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AUTISM

**AUTISM SOCIETY**  
Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism  
Maine



# Maine Autism

## Connections

### Team Izzie

by Cathy Dionne

I would like to introduce the Dolloff family - also known as Team Izzie. Jessica and Brian Dolloff have been married for 10 years and live in the Jay area. They have three beautiful children, Logan 12, Isabell (Izzie) 8, and Cooper 5. Both Brian and Jessica work full time. They enjoy their family time at home playing board games, watching movies, and when the weather is nice going to the beach. They have a great network of family and friends to support them with Izzie who has autism.

Jessica describes Izzie as happy, loving, and easy going with a smile that lights up a room. She goes with the flow and loves to be around her siblings. When they get together with their extended family Izzie is the main attraction. Her cousins enjoy doting on her and have always been supportive. Listening to Jessica describe Izzie, the love this little girl bring to others is apparent.

Izzie was diagnosed in March 2010 at age 3. Mom and dad noticed milestones were not being reached. They prepared for a diagnosis. Once they received the diagnosis of autism, the doctor made referrals and gave suggestions for therapies. It has been a struggle from the beginning. Jessica felt the services for her daughter were not helping. Now 5 years, later the family is still fighting for services. Progress is being made but not at the level they think it should be. She receives speech, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Izzie spends the majority of her school day in Special Ed class but is integrated throughout the day. Teachers are a big part of her team, and they work with the family to help move Izzie forward.

Izzie will be with them as long as it takes for her to reach her full potential. Izzie's future is dependent on the services she now receives. Jessica sees her living independently and having a job.

The Autism Society of Maine was the first organization that gave her information. She learned a great deal from the resources she received. Many of their questions about autism were answered. Jessica utilizes our lending library and finds being able to read books beneficial-without spending a lot of money.

Their community is amazing – they are so accepting of Izzie. Izzie is just another child who happens to learn differently. It's a blessing for them to go out into the community and have people greet her positively and with understanding.

Spring 2014



The Walk for Autism was the first event where family and friends came together in support of Izzie. Jessica looks forward to the walk event where she doesn't need to explain why Izzie does certain things. She feels the most relaxed at the Walk for Autism.

The family has been raising awareness and money in their community for the last 5 years to benefit the Autism Society of Maine. They go above and beyond to get their community involved with awareness and fundraising. Brian and Jessica thank their family and friends for being there for them in their time of need. If you're interested in following the family on their Face book group for Team Izzie, type in "Team Izzie, autism awareness".

*continued on page 6*



*The Dolloff Family*

**Maine Autism Connections**  
*A publication of the*  
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Maine Autism Connections is a quarterly publication of the Autism Society of Maine  
72B Main Street  
Winthrop, ME 04364  
Phone: 1-800-273-5200

*Graphic Designer:* Justine Bickford  
*Proofreader:* Darlene Lepoff  
*Contributing writers:* As bylined  
Send article ideas and suggestions for our newsletter to:  
asm@asmonline.org

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**AUTISM SOCIETY**  
*Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism*  
Maine

Visit us online at: [asmonline.org](http://asmonline.org)

Stay up-to-date for Legislation issues, fund-raising events, volunteer opportunities, and upcoming happenings.



facebook.com/pages/Autism-Society-Of-Maine/107781499258293



**President's Message**

Greetings to everyone! Over the next few months, as Vice President of the ASM Board, I will be assuming the responsibilities of the ASM President as Janine Collins is on leave. We will look forward to her return in May but in the meantime, the ASM staff and Board will insure all responsibilities are attended to.



For this newsletter, I wanted to introduce a coalition that I have been very involved with over the past 3 years. The Maine Parent Coalition (also known as the Maine Coalition for Housing and Quality Services) began with a group of parents of children with special needs with the focus on finding ways to improve the quality of services to this population. It was organized by Community Housing of Maine and the Center for Community Inclusion. Parents, advocates and service providers attended the first meetings in 2006 to explore efficient models of service delivery. However, housing quickly was identified as an unmet need for people with disabilities. The Coalition formulated strategies to elicit special needs housing with a secondary priority of service quality improvement. The Coalition has met monthly ever since to create a system of quality housing and person supports that is person and family centered, with choice, dignity and efficiency being at the forefront of efforts.

