Dr. Jed Baker to Present on Managing Meltdowns & Teaching Social Skills

On Friday, June 11, Dr. Jed Baker will present “No More Meltdowns: Handling Challenging Behaviors and Teaching Social Skills.” The workshop addresses issues related to Aspergers, autism, NLD, ADHD, bipolar disorder, and multiple learning disabilities.

Students on the autism spectrum often present with difficulty regulating their feelings and interacting socially. This workshop describes how to handle meltdowns and design effective behavior plans to prevent these moments and reduce frustration and anxiety.

This workshop will help parents and educators:

- understand the reasons for social skill deficits and disruptive behaviors;
- learn strategies to deal effectively with meltdowns and prevent frustrations;
- understand how to design a social skills training program in schools or at home;
- learn ways to motivate verbal and non-verbal students to want to socialize;
- learn several strategies for teaching and generalizing skills; and
- learn how to create programs for typical peers to accept students with disabilities and to model positive behaviors.

When: Friday, June 11, 2010
Registration: 8:00am
Workshop: 8:30am—2:30pm
Where: Faulkner Ridge Center
10598 Marble Faun Court, Columbia, MD 21044
Fee: $40

Coffee and light refreshments provided at registration. Lunch will be available for advance purchase.

Register: www.howard-autism.org or 410-290-3466

REGISTER NOW! Only 200 seats available.

An informative workshop for parents, educators, therapists, behavior specialists, job coaches, and others.

Jed Baker, Ph.D., is the director of the Social Skills Training Project, a private organization serving individuals with autism and social communication problems. He also directs social skills training for Millburn Public Schools in New Jersey. He is on the professional advisory board of Autism Today, ASPEN, ANSWER, YAI, the Kelberman Center and several other autism organizations. In addition, he writes, lectures, and provides workshops internationally on the topic of social skills training and managing challenging behaviors. He is an award winning author of five books, including Social Skills Training for Children and Adolescents with Aspergers Syndrome and Social Communication Problems; Preparing for Life: The Complete Handbook for the Transition to Adulthood for Those with Autism and Aspergers Syndrome; The Social Skills Picture Book; and No More Meltdowns: Positive Strategies for Managing and Preventing Out-of-Control Behavior. His work has also been featured on ABC World News, Nightline, the CBS Early Show, and the Discovery Health Channel.
John Hussman Welcomes Guests to the Pieces of the Puzzle Gala

The fifth annual Pieces of the Puzzle Gala took place on Saturday, April 24, at which John Hussman greeted guests with a poignant speech about the importance of presuming competence. The Hussman Foundation generously sponsored the gala for the fifth straight year with a $15,000 donation. Dr. Hussman’s welcoming remarks follow.

A scientist once wrote, “The harder you fight to hold onto assumptions, the more likely there’s gold in letting them go.” Assumptions are a kind of shorthand, keeping us from having to learn everything from scratch every time we encounter something or someone new. The problem is that those assumptions may not be true at all. That’s particularly the case when it comes to autism.

Too often, people assume that if someone is unable to speak, they must have nothing to say; that if someone struggles to pronounce simple words, they must only be capable of simple thoughts; that if someone is overwhelmed by social interaction, they must not be interested or capable of friendship or empathy; that if we can’t get someone to operate on our terms, they must be abnormal.

Those assumptions can keep us from seeing people as they truly are. It happens particularly with people who have sensory problems, or difficulty initiating—turning intent into accurate movement. The most anyone thought Helen Keller might be capable of was holding a spoon correctly at the dinner table, until someone assumed that there was more inside of her. Think about Stephen Hawking, the physicist—if we didn’t already know he was intelligent before he was affected by ALS, how many of us would be able to look beyond his weakened, speechless exterior, and presume his intelligence? When someone has a stroke, we’re willing to look past the surface, but often only because we knew the person was intelligent beforehand.

One of the best things we can do for people with autism is to give them that same grace. Science hasn’t yet found a way to read people’s minds, or judge the quality of their thoughts, so it helps to remember that concepts like “mental retardation” are built on assumption and interpretation, not fact. It helps to remember that people with autism often have difficulty translating intent into action. Tracy Thresher, a friend of ours with autism who began to speak in his 30s, said this: “I was trapped in a body that didn’t work right, and I was not able to let people know.”

