

PECcalendar.org

Parent Education Consortium of the North Shore (PEC)

2009-2010 Calendar, February 2010 Edition

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The Parent Education Consortium of the North Shore (PEC) is a centralized source of information on parent resources and programs that promote stronger schools, family and community life. PEC is comprised of representatives from the community and parent/teacher organizations who offer programming on parenting topics through joint planning and shared resources. The Calendar of educational programs for parents and educators is compiled from submissions provided by the sponsoring organizations.

NOTE: All programs are free unless indicated by a "\$;" programs requiring registration or reservations are indicated by "RSVP." Fundraisers are indicated with a green "F," and are clustered at the end of the Calendar, after a page break. New entries to the Calendar are indicated with the category in RED, prefaced with the word "New!"

NEW! NEW PLAY ABOUT ADHD **DISCOUNT FOR PEC READERS!!*

Ongoing, Thursdays through Sundays, "**Distracted**," evening and matinee performances, American Theater Company, 1909 W. Byron St., Chicago, 60613 (RSVP; \$). American Theater Company (ATC) continues its 25th anniversary season with the Chicago premiere of **Distracted**, written by Lisa Loomer. Synopsis: America. Today. When Mom and Dad's problems with Junior escalate, the advice from the world around them is to medicate. Does Jesse have ADHD or is he just a kid growing up in a hyperactive world? From the co-writer of *Girl, Interrupted*, this fast-paced theatrical comedy explores the challenges of modern parenting in America. ATC is offering 10% off ticket prices for all PEC Calendar readers – use the keyword "newtrier" when ordering online or on the phone. If groups of 10 or more would like to attend together, ATC will offer a 25% discount. Great opportunity! Tickets may be purchased online at www.atcweb.org, or by calling 773-409-4125. ATC is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and CityArts Program II. Additional valuable support is provided by the Alphawood Foundation, the Bruce B. Boyd Foundation, the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, the Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation and the Polk Bros. Foundation.

NEW! ACTIVE PARENTING SESSIONS

Ongoing (2/3; 2/10; 2/17; 2/25; 3/3; 3/10), **Active Parenting for Tweens and Teens**, 7:00-9:00 PM, Field Middle School, Commons Room, District #31 Administration, 3131 Techny Rd., Northbrook, 60062 (RSVP; \$). Sponsored by Northbrook Citizens for Drug & Alcohol Awareness (NCDAA). Interactive learning experience consisting of lectures, handouts, text readings and video presentations. Opportunity for parents to share their own personal experiences so that they can receive feedback and support from other members of the class. Helps parents 1) Understand teen developmental changes both in their bodies and minds as shown through their behaviors; 2) Communicate effectively with their children; 3) Discipline while teaching responsibility; 4) Learn encouragement skills to help their children choose better behaviors; 5) Learn to identify their children's goals so that they can redirect their behavior; 5) Explore and encourage non-violent conflict resolution both in and out of their homes. Facilitator: **Bob Leece**, Buffalo Grove HS Outreach Counselor, NCDAA Parent University keynote and workshop speaker, November, 2009. 37 years in education in HS District #214 as an outreach counselor, Student Assistance Coordinator, Special Education

Coordinator, and workshop facilitator. Download registration form at www.ncdaa.org. \$50/person for 6 sessions, includes an "Active parenting" book. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 847-272-7870 or ncdaainfo@ncdaa.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS INFO SESSIONS

Ongoing (2/8; 3/8; 4/12; 5/10), Monday Morning Series, 9:30-11:00 AM, NSSED Offices, Rubloff Building Training Room, 776 Red Oak Lane, Highland Park, 60035 (**RSVP**). **NSSED/APS Parent Mentor Program** in collaboration with **TotalLink2 Community Cooperative** and the **PELS** parent group presents the "Monday Morning Series." As parents of children with special needs we often think about what life will be like when school ends. We also wonder about what services might be available to our children/families and how to make community connections to support our family during the school years. The information about these topics is sometimes hard to discover on our own, and often not available at all. This series is intended to educate families, answer questions, and provide the information to make challenging decisions. **Jan. 11: Ed McManus**, Facilitator, Division of Developmental Disabilities, **Illinois Dept. of Human Services**. **Topic:** "How to Obtain Services in Illinois;" **Feb. 8: Jane Doyle and Margaret Tanenberg**, **Center for Independent Futures**, Evanston. **Topic:** "The Full Life Future Planning Model;" **Mar. 8: Illinois Association of Microboards and Cooperatives**. **Topic:** Introduction to microboard and coop concepts and a presentation by **Susan Barnhardt**, founder of the first microboard in Illinois approved as a provider; **Apr. 12: Carol Kerman**, professional storyteller, and **Joan Martin**, **Martin Good Life Guild** and **TotalLink2 Community Cooperative**. **Topic:** "Understanding the Purpose and the Power of Telling Your Family's Story;" **May 10: Sue Hans**, NSSED Parent Mentor. **Topic:** "Putting It All Together for You and Your Family." Advance registration is required as space is limited. RSVP to Mary Ades, mades@nssed.org, or 847-831-5100, ext. 211. There is no fee for these sessions. Questions? Contact Sue Hans at 847-831-5100, ext. 228.

6-WEEK MENTAL ILLNESS CLASS

6 consecutive Tuesdays (4/6; 4/13; 4/20; 4/27; 5/4; and 5/11), NAMI Basics: The Fundamentals of Caring for You, Your Family, and Your Child With Mental Illness, 6:30-9:00 PM, New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, 60093 (**RSVP**). A free, six-week class taught by NAMI-trained parents **Judy Graff** and **Helene Rhodes**. Learn about the biology of mental illness, getting an accurate diagnosis, an overview of treatment options, problem solving, crisis preparation, handling challenging behaviors, and the impact on family members. Includes a review of recordkeeping and the systems your child may be involved in such as school, juvenile justice, and mental health systems. Registration required, call 847-716-2252 for more information and to register. Sponsored by **NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Cook County North Suburban**. Visit our web site at namiccns.org.

