Jennifer Mariotti saw the NSSA website as a place where improvements were sorely needed. The NSSA mom and graphic designer donated her skills to upgrade NSSA’s social media presence; and the rest is history.

Under her fine hand the website has undergone a complete make-over. It has been simplified in a way that makes navigation easier. While visitors can still learn about our programs and history, they can also keep up to date on the latest news at NSSA and important developments in the field of autism research and legislation. In addition, visitors can securely register and/or purchase tickets to our events, and view photo galleries. About the only thing that remains the same is our web address: www.nssainfo.org. We hope you will drop by for a visit.

NSSA’s website and Facebook page are kept fresh and informative by Bettye Rainwater, who also manages our new Blog and Twitter feed. “Like” our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/NassauSuffolkServicesforAutism to get blog updates and access to timely information. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NSSAutism. The new blog will give readers a behind-the-scenes look at the daily activities at the agency. You can find and subscribe by clicking the “Blog” tab at the top of any of our web-pages.
Welcome Bobby!

We are happy to welcome Bobby to the Martin C. Barell School! Our very best wishes to Bobby and his family as they set out on this new journey.

A Gift from the Heart

The Martin C. Barell School is the beneficiary of a beautiful gift of art entitled: “Growth- A Mural for the Children 2013,” designed and painted by NSSA mom Jennifer Mariotti. In the plaque affixed next to the mural, Jennifer explains this gift best in her own words:

“Designed to brighten this long hallway and bring cheer to students and staff, this mural brings to life four vignettes from some of the most loved children’s books: the Giving Tree, Where the Wild Things Are, Harold and the Purple Crayon, and Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. The mural focuses on trees from these stories, implying growth and reaching new heights. It creates an illustrated forest of fun. This mural is lovingly dedicated to the amazing children and wonderful staff at NSSA. Jennifer Mariotti, Proud mom of Logan and Maya”

The next time you visit NSSA, be sure to stop by to see this beautiful mural in person.

Mission Statement

Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism (NSSA) offers hope to people with autism and their families by providing high quality life-long support through services which enable people with autism to function better in everyday life. NSSA offers the most advanced treatment and training programs for the benefit of people with autism, and will continue to pioneer, through research, comprehensive treatment models which can be adopted nationally.
Over 350 family members, friends, and staff celebrated NSSA’s 30th Anniversary at the April 13th Dinner for Our Children at Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury. Casino games, dinner, dancing, live auction and raffle prizes made for a festive evening.

The occasion served as the opportunity to honor two graduates of NSSA programs: Joseph from the Martin C. Barell School and Kathryn from NSSA’s Consultation Program. We send our very best wishes to Joseph and Kathryn as they enter NSSA’s Adult Services Program.

We sincerely thank our sponsors for their generous support: Casino Sponsor: Acosta Sales and Marketing, Journal Sponsor: Pat and Mary Beth Miranda, Printing Sponsors: Barrasso & Sons, Charles and Ann Marie Liggio, and Tobay Printing. Thank you one and all!

Thanks to Crest Hollow for another tasteful evening, to Casinos by M&M for all the fun, and Bill Mountzouros of Creative Motion Pictures, Inc. Thanks to Kathy Mannion whose incredible gift for storytelling gives us videos each year that speak to our hearts.

We are very appreciative of each and every prize donor for gifts that made for a successful evening. For Live Auction prizes, we are grateful to the NSSA Parent Association for “Lucky Guy” tickets; Pat and Mary Beth Miranda for a week stay at Smugglers Notch, VT; Barnett Associates of Garden City for a week stay at Wild Dunes, NC; and Steve Kalafer of Flemington Car & Truck Country for Yankee Experience tickets and passes. For Board Prize donations, we thank Trisha McGarry, the Brodsky, Haiduk, and Mizrahi families, Friends of Tyler Pieper, Jerry Weldon, Osprey’s Dominion, and American Luxury Limousine, Inc. Thanks to all who contributed Raffle Prizes.

We are grateful for everyone who purchased tickets, raffles, and journal ads. Many thanks to our too often unsung heroes- our volunteers! Thank you all for making the evening a wonderful success!
On Saturday, September 21st children with autism in the tri-state area were given a rare opportunity to practice air travel at JFK Airport thanks to Autism Speaks in partnership with JetBlue Airways, The Port Authority and TSA. Over 300 people participated in the Blue Horizons for Autism program. Ten NSSA behavior specialists volunteered their time to ensure a successful experience.