The Coalition includes some 4000 parents and other advocates, as well as some 14 other distinct councils and advocacy groups. The Coalition is focused on pursuing action steps for quality services and housing. It is meant to be a consortium of interested parties including those from other advocacy groups concerned with these two issues. It is inclusive, and all interested parties are invited to attend or to participate through the email list serve.

The Coalition has been involved in many advocacy and social policy efforts including:

- Creating a developmental services redesign and white paper which led to the LD 1816 Developmental Services Workgroup in 2012 charged with creating more efficient and effective service delivery;
- Information Clearinghouse---see the many helpful links on the website---includes guardianship, trust planning, Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) programs/waiting lists, agency services, informational power points;
- Information on the Support Intensity Scale (SIS)-the assessment tool for OADS Services.
- Multiple action alerts on legislation impacting quality housing and services in Maine.
- Written and verbal testimony at Legislative hearings on related policies;
- Creation of parent to parent connections through the meetings, Facebook and the Coalition website;
- Workgroup charged with the task of developing a blueprint for transition in Maine---bringing together parents, agency and departmental staff to outline our priorities and strategies;
- In depth presentations by providers in areas such as specialized housing, various models of services in community and work;

Generally, meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 12-2pm at 307 Cumberland Avenue Portland Maine. Meetings are open to the public.

There is a lot of information on the Maine Parent Coalitions' website at: [www.maineparentcoalition.org](http://www.maineparentcoalition.org) or email the facilitator, Cullen Ryan at [Cullen@chomehousing.org](mailto:Cullen@chomehousing.org). I hope this information is helpful and hope to see some of you at a meeting in the future.

Best, Laurie

Editorial Notes: Maine Autism Connections and Autism Society of Maine programs and services are made possible by donations from people like you and funding from the Maine Department of Health & Human Services. We hope you will also visit us online at <http://www.asmonline.org>, where we have a great deal of information available about autism, programs, resources, news, a calendar of events, legislation and more.

# April is Autism Awareness Month!



Autism Awareness is in the spotlight during the month of April. It is a time for families, employees and the community to participate in activities that support and educate about autism.

There is a lot that you can do to bring **Autism Awareness** to your community! You can host an event or join with others and attend an event like the **Walk for Autism**, create a bulletin board, wear an autism awareness ribbon, make a donation to ASM, join our **Facebook** group, become a member of ASM, purchase an autism awareness item in the ASM store and much more!

Teachers are also taking this opportunity to educate their students about autism and promoting understanding and inclusion for their fellow classmates. We are happy to help in any way we can, by providing autism information, books & dvd's or by offering an autism presentation.

Autism Information Specialists are trained by ASM and can give a presentation to your class about autism on all grade levels.

Autism Awareness Packets are available and can be mailed to you by ASM at no cost. Each packet will contain: Brochures, poster, flyers, and 5 multi-colored autism awareness ribbons. The contents of this packet are for posting on a bulletin board at your school, library, workplace or in your community. (Please send us a photo of your bulletin board!)

To request your Autism Awareness packet call ASM at 1-800-5200 or email: [library@asmonline.org](mailto:library@asmonline.org)

April Autism Awareness events and information will be posted on ASM's online **News** page. Please let us know if you are planning an event, and we will advertise it as well.

ASM Online News Page: <http://www.asmonline.org/news.asp?article=5318>

Here is what will be posted on ASM's online April Awareness page:

- April Awareness events and happenings in the community
- PDF's of resources that are in the April Awareness Packet
- ASM's April Autism Awareness Month Press Release
- Book titles suggested for educators, family and students of all levels about autism
- Toolkits regarding autism issues in the home, community and school
- Class activities/crafts for the classroom



*Walker Memorial Library, Westbrook*

## April is Autism Awareness Month!



### Awareness Day

April 2, 2014

The United Nations General Assembly declared April 2<sup>nd</sup> World Autism Day. It was first observed in 2007. Across the globe, autism organizations celebrate the day with fundraising, autism awareness-raising events, or showing support by wearing an autism awareness symbol such as the autism ribbon.

