



The Newsletter That Serves Its Readers

PASCO PICAYUNE

Your Home. Your Community. Your #1 Choice.

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2017

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The Arc of Adams County is now offering: Sibling Groups

The Sibling groups are run by a licensed therapist and they talk about anything related to growing up with and/or caring for a sibling with an intellectual/developmental disability. The teen group is for those 12-18 years old. The adult group is for those 18+. The groups are free, confidential, and meet once per month for an hour each.

If you would like more information about the groups, please contact Kari Easterly at 720-634-6886

Summer of ADAPT

There was a time, in the not so distant past, where people with disabilities were seen, as best kept "put away," and were warehoused in institutions, not having access to basic civil rights; freedom, literacy, self-determination. The last fifty years has seen much improvement in the day to day lives of people experiencing disabilities, but it didn't just...happen. For each amazing piece of legislation, (think Americans with Disabilities Act, 1990) thousands of hours, were spent by persons living with disabilities and their allies fighting in the trenches, and up the chain of power. Curb-cuts, didn't automatically come with streets, they were added, because access was denied, people had it, and said "enough!" For all the work we all do, we stand on the backs of those who came before and helped pave the way. One such group of people who have helped in the passing of numerous national legislation is ADAPT.



Early summer, acting on campaign promises to repeal and replace The Affordable Care Act or Obama Care. The proposed dismantling of the ACA, would severely impact persons with disabilities needing access to long-term care, by drastically

cutting Medicaid funding. With hundreds of billions of dollars in Medicaid dollars considered to be slashed, advocates from the disability rights group, ADAPT took to the streets and politicians offices. From Alaska to Maine, Missouri to Mississippi, and right here in Denver, ADAPT activists, held non-violent "direct actions" to voice their discontent with

proposed dissemination of funding, with many arrests following, gaining national exposure, and much needed monies to fight the next fight.

Denver is fortunate to be the birthplace of ADAPT, and they are always looking for enthusiastic new members. Look for a PASCO event to showcase this terrific and important civil-rights group.

For more history on ADAPT and all of their proud accomplishments go to their website at adapt.org

Rachel Maddow story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rv8SfFXICJg>

For more information on upcoming ADAPT going on, or to become more involved, email:

damian.rosenberg@pascoh.org

ryan.zeiger@pascoh.org

PASCO Client Services Advocate

Hello PASCO families, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and my new role at PASCO. My name is Lauren Jobe and I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. My early career was spent working in the field of mental health and addictions therapy. I have spent a cumulative of 9.5 years in the field of

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities working within both the Community Center Board and Service Provision realm. I joined the PASCO team in August 2015 and recently have shifted in to a newly developed role as a Service Advocate for PASCO's clients. This new role will allow me to focus on and

engage with clients and families to discover areas of need, explore new programming and resources to meet those needs, and to improve access to services. Please feel free to reach out if you have ideas or feedback, my direct line is 303-274-3658 and my email is

lauren.jobe@pascoh.org

Message from PASCO CEO Ryan Zeiger

I hope you had a wonderful summer! Thank you to everyone who have watched the three video updates I have sent so far. I also appreciate those who have taken the short survey to provide feedback on the videos. The feedback has been extremely positive and you have also provided some really good ideas about future topics that I will incorporate in future videos. My goal is to communicate more through video (every 2-3 weeks) and write less in the Picayune. I look forward to connecting with you soon via your computer/mobile devices!

ryan.zeiger@pascohh.com



Save the Date



Giving those with disabilities the ability to save.

So who qualifies?

You're eligible if:

- You're entitled to SSI or SSDI because of your disability
- Your disability was present before age 26.

Money from ABLE savings/investment accounts can be spent on any expenses that are incurred as a result of living with a disability.

Qualified expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Education

- Health and wellness
- Housing
- Transportation
- Legal fees
- Financial management
- Employment training and support
- Assistive technology
- Personal support services
- Oversight and monitoring

Funeral and burial expenses
According to the website, earnings (interest/investment gains) from ABLE accounts are not taxable on Federal forms.

