

Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute

March 2006, Vol. 3, No. 1



# CenterScope



***A Happy Heart Right From The Start***

# President's Message...



**Our Mission:**  
to respond to needs  
and opportunities among  
children and adults at all  
stages of life.

**On the cover: Jacob Yeshion and Khiley Majersky, students in the Happy Hearts Preschool, show that learning can be fun.**

Dear Friends:

The Barber National Institute has a proud tradition of serving children and adults of all ages: from the smallest infants in the early weeks of life, to seniors in their golden years. You will have a glimpse into this expansive breadth of service in this issue of *Centerscope*, which highlights many children and families who are beginning life's journey with the support of the Barber National Institute, as well as the adults who find exciting ways to continue to learn and grow at the Lakeside Senior Center.

This wide continuum of care is truly rare among organizations, and puts the Barber National Institute among a very elite tier of providers in the country. For us, this commitment is integral to our mission: to respond to needs and opportunities among children and adults at all stages of life.

Some of the seniors have been a part of the Barber National Institute family for most of our 50-year history, and we are proud to share in their accomplishments. Many of our children are with us for a short time before going out into the larger world--enriched, we hope, for their experiences here.

As a friend and supporter of the Barber National Institute, we want you to have this opportunity to see the tremendous impact that our services are having on the lives of children, adults and families in our community. This level of quality requires a deep commitment on the part of all involved, including our families, staff and those who generously support our mission throughout the year.

At this point, most of us are eagerly anticipating the coming of spring with its warmer weather and brighter days. May you enjoy this spirit of renewal, and realize the deep appreciation of our families and staff who, with your support, are making dreams come true.

Sincerely,

John J. Barber  
President & Chief Executive Officer

## Let's Get Physical

Students are getting—and staying—in better physical shape with a new fitness facility that recently opened at the Barber National Institute. Five exercise and weight machines, two treadmills, six stationary bikes, mats and other fitness equipment have been made available in part through grants from Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield and the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center Ladies Auxiliary.

Middle and high school students currently use the facility, with most attending 2-3 times each week.

“We have already seen many students greatly improve their fitness,” said Julia Goodman, a physical education teacher who helped design the facility. “Several students have lost weight and reached other fitness goals.”



**Physical Education Teacher Julia Goodman helps students learn about improving their fitness.**

# A Family's Dreams Coming True

**L**ike so many young families, the Murdocks live life on the go—tae kwon do lessons, hockey practice, bowling teams, school activities. But Stephanie and Shane don't mind the pace a bit. In fact, it all seems like a dream come true.

Just a few years ago, Stephanie feared her family was a “sinking ship.” Her sons, Connor and Pierce, had both been diagnosed with autism, and Stephanie said the Murdocks were really struggling to function as a family.

“When we started at the Barber National Institute, we had the feeling that life was spinning out of control around us. The Barber National Institute was there to help us pick up the pieces and put it back together. Nothing can compare to what they gave us,” said Stephanie. “They threw us a lifeline when we were sinking.”

Today, Connor, age nine, and Pierce, age seven, are busy students at Grandview Elementary School in Millcreek. Connor began third grade this year without any outside supports, receiving only speech therapy and in-school learning support for language arts. Pierce loves first grade—though he sometimes complains that it's harder than kindergarten. He has been without outside supports for some time, and is doing so well that his autism diagnosis may soon be removed. “I truly believe that he has made all of this progress because of the intensive services he received at such an early age at the Barber National Institute,” said Stephanie.

Born prematurely, Connor was evaluated regularly at the Hamot Neonatal Intensive Care Follow-Up Clinic. When he began to miss developmental milestones, including being unable to talk at about 18 months—the Murdocks chose the Barber National Institute for early intervention. A speech



**Connor and Pierce Murdock**

therapist and developmental teacher visited Connor at home, and within a few months he was referred to the Barber National Institute for further testing. At age 2½, Connor was diagnosed with autism.