As part of a global initiative to help raise awareness for autism, iconic landmarks around the world will “Light It Up Blue” as part of World Autism Awareness Day.

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Autism - April 27<sup>th</sup> 2014

### 12th Annual Walk for Autism

April 27, 2014

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon: Registration

12:00 noon: Walk for Autism (Rain or shine!)

There will be Face Painting, Refreshments, Fire Trucks, Entertainment and more!

- University College of Bangor in Bangor
- University of New England in Biddeford
- Farmington Fairground in Farmington
- Presque Isle Middle School in Presque Isle

The proceeds from this event will help fund the Autism Society of Maine’s programs that support families here in Maine. Join our walk and help spread autism awareness and bring hope and support to families affected by autism.

Invite your friends and neighbors to be a part of it, too! Enlist them to join your team or make a donation in support of your participation.

For more information and to register as individual or team:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/ASMMaine/Walk-for-autism-2014/>



## Sensory Friendly Movie Event

The Lewiston / Auburn Rotary is offering a sensory friendly movie in April and May. The theater provides a special opportunity for families to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment. The auditorium will have their lights up, the sound turned down, and audience members are invited to get up and dance or walk around. This is a **free event** for all families and their children with special needs.



Date: **April 12, 2014**

Place: Flagship Cinema, Auburn

Movie: Rio 2

Time: 10:00 am

Date: **May 10, 2014**

Place: Flagship Cinema, Auburn

Movie: Will be determined

Time: 10:00 am

**Please RSVP for these events by calling the Autism Society of Maine 800-273-5200.**

## Washington DC

By Cathy Dionne

I made the trip to Washington DC to meet up with colleagues from other states for the annual Day on the Hill with the Autism Society. It was a chance for me to meet Maine's Representatives and Senators to discuss issues relating to autism. The first morning our group met at the US Capitol to have our picture taken in front of the Capitol Building and then attend a legislative workshop. There were two guest speakers who wanted us to know how important it is to talk about the three different federal bills working their way through the house.

The first bill is the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act (CARA). This bill would support increase in funding for family services at a level of funding equal to other disability conditions, while balancing the need for funding for research. It would ensure continuing coordination among federal agencies and between federal and private partner organizations and a collaborative effort with the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee to avoid duplication of federal funds.

The second bill is the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Passing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is not enough; CRPD needs to be ratified now. The Senate failed to ratify the treaty in the last Congress, and the Autism Society and its allies are standing strong for more support in 2014 to ratify the treaty. The lives of 1 billion people with disabilities across the globe are at stake.



The third bill is Keeping All Students Safe Act (KSSA). Pass legislation limiting the use of seclusion and restraints in schools and put an end to the use of unsafe and abusive methods. Support the need to ensure that school personnel have the knowledge and resources available to respond, in a positive, supportive, and safe manner when challenging behaviors do occur.

I had the opportunity to tell my story about our son Ben. It was great to share what challenges my family goes through now and what is coming in the next year for our family. Remember, Congress works for us. We can make a difference. We just have to tell our story.

## Find Us on Facebook!

The Autism Society of Maine has a wonderful Facebook Community including parents, professionals, individuals and anyone interested in autism. If you are not already a friend of our Facebook page, we welcome you to join us!

 by "liking" ASM's Facebook page you can help us spread the word to hundreds of new supporters!  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Autism-Society-Of-Maine/107781499258293>



We have a great collection of videos and will be adding more throughout the year!

<https://www.youtube.com/user/AutismSocietyofME>



Follow us on Twitter as we 'tweet' about autism!

<https://twitter.com/>



My Autism Team logo A reputable and friendly place to connect with other parents in Maine.

<http://www.myautismteam.com/>

## Sanford Elk's Club



Join the Elk's Club in Sanford on April 25th for the 3rd Annual Autism Fundraiser to support York County for Families. There will be an auction with over 75 items to choose from and door prizes with a 50/50 raffle. April daily prize calendars will be sold for \$10. Proceeds from these events will go toward the purchase of Ipad's for local families distributed by the Autism Society of Maine.

