



Yard Sale Success Over \$3,000 Raised for Programs



Yard Sale Coordinator and Clinical Director of Speech Amy Bragg with the crew from WKIT.

Thank You Yard Sale Volunteers! Christine Probert, Melodie Stockley, Gaelen Saucier, Lorraine Richards, The clients & staff of Amicus, Melanie Israel, Jamey Harvey, Megan Burpee, Todd Miller, Doug King, John & Darnell Nadeau, Amanda Samoluk, Ron & Amy Bragg, Mary & Doug Poulin, Natalie Binette, Hillary Binette, Milt Blake, Ted & Susan Caruso, Melissa Potter, Rachel & Kermit Bailey; Chris, Elijah, Ben & Kathy DiSalvatore; MaryBeth & Graham Richards, Roger & Greta Choquet, Jim & Martha Nason, Kim Starkey, Alison & Jim Settele, Mark Nilan, Deb & Seth Pinkham, John Brasted, Jen Eastman, Cindy Henderson, Pamela Thomas, Jonathan Goldstein, Mary-Anne Saxl, the WKIT Radio Guys, and all those who donated items to the yard sale. We could not have done it without you!

Thank you to our radio sponsors and in-kind donors: Sponsors:

Merrill Bank, United Van Lines, Bangor Region Public Health and Wellness, ERA Dawson Realtors and Cyr Bus Lines. **In Kind**

Donations: United Van Lines, Maine Equipment & Party Rental, The Maine Edge, Tim Hortons, The Bangor Daily News, and Shaws.



Turn to page 3 for pictures from the yard sale



A Mom's Voice

Stories of One Mother
With Hard of Hearing Children
By Deb Pinkham

Closed captioning is a wonderful invention, but it is not foolproof in helping children understand who is talking and what is happening on television or in a DVD.

Closed captioning is the written words that appear at the bottom of the television screen. You can usually access this option by pressing the menu button on the TV's remote control.

When watching a DVD, select languages on the set up menu. Some DVDs have English for the hard of hearing and deaf as an option.

It does take a bit of time to adjust to seeing the words on the screen, and our children adjusted to it quicker than we did. Our children have used closed captioning since they were in preschool. Even though they couldn't read many of the words, they got used to seeing them and began to recognize words and phrases. The closed captioning also helped their reading skills.

However, closed captioning is not foolproof. One afternoon we were watching *The Lord of the Rings* together and Seth (aged 7 at the time) asked, "Why did Frodo go to see Elvis?" This question was so unexpected and out of context that we had to stop the movie and talk about what was said. "What do you mean?" we asked. "You know," he said. "The words said Frodo went to see Elvis, E-L-V-E-S." After we stopped chuckling we explained that E-L-V-E-S spells elves, not Elvis. We also told him what a good job he did in asking about something that didn't make sense to him.

Mom's Voice continued on page 2

From the Associate Director

MaryBeth Richards



This past summer I have been working with a great bunch of teenagers!! They have been part of our Summer Social Pragmatic Groups. During the past five summers The Warren Center has organized and held Social Pragmatic Groups for middle school and high school students with Asperger's syndrome.

These groups introduce and assist students with maintaining topics, using good eye contact, and extending conversations in a non-threatening environment. Social skills are an important part of how we interact with those who we come in contact with everyday.

I have had a lot of fun with these students, but I have also had to really think and be on my toes. They are impulsive and often act or speak without thinking, and conflicts can result. It has been my role to mediate the conversation and introduce new skills/ideas for them to think about in their interactions. It is so good to hear one of our students bring up a topic or idea that had been mentioned in previous sessions.

I'd like to believe that good manners will never go out of style (or so I tell my own teenage children and my students), but I am beginning to feel like a dinosaur. It appears that social skills are not nearly as important as they used to be.

Society seems to have allowed all of us to be more lax in our language and social skills. Cell phones ring at the most inconvenient times, people are returning text messages at the dinner table, and how many swear words are needed to make a point on TV or in the movies. Customer service appears to be something that used to happen when we went shopping or called to ask a question.

Technology has given people permission not to use good social skills. Now I would be the first to admit that no one has perfect social skills, we all make mistakes when interacting with others, but have we lowered the standard too much? I am reminded of Charles Barkley, who when asked about his bad behavior in public, replied that he "never wanted to be a role model". I challenge everyone to be a role model of good social skills as they go about their day; you never know who is watching you. Please and thank you!!!!

Donate Now

You can donate online!

Our online donation form is fast, easy and secure. You can make a general donation, a tribute/memorial donation to honor someone, or a monthly gift.

Go to the The Warren Center's website at www.warrencenter.org to get started. This is an earth friendly way of donating. No paper and no stamp needed.

Old Hearing Aids



Do you know someone with a set of hearing aids in a drawer? We could use them to help a Maine resident. Send used hearing aids to the Warren Center or drop them off at: 175 Union Street, Bangor, Maine 04401.

A Mom's Voice continued

It's very important for deaf and hard of hearing children to question when words or phrases do not make sense rather than just letting the moment slip by. Comprehension is critical whether it be when reading or listening.

I encourage all of you to access the closed captioning option on your TV.



A still frame showing simulated closed captioning in the pop-on style

Congratulations to our "Art of Communication" Winners!