The Colorado ABLE plan offers a wide range of investment options from aggressive plans seeking higher returns to conservative investments that place capital preservation over growth. All are managed by Ascensus.

<https://www.coloradoable.org/>

Wednesday, September 13th (11a-Noon)- Feeding Clinic: Free Event

Does your loved one have feeding challenges or developmental delays that impact their feeding skills? Could you use some new tips, tricks, or tools to help with their progress and family mealtime satisfaction? Join Julie Herndon and Dawn Winkelmann, experienced Speech Language Therapists, and other caregivers who have tried and true advice to share. This event will feature some wonderful feeding tools, generously donated to our group by several organizations. These items will be available to workshop participants by raffle. NOTE: We will have light snacks for all guests, but please feel free to bring lunch. This will be an inclusive event. All caregivers and their loved ones are all welcome to attend together. Please remember to bring any particular food items that your loved one may enjoy. Please join us to learn more, enjoy light refreshments, and meet other great families! Questions? meagan@theroc.us

Please RSVP below. 3515 N. Chestnut Street, Colorado Springs 80907
www.theroc.us/weekendsocial

From the Nurses

The nursing department hopes you and your family enjoyed the warm, sunny summer.

Please remember to notify your primary registered nurse when discharging from the hospital. It is required that the nurse come to your home within 48 hours of discharge to complete a resumption of care, per Federal and State rules and regulations. A CNA cannot clock in while a consumer is hospitalized or prior to the nurse completing the resumption of care. If you have any questions or difficulties contacting your primary nurse, please contact June Lamb, RN at 303-233-3122 x 385 or at june.lamb@pascohh.com. You may also call on-call (303) 231-6479 if you need to speak to a nurse when the office is closed.

Human Resource Corner

We can't believe fall is right around the corner, we hope you all have had a wonderful summer!

Open enrollment has come and gone; however, periodically, we are going to start sending out a "benefits bulletin" which will highlight certain aspects of the wonderful benefits package PASCO has to offer so keep an eye out for that.

Most of you are aware that annual CEU's are due each year during

your anniversary month. Save time and paper by them online! Please remember that not completing your annual requirements will lead to your employment being placed on hold until the items are completed.

Our annual Halloween Trick or Treat Street will be here before we know it. It will be held on October 27th from 3pm to 7pm here at the office. We hope to see you all there, this event gets bigger and better every year.

As always please feel free to contact

anyone in Human Resources regarding any issues, etc. you might be having, we will be happy to assist you or point you in the right direction. If you do not know who you need to contact we have a general email box you can use and your message will be directed to the correct person.

HR@pascohh.com

Chris Livesay, Holly Schanhals, Mike Knutzen, Quinn Taccogno, and Andrew Layne

LOST CREEK RANCH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Join **The Wayfaring Band** for a week-end workshop focusing on professional development in the areas of diversity, inclusion, and person-centered practices. Caregivers, parents, advocates, or interested community members are invited to join the band as "leadership fellows" on Friday evening and stay two nights at Lost Creek Ranch, located just over an hour outside of Denver up Highway 285. This workshop parallels our main program, which serves adults who experience cognitive and developmental disabilities. Leadership fellows will split their time between joining the rest of the band for outdoor camp activities and engaging in a vigorous curriculum aimed at enhancing skills for navi-

gating difference and practicing inclusion.

Dates: September 15-17, 2017 | 3 days / 2 nights

Fee: \$600 includes the curriculum and all meals, activities, and lodging from Friday at dinner through Sunday after breakfast. Transportation to and from the camp will be the participants' responsibility. The workshop will cover approximately 16 hours of professional development. Scholarships available!

Booking: Email — info@thewayfaringband.com to register or to request a scholarship application.

