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TAP at CTF ILLINOIS

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TAP AT CTF ILLINOIS STAFF

Reagan Carey
Director of Autism &
Therapy Programs

Kristin Gharst
Family Resource
Coordinator

Cheryl Sowers
Family Resource
Coordinator

Cathy Testory
YAC/Teen Connect
Coordinator

Groups Work Together Building Lego Sets!



Charleston Lego Social Club is underway! During Lego Social Club the kids work in groups of two or three and each have a specific role as either an engineer, a supplier, or a builder. Responsibilities are rotated every few minutes or steps so the kids have several opportunities to do each task. A volunteer works with each group and encourages the kids to communicate with one another through the use of words, but they also may use pictures to describe the Lego pieces.



TAP & SIU School of Medicine—Telehealth with Dr. Bennett

Leventhal—8:30—9:30 a.m.—Available to parents and professionals at the following locations unless otherwise stated:

TAP at CTF ILLINOIS—6081 Development Drive, Charleston

Helen Matthes Library—100 East Market Avenue, Effingham

CTF ILLINOIS—511 East Main, Olney

October 2—Case-based Learning (not available in Effingham)

October 30—Case-based Learning

To register for Telehealth contact Cheryl at 217-348-3869 x206.

TAP Activities & Events



October 3—Fall Festival & Sibshop—Two Events...One Fun-filled Evening—4:00—6:00 p.m. Bring the family and head out to our Fall Festival. Just give us a call to let us know to expect your arrival! Sibshop is for brothers and sisters of a sibling with a disability and will run simultaneously with the Fall Festival. Registration for Sibshop is required. Register at: <http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/bAaBv6N5xc1>
Call Cheryl at 217.348.3869 x206 for more information.

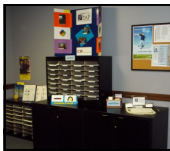


October 6—Community and Residential Services Authority (CRSA) presented by Debbi Smith—6:30—7:45 p.m.—First Baptist Church, 213 West Fayette Avenue, Effingham—Training is FREE. Contact Cheryl at cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org or 217.348.3869 x206 to register. Lego Social Club parents to **not** need to register.

October 27—Community and Residential Services Authority (CRSA) presented by Debbi Smith—6:30—7:45 p.m.—CTF ILLINOIS, 6081 Development Drive, Charleston—Training is FREE. Contact Cheryl at cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org or 217.348.3869 x206 to register. Lego Social Club parents do **not** need to register.



Oct 13—Self-Regulation & Sleep presented by Kim Fonner—6:30—7:45 p.m.—CTF ILLINOIS, 6081 Development Drive, Charleston—Training is FREE. Contact Cheryl at cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org or 217.348.3869 x206 to register. Lego Social Club parent do **not** need to register.



Family Resource Coordinator will be at the Olney TAP Center Resource Room during the following dates/times to assist families and professionals with resources and information. Feel free to stop in or you can make an appointment with Kristin Gharst by calling 217.979.3944 or email kristingharst@ctfillinois.org

**October 14—12:00 noon—5:30 p.m. ~ October 17—9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
October 23—9:00—11:30 a.m.**



Teen Connect of Champaign

October 15—Safety Event—Be Safe The Movie, Interactive Screening—6:00—8:00 p.m.—Champaign Public Library 200 West Green Street. Bring your teen or adult to a FREE Interactive Screening of Be Safe. Watch movie episodes and engage with local law enforcement officers to learn key safety skills. RSVP to theautismprogram@illinois.edu or 217.244.1395. Afterwards we will walk to Rosati's Pizza, 701 South Gregory Place, Urbana. Pick-up time: 10:00 p.m. at Rosati's Restaurant.

October 22—National Acrobats of Peoples Republic of China, Cirque Peking—7:00 p.m.—Foellinger Great Hall at Krannert Center, 500 South Goodwin, Urbana. Pick-up in front of the Krannert Center—time to be announced at a later date.



Young Adult Club of Champaign

October 15—Safety Event—Be Safe The Movie, Interactive Screening—6:00—8:00 p.m.—Champaign Public Library 200 West Green Street. Bring your teen or adult to a FREE Interactive Screening of Be Safe. Watch movie episodes and engage with local law enforcement officers to learn key safety skills. RSVP to theautismprogram@illinois.edu or 217.244.1395. Afterwards we will walk to Rosati's Pizza, 701 South Gregory Place, Urbana. Pick-up time: 10:00 p.m. at Rosati's Restaurant.

October 18—8th Annual Disability Resource Expo—Fluid Event Center—601 North Country Fair Drive, Champaign—9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.—There will be many exhibitors form with resources for preschoolers to senior citizens. Come out and join Cathy Testory and Reagan Carey at the Expo! (See page 4 for information about the Disability Expo).



TAP Activities & Events continued...



October 19—Curtis Orchard, 3902 South Duncan Road, Champaign—11:00 a.m. Search the pumpkin patch for the perfect pumpkin to buy, walk the corn maze, take a hay rack ride, and purchase items from the country general store and bakery. Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at Curtis orchard Flying Monkey Café. Fee of \$5 for corn maze and \$2 for hay rack ride. Pick-up time: 2:00 p.m. at Curtis Orchard.

October 22—National Acrobats of Peoples Republic of China, Cirque Peking—7:00 p.m.—Foellinger Great Hall at Krannert Center, 500 South Goodwin, Urbana. Pick-up in front of the Krannert Center—time to be announced at a later date.