If you want to be considered to receive an iPad, please write to the Autism Society of Maine and let us know why your family should be the recipient of this wonderful device. The iPad's will be available by May 2014.

# Legislative Update

By Patrick Norton

This session of the Legislature is already nearly half over and the House and Senate are preparing to shift from a two day per week schedule to three and four days per week as the number of bills being reported out of the committees increases. Committees have until March 14th to finish work on all their bills, and the Legislature is tentatively scheduled to adjourn on April 16th. This is an ambitious schedule and things will soon begin moving even faster than in the past few weeks!

Of the approximately 425 bills under consideration this session, the Autism Society of Maine has been closely following 26 bills that deal directly or indirectly with issues important to individuals on the Autism Spectrum. The Society has been tracking the progress of those bills through the committee public hearing and work session process through our weekly "Legislative Alerts", which we hope have been useful to you. Our last alert showed that six of those 26 bills have been reported out of committee, 12 have been voted in committee but not yet reported out and eight have not yet been voted. We encourage you to refer to the most recent Legislative Alert and the associated bill tracking sheet to see the LD number, title and status of each of those bills. You should be able to find these on our website at [www.asmonline.org](http://www.asmonline.org)

Two bills of particular importance that have been voted by committee (but which are not reported out yet) are LD 1685, *An Act to Ensure that All Maine Children are Protected from Abuse*, and LD 347, *An Act to Amend Insurance Coverage for Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders*.

In LD 1685, the Health and Human Services Committee voted unanimously to change the bill from an Act that proposed to protect all children under the direct or indirect care of the either Department of Human Services or the Department of Education from neglect and abuse, to a Resolve that replaces the bill and directs the Department of Health and Human Services to convene a working group to review current laws and the scope of departmental authority, to identify gaps in the safety net to protect children and to make recommendations to



strengthen the protection of children from abuse and neglect. The amendment requires the department to submit a report on behalf of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by November 5, 2014.

In LD 347, the Insurance and Financial Services Committee amended the bill to expand health insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorders to persons 10 years of age or under. Current law requires coverage only for those 5 years of age or under. LD 347 originally proposed to expand that coverage to persons 21 years of age or under.

Neither amendment discussed above has yet been printed, and both are awaiting final fiscal review before they can be reported out. Nevertheless, given the limited time remaining for the Legislature to complete its work, we believe these bills and their associated amendments will be reported out of committee soon, and that the remaining bills being tracked by the Society will be voted within the next few weeks.

We hope you are surviving the heavy snows and cold weather this winter and that you can join us in looking forward to spring!

## Team Izzie (continued from front)

Here are just a few of the activities that the family does during Awareness Month.

February 1 – 15 Scentsy fundraiser.

March 1 – 15 Pampered Chef fundraiser.

March 22 A Benefit dinner and dance held at AMVETS in Jay, "Crush Road, The Band" will perform. There will be raffles, 50/50, live auction.

April 1 -15 Cotton Candy and Popcorn fundraiser.

April 2 Hat Day at RSU 73.

April 27 Walk for Autism with her team of 275 members.



## 2014 Family Retreat Weekend

**Save Date! ( July 18 - 20, 2014 )**

Autism Family Retreat Weekend is a weekend filled with workshops, crafts, entertainment and great food! Respite is provided for the children while parents can enjoy a variety of activities. There is a small fee for this event and an application must be filled out. Applications will be available beginning April 1st.

**Event Location:  
St. Joseph's College  
Standish, ME**

**For more information contact: 1-800-273-5200 or [info@asmonline.org](mailto:info@asmonline.org)**



## ASM SibShops

**Sibshops** are opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education. Because Sibshops are designed (primarily) for school-age children, the peer support and education are provided within a lively, recreational context that emphasizes a kids'-eye-view. At Sibshops, brother and sisters will:

- Meet other brothers & sisters of children with special needs
- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Learn about disabilities & services people with disabilities receive
- Engage in arts & crafts activities to express themselves
- Have some more fun
- Talk with others who really know what it's like to have a brother or sister with a disability

Five Autism Information Specialists from the **Autism Society of Maine** have completed the Sibshop Training and are now First Generation Facilitators. Sibshops are already up and running in Oxford county (South Paris), Penobscot county (Medway), York county (Saco), and Aroostook county (Houlton). A Sibshop in Waldo county will begin later this year.