Regarding Accessibility: Lost Creek Ranch is not officially wheelchair-accessible. However, The

Wayfaring Band is available to collaborate with any individual in the hopes of creating pathways to physical inclusion. Please reach out to us to start a dialogue about your situation.

www.thewayfaringband.com



Caregiver Training – have your say

The Colorado Respite Coalition is excited to announce that as part of the **Respite Care Task Force Recommendations**, we are commencing new initiatives on caregiver training. One of the greatest requests CRC hears in regards to respite is the need for training and education. Therefore, we are creating a statewide training database for respite providers and family caregivers. This database will make trainings more accessible and improve the skills and numbers of the respite workforce, along with providing family caregivers with essential tools. We are also examining how caregiver trainings are currently distributed throughout the state, and how we might create a more streamlined system of training and/or training certification for professional caregivers in Colorado.

We want to hear your opinions and expertise! We are seeking information on any training programs or workshops that you, or an agency you know, may offer in relation to respite and caregiver wellness. CRC also hopes to obtain community insight on which trainings are most vital for family and professional caregivers, which trainings are missing or not readily available, and what a set of core caregiver competencies might look like. These trainings can include internal staff development or workshops that are open to the public, and may involve anything from basic ethics to clinical skills.

Want to learn more about CRC's training efforts, submit suggestions, or ask questions? Contact Erica Jamieson at ejamieson@eastersealscolorado.org or 303-233-1666 x243

Op-Ed--Julie Reiskin, Colorado Cross Disability Coalition (CCDC)

As a Jew, who is also disabled and gay, and as a person who has been committed to anti-racism work for more than three decades, and as a leader in the amazing disability community, I have been unable to think about much other than how do we as a community respond to Charlottesville and all that it represents. While I am a Jew, with a visible disability, I walk (roll) through the world in white skin, giving me the white privilege that contributes to racism in our country, in our state and in our community. In keeping with our motto of "nothing about us without us—EVER" as a white person I need to make sure I do not speak over friends and colleagues who are people of color, immigrants and refugees. However, that does not absolve me of my responsibility to oppose racism. It is easy for most of us to oppose Neo Nazi thugs in the streets with torches. We do less well acknowledging and opposing subtle racism that happens constantly. Any time I am tempted to allow myself to wallow in the privilege that was not earned, but came based on the skin I was born with, I try to think of Pastor [Martin Niemöller](#) whose words were relevant during the time of the Holocaust and remain relevant today.

*First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Socialist.*

*Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.*

*Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Jew.*

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

As any student of holocaust knows, it was not only the Jews that were exterminated; it was the disabled, gays, and gypsies (among others) as well. The disabled were first because the people of Germany were convinced that providing for them was too expensive, that they did not contribute value to society. They were called "useless eaters" and the populous was convinced that institutionalization followed by mass murder was the kind thing to do. After one group is dehumanized, it is not a great leap to dehumanize others. The way Hitler acquired power was to convince economically troubled Germans that their troubles were caused by "others" such as the Jews. He then convinced some middle and upper middle

class Germans that their safety was dependent upon ridding their country of "others".

Anyone within the disability community should be able to see the horrifying parallels between what happened in Germany almost 100 years ago and what has been happening here in America over the past year. Low-income white people being convinced their lack of economic success is because of immigrants, not because of failed US economic policies, generational poverty and a declining education system. A belief that Medicaid is not "sustainable"—that some are deserving and others are not and that "cost containment" which always focuses on recipients, not those profiting, is essential. It is this belief that facilitated 217 House members and 48 United States Senators to vote to dramatically cut Medicaid—knowing full well that dramatic cuts will cause death or least make life so unbearable that people will seek out death themselves.

