



THE ANGEL MESSENGER

LAST MONTH'S
HIGHLIGHTS

Success at Field of Dreams

Back 2 School by Christina Chiarillo



We had a blast at the BACK 2 SCHOOL event back in August!! It was amazing to see so many kids get ready for the new school year with supplies and clothes from Angels Bridging Gaps / ABGworks Inc. A big shout out to the city of West Melbourne and the Field of Dreams for their support and yummy hot dogs. Can't wait for next year. Don't forget to mark your calendars for Santa's North Pole Outlet on December 16th.



Workshops and Resources for all.

by Jackie Yearby on September 01

“Angels Bridging Gaps Inc” is an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Other Disabilities parent/caregiver support organization dedicated to helping families and individuals affected by varying levels of ASD ranging from Autism to Aspergers, along with other disabilities by providing emotional support, education, socialization, and to serve as a resource to inform caregivers of community services, activities, programs, and available treatment options – both local regional, and national. As of April 6th, 2021, we have officially launched our adults with disabilities day program called “**ABGworks Inc.**” Serving the underserved population of young adults with disabilities age 18 and up. Most of whom would be left sitting at home feeling disconnected from the world around them and unmotivated to find their direction in life. Our program is firmly based on three basic principles that help empower the individual through Enrichment, Employment, and Resources. And it is only through a strong support system based on Love, Hope, Faith, and Joy that my family has been able to weather the storms. Each One ~ Teach One”

To find out more about our adult disabilities day program, or to get assistance finding resource information related to disabilities please reach out to us at ABGworks1@gmail.com

FOLLOW THESE LINKS TO LEARN MORE: WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM



by [Covert Wordsmith LLC](#) on September 01

Field of Dreams

A special Park for a Special Community
By **Christina Chiarillo**, Editor



Have you ever heard of Field of Dreams? It's a park in West Melbourne that caters to the special needs community. It has fields, playgrounds, pavilions, and sensory equipment that are all handicap accessible and designed to provide a safe and fun environment for children and adults with disabilities.

Field of Dreams was created by Jim Papp, a local resident who wanted to transform an old park that was not suitable for his son with special needs. He raised funds and donations to renovate the park and make it a place where everyone can enjoy. In 2018, the city of West Melbourne took over the park and hired Ivy Gonzalez as the Special Populations Coordinator.

Ivy is in charge of organizing and coordinating special recreation events and programs for the park. She works with other groups and organizations, such as Angels Bridging Gaps, to co-host monthly events that support the special needs community. Some of the events include dances, holiday parties, sensory activities, and sports. Ivy says that these events are free of charge for the special needs community and that they are very popular and well-attended.

Ivy has a lot of experience in working with people with disabilities. She has been in the field of therapeutic recreation for over 25 years, mostly with adults with dementia. She moved to Merritt Island from Orlando a few years ago and saw the posting for her current position. She says that she loves her job and that she is passionate about providing quality programs and services for the special needs community.

If you are interested in visiting Field of Dreams or participating in any of the events or programs, you can contact Ivy at 321-327-6606 or Roz, her supervisor, at 321-537-3529. You can also check out their website or Facebook page for more information and updates. Field of Dreams is a park that welcomes everyone and celebrates diversity and inclusion. Come and see for yourself what makes it so special!

Join us
**Seminar for
Young Adults with Autism**

September 23, 2023 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Space Coast Health Foundation
1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge, FL 32955**

This workshop will cover important mental health issues and community adaptation for young adults with Autism and other related conditions. The workshop provides ideas and a path forward when dealing with social media, sexuality, support strategies, and common challenges for young adults integrating into the community. This workshop is recommended for parents, caregivers, young adults with Autism, and medical, educational, and service providers. This event is free.

Speakers include:

Keynote Speaker: Lori Smith "Perils of Social Media"

Breakout Speaker: Dr. Joseph Llinas, Child Psychiatrist

Breakout Speaker: Jason Klazon, Autism Disorder Specialist II, UCF-CARD

Breakout Speaker: Christine Kelly-Williams (Family Support and Caregiver Well-being)

...and more.

Please register for this event through Eventbrite:
<https://tinyurl.com/4xjjx8da>

This event is sponsored by:



- Seminar for Adults with Autism (Caregivers) -

Sept 23rd 9am-2pm

Location: Space Coast Health Foundation

1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge, FL 32955

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seminar-for-young-adults-with-autism-tickets-697524463447?aff=oddtcreator>



VENDORS WANTED

DISABILITY FRIENDLY VENDORS ENCOURAGED

“SANTAS NORTH POLE OUTLET FOR KIDS”

SATURDAY DEC 16, 2023 10AM TIL 2PM

Space Coast “Field of Dreams”, Minton Rd (across from Calvary Chapel)

ALL KIDS ITEMS MUST BE \$5 OR LESS

This event is sponsored by Angels Bridging Gaps Inc.

The ABG Inc. program is designed for young adults with disabilities age 18 and up. We provide supervision and a fun creative learning environment. The program includes, engaging activities all of which are centered around the development of life skills, social skills and making lasting friendships.

