

# ASFV Newsletter



The Autism Society of the Fox Valley

## Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

As we try to stay safe at home, ASFV is still here hoping and praying you are all healthy and persevering through this unbelievable time. We at ASFV are amazed by all of the creative ways families have tried to keep connected.

For those who have reached out for support, we hear your concerns. Regression of skills and increased behaviors are the major concerns from those with children. Please reach out to your special education teams. They may have some suggestions that will make this schooling from home a bit easier. For those young adults missing their co-workers and job placements, reach out to your supervisors and let them know you are thinking about work. They want you back as much as you want to be there.

We have all been bombarded with resources about Covid-19. I am very impressed by the resources put together from the Autism Society of America. That information is linked within this

newsletter.

The CDC has also updated autism prevalence statistics. As of March 25, 2020, they reported the rate of 1 in 54 kids 8 years old from 11 different communities have autism. To read the full report: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html>.

For those of you who so generously supported our annual golf outing, we have cancelled for this year. We look forward to your continued support next June. We have also lost the profit from our booth at conference. Please consider donating to ASFV to keep our social events happening.

At this time, all social outings are on pause. When it is safe to hold our events, we will get information out to all of you as soon as we know the dates. We are looking forward to rescheduling Boards and Blades, Tundra Lodge, Skater's Edge and much more!!!

Happy Autism Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month!!!

Diane Nackers, ASFV President



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## Please Keep Contact Information Up to Date

Check out our website: **[autismfoxvalley.org](http://autismfoxvalley.org)**

General information questions: **[info@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:info@autismfoxvalley.org)**

All social outings: **[asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org)**

Hispanic support group: **[asfvespanol@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvespanol@autismfoxvalley.org)**

# ALL ASFV Social Outings are on Pause Please Keep Your Contact Info Up to Date

## Hanging Out Social Outings

ASFV attempts to actively engage kids 7-12 years old in a variety of social opportunities. The children can participate in a variety of outings. The goals of these outings are to foster socialization, experiences, and fun. All outings are supervised by the social group facilitators. If you would like more information or would like to be placed on the email list, contact: [asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org)

## Teen Group Outings

ASFV holds social opportunities for teens 13-19 years old. These outings are held in a wide variety of locations. The teens should demonstrate a level of independence so they can participate in community outings without parental supervision. The teens are supervised by an ASFV board member. If you would like more information or would like to be placed on the email list, contact: [asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org)

## The A-Team—Adult Social Outings

A Social Networking Group for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. If you are an adult in your 20's AND want to get out and get social.....this group may be for you. All outings are planned based on feedback from the attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact [asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org)



*ASFV is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization run by an all volunteer board. Your donations make every outing happen!*

## Parent Support Group Meeting

Do you need to talk, or just need a break? Please join us the first Sunday of each month, from 6:00-8:00 pm for ASFV's monthly Parent Support Group meeting.



Where: 211 E Franklin St. in downtown Appleton (just two blocks west of City Park) in the building that houses Soar Fox Cites Inc. The doors will be locked, but there is a doorbell and someone will let you in. Refreshments will be provided.

Parents and other caregivers have the opportunity to get together in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to talk about everything from your personal experiences to available resources and general education about autism.

For more information: [info@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:info@autismfoxvalley.org).

## Grupo de Reunión de Ayuda para Familiade Autismo

Es un grupo diseñado **para familias Hispánicas** quienes aman a alguien en el espectro autista. Cada reunión ofrecerá ayuda, recursos e información para familias en español. Juntos aprenderemos y nos ayudaremos con problemas que temenos que enfrentar en el día a día.

Si desea saber más acerca de la Sociedad de Autismo de Fox Valley

- Por favor visite:  
[www.autismfoxvalley.org](http://www.autismfoxvalley.org)
- Preguntas en general:  
920-558-4602 o al 888-428-8476



## Monkey Joe's Playdate

Monkey Joe's and ASFV offer a once a month play time open exclusively for families with a child on the spectrum. This event is free for all members. All non-members pay only \$5.00 per family. It's a chance for the kids to play while parents network.

An ASFV board member is on site to answer questions about our affiliate or offer support. The new owners are making GREAT changes! Come check it out!!