The program began with check-in at the JetBlue ticket counter, followed by a TSA security screening. Next the participants waited for their flight to arrive at the arrival gate. JetBlue’s crew members led the group through pre-takeoff procedures. The plane then taxied for thirty minutes, returned to the gate, and the participants practiced disembarking. A celebratory reception was held at the close of the activities.

Beyond helping families touched by autism to gain familiarity with the experience of travel, this program educated airport and airline professionals about autism and the best ways to meet the needs of passengers with autism. In advance of the event Autism Speaks experts held training sessions for more than 50 JetBlue and TSA personnel. The training presented an overview of autism and suggestions to optimize successful travel experiences for all passengers and crew.

Judging by the blog comments, the event was a huge success. Kate Wetzel of JetBlue offered this observation, “Having NSSA there was absolutely brilliant. They brought so much to the table and half of the children that boarded the plane were because of them.” Cheryl wrote “My daughter experienced trouble transitioning from the jetway to the aircraft and I have to say that the team of special educators and behavior therapists who ran to my aid was truly compelling.”

Many thanks to the NSSA staff volunteers whose contributions once again lifted spirits, opened vistas, and helped to make this innovative program so successful.
An Impressive Debut for the NSSA Parent Association

The newly formed NSSA Parent Association is off to a truly impressive start. In one short year they have held a Roundtable Breakfast meeting with parents, a Transition to Adulthood roundtable, Parent Luncheon at Bar Frites for Wheatley Plaza Gives Back 2012, Parent Cocktail Party, Garage Sale, Mom’s Night Out, and Pump It Up Family Night!

In addition, parent dues enabled the PA to purchase four tickets to “Lucky Guy” as a Live Auction prize for the Dinner Dance, host Teacher Appreciation Day, and purchase Full Page Journal Ads for both the Dinner Dance and Wine Tasting.

Pat and Mary Beth Miranda offered their lovely home for the PA cocktail party, giving parents a wonderful opportunity to socialize. Thanks for a great evening!

The May 4th Garage Sale was the first such event for NSSA and it was quite a success, raising $3,158! We are very appreciative of all who donated to the event. We are especially thankful for Eddie Adelman of Pods.com, whose generous donation of a pod kept all the offerings dry, safe, and out of the way during the weeks leading up to the event. Please consider Mr. Adelman for your own storage needs. He can be reached at (631) 334-8587 or eadelman@pods.com.

If you are interested in joining the NSSA Parent Association, please contact Lisa Walford at wallach308@aol.com or Cindy Wittels at cwittels@gmail.com.

Run Rob Run

NSSA dad Rob Walford has been an extraordinary supporter of NSSA, but this year he has taken it to the extreme. Even though his daughter is still young enough to attend the Martin C. Barell School, Rob has run the Can Lake 50 Ultra-Marathon with the dream of raising $50,000 for NSSA’s Adult Service Program.

Rob understands how critical such programs are to young adults, who after 21 “age out” of programs funded through their school district by the Dept. of Education. Aid for programs serving young adults with autism comes through a different funding stream via the Office of People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

“Due to the dire financial situation at the state level, aid is being reduced. It is for the adult services program at NSSA that I dedicate this fundraiser.”

Rob trained diligently and completed his first 50 mile Ultra Marathon in an astonishing 9 hours and 28 minutes! It is not too late to help Rob achieve his goal of helping NSSA’s young adults. You can make a donation on his run website: YouCaring.com/other/rob-s-run-for-nssa/52883 or send a check in to NSSA, write Rob’s Run in the subject line, and let us know you support Rob’s big dream.
The weatherman was on NSSA’s side this year. The May 11th morning of Jack’s Run began overcast at N. Hempstead Beach Park, Port Washington, but the 301 undaunted souls who arrived for the 5K Run/Walk were not disappointed. Thunder, lightning, and rain waited until the moment the very last trophy was awarded before arriving in full force, to the collective amazement of NSSA’s volunteers.

The weather must have suited our Men’s and Women’s Overall Winners, Michael Mariotti and Isabella Van Roy. The 40 year old Mr. Mariotti of Mineola won in 18:51:2 at a Pace of 6.05. Ms. Van Roy, age 15, from Manhasset, finished in 21:26:3 at a Pace of 6.54. Congratulations to both winners!

