

Clallam Connection

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January—February 2012

NEW WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

New Website for Employers!

Clallam County Health & Human Services Developmental Disabilities has launched a new web page “Resources for Employers” to advocate hiring individuals with developmental disabilities. This new page gives information regarding training, benefits, and incentives and provides links to important government websites. This will help potential employers answer many of their questions.



Go to: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/HumanServices/DD_EmployerResources.html



Social Media!

We have recently added our own Facebook page that joins other Clallam County department pages to link important Local, State and Government information. We will be reporting important news and upcoming events.

Look us up and follow along at:

Clallam County Health & Human Services—
Developmental Disabilities

Disability is a matter of perception. If you can do just one thing well, you're needed by someone.

- Martina Navratilova

AUTISM FINDING MAKES TIME MAGAZINE

One of Time Magazine’s 2011 Top 10 New Findings in Parenting 8. Small Babies Have Bigger Risk of Autism.

Premature babies who weigh less than 4.5 lb. (2 kg) at birth are five times as likely as babies born at a normal weight to be diagnosed with an autism-spectrum disorder (ASD).

University of Pennsylvania researchers followed 1,105 children, some of whom weighed just 1 lb. at birth. They checked in with the children at ages 2, 6, 9, 16 and 21. When the kids were 16, they were screened for autism. Of the 623 children screened, 117 appeared positive for autism, vs. 506 who appeared negative — a ratio disproportionately high, compared with the general population. "It was very high, and we thought we had a great opportunity to really evaluate them for autism with a diagnostic test," says Jennifer Pinto-Martin, director of the Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania and the study's lead author.

Five years later, when the children were 21, Pinto-Martin used diagnostic tests — which are more accurate than screens — to evaluate 70 of the 117 who had screened positive at age 16 and 119 of the 506 who had screened negative. She found 14 instances of ASD, according to the research, which was published in October in the journal *Pediatrics*. That rate is five times as high as what's typically found, which Pinto-Martin says is significant enough to warrant routine screening for ASD for low-birth-weight babies. "It's a public-health red flag," says Pinto-Martin. "We have a wave of these children coming down the pike because neonatal care has improved so dramatically. We are saving more and more babies, and the consequences for their health are going to be profound."

- Bonnie Rochman, *Time Magazine*, December 7, 2011

SNAP ADVOCACY DAY

Advocating for your services! If not you, then WHO?

Our legislators Senator Hargrove, Representative Van De Wege, and Representative Tharinger want to hear your stories and know what services are important to you to keep. The state budget is facing serious budget cuts. Division of Developmental Disability may have to cut many services including employment, Medicaid personal care hours, dental, prescription, and eligibility among other services. Join Snap for advocacy classes and field trips to Olympia. Learn how to tell your story and why it is important.

Join Snap on an Advocacy Day in Olympia 2012 Self advocates
~ Family Members ~ Siblings ~ Careproviders
Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Leave Snap classroom, (Sequim Community School, Fir Street between 2nd and 3rd) at 7:30 a.m.,
back at 4:30 p.m. Bring sack lunch, Snap provides transportation.
Call Tracy at 681-0540 or Anna at 4779159 to Register.

DON'T FORGET

- **DDAC Meeting** — Thursday, January 5th; 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, Clallam County Courthouse and Videoconferencing: District Court, Forks.
- **Snap Classes** — Snap offers a wonderful collection of classes and events this Winter for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Classes are open to everyone in Clallam and Jefferson Counties. Winter brochures are available now. Sign up early. Classes include: Theater Art Design & Construction, Recreation Club, Drumming with Dave, Theatre Production, Recycled Art, Anthropology Travelers. Please check out Snap’s website at www.snapforall.org for more information. Or contact Bonne Smith at 681-8642.
- **Snap Events** — Social & Dance events will be held on January 12th and February 18th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Olympic Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Port Angeles—come on and dance! \$3.00 cover charge.



AND AROUND TOWN



Snowgrass—A Bluegrass Concert - The 10th Annual Snowgrass concert to support First Step Family Support Center will be held January 28th, 5:30—8:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at First Step Family Support Center, KONP, Strait Music, Odyssey Books, Port Book & News, and Necessities & Temptations. In Sequim at Pacific Mist Books and in Forks at Forks Outfitters.

Participate in monthly White House disability calls. Each month, members of the White House Domestic Policy Council and Office of Public Engagement who work on disability issues host a public, live-captioned conference call to keep you better informed of important disability issues and to connect you to the leaders who work on disability policies in the federal government.



