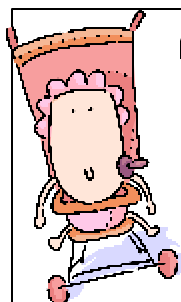




# FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK of CENTRAL CAROLINA

Volume 2, Issue 7  
February-April 2008

801 Green Valley Road, Greensboro NC 27408 \* (336) 832-6507 \* [support@fsncc.org](mailto:support@fsncc.org)  
Supporting families of children with special needs & those born prematurely in  
Alamance, Caswell, Guilford, Randolph & Rockingham Counties



NICU Notes  
Page 2

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

All of us here at the Family Support Network of Central Carolina are grateful for all of the wonderful families we have worked with this past year. 440+ families and volunteers attended our **Holiday Jamboree**, making it our biggest and best yet. Our **EarthFare fundraisers** resulted in over \$1100 for our programs. **THANK YOU** so much for your support! Every cent we raise goes right back into assisting families of children with special needs and those in the NICU—and thanks to your support, we can continue to expand our services. YOU make this organization possible—and it just keeps getting better! All of us at FSNCC look forward to serving you and your family in 2008. Take a look at what's on tap for the New Year...

### MOMS' GROUP

Our support group for mothers of children with special needs meets on the first Thursday evening of each month. New members are welcome & encouraged to attend! Contact the hostess for each month to RSVP.

**February 7:** Juice & Java, New Garden Road, GSO, 7:00 p.m. 851-9392

**March 6:** Bowling night, 7 p.m. 644-6178

**April 3:** Cookout, 6:30. 547-9126

### SIBSHOPS

At the January Sibshops session, we had lots of fun with our special guests David and Sarah Hurt. They joined us for some good old fashioned, stress-busting juggling of all kinds. We talked about how to juggle our busy schedules *and* have time to spend with our brothers and sisters, and what the result is when our sibs have too much stimulation.



The last Sibshops session until the summer get together will be on **Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** for grades 1-6. Call the office if your child has never attended and would like to give it a try. All participants must be willing to talk about life as a sib, and be able to function in a group setting.

**NEW RANDOLPH COUNTY  
AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP**  
Meets on the 3rd Thursday evening of each month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the

Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), 1738 N. Fayetteville Street, Asheboro. Child care available *with RSVP*. Contact Brooke at 334-5601 x217 or [brooke.juneau@ncmail.net](mailto:brooke.juneau@ncmail.net). *This group is seeking volunteers to assist with child care. Please let us know if you can help!*

### DOWN SYNDROME SUPPORT NETWORK of GREATER GREENSBORO

Members new and old are encouraged to join us for fun and support each month at our Moms' Night Out.

**February 10th:** PJ's Coffee & Wine Bar, Palladium Center, HP. 6:30 p.m.

**March 16th:** Scrapbook Family Pages, Women's Hospital Education Center, GSO. Childcare provided *if you RSVP by March 6th*. 4:30 p.m.

**April 20th:** Mad Platter, Battleground Ave., GSO. 4:00-6:00 p.m.

ALSO: Join us for a **free family event** on Sunday, February 29th at Tumble-Bees, GSO. We'll have the whole gym to ourselves for some big fun followed by a snack. To RSVP, or for more information on any of our events, please contact Lauri Lyn Hodges at 856-8968 or [nickelhodges@yahoo.com](mailto:nickelhodges@yahoo.com).



Everyone is invited to  
FSNCC's  
**SPRING FLING!**  
GREENSBORO  
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

APRIL 18th, 5-8 pm  
Details coming soon.....



# NICU NOTES

## Elizabeth's Closet

Current needs include gently used infant developmental toys/board books, and boppy pillows with removable covers. Please contact us if you can help: 832-6507 or [support@fsncc.org](mailto:support@fsncc.org).

## Family Support Network

### NICU Parent Council

Join NICU graduate parents whose mission is to give back by helping Family Support Network support current families and show our appreciation to NICU staff members. We recently hosted a joint family/staff Thanksgiving Day Lunch, and provided snacks for staff for a week during the winter holidays. New faces are always welcome. Let us know if you want to join our council, come by to share your story with new families, or bring a meal to a NICU special event. We have a new email too!

[nicipac@triad.rr.com](mailto:nicipac@triad.rr.com).