Our heartfelt thanks go to Michael Miranda, his wife Ondine Slone Miranda, and all of our friends at Miranda Sambursky Slone Sklarin Verveniotis LLP for generously serving as Event Sponsors again this year. It was Mike and Ondine who dreamed up the idea of Jack’s Run in support of their nephew, a student at the Martin C. Barell School. NSSA is delighted to be the beneficiaries of their longstanding and generous support.


Jack’s Run offers a wonderful breakfast spread thanks to donations from Bagel Boss, Roslyn; Ben’s Deli, Carle Place; Entenmann’s, Bay Shore; Holiday Farms, Roslyn; Horn of Plenty, New Hyde Park; and Pirates Booty, Whitestone. Thanks to all for bringing Jack’s Run to a delicious finale.

We are appreciative of our many volunteers, all the runners and walkers who participated, and everyone who donated. Thank you for giving NSSA another successful event.

If you are not a Facebook Friend of NSSA, please be sure to sign up to get the date of next year’s Jack’s Run.
NSSA News

**Bike To The Beach**

NSSA has a new shed for bicycles and sports equipment compliments of Bike To The Beach for Autism. The foundation donated $2,500 to NSSA from proceeds of their June 8, 2012 New York to Westhampton 100-mile bicycle event.

**Everyone Likes a Little Pampering**

“Ooh! Abhh! OH!” Those were the sounds heard at this spring’s Pampered Chef Party to benefit Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism. Supervising Clinical Coordinator Stacey Agosta hosted the party to earn prizes for NSSA’s fundraising events. Executive Director Nicole Weidenbaum graciously opened her home to over 30 NSSA parents, friends, and staff. Recipe samples were prepared on-site by the Pampered Chef demonstrator and shared with party-goers, much to their delight! The party raised almost $3000 in products, that will become raffle prizes for NSSA fundraising events. Many thanks to Stacey and Nicole, and to all the generous folks who purchased products both at the party and via catalog even after the party had ended.

**Autism Speaks 2013 Walk Now for Autism**

NSSA fielded a team of walkers for this year’s Walk for Autism event at Jones Beach on October 16. Here, NSSA Supervising Clinical Coordinator Stacey Agosta & Madison

**Tennis Community Shows NSSA Love**

When it comes to tennis, Shane Helfner wears two hats. He is the President of the Suffolk County Tennis Coaches Association (SCTCA) and the Commack Varsity Tennis Coach. In both arenas he combines his love of tennis with the charitable nature for which he is known.

This spring SCTCA held two doubles tournaments: one in Center Moriches and one at The Hamlet in Commack. On June 6th, the Commack Varsity Tennis team held their annual Play for Autism Event, a player/teacher tournament at which each member of the tennis team pairs up with a teacher from the school. Proceeds totaling $2,409 were donated to NSSA.

NSSA thanks Shane Helfner, Suffolk County Tennis Coaches Association, and Commack Varsity Tennis Team for their kind support.

(right photo)
At center Bike to the Beach Board of Directors member Benjamin Dalley with fellow cyclists

(left photo)
NSSA’s new sports equipment shed

(left photo)
Stacey Agosta organizes Pampered Chef purchases

(right photo)
Coach Shane Helfner with Boys Varsity Tennis Team & Teacher Doubles Partners
Bar Night is Back

After a one year hiatus NSSA’s Annual Bar Night returned on Saturday, June 15th to a new location, The Nutty Irishman in Farmingdale. NSSA Senior Staff Deb Kennedy, Stacey Agosta, Jacque Frangoulis and Beth Boyd coordinated the entire event, secured donations and prizes, created boards of chance, and booked entertainment. The result was a fabulous evening of cocktails, conversation, and prizes enjoyed by over 100 guests that raised $5,518 for NSSA. Thank you Ladies!

NSSA’s own Matt Figuccio provided fine DJ services; and the band 12X contributed live musical entertainment. Thanks to Christine Figuccio and Betye Rainwater for volunteering throughout the event.

Please check the NSSA website for the announcement of Bar Night 2014.

New Job Training Sites Added

NSSA is always on the lookout for new vocational training sites where students and clients attending its programs have the opportunity to develop skills. We are delighted to add to NSSA’s growing list of vocational sites: Bertucci’s Restaurant, Hauppauge; One Source Document Management, Ronkonkoma; and Starfall Experience, a Town of Huntington Park Dept. farm.