When he turned three, Connor entered the autism preschool classroom. Stephanie said the effect was immediate. “From the first day, Connor came home a different child. When I arrived to pick him up, he was sitting quietly in a chair. I told my husband ‘you aren't going to believe what he was doing.’”

After Pierce was born, the Murdocks knew there was a greater chance that he, too, would have autism. When he still was not talking by 15-18 months of age, they began Early Intervention services. Stephanie describes Pierce's diagnosis as “overwhelming, but not a total surprise.”

Both boys eventually were able to attend the Happy Hearts inclusive preschool as well as get acclimated to other community preschools before making the transition to Grandview. While all of the services were beneficial, Stephanie said that the wrap around services they received in their home really helped them function as a family. Today, both boys have friends, do well in their studies and keep the family on the go with all of their activities.

Just this fall, Connor scored his first goal at a hockey game—a cause for celebration for any parents, but it was even sweeter for the Murdocks. “We were in the excitement of the moment, but I couldn't help but flash back to all of what we went through,” said Stephanie.

“I used to see all of the other parents driving their kids to all kind of activities, but I never imagined that we would be doing it one day. It just makes it all the more fun.”

## Best Selling Author Highlights Autism Month



**Susan Senator**

Autism Awareness Month will be marked with a presentation by best selling author Susan Senator. Her program “Making Sense of Autism,” will be held Thursday, April 6th, at the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute Forum. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the program set for 7 p.m. The program is cosponsored by Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Senator’s book, *Making Peace with Autism: One Family’s Story of Struggle, Discovery, and Unexpected Gifts*, received national acclaim when Senator was featured on the Today Show. In the book, Senator describes learning to become a family in spite of autism, and moving beyond grief in the face of acute challenge.

Senator describes herself as a writer, activist, and the mother of three boys. Her oldest son, Nat, age 16, was diagnosed with autism in 1993 at the age of three. She and her husband are also the parents of Max, age 13, and Ben, age 7. They reside in Brookline, Massachusetts, where Senator writes a column for the city’s newspaper.

“This diagnosis does not mean the end of the world, but it is the end of some things. It is also the beginning of a very long road,” said Senator.

The program will be held in the forum of the north complex at the Barber National Institute; please enter from East Bay Drive. For more information and registration, call 480-6830 or email [MaggieSholtis@BarberInstitute.org](mailto:MaggieSholtis@BarberInstitute.org).

## School Tests “Paperless” Reaccreditation

The Elizabeth Lee Black School has been selected as the first school in the nation to pilot a “paperless” evaluation for its reaccreditation through the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Accreditation is a voluntary process that provides schools with a qualitative “stamp of approval” from the Middle States Association, whose Visiting Team reviews all aspects of a school’s mission, policies, programs and operations. The process begins with a year-long self-study involving faculty, parents and stakeholders in evaluation of the school’s organization, personnel, facilities, instructional programs, and strategic plan for the future. The accreditation team conducts a comprehensive on-site visit to validate the school’s self-study report.

The five-year accreditation cycle usually involves hundreds of pages of reports issued by the school and the Middle States Association. “We will now have all of the necessary information on a web-based portfolio,” said Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, executive vice president of the Barber National Institute. “We are also now able to communicate the information with photos and video, including a video tour of our school, which we believe will more accurately reflect our mission and service to our students.”

To pilot the “paperless accreditation,” school administrators are collaborating with their Middle States advisor and Nuventive, a company that assists organizations in assessing and tracking data with computer and web-based programming. Kathleen Bastow, M.Ed., Quality Assurance and Compliance Coordinator, is chairing the Planning Committee.

The Barber National Institute is expected to complete its electronic portfolio for the paperless evaluation for submission in April, with the evaluation team to visit in May 2006.

“We expect that this paperless approach could be made available to all schools across the country as a more thorough and dynamic approach to this important process,” said Dr. Barber-Carey.



**Barber National Institute Chief Operating Officer Bob Will and Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, Executive Vice President, standing, review the paperless accreditation process with, seated, Kenneth Rigby, Associate Director of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and David Raney, CEO of Nuventive.**

## Moving *FastForWord*

Ask any parent or teacher: reading skills are key to a child's success in school. To build these skills at an early age, the Barber National Institute recently became the first preschool in the region to offer *FastForWord*, a new computer based program scientifically proven to help children build learning skills.