In the end, the least dangerous assumption we can make is to presume competence, and to remember that people who can’t speak still long to communicate and be understood. Thich Nhat Hanh, a Buddhist monk, puts it simply—“Love is made of understanding.” For people with autism, understanding means: accommodating, rather than excluding them for their differences; holding up our end of the conversation even if they can’t hold up theirs; replacing the frustration and intolerance of a question like “Why is he DOING that?” with the empathy and understanding of a question like “WHY is he doing that?”

Of course people with autism have differences, but as another friend with autism, Larry Bissonnette, recently said, “We are more like you than not.”

gala coverage continues on page 4
Spring Greetings!

Hopefully by now the record-breaking snowfall is a distant memory! We can learn some valuable lessons from nature. There are definitely seasons of ‘record breaking’ challenges. We certainly have weathered one as a nation with respect to the economy. Some of you who have been part of the world of autism for many years can still remember that ‘season’ of first getting the diagnosis, and feeling overwhelmed and unsure of how to proceed. Some of you reading this may be right in the middle of that very season. Life is just full of ‘wintry’ seasons and no one escapes. But all you have to do is look at the colors of spring all around us to know that this is a time of hope and renewal. It is a time to regroup and realize that “tough times do not last forever, but tough people do!”

It is with that spirit of hope and optimism that we are looking to the future at the Howard County Autism Society. Admittedly, this has been a very challenging eighteen months but in spite of that we have continued to advocate, educate, and offer support to the community of Howard County. And, now we are ready to step up our game in to some new and exciting areas.

As I reported in the last newsletter we have completed the autism awareness training for all of the police officers in the county. An additional opportunity to present to all new police recruits has been offered to us. I trust you agree this is an important step forward! All new police officers hired in the county will have face to face training on autism and the opportunity to ask questions and talk through different scenarios.

Another new area we are addressing is faith communities. We will host a “Faith Based Autism Summit” on June 1, to which more than 100 church leaders from all different faith backgrounds have been invited. We are committed to providing the training and support necessary to make sure that churches, synagogues, and temples throughout are community are welcoming and inclusive to all.

As well, we are looking forward to co-hosting a series of workshops on adult and transition issues with our friends at Pathfinders for Autism. Employment, housing, financial, and relationship issues are challenging areas to families and individuals on the spectrum and it will take us coming together as a community to find some creative and workable solutions. Please watch for further announcements on the workshops.

I thank you for your continued support and investment in the Howard County Autism Society. Because of your generosity we are able to reach towards lofty goals on behalf of your family. Our goal is to make Howard County the best place to live in America, especially for some on the autism spectrum – together we are reaching that goal and making a difference!

~Kim Manning
On Saturday, April 24, the Howard County Autism Society together with the Hussman Foundation hosted the fifth annual *Pieces of the Puzzle Gala* at the “Hotel(2)Turf Valley” in Ellicott City. Always a spectacular evening, this year’s event was perhaps most memorable for its unique theme of “Celebrating the Arts.”

The gala provides HCAS a special opportunity to celebrate the achievements of its community and to thank many of its loyal supporters. The “Community Partner of the Year” award was given to Susan Potts, director of therapeutic and integration services at the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, for her dedication to including individuals with autism and special needs in all program offerings. Deborah Clutts, Ruth Huffman, Elaine McAuliffe, and Louann Spring were also recognized for their many years of service to the organization as past members of the board of directors.

The highlight of the evening was a speech by Jamie Burke. Burke, currently a Syracuse University student, was diagnosed with severe autism when he was 3 and learned to speak many years later using a technique called facilitated communication. Burke spoke to the audience about a sense of belonging that all individuals desire, and the importance of creating learning environments that are sensory-friendly to students with autism.

Among the arts performances at the gala, a piano solo by local artist Brandon Beck—a young man on the autism spectrum—and a ballet performance by Giuliana Watson of the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Beck’s classical piano performance at the gala drew on his training as a student at the Peabody Preparatory, while he was encouraged as a musician to aspire to his highest potential. This is in keeping with the love and support that Beck has received from his parents, Pamela and Steve, who have always encouraged their son in his development of all of his talents and interests.

Says Pam Beck, “When Brandon performs on the piano, it really transforms him. Normally a bit on the quiet side, when he plays piano in front of an audience, he becomes a ham. We can all tell he really enjoys every minute of it!” More on Beck is available in the local artist feature of the Winter 2010 issue of Perspectives.