At Bertucci’s our students and clients are rolling cutlery, cleaning and setting tables, folding delivery boxes, and prepping salads. One Source Document Management offers practice tri-folding invoices, stuffing envelopes, and shredding documents. Starfall Experience has made available a variety of educational experiences along with prepping planting beds, planting seeds, painting fences, and clearing brush along the park’s trails.

If you would like to add your business to NSSA’s list of Vocational supporters, please contact NSSA’s Transitional and Vocational Coordinator, Jacque Frangoulis by phone at (631) 462-0386 or online at jboily@nssa.net.
Let’s be honest and say golfers are not like the rest of us. Lucky for NSSA, its 15th Annual Golf Classic proves the point. The temperature on that July 15th day was 95, with a heat index of 101. The rest of us might have politely declined to participate, but not our golfers. They showed up red faced, roasting, but still raring to take on 18 holes in support of NSSA. We could not be more grateful for our golfers who raised $33,444 for NSSA.

While we are on the subject of gratitude, how can we possibly thank Joe Longo enough for masterfully chairing the Golf Classic for a decade and a half? Joe, we are so appreciative of your generosity and longstanding support of NSSA.

Sands Point Golf Club was a new venue for the Classic; and it received high marks from our golfers who enjoyed its challenging layout. We thank Greg Smith and his staff for their courteous attention and for a delectable day from start to finish.

We are truly appreciative of our sponsors, whose support ensured the event’s success. For their generosity we thank Breakfast Sponsor- Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rosenthal, Green Sponsor- Brown and Brown Insurance, Cocktail Sponsor- National Grid, Dinner Sponsor- Barrasso & Sons, Front and Back Nine Sponsors- Pat and Mary Beth Miranda, and Raffle and Hole-In-One Sponsors- Joe and Donna Longo. Thanks too, to our Tee Sponsors: Barrasso & Sons, Colleen Cahill, Coram Materials Corp., Bob Dempsey, Bill Donlon, East Islip Health & Fitness, Essroc Cement, Maureen, Sean and Patrick Fanning, Frank Bros. Fuel Corp, Huntington Bay Dental, Koehler Masonry, Margolin, Winer & Evens LLP, Michael J. Berger & Co. LLP, Unilock Inc., The Wittels Family, and WP Owners Corp. We thank each of you for your kind support.

Congratulations to the Winning Foursome of Brian Kalmyer, Howie Berger, Greg Noone, and Eddie Vasquez! Making a great show in Second Place was the Foursome of Joe Guarascio, Joe Guarascio, Sarah Guarascio, and Reed Besch.

We hope you will mark your calendars for our 16th Annual Golf Classic taking place on Monday, July 14, 2014 at Sands Point Golf Club.
NSSA’s 9th Annual Casino Night was a joyous romp of summer fun. Held for the first time at Carlyle at the Palace in Plainview, the evening featured many well-loved favorites and was spiced up with new games and dining experiences, all culminating in a great evening.

Many thanks to our Sponsors for their kind support. Our sincere appreciation goes to Roulette Sponsors: The Butterfly Mission and Ann Marie and Charles Liggio; and Money Wheel Sponsors: The Wigdor Family and Mr. & Mrs. Richard Farrell. Thank you so much for contributing so generously.

Casinos by M&M offered a wide selection of classic casino games. Many guests tried their luck at the Texas Hold ‘Em and Bingo Tournaments. Our new and festive Pop For A Prize helium balloons sold out fast. This year we also introduced a Photo Booth; and throughout the evening photos of our guests looped on screens around the rooms. The culinary offerings of the evening received warm praise. Cold Table Display and waiter passed hors d’oeuvres and entrees made for delectable dining. Desserts included Mini Ice Cream Cones, Milk Shake Shots, and a Cobbler Station.

Thanks to all who donated prizes, purchased tickets, and volunteered. Your contributions, which helped raise $15,163, helped make for an evening we will long remember.

At the close of spring school semester, thirty-six children with autism enjoyed a week of activities at NSSA’s Summer Camp. The children were chosen by lottery from a list of those either enrolled in or on the waiting list for NSSA programs.

Stacey Agosta, NSSA’s Supervising Clinical Coordinator, once again ably supervised the seventh annual Camp. Counselors were drawn largely from NSSA’s highly skilled teaching staff and also included several who have been with the camp for years.