Yet our reasons to speak out AS A DISABILITY COMMUNITY against the hate seen in

Continued "Reiskin" Page 7

OVERNIGHT RESPITE

Guys Night Out (Males 21+)

September 23-24, 2017

Traditional Respite #1 (Ages 6+)

November 10-12, 2017

Traditional Respite #2 (Ages 6+)

December 1-3, 2017

Ski Respite (Ages 6+)

January 5-7, 2018

Traditional Respite #3 (Ages 6+)

January 5-7, 2018

Girl's Slumber Party (Females 6+)

January 26-28, 2018

Tony Gramscas Youth Services Program

Coming Up For Air (Family Camp)

February 16-18, 2018

Kinship, Adoptive & Foster Families

Coming Up For Air (Family Camp)

March 23-25, 2018

CONTACT US

Discovery Club

Nancy Hanson

303.233.1666 x 237

nhanson@eastersealscolorado.org

Overnight Respite

Rocky Mountain Village Camp

303.569.2333

campinfo@eastersealscolorado.org

Coming Up For Air Overnight Respite

Meghan Kluth

303.233.1666 x 257

mkluth@eastersealscolorado.org

WHO

Children of ALL abilities, including children with extensive needs and their siblings. Ages 6-21 years.

WHAT

A day for children and youth to explore and learn in a friendly social setting. Children will meet new friends and enjoy recreational activities such as sports, games, singing, drama and more. Discovery Club acts very similar to child care allowing parents a break from caregiving and a chance for them to rest and recharge.

WHEN

From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
From September through May.

WHERE

Aurora, Boulder, Fort Collins, Highlands Ranch and Northglenn.



A grant funded program.
Donations are welcome.

THANK YOU!

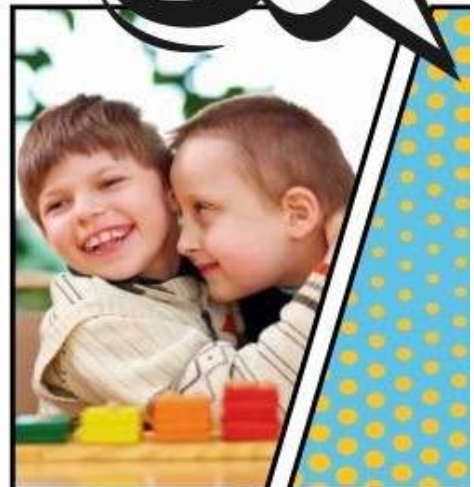
SPONSORS



NURSING SCHOOLS

Arapahoe Community College
Community College of Denver
Concordia University
Denver School of Nursing
Front Range Community College
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Pickens Technical College
Regis University
University of Phoenix
Colorado Christian University

2017-2018 EASTERSEALS COLORADO Discovery Club



**A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN
WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR
SIBLINGS TO DISCOVER, LEARN,
EXPLORE AND GROW.**

easterseals
Colorado

www.eastersealscolorado.org



DISCOVERY CLUB FEES

\$40 Annual Registration Fee
\$35 Per Person Per Session
\$60 for 2+ Children Per Session
(Same Family)

Financial Assistance Available

All Forms Must Be Submitted Prior
to Attendance

OUR STAFF

Our staff of professionals and trained volunteers can provide care for most children who need assistance with mobility, eating and other care needs.

Business Profile: Bayaud Enterprises

.Since 1969, the mission of Bayaud Enterprises is to create hope, opportunity and choice; with work as the means through which people with disabilities and other barriers to employment can more fully participate in the mainstream of life.

Bayaud works with individuals with diverse needs to help them obtain and maintain employment, and access to community benefits. We understand both the complexity and the interconnected nature of the barriers that our participants face every day. Bayaud also helps people dealing with chronic homelessness not only to find jobs, but to find housing, access to healthcare, and ongoing support systems to help them be successful long term.

Bayaud is an incredibly dynamic and changing nonprofit organization as we strive to mirror the needs of the community, and reflect the

needs of our participants in all of our programs. As a social enterprise, Bayaud is innovative in our approach to sustaining the organization while simultaneously following the path to fulfill our mission.

