



# *The Parents Loving Children Through Autism Foundation*

Volume 6, Issue 11  
April 2012

The PLCTA Foundation  
1243 Wyoming Avenue  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Scranton, PA 18509  
570-341-3388

[www.plcta.org](http://www.plcta.org)

Founded May 2002

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The PLCTA Foundation is a 501c(3) tax-exempt organization.

## *A Message from the Founder and President*

Dear Families and Friends:

Autism Awareness Month is here!

PLCTA: Hoping to see all our families at this year's Annual Autism Walk on April 21st at Nay Aug Park. Our Board and Committees put so much of their time and energy into this event to make it the success it is. We start in July and finish in April...that's a lot of time and effort! If you have never been to our walk, come out and see for yourself how great it is, you can't imagine the sight of almost 2,000 people lining up at the start to walk for our children....it's breathtaking. This year we have added Pony Rides for the children along with our other activities for them. Please try to attend and see how much of our hearts go into this fundraiser for these beautiful children. For those that have never attended, make sure you stay for our post walk picnic.

Beginning this month, I will be going in the local schools to speak to the students about autism. Our theme is Dream Big. Each student that participates will receive a small dream journal and a pencil so they can remember our presentation. For anyone who would like to participate at your work place, please call 570-341-3388.

Invitations are now available for our 10 year anniversary dinner. Please consider joining us for our dinner as we recognize and appreciate individuals that have made an impact in the lives of our children and foundation.

Please join the Minooka Lion's Autism Foundation as they hold their Annual Autism Awareness Night. It is always a wonderful night. Thanks to the Lion's Club for supporting our foundation. We thank you in advance and wish you much success.

With Love,  
Your Founder and President,  
*Kathleen M. Walsh*

## Dates to Remember

April 10 – Right to Education Task Force presentation on Bullying, NEIU 19 building, Line St., Archbald, 7:00 p.m. Follow the signs to the meeting room.

April 17 - SibShops© - YMCA, Carbondale, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. RSVP required, contact Margie Cosgrove, 282-1732.

April 18 - SibShops© - YMCA, Dunmore, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. RSVP required, contact Margie Cosgrove, 282-1732.

**April 21 – 2012 Autism Walk**, Nay Aug Park, Scranton.

April 28 – Minooka Lions Annual Autism Awareness Night.

May 11 – TABS Swim-Gym-Pizza (ages 13 & up), \$10/family, RSVP to 570-267-7820.

May 11 - Lehigh University's 40th Annual Education Law Conference: The Evolution of a Revolution, <http://www.lehigh.edu/specialseminars/agenda.shtml>

**May 24 – Appreciation & Acknowledgement Dinner**, Radisson, Scranton.

## Recreation News

### NOTICE FOR ALL SOCIAL GROUPS

There are no socials in April because the walk is considered a major event for all of our children. Please come enjoy all the wonderful activities, such as Pony Rides, Moon Bounces, art and crafts, and our Meet and Greet hosted by local high school football players.

Please respect the age ranges of our social groups. We are trying to provide social opportunities for all of our children living through autism.

### YOUTH SOCIAL (12 & UNDER)

#### YOUNG TEEN SOCIAL (12-15 YEARS OLD)

This month the Youth and Young Teens will have a Trolley ride on Saturday, May 12th. Please arrive promptly at 11:45 a.m., as the trolley will leave without you. **RSVPs are required and due by April 30th** (call 341-3388 and tell us how many adults and how many children). **Sorry, we cannot grant any exceptions to the RSVP deadline.** Siblings welcome.

### TEEN TO ADULT BOWLING SOCIAL (16 & OLDER)

For children with autism who are 16 years old or older, PLCTA's Teen Social will be held at Idle Hour Bowling Lanes, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 19th and 26th and June 9th and 23rd. **Please plan to arrive by 12:45** to get your shoes and ball.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

PLCTA's Headquarters at 570-341-3388 and leave a message.



For those of you that did not send Kathleen an updated school picture please do so as soon as possible:

404 Carnation Drive  
Clarks Summit Pa  
18411

I have the same emotions imagine my duress  
When I can not share or struggle to express  
That which I see and think and feel  
Fathom what it's like to know this is real

View the world through my eyes  
Then I think that you will see  
That is comes as no surprise  
I know well who cares and who points and laughs at me

I may scream, I may rage, I may not talk  
Do I flap my hand or do I toe walk  
I may spin and spin; it may not show  
I am autistic if you care to know

So, please be kind and do not stare  
I am God's child standing there  
Try to understand as I try to cope  
Remember please, "Never Give up Hope!"

Pat Flynn

Pat is a TSS worker at Scranton Counseling. We thank all the Mental Health Professionals that work so very hard to help our children succeed. May you be blessed for your dedication.  
*Kathleen M. Walsh*



# April 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10 Right to Education Task Force meeting, NEIU 19, Archbald, 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14
15 Autism Awareness Day at the Philly Zoo (see flyer for a bus trip)	16	17 SibShops© at Dunmore YMCA, 5:00- 7:00 pm	18 SibShops© at Carbondale YMCA, 5:00- 7:00 pm	19	20	21 <b>2012 AUTISM WALK</b> , 11:00, Nay Aug Park
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Minooka Lions Annual Autism Awareness Night
29	30 RSVP DEADLINE, YOUTH & YOUNG TEEN TROLLEY TRIP	<b>PLEASE SEE NEWSLETTER OR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS</b>	<b>!! SAVE THE DATE !!</b> <b>10th Annual Appreciation &amp; Acknowledgement Dinner</b> <b>May 24</b>			

To be included in PLCTA's newsletter, please submit your events by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to your event.

Calendar items in **bold** print are PLCTA Foundation sponsored events. The PLCTA Foundation provides notification of third-party events in our calendar as a courtesy and assumes no responsibility for those events.

Download a color copy of this newsletter in PDF format after joining [www.plcta.org](http://www.plcta.org)!  
Need help registering? Contact Mike at [webmaster@plcta.org](mailto:webmaster@plcta.org)

# Heinz Rehab Autism Outreach Program Parents & Professionals

Parent's



Professional's

Presents Autism Awareness Day at Philadelphia Zoo Trip

Heinz Rehab Parents & Professionals invites any individual with Autism and immediate family members (Parents and Siblings) to a **FREE** bus trip to Philadelphia Zoo which includes admission tickets and bag lunches. Grandparents are welcome to take place of parents. The buses will leave Heinz Rehab WilkesBarre on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am and will depart the Zoo at 5:00 pm to return.



## 13th ANNUAL AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

### PHILADELPHIA ZOO

### Sunday, April 15, 2012

### 11:00 am-5:00 pm

*Rain or Shine in Peacock Pavilion*

Give and Take  
Jugglers

## MUSIC

Steve Pullara  
Cool Beans Band

by Michael Bonacci  
**MAGIC**

Characters

**\*\*STACEY'S FACE PAINTING\*\***

**\*\*AND MUCH MORE\*\***

Autism  
Merchandise

Music band  
"ILLUSION"

RSVP ASAP

March 26 to April 12

Dolphus Teart 823-8048 or [DTeart@verizon.net](mailto:DTeart@verizon.net)

Julie Miller 826-3911

**NOTE: Seating is limited**

All Parent's & Professional's socialization programs are sponsored by the Annual Autism Golf Classic