



## Voices to be Heard Yard Sale—May 30th

Find some great bargains at the Warren Center's seventh annual Voices to be Heard Yard Sale the last weekend in May.

The yard sale will be held from 8 am to 2 pm **Saturday, May 31, 2007** at the Warren Center's parking lot, 175 Union Street, Bangor.

Fundraisers such as the yard sale allow us to support our speech and hearing programming at the center. In the past, yard sale funds have been used to buy new books, a computer and a variety of learning games and educational materials for our Voices to be Heard program and early childhood intervention.

Donations for the yard sale are being accepted Monday through Friday at the Center beginning **May 5th**. We are collecting gently used household items, toys, and other resale items. No clothing please.

Yard sale sponsors include **Merrill Bank, United Van Lines, the Bangor Daily News, and Cyr Bus Lines**. We received in kind donations from **Maine Equipment & Party Rental, Tim Hortons, and Shaws**. Please let them know that you support the center too. If you would like to help sponsor this event or center



programming please contact Mary-Anne @ 941-2850.

**Yard Sale  
Saturday, May 31st  
8am—2pm**

## A Mom's Voice

**Stories of One Mother  
With Hard of Hearing Children**

By Deb Pinkham



Dad's have it rough. They are the fix-it guys. In our house Dad fixes everything from flat bike tires to overflowing toilets.

Unfortunately, Dad hasn't been able to fix our boys' hearing loss. When the boys were initially diagnosed Dad needed a bit of convincing that hearing aids were a necessity. "They can hear my voice just fine. They're ignoring you because you're with them all day."

After attending a few audiological appointments and talking with the audiologist, Dad was able to accept the need for the hearing aids. He was able to ask questions I hadn't thought of and was able to see that the people making the recommendation were professionals who had our children's best interests at heart.

I needed to take a step back and let him understand the situation for himself rather than expect him to take my word for it.

Mom's Voice continued on back page



May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. If you've been recently asking folks to repeat themselves more often, this is a great time to talk to your family physician about whether it is time for you to have your hearing tested. Each of us should have our hearing checked at fifty and periodically thereafter. Untreated hearing loss is a major cause of depression and isolation in adults as they age.

Knowing how important hearing is in order for adults to remain active in their families and communities, the Warren Center began our Regional Hearing Aid Bank (ReHAB) six years ago. Since then we have fit 140 adults with one refurbished hearing aid each thanks to the generosity of several individuals, foundations and organizations who have been thanked in previous newsletters.

Currently we have over 120 adults on our waiting list for a hearing aid. Over 60% of those waiting are over 70 years of age. They are desperate for a hearing aid in order to reconnect with their families, friends and communities and we are desperately looking for even more generous people, organizations and foundations to fund this profound need.

If you can help, please contact the Center at 941-2850. Thank you.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events—

### **May is Better Hearing and Speech Month**

May 5-30 Collecting gently used items for Annual Yard Sale

May 31 8am -2pm Yard Sale

**Lecture Series held at the Bangor Public Library—Bring your lunch& join us @ 11:45 am – 12:45 PM**

**May 7- Social Pragmatic Skills—Why they are so important?**

**May 14- Turn that Down! Hearing conservation strategies.**

**May 21-Early Language & Literacy. Learn about the connection**

**May 28-Communication Tips for Speaking with Family & Friends with Memory Disorders.**

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



### **New Staff Members**

#### **Rebecca Phillips**

Rebecca is the Warren Center's new Business Manager. She is a graduate of Husson College,

Bangor with a BS in Public Accounting and a MA in Business with a Health Care Concentration. Rebecca is married with two grown sons. She spends a lot of her free time with her grandson and traveling between Bangor and Patten.

## 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**.
- Give an **in-kind** gift.
- Give a **commemorative gift**
- Enroll in your employer's **workplace giving program**.
- **Volunteer** your time.