NEW! 4-WEEK POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOP SERIES

Ongoing (4/9; 4/16; 4/30; 5/7), The ABCs of Positive Parenting, 9:30-11:00 AM, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, 60091 (**RSVP; \$**). This four-week interactive workshop is presented by **Beth Miller, M.Ed.**, parent coach. Do you feel like your kids don't listen to you? Do you find yourself nagging or negotiating more than you ever imaged you would? Are you tired, frustrated or angry at the end of the day? Attend this informative, interactive workshop where you will learn and implement positive communication and behavioral strategies in your family. Broaden your parenting toolbox and learn effective ways to reduce daily struggles and gain confidence and energy. This workshop, open to 10 parents, is \$100. Ms. Miller, PCI Certified Parent Coach®, has 25 years of experience as an educator and counselor in both the public and private sector. She has worked with hundreds of families, providing guidance, education and support. She helps parents develop effective communication skills and practical strategies to work through every day parenting

challenges, individually and in small groups. For more information contact Beth Miller at 847-251-8442 beth@bethmillerparentcoach.com.

YEAR-ROUND MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP

TWO year-round ongoing monthly parent support groups offered **every second Thursday evening and every third Friday morning of the month**. For parents of children and adolescents with brain disorders, behavior problems or school difficulties – no formal diagnosis necessary. NAMI trained facilitators and parents **Jean and Jim Jorgensen** offer parents the opportunity to discuss the challenges of parenting their child, share resources and receive and offer support from fellow parents. Sponsored by the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**, the nation's largest grassroots organization for people with mental illness and their families. **Evening Group** this month on **Thursday, Dec. 10, 7:30 - 9:00 PM, Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Kenilworth, 60043. Daytime Group** this month on **Friday, Dec. 18, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, Wilmette Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, 60091**. Lower level small conference room. Please park in St. John's church lot across Wilmette Ave. For more information please call NAMI CCNS office at 847-716-2252 or visit web site at "namiccns.org".

BOOK GROUP

Monday, February 1, Book Group Discussion, 9:30-11:00 AM, Lake Forest Library, Children's Community Room, 360 East Deerpath, Lake Forest, 60045. BOOK: "Just Because It's Not Wrong, Doesn't Make It Right," by bestselling author **Barbara Coloroso**. Join local social workers as they discuss how parents can nurture and guide their children's ethical lives from toddlers to teens as Barbara Coloroso points out in this book. Great opportunity to discuss Coloroso's work prior to her March 13th keynote lecture at **LEAD's Parent University** (see listing for that date). For more information, contact LEAD (Linking Efforts Against Drugs) at lead9075@aol.com, or call 847-295-9075, or visit LEAD's website: www.leadweb.org.

NEW! NTHS YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY RESULTS – TWO SESSIONS

Wednesday, February 3, Get the Facts: What New Trier Teens Are Telling Us!, 12:30-2:00 PM and 7:00-8:30 PM (same content), New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, Room C234, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, 60093. The **Youth Risk Behavior Survey** and the **Youth Risk Behavior and Perception Survey** were given to New Trier High School students in February 2009 to gather information on the six areas of wellness: sex, substance use, mental emotional health, fitness, nutrition, and safety. Approximately 3500 students participated in the survey. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey was developed by the **Centers for Disease Control**, and Youth Risk Behavior and Perception Survey is customized by New Trier staff and the school's survey consultant. Both surveys have been given every other year since 2002. At this meeting, we will be presenting the results of the 2009 surveys and the school's next steps based on our evaluation of teens' needs and their areas of strength. We are moving forward with a school response team and would like your input at this presentation. The goal of the team is to improve classroom curriculum and student programs to help meet the overall health needs of our students. **Presenters: John Gilchrist, Kinetic Wellness Department Chair Coordinator; Kris Schmitt, Student Assistance Program Coordinator; and Megan DeCarlo, Peer Services Prevention Program Coordinator.**

NEW! MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wednesday, February 3, Family Values: Relationships and Discipline (Part of The Middle School Years: A Parents' Guide Series), 7:00-8:30 PM, Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, 60045 (RSVP). For parents of 5th-8th graders. A free, interactive workshop. Gain an understanding and perspective on adolescent development and how you can impact relationships & behavior. Limits, boundaries, smart choices. Facilitator: **Peggy Kubert, LCSW**. Please register at www.leadweb.org. Walk-ins welcome.

NEW! NONVIOLENT CRISIS INTERVENTION

Wednesday, February 3, Using Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Techniques to Support Behavior in the Home, 8:00 AM–12:30 PM, Techny Towers Conference and Retreat Center, 2001 Waukegan Rd. (between Dundee and Willow Rds.; looks like a castle), Techny, 60082 (RSVP). Facilitated by **Andy Piper**, a certified nonviolent crisis intervention instructor. Participant will: 1) Gain an understanding of the philosophy of Care, Welfare, Safety and Security, which is the cornerstone of the Nonviolent Crisis Training Program; 2) Receive an overview of some of the concepts and strategies taught in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention program; and 3) Gain knowledge and understanding of the realities involved in the use of physical restraint and control techniques. This program is designed to share with parents some key strategies that school staff utilize to help support students and avoid power struggles. Through participation in this program, you gain a practical, common sense approach for identifying behaviors that can escalate into full-blown crises. Using these behaviors as a frame work, the training program focuses on prevention, stepping you through a series of simple yet powerful nonverbal and verbal techniques that enable you to effectively defuse mounting hostility and/or anxiety. Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® training demonstrates how you can use empathic listening skills, verbal intervention strategies, and limit-setting techniques to calm hostile and agitated individuals. You also learn how to re-establish communication with the individual after the crisis is over, thereby creating the opportunity for constructive change to occur. Sponsored by **Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSED)**. ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. You may register online under the professional development tab at www.nssed.org, or by calling 847-831-5100 ext. 6166. To cancel your registration, contact 847-831-5100, ext. 6166. Please notify us if you need any special accommodations. For information concerning workshop content, please contact jsutton@nssed.org.