If you have a sibling who would benefit from a Sibshop, contact the **Autism Society of Maine** at 1-800-273-5200. Applications are available at the **Autism Society of Maine** office or online at <http://www.asmonline.org/sibshops.asp>



## Autumn Ride for Autism

**Annual Autumn Ride for Autism  
September 7, 2013  
Main St., Lewiston, ME**

Kick up your kickstand and join us at the Annual Autumn Motorcycle Fundraiser hosted by the United Bikers of Oxford County and L.A. Harley of Lewiston to benefit the Autism Society of Maine.

There will be a barbecue lunch, music, t-shirts and prizes after the ride!

More information will be posted by June on the ASM website: [www.asmonline.org](http://www.asmonline.org)



# Down The Toilet

*By Deb Lipsky*

The other night as I listened to the nightly news I heard that Yahoo mail had been hacked into and that all their customers which included me needed to reset their password. Having myself been hacked into twice before I reacted very expectedly....I panicked! I had just the day before updated my PayPal bank account (with emails verifying that info) and had the finance dept. from my job send emails relating to my checking accounts. For me it was a life or death issue to protect this sensitive information from hackers. Despite the fact that I was in the midst of battling a terrible cold complete with additional "lower digestive issues" I grabbed my laptop and ran into the bathroom because it is the warmest room (I had the chills) in the house and I could sit on the floor and set my laptop on the wooden chest by the pedestal sink. Being autistic brings the need for back up plans (no pun intended) so I felt it was a good idea to be near the toilet "just in case".

A stressed out autistic person is never a pretty sight and I was becoming a train wreck. At 52 I need reading glasses but I flatly refuse to get expensive prescription glasses because I either tend to forget where I put them or I usually end up sitting or stepping on them anyway. The autistic common sense solution to that dilemma is to buy 19 pair of reading glasses at the dollar store. I have them in every room, many draws, and in all my coat pockets and vehicles. I snagged the glasses off the kitchen stove and sat down on the floor in the bathroom thinking it shouldn't take more than 15 minutes to reset passwords. It didn't even take 15 seconds before things went "down the toilet" (an ominous sign). While attempting to change passwords I got locked out of my own account.

Not remembering the answers to my "secret questions" I bolted out of the bathroom and into the library room where I keep my laptop case which has a written notebook log of all my passwords and secret question answers. Rummaging through the case I found the notebook next to a "spare" pair of reading glasses. I put the glasses on to find the page with the correct answers and jogged back to the bathroom with the notebook in hand to finish my business (not THAT kind of business). Oddly I was having a difficult time reading my own handwriting. There was this strange bold black line right across the notebook. The words didn't look right either. Whatever this was it was also affecting my computer screen as it too had the same bold black line just the like notebook across the entire screen.

OMG!!!...my first frazzled thoughts were that the hackers infected my computer and things were worse than I thought. I began to tear up in frustration. Needing to wipe the tears from my eyes I raised my hand to remove my reading glasses. That is when I discovered the mysterious origin of the bold black line. I had in my harried state put on the reading glasses I found in the laptop case over the reading glasses I was already wearing! The bold black line in my line of vision was not the result of some villainous hacker virus but merely just part of the eye glass frame of the ill fitting second pair.

There was no time to laugh at my "senior moment" as I was battling this life or death situation. My secret question answers were being rejected and my patience and tolerance were nonexistent. With each "incorrect answer.... please try again" response, the stream of obscenities that flowed like a burst dam from my mouth would of made me a lead contender for a gold medal at the Olympics if the Olympics considered swearing while under duress a sport. Trying to calm myself down I decided to switch gears away from Yahoo and reset my PayPal password. Unfortunately my anxiety only mounted as PayPal said it would send a reset email to my Yahoo account (the very email account I was locked out of) and then locked me out of their account too!!