The ballet danced by Watson was created by Ballet Royale founder and nationally recognized choreographer, Donna Pidel. Pidel’s work draws on her energy and understanding of parenting a child on the autism spectrum. When asked to choreograph the short dance piece for the gala, Pidel was inspired to create a work that would celebrate the creativity and beauty of each individual on the autism spectrum. She chose to choreograph the dance to a popular music piece called “Bring Me to Life” sung by Welsh singer, Catherine Jenkins.

Says Pidel, “Sometimes it seems as if individuals on the autism spectrum are invisible in our society because of the way they present themselves to those who do not know them well. But this is just a façade. If we can get beyond that façade, we see that there is a radiant, unique person inside.”

Decorating the ballroom was a multitude of artwork showcasing the talent of the students and friends of the Howard County Autism Society.

“Artistic expression arises naturally in our development and is a particularly important mode of thought and communication,” says Cedar Lane Art Program teacher, Gena Luoma. Commenting on the significance of the diverse works on display at the gala, Luoma also noted, “Each piece is a statement from the artist that demonstrates his or her uniqueness in a way that perhaps could not be communicated verbally.”

HCAS truly thanks the following programs and their students for allowing the display of their art pieces: the Cedar Lane Elementary School Art Program, the Linwood Center, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, and Towson University’s Center for Adults with Autism.

The success of the gala would not have been possible without the help of many HCAS members and friends. Among the community leaders lending their support were many of Howard County’s public officials, including Executive Ken Ulman, Maryland State Delegate Guy Guzzone, and Howard County Councilman Greg Fox.

There was a record number of items donated to the live and silent auction, all made possible through the hard work and dedication of the auction committee. Special thanks goes to Auction Committee Co-Chairs, Lori Krausz and Madhu Thibadeau, as well as their committee of enthusiastic volunteers: Debbie Clutts, Hope Couser, Karen Neal, Bridget Pettebone, Beth Rupeiks, Erin Welch and the entire HCAS board of directors.

The audio visual and D.J. services were arranged by HCAS members Reed and Kellie Racette and contributed by HCAS supporter, Lyle Spain.

HCAS extends its appreciation to the many businesses and individuals who provided sponsorships and donations to the event. Monies raised directly fund the daily operation of the Howard County Autism Resource Center—the only county-based autism resource center in the greater Washington/Baltimore metropolitan area.

Funds also are raised for autism training for hospital employees, police, first responders, library personnel, camp companions, teachers and many others; free social opportunities for individuals and families with autism; and numerous workshops presented by nationally recognized experts.

Thanks to all who attended, volunteered, and contributed resources to make the gala a wonderful evening!
Good evening, everyone. I am happy to be here and to tell you, I am here because of the great experiences of living in these places of potential truths that have happened in my very interesting life. So many people have supported me in this journey.

I know John Hussman as a friend, and also as the formulation of the realization, that when a man meets the demonstration of his beliefs, he takes the movement forward to understand that we all belong in a place that feels beautiful and right. He asked me to talk about a question that a teacher, Julia DeMino, had asked.

“What can teachers do to make a student feel comfortable, to learn, and to help in making friends.”

In thinking back to my tender years, I believe that my sensory issues were overwhelming. Perhaps now we understand more in how to make the places more comfortable for students in the visual and auditory connections of the classroom.

Rooms that held too many colors and too many visual distractions were certainly hard, and sometimes the voices that teachers utilize, are too strongly interpreted, perhaps believing that we are not listening. Of course we are intelligently hearing, but must develop ways that tune out the loud strength and delivery of that voice. Many ears are like mine, extremely sensitive, and the body utilizes the protection of acting tuned out.

This might be old news, but this truth is revealing in its picture of the direct conflict, for while our brains are intelligent in many vast ways, our sensory systems are as wires tangled and twisted in the clues to the freedom to express that knowledge. Good teachers try to understand this, and become as a conductor and guide us through the maze. Please understand conductor, and not director.

In friendships, it is important to be as a tiger, camouflaged in the background. For I do need the support, but I do not want to have that in full view. It is a dance of steps that takes much rehearsing to accomplish the success, but it is vital.