TEENS AND THE LAW

Wednesday, February 3, Teens and the Law, 7:00 PM, Woodlands Academy, 760 Westleigh Rd., Lake Forest, 60045. **Associate Judge Christopher Stride of Lake County's Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Felony Division**, will address both parents and teens on "Teens and the Law." Judge Stride is also a former Lake County assistant state's attorney. His very compelling speech talks about parental responsibility and consequences for both parents and teens in regards to permissive alcohol and drug use. Judge Stride presided over the recent Deerfield case where parents allowed alcohol at a party in their home and a teen was killed in a drunk driving accident. This is a very a very compelling talk! Open to parents and teens. For more information, contact Woodlands Academy at 847-234-4300.

GIFTED EDUCATION CONVENTION

Sunday, February 7 through Tuesday, February 9, Illinois Association for Gifted Children (IAGC) Annual Convention, various times, Chicago Marriott Hotel, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 60611 (RSVP; \$). The Fifteenth Illinois Association for Gifted Children Convention will offer a variety of sessions on Monday and Tuesday. There are quarter-day sessions organized around the following strands: Program Development and Social and Emotional Needs. In addition, check Sunday's (2/7/10) schedule for special parent and educator workshops in the afternoon, as well as a Sunday evening session. Registration is limited to the first 1200 attendees per day, and there is a fee for the convention. For detailed information please visit <http://www.iagcgifted.org/conventions/2010/BrochurePageOne.shtml>

NEW! PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION

Wednesday, February 10, Progressive Practice, Standardized Expectations: Tensions in the Schoolhouse, 7:30 PM, Washburne School Little Theatre, 515 Hibbard Rd., Winnetka,

60093. As the **Winnetka Public Schools** celebrates its 150th year, leading educator **Deborah W. Meier** will discuss essential questions for our schools today through a lens of progressive educational practice. What is the purpose of education? How do we know what our students are learning? How do parents, educators and the community come together to support our children most effectively? A learning theorist with over four decades of public education experience, Meier encourages new approaches that enhance democracy and equity in public education. Beginning her career as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools in 1961, Meier founded and served as teacher-director for a network of highly successful public schools in New York City in the 1970's and '80s, then established a K-8 pilot school for the Boston Public Schools and authored several books. A “must-go” event for all educators, parents, and community members who would like to talk about the future of public schooling.

NEW! SPECIAL NEEDS PANEL

Thursday, February 11, Power Panel on Special Needs: Experts Answer Your Questions on Advocacy, Family Support and In-Home Intervention, 6:30-8:30 PM, 2201 Waukegan Rd., Ste. 1455, Bannockburn, 60015 (RSVP). Join us for a panel discussion on these three critical topics relating to your child with Special Needs, sponsored by **Autism Home Support Services**. Our panel will present for 45 minutes followed by a full hour of Q&A. Presenters: **Micki Moran, J.D., Child & Family Law Center of the North Shore**. Ms. Moran is the founding partner of the Child & Family Law Center. Her areas of experience include special education, school discipline, juvenile justice, mental health and complex child custody cases; **Paul Nevin, Psy.D., HeartLight Psychological Services**. Dr. Nevin has over 20 years of clinical experience and has a special interest and expertise in stress management and has conducted workshops on stress management for families with special needs children; **Pam Raymond, M.A., BCBA, VP of Care & Support, Autism Home Support Services**. Ms. Raymond has over 18 years of clinical experience as well as experience in special education for children with autism and other special needs. Moderated by **Maryanne Nugent, co-facilitator of Circle of Moms Support Group**, Lake Forest. Reservations required: mickim@lawforchild.com, or 847-926-0101.

NEW! HAPPINESS

Thursday, February 11, Are We Keeping Our Kids Too Happy?, 7:00 PM, Deerfield High School, 1959 N. Waukegan Rd., Deerfield, 60015. All parents want their kids to be happy, yet few know the secret that **Aaron Cooper, Ph.D.**, reveals: To raise authentically happy children, don't make their happiness the most important thing. Dr. Cooper is affiliated with the **Family Institute at Northwestern University** and author of *I Just Want My Kids To Be Happy!* Sponsored by the **Deerfield Parent Network**. For more information contact DHSParentNetwork@dist113.org

FAMILY FUNCTIONING

Thursday, February 11, Family At Its Best: Reflections on Optimal Family Functioning, 9:30-11:00 AM, Wilmette Community Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Rd., Wilmette, 60091 (RSVP; \$). No family is immune to life's challenges. And not all families manage them equally well. Some are highly resilient and respond well even in the face of major stressors. And for others, even minor stressors can trigger problems for one or more of their members. While some families recover quickly, others require longer recovery times. This presentation will discuss some of the factors that make a difference and look at what individuals can do to contribute to their own ability and that of their family's ability to be at their best. The family not only can be an important resource during stressful times, it can also be the context for improving one's ability to "be all one can be." Presented by **Robert J. Noone, Ph.D.**, from **The Family Service Center of Wilmette, Glenview, Kenilworth & Northbrook**. Cost is \$20 for Wilmette residents, \$25.50 for non-residents, and requires advanced registration by