Campers participated in a variety of fun-filled summer activities that kept them socially engaged. They went swimming, enjoyed the playground and bounce-house, and created beautiful craft projects. Trips included exciting visits to Kzam, Farmingdale, and Pump-It-Up, Plainview. The happy week flew by giving campers an exciting experience and their parents a well deserved break.
NSSA’s friends at Huntington Bay Dental hosted their 4th Annual Autism Fundraiser to benefit our organization on July 24th at The Watermill in Smithtown. We are very appreciative of Dr. Adamo Notarantonio, who cares for the dental needs of many of our students and young adults, and his colleagues at Huntington Bay Dental for hosting this great evening. We are extremely appreciative of Mr. Joe Zangri, the proprietor of The Watermill, who not only provided his venue gratis, but all of the delicious food and drink as well. Thank you all!

Kudos to HBD’s Amanda Patton for her tireless efforts. Amanda did all the background work and secured wonderful prizes from the greater Huntington community. For their generous gifts to this event, we thank: 30 Minute Photo, A Tisket A Tasket, AccuData Payroll, Adelina Hair Design, Akropolis Greek Restaurant, All County Block & Supply, Avon, Best Yet Market, Bistro Cassis, Bottles and Cases, Bow Wow Boulevard Dog Grooming, Café Buenos Aires, Cakes by Genny, Carole’s Corner, Case Home Improvements, Cesar Ordonez, Colonial Springs, Country Village Chemists, Crab Meadow Golf Course, Daniel Socci- Luxotica Group, Debra Warlan, Dimitri Kolyvas, Dr. Gellerman, Dr. Jeffrey Goldberg, Dr. Scott Siegel, Dr. Stephen Shore, Emerge: Yoga and Wellness, Finnegans, Gino’s of Northport, Head Sessions, Honu-Kitchen and Cocktails, Huntington Bay Dental, Huntington Business Products, IMS Online, J. Michaels Tuscan Steakhouse, Jackie Shawn Salon, Joanna Palumbo, Joe Dintino, John W. Engeman Theater, Katherine Thomas, Kushi Japanese Fusion, Laurel & Lily Ltd, Lifestyle Foot Spa, Marie Case, Marion Schmitt, Mary Paulsen, Maureen’s Kitchen, Mercedes Benz of Huntington, Nicole’s Delectable Delights, Oral B, Pace’s Steak House, Paul Eliot Salon, People’s United Bank, Philips, Prana Pilates Cycling and Yoga, Priscilla DiStasio, Relations Towing and Collision, Rookies, Sasso and Sons Landscaping, Sue Cerullo from Henry Schein, The Hamlet Golf and Country Club, Thomas PR, Titan Bakery Outlet, TLC Doggy Day Spa, Tutto Pazzo, Uncle Joe’s Restaurant, US Limousine Service Ltd., Village Jewelers.

Many thanks to everyone who attended and to all who bought raffle chances. In all, this event raised $16,448 for NSSA and we are delighted to have so many support our organization.
Summer Interns from Queens College gain experience at NSSA.
From left: Kaitlyn Mosie, Andie Alleva, Lauren Birkenhead, Angela Santoro, Audrey Smith, Denise Nieder, Jackie Valentino

Exotics Rally Visits NSSA!

The deep purr of engines from the likes of Lamborghini, Spyker, and Jaguar could be heard long before they arrived. Exotics Rally, the club for exotic car owners, called their visit to NSSA “Super Bowl Sunday Stretch,” but there was nothing relaxing about the muscular vision of automotive glory that landed on our doorstep.

Club members generously opened their cars to NSSA students, clients, and families, and opened their wallets, donating $1,300 to NSSA.

We thank Exotics Rally for an exciting experience and for their kind support.

Client’s attending NSSA’s Adult Service Program have started their own salad shop: Salads R Us. Purchasers are offered many choices, so fulfillment can be challenging. Clients participating in the project have the opportunity to develop skills such as preparing shopping lists, purchasing needed ingredients, keeping inventory, and budgeting.

The Adult Service Staff assigns positions by taking into account each individual’s skill sets and preferences—from reading orders and making change, to following order requests, wrapping individual orders, and delivering both order forms and completed orders. There is something for everyone to do and many opportunities to develop and hone skills that may be applicable in a workplace environment.