I want you to know that because of the sensory issues, there may be days when all may be lost, but for students who have no voice, my teachers in my tender years, gave me the freedom to create my own interpretation, to powerfully feel that one year in my life, I would be able to have speech and to attend Syracuse University. It is this belief in the power of the possibilities that can free a voice through the beauty of typed language. Those are the teachers who hold my dreams.

These possibilities may be gained slower than my brothers, but they allow new patterns in the brain to be created. Allowing the student to do some sensory therapies in the day is critical to integrate the body. Teachers hold open the gates to hell or to the heavens. They are of paramount importance.

When there is a day of disappointment and upset, the best ones know that the human heart can seek out the hardest points of every day, and still arrive at a place where interpreting the value of each soul and it’s difference, is simply part of the everyday job. I thank you for listening to my thoughts tonight and to the power of holding to all the possibilities of life.
“Lose the Training Wheels” Bike Camp

June 28-July 2

The Howard County Autism Society and the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks will proudly sponsor a bike camp to teach children with disabilities how to ride a bike without training wheels. The program is run by Lose The Training Wheels™ and will be held June 28 through July 2 at the Glenwood Community Center. Riders will be assigned to a 75-minute session, each of the five days.

The one-week program will accommodate 40 children. Participants must have a disability and be at least 8 years of age.

Registration is almost full. The registration application may be downloaded in PDF format from www.howard-autism.org. Applications will be time-stamped upon receipt. The cost per rider is $150.

For more information on Lose the Training Wheels, the program and organization, visit www.losethetrainingwheels.org. For more information on the HCAS sponsored Lose the Training Wheels bike camp, email info@howard-autism.org.

Dine Out with Family & Friends & Support HCAS

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Kelsey’s Bar & Grill
8480 Baltimore National Pike
Ellicott City

A portion of every meal served during lunch, happy hour, and dinner will benefit HCAS.

Stephanie Maric, J.D.
301-379-9493

Visit my website at: www.stephaniemaric.lnf.com

Long & Foster – Columbia
Direct: 301-379-9493
Office: 410-715-2721
email: stephanie.maric@longandfoster.com

DONATION COMMITMENT:

I will donate $250 to the Howard County Autism Society for every member referral that results in a sale ($500 if I sell your home and help you buy a new home)

Proud Parent and HCAS Board Member
HCAS Reaches Out to the Faith Based Community

Inclusive Opportunities for Individuals with Special Needs in the Faith Based Community

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

June 1, 2010, at 10:00 am
Ellicott City Assembly of God Church

As we have listened to the needs of our membership we are consistently made aware of the desire that families have to attend a place of worship where their children with special needs are accepted and welcomed. There often is a lack of training and accommodations that allow children with autism or other special needs to be included in activities in a meaningful way.

To address this concern, HCAS is hosting an informational meeting on June 1 to find out what the training and support needs are in the faith based community to allow greater accessibility to families with special needs. HCAS is committed to supporting staff members and workers within the faith based community through training opportunities. Through the information gleaned at this initial meeting we will be developing a variety of training modules that can be applied to different settings and worship styles.

Please pass this invitation along to any church, synagogue, mosque, or other house of worship that you are affiliated with – any staff member or lay worker is welcome to attend this very important meeting.

SUMMER POOL PARTY
July 25, 2010
6:00—9:00 p.m.
Lifetime Fitness, Columbia

HCAS will host its annual free summer pool party at Lifetime Fitness on Sunday, July 25th. The outdoor pool and waterslides will be reserved just for HCAS families. Lifeguards will be present.

Pizza will be served.

HCAS membership required.
Advance registration not necessary.
My Son’s Gone GFCF
By Maryanne DellaRocco

Maryanne DellaRocco is a Howard County resident. She shares her story and her son Matthew’s story on her blog: matthewspuzzle.blogspot.com/.

At two and a half years of age, my son was diagnosed with PDD-NOS. We were heartbroken, but not defeated. I became a bit obsessed, I looked on every website, I read every book and we looked to each successive doctor for an answer. The same answer always came, give him therapy and love him. I wasn’t satisfied with the outlook and I knew there had to be more. One day I found that glimmer of hope. I found parents talking about the gluten free/casein free diet.