## **Thank You For Donating to the Warren Center January 2008-March 2008**

### **Annual Fund**

Clifton G. Eames, Joseph Sewall, Barbara Cassidy, Wilma Bradford, Nancy Wood, Roger & Greta Choquet, Alan & Betsy Glanville, Bangor Publishing Company, Berry Dunn McNeill & Parker, Ralph McDonough, Carol & Ken Hyams

### **ReHAB**

Sherry Labbe, Dolores Foster, Betty Hammond, Norman Paterson, Darrell Townsend, Herman Hahn, Bangor Lions Club, Michelle Pelletier, Jane Piece, Deena Weinstein, Cecile Buckland, Helen Parkhurst, Richard Dalphin, Psyche Briggs, Robert Russell, Muriel Parker, Mary Grimmell, Robert Stairs, Jerry Jordan Opticians, Armand Gravel, Sharon Jackson, Loretta Libbey, Archie L'Heureux, Kenneth Irish

### **Wish Mittens**

Sarah Alexander, Julie Doughty, Heather Ridley, Anonymous, Marilyn Doble-Miles, Dawn Corbett Hughes

### **In Kind Donations**

Alexis Dunham, Anonymous

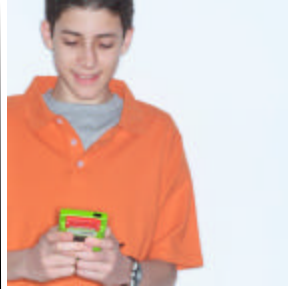
### **Voices to Be Heard**

Bangor Publishing Company, Cyr Bus Line, Merrill Bank, Nathaniel & Virginia Putnam, United Van Lines

### **WISH LIST**



Games: Mr. Bucket, Lucky Duck, Drop and Roar Dinosaur, Simple Puzzles, Don't Break the Ice, Puzzles for 5 to 8 year olds. Office Supplies: index cards, file labels, file folders, white board markers, rubber cement. Other items: diapers, diaper wipes, hand sanitizer, monetary donations for the ReHAB program to repair donated hearing aids for those in need.



## **Pragmatic Skills Summer Program**

The Warren Center holds groups for teens (11-16 year's of age) through the summer focusing on social pragmatic skills that support social success. We believe that the skills for social communication can be most effectively taught and learned in small-group, structured, and supportive environments; then the skills can be generalized to other settings.

At each session, skills are presented through explicit instruction, breaking down potentially complex and confusing tasks into more concrete steps. Teens have a chance to practice skills through carefully designed activities, such as hands-on projects and role playing. Additionally, our groups may provide some less structured activities or may provide time for less structured interaction where developing friendships can be nurtured through positive reinforcement and social coaching.

To have a teen participate in the summer program call the Center. Limited Space Available.

### **What Talent!**

Staff Members of the Warren Center, volunteer "blanketeers", created these quilts for Project Linus, whose mission is to provide comfort to children through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans.



**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



I heard a rumor that your ears keep growing over time is this true? How will this affect my hearing aids?

It is true, your ears continue to grow and change shape overtime. If you wear in-the-ear hearing aids you may need to periodically have them remolded. This is something that is free during the warranty period. If you wear behind-the-ear hearing aids you may need new ear mold every year or so. Ear molds are typically \$75.00 or less per ear. Signs that your hearing aids are not fitting correctly include rubbing, loose fit and feedback. Have your audiologist check for fit at your annual hearing evaluation.

*Written by Warren Center Audiologist Dr. Amanda Samoluk, CCC-A & Dr. Kim Starkey, CCC-A*



Behind the ear hearing aids will need to have new ear molds every year or so.



In the ear hearing aids may need to be periodically remolded.

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**Mom's Voice continued from page 1.**

Dads can't fix the hearing loss, but they can be an important part of helping their children understand and adjust to equipment as well as speech and language therapy. Also, supporting Mom in establishing routines for using all equipment is invaluable.

When both parents are working together toward the goal of helping their child hear, listen, and communicate effectively (and take care of expensive equipment) everyone benefits. The child's skills improve, Mom feels less overwhelmed, and Dad knows he is an active (rather than helpless) part of his child's life.

**Deb Pinkham serves on the Warren Center's Board of Directors and is a teacher at the Mary Snow School in Bangor.**

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