Kids Only area under the pavilion \$15 (bring your table)

Adults Area under the pavilion \$15 (bring your table)

For an application send email to: ABGworks.pjd@gmail.com



Angels Bridging Gaps Inc.
Love-Hope-Faith-Joy - Each One Teach One



Calendar of Events

September 2023 - ABGworks Enrichment Activities:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>5- ABGworks Community Engagement 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Location: Arts for All Studio LLC 784 N Apollo Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32935, (Cost \$25) *Bring Lunch or Snack</p>	<p>6- ABGworks Enrichment- Self Empowerment & Job Skills: Jackie, Phil, Tony & Bill Myers (Data Entry, Customer Service, Sales, Computers) 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Location: Field of Dreams/ Promise Cafe & Bakery 3095 Fell Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904 (Cost \$25) *Lunch Included</p>	<p>7- ABGworks Enrichment Activities: Crafts; Thrift & Consignment Boutique Closet Organization - Job Skills ; Games & Sports/Basketball with Friends 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Malabar Baptist Church 1665 Malabar Rd, Malabar, FL 32950 (Cost \$20) *Bring Lunch or Snack</p>
<p>12- ABGworks Community Engagement Tour 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Location: <u>King Center for the Performing Arts</u> 3865 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL 32935</p> <p>ABG Music Jam Session - Florida Music Therapy 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, EDT Location: 110 E New Haven Ave Melbourne FL 32901 (Cost \$25) *Bring Lunch or Snack</p>	<p>13- ABGworks Enrichment - Money Management/ Entrepreneurial Skills & Independence Skills with Mrs Denise 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Melbourne Square Mall 1700 W New Haven Ave, Unit 965, Melbourne, FL 32904 (Cost \$25) *Bring money for lunch</p>	<p>14- ABGworks Bowling with Friends 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, Location: Shore Lanes Palm Bay 4851 Dairy Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904 (Cost \$20) *Lunch Included</p>
<p>19- ABGworks Enrichment - Katherine's Crafts, Music, Gardening & Life lessons 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Promise Cafe & Bakery 3095 Fell Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904, (Cost \$25) *Lunch Included</p>	<p>20- ABGworks Enrichment Activities: Yoga & Line Dancing with Mrs Wanda; Crafts; Games & Sports/Basketball with Friends 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Promise Cafe & Bakery / Field of Dreams 3095 Fell Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904 (Cost \$25) *Lunch Included</p>	<p>21- ABGworks Enrichment- Pottery Clay Crafts with Mrs Sharon; Games & Basketball with Friends 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Malabar Baptist Church 1665 Malabar Rd, Malabar, FL 32950, (Cost \$20) *Bring Lunch or Snack</p>
<p>26- ABGworks Community Engagement Tour 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Location: <u>Palm Bay Fire Department</u> 120 Malabar Rd NE Palm Bay FL 32907</p> <p>ABG Music Jam Session - Florida Music Therapy 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, EDT Location: 110 E New Haven Ave Melbourne FL 32901 (Cost \$25) *Bring Lunch or Snack</p>	<p>27- ABGworks Enrichment Activities: Cooking Skills with Chef Jillian; Games with Friends 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Location: Malabar Baptist Church 1665 Malabar Rd, Malabar, FL 32950 Cost \$25) *Lunch Included</p>	<p>28- ABGworks Bowling with Friends 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, Location: Shore Lanes Palm Bay 4851 Dairy Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904 (Cost \$20) *Lunch Included</p>

For additional information on ABG Inc events, please contact Phil at @abgworks.pjd@gmail.com or 321.324.1643

ABG & Community Partner Events:

- Sat Sept 9th (9-11 am) - Florida Music Therapy Open House**, Invite to all of our ABGworks participants/families that are interested in attending. Come see the new **therapy** rooms and meet the therapists.

- Tue Sept 19th (6:30-8:30pm) - ABG Disability Village Caregiver & Community Partner Virtual Meeting** (focus on teens/adults) (3rd Tues Monthly)

Meeting ID: 402 374 0815 / Passcode: Angels

Zoom Link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/4023740815?pwd=NEhMN2RaclQrTkpUdW1XTTZubGZ5Zz09>

- Friday 22nd (6-8pm) - Friday Friends (free event hosted by Patty Smith**

Location: Our Lady of Grace Church - 300 Malabar Rd, Palm Bay, FL 32907

- Saturday Sept 23rd (9am-2pm) - Seminar for Adults with Autism**

Location: Space Coast Health Foundation 1100 Rockledge Blvd, Rockledge FL 32955

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/4xijx8da>

This workshop will cover important mental and behavioral health issues, along with community adaptation for young adults with Autism and other related conditions. The workshop provides ideas and a path forward when dealing with social media, sexuality, support strategies, and common challenges for young adults integrating into the community. This workshop is recommended for parents, caregivers, young adults with Autism, and medical, educational, and service providers. This event is free.

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Breakout Speaker: Jason Klazon, Autism Disorder Specialist II, UCF-CARD Breakout Speaker: Christine Kelly-Williams (Family Support and Caregiver Well-being) ...and more.

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