contacting the Wilmette Park District at 847-256-6100. Babysitting available with reservation. Please call 847-256-9633 to make arrangements.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Tuesday, February 16, Some Assembly Required: Grassroots Efforts to Create Social and Recreational Opportunities for Students with Special Needs, 9:30-11:30 AM, New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, Room C234, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, 60093 (**RSVP**). *Please park in the lot on the west side of Happ Rd. only. All other areas will be towed.* Sponsored by the **Northern Suburban Special Education District's Association of Parents and Staff (NSSD-APS)**. Are you concerned about your child having friendships, growing socially, having fun, and building self-esteem? Does your child need more social and recreational opportunities? Does your child feel included in your local community? Are there enough social and recreational programs for your child in your community? Would you like to make a difference in your community and learn how others have started social and recreational programs for their children? Stop waiting, take charge and make a difference! Learn how to help your child connect with their local community from a panel of motivated North Shore parents who have created social and recreational programs for their children with special needs. Come hear their stories, learn from their success and mistakes. Our panelists will describe their efforts that include mentoring, homework buddies, field trips, sports, social options - all created through collaboration with other families, YMCAs, park districts, community youth groups and local school districts. Come hear how and why they got started and find ways to replicate their successes in your own backyard. Space is limited. To ensure a seat, please RSVP to mades@nssed.org with your name, home telephone number and school district by February 12. Direct questions to Karen Noonan at 847-831-5100, ext. 210.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Tuesday, February 16, Listen To What Your Kids Aren't Telling You, 7:00-9:00 PM, Glenbard North High School, 990 Kuhn Rd., Carol Stream, 60188. A motivator, lecturer and author who has positively impacted upon hundreds of thousands of students, **Michael Pritchard's** mission is to educate both teens and parents about respect, responsibility, optimism and self-empowerment. He has been featured in *Time*, the *Wall St. Journal*, on CNN, the *Tonight Show*, the *Today Show* and on his award-winning PBS program *Peace Talks: The Power of Choice*. A former stand-up comedian who has collaborated with Robin Williams, Jay Leno, and Jerry Seinfeld, Pritchard uses humor as a teaching tool and disarming device, then applying his solid background in counseling to both inspire and educate. Every parent of a high school teen knows about communication challenges. Parents WANT to hear about what is going on in your students' lives – the good, the funny and the wonderful – but also the sad, the difficult, the bullying, the stressors. Sometimes it is a matter of learning the real-world tools needed to get your teen to open up; sometimes, parents need to learn how to listen. As a component of Glenbard's Live Life Well Week, Mr. Pritchard will be addressing the student bodies of all four Glenbard High Schools at all-school assemblies, where his ability to truly connect with today's youth is nothing short of astounding. Mr. Pritchard will bring that same energy and enlightenment to this GPS (Glenbard Parent Speaker Series, generously underwritten by a grant from the Cebrin Goodman Foundation) to Glenbard parents at his February 16th evening presentation. This is a program that is not to be missed. Learn crucial communication strategies that you can begin to employ immediately. Circle the date, and plan to bring a friend! Also join us for a pre-meeting discussion group at 6:30PM. Mr. Pritchard's presentation is free and open to all, and no registration is required. For questions contact Gilda Ross, Glenbard Student and Community Projects Coordinator at gilda_ross@glenbard.org or 630 942-7573.

NEW! K-8 LITERACY

Wednesday, February 17, Literacy Skills for K-8, 7-8:00 PM, Nygaard Auditorium, The Joseph Sears School, 542 Abbottsford Rd., Kenilworth, 60043. **Ellin Oliver Keene**, author of the book *To Understand: New Horizons in Reading Comprehension* and co-author of the groundbreaking *Mosaic of Thought*, explores the nature of comprehension and what's essential in K-12 literacy learning. A former classroom teacher, staff developer, and adjunct professor of reading and writing, she directed staff development initiatives at the Denver-based **Public Education and Business Coalition** for sixteen years. She also served as **Deputy Director of the Cornerstone Initiative at the University of Pennsylvania**, overseeing professional learning for teachers in schools throughout the nation. For the past two years, Ms. Keene has provided staff development on reading comprehension and literacy at The Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth. Her presentation will include an overview of skills needed for students in grades K-8 with a special focus on junior high literacy strategies and essential elementary literacy learning. For more information, 847-256-5006.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Wednesday, February 17, Listen To What Your Kids Aren't Telling You, 7:00-9:00 PM, Loyola Academy, East Gym, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, 60091. **Michael Pritchard** is a nationally acclaimed keynote speaker who uses humor to inspire and educate his audiences on communication skills. Mr. Pritchard left his career as a comedian in Hollywood to focus using his talents and counseling background to inspire teens and adults. He teaches parents, teens and educators about communication skills, anger management and conflict resolution. For more information, contact Selina McGuire at 847-920-2512 or smcguire@loy.org.

NEW! SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Thursday, February 18, Techniques for Improving Compliance Within the Home Setting, "Understanding Today's Students" Library Lecture Series, 6:30 PM, Chicago Public Library Lincoln Park Branch, 1150 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, 60614. For children with social-emotional learning issues, losing control is all too familiar a problem. These are children who are easily frustrated, tend to think in black and white, are rigid or inflexible and struggle with transition. **Rachel Tercek, Ph.D.** is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at **Rush NeuroBehavioral Center** specializing in child and adolescent psychology, and behavior and mood disorders. Dr. Tercek will address strategies parents can employ to develop obedience and improve the behavior of children with these issues. Who should attend? This lecture is tailored for you if your child is: easily frustrated; rigid or inflexible; challenging/spirited; having frequent meltdowns. Parents, teachers and the general public are invited to attend these complimentary informational sessions. Lectures are free and open to the public. Reservations are not necessary. CPDU credits are available to teachers upon request. Visit www.RNBC.org or call 847.933.9339 for further details.

NEW! SPECIAL NEEDS

Thursday, February 18, Dealing with Difficult Behavior at Home for Parents with Middle School Aged Children, 7:00 PM, Wayne Thomas School Library, 2939 Summit Ave., Highland Park, 60035 (RSVP). PASK 112 seminar with Dr. Thomas Edgar. To register, call Maggie Roman at 847-681-6708.

MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, February 23, Cultivating Your Child's Moral Compass: Empathy, Ethics and the Path to Purpose, 7:00 PM, Central School, Misner Auditorium, 620 Greenwood Ave., Glencoe, 60022. **A must-see event!** In a companion presentation to **Howard Gardner's** electrifying October events, **FAN** (Family Awareness Network) and **Glencoe PTO** are proud to present **William Damon, Ph.D., Professor of Education at Stanford University, Director of the Stanford Center on Adolescence, Senior Fellow at The Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and**

Peace, and Dr. Gardner's co-founder (with Mihalyi Csikszentmihalyi) of the **GoodWork Project**. A developmental psychologist, Dr. Damon has spent decades researching, lecturing and writing on moral and character development through the lifespan, with a focus on children and adolescents and what helps them thrive and flourish, and is widely-considered to be the leading authority on the subject in the US today. Among other books, Dr. Damon is the author of the critical bestsellers, *The Moral Child: Nurturing Children's Natural Moral Growth* and 2008's *The Path to Purpose: Helping Our Children Find Their Calling in Life*. If you were inspired by Dr. Gardner's message this past fall, come and hear his long-time friend and brilliant colleague's engaging and deeply humane take on one of the most over-looked aspects of development. Dr. Damon will hold an afternoon workshop for New Trier Township teachers/administrators prior to the evening lecture. CPDUs available for both events; book sale/signing at evening event. FAN and Glencoe PTO will also host a facilitated discussion the following day, Wed., Feb. 24, from 9:30-11:00 AM, at Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka. For more information, visit fan-ntts.org or glencoepto.org. FAN is grateful for the 09-10 exclusive media sponsorship by **MakeltBetter.net**.