It was the speed of light problem solving ability of mine which led me to access my Yahoo account via my Smartphone before it also got locked out. I was able to receive the PayPal email but had to go to another PayPal page via the smart phone. The print was soooo tiny that my normal reading glasses weren't strong enough for me to see anything but fuzz. Luckily I have a pair of much stronger reading glasses which I use as a makeshift magnifying glass when I do detailed craft work. Before I continue on with this story you must understand that I was already exhausted from being ill, so after 2 hours of getting nowhere my energy level was nonexistent and I was completely pooped out (not physically...well physically but not digestively). I hastily retrieved the stronger eye glasses from the desk draw and put them on so as to clearly see the tinee tiny little print on the phone screen.

Immediately I had this sinking feeling in my stomach. While the vision was completely clear in my left eye, everything was extremely blurry in my right eye. My lightening speed problem solving capabilities surmised that I was having a stroke. It only made logical sense seeing as I have a strong family history of strokes, I was under severe stress, and I was experiencing a headache at that moment. It was all making sense.....my untimely, unforeseen death would be the result of poor family genetics and my inability to reset passwords. The only honorable thing left to do now while I was still breathing was to calmly inform my husband that he would be a widower before the night was over. This night couldn't get any worse!

I called out for my husband but he didn't hear me so I decided I better run to him while I was still conscious. I forgot to take off the strong reading glasses as I bolted up and out of the bathroom. I stumbled and bumped into the door jamb mainly because the glasses were too strong and at anything but a close-up everything else was completely blurry. As I went to take them off while scurrying in a frenzy to find my husband, I had a stroke.....not of the brain, but a stroke of genius. The reason for my blurry vision was the result of a missing lens on the right side of the reading glasses. I figured this out only after poking my finger through the right side of the glasses by accident. Phew.....my husband still hadn't heard me so I just spared him a little grief. I quietly and quickly returned to the bathroom to finish this nightmarish hell I found myself in.

Finally after 3 hours of brutal anxiety, frustration, and repeated vows to turn my laptop into a boat anchor, I managed to reset everything. By now my legs were cramped up from sitting so long on the floor and my brain was on auto-pilot. I knew I needed to lean on the claw foot tub to get up. Breathing a sigh of relief that I had managed my way out of cyber hell, without thinking I picked up my Smartphone lying by my side and placed it on top of the toilet seat so as not to step on it while getting up. I realized I left the lid up only when immediately I heard this loud "plop" sound followed by a splash of water landing on my face. My Smartphone just did a swan dive into the toilet bowl. Like a sunken torpedoed battleship, my Samsung Galaxy 4 rested peacefully at the bottom of the bowl, oblivious to frantic state of mind it invoked within me. After an appropriate blood curdling scream, it took less than .003 seconds for me to plunge my hand into the bowl and retrieve my water logged now "dumb" (it lost all functioning capabilities) phone. And with this, my whole night just went down the toilet!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Softball Tournament

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Softball Tournament for Autism

June 28, 2014

Union Street Athletic Complex, Bangor, ME

Entry Fee is \$250

This is a Co-Ed Softball Tournament. Each team needs a minimum of 10 players with a maximum of 13 players. Teams need to have a captain with contact information for the captain and each member.

If you think you're interested in participating/volunteering in this tournament, please contact Cathy at ASM. See contact information below.

Applications are available upon request.

For more information please contact: [asm@asmonline.org](mailto:asm@asmonline.org) or [softballforautism@gmail.com](mailto:softballforautism@gmail.com)

ASM: 1-800-273-5200



## Annual Gagne Ride for Autism



Save the Date!

The next Annual Gagne Ride for Autism will be held on  
July 13, 2014

An 82 mile ride with food and entertainment at the end!

Hosted by Bill & Bonnie Gagne

More information TBA

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Car Show for Autism

Save the Date!

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Car Show for Autism on  
Sunday, September 7, 2014.

Hosted by Wendy and Richard Humphrey

Prizes, food and entertainment!  
More information to be announced.

Event Location: Parsonfield, ME



## Camp Summit 2014

The Autism Society of Maine holds a summer camp program for children ages 5-15 with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The purpose of this program is to develop effective communication skills and peer relationships in a social group setting. This summer program will consist of structured activities supervised by two professionals, and 12-16 college students or paraprofessionals participating in a field experience and earning credits towards their degrees and/or professions.