Most recently, Bayaud launched The Laundry Truck Project and The Denver Day Works Pilot Program. The Laundry Truck is the first mobile laundry service in Colorado and was created in partnership with Radian, Denver Homeless Outloud and other service providers interested in meeting the vital needs of the growing homeless population in Denver. The program provides free laundry services three days a week at various sites in Denver. Positive hygiene is critical for individuals attempting to emerge from homelessness or extreme poverty.

The Denver Day Works Pilot Program (DDW) is an effort by the City of

Denver and Bayaud to provide a low to no barrier work experience opportunity for people experiencing homelessness in Metro Denver. This employment program engages individuals with daily work opportunities and other services. The program serves as an outreach mechanism through which Bayaud provides outreach, guidance and support for individuals to move out of homelessness.

Bayaud offers multiple services for people experiencing a mental illness, criminal history, homelessness, or physical disabilities. We evaluate community resources and benefits that may be available to individuals and set up an action plan to help them move forward. Finally, Bayaud provides a holistic approach to obtaining and maintaining long-term employment, and helping people improve their quality of life.

On Thursday October 19th, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm, Bayaud will host its 3rd annual Art for Work Event, a silent auction featuring the work of all local artists at the new Office Scapes on Market Street in downtown Denver. Proceeds from this free event will benefit individuals receiving employment services this year. Please visit www.bayaudenterprises.org for more information about all of our programs and upcoming events.



Employment Matters



THE 3RD ANNUAL

WELL PLANNED paaarty!

BENEFITING THE  **chanda plan**
foundation

—WEDNESDAY—
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, 5-9PM

**AT THE STUDIOS AT OVERLAND CROSSING
2205 S. DELAWARE STREET, DENVER, CO 80223**

Register at www.iamtheplan.org/wpp17

PASCO Invites you to a FREE presentation

PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY'S FUTURE

An Educational Presentation for Families with Children with Special Needs

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2017
6:00PM - 7:30PM (refreshments provided)
9197 W 6TH AVE, SUITE 1000
LAKEWOOD, CO 80215

RSVP: BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH
TO: betty@lehmandp.com | 720.259.6073

Three disciplines impact your family's quest to protect your assets and children:

Disability Benefits

Financial Planning

Legal Considerations



Betty Lehman is a Disability Advisor for families with children with special needs. Betty enriches families' understanding about benefits and resources with relevant, accurate information. Betty supports the creation of the essential statement of your family's unique identity, the heart and soul of your planning. Betty supports the development of a Parent Perspective Letter of Intent document, including your philosophies about what you know is in your child's best interests – for now and the future.

Betty has been a leader in the Colorado Disability community for nearly 30 years. And, as a parent of an adult with special needs, Betty walks the parent walk and understands the need for a quality life for every member of the family. Betty shares her knowledge and wisdom with families determined to build a bright future with disability planning services, essential to the success of her own journey, launching enhanced outcomes for hundreds of families. www.lehmandp.com



Melissa J. Edelman, CLU, ChSNC has been working in the financial services industry since 1982. She acts as an advocate and catalyst for families with special needs members to break through long held fears of facing life care planning.

Melissa is a graduate of the California State University at Northridge with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business-Finance. She holds FINRA licenses 7 (general securities), 24 (registered principal), 63 (blue sky), and 65 (registered investment advisor) and a Colorado Life and Health Insurance Producers License. She holds the Certified Long Term Care designation and has advanced her education of estate and financial planning for special needs families by completing courses from the American College in the Chartered Special Needs Consultant designation. She is the first advisor to hold this designation in Colorado.

Melissa is a member of NAIFA Denver (National Assoc. of Insurance and Financial Advisors) and served as its President from 2012-2013. She is a member of Denver Estate Planning Council and Society of Financial Services Professionals. Melissa is a parent of children with special needs.