WILLIAM DAMON PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesday, February 24, Cultivating Your Child's Moral Compass: Empathy, Ethics and the Path to Purpose Parent Discussion Group, 9:30-11:00 AM, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, 60093 (**RSVP**). Join with parents from across New Trier Township for a lively facilitated discussion group following **William Damon's** Tuesday, Feb. 23, 7:00 PM presentation at Central School (see *Feb. 23 listing on the Calendar*). This discussion will be led by well-regarded local professionals, including representatives from the fields of journalism, sports, social work, and the public sector. Dr. Damon, the **Stanford University Graduate School of Education** professor who will speak about his two groundbreaking works, *The Moral Child* and *Path to Purpose*, the previous evening, will provide activating questions and observations for each group to consider and discuss. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to engage in a dialogue with each other, with expert guidance. Attendance will be capped at 30, and reservations will be necessary, so don't wait until the last minute to sign up. Sponsored by the **Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township (FAN)** and **Glencoe PTO**. FAN is grateful for its 2009-10 exclusive media sponsorship by **MakeltBetter.net**. For more information and to RSVP go to Glencoe PTO's website (glencoepto.org) and click on "Parent Education."

NEW! PLAY

Tuesday, March 2, The Boy on the Beach: Building Community Through Play, 7:00-8:30 PM, Carleton Washburne School, 515 Hibbard Rd., Winnetka, 60093. **Vivian Gussin Paley, Ph.D.**, taught preschool and kindergarten at the **University of Chicago's** acclaimed **Laboratory School** for over 30 years. She is the author of thirteen books about young children, including, *You Can't Say You Can't Play*, *A Child's Work: The Importance of Fantasy Play*, and her brand-new book, *The Boy on the Beach: Building Community Through Play*. A winner of numerous awards and honors, including a **MacArthur Fellowship "Genius Grant,"** Dr. Paley has long advocated that fantasy play is the mechanism through which children make sense of their worlds. Such meaning-making activity develops both the logic and flexibility needed to form a society based on friendship, fantasy and fairness. Come hear Dr. Paley advocate for "building community through play," a positive message encouraging curiosity, openness, acceptance and love. Sponsored by the **Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township (FAN)**, **The Winnetka Alliance for Early Childhood**, **Kohl Children's Museum** and **MakeltBetter.net**, FAN's 09-10 exclusive media sponsor. This is a must-see event for parents, educators and anyone who works with young children. We'll have advance copies of Dr. Paley's new book for sale and signing - not available in stores yet! CPDUs for education professionals. For more information, visit www.fan-ntts.org, or contact The Winnetka Alliance for Early Childhood at 847-441-9001, www.winnetkaalliance.org.

INTERNET SAFETY

Wednesday, March 3, Internet Safety, Managing Your Online Identity, 7:00-9:00 PM, Loyola Academy, East Gym, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, 60091. Social networking is a great tool, but with it comes a great deal of panic about issues such as: stranger danger, bullying, and the issue of how much we share on these sites and with whom – parents and teens, students and teachers, bosses and employees. **Anastasia Goodstein** is the publisher of **Ypulse**, a *Forbes* magazine “Best of the Web” blog. *Ypulse* chronicles the areas where marketing and popular teen culture overlap. Ms. Goodstein is also the author of *Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens Are Really Doing Online*. She will integrate real-life stories of privacy violations into a presentation that ends with practical advice on how to manage your online identity. For more information, contact Selina McGuire at 847-920-2512 or smcguire@loy.org. (NOTE: Ms. Goodstein is appearing the following night with the same program for Glenbard West HS, see March 4 posting below).

NEW! INTERNET SAFETY

Thursday March 4, Totally Wired: What Teens are Really Doing Online, 7:00-9:00 PM, Glenbard West High School Auditorium, 670 Crescent Blvd, Glen Ellyn. 60137. Hooking up via MySpace, bullying on a blog, using a cell phone as a tracking device? Clearly, being a teenager isn't the same as it used to be. Wondering what is really going on with teens and the Web? Cyberspace is an uncomfortable and unfamiliar reality. How can parents find out the best ways to deal with all of the high-tech components of their teen's lives as they venture into the online landscape? **Anastasia Goodstein** fully understands the power of the Internet and how teens are using this technology to network, connect, and speak their mind. As an expert on tweens to twenty somethings, Goodstein is an award-winning blogger and the founder of **YPulse**, an independent blog for teen/youth media and marketing professionals. She has been featured in many publications including *USA Today*, *Business Week* and *Forbes*. As the best selling author of *Totally Wired: What Teens and Tweens are Really Doing Online*, Goodstein offers an insider's guide to what teens are really doing on the Internet and with technology that is changing at warp speed. Parents will learn 1) What teens are really doing online; the benefits and the drawbacks of the Internet and the newest cell-phone technology; 2) How to understand and reach your "Totally Wired" Teens; 3) How to promote internet safety. This program is a must-attend for parents of teenagers. Reaching today's teens means understanding the role technology plays in their wired lives. From social networking to virtual worlds and cell phones Goodstein will offer insight into how teens are using technology, how it is affecting their lives, and more importantly how to reach them in ways that are authentic and meaningful. Students are welcome to attend as well. **Glenbard Parent Series** is generously funded by a grant from the **Cebrin Goodman Center**. Additional funding for this program has been provided by **Linden Oaks at Edward**. No registration is required. Further information is available by contacting Gilda Ross, Student and Community Projects Coordinator, at (630) 942-7573 or email gilda_ross@glenbard.org. (NOTE: Ms. Goodstein is appearing the previous night with the same program at Loyola Academy, see March 3 posting above).