Matthew was always very verbal and had a wonderful ability to label things. He would repeat a phrase such as “The light is on. The light is on. The light is on.” There was no real communication. Matthew’s hypotonia made him incapable of climbing on furniture, stairs, etc. But within three days of being on the diet we had our first miracle. Matthew was in our family room while I was making dinner. I could hear the stools being pushed and pulled on the other side of the counter. Then Matthew said, “I watch Mommy make dinner.” When I looked my son was sitting on the kitchen counter watching me make dinner. I cried. This was the beginning of our journey.

The GFCF diet requires that all gluten products and all casein products be removed from the child’s diet—no wheat, rye, barley, oats (some are now certified gluten free), spelt, milk products, or any products derived from these foods. The GFCF diet targets the effects of leaky gut. By removing gluten and casein one eliminates the effects of leaky gut and therefore removes the “autism fog.” This happened to Matthew. He focused more, began to use more complex sentences, and became more “present.” Matthew’s self-stimulatory behaviors lessened. We noticed additional benefits, such as his bowel movements became more normal. Prior to the diet he had horrible “poopies” which were mucus filled, green, and acidic. He had chronic diarrhea. We were told this was “normal” with autism and there was nothing to do about it.

Matthew is now five years old. He is GFCF and he also takes supplements and vitamins which his DAN! (Defeat Autism Now) doctor oversees. With this intervention we have gotten a son that most people would believe normally developing. No, he is not fully recovered. He still benefits from Applied Behavior Analysis, as well as occupational, physical, and speech therapy. He still goes to a special education preschool, but his future is very bright. His neurologist from Johns Hopkins told us that Matthew no longer needs to be seen at their facilities, and his ST asked us to give her an overview of the protocol because he has improved so much other parents wanted to know what we had implemented.

Please note this diet does not work for all children and it appears to have better results if started earlier in life. Some children need even more restrictive diets that can target larger problems such as yeast overgrowth, high oxalates, other food allergies, and artificial flavoring and dye sensitivities. If you would like more information go to:

www.defeatautismnow.com/
www.generationrescue.org
www.talkaboutcuringautism.org

I am not a doctor and this is purely my opinion on what has worked for my son. Please contact a DAN! doctor to implement biomedical treatments. Join the Maryland Biomedical Support Group, which hosts an online yahoo group and which meets monthly in Columbia.

Yahoo group: md_biomed
Navigating the road ahead requires the right legal team.

Estate Planning
Special Needs Trusts
Guardianships
School Advocacy

We help you find your way.

For more information, please contact Steven J. Lewicky
410-995-5800 • slewicky@darslaw.com
Upcoming Events

May 17, 2010 ~
**Education & Inclusion Expert**
**PAULA KLUTH Presents to Howard County Autism Society**
7:00-9:00 p.m. Paula Kluth, Ph.D., will present “Just Give Him the Whale.”

May 18, 2010 ~
**Kelsey’s Bar & Grill Fundraiser for HCAS**
Dine out with family and friends and support HCAS! A portion of every lunch, happy hour, or dinner purchase will benefit HCAS. Kelsey’s, 8480 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City.

May 20, 2010 ~
**Howard County Autism Society Support Group Meeting**
7:00-9:00 p.m. Dawson Robertson of HCPSS will discuss the post-high school transition. Rhonda Workman of DDA will discuss the recent DDA budget cuts and implications. Howard County Autism Society Resource Center, 10280 Old Columbia Road, Suite 215, Columbia. For more information call 410-290-3466, www.howard-autism.org.

May 22, 2010 ~
**Sensory Friendly Movie**
HCAS and AMC present a sensory friendly showing of “Shrek Goes Fourth” at AMC Theatres Columbia Mall. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Movie begins at 10 a.m. with no trailers. Tickets $6 each. Contact Marianne Ross for information at rossfda@hotmail.com.

June 10, 2010 ~
**Howard County Asperger’s Support Group Meeting**
7:30-9:00 p.m. Howard County Autism Society Resource Center, 10280 Old Columbia Road, Suite 215, Columbia. Contact Elaine McAuliffe, 410-730-0068 or elainemcauliffe@yahoo.com.

June 11, 2010 ~
**SPECIAL: DR. JED BAKER presents “No More Meltdowns: Handling Challenging Behaviors and Social Skills**
8:00 a.m. registration and coffee; workshop 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Faulkner Ridge. Register online ($50) at www.howard-autism.org. For more information, call 410-290-3466.

