



The VOICE

A Newsletter for the
Residents of Teravista

Volume I, Issue 3

May 2011

-LOCAL AUSTIN CHARITY -IMAGINE A WAY- *Offers Hope for Central Texas Area Children Affected by Autism*

Imagine A Way announces the launch of their non-profit organization, established to offer Central Texas Area children diagnosed with Autism greater accessibility to services and therapies. This grass-roots charity was born less than a year ago in the hearts of Joel and Carolyn Price after their son, Joshua, was diagnosed as being on the Autism spectrum. Imagine A Way is now honored to observe Autism Awareness Month (April 2011) as an official non-profit organization whose mission is to support and provide hope and services to local families whose child has received this challenging diagnosis.

"After Joshua's diagnosis we recognized consistent, targeted therapies were critical for his development. We felt so grateful for our ability to provide these for him. The early intervention and therapies gave us the hope that we would get our son back," said Joel Price, founder and President of Imagine A Way.

And then they realized there are families who cannot afford these same essential therapies.

Statistically, the window for making the biggest difference in a child dealing with autism is between the ages of 2 and 6. While help and support slowly improve through legislation, children everyday are entering and leaving this window of time without having had the opportunity to get the help and resources they need at the most critical time they need it.

Early, consistent therapy is proven as one of the most influential factors for the successful socialization and development of Autistic children. Yet it is costly and not always covered by insurance or social services. Limited resources can mean the difference in reaching the child or losing them.

Imagine A Way was founded to help families provide their child with these essential therapies, enabling them to reach their full potential. The impact this local organization will have upon these families will be truly life changing.

Joshua was diagnosed with autism in March of 2007. At age 2 ½ Joshua was slowly drifting away and the Prices found themselves in unfamiliar territory, trying to bring him back to them. Last November, the therapies and commitment paid off. "While picking up my son from therapy," Joel remembers, "the therapist told me that when they asked him what he wants to be when he grows up, Joshua's answer was... "I want to be like my Daddy!" Wow! What a gift. A gift we are intent on sharing."

*Imagine A Way is just that.
A gift for families affected by Autism.*

Imagine A Way is planning their first annual Founder's Event for next month, and would like to invite anyone interested in joining with them as a Founding Partner to please visit their website (www.ImagineAWayFoundation.org) or call for more information. With intentions to touch local families in this very practical and personal way, this organization will make a huge impact.

"We are dedicated to making a difference one child, one family at a time," Joel explains. But with a heart as big as this, it won't be long before Imagine A Way touches the whole community.

ABOUT IMAGINE A WAY:

Founded in 2010, Imagine A Way is an Austin based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization bringing support, therapies and hope to Central Texas Area families affected by Autism.

For more information about Imagine A Way visit their website at: www.ImagineAWayFoundation.org

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Georgetown Animal Control.....	512-930-3592

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Stony Point High School.....	512-428-7000
Georgetown ISD	512-943-5000
Carver Elementary School.....	512-943-5070
Pickett Elementary School.....	512-943-5050
Tippit Middle School.....	512-943-5040
Georgetown High School.....	512-943-5100

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Billing.....	1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service.....	512-485-5555
Repairs.....	512-485-5080

OTHER NUMBERS

City of Round Rock.....	512-218-5400
Round Rock Community Library	512-218-7000
Round Rock Parks and Recreation	512-218-5540
City of Georgetown.....	512-930-3652
Georgetown Public Library	512-930-3551
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ARTICLE INFO

The Voice is mailed monthly to all Teravista residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for The Voice please email it to teravista@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

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on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com

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The Teravista Poker Club (T.P.C.) will meet every First Thursday of the month. The doors of the Teravista Club House will be open at 7:30 pm. The poker game (tournament style) will start 8:00 pm.

THE REMAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2011 SHOULD BE AS FOLLOW: May 5th; June 2nd; July 7th; August 4th; September 1st; October 6th; November 3rd; December 1st

See you there. Louis El-Deir

.....

Bunco Anyone?

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Autism Robs You Of Your Child!

By Connie Ripley

One out of 110 children is diagnosed with autism (1 out of 70 boys). More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined.

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that impacts communication, behavior and social relationships. Currently no effective means to prevent autism, no fully effective treatments and no cure exists for this disorder that robs families and children of smiles, eye contact, communication, hugs and even the ability to eat in a restaurant.

Know the Signs. These "absolute indicators" or "red flags" indicate your child should be evaluated.

- No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions by 6 months.
- No back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles, or other facial expressions by 9 months.
- No babbling by 12 months.
- No back-and-forth gestures, such as pointing, showing, reaching or waving by 12 months.
- No words by 16 months.
- No two-word meaningful phrases (without imitating or repeating) by 24 months.

- Any loss of speech or babbling or social skills at any age.

Does your child make eye contact with you? Does he/she enter into meaningful exchanges? Does he/she "tantrum" in the grocery store or when transitioning from one thing to another? Instead of "racing" toy cars, does your child flip them over and roll the wheels or stack them in a line? If any of these things exist, insist on an immediate evaluation. Early intervention may be your child's best hope. Since this disease has accelerated so much recently, many pediatricians just do not recognize the signs.

The prevalence of the disorder rose 57% between 2002 and 2005. In 1975, autism effected 1 in 5,000. Today it affects 1 in 110 children. Autism is the fastest-growing serious development disability in the U.S. It costs the nation \$35 billion a year, and that figure is sure to rise.

In order to raise awareness of this escalating disorder, landmarks, iconic buildings, schools, universities, hospitals, airports, businesses and people in Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cypress, Denmark, France, Hungary, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, New

(Continued on Page 5)

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Autism Robs You of Your Child! - (Continued from Page 4)

Zealand, Romania, Sri Lanka and the United States from Los Angeles to Savannah and from Minneapolis to Houston will be changing their light bulbs, clothing themselves, and eating and drinking blue for the month of April.