“HELICOPTER” PARENTING

Thursday, March 4, Allowing Space for Growth: Parental Investment in a Child, 9:30-11:00 AM, Wilmette Community Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Rd., Wilmette, 60091 (RSVP; \$). We live in a society that values a strong focus on our children. This workshop will explore the dynamics and roots of "helicopter parenting" and will offer alternative ways of thinking to provide more positive support for your child's growth and development at any age. Presented by **Maren Deaver, MSW**, from **The Family Service Center of Wilmette, Glenview, Kenilworth & Northbrook**. Cost is \$20 for Wilmette residents, \$25.50 for non-residents, and

requires advanced registration by contacting the Wilmette Park District at 847-256-6100. Babysitting available with reservation. Please call 847-256-9633 to make arrangements.

NEW! TV TUNE OUT

Sunday, March 7 through Saturday, March 13, TV Tune Out, various times and locations. Click the power OFF the TV and turn ON the power of your imagination this winter and get ready for **TV Tune Out**. Run wild with your creative energy into participating merchants and organizations for TV Tune Out sponsored activities and adventures. The Chinese Acrobats will kick off this unforgettable week on Sunday, March 7 beginning at 3:30 PM at the Washburne gym, and on March 12, Fabulous Friday will start the weekend festivities with a musical performance entitled, "Where the Sidewalk Ends" from 4:00-5:00 PM, in the Washburne Little Theater. Please mark your calendar for these fun-filled events and stay tuned for more details! Power ON! Sponsored by the **Winnetka Alliance for Early Childhood**. For more information, visit www.winnetkaalliance.org.

LEAD'S PARENT UNIVERSITY

Saturday, March 13, Parent University, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, 60045 (**RSVP; \$**). *Check-in at 8:30 AM*. Keynote speaker, **Barbara Coloroso**, internationally recognized speaker and author, will discuss how to teach kids from toddlers to teens to think and act ethically in her presentation: "Just Because It's Not Wrong, Doesn't Make It Right." Hear her advice and attend some of the many other workshops presented during this morning event. Registration is \$30 per person (\$35 after March 5). For more information, contact **LEAD (Linking Efforts Against Drugs)** at lead9075@aol.com, or call 847-295-9075, or visit LEAD's website: www.leadweb.org.

NEW! SPECIAL NEEDS/SIBLINGS

Tuesday, March 16, Thoughts from Siblings of Children with Special Needs, 7:30-9:30 PM, New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, Room C234, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, 60093 (**RSVP**). It is important to address the unique needs of siblings of children with disabilities, especially when you consider that the sibling relationship is often the longest relationship that anyone has in their lives. Brothers and sisters share many of the same feelings and concerns that parents of children with special needs experience, such as feelings of guilt, isolation, and concern over what the future holds. Listen and learn from a panel of adult siblings of people with special needs as they discuss their relationships with their siblings, pivotal moments in their lives, challenges they have experienced, and their thoughts on future planning. Panelists will also take questions from the audience. The discussion will be moderated by **Tammy Besser, LCSW**, of **Jewish Child & Family Services**, who coordinates **Sibshops** and **Teen Sibshops** developed by **Don Meyer** of the **Sibling Support Project**. A helpful resource list will be available. This workshop is appropriate for parents of children with disabilities and for the siblings (high school and beyond) of people with disabilities. Sponsored by **NSSSED-APS**. Space is limited. To ensure a seat, please RSVP to mades@nsssed.org with your name, home telephone number and school district by March 12, 2010. Direct questions to Karen Noonan at 847-831-5100, extension 210.

TEENS AND THE LAW

Wednesday, March 17, Parties, Teens and the Law – How to Protect Our Children, 7:00-9:00 PM, Loyola Academy, East Gym, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, 60091. This will be an informative panel discussion on the realities of today's teen scene. Parents will learn about their rights and responsibilities, as well as life-saving information. Panel will include **Judge O'Brien**; a law enforcement officer; **Kevin Kusy**, an addictions counselor; and **Selina McGuire**, **Loyola Academy Director of Health & Wellness**. For more information, contact Selina McGuire at 847-920-2512 or smcguire@loy.org.

NEW! RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ADULT CHILD

Saturday, March 20, Creating a Relationship with Your Adult Child, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Loyola University Water Tower Campus, TBA, (RSVP; \$). Being a parent of a child who is 18 to 34 years old can be a mixture of joy, confusion, frustration, and pain. Even though he/she may be a legal adult, the transition to adulthood in other domains may not be complete. How can we serve as guides and maintain a positive, loving connection with our adult children as they journey through the multiple transitions to full adulthood? The workshop objective is to have greater clarity about the next steps to take to create a more satisfying relationship with your adult child. In this session, we will assist you in 1) Understanding how our culture has changed since we were in our 20's; 2) Defining characteristics of the parent-adult child relationship you desire; 3) Sorting through what can be changed and what must be accepted; 4) Identifying resolutions to common issues, such as continuing financial support, moving back home, and family transitions (re-marriage, divorce, non-traditional relationships, grandchildren, selling the family home). The 4-hour, interactive workshop will be a combination of short informational presentations, personal reflective exercises, and small and large group discussions. Instructors: **Judith Luken-Johnson, MSIR, MBA**, served as Program Manager for the **Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township**, a parent organization, for several years. Her career experience is in corporate training and employee relations management. **Meg Haycraft, LCSW**, is a specialist in building bridges in marriage and family relationships. She and her husband, **Dr. Dan Haycraft**, are partners in their company, **TWOgether, Inc.**, in Skokie, IL. \$125.00. For more info and registration, www.luc.edu/continuum

PARENTING

Tuesday, March 23, The Parents We Mean to Be, 7:00-9:00 PM, Francis W. Parker School, Heller Auditorium, 330 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, 60614. This lecture by **Richard Weissbourd, Ph.D.**, (richardweissbourd.com) is one of a series of FWP's "Nightviews" speakers. The series provides a forum for conversation on world perspectives featuring talks on current educational, political, cultural, social, psychological and scientific issues. All events are free and open to the public. Dr. Weissbourd is the author of *The Parents We Mean To Be, How Well-Intentioned Adults Undermine Children's Moral and Emotional Development*, and the author of *The Vulnerable Child, What Really Hurts America's Children and What We Can Do About It*, recently named by the *American School Board Journal* as one of the top ten education books of all time. A child and family psychologist, Dr. Weissbourd is on the faculty of **Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and School of Education**. For several years he worked as a psychologist in community mental health centers as well as on the **Annie Casey Foundation's New Futures Project**, an effort to prevent children from dropping out of school. He is a founder of several interventions for at-risk children, including **ReadBoston** and **WriteBoston**, city-wide literacy initiatives led by **Mayor Menino**. With **Robert Selman**, he founded **Project ASPIRE**, a social and ethical development intervention. He is a founder of **The Lee Academy** in Boston, offering a continuous program between preschool and elementary school that serves children ages 3-11. He has advised on the city, state and federal levels on family policy and school reform and has written for numerous scholarly and popular publications including the *New York Times*, *The New Republic* and the *American Prospect*.

