dinner table for their meals rather than grazing by the table and doing a “grab and go”. Most have you reported an easier time getting the children to bed and that they are sleeping longer.

All of this is encouraging to us as well! We love to hear that our efforts during the day are paying off for our families at home.

Feel free to write your reports and comments on the autismlink website to help us provide this service to all families who need us!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Parent Training: July 21 at the Bradford location will be Feeding Issues** presented by Suzanne Roten. It includes the information she learned at the ABA International Conference in Chicago this past May.

**July 13 Family Gathering:** 3-5 pm at the home of Jeff and Betsy Walczak. To get to the home of the Walczak's, travel to the Hampton Cove Area by Cecil Ashburn Drive from Bailey Cove or over Monte Sano Mountain via Governors Drive, turning at the light (Walmart on the

Right and a Publix on the left). Travel north until you reach the subdivision entrance on your left (you will see the waterfall). Take the second left onto Treyburne. The road makes some curves to the right and then back left. You will see the back yard before you see the front door. The address is 2615 Treyburne and if you need more direction, the home number is 512-9975. We expect arrivals at 3:00pm.

**July 4, 17 and 18 both Premier Locations will be closed.** There will be no camp held on these days. Also, no ser-

vice will be available on **Friday, August 1**, while we prepare books and box for the Discrete Trial/Inclusion August through May services this year

**Making Connections Parents meetings Contact:** Debbie Bumbika at 256-885-5959.

**North Alabama Chapter of the Autism Society** For more information call Carol Wright 256-880-1239.

## SPOTLIGHT ON LAUREN BURNS

Ms. Lauren Burns is enrolled in the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She is a junior in the Elementary Education program focusing in Psychology.

Ms. Burns received a scholarship to participate in the UAH Soccer Program. This year she will serve as the captain of the Women's Soccer Team and plays forward. Ms. Burns is the recipient of the Gold Scholar Athlete Award for the past two years by obtaining a 4.0 average in her courses in Elementary Education. She coached the Sparkman Women's soccer clinic December

2007 and serves as a referee for the girls U6 and U8 UAH Soccer tournament.

Lauren was in the top ten percent of her Sparkman graduating class of 2006. She was enrolled in 12 academic honor courses. Additionally, she was on the women's soccer team, participated in the National Honor Society and choir. While in high school, Lauren volunteered with the AYSO region 894 as a U10 girls assistant soccer coach.

Lauren has worked for Applied Behavioral Concepts since 2006 and has worked in both of the summer camp programs for the past two years. During her busy school/soccer season, Lau-

ren collects the program data. During her summer months she is a camp leader two or three days each week.

Lauren traveled to Chicago and attended workshops on toilet training, generalization and a presentation on current ABA applications.

Upon her return, Lauren gave a presentation to the community at large on toilet training based on the presentation she attended in Chicago.

Lauren plans to continue her education in ABA and continue her career in behavior analysis by becoming board certified.