Texas State Senator Florence Shapiro will read a proclamation of Autism Awareness Month on the Texas State Senate floor on April 4th.

To commemorate the fourth annual United Nations World Autism Awareness Day and Autism Awareness Month, change your light bulbs to blue and wear blue on April 1 and 2.

It's easy! Just change your light bulbs from white to blue! To make things even easier, Home Depot will carry a complete supply of blue bulbs for the event.

Toys R Us has a month long Autism Speaks campaign. Pump It Up has scheduled The Great Jump for April 7.

Even as autism escalates at alarming rates, it receives only 0.5% of the National Institutes of Health funding. Autism Speaks is North America's largest autism science and advocacy organization.

Autism Speaks is funded primarily by local walks. The Greater Austin Walk Now for Autism Speaks committees are being formed for the fall walk. Your help is needed! Please contact Walk Manager Traci Whitney at traci.whitney@autismspeaks.org

Watch for the 12 diagnostic markers and the possible causes of autism in the following issues of your neighborhood newsletter.

Teenage Job Seekers

NAME	AGE	BABY SIT	HOUSE SIT	PET SIT	YARD WORK	PHONE
Doe, Jane.....	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	111-1111
Doe, John	13	✓	✓	✓	✓	111-1111

+ CPR TRAINING / FIRST AID TRAINING * HAS REFERENCES

ATTENTION TEENAGERS: The Teenage Job Seekers listing service is offered free of charge to all Teravista teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to teravista@peelinc.com by the 8th of the month!

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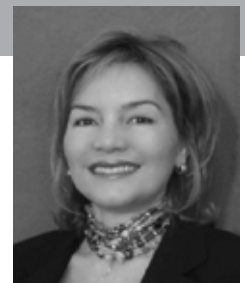


Gabriella Marzorati



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Mariella Rivero

THE VOICE

MEET THE WILLIAMS SIBLINGS

What if your world was torn apart when abuse or neglect in your home resulted in you and your siblings being permanently removed from your parents, your neighborhood and your school! What would you have to hold on to? Well, for many children who are subject this kind of life wrenching event, they only have their siblings for stability. If they end up being available for adoption from the foster care system, the last thing they would want is to be separated from their siblings.

Such is the case for the Williams children. This group of four brothers and sisters is full of love and energy, and they want a family that is committed to loving them and giving them a safe home. They have close relationships to one another and they enjoy being together. These children are very protective of their siblings, and they want a family that will keep all of them together. They hope for a family that will love them and make them their "forever children".

Cleo, age 14, is a very quiet youth that likes to play both with his siblings and by himself. Cleo is in 9th grade, and receives special education services through his school. He likes to play sports and play outside with other kids. He is involved in the athletics program through his school.

Cleopatra, age 13, is a reserved child that takes time to warm up to others. She loves all of her siblings very much, but she also likes to argue with them. She prefers to be called "Patra", and she has a fun sense of style.



She is very into fashion and being different from everyone else. Patra does pretty well in school with her grades, but she does have some struggles with accepting criticism. She attends regular classes and doesn't require special education services.

Natasha, age 12, is also a quiet child, but she loves to talk once she feels comfortable with you. She has a beautiful smile, and she loves her siblings very much. She is the most expressive among the siblings with how much she loves them. She is very artsy, and she likes to draw different things. She is hopeful for a

forever family, and she just wants to be loved. She is in regular classes at school and doesn't require special education services.

Isaiah, age 6, is in Kindergarten and doesn't require special education services. He is a very outgoing child that loves to go full force at all times. Being outside and playing with everyone is what he loves to do. He is full of energy and is constantly on the go. He likes to play with his siblings, but he is also happy playing by himself.

These children need a family that can care for and support them and allow them to continue visits with their two younger siblings who have been adopted by relatives. Perhaps your family could be their "Forever Family".

Adopting a child from the foster care system requires little or no cost to the adoptive family and funding may be available to help the adoptive family support the child or sibling group.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Berka, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, Adoption Coalition of Texas at 512-450-8750 or email at stephanieberka@adopttexas.org

To learn more about the adoption process and the Adoption Coalition of Texas, please call Bruce Thompson at 512-301-2825 or visit our website at <http://www.adoptioncoalitiontx.org>

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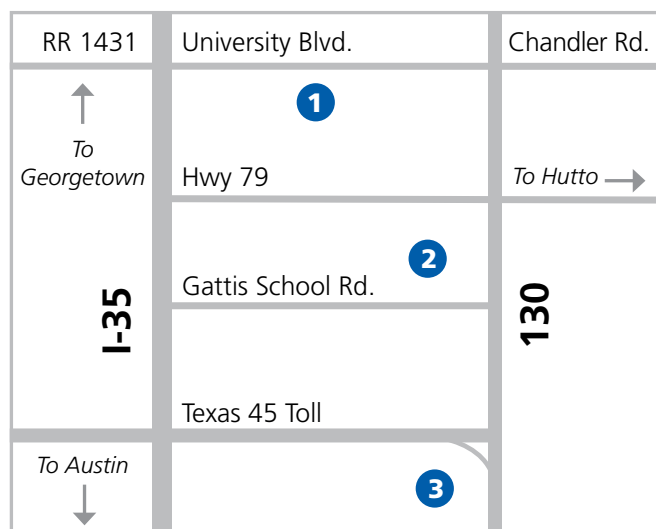


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CONTACT: Andre Jham acjham@yahoo.com

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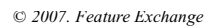


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