This summer camp program takes place in Farmington during the month of August. This is a two week day program that runs Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There are two separate camp sessions.

An informational brochure and application will be  
available April 1st, 2014

Call us at 1-800-273-5200 for more information.



# Welcome to the Autism Society of Maine Library!

**A**SM Lending Library is a valuable resource for parents, caregivers, educators, children and professionals working with children and adults on the autism spectrum. The Lending Library is a free resource for Maine residents. The collection can be viewed on the ASM website, or we can mail a printed list to you. To receive library items, stop by the office or have material sent to you. (We include return postage.)



Call: 1-800-273-5200 or email: [library@asmonline.org](mailto:library@asmonline.org)

ASM Online Library Page: [www.asmonline.org/library.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/library.asp)

The library has its own room with a TV to watch DVD's. Children are always welcome to play with toys or read.

Subjects you will find in the library:

- Parent/caregiver and teacher guides
- Understanding autism: its characteristics and treatments
- Books by and about persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Social skills, communication, friendships
- Behavior, education and specific interventions
- Books by and about siblings
- Biomedical issues and dietary issues
- Sensory issues and toilet training

Over the years technology has changed the formats of how we read and listen to audio books as well as view movies and videos.

Here at the ASM Lending Library, we are adapting to these changes as much as our budget allows. While confident that e-books will be added to our collection in the future, we have determined that this format is out of our reach financially at this time.

Audio cassettes have been replaced by CD's, and VHS's replaced with DVD's. A good home was found for the audio cassettes with the New England University, Autism Course where they will be utilized by staff and students. VHS's are still available although eventually these will be removed from the library as well.

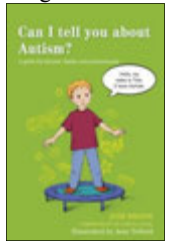
ASM receives donations of autism related material from members which sometimes results in multiple copies for us; these additional copies are in turn donated to schools or libraries. If you have items you would like to donate or have need of, please call ASM.

Books were donated from the ASM library to the Princeton Library to make autism resources available to their patrons.

Susan J. Vincent, Librarian

## Can I tell you about Autism? by Jude Welton

Tom is a young boy with autism who invites readers to learn about autism from his perspective. He explains what autism is and the challenges he faces with issues such as social communication, sensory overload and changes in his routine. Tom tells readers about all the ways he can be helped and supported by those around him. This book includes illustrations and ideally suited for readers aged 7 and up and will be an excellent way to increase understanding about autism, in the classroom or at home. It also includes clear, useful information for parents and professionals. 64pgs.



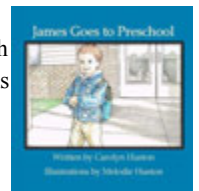
## It's Raining Cats and Dogs by Michael Barton

The English language can be extremely confusing and illogical, especially for people with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) who interpret meaning in a very literal way. Why should an announcement that cats and dogs are falling from the sky indicate heavy rain? And what have chickens got to do with being a coward? Book illustrates why people with ASDs have problems understanding common phrases and idioms that others accept unquestioningly as part of everyday speech. 96pgs.



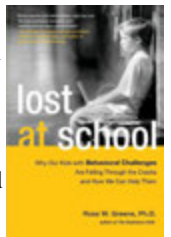
## James Goes to Preschool by Carolyn Huston

This story follows a child with autism through a day at preschool. In addition to looking at help received in speech therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy it looks at skills almost every preschool age child is working on such as zipping up coats and identifying the weather. The book contains questions throughout that can encourage communication between the reader and listeners. 34pgs.



## Lost at School: Why Our Kids with Behavioral Challenges are Falling Through the Cracks and How We Can Help Them by Ross W. Greene

Frequent visits to the principal's office. Detentions. Suspensions. Expulsions. These are the established tools of school discipline for kids who don't abide by school rules, have a hard time getting along with other kids, don't seem to respect authority, don't seem interested in learning, and are disrupting the learning of their classmates. Dr. Ross W. Greene, Author of book *The Explosive Child* (available in ASM library) presents an enlightened, clear-cut, and practical alternative with evidence-based approach called Collaborative Problem Solving to help challenging kids at school. 320pgs.