1800 N. Casaloma Appleton, WI 54913 Phone: (920) 954-5437



# Stronger Together in 2020: Virtual Autism Conference

April 30 - May 2, 2020



Unprecedented times call for creativity, collaboration, and community. The Autism Societies of Minnesota and Greater Wisconsin are proud to announce a first-ever joint conference that will be brought to you virtually April 30-May 2, 2020.

Get access to the keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and exhibitors you have known through our live conferences, but from the comfort and safety of your own home. The combined conference will feature more than 30 cutting-edge topics and will include live and on-demand educational and resource-gathering opportunities that will be available to you April 30-May 2 and at your leisure for up to six months after the conference dates.

To learn more about the conference:

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/event-cal/31st-annual-conference/>

## 4 Keynote Speakers:

Judy Endow, LCSW  
Loui Lord Nelson, PhD  
Kari Dunn Buron, PhD  
Haley Moss  
PLUS 30 Break out sessions!!!

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**  
*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*  
*Greater Wisconsin*

## Connie Pitt Conference Scholarships

**5 Still available!!**

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley offers full conference registrations to the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin Annual Conference. Families, educators and therapists may apply for a free conference registration. You must be a member of ASFV and live or teach in the Fox Valley area to be considered.



If you would like to apply, please send an email (just a few paragraphs) about how the scholarship will help you and your family or, if you are a therapist or teacher, how it will help the students you support. Send the email to: [info@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:info@autismfoxvalley.org) and in the subject line write "ASGW Conference Scholarship".

You may also send a written request to ASFV Scholarships, PO Box 266 Little Chute, WI 54140.

This annual scholarship is to honor Connie Pitt, a local educator who died unexpectedly several years ago. Connie was a dedicated teacher who taught students with autism.

## Safety Scholarships Available



The Autism Society of the Fox Valley offers three (3) safety scholarships—up to \$250 each. Families who need assistance purchasing additional locks, alarms, fence gates, or anything to help ensure safety measures can be taken for your child, can apply.

Just send a short letter explaining what your needs are and the expense you expect to incur. The ASFV board will vote on your request at the next board meeting. You will then be notified via

email or mail. If your scholarship is approved, provide a receipt and you will be reimbursed for up to \$250. You must be a member of the Autism Society of the Fox Valley to be considered.

Send the email to: [info@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:info@autismfoxvalley.org) and in the subject line write "ASFV Safety Scholarship".

You may also send a letter to ASFV, PO Box 266 Little Chute, WI 54140.





# Autism Society of America Coronavirus: Response & Resources

## Coronavirus: Response & Resources

The Autism Society of America understands the ongoing concerns surrounding COVID-19, and the added challenges it brings to the autism community. Here, we will continually update relevant and reputable resources and information surrounding Coronavirus, and provide support during this crisis, and always.

<https://www.autism-society.org/covid-19/>

Extensive resources available within the COVID-19 TOOLKITS

TOPICS:

1. Mental Health and Respite
2. Modifying Routines
3. Lifestyle Support
4. Education
5. Public Policy
6. Facebook Live

## Autism Society: Coronavirus Information Series

The Autism Society of America launched a Facebook Live series dedicated to providing relevant, COVID-19 information for the autism community. The weekly broadcast will feature an expert discussing specific topics like mental health, federal emergency funding, and financial planning.

### Upcoming:

**Wednesday, April 8th @ 7:30pm EST on Facebook:**

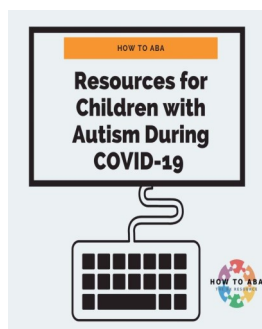
*"Exercise & Healthy Eating Routines At Home. Co-hosting with myHana, featuring, David Geslak, Founder & President of Exercise Connection.*

**Thursday, April 9th @ 3pm EST on Facebook:**

*A Parent's Perspective During COVID-19 & Coping While Apart. Featuring Dr. Robert Naseef, Psychologist, Author, & Father.*



## Additional Family Resources



<https://howtoaba.com/resources-for-children-with-autism-during-covid-19/>



<https://www.themomkind.com/autism-and-coronavirus-quarantine-how-to-manage-the-daily-routine/>



<https://www.autismlittlelearners.com/2020/03/free-coronavirus-social-narrative-for.html>



