## Alternatives For Children

#### WWW.ALTERNATIVESFORCHILDREN.ORG

#### **SUMMER 2012**

THE CARING CANVAS & NEW LIFE CRISIS VISIT ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN SOUTHAMPTON BRINGING ART & MUSIC FOR AN ARTFULLY FUN FRIDAY

Laura Brunetti's The Caring Canvas, with its home in Asbury Park, New Jersey, is a free traveling art program that mentors, inspires, and gives hope through art expression. Laura, with her signature Caring Canvas Art Kit and her volunteers travel to locations throughout the tri-state area, and in June they came to visit us. Bringing with them an abundance of art supplies, they use art as therapy, sparking imaginations, inspiring self-confidence, and igniting hope. The Caring Canvas exists to change lives...one stroke at a time. We thank The Caring Canvas and New Life Crisis for bringing an Artfully Fun Friday to Alternatives For Children Southampton.



Thank You Caring Canvas! We had so much fun & enjoyed creating our mural to hang in the school!

East End band New Life Crisis donated their time and talent to rock out with the children Wendy Jorgensen Alternatives For Children's East End Coordinator and Susan Belfer from The Caring Canvas

#### 5th Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn Visits Alternatives For Children East Setauket

Kara Hahn, who represents the Suffolk County 5th Legislative District, which includes Setauket, East Setauket, South Setauket, Stony Brook, parts of Port Jefferson Station, Terryville, Coram, Centereach, and the villages of Belle Terre, Old Field, Port Jefferson, and Poquott, took time out of her busy schedule to visit with the children and staff of Alternatives For Children East Setauket.



Dr. Marie Ficano, Mike Russell – AFC Trustee, Legislator Kara Hahn, Legislative aide Alyssa Turano tour the Brady William Russell Memory Garden

Ms. Hahn, who took office in January 2012, is Vice Chair of the Suffolk County Legislature's Human Services Committee. This committee has jurisdiction over the Office of Family and Children's Services, which oversees child day care programs



Legislator Hahn spends time in the Sensory Room with Alex and Matthew

across Suffolk County. The Office of Family and Children's Services, together with child day care providers like Alternatives For Children, provides programs for typically developing children and their families. The Human Services Committee also has jurisdiction over all day care initiatives in the county.

"I am truly impressed by the caring, nurturing and innovative services that Alternatives for Children provides for its students every day," said Legislator Kara Hahn. "This facility fosters an individualized approach to learning that allows each child to develop and meet his or her unique needs."

#### Alternatives for Children

**Mission Statement** 

To provide the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and typically developing peers. Education, medical, pediatric rehabilitation, and support services are integrated to ensure the comprehensive needs of the child and family are met.

> 14 Research Way East Setauket, NY 11733 631–331–6400 Preschool Programs Child Day Care

Early Intervention Services Universal Pre-K Administrative Office

1116 Main Road Aquebogue, NY 11931 631-722-2170 Preschool Programs Child Day Care Early Intervention Services Universal Pre-K

175 Wolf Hill Road Melville, NY 11747 631–271–0777 Preschool Programs Child Day Care Early Intervention Services

168 Hill Street Southampton, NY 11968 631-283-3272 Preschool Programs Child Day Care Early Intervention Services

**Executive Director** Marie E. Ficano, Ed.D.

#### Board of Trustees

Vincent O'Leary, Chairman Joseph Dempsey, Esq. – Secretary James Buzzetta Frederic Mendelsohn, MD Michael Russell Tina VanVort, Esq.

#### Alternatives For Children Celebrates 25 Years & Begins the Future

I can hardly believe that in September Alternatives For Children will begin its 25th school year. I am proud to say, that because of the dedication through the years of the Board of Trustees, administrators, the educational and therapeutic staff, our wonderful parents and enthusiastic financial supporters, Alternatives for Children has become a leader in providing quality care to all children, but especially to those who need it most, at the most critical time in their development.

In 2005, the Board of Trustees of Alternatives For Children undertook a \$2.3 million Capital Campaign committed to raising significant philanthropic support to fulfill several short and long term goals. These goals included:

GOAL ONE - Acquiring the property outright. The land on which Alternatives For Children is built was leased. By raising additional funds, aside from general operating, Alternatives For Children would safeguard its long-term future by providing a permanent home through the purchase of the property.

#### **Primary Goal: \$1.3 million**

## **ACHIEVED!**

GOAL TWO – To raise funds for a special redemption of up to a \$1 million, reducing our principal debt on the IDA Bond for the construction of the East Setauket facility. This reduction in debt service would go a long way in establishing a firm financial footing for Alternatives For Children.