Melissa Edelman is a registered representative of and offers securities, investment advisory and financial planning services through MMIL Investors Services, LLC member SIPC, 4800 S. Ulster St. Suite 1300, Denver, CO 80227, 303-300-4311

“

It was so great to meet with Betty and Melissa - this is the missing piece we have been searching for. It is a great relief for us to have a resource like you two - someone that not only understands and lives all this, but someone who knows the answers, or knows how to get the answers.

Thank you for all the important work you do to help families like ours. - **Jane Bloise** Parent/Mental Health Professional

Learning for Living Community Safety

For High School Students and Adults with
Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities

Seven Week Session

Saturdays in September & October 2017
9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/14, 10/21 and 10/28
(1:30-3:30 p.m.)

Where:

The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas Counties
6538 S. Racine Circle
Centennial, 80111

Cost to attend the entire program:

\$60 for members

\$80 for nonmembers

Scholarships are available upon request, please
contact Pam Bailey with inquiries (303) 220-9228 or
pam@arc-ad.org

SPACE IS LIMITED! RSVP Required!

Please register on Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/2uiYJYL>

Participants can expect to:

- Learn effective communication skills for dealing with solicitors, strangers, family, and friends.
- Identify different types of relationships, learn how to establish social boundaries, and set appropriate limits.
- Recognize ways to prevent exploitation on the phone, social media, or in the mail.
- Create a personal portfolio to help retain and apply information from class.
- Participate in role playing activities.
- Interact with guest speakers (e.g., members of law enforcement!)



About the Instructor:

Cynde Vaughn, MSW, has
facilitated social skill and community
safety classes for people with IDD
for over fifteen years.



Step Up Into Life After High School

Preparing Young Adults with
Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities for the Future

Join The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas Counties for a six week series designed to educate and empower families, caregivers, and educators to plan for life after high school. Participants are highly encouraged to attend as many sessions as possible.

Mondays in September & October
9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, and 10/30
(6:30-8:30 p.m.)

Dinner and childcare/respite will be provided at each session. *RSVPs are necessary for childcare/respite.*

Where:

Castle View High School, 5254 N. Meadows Drive,
Castle Rock, CO 80109

One-time payment for all sessions:

Free for Douglas County Educators!

\$30 for members of The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas Counties

\$40 for families in Douglas County School District

\$50 for non-members

Scholarships are available upon request.

Special Thanks to our Partners:



If you need accommodations to attend (e.g., an interpreter) or have any dietary restrictions, please indicate when you RSVP.

Register online at Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/2fdAGji>

Questions or concerns, please contact Carol at (303) 220-9228 or carol@arc-ad.org



THINK+change, in partnership with Realm of Caring, presents

FINDING HEALTH

A Conference on the Intersection between Disability and Medical Cannabis
September 24-25, 2017
Lone Tree, Colorado

- ♦ Heard stories about how medical cannabis may or may not help people with disabilities?
 - ♦ Wondering about the difference between THC and CBD?
- ♦ Want to hear from health care providers who work with medical cannabis users?
 - ♦ How about from patients with disabilities using medical cannabis?
 - ♦ Then join us for the Finding Health conference!

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

<http://bit.ly/FHMMJ2017>

Or Call
720-213-1420

Due to an overwhelming response from Humanitarian Donors, who want to help YOU attend Finding Health, we have new ways to make YOUR attendance more affordable!

Don't let cost be the barrier for YOU to Find Health!

DISCOUNT OPTIONS!

Unrestricted Humanitarian Fund:
Interested and curious, but cannot attend without a deep discount?
Use Promo Code: **HMMFH** for \$100 off Registration Fee!
*limited numbers available

Denver Residents:
Do you live in Denver and have (or support someone who has) an Intellectual or Developmental Disability?
Use Promo Code: **BWNSPH** for FREE Registration!!
*limited numbers available

Arc of Aurora Contributing Members:
Are you a current Contributing Member of the Arc of Aurora?
Use Promo Code: **CMSERS** for \$100 off Registration Fee!
*limited numbers available

Just Need a Small Discount?:
We're lucky to have donors who want to get you to Finding Health!
Use Promo Code: **FINDHEALTH** for 5% off Registration Fee!