## Album of Hope Event

NICU Graduate families- Want to make a photo page for our albums to encourage new families? Then mark your calendars for our annual Album of Hope scrapbooking day on **Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** in Classrooms 1 & 2 at the Women's Hospital Education Ctr. from 2-4 pm. We will supply everything you need to make a page. Just bring copies of 4-6 photos of your baby when they were in NICU, and at least one current photo.

## Many, Many Thanks to...

- The Fleetwood family, whose church, Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, collected \$600 over the holidays to support Elizabeth's Closet.
- Amy Stowers, whose church, All

Saints Episcopal, made a donation of \$250 to support FSNCC.

- A local pediatric practice whose staff members donated \$200 to help a NICU family during the holidays.
- NICU staff that very generously provided donations to help sponsor several families in NICU over the holidays.
- An FSN board member who contributed \$100 to help a family over the holidays.
- St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, whose members generously provided baby items for Elizabeth's Closet over the holidays.
- The many people who made contributions to Family Support Network through United Way, the City County Employees Campaign and the State Employees Combined Campaign.

## Cabin Fever

Is the weather outside frightful? Are you feeling isolated by staying indoors during RSV season with your baby? There are several nice online communities in place to provide support and resources in parenting preemies. Check out:

- March of Dimes Share Your Story online community. [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com).
- The Preemie Community Forum [www.preemieclinicahealth.com](http://www.preemieclinicahealth.com)
- LiveJournal.com/preemies

## Preemie Purple Heart

The Preemie Purple Heart is back! Many families have asked for information about how to find this great glass heart and poem, worn as an outward sign of unity among those touched by prematurity. Read more about it at [www.preemiehearts.com](http://www.preemiehearts.com).

## Tips for RSV Season

Did you know that RSV is the leading cause of infant hospitalization, affecting more than 125,000 babies each

year? Prime season for this dangerous virus is October 1-April 1, and Preemies are especially susceptible. Remember these simple precautions to help protect your baby:

- Wash your hands briskly before holding your baby, and be sure others do too.
- Wash baby's toys, play surfaces, clothing and bedding often.
- Don't share personal items (towels, washcloths, cups, pacifiers)
- Minimize baby's exposure to crowds whenever possible.
- Never let anyone smoke around your baby.
- Be sure everyone in your family gets a flu vaccine (including brothers and sisters). You can find the nearest site to get a flu shot by visiting [www.findaflushot.com](http://www.findaflushot.com).
- If your baby qualifies for Synages injections to protect them against RSV, don't miss or delay your monthly appointment. If you have a question regarding the criteria for qualifying for or reimbursement of Synages, contact your pediatrician's office.

These tips will help your baby—and you - to stay healthy through RSV season, and all year long!

*Source: American Academy of Pediatricians ([www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org))*

## SAVE THE DATES!

RSV Season ends on April 1<sup>st</sup>! If your baby is healthy enough to come out and play, please join us at these great spring events! The **FSNCC Spring Fling at the Children's Museum on April 18<sup>th</sup>** (details on page 1) and the **March of Dimes March for Babies on April 26<sup>th</sup>**. Go directly to the March of Dimes website for details about this fun event: [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com).



## the link

### Fantastic Opportunities at the Music Academy of N.C.!

Due to generous funding from the Moses Cone ~Wesley Long Community Health Foundation, The Music Academy of N.C. has limited scholarships available for the **Developmental Music Program for Exceptional Children**, including early childhood music classes (ages birth - 5 years), group lessons (ages 6 and older), private instrumental lessons (ages 5 and older), and camps (ages 5-12). The MANC will also offer **Spring Break Music Camp for Children with Special Needs**, ages 5 - 12. Scholarships are available through a grant from the Alexander Worth McAlister Foundation.

The MANC is also offering a variety of music classes for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, with or without special needs. Spring sessions begin in early February, so be sure to sign up soon! For dates, times, and the required application for all of these programs, contact Laura Holley at 379-8748, ext. 103 or send e-mail to: [lauraholley@musicacademync.org](mailto:lauraholley@musicacademync.org)

*Dancing Above the Barre: Creative Movement for Young Girls with Physical Disabilities*  
Greensboro Ballet is offering a dance program for young girls with physical disabilities, ages four to eight. Classes will run Saturdays from noon to 1 pm, February 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 5<sup>th</sup>, with a recital on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Cost of the program will be approximately \$72.00. For more information or to register your child, please contact Rebekah Smart at 404-8413 or [rcsmar@gmail.com](mailto:rcsmar@gmail.com).