Congratulations to Annual Campaign donors Sonny and Joanne Miller who have won their choice of art work which is hung at the Warren Center. They were entered in the contest through their contribution to the Warren Center's Annual Campaign.

Also, congratulations go to annual donors Elna Campbell-Wade and Craig Bailey who won Warren Center thermoses.

You can be a winner too! Join the Warren Center Annual Campaign for 2009-2010. During July 2010 a name will be chosen and another piece of art work will be give away during our second "ART OF COMMUNICATION"

Thank You For Donating to the Warren Center April 2009-June 2009

Annual Fund

Cynthia & Per Lee, Ralph McDonough, Nathaniel & Virginia Putnam, Mary & Doug Poulin, Mary-Anne Saxl, Rose Carlson, Roger & Greta Choquet

ReHAB

Debbie Wheelock, Elizabeth Renaud, Marjorie Cameron, Sandra Robson, Northern Maine ENT Associates, Maine Lions Sight & Hearing, Peter Bennett, Linda Blazonis, Joyce Willette, Barbara Potter, Joan Duplessis, Connie Birkenmeier, Anne Stocking, Anonymous, Gloria Emery, Bobbi MacDonald, William Buckhart, Ina Jarvis, Ruth Brown, Town of Lamoine, Julie Cotton, Hanford Burton, Anamae Percy, Town of Hermon, Lyman Holmes, Marsha Engelhardt, Kent Hastings, Honey Cohen

Other Contributions/Grants

Bangor Savings Bank, Sam's Club #6333, Bangor Daily News Charities

Voices to Be Heard/Yard Sale

Merrill Bank, Cyr Bus Line, Bangor Region Public Health & Wellness, ERA Dawson-Bradford, The Maine Edge, The Bangor Daily News, Maine Equipment and Party Rental, Catherine Lebowitz, Rebecca Dauphinee, Wayne Bragg, Jen Soares, Danny Burke, Edith Hewes, Michelle Dunphy, Judith Collins, Rachel Hunter, Mary Arell, Robert Magnus, Miriam Dyer, Robert Decker, Laura Nickerson, Anna Royal, Frank Morgan, Geraldine Knight, Frank Ring, Bobbie Jeffery-Gant, Laura Nickerson, Karen Marsters, Steve LeBlanc, Melissa Landenheim, Gail Fenald, Brenda Savage, Helen Dudman, Tricia Denham, Margaret Speirs, Pamela Thomas, Alison Settele, Nathaniel & Virginia Putnam, Jean Mullins

More Pictures From the Annual Yard Sale Fun was had by all!



Bargains abounded at the Annual Yard sale in May.

The money raised goes to support valuable programming at the Warren Center.



The Warren Center for Communication & Learning receives a check from Bangor Savings Bank as part of Community Matters More.

Calendar of Upcoming Events—

Dirigo Pines— Thursday, October 8

Fundraising Cookout @ Penobscot Plaza— Friday, October 9—join us for lunch and help raise funds for the Warren Center.

Annual Meeting— Thursday, December 10

Cookbooks— For sale at area outlets & at the Warren Center. \$8.00 a piece. Call #941-2850 to purchase a cookbook.

Mission Statement The Warren Center for Communication & Learning provides evaluations, therapies and technologies in the areas of speech, language development and hearing to the children and adults of Eastern and Central Maine.



Ask The Audiologist



What are the different styles of hearing aids?

In-the-canal and completely-in-the-canal aids: These aids are contained in a tiny case that fits partly or completely into the ear canal. They are the smallest aids available and offer cosmetic and some listening advantages. **In-the-ear aids:** All parts of the aid are contained in a shell that fills in the bowl part of the ear. These aids are larger than canal aids, and for some people may be easier to handle than smaller aids. **Behind-the-ear aids:** All parts are contained in a small plastic case that rests behind the ear; the case is connected to an earmold by a piece of clear tubing. This style is often chosen for young children for safety and growth reasons. There are also special hearing aids built to handle very specific types of hearing losses. The majority of aids sold today are behind the ear aids as open fit as micro BTEs become more popular, for acoustic and cosmetic reasons. There are hearing aids available that can accommodate virtually any kind of hearing loss!



Written by Warren Center Audiologist Dr. Amanda Samoluk, CCC-A, Dr. Kim Starkey, CCC-A, & Alison Settele, M..S.P.A., CCC-A

Ways of Giving

With each gift of money, time, or in-kind donations our supporters are making a difference in the lives of thousands of Mainers. There are many convenient ways to lend your financial support to the Warren Center's Annual Fund. All are tax-deductible. All will support the work we do throughout the year — and for years to come.

- Donate a gift of **stock**. The Center accepts gifts of publicly traded stocks, mutual funds, and bonds.
- Enroll in your employer's **workplace giving program**. The Warren Center is a partner in the United Way of Eastern ME.
- Include the Warren Center in your estate plans.
- Give an **in-kind** gift. The Center is always in need of items for speech therapy rooms.
- If you are affiliated with a **grant making organization** consider making the Warren Center a recipient through foundation giving.
- Give a **commemorative gift** as a special and unique way to celebrate a birthday or other special occasion.

The Warren Center helping Mainers to Communicate Since 1961