Children's Extensive Services (CES) Waiver Users:
Finding Health could be an approved "Parent Education" service if it relates directly to your child's disability and annual goals. Once included in your annual service plan, registration will be paid for by the waiver! Please contact Hannei Raley to learn more:
haley@theaarc.org or 720-213-1420

PLEASE NOTE: Discount codes with specific parameters WILL be verified

QUALITY OF LIFE SPONSOR

ACCESS MATTERS SPONSORS

www.thinkchange.training



The Basics of Special Education

If you are a parent or a provider who has a child/student receiving special education services, you want to attend this workshop. After attending **The Basics of Special Education** presentation you will gain increased confidence partnering with people who are involved with your child/student to gain the support and services they need to succeed.



September 28, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Developmental Pathways

11111 E. Mississippi Avenue, Aurora, CO 80012

Contact Katie Roth at katie@thrivectr.org or at 303-632-6840 for questions. Online registration click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRJJ5TM>

Dinner will be provided.

“Reiskin” Page 3

Charlottesville should go beyond our own very real immediate self-interests. As a disability community we are a multicultural community. Our community includes people of color, white people, people of all religions, immigrants, refugees, people who are gay and transgender, etc. There is no logical reason our community should have been able to achieve success any time in this century—or the last one. We have never had money or power. Many of our people were never educated. We have obscene unemployment rates. So how do we get anything done? The only way we function is because we are forced to use the gifts and talents of each member of our community.

As a diverse community, this means caring more about what gifts a person brings than about how that person is different. This does not mean ignoring difference or being “color blind”. To ignore who someone is makes that person invisible in a horrible way. What it does mean is honoring and embracing differences. This is not easy, but is the only way to get things done. This is not to say that the disability community lives in perfect harmony and does not have our own implicit biases and internal racism that we must address. We have lots of work to do! I just point this out as proof that embracing differences equals success.

Because of our unique position, and

inherent diversity, we must now speak out as a disability community and fight against oppressive policies and hateful ideals even when we think it does not directly affect us personally. This includes speaking out for immigrant rights.

How do we speak out?

- We speak to neighbors, friends and family.
- We support the groups that are acting against hate and supporting oppressed communities such as Black Lives Matter, the Anti-Defamation League and the Southern Poverty Law Center.
- Write letters to the editor.
- Anytime we can speak to politicians, including local politicians, we say that we want inclusive policies.
- We all can acknowledge the implicit bias we all have—sometimes even against groups to which we belong.

These are just a few ideas—there are more. We as a disability community cannot pretend that our struggles are separate from any other human and civil rights struggles. Whether you are reading this as a person of color, a Jew, a white person, a disabled person, a non-disabled person, etc., we can all “do something” about the horror we have witnessed in our country. The reason the Hol-

ocaust happened was because people believed the lie that their personal struggles were caused by some other oppressed group. The Holocaust happened because a population allowed themselves to be lulled into a false security by an angry, unbalanced, dangerous leader who said that their problems would magically be solved by hating someone else. We now know what happens when these beliefs are accepted, so our moral obligation is to act. Perhaps the poem of today is:

First they came for the immigrants (and perceived immigrants) and I did not speak out because I was not an immigrant

Then they came for the African American's and I did not speak out because I was not an African American

Then they came for the Native Americans/Native Alaskans and I did not speak out because I was a Native American/Native Alaskan.

Then they came for those who are transgender-and I did not speak out because I do not identify as transgender.

Then they came for recipients of public assistance—who are “able bodied” and I did not speak up because I am part of the group that deserves public assistance—everyone says so.

Then they came for the homeless, and I did not speak up because I have a place to live.

