



Newsletter

Jan-Apr 2012

Volume 34



From Around the World Program Begins

If you want to learn about another part of the world, you have three options. Study about it, visit there, or talk to someone who has already been there. The third option is what *From Around the World* is all about.

Guest speakers will introduce their listeners to a part of life outside our area, and usually from outside the US. Speakers may share their experience of being raised outside the US, vacationing in another part of our world, or doing volunteer work in another country.

Before each visit, participants in Connections will research the area that is going to be discussed. This will make each program more relevant, and prepare them to ask questions.

Each program is at the Steven Center, and is free and open to the public. Please join us. If you are a storyteller with a story to tell, call Connection Program Coordinator Kathy Sumpter at (919) 776-4048 to schedule your presentation.

Join us for *From Around the World* program on Thursday, January 26 from 12:30 to 1:30. Tommy Thystrup, owner of Town and Country Feed and Pet Store will share his life as a boy in Sweden, and how his dream of living in America came true.

Connections Program Is Cooking Up a Storm

Connections is about providing opportunity for participants to enjoy life, expand their relationships, and become more independent. Taking responsibility for one's own meals is a step in that direction. Participants now have the option of daily preparing lunch for themselves. It will involve menu planning, using coupons and sales flyers to make a shopping list, cooking the meal and cleaning up afterward. Thanks goes to **Sylvia Womble**, for helping to turn a concept into a reality. Starting in January, cooking lunch will be combined with instruction from **UNC-CH School of Nursing** students who will provide education on nutrition.

Connections is a program for adults with disabilities that includes the community. For enrollment information, or to see how you can be involved as a volunteer, call Roger Bailey at (919) 776-4048.

Board Elections



Incoming Board President Bill Bates (L) presents a plaque to outgoing Board President Mark Neuman, who served as president since 2007.

The board of directors meeting on January 13 concluded with election of new board members and officers, and a fond good-bye to those rotating off the board. The following were bid farewell: **Kay Chavis** (first elected in 2003), **Carolyn Jernigan-Murchison** (2000), **Mark Neuman** (2007) and **Ellen Viggiano** (2003). In compliance with changes to the bylaws that limited terms to three two-year terms, these capable and compassionate individuals stepped aside from serving on the Board, though each continues their involvement in other ways.

The roster of newly seated board members is listed on page two of this newsletter. People with disabilities and family members continue to comprise half the board. This helps the Stevens Center maintain its person-centered focus, and understanding of the perspective of the people we serve.

Summer Camps Scheduled

It is not too early to think about how your children will spend their summer. To help you plan, the Stevens Center has posted 2012 camp information and registration forms on its web site.

Camps at the Stevens Center are based on age and are open to individuals of every ability. Campers with disabilities can have fun and build relationships within the community, not exclusively with other people that have a disability. And volunteers and participants without a disability have the chance to make new friends and witness how much all of us have in common.

Like last year, there will be programs for individuals three years-of-age and older. 17 year-olds can join Connections for the summer, which during the school year is for adults 18 and older.

Give your children—whatever their age—the chance to be part of a welcoming community and see that life is not about ability versus disability.

Be Informed—Forum about Changes at Sandhills Center

Do you or a family member receive Medicaid services related to a developmental disability, mental health or substance abuse diagnosis? Sandhills Center serves as administrator of these services in Lee, Harnett and six other counties.

On July 1, 2012, 1915b/c Medicaid Waiver begins, which will significantly affect the way services are provided or administered in the Sandhills Center catchment area.

Be informed about the change before it happens, and ask questions about how this may affect services you receive.

Plan to attend one of these **Tuesday 6-8 p.m.** forums:

- **Feb 7 Lillington** at the Harnett Government Center, 307 Cornelius Harnett Blvd., 401 N.
 - **Feb 28 Sanford** at McSwain Center, 2420 Tramway Rd
- Call 1 800 256-2452 with any questions or for meeting locations in other counties.

Calendar of Events For more information on any event call 776-4048 or visit www.stevenscenter.org, where additions and changes will also be posted. *Training Registration forms are on the website.*

Weekly:

Mon-Thurs Connections Program 8:15 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Mon-Thurs Free walking and exercise programs. 10-11 a.m.

Monthly:

Tues Jan 24 NCI Training Part A recertification 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$35

Thur Jan 26 From Around the World program. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Tommy Thystrup will share growing up in Sweden, and how his dream of living in America came true. Free.

Wed Feb 1 NCI Training Part A 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lunch is provided \$50

Fri Feb 3 🎵 First Friday Family Night Semi-Formal Valentine Dinner and Dance 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Free. Bring an appetizer, side dish or desserts to share. 🎵

Sat Feb 11 ♥♥ Valentine Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction 5 p.m. ♥♥ \$25

Mon Feb 13 NCI Training Part A 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Lunch is provided \$35

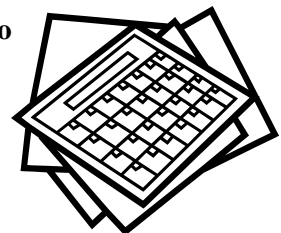
Fri Mar 2 NCI Training Part A recertification 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$35

Fri Mar 2 First Friday Family Night 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Free. Bring snacks to share

Fri Apr 6 First Friday Family Night—Cancelled.

Tues Apr 10 NCI Training Part A recertification 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$35

Tues Aug 14 Stevens Center's annual golf tournament at Tobacco Road Golf Club. Visit StevensCenter.org for information, to register, or to become a sponsor



Stevens Center Board of Directors

Bill Bates
President

David Dudley
Vice President

Linda Foushee
Secretary/ Treasurer

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Debbie Lowther
Cynthia Reives
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 www.stevenscenter.org

**The Stevens Center provides people with disabilities
 opportunity to pursue their dreams
 as part of the community**

Nonprofit Org.
 US Postage
 PAID
 Permit 12
 27330

Financial information about our organization and a copy of our Charitable Solicitation License L200613600026 is available from the Stevens Center by calling 919-776-4048 or from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State. To assure that we are wise stewards for the community, the Stevens Center has an annual audit completed by an outside accounting firm.

Stevens Center
 Valentines Dinner
 and Silent Auction



Saturday, February 11, 2012
 Dinner served 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Prime Rib Dinner and Home-baked Dessert
 (grilled chicken breast by request)
 Bring-your-own wine permitted; glasses provided
 Dinner music by Karen Huey String Ensemble

Tickets \$25 per plate
 \$200 Table Sponsor includes dinner for six
 and \$110 tax deduction

This event benefits people with disabilities in Lee and surrounding counties, as Stevens Center provides them opportunity to pursue their dreams as part of the community.

Ticket order form is on the reverse side.

**Car Wash Ticket Sales Benefit
 the Stevens Center**

The Stevens Center is selling car wash tickets, which are valid through the end of 2012.
 Deluxe outside wash: \$10
 Basic Full Service (inside/outside): \$15

Purchase tickets by coming in or sending a check to the Stevens Center, specifying what tickets you desire. **Redeem** the ticket at Champions Car Wash, 111 Bank Street (across from Golden Corral) in Sanford.

**Recipes from the Heart Cookbook
 Available at the Stevens Center
 for only \$10,
 plus \$3 shipping/handling if mailed**

Come in, or fill out the order form online to get yours today. The book will also be available at the Valentines Benefit on February 11.