### Ease Stress & Winter Blues the Healthy Way

**FSNCC will host a class on Meditation Techniques and Contemplative Practices on Thursday, February 28, 7-8:30 p.m. at Women's Hospital Education Ctr., Classroom 4, GSO. Primarily for beginners, but open to everyone. To learn more & register, call Julie at 379-1000.**

*ECPAC Spring Parent Institute*  
Guilford County Schools and the Exceptional Children's Parent Advisory Council (ECPAC) will offer "Empowering Parents," an institute for families of children receiving special education services, on Thursday, March 13th at Kiser Middle School, GSO, 6-8:00 p.m. Topics will include alternate assessments & graduation paths; transitions to the next school level; positive behavior support; and much more. Dinner provided. Register by February 29th. Contact Stephanie at [antkows@gcsnc.com](mailto:antkows@gcsnc.com) or 370-8329, or Andrea at 856-9923 or [aworthington@bellsouth.net](mailto:aworthington@bellsouth.net).  
*Snow date March 20th.*

*Parents Partner with UNCG to Establish More Services for Kids with Asperger Syndrome*  
A group of parents are forming a committee to partner with UNCG in developing services for children diagnosed with Asperger syndrome. The first priority is working towards establishing a summer day camp program that would be operated through the Psychology Department at UNCG. The committee will meet on Tuesday, February 12th in High Point. For more information, contact Kellie Whelan at 209-0280 or [Kwhelan01@triad.rr.com](mailto:Kwhelan01@triad.rr.com).

### Study Seeks Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Participants are needed for a study exploring the language & literacy skills of children with autism. Eligible participants are between the ages of 4 years, 0 months and 7 years, 11 months, plus one of the child's caregivers. Children can be nonreaders, starting readers, or readers who struggle with comprehension. Child participants will be given a testing battery that should take approximately 30-60 minutes. Caregivers will be asked to complete questionnaires that, combined, will take approximately just over 1 hour to complete. Child participants will be given a book for their participation, and their caregiver will be offered a summary of their child's emergent literacy skills. Contact Elizabeth Lanter for more info or to sign up: 919-388-3032 or [elanter@med.unc.edu](mailto:elanter@med.unc.edu).

### Upcoming Play Touches Families.. Benefits After Gateway

"Boys Next Door," an insightful comedy about 4 friends with cognitive disabilities who have graduated from high school and are living in a group home, will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 13-15 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday the 16th at 2:00 p.m. at the Broach Theater in downtown Greensboro. The play will feature performers from Weaver Academy. 160 tickets have been donated to parents of children with special needs for Thursday's performance; these may be reserved by calling the Broach at 378-9300. The Friends of Gateway Foundation is sponsoring this event to benefit After Gateway, a day program for adults with developmental disabilities.

# FOUR-COUNTY CALENDAR

## ROCKINGHAM

### **\*SAVE THE DATE!**

Rockingham County Schools' Preschool Program is planning to host a St.

Jude Children's Hospital Trike-A-Thon on May 20, 2008. The event will be day-long with other fun activities planned throughout the day. Families are asked to bring a picnic lunch. Locations & times to be announced soon. Interested participants may contact Andrea Hancock: 427-3266.

## CASWELL

**\*Caswell County Winter Fun Fest for Preschoolers.** Join us at the Caswell County Civic Center for a wonderful opportunity to learn about local programs and services for children with and without special needs. Games, face painting, puppet show, pizza party, and lots of other fun activities will be offered. Wednesday, February 13, 6:00-7:30.

## RANDOLPH

**\*NEW! Support Group for families of Children with Autism.** Meets the 3rd Thursday evening of each month at the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), 1738 N. Fayetteville St., Asheboro. Child care available with RSVP. Children meet in the ECDC gymnasium. Light refreshments. An opportunity to meet lots of great families & discuss life with ASD. For more information & to register, contact Brooke at 334-5601 Ext. 217 or [brooke.juneau@ncmail.net](mailto:brooke.juneau@ncmail.net).

