

Spina Bifida

NEWS To Use

Albany/Capital District Chapter
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Happy spring to everyone! With spring, we seem to have many activities beginning, and so we wanted to get updated information out to everyone. If you have any questions about any of these, please feel free to give us a call or email. We will get back to you ASAP!

Karen Wentworth
Administrative Director

Calendar of Events

DATE: Saturday, April 6, 2002
TIME: 3—5 PM
PLACE: Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave, Albany

Join us for
"WELLNESS FOR CARETAKERS"

You need not be a member to attend!

Spring Tennis Program:

DATES: 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 6/1, 6/8
TIMES: 3—4 PM
PLACE: Schenectady Racquet Club
RAIN or SHINE!

Lessons are taught by two tennis professionals. This is being sponsored by Spina Bifida Association: Albany/Capital District Chapter and organized by SAFE (Sports Are For Everyone).

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: *There is limited space in the program, so please call and register in advance!*

Highland Top Soccer

I have enclosed a flyer for the TOPS Soccer Program (The Outreach Program for Soccer) for the spring. Please note that while the flyer states that registration is April 1st and 3rd, you may register after this deadline date. If you receive this flyer too late to attend the specified registration times, contact Joe Carmola at 399-6543.

Pre-teen/Teen Support Group

We are in the process of starting up a new support geared toward children in the approximate 11 to 16 year old age group. If you or your child might be interested in participated, please call for information and details.

THE SPINA BIFIDA RESEARCH RESOURCE

Our chapter was approached by the Spina Bifida Research Resource of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia to ask if we would assist in getting information about their research study out to potential participants. We agreed to include this information in our mailing. You will find a pamphlet answering questions about the study they are doing. If you might be interested in participating, you may complete the form on the yellow page and return it to them in the self-addressed stamped envelope. They will then make direct contact with you for any further information needed. ***Please note that we will not share anyone's address, email, or phone number with this or any other organization. If you wish to learn more about the research study, you will need to contact them directly.***

CHALLENGES:

UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENTLY-ABLED

Last spring our chapter applied for and received a grant from the van Ameringen Foundation for a program which we are calling *Challenges: Understanding People Who Are Differently-Abled*. The program is designed for students in grades 4 through 6 to help them develop a better understanding of the challenges that are faced by people who are disabled. Through hands-on experiences combined with information provided by four instructors, students are given opportunities to learn what it might be like to have a variety of challenges, including physical and learning disabilities. They learn about adaptive aids, how and when to offer help, and how to be a better friend. This spring, the program has been being offered to the 5th grade classes of Scotia-Glenville Central School District as a pilot program. Over the next several months our Board of Directors will be in the process of assessing the program and potential future offerings. Stay tuned this fall for further information!

Membership Drive

This year's membership drive has been quite successful. We have many new member families and we welcome all of you! We also received enough paid memberships to receive voting privileges at the national SBAA conference this spring.

It is not too late to join! If you would still like to become a paid member, simply mail your check for \$25 made out to SBA: Albany/Capital District Chapter to 109 Spring Road in Scotia. This will enable you to receive Insights, the national newsletter. As always, call if you have any questions!

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