Connecting the Disability Community to Information & Opportunities

Over the past several months, these calls have featured discussions on accessibility, employment, education, technology, emergency preparedness, transportation, healthcare and the budget, just to name a few. The Secretaries of Education and Transportation and other senior Administration officials have participated on calls. Go to: www.disability.gov/WHquestion and submit your suggestion.

**The Snappy Players Production
presents an original play
created by the Snappy Players**

**The
KSNAP Radio
Variety Show
presents:**

**"The Battle
between Funk
and Disco"**

**March 3, 2012
two performances,
2 and 7 p.m.
Olympic Theater Arts
414 N. Sequim Ave.**

Call Snap at 681-8642 for tickets or information.



From Left, Kim Holbrook, Steve Kellmyer, Cassie Puff and Jess McNeil
The cast of the KSNAP Radio Variety show Marina Makova, DJ, and Savannah try to convince Dirk McGrier that his relationship with Bella LaBalle is more than a ship passing in the night.

Lost in a time vortex, the cast and crew of the KSNAP Radio Variety Show are blasted into the future while they are trying to find the radio station's missing DJ. Landing in the midst of a club the KSNAP cast and crew are stunned as a battle rages on the dance floor where the divas of disco and the Queen of funk high step a dancing duel.

Returning as Dirk McGrier is Jess McNeil, Bella LaBalle is played by Kim Wing, Utah is Doug Severe, Savannah is Cassie Puff, DJ is Steve Kellmyer, Marina Makova is played by Kim Holbrook, Coco is Alicia Stuber and Dixie Crystal is Bonne Smith.

Directed by Donna Morris and produced by The Snappy Players Creative Director Bonne Smith promises audience members with a production that will be memorable. The story is the third episode of the KSNAP Radio Variety Show. Created by people with developmental disabilities that showcases abilities. Join us as we laugh and cry together about the best memorable music from the 70's.

FROM TIM'S DESK



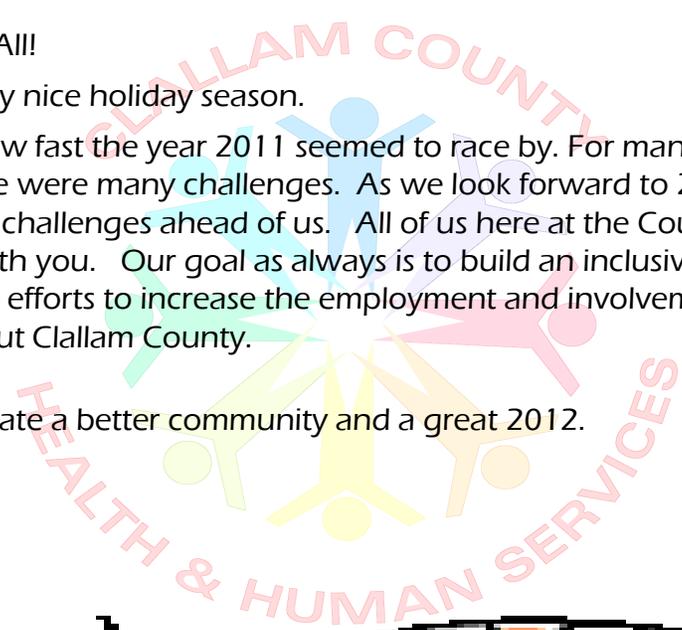
Tim Bruce, Clallam County Health & Human Services Developmental Disabilities Planner

Happy New Year to All!

I hope you had a very nice holiday season.

It is truly amazing how fast the year 2011 seemed to race by. For many people it was a very tough year and there were many challenges. As we look forward to 2012, we know that there are many new challenges ahead of us. All of us here at the County look forward to working together with you. Our goal as always is to build an inclusive community in which all citizens join in the efforts to increase the employment and involvement of persons with disabilities throughout Clallam County.

Together we can create a better community and a great 2012.



DISABILITIES EMPLOYER NETWORK

Providing support to employers in the hiring and employment of people with disabilities



SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Results Are In... for the Clallam County Health & Human Services annual satisfaction survey. We are in the process of compiling all of the responses and will be reporting to the DDAC in January on what people are saying about services for individuals with developmental disabilities. We will keep you posted and will let you know the results in the next newsletter. Thank you to all who participated. Your opinions are important and give us valuable feedback on how we are doing so we can better improve on program outcomes.

- Nancy Wiltshire, Clallam County HHS/DD Case Manager

Primary Business Address
Your Address Line 2
Your Address Line 3
Your Address Line 4

Got a Story? Got News? Contact Tim Bruce at
360-417-2428 or tbruce@co.clallam.wa.us

SPREAD THE WORD
TO END THE WORD
www.r-word.org