

Calendar of Events

- July 12th **Buffalo Bisons**
Coca Cola Field, Buffalo
Gates open at 12PM. Game starts at 1:05PM
- August 2nd **Martin's Fantasy Island**
Park opens at 11:30AM
Lunch served from 1-3PM
Advance Ticket Purchase Only!
- September 16th **Kick-Off Meeting & Board Elections**
Medaille College
- September 26th **Step Up for Down Syndrome**
Coca Cola Field, Buffalo, NY
11AM

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DSPG of WNY, Inc.
547 Englewood Avenue
Kenmore, New York 14223



DSPG News

May 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fantasy Island August 2nd

Join us for a day of family fun at Martin's Fantasy Island. We are renting a pavilion for families to enjoy their lunch. Tickets include all day admission to the park and lunch. Park opens at 11:30am. Lunch will be served from 1-3:00pm and includes hot dogs, hamburgers, potato and macaroni salad, and ice cream treats. Unlimited soft drinks will be served from 12:30-3:30pm. Last year the DSPG donated nearly \$1,000.00 to make this event fun and affordable. Due to your continued generosity throughout the year, the DSPG will again be able to absorb a portion of each ticket sold to keep the cost down for our families. Because of this, tickets will be sold to our group's immediate family members and grandparents for \$15.00. The cost to families who already have season passes to Fantasy Island is only \$8 per person for lunch. We ask that extended family members and friends pay \$23.40 per ticket. This is still a discounted price for our group through Fantasy Island. Mail checks made out to DSPG to Bonnie Zon, 222 Culpepper Road, Williamsville, NY 14221, by Friday, July 24th, to allow time for tickets to be mailed back. No tickets will be sold at the park. Any questions, contact Bonnie at bonzon1102@aol.com or 632-0137.

Buffalo Bisons July 12th

Enjoy a day at the ballpark on Sunday, July 12th when the Buffalo Bisons take on the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Rail Riders. The game begins at 1:05pm. It is Blue Jays Weekend. Celebrate the Bisons' affiliation with the Toronto Blue Jays with special guests, giveaways and in-stadium tributes, presented by Samuel Son & Co., Inc. As well, kids can 'Run the Bases' after every Sunday home game in 2015, presented by Tim Hortons. Thanks to the Poredas and the Bisons for the free tickets to this annual event. RSVP to Janet at janpo788@aol.com by July 6th. Please be courteous and reserve tickets for your immediate family only. See you there!

Step Up For Down Syndrome September 26th

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 26th from 11am-2pm at Coca-Cola field for our annual Step Up for Down Syndrome Awareness Walk. We will walk one mile to the Naval Park and back as we celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. This year we are excited to have music from Strictly Hip added to our entertainment list as well as games and activities for children. Registration will start soon. Look for more information on our website, dspgwny.org, Facebook page or contact Gretchen White at 465-0128 or gretchen.w@dspgwny.org.

Young Athletes



Our Young Athletes: (Pictured Left to right) Samantha, Jack, Liam, Drew, Maxx, Carissa, Phoenix, Nick, David and Audrey

Our Young Athletes had the opportunity on Saturday, May 29th to participate in the Special Olympics of WNY meet at Tonawanda High School. They carried their Young Athletes banner in the Opening Ceremonies and also ran a 50m dash. A HUGE thank you to Amy Monson who has coordinated the Young Athletes program for the past 5 years. We thank her for her commitment to organizing all of the elements that have made this program such a great experience for our youngest athletes.



Amy and Jack

National Down Syndrome Convention

Next years convention will take place in Phoenix, AZ on June 25-28th, 2015 at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge. Registration is now open. Check out: <http://www.ndscenter.org/register-now/>. Thought about going? The DSPG offers scholarships to our members, more information is on page 3.

Have Your Heard About?

AMC Sensory Friendly Films:

Saturday, June 27, 2015 - INSIDE OUT

Saturday, July 18, 2015 - MINIONS

Saturday, August, 2015 - TBD

All Show Times are at 10AM and subject to change.

Check out their website for more details.

www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films

GET YOUR FISHING ON

Free fishing weekend on June 27th and 28th. Anyone can fish the fresh or marine waters of New York State and no license is required! Interested in a FREE fishing clinic... check out NYS Department of Environmental Conservation at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27123.html>.

CINEMAS UNDER THE STARS

Check out the various FREE outdoor films series.

ArtPark Family Movie Nights - in August only. Check out what is playing <http://www.artpark.net/content/pages/family-movie-night>

University at Buffalo, Summer Film Series - For a more mature audience. Check out what's playing on their screen <http://ubthissummer.buffalo.edu/more/movies.html>

Movies in the Meadow - Every Friday evening in the month of August, the Parkside Community Association hosts the annual "Movies in the Meadow" program. Check out <http://parksidebuffalo.org/movies/>

Flicks on Old Falls - Each Thursday Evening, July 2 through August 27 with additional dates on June 27, July 11 and August 1. More information at <http://fallsstreet.com/flicks-on-old-falls/>

Movies in the Park (East Aurora) - held at Hamlin Park Each Friday evening at dusk in July and August. Check out the list of showings at <http://www.eawesleyanchurch.com/about/signature-ministries>

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Thanks to everyone for making this year's Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Auction a huge success. We appreciate the generosity of the DSPG and community members who donated baskets. We would also like to express our gratitude to all of the individuals who volunteered their time to make the day run smoothly. And of course, thanks to everyone who attended. We hope you enjoyed it! Mark your calendars for March 6, 2016 for the next Spaghetti Dinner.

Thank You to Our Donors

- David and Karen Gottlieb in memory of Augustine Fenello
- David & Susan Mikulski
- Christine Gust & the teachers at Clover Bank Elementary School who held a dress down day to benefit the DSPG.
- Those who donate through United Way of Buffalo and Erie County to the DSPG of WNY.
- United Stationers



<https://www.facebook.com/DSPGWNY>



DSPG Scholarships

We would like to remind our members that the DSPG offers 4 conference scholarships per year (\$250.00 per scholarship). Scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. A proof of conference registration must accompany the request in order to be awarded. Individuals who have been awarded a DSPG Scholarship will be requested to present information received from the conference either in writing which will be featured in a future publication of our newsletter or presented at a DSPG meeting. There is a limit of one scholarship awarded per family per 5 year period. For more information please contact the DSPG at dspgwny@gmail.com

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