June 17, 2010 ~
**Howard County Autism Society Support Group Meeting**
7:00-9:00 p.m. John Seaman and Linda Lombardo of Lighthouse Family Counseling Center will present on social skills training. Howard County Autism Society Resource Center, 10280 Old Columbia Road, Suite 215, Columbia. For more information call 410-290-3466, www.howard-autism.org.

June 18, 2010 ~
**HCAS Night at Airmania Funzone**
5:00-7:00 p.m. HCAS has reserved Airmania in Columbia for a special evening of fun. Reduced admission fee: $3 per child. Admission will be capped at 50 participants. Sign up early! For more information call 410-290-3466 or email info@howard-autism.org.

June 19, 2010 ~
**Fitness First**
7:00-9:00 p.m. Columbia Gym, River Hill. Pre-registration in Fitness First is required. For more information call 410-290-3466 or email info@howard-autism.org.

June 26, 2010 ~
**Sensory Friendly Movie**
HCAS and AMC present a sensory friendly showing of “Toy Story 3” at AMC Theatres Columbia Mall. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Movie begins at 10 a.m. with no trailers. Tickets $6 each. Contact Marianne for information at rossfda@hotmail.com.

July 25, 2010 ~
**HCAS SUMMER POOL PARTY**
Lifetime Fitness. 7220 Lee DeForest Dr., Columbia. 6:00—8:30 p.m. Pizza will be served. Free for HCAS members.

**SUMMER SCHEDULE:**
Please note there will be no support group meetings in July or August. Likewise, Fitness First will be cancelled in July and August. Both will resume in September on their regularly scheduled evenings.

For updated events information, visit the HCAS calendar at www.howard-autism.org/pn/calendar.html.
Volunteers Needed!

Share Your Time and Talent

Interested in volunteering at the Howard County Autism Society? We could use your help! We have many active committees that are always looking for new members.

- Advocacy: Educational Issues
- Advocacy: Legislative Issues
- Biomedical Committee
- Gala Planning Committee
- Program Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Transition & Adult Issues Committee
- Walk Planning Committee

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please email us at info@howard-autism.org (attn: committees) or call 410-290-3466.

We would like to extend our thanks to the Howard County Autism Society! Your organization's diligent work and advocacy allows the voices of those touched by autism to be heard loud and clear. We will continue to offer our support in your effort to promote autism awareness in our communities.

Law Offices of Mark B. Martin, P.A.
One N. Charles Street, Suite 1215
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(410) 779-7770
www.markmartinlaw.net
mmartin@markmartinlaw.com
HCAS provides:
- support for parents
- information and referrals
- advocacy on behalf of persons with autism/PDD and their families
- presentations by experts on autism/PDD, disability rights, etc
- monthly meetings
- social activities

**Join the Yahoo e-Group**

The HCAS e-group connects you with other parents online where you can post questions or share information about doctors, dentists, schools, family support services, etc.

To join:
1. go to Yahoo Groups
2. search for AutismSocietyHoCo
3. subscribe

Or email:
AutismSocietyHoCosubscribe@yahoogroups.com

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About the Howard County Autism Society (HCAS)

The Howard County Autism Society (HCAS) is a chapter of the Autism Society of America, which was founded in 1965 to help parents, family members, professionals, and caregivers learn about autism, PDD, and related disorders, and how to effectively deal with these disabilities. We are one of about 200 chapters across the country.

HCAS is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families and the professionals with whom they interact. The national society and HCAS share the common goals of providing information and education, supporting research and advocating for programs and services for people with autism spectrum disorders.

HCAS works in Howard County to advance awareness of persons with autism, PDD, and related disorders.

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**Autism Resource Center**

410-290-3466

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**Newsletter Submissions**

*Perspectives*—the newly named quarterly newsletter—welcomes articles and contributions from parents, siblings, professionals, and people with autism spectrum disorders. Submit your article, book review, meeting notice, or photo by emailing to: Beth-Benevides.Hill@howard-autism.org.

*Perspectives* is published quarterly, with Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall issues.

Advertising rates are available on the HCAS website at www.howard-autism.org. For more information on ad specifications, deadlines, and submission instructions, email info@howard-autism.org.

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Howard County Autism Society
10280 Old Columbia Road, Suite 215
Columbia, MD 21046

www.howard-autism.org

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HCAS has a new presence on the web!

Follow us on Twitter twitter.com/HCASociety

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