Congratulations to the Adult Service Staff for creatively devising and implementing this wonderful and educational project! Staff is enjoying the delicious convenience of purchasing healthy fresh lunch choices.

Ways to Help NSSA this Holiday Season

- Submit your holiday gift card order through the NSSA Gift Card Program by contacting Jen at jomalley@nssa.net for an order form. Orders must be received by us by Nov. 21, 2013.
- Order your holiday flowers through 1-800-Flowers for a 10% discount by using promotional code “NSSA” when placing orders by phone or online. NSSA will receive 4% of your purchase as a donation.
- Answer the Holiday Appeal coming to your mailbox soon.
Former competitive surfer Israel Paskowitz and his wife Danielle discovered that the ocean was one of the few places where their son Isaiah, who has autism, was truly at ease. After one particularly rough day, Izzy thought he would take Isaiah on his surfboard with him in hopes of calming things down. “There is barely anybody in the world who can take a tantrumming autistic child on the water,” said Izzy, “but I am one of those guys who can do it.” The experience of surfing with his father was so soothing for Isaiah that his parents started sharing it with other children with autism. From there the idea of the foundation Surfers Healing was born.

The foundation hosts day camps at the beach for children with autism up and down both the east and west coasts and Puerto Rico. On a crisp September morning, Surfers Healing held a camp at Lido Beach and the response was truly amazing. Among the participants were two Barell students, who hung ten on their boards, accompanied by expert surfers. Barell parent Christine MacPherson said the best part was watching her son’s smiling face as he came in on the wave. She hung a picture of him on his surfboard in his room and he stands looking at it every day. Christine said “it was an experience I don’t think he will forget.” NSSA dad Pat Miranda was pleased with how well organized the event was and how smoothly the day ran. He said his son “had a blast!”

For more information on Surfer’s Healing, and to check out their 2014 schedule of Surf Camp dates, visit their website at www.surfershealing.org or like their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Surf2Heal.

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Founders Jason Sochol and Omri Bojko envisioned The Vanity Project as a way to help nonprofits improve outreach and branding. TVP produces tee shirts with high end fabric and decorated with an adaptation of the nonprofit’s logo. Their design team simplifies that logo for visual appeal and just enough mystery to encourage conversation.

Of their tee shirts, TVP graphic designer Daria Rose says, “you are wearing something that makes a statement and makes a difference.”

The new NSSA tee shirt designed by The Vanity Project is priced at $20, $12 of which goes directly to NSSA. The tee shirts are available for purchase by visiting this web address: www.thevanityproject.org/collections/nssa.

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Students Brave the Waves with Surfers Healing

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The Vanity Project Makes a Difference with NSSA Apparel

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Theresa Douglas, Deb Kennedy & Shelley Ourian model the new NSSA t-shirt
As part of its Outreach efforts, NSSA inaugurated an eight-week Parent Training Workshop Series this spring. The purpose of the Series is to give parents of children with autism the tools they need to create an environment that promotes learning opportunities during the hours when the student is not in school.

Members of NSSA’s Clinical Staff discuss Autism Spectrum Disorder and how it affects both the child and the family. They explain how Applied Behavior Analysis, the science and teaching methodology NSSA uses so successfully in its Education Programs, can be applied in the home setting. Attendees learn about incidental teaching, basic problem solving, issues with siblings, and common mistakes that inadvertently feed the challenges of autism instead of solving them.

One mother who attended NSSA’s original workshop series said that the experience “both enlightened and empowered us in ways no other intervention has ever done. NSSA’s expertise, dedication and professionalism have been integral in (her son’s) success as a kindergartner with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and in our family’s development as a whole.”

New Parent Training Workshop Series Begins

Thanks to a grant from The Joseph LeRoy and Ann C. Warner Fund, NSSA purchased audio/video equipment that made it possible to record each session and give the participants a copy to study at home and share with other family members.

The second round of Parent Training Workshops began October 2, 2013 and will continue each Wednesday evening until November 20.

NSSA Walk of Fame Turns a Corner

Friends of NSSA have purchased so many bricks for its Walk of Fame that the engraved bricks are now beginning to fill the front path to the flag and seating area. We thank everyone who supported this project with a purchase and remind you that bricks are still available in two sizes.

We especially thank Walter Siebert whose efforts have contributed so much. Walter supervised the installation of the Walk of Fame and donated the services of his crew for several days of labor. Since then Walter continues to generously donate the installation of each new brick order.