October 25—Halloween Costume Party hosted by Alexandria James—6:00—9:00 p.m. If you are not comfortable dressing up, you may still attend! Please bring a snack to share and a bag of candy.

For more information about YAC or Teen Connect events contact Cathy Testory at 217.722.4482 or cathytestory@ctfillinois.org



October 20—Teen Connect and Young Adult Club (YAC) registration—5:30—7:00 p.m. at the Doris Kelly Christopher Hall Family Resiliency Center, 904 West Nevada Street, Champaign. Registration will start the 2014-2015 year of exciting events for Teen Connect and YAC. Come in and complete an application. Fees are \$25 to join. Volunteers may also complete volunteer packets at this time. Contact Cathy at 217.722.4482 for more information.



October 20 & November 6—FREE IEP Clinic—Two-Part Training—First Baptist Church, 213 West Fayette, Effingham—6:30—7:45 p.m. Bring your child's IEP and learn how to prepare for an IEP meeting, the steps to developing an individualized education program, what needs to be written in the IEP document and where, and how service decisions are made. Contact Cheryl at 217.348.3869 x206 or cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org



October 16—Play Group—The Autism Program at CTF ILLINOIS—6081 Development Drive, Charleston—1:00—2:00 p.m. Play group meets the third Thursday of each month, for children ages 2-5. Most of the play session is structured play activities that promote positive interactions amongst the children. To register and for more information contact Cheryl at cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org or 217.348.3869 x206.



October 23—Sibshop—East Richland Elementary—1001 N Holly Road, Olney—12:45 p.m.—2:45 p.m. Sibshops provide recreation, peer support, and information for brothers and sisters of children with special needs through playing games, sharing personal stories and feelings, and listening to guest speakers. To register contact Jennifer Weidner at 618.395.8540.



October 24—(note this is the 4th Friday, rather than the 2nd Friday, this month only) Adult Social—Dirty's Bar & Grill, 706 Lincoln Avenue—11:00 a.m.

To see menu: <http://dirtybarandgrill.com/menu/2224864>

This group is for adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder ages 18 and older. We will use this opportunity to practice social etiquette, while enjoying a meal and time with others. Each person is responsible for his/her cost of meal, tip (if applicable) and transportation to and from the restaurant. To RSVP or for more information contact Cheryl at 217.348.3869 x206 or cherylsowers@ctfillinois.org



Spotlight on Resources



We have two new children's books in our library that were written by Alexandria James, a Champaign, IL native. Alexandria, now 15 years old has been writing since she was six. In 2008, she began to write, illustrate and self-publish the slice of life "Natila" series. The series is about a typical contented girl called Natila and her simple yet naive lifestyle. This illustrated series features Natila, who is a little girl that wears a floral print dress, high heels and a red hair bow atop a bald head due to alopecia. Alexandria has depicted Natila with alopecia to show readers that they can be different and still have friends and family support, a philosophy which she knows well, having been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Her debut title, *Natila and the Crocodile*, is a story chronicling Natila, who befriends a Spanish speaking crocodile. Now at age fifteen, Alexandria has written and graphically designed fourteen books in the Natila Series as well as published a 2015 Natila Monthly Calendar. Alexandria has appeared on various local



media including WICD News Channel 15, Mix 94.5 WLRW and Daily Illini. In addition to the Natila series, she also writes movie and television scripts. Her current project is a child prodigy drama set in London dubbed, *Optional Music*. Alexandria has also decided to venture into the preteen/teen literary market with a chapter book entitled, *Little Miss Mastermind*.

Alexandria is marketing her published works at the Urbana Market at the Square in Urbana, IL and will make appearances at C-U Bands and Fans 2nd Annual Anniversary Event October 5 and at the Disability Resource Expo October 18 in Champaign. Her works can be found at <http://alexsjames.com> or on her Lulu Author Spotlight page at: <http://lulu.com/spotlight/PitRocks14>



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ECI Autism Connect



October 11—Dragonflies Performance—Shelbyville Scarecrow Daze—3:00 p.m.

October 26—EIU Homecoming Parade—Wear Halloween costumes!

Contact Julia Boyd for more information at 217.273.4793 for more information.



Monday's in October—Bright Mind—Play Groups—6:00—7:30

p.m.—7704 Deerpath Road, Charleston, IL—For more information contact Georgia Hicks at 217.508.7171.

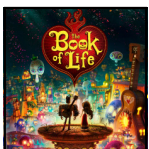
Other Activities of Interest



October 14—Clay County Autism Support Group—Flora Banking Company, 207 Hagen Drive #GARY—6:30 p.m. This group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Kristin Gharst from TAP at CTF ILLINOIS will be sharing information during group time. For more information, visit at <https://www.facebook.com/SHIFTamt> or email family1st@myfrontiermail.com or call 618-508-2222.



October 18—8th Annual Disability Resource Expo—Fluid Event Center, 601 North Country Fair Drive, Champaign, IL—9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.—Nearly 100 exhibitors available at this family friendly event. Fun activities for all including balloon animals, inflatable's, fames, face painting. Entertainment by Chris Errera, Classical Pianist & Composer and a musical performance by Rod Sickler. Sign Language Interpreters, Personal Assistants, and Spanish Translator will be available. Print materials will e provided in alternative formats upon request. For more information contact Barb Bressner at bbressner@att.net or 217.840-3198.



October 25—Sensory Friendly Movie—Mattoon AMC Theatre—10:00 a.m. Book of Life—Tickets can be purchased on the day of the screening for \$5. Movie dates are subject to change. To verify showing of movie, dates, and time please visit: www.amctheatres.com/SFF/