\*The Asheboro Youth & Family Support Group, serving families of children with mental illness, meets the second Tuesday of each month from 6 - 8 p.m. at Asheboro Friends Meeting on 230 E. Kivett St. The Archdale Youth & Family Support Group, serving children with ADHD and their families. Meets the 4th Tues. of each month, 6-8 p.m. New Covenant Lutheran Church.

Grandparents Group offers support to grandparents raising grandchildren. Meets the 1st Thursday of the month. For information on these groups, contact Vickie Wilson at 629-9550.

**\*REACH Group for family or friends of persons with mental illness.** Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., at the MHA office, 513-D White Oak Street, Asheboro. Free; no need to pre-register. For information on REACH & other support groups offered by the MHA, call Chris Corsbie at 625-5551.

## ALAMANCE

**\* Down Syndrome Support Group: Welcoming Alamance area families with children of any age who have a diagnosis of Down Syndrome. Co-sponsored by the Alamance Partnership for Children and FSNCC. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Dinner & child care provided. For more information, call Brooke at 334-5601 Ext. 217 or Ashley at 513-0063.**

\* Autism Society of NC, Alamance County Chapter: Meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Shiloh Presbyterian Church, Burlington. 6:30-8:00 pm. Childcare available. For information, respite care programs, and other events, call 919-563-0471 or visit [alamanceasnc@bellsouth.net](mailto:alamanceasnc@bellsouth.net).

Alamance County Chapter ASNC morning coffee times are held on the 3rd Friday of each month, 9:30 am, at Panera Bread near Burlington Square Mall. Visit with other parents from our ASNC chapter & exchange ideas and information about our children.

**\* Open Hearts, Open Homes: Foster & Adoptive Association of Alamance County: Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 at Integrity Community Church, Burlington (in the Burlington Outlet Center). For more information, contact Fred Surrette at 584-2066 or e-mail [alamancefosteradopt@yahoo.com](mailto:alamancefosteradopt@yahoo.com).**

\* Kindermusik offers music lessons for young children at all levels of ability at the Brain Train store on S. Church Street in Burlington, and at Mackintosh on the Lake. For programs and enrollment information, call 336-329-9573 or e-mail [mgornto@triad.rr.com](mailto:mgornto@triad.rr.com).

**\* Circle of Parents Group: A supportive environment for sharing the joys & challenges of raising children. Meets the last Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at 1206-A Vaughn Rd., Burlington. Dinner & snacks provided. Sponsored by the Alamance County Partnership for Children. For info call Ashley at 513-0063.**

\* Family-to-Family Education Program. Free for family members, partners & friends of those with Depression, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Borderline Personality Disorder, Panic Disorder, OCD, & Co-occurring Brain Disorders and Addictive Disorders. A series of 12 weekly classes structured to help caregivers understand and support individuals with serious mental illness while maintaining their own well being. Taught by trained NAMI family volunteers who know what it is like to have a loved one struggling with one of these brain disorders. Classes start Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM-8:00pm, Holly Hill Baptist Church, 2818 Edgewood Ave., Burlington. Call to register: 376-9619.

# Community Calendar: Guilford County, Winter-Spring '08



\*Please Note: Many of these events, including ALL events of the Family Support Network of Central Carolina, are open to families throughout our service area.

## FEBRUARY

**Thursdays in February:** "Parenting with Love & Logic" training for foster families. Presented by Children's Home Society. **February 7, 14, 21 & 28**, 6:30-9 p.m., CHS—Ravenel Child Care Center, GSO. \$15/Family. Prepare to attend all 4 sessions. Space limited; register ASAP. Call Kathy Clayton at 274-1538, x309 or 1-800-862-6507, x309.

**2nd-April 5th:** "Dancing Above the Barre" ballet classes for girls with physical disabilities. For details, see "The Link," page 3.

**6th:** Surrogate Parent Training. Guilford County Schools' Exceptional Children's Services seeks volunteers to advocate in IEP meetings for children when a parent or guardian cannot be identified. Training to be held in Training Room of GCS-EC Services, 120 Franklin Street, GSO. If you can help, please contact Stephanie at 370-8329 or antkows@gcsnc.com.