# Annual Ride for Autism



## 8th Annual Ride for Autism

September 27, 2014  
Conservation Trust  
Kennebunkport, ME

Show your Support and "Ride for Autism!"

This ride is open to all levels of cyclists. Participants choose from three routes ranging in length from 10, 25, and 50 miles that wind through beautiful Kennebunkport with ocean views. Each ride is clearly marked and accompanied by a committee member for any help that may be needed.

Online registration will be open on June 1, 2014.

# ASM Store

You may purchase these and more items on the ASM website at: <https://www.asmonline.org:4441/productcart/pc/home.asp>  
or call 1-800-273-5200.



**NEW!**

**Black/Red Wave Cap with red font** (shown)

Black/Yellow Wave Cap with yellow font (not shown)

100% brushed cotton twill cap with adjustable strap/Velcro closure.

\$15.00



**NEW! Autism Awareness Mug**

with butterfly design and awareness ribbon

12 oz. ceramic coffee mug is dishwasher safe and comes in a

decorated gift box.

\$10.00



Autism Fabric Cuff  
\$3.00



Autism Stretch Bracelet  
\$4.00  
*Sterling Silver Plated*



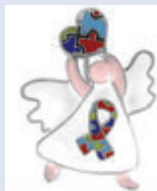
Gel Autism Awareness  
Bracelet  
\$3.00



Autism Ribbon Earrings  
\$8.00  
*Sterling Silver Plated  
Includes Embossed Gift Box*



Autism Ribbon Keychain  
Price \$5.00



Guardian Angel Pin  
\$8.00



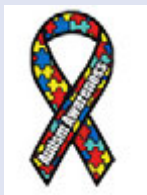
Autism Awareness  
Lanyard \$6.00



Autism Awareness  
Lapel Pin  
\$5.00



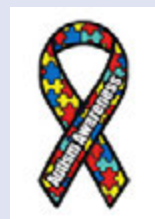
"Safe and Sound" decal  
for your window \$3.00



Autism Awareness  
Window Cling  
8" x 3 7/8" \$3.00



Mini Magnet  
2" x 4"  
\$3.00



Autism Awareness  
Magnet  
8" x 3.5" \$5.00

## Thank you for your generosity!

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## Support our Services: Give to the Autism Society of Maine!

The Autism Society of Maine is a statewide nonprofit organization that for over 36 years has served Maine individuals with autism and their families, professionals, and communities by providing education, advocacy, referrals, and resource development. We rely on donations and fund-raisers to help cover the cost of our programs and activities that bring awareness and community to individuals and families affected by ASD. Here's how you can help:

- General donations may also be made anytime of the year online using our secure donation forms (or you can download and print our PDF forms) at: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp)
- Memorial donations to the Society in memory of a friend or loved-one may also be made at: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp)
- Donations through Network For Good may be made at: <https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/ExpressDonation.aspx?ORGID2=010407346>
- Donations through United Way can be directed to the Autism Society of Maine. For more information, visit: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations\\_united\\_way.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations_united_way.asp)
- Host a fund-raiser with proceeds going to ASM. Some of the past and current fund-raisers have included: Avon, Pampered Chef parties, Mary Kay parties, bake sales at events, selling autism awareness items at conferences or craft events, selling holiday wreaths, selling T-shirts. If any of these fund-raisers interest you, please call us for more information.

For other ways to contribute, contact us at [asm@asmoline.org](mailto:asm@asmoline.org). Thank you for supporting our mission!

### Become a Member!

The Autism Society of Maine invites you to join families and professionals in the pursuit of knowledge about autism spectrum disorders, treatments and support for Maine children and adults with autism.

You may register online at:

[www.asmonline.org/involved\\_joinasm.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_joinasm.asp)

or call ASM at 1-800-273-5200

**Call us at: 1-800-273-5200 or visit us online at [www.asmonline.org](http://www.asmonline.org)**