NEW! BOYS (First of Two Events)

Tuesday, April 13, The Nature of Boys: Protecting Their Emotional Life, 11:00 AM, Marquardt Administration Center auditorium, 1860 Glen Ellyn Rd., Glendale Heights, 60139. **Michael Thompson, Ph.D.**, is a psychologist, school consultant, and author or co-author of eight books, including the *New York Times* bestseller, *Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys*, *Speaking of Boys: Answers to the Most-Asked Questions about Raising Sons* and *Best Friends, Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children*. Join us for a

discussion about the way we raise and educate boys. Learn the risk factors that afflict the lives of boys, and learn how to help our adolescents remain emotionally open. This presentation is free and open to all, and no registration is required. This presentation is free and open to all, and no registration is required. GPS (Glenbard Parent Speaker Series) is generously underwritten by a grant from the **Cebrin Goodman Foundation**). For questions contact Gilda Ross, Glenbard Student and Community Projects Coordinator at gilda_ross@glenbard.org or 630 942-7573.

NEW! PRESSURED CHILD (Second of Two Events)

Tuesday, April 13, The Pressured Child: Helping Your Child Find Success in School and Life, 7:00 PM, Glenbard South High School Theater, 23W200 Butterfield Rd., Glen Ellyn, 60137. **Michael Thompson, Ph.D.'s**, second presentation of the day will discuss the pressures and concerns our teens experience in high school. How can we support them on their journey to independence? Learn what is important to them, the struggles they face, how they develop coping strategies, how they manage their school careers and what we can do to help. This presentation is free and open to all, and no registration is required. GPS (Glenbard Parent Speaker Series) is generously underwritten by a grant from the **Cebrin Goodman Foundation**). For questions contact Gilda Ross, Glenbard Student and Community Projects Coordinator at gilda_ross@glenbard.org or 630 942-7573.

NEW! ALCOHOL

Tuesday, April 13, Peer Pressure and Underage Drinking: The Inside Scoop, 7:00-8:30 PM, Lake Forest Hospital, Health Education Center, 660 N. Westmoreland Rd., Lake Forest, 60045. Understand how to deal with the social pressures of drinking that teens in our community face. Learn the tricks of "their" trade and how you can keep your child alcohol free. Teach them how not to "cave in" to these pressures. Facilitator: **Tom Miller, Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor, The Child Adolescent & Family Development Center**. For more information, contact **LEAD (Linking Efforts Against Drugs)** at lead9075@aol.com, or call 847-295-9075, or visit LEAD's website: www.leadweb.org.

SEX AND SEXUALITY

Wednesday, April 21, Let's Talk Sense About Sex, 7:00-9:00 PM, Loyola Academy, East Gym, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, 60091. What is the difference between sex and sexuality? How do you answer the tricky questions your children pose about sexuality? How do you overcome the negative influences from our popular culture? **Terry Nelson-Johnson, D.Min.**, is **Director of Family Faith Formation at Old St. Patrick's Church** in Chicago. Dr. Nelson-Johnson is an energetic and passionate speaker who uses his gift of humor to help parents deal with this sensitive subject matter. For more information, contact Selina McGuire at 847-920-2512 or smcguire@loy.org.

HAPPINESS

Wednesday, April 28, Guiding Our Kids to Authentic Happiness, 7:00 PM, Central School, 620 Greenwood Ave., Glencoe, 60022. At the **Glencoe PTO's Annual Meeting**, **Aaron Cooper, Ph.D.**, a psychologist with **Northwestern University's Family Institute** and author of *I Just Want My Kids to Be Happy*, discusses how parents can help their children achieve authentic happiness and -- surprise! -- it's often not the kind that comes with getting good grades or winning trophies. This program is open to the public. Visit www.glencoepto.org for more information.

DIGITAL YOUTH

Monday, May 3, Raising Kids in the New Digital World, 7:00-9:00 PM, Francis W. Parker School, Heller Auditorium, 330 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, 60614. The public is invited to the 12th Annual Francine C. Rosenberg Memorial Lecture Series featuring **Jim Steyer, CEO of**

Common Sense Media, Inc., an expert on raising children in today's complex media landscape. He will provide an overview of media in the 21st century and the perils and possibilities it poses for our children, as well as practical ideas on how parents can help their children make the most of this digital world. This event is free and open to the public, so please feel free to invite friends and colleagues. Mr. Steyer has spent more than 20 years as one of the most respected experts and entrepreneurs on issues related to children's policy and media in the United States. As CEO, he is responsible for the overall leadership of Common Sense Media, the nation's leading non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the media lives of kids and families. Prior to founding Common Sense, Mr. Steyer was chairman and CEO of **JP Kids**, a respected family media company. Before that, he served as president of **Children Now**, a leading national advocacy and media organization for children, which he founded in 1988. In addition to his duties at Common Sense Media, Steyer teaches popular courses on civil rights, civil liberties and children's issues at **Stanford University**, where he has taught for the past 19 years. During that period, he has received a number of Stanford's highest teaching honors. He is also the author of the widely acclaimed book *The Other Parent: The Inside Story of the Media's Effect on Our Children*, which draws upon his extensive experience as a leading child advocate, educational media expert and Dad. During the past decade, Steyer has appeared regularly on a variety of national television and radio programs, including *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Oprah*, CNN, *The O'Reilly Factor* and *Larry King*. He hosts a regular weekly segment on "Kids and the Media" on CBS-5 TV in San Francisco, and his work has been featured in numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