**7th: FSNCC Moms' Group, 7:00 p.m.** See page 1 for details.

**10th: Down Syndrome Network of Greater GSO, Moms' Night Out, 6:30.** See page 1 for details.

**12th:** Workshop for families whose children have been newly diagnosed with autism. Learn all you need to know about accessing services and support. Offered by the Autism Center for Life Enrichment. 10:00 a.m., Amos Cottage, 3325 Silas Creek Parkway, W-S. Info & registration: contact Lori at [lflinchum@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:lflinchum@autismsociety-nc.org) or 336-333-0197, ext 303.

**12th:** Meeting of the committee to plan services for children with Asperger syndrome in conjunction with UNCG. See page 3 for details.

**15th: FSNCC Sibshops. Last session before summer for grades 1-6. Please**

see page 1 for details.

*Service providers: Don't forget to register for the 2008 Smart Start Conference. May 6-9, GSO. Discounted Early Bird registration ends February 14th!*  
[www.ncsmartstart.org](http://www.ncsmartstart.org)

**18th-April 14th:** Level I & II sign language courses offered by CSDHH. See page 6 for details.

**21st-22nd:** NC Augmentative Communication Association presents "Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence & Innovation in AAC." Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord Golf Resort & Spa. Register online at [radfordprofessional-meetings.com](http://radfordprofessional-meetings.com) or call Jennifer Magoon at 254-1052.

**23rd:** "Literacy for Students with Significant Disabilities." Sponsored by the ECAC. 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Hilton Charlotte University Place. For info & registration, call 1-800-962-6817 or visit [www.ecac-parentcenter.org](http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org).

**25th:** The Arcs of High Point and Greensboro present Kathie Snow, nationally recognized speaker on disability issues & author, *Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities*. GTCC Jamestown Campus, Percy Sears Auditorium, 6:30-8:30pm. FREE. RSVP: 883-0650 ext. 230.

**28th: FSNCC sponsors "Meditation Techniques & Contemplative Practices." Free. See page 3 for details.**

**29th: Down Syndrome Network of Greater GSO Family Event. Tumblebees, GSO, 4-5:30 p.m. Details, pg. 1.**

## MARCH

**6th: FSNCC Moms' Group, 7:00 p.m.** See page 1 for details.

**13th:** "Empowering Parents" institute offered by GCS-EC services and the ECPAC. For details, see "The Link," page 3.

**13th-16th:** "Boys Next Door" play benefitting Friends of Gateway, Broach Theater, GSO. For details, see "The Link," page 3.

**16th: Down Syndrome Network of Greater GSO, Moms' Night Out, 4:30.** See page 1 for details.

**29th:** Disability Resource Fair. Oak Hollow Mall, HP. Sponsored by the Arc of High Point. Times to be announced. For more information, call 883-0650.

## APRIL

**3rd: FSNCC Moms' Group, 6:30 p.m.** See page 1 for details.

**18th: FSNCC SPRING FLING!! GSO Children's Museum, 5-8 pm. FREE. Join us in our Party Room for refreshments & a chance to meet other local families. Details coming soon!**

**20th: Down Syndrome Network of Greater GSO, Moms' Night Out, 4:00.** See page 1 for details.

**25th-26th:** Autism Society of NC Annual Conference: "Issues Across the Spectrum & Life Span." Radisson High Point Hotel. For friends, families, & service providers for persons with a spectrum disorder, as well as self-advocates. Call 1-800-442-2762 or visit [www.autismsociety-nc.org](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org) and click on "News & Events."

**26th:** March of Dimes March for Babies. See NICU Notes, page 2.



## ONGOING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### \*CHALLENGER SPORTS WINTER PROGRAMS!

Basketball & bowling teams have formed for the winter for kids with physical or developmental disabilities. Sponsored by the Arc of GSO. Donations of at least \$10 are requested to assist with program costs. Contact Ellica Church at 235-3003.

**\* Triad Area Hitch-Up (Hearing Impaired Toddlers and Children Have Unlimited Potential):** A parent-run group supporting families of children with hearing loss, regardless of their chosen mode of communication. Meetings on the last Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Greensboro AHEC (Moses Cone Memorial Hospital), Rooms 31 & 33. Child care available; RSVP is required for this service. For more information, e-mail [info@triadhitchup.com](mailto:info@triadhitchup.com) or visit [www.triadhitchup.com](http://www.triadhitchup.com).