We hope you will consider Walter Siebert for your own masonry needs. He can be reached by calling W. Siebert Contracting at (631) 277-9431. Tell him NSSA sent you.

In an all too fleeting world, mark your thoughts with permanence:

Buy a brick and leave a lasting impression!

Bricks for NSSA’s Walk of Fame are available in two sizes:
4” x 8” @ $100 each and 8” x 8” @ $250 each.

For further information call NSSA at (631)462-0386

In Honor of Carly Perlmutter
On her Bat-Mitzvah
David Mizrahi:
Hope Dream Believe
The sky is the limit
Staff Notes, Announcements, and Congratulations!

Anniversaries
• For their five years of service to NSSA, we thank: Shonda Simmons, Andrea McNeal, & Katie Reres

Weddings
Our best wishes to:
• Amy Nieves and Gregory Iorio on their March 22, 2013 wedding
• Laura Hirten and Dan DelColle, who were married on June 29, 2013
• Kristen Kroener and Erik Bunze on their July 3, 2013 nuptials
• Jennie Battipaglia and Chris Granger on their October 19, 2013 wedding

Congratulations
• Loni Stein who was awarded her Dual M.A.T. in Special Ed./Childhood Ed. from Queens College
• Michael Mannion for earning his M.S. Ed. from Hofstra University

Engagements
All the best to:
• Trish Redmond and Michael Sollitto, engaged on December 24, 2012
• Zach Johnston and Shana Kotlus on their August 18, 2013 engagement

Births
Congratulations to
• Jason and Kirsten Watson on the birth of Kyla Lakoda on March 26, 2013
• Jenn and Fadi Rafih, whose son Nicholas Andrew was born on July 9, 2013

T o supplement the funds raised through NSSA’s special events, the Development Office works to secure funding from foundations, corporations, businesses, and government offices on an on-going basis. The Development Office is proud to announce the receipt of the following grants and donations:

September, 2013 - The Andy Foundation has committed $20,000 to NSSA’s playground upgrade

September, 2013 - New York Community Bank Foundation donated $3,500 to purchase room dividers

July, 2013 - The Women’s Group of the Greens granted $1,500 to upgrade NSSA’s website

June, 2013 - Suffolk County Tennis Coaches Association donated $1,000 to NSSA

June, 2013 - Commack Varsity Tennis donated $1,409 from the proceeds of its Tennis for Autism Student/Teacher Doubles Tournament

June, 2013 - The Dime Savings Bank of Williamsburgh donated $14,000

June, 2013 - North Shore Autism Circle granted $20,000 to NSSA

June, 2013 - The Dime Savings Bank of Williamsburgh donated $30,000 from the proceeds of their annual golf outing

May, 2013 - The Ann Schermerhorn Foundation donated $5,000 to NSSA

May, 2013 - Cate Allen and Felix Aldous donated all $11 raised by their lemonade stand to NSSA

April, 2013 - The Berry Hill Elementary School in Syosset donated $60 from their Wear Blue For Autism event.

March, 2013 - The Joseph LeRoy and Ann C. Warner Fund granted $12,500 to support NSSA’s Parent Training Workshops

March, 2013 - Exotics Rally donated $1,300 from member contributions.
Please Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, November 16, 2013 - Our 15th Annual Wine Tasting and Auction will take place at a new location, The Hamlet Golf and Country Club, 1 Clubhouse Drive, Commack - right across the street from NSSA. For more information, email winetasting@nssa.net

Sunday, November 24 & Thursday, December 5 through Saturday, December 7
Americana Manhasset Champions for Charity Holiday Shopping Benefit will take place. Select NSSA as your benefiting charity when you register and 25% of your full-price pre-tax purchases at participating stores will be donated to NSSA. To register for your complimentary Champion Card or for more information, visit championsforcharity.org, call (516) 627-2277, or visit Americana Manhasset's Concierge Office.

Saturday, April 5, 2014 - NSSA's 22nd Annual “Dinner for Our Children” will take place at a new location, Carlyle on the Green, Bethpage. For more information, email dinnerdance@nssa.net

Tuesday, April 15, 2014 - NSSA will host its Spring “A Special Night for Our Special Kids” at Adventureland (raindate 4/16/14). For more information, email adventureland@nssa.net