When they came for the remaining people with disabilities—many of my brothers and sisters had already been captured—and our ranks were demoralized and weak—so it was easy for them to come for me.

We know better and have the power to prevent this from becoming reality.

Picayune—New Editor and Chief

Alas, like all good things, the time for change has come, and with it, the long-time editor and chief, of the PASCO *Picayune*, is stepping down. During a sparsely attended press conference, Clifton Forsythe IV, announced he was retiring after seeing the publication go from Lakewood's 16th most read (newsletter), to an almost respectable 11th most read quarterly. Mr. Forsythe started as an Ink Boy with the *Picayune* in 1956 and rose through the ranks to editor and chief, overseeing the publication of thousands, hundreds, tens of moderately to less than enthusias-

tically well received newsletters. Going from a yearly, to bi-yearly, to an ill-conceived daily, back to a quarterly(ish), the *Picayune* under Mr. Forsythe's leadership, was often seen as a reliable (while undercapitalized) papier-mâché ingredient, and absorbent bird cage liner, with the occasional cringe-worthy expose.

The new Editor and Chief, DJ Thaddeus Smythe Esq., world renowned bon vivant, successful entrepreneur and marketing maven, plans to go all digital, while expanding readership from Dacono to

Castle Rock, saying “Let's take this thing to the next level...22nd century stuff, man!”

Never one to mince words, when asked what would become of the storied periodical, Mr. Forsythe responded, “Yes, yes, yes...delightful, simply delightful.”



**Longtime PASCO
Picayune Editor
and Chief.**

**Forsythe retires,
making way
for newer,
cooler, more
sophisticated
Editor,
Smythe.**



9197 W. 6th Ave., Suite 1000
Lakewood, CO 80215 USA

Phone: (303)233-3122

Fax: (303)233-1478



Personal Assistance Services of Colorado (PASCO) is certified under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program to provide personal assistance services to children and adults with severe disabilities. PASCO was incorporated in 1991 and began providing services to persons with disabilities on January 1, 1992. PASCO's mission is to provide personal assistance services, promoting independence and safety to clients and/or their families. PASCO continuously strives for client and employee satisfaction. The foundation of PASCO is CHOICE. To the maximum extent possible, PASCO works to accommodate the needs and wants of each client. PASCO provides services in the following counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, El Paso, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Morgan, Park & Weld.

Sound the Alarm

This fall, Red Cross volunteers and our partners will install 100,000 free smoke alarms in high risk neighborhoods nationwide. Sound the Alarm installation and fire safety events will take place in more than 100 communities across the country, providing a lifesaving service in our quest to reduce death and injury from home fires.

Every day, seven people die in home fires, most in homes that lack working smoke alarms. Sadly, children and the elderly disproportionately lose their lives. That's why the Red Cross rallied an army of volunteers and launched our [Home Fire Campaign](#) in 2014. Since then, we've accomplished so much:

Fire Safety Appointment Request

The Red Cross has launched an effort to reduce deaths and injuries due to home fires.

You may qualify for a visit by Red Cross volunteers to come to your home to check/install smoke alarms, replace alarm batteries and help you make a plan to improve your household safety in the face of home fires.

Priority will be given to residents in zip codes identified as having the highest risk, to households that do not have working smoke alarms, and to those whose incomes may make it difficult to afford purchasing smoke alarms.



268
lives saved



400,143
households made safer



964,320
smoke alarms installed



894,958
youth reached through campaign

For more information, call 303-607-4753, e-mail hfpceden-ver@redcross.org or complete this [online form](#).

NOTE: THIS REQUEST FORM IS FOR RESIDENTS OF COLORADO AND WYOMING. IF YOU LIVE IN A DIFFERENT STATE, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL RED CROSS CHAPTER. <http://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter>

Save the Date



Reference in this Newsletter to any specific product, service, or company does not constitute a recommendation by Personal Assistance Services of Colorado (although we do our best to support community friendly organizations.)