Secondary Goal: \$1 million

## ACTIVE

In 2010 through prudent financial planning and fiscal responsibility, GOAL ONE was achieved and final payment was made to purchase the land on which Alternatives For Children East Setauket is located. Ongoing efforts of the Capital Campaign Committee and its chairperson Michael Russell are dedicated to achieving GOAL Two. Additionally, as we begin our 25th year, the Board of Trustees and the Capital Campaign Committee are reexamining the goals laid out in 2005, instituting new goals, and moving forward with a long-range plan to assure the financial stability and viability of Alternatives For Children.

We hope that you will find merit in our Capital Campaign by making a multi-year pledge of support. Although dollars are important, please know that whatever you feel you can afford to give us is deeply appreciated. Equally important is your willingness to help us seek the support of others whom you feel would be receptive to making a pledge to our Capital Campaign.

For more information about our Capital Campaign, or if you have any questions about Alternatives For Children or would like to see how you can Make a Difference, please call 631-331-6400 x229.

I consider myself so privileged to have been a part of the family at Alternatives For Children; a wonderful school, but more important than that, a place and a people that has been there for so many families. The simple words "Thank you" do not even begin to express what I would like to say to all those many people who have shared the vision of what Alternatives For Children could be and has become. None the less, I send my thanks, along with the appreciation of the Board of Trustees, as Alternatives For Children



With tremendous gratitude,

have E. Fricans, Ed.D.

Marie E. Ficano, Ed.D. Executive Director

Alternatives For Children

#### ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN EAST SETAUKET WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD .... LET'S MOVE!



AFC Dancing With The Stars! We sure had FUN!



AFC Mini Golf Course Watch Out Phil & Tiger!



During the Week of the Young Child the children at Alternatives For Children East Setauket had the opportunity to *MOVE!* incorporating Earth Day activities with First Lady Michele Obama's *LET'S MOVE* initiative

# week of the woyc



Our Therapeutic Teams are the BEST! They make learning FUN!

Shortly after Tyler started at AFC he told us he loved his new school and teachers, and that his old school scared him. It makes us so happy to know how happy he is here. And, we are so glad he is in the supportive environment he needs. We have seen many improvements and know he will continue to grow with all your help and support.

The Gleason Family

Words cannot express how grateful we are for all your help. Kaitlyn is developing into the little girl that we knew she had the potential to become. Thank you for your patience, wisdom, and advice.

P.S. - Fran - Can I call you when she is a teenager? Please?

**The Minton Family** 

Miss Angelique, Miss Kerri, and Miss Joleen are three off the kindest, most patient people I have encountered as a parent and as a professional in the special education field. Thank you for all of your hard work! I know it's not always easy, but your energy and spirit is greatly appreciated.

The Shea Family

Alternatives For Children's 16th Annual Classic and Sports Car Rally Saturday, September 15, 2012

Start Line:Alternatives For Children<br/>1116 Main Road, AquebogueRegistration:8:30 am<br/>Start:9:15 am sharpFinish Line:Belle Terre Community CenterFee includes Driver & NavigatorBreakfast at Start LineLuncheon Reception at Finish Line<br/>\$135 per car by August 30th<br/>\$150 in September<br/>\$175 day of the event

Download a Road Rally Brochure at www.alternativesforchildren.org This year's Rally should prove to be challenging and beautiful. The Rally is considered a timed "fun" rally – one in which the odometer, speedometer, and the ability to follow devious clues are paramount.

> Please join Competition Automotive Group our Anchor Event Sponsor and show your support for Alternatives For Children by Becoming A 2012 Classic & Sports Car Rally Sponsor



16th Annual Classic and Sports Car Rally Sponsorship Opportunities

#### \$5,000 Monaco Sponsor (Event Sponsor) (\$4,600 tax deductible)

- •Prominent recognition of your company's name as top sponsor at the Belle Terre Center
- •Company's name and logo on the souvenir T-shirts & all print material
- •Acknowledgment in all local and regional media
- •Premier listing in event program
- •Eight tickets to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### **\$2,500** Indianapolis Sponsor (Reception Sponsor) (**\$2,300** tax deductible)

- •Your company's name prominently displayed as major sponsor at the Belle Terre Center
- •Your company's name on the souvenir T-shirts
- •Acknowledgment in event program
- •Four tickets to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### \$1,500 Daytona Sponsor (Raffle Sponsor) (\$1,300 tax deductible)

- •Your company's name on the souvenir T-shirts
- •Acknowledgment in event program
- •Four tickets to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### \$1,000 Lime Rock Sponsor (Dealer Showcase) (\$900 tax deductible)

- •Your company's name on the souvenir T-shirts
- •Acknowledgment in event program
- •Display Car and/or promotional materials at Finish Line
- •Two tickets to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### \$500 Watkins Glen Sponsor (Awards Sponsor) (\$400 tax deductible)

- •Company banner or acknowledgment at awards table
- •Acknowledgment in event program
- •Two tickets to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### **\$250** Bridgehampton Sponsor (Breakfast or Checkpoint Sponsor) (**\$200** tax deductible)

