



# Community Links

May 2010

*“To provide quality services in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership and the cooperation of dedicated people.”*  
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## Camps for Children and Adults with Autism/Aspergers

**Discover Summer 2010** – Day program for youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder, ages 9–16. Co-Sponsored with the Autism Society of MN. Camp Courage North (Lake George) June 19-24 and June 27-July 2. Two, 1-week sessions for children with Asperger’s Syndrome. For more information and an application, call the Autism Society at 651-647-1083.

**A Forum on Life** – A session designed for Adults with Asperger’s Syndrome. Morning classes focus on understanding verbal and non-verbal communication. Afternoons are filled with fun and games. For more information and an application call the Courage Center at 763-520-0504.

**Boost Learning Enrichment Program Inc.** – Summer camp and classes to enhance the social, emotional, and educational development of children with unique learning needs. Call 952-807-1081 for more information.  
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## Care for Children/Teens with Special Needs

**Ingrams Summer Care** – Located in Woodbury. Fun activities like swimming, board games, reading, math, trips to the zoo and more! Lunch and snack provided. Open Monday thru Friday 8–4:30 p.m., June 14<sup>th</sup>–August 27<sup>th</sup>. Call Theresa and Brian Ingram at 651-738-6136 for pricing and availability.



## Notes from the Community Links Team

Thank you again to everyone who has made this newsletter so successful over the past 6 months. The Community Links staff is looking forward to continue providing families with relevant and current information regarding resources and programs in your local and extended area. Remember that if you find a resource in your area, have ideas for the newsletter or if you would like to sign up to receive the extended email version please feel free to send an email to paul.simon@co.washington.mn.us.

## Camps for Adults and Children with Disabilities

**Courage Center Camps** – Day camps and weekly camps for Children and Adults with special needs. [www.couragecenter.org/camps](http://www.couragecenter.org/camps).

**Camp Confidence** – A year-round center for persons with Developmental Disabilities specializing in recreation and outdoor education. Serves persons of all ages and abilities. Located in East Gull Lake. For more information call 218-828-2344.



**Adventure Program at St. David’s** – offers community-based programming focusing on recreation, community integration, and socialization for people with special needs, ages 11 and up. Provides a structured group environment in which participants can develop positive peer relationships, participate in group activities, and have fun! For more information call 952-939-0396.

**Camp Knutson** – Boating, swimming and other water activities are available with registered lifeguards on duty. Specially built docks facilitate easy movement to speedboats, canoes,

paddle and pontoon boats. Nearby bike trails are also available. Camp Knutson works with Skin Disease, Autism, Down Syndrome, and Heart Disease. Call 218-543-4232 for more information on registration.

**Camp Winnebago** – Traditional summer camp activities abound: swimming, cooking over a fire, games, arts and crafts, dancing and more. Activities are adapted to the age and ability each

camper. Each Weekly session begins on Monday at 1:00 p.m. and ends the following Friday at 1:00 p.m. The cost per camper for the week long session is \$850. Scholarships may be available to help defray this cost. For more information call 507-724-2351.

**Pathways to Community** – A day camp for Children and Youth with special needs in St. Paul. Call 651-641-4009 for additional information.

**Friendship Ventures** – Day and weekly camps for kids and adults with special needs. Call 952-852-0101 for more information.

## Social Groups for Children and Adults!

**EX.I.T.E (Exploring Interests in Technology and Engineering)** offers opportunities for girls with disabilities in middle and high school to explore, create, invent, and even get messy with the science and technology of today. Held during the summer - provides 5 fun-filled days for girls with disabilities to use all of their senses to discover the science and technology around us. For more information, contact Meghan Kunz at 952-838-9000.

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## Gearing up for summer!

On Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Courage Center in Stillwater is having an event that lets kids with disabilities test ride adaptive bikes. Vendors will be bringing hand and foot powered cycles to try. The Courage Center will also be giving advice on how to find alternative funding sources and payment plans. In addition to the opportunity to ride adaptive bikes there will also be discussion regarding summer programs, camps and adaptive vacationing. For more information contact Laurin Dalton at 651-351-2372 or visit the courage center website at [www.couragecenter.org](http://www.couragecenter.org).

## Parent Resource Fair

On Services for teens and young adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and other Related Conditions  
Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
10 a.m.-noon  
Location: Human Services, Inc.  
7066 Stillwater Blvd. N,  
Oakdale, MN  
Registration: There is no cost to attend but registration is encouraged.  
To register, please call Cathy Luiken at 651-351-3152 or [cluiken@hscare.org](mailto:cluiken@hscare.org)

## Contacts:

### Article Submissions

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### Questions/Concerns

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### To sign up for email version of the newsletter

[paul.simon@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:paul.simon@co.washington.mn.us)



## Social Groups for Children and Adults! continued...

**YMCA Camps and Day Camps** offer a huge range of activities and outdoor experiences. Campers can come home at night, try a 3-day sampler, stay in camp for a couple weeks or take a wilderness trip to the Boundary Waters or even Alaska. For more information, contact Heather Patton, Special Needs and Youth Coordinator for the Southeast Area YMCA at 651-739-6595 or visit [www.ymcacamps.org](http://www.ymcacamps.org).

**Special Olympics Minnesota** offers children and adults with intellectual disabilities year-round sports training and competition. Through Special Olympics' athletic, health and leadership programs, people with intellectual disabilities transform themselves, their communities and the world. For more information about how to sign up visit [www.specialolympicsminnesota.org](http://www.specialolympicsminnesota.org) or call toll free to 800-783-7732.

**REM Minnesota Community Services, Inc.** is in the process of developing a summer program for children with disabilities between the ages of twelve and twenty-one exclusively for Washington County. The summer program will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5:00 p.m. starting June 22, 2010 through August 2010. The summer program will support families by providing activities and teaching opportunities for their children when school is out of session and after summer school. For more information contact: Jeannette at 651-637-2288 or Jennie at 651-637-2286.

## Vacation and Trip Planning for Adults

**Off the Beaten Path** - A Minnesota-based corporation, which has been providing economical vacations for developmentally disabled ambulant adults since 1985. Visit [www.otbp.info](http://www.otbp.info) for more information on vacations and schedules.

**Lucky Mindy Adventures** - Provides fully staffed (based on client need), wheelchair-accessible (if needed) tours for individuals with disabilities. Lucky Mindy has been providing vacation and traveling experiences for over 11 years. Visit [www.luckymindy.com](http://www.luckymindy.com) for more information and an application.

**Ventures Travel, LLC** - For 25 years Ventures Travel, LLC has specialized in supervised travel vacations for persons with disabilities. Trips are offered year-round and include a full range of leisure and recreational experiences.

**Search Beyond Adventures** - Provides all-inclusive escorted vacations for travelers with disabilities and special needs, ages 17 and up (founded in 1979). Many of our tours can accommodate wheelchair users.



## More Information!

**State ID and Anglers License**- Contact your Social Worker for more information on how to get a reduced rate Anglers License or State ID.

**Children's Museum** - Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month the Children's Museum has a "free visitor day" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**Valleyfair** - Season Pass holders who need assistance from a PCA are able to have one free entry per visit for his/her personal care assistant.

## How to receive additional issues of Community Links!

Interested in receiving more issues of the Washington County Community Links Newsletter? Please send an email to: [paul.simon@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:paul.simon@co.washington.mn.us) to be put on the email list for the quarterly newsletters.

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