**\* Communication Services for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing:** Parent discussion group, games & activities for kids & teens. Dinner served. 4th Thursday of each month at College Park Baptist Church, GSO. Contact Kelle Owens 336-275-8878 or [kelle@csdhh.org](mailto:kelle@csdhh.org).

**\* National Alliance on Mental Health:** Educational meetings offering information & support for families and individuals living with mental illness. 4th Monday of every other month, 7:30 pm. Fellowship Presbyterian Church, 2005 New Garden Road. Also: "Caring & Sharing" Support Group for individuals and families living with mental illness. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm. Call 282-5089.

**\* Tristan's Quest:** A variety of social skills programs, anger management

classes, & support groups for youth (ages 4-18) with emotional/behavioral difficulties & children of incarcerated parents. Parent support groups also available. Volunteers welcomed; background check required and training provided. Call 547-7460 or view [www.tristansquest.com](http://www.tristansquest.com).

### \* The Autism Society of NC, Guilford County Chapter (ASNC-GC):

Monthly meetings for families & individuals with ASD, 3rd Friday night of each month during the school year. Brooks Global Elementary School, 1215 Westover Terrace, GSO, 6:30 - 8:00pm. Respite care available upon request: call 580-6548. *Parent Coffee Breaks (AM):* 3rd Tuesday of each month, Panera on Wendover Ave. for informal conversation & support. 9:30 am. *Parent Coffee Breaks (PM):* 1st Tuesday evening of each month, Panera on Wendover. Focus: biomedical issues related to autism. 7:00 p.m. Call 333-0197 or visit [www.asncgc.org](http://www.asncgc.org).

**\* The Arc of High Point:** Common Visions group for individuals with special needs, their families, & anyone interested in disability issues. 1st Monday evening of each month, Arc of HP, 153 E. Bellevue Dr. Call 883-0650 or visit [www.arc-of-hp.com](http://www.arc-of-hp.com).

**\* GSO and High Point Parks & Recreation Mainstream Resources Units:** A variety of programs for Guilford County residents with physical, developmental, and/or visual impairments. For information on events in GSO call 373-2735. In HP, call 883-3469 & request calendar.

**\* Martial Arts Classes for Students with Special Needs:** Steve Adams of the GSO Black Belt Academy offers courses in Tae Kwon Do & Women's Self-Defense for persons aged 5 & up with developmental disabilities. For info, call 312-0611.

## NC State Deaf-Blind Project

Provides technical assistance, information, resources and support to families of children with combined vision and hearing loss from birth to age twenty-two. Services are also provided to teachers, related service personnel, local education agencies, private agencies, charter schools and any other service provider. Our State Project launched a new service in 2007 which consists of employment of four Family Outreach Specialists across the state. The Family Outreach Specialists provide family support, identify community resources/organizations that the family can access, and offer information on workshops/conferences aimed at educating parents and teachers. Website: [www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/instructional/deafblind/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/instructional/deafblind/) Group contacts: Chris Jones, [cjones@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:cjones@dpi.state.nc.us) or (919)807-3991 OR Carolyn Bruno, Regional Family Outreach Specialist: [cbruno1@triad.rr.com](mailto:cbruno1@triad.rr.com) or (336)847-3363.

## Bond Referendum

Guilford County School is proposing the following projects for a May 2008 Bond Referendum to include new facilities for students with disabilities:

**\*Autism Wing at Ragsdale High School for 48 students**

**\* Southeast Area Autism Wing for 48 students**

**\*Airport High School Autism Wing for 48 students**

**\*Special Education Center West, High Point Area (additional funding to be added to current funding from 2003 school bond)**

For more information on these proposals and how you can voice your opinion, contact the Guilford Education Alliance at (336) 841-4332.

## Sign Language Courses Offered

by Communication Services for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing CSDHH will offer Level I & II sign language courses at the Self-Help Center, GSO, February 18th-April 14th. Classes will meet Monday evenings from 6-8 p.m. For information or to register, contact Jamie Hill: [jamie@csdhh.org](mailto:jamie@csdhh.org); 275-8878 (V) or 274-1461 (TTY/VP).