- •Signage at either starting line breakfast or checkpoint
- •Acknowledgment in event program
- •One ticket to the reception at the Belle Terre Center

#### \$100 Starting Line Sign (\$100 tax deductible)

Please return all sponsorships or registrations to Alternatives for Children by August 30, 2012 For information call Susan Ennis at 631-331-6400 x 229

#### Save The Date Alternatives for Children



16th Annual Classic & Sports Car RALLY September 15th 2012

Alternatives for Children's 16th Annual Classic & Sports Car Rally Registration September 15th 2012				
Yes, I want to Drive in the 16th Annual Classic & Sports Car Rally				
Enter a car: \$135 by August 30th \$150 in September \$175 day of event				
Car Make:	Model:	Year:		
Member of Car Club: If yes, which one:*Entitles Member to a \$99 Registration Fee				
I would like to attend the reception only at \$50 per person:				
I can't attend, but would like to support	Alternatives For Cl	nildren with a tax deductible donation of \$		
Yes, I want to support Alternativ	es For Children	by being a Classic & Sports Car Rally Sponsor		
Sponsorship Level:		Amount Enclosed:		
Yes, I w	ant a chance to	win \$10,000 CASH		
Number of Raffle Tickets @ 1 for \$100				
Total Amount Enclosed: \$				
Name	Date	- Cash Raffle PRIZES		
Company		Grand Prize \$10,000 (66.67% of the Prize Fund)		
Address		Second Prize \$2,500 (16.67% of the Prize Fund)		
		Third Prize \$1,000 (6.67% of the Prize Fund)		
Phone Email Address		Fourth Prize \$500 (3.3434% of the Prize Fund)		
Method of Payment Check Visa	can Express	Five (5) Fifth Prizes \$200 (1.33% of the Prize Fund each)		
Credit Card #	Exp. date	\$100 a ticket		
Name As It Appears on Card		only 300 tickets will be sold		
Card Holder's Signature		GET YOURS TODAY!		
Return Registration, Sponsorship Info or Raffle Ticket Request to: Alternatives for Children		call 631-331-6400 x 229 for tickets or information or visit our website www.alternativesforchildren.org		
14 Research Way East Setauket, New For additional information or to reg	gister by phone	Drawing will be held at the Rally. Winner need not be present to win Winner responsible for applicable taxes		
call 631-331-6400 x 229 Fax 631-331-6865 or visit our website www.alternativesforchildren.org		If all 300 tickets are sold the prizes will be as listed above. If less than 300 tickets have been sold, the prize fund, equal to 50% of ticket receipts, will be divided in the proportions listed (in parenthesis) above to yield nine prizes.		

#### Alternatives For Children Thanks Our 2012 Golf Outing Sponsors

PLATINUM MEMBER Awards Dinner Sponsor \$5,000

Islandia MRI Associates, PC Merik C. Dolber

> Optimum Lightpath Dan Meystrik

> Pilot Benefits Group Mark Senders

> > Hole Sponsor \$250

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UBS Financial Services Michael Russell

> Hole Sponsor \$250

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**Chris & Leslie Valentine** 

#### Alternatives for Children's Annual Golf Ovting June 11th 2012 Nissequogue Golf Club



## YOU ... Make it all Possible!

Many Thanks to Our ..... Sponsors Silent Auction Donors Chinese Auction Donors Golfers Volunteers Parents Golf Outing Committee You are the Best! YOU Make it all Possible! Fred & Sunny Mendelsohn Golf Outing Co-Chairs





14 Research Way East Setauket, NY 11733 Phone 631-331-6400 www.alternativesforchildren.org

Return Service Requested

Save The Date Alternatives for Children



16th Annual Classic & Sports Car RALLY September 15th 2012 NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** EAST SETAUKET, NY PERMIT No. 5

Providing the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and their typically developing peers.

#### HELP US SPREAD THE NEWS

#### TELL A FRIEND ABOUT ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN CHILD CARE CENTERS

Licensed Child Day Care Center Half Day Nursery School with Extended Day Developmental Evaluations Developmental Preschool

**Full and Half Day Programs** 

appropriate educational experiences for children since 1988.

### **AFFORDABLE RATES**

**Providing developmentally** 

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Full Time Nurse	AQUEBOGUE 631-722-2170 MELVILLE 631-271-0777	EAST SETAUKET 631-331-6400 SOUTHAMPTON 631-283-3272 accepts DSS
Classroom Assistants		
New York State Dually Certified Early Childhood/Special Education Teachers		
Safe Playground Environment		
Educational Technology Class		
Music Class		





Alternatives for Children is approved and licensed by the NYS Departments of Education and Health, NYS Office of Children and Family Services,

the Nassau and Suffolk County Divisions of Services for Children with Special Needs