Community Autism Resources  
*A place to start...A presence on your journey.*

<http://community-autism-resources.com/covid-19-resources/>

\*\*\*Miracle League Registration Deadline Extended\*\*\*  
<https://www.foxvalleymiracleleague.com/>

## Neenah Baseball Inc. Discovery Softball League Information

### Neenah Baseball Inc. Discovery Softball League A Special League for Special People



#### WANT TO PLAY SOFTBALL THIS SPRING AND SUMMER?

Neenah Baseball's Discovery Softball League offers organized softball for persons who have special needs. Ages 4 to Adult of all disabilities are welcome to join. Registration forms found on [www.neenahbaseball.com](http://www.neenahbaseball.com).

#### \*\*\*\*New this year...Discovery Field at Washington Park

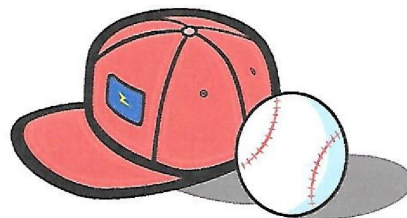
An accessible field for individuals with limited mobility, physical limitations, cognitive disabilities and younger children that have limited hitting abilities. \*\*\*\*

#### Registration Procedures

1. Complete the registration form found on [www.neenahbaseball.com](http://www.neenahbaseball.com) (go to bottom of the home page)
2. Enclose a check or money order for the total amount due, **made payable to Neenah Baseball Inc.**
3. Please do not send cash
4. Return the completed form and payment by April 1, 2020 to:  
**Kathy Delchambre, 2900 S. Dellwood St., Appleton WI 54915**  
Any questions call Kathy at 920-734-5641

**Season Runs      May 17, 2020 to July 26, 2020 (no game May 24)**

- Games played at either Southview Park Diamonds or Washington Park Discovery Field
- Sundays 6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m.
- Southview Park is located at Marathon and Bell Streets in Neenah
- Washington Park is located at Winneconne Ave. and Harrison St. in Neenah
- Please make copies and pass along to anyone that maybe interested.
- Looking for coaches, pitchers, catchers and volunteers to help our players.



#### Player Information

Player Fee is \$25

Players supply own mitt and water bottle  
League supplies team T-shirt and baseball cap



# Autism Friendly Communities Program Is HERE!!!

The Autism Society envisions that individuals and families living with autism are able to maximize their quality of life, are treated with the highest level of dignity, and live in a society in which their talents and skills are appreciated and valued. Quality of life indicators, such as the opportunity for community involvement and the freedom to spend time in a meaningful way, are essential aspects of the human experience.

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin is implementing the Autism Friendly Communities Initiative to ensure that families affected by autism feel included and welcomed at community activities and events. The Autism Friendly Communities Initiative's overall goal is to increase the quality of life for those affected by autism by improving community understanding of autism and improving access to inclusive experiences, programs, and events.

## What does it mean to be Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner, you recognize that individuals with autism experience the world differently and commit to evaluating and adapting your business or organization in several ways:

- Training staff and volunteers to understand autism and strategies to support individuals and families affected by autism.
- Assessing and making modifications to environment, programs, or procedures.
- Developing visual supports as applicable.
- Implementing inclusive hiring practices.
- Committing to quality improvement.

## How are partners recognized as Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner you can expect:

- An Autism Friendly Window Decal to display
- An Autism Friendly Certificate to display
- Recognition on Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin social media accounts
- Recognition on the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin website

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/autism-friendly-communities/>

Contact Kirsten Cooper at [kcooper@autismgreaterwi.org](mailto:kcooper@autismgreaterwi.org) or 920-215-3303 to start the conversation on how you can become an Autism Friendly Communities partner.



# Supporting Special Education During the Public Health Emergency: What Districts Are Doing

The DPI Special Education team is in the process of developing resources/examples of how LEAs are providing supports to students who receive special education through an IEP during this public health emergency. Specifically, we are seeking examples of processes / resources / tips in a variety of areas including:

- how schools are conducting virtual IEP meetings
- examples of the types of resources, instruction, or supports that are being provided virtually, through mail, web site, and other means of connecting learning and support to students
- completing or conducting special education evaluations
- supporting students and families with low tech and high tech supports
- teletherapy for related services
- supporting inclusive remote or virtual learning environments and maintaining relationships with students

If you would like to share positive examples that can be shared with others about how your school is supporting your child who receives special education services during this public health emergency, please fill out this short survey.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZhjo9zkz0yMx1pD496GVpppI2-nAWu19-aaoVC70xTQOk1A/viewform>

This information will be shared through a variety of resources and supports.