NEW! FUNDRAISER

Friday, February 5, Ladies' Night Out: A Celebration for Women, 6:30 PM, The Armour House, Lake Forest Academy, 1500 W. Kennedy Rd., Lake Forest, 60045 (RSVP; \$; F). Register at www.leadweb.org, \$75 per ticket, all proceeds benefit **LEAD**, a nonprofit dedicated to building strong family relationships and healthy youth. Join friends for an evening of light supper, wine, and desserts followed by two inspiring & enlightening seminars and a silent auction at your leisure. Seminars include: **SESSION I: GETTING IT TOGETHER!**. Now that the holidays are over, it's time to focus on your home. Get off to a fresh start and lighten your load by learning 10 basic tips that will help you get more organized so you can live and work in a more productive and peaceful environment. **BRUNCH WITH GALE GAND**. Gale will offer creative and easy brunch ideas to share with friends and family. Enjoy these cooking tips and wonderful stories by award-winning chef and author Gale Gand. She also will be signing her new cookbook. **411 ON MAKE UP BASICS!** Feeling like you want to escape the winter blues? Treat yourself with new make-up techniques from the pros at Blue Mercury. Learn simple beauty tips and make-up trends for a fresh spring look. **LAUGHTER YOGA**. Laughter is the best way to release stress. No worries about pretzel positions, this yoga concentrates on laughter and breathing while sitting and standing to experience happiness. **SESSION II: WINE TASTING: GREAT WINES FOR UNDER \$20** Back by popular demand, taste some great wines that will not break the bank but will wow your friends when you entertain. **HELP! I LOST MY METABOLISM**. Feeling like your body is changing? This program will give you an understanding of the changes we go through and simple strategies to jumpstart your metabolism for the New Year and beyond. **HOW WE CHOOSE TO BE HAPPY**: Ever wonder why some people always seem happy? Learn the secret of happiness. This program will focus on the 9 choices of extremely happy people. **KEYS TO HAPPY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS**. Do you want to have a better relationship with your spouse, mother-in-law, or sibling? Discover ways to create a closer, more open connection with the ones you love – your spouse, family members and friends.

FUNDRAISER

Saturday, February 20, "The Art of Giving," 6:30 PM, InterContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel, 5300 N. River Rd., Rosemont, 60018 (RSVP; \$; F). **The Cove School**, an independent day school for children with learning disabilities located in Northbrook, Illinois, announces its annual benefit **"The Art of Giving."** Beginning with a cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m., the event also includes a silent and live auction as well as dinner and live entertainment. Cove parents **Meg Barnhart** and **Susan Milanak**, both of Lake Forest are chairing the event and the auction co-chairs are Cove parents **Betsy Crosswhite** of Wilmette and **Nydia Searle** of Chicago. Tickets are \$160 per person, which includes a donation to Cove. Proceeds from the event support Cove's individualized program for children with learning disabilities. For tickets or more information, please contact Alexandra Argentar, Director of Development at The Cove School at aargentar@coveschool.org or 847-562-2100 extension 2104. Founded in 1947, The Cove School provides a vital service to all public schools challenged with finding the appropriate educational setting for students to meet their complex learning needs. Cove serves children K-12 from nearly 50 school districts throughout the greater Chicago metropolitan area.

FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 6, "Tuned In: A Teen Music Showcase," 7:30 PM, Mundelein Auditorium Theater, Loyola University Chicago – Lake Shore Campus, 1032 W. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, 60626 (RSVP; \$; F). **Tuned In** brings together talented teen performing groups for an evening of music and fun. This is your opportunity to get with the beat and hear young local talent. Proceeds benefit **Response**, which provides counseling, substance abuse prevention, workshops, school and community group outreach, youth leadership, and sexual health

services to over 13,000 adolescents ages 12-21 and their families each year. Response is a program of the **Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago** administered by **Jewish Child & Family Services**. We are a partner in servicing the community, supported by the Jewish Federation/Jewish United Fund. For tickets or more information, please call 224-625-2922 or visit www.responsecenter.org.

NEW! FUNDRAISER

Sunday, March 7, "TV Tune Out Kick Off Event: The Chinese Acrobats," 3:30 PM, Washburne School Gym, 515 Hibbard Rd., Winnetka, 60093 (**\$; F**). The Chinese acrobats combine Chinese tradition and incredible acrobatic performances, and feature outstanding balancing, martial arts, Chinese poles, and foot juggling. Don't miss this show - you won't believe your eyes! Admission is \$7 in advance; \$8 at the door (children under 1 are free). Send your check, made out to **Winnetka Alliance**, along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Julie Zimmerman, 1556 Tower Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093. Or order online at www.winnetkaalliance.org (\$2 charge for online orders). This event is generously underwritten by the **Winnetka Park District**. Questions? Call Julie Zimmerman at 847-386-6286.

NEW! FUNDRAISER

Friday, March 12, "Where the Sidewalk Ends: A Musical Production," 4:00 PM, Washburne School Little Theater, 515 Hibbard Rd., Winnetka, 60093 (**\$; F**). An **American Eagle Production** based on the beloved poetry of Shel Silverstein. Admission is \$7 in advance; \$8 at the door (children under 1 are free). Send your check, made out to **Winnetka Alliance**, along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Julie Zimmerman, 1556 Tower Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093. Or order online at www.winnetkaalliance.org (\$2 charge for online orders). This event is generously underwritten by **Make It Better**. Questions? Call Julie Zimmerman at 847-386-6286.

NEW! FUNDRAISER

Sunday, March 14, "Billy Jonas Family Concert," 4:00 PM, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, 303 Dodge Ave., Evanston, 60202 (**\$; F**). A **Billy Jonas** performance is an explosion of energy. In singalongs, bangalongs, whisperialongs, as well as improvised songs, his primary instrument is the audience. Everyone becomes part of a performance that reaches out and ". . . touches even the most hardened of hearts." \$15.00. Children under one (1) free. Tickets may be purchased through www.jrcbillyjonas.eventbrite.com. Sponsored by the **Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation** in Evanston. Suggested for families with children ages 1-12. For more information, visit www.jrc-evanston.org.