## **Update on special education FAQs and other school closure information from WI DPI.**

We wanted to remind you that the DPI is updating resources daily on our [COVID-19 web page](#).

For information on special education you can scroll down to the special education section and that link now takes you to a new special education COVID 19 web page that is being updated regularly. Remember to check out the “Extended School Closure for Students with IEPs due to COVID-19 Special Education Question and Answer Document” that can be found [here](#). This document is updated weekly.

There are also lots of great updates that go out in our division weekly email on topics ranging from tele-practice, mental health and social and emotional learning supports, [resources to support virtual learning for students on alternate standards](#), and much more.

For many more updates and DPI resources and guidance documents, click the following link to search the division weekly email archives as this page is updated at least weekly: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/news>

Hope you are well.

Tim

Tim Markle, Director, Southern Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin (ASGW) serves **53 counties** in Wisconsin. We share membership with our 5 local Autism Society affiliates listed below. By choosing a local affiliate below, you will join both the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin and the local affiliate. If there is no local affiliate serving your county, leave this section blank.

\_\_\_ Autism Society of the Fox Valley (ASFV)

Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Fond du Lac and Waupaca Counties

\_\_\_ Autism Society of the Lakeshore (ASL)

Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet, Kewaunee and Door Counties

\_\_\_ Autism Society of Northeast Wisconsin (ASNEW)

\_\_\_ Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Florence, Menominee and Marinette

\_\_\_ Autism Society of Central Wisconsin (ASCW)

Clark, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Taylor and Wood Counties.

\_\_\_ Autism Society of Chippewa Valley (ASCV)

Sawyer, Polk, Barron, Rusk, St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, Pierce, Pepin, Eau Claire, Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson Counties.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

\_\_\_ Individual (\$15)    \_\_\_ Family (\$20)

\_\_\_ New Member    \_\_\_ Renewing Member

### BILLING

\_\_\_ Bill my Master Card/VISA Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ CVV (3 digit code on the back) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check enclosed: Check # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Enclosed is a \$10 contribution towards the cost of the newsletter—thank you!

Additional contribution (tax deductible).

\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$ (Other)

Please send your completed membership form and payment to:

**Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin | 1477 Kenwood Drive |**  
**Menasha, WI 54952 Fax (920) 558-4611**

*If you have questions, email Kelly at [kbrodhagen@autismgreaterwi.org](mailto:kbrodhagen@autismgreaterwi.org) or call 888-428-8476.*

For office use only

Date Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Autism Society of the Fox Valley  
PO Box 266  
Little Chute, WI 54140  
(920) 558-4602  
(888) 428-8476

Email:  
[info@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:info@autismfoxvalley.org)

**ASFV Board Members**

**Diane Nackers, MS CCC-SLP**  
President  
**Ann Olson—Vice President**  
**Bob Olson—Treasurer**  
**Heidi Dahle—Secretary**

**Steve Brennan**  
**Archana Hendrick, MD**  
**Kristin Wahl**  
**Chad Leder**  
**Andy Teska**  
**John Oehler**  
**Dale Bushman**



**Newsletter Submissions**

Articles of interest, stories/poetry of persons with autism, book reviews and upcoming conferences or workshops are accepted. Submissions can be sent to: Diane Nackers, 8042 Saquaro Ct, Neenah WI 54956 email: [asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org](mailto:asfvevents@autismfoxvalley.org)

Submission deadlines are December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1. Responsibility for accuracy of information remains that of the author of the article. Articles from this publication may be reprinted, giving credit to the author and ASFV. The ASFV Editorial Review Board reserves the right to edit or refuse submissions.

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Autism Society of the Fox Valley



## The Autism Society of the Fox Valley Mission Statement

**Our Mission:**

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley, Inc. was established in 1989. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization serving the counties of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Waupaca and Winnebago. Our mission is to provide information and referral, advocacy, public awareness, education and support for individuals, families, professionals and others who support people with autism.



 **AUTISM SOCIETY**  
*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*  
*Greater Wisconsin — Fox Valley*