With *FastForWord*, children make choices on computer programs while listening to instructions through headphones. Children work at their own pace to achieve reading goals for their age group.

Due to the success of the school-year program, *FastForWord* will also be offered during the summer. The program will be designed particularly for children with Asperger Syndrome and high functioning autism to help them overcome listening and learning skills that are common with this disorder.

For more information about *FastForWord*, contact Allison Zeiger at the Barber National Institute, 878-4029.



**Karly McKenrick, front, and Gabby Chaprowicz learn to read with *FastForWord*, under the supervision of Emily Crofoot.**

## *Sculpture Celebrates Founder's Legacy*

"Your child is welcome here." This phrase, conveyed in word and deed by Dr. Gertrude A. Barber, is permanently memorialized with a statue commemorating the spirit and legacy of the great teacher and advocate for children with disabilities. The sculpture, depicting Dr. Barber and two children seated on her favorite settee, was unveiled recently in the north lobby of the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute. Also included is the phrase she was noted for during her lifetime, "Your child is welcome here."

"Dr. Barber made a tremendous impact on the individual lives of children and adults, as well as on the community as a whole," said John Barber, Dr. Barber's nephew and president of the Barber National Institute. "Her vision continues to guide the mission of our staff and parents, and it was strongly believed that her presence here should be memorialized as a remembrance to those of us who knew and loved her, and to future generations who would benefit from her work and dedication."

The statue was created by renowned sculptor Jerry McKenna, whose works include more than 200 sports, historical and military figures which are on display around the world.



The life-size sculpture of Dr. Barber and the children weighs 850 pounds and measures approximately 4' wide and 56" tall. It rests on a base of solid black granite in a permanent display in the new North Institute lobby. A plaque located behind the likeness identifies Dr. Barber by the titles by which she was most recognized: "teacher, mentor, founder."

**A group effort helped unveil the new statue during dedication ceremonies held in November. John Barber, left, president of the Barber National Institute, addressed a large gathering of community leaders, friends and families. The statue was unveiled by Ruth Pascarella, one of the first teachers; current teachers and students Stephanie Lorei, Macie Clark, Lynn Oreggia and MacKenzie "Gracie" MacKay; and Irene Smerick, a parent and close friend of Dr. Barber.**

# Building Happy Hearts & Minds

**W**hen the Clarks and the Yeshions first went looking for a preschool, they had definite requirements in mind. For Macie, Mary and Ry Clark wanted teachers who understood how to work with children with disabilities, and a setting where she could interact with “typically developing” peers. Stacey and Ted Yeshion looked for a safe, nurturing environment where Jacob would have the best opportunities for educational and social growth.

Both the Clarks and the Yeshions say they found what they were looking for—and much more—at Happy Hearts.

## Getting Started

When starting their preschool search, the Yeshions read an article about Happy Hearts in the Erie Times-News, and it sounded like just what they were looking for. “We did quite a lot of research about what to look for in a preschool, and we found all of it here,” said Ted Yeshion, a professor at Edinboro University. “It offers more specialized education, smaller groups, a low student to teacher ratio, and the reputation of the Barber National Institute. There isn’t a big staff turn over, and that says a lot about an organization.”

Mary Clark wanted all of the fun and learning, and staff who could work with kids who present special challenges. Her daughter Macie, age four, has Williams Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder characterized by delays in learning, fine and gross motor skills, and possible heart problems. “We were looking for somewhere that Macie could go and she could succeed,” said Mary.

Both the Clarks and the Yeshions felt at home from the start. “When we toured Happy Hearts, we were really pleased with the teachers and the way they interacted with



*Teacher Stephanie Lorei assists Macie with an art project.*



*Macie with her favorite book.*

each child. They genuinely are there because they care about kids,” said Mary.

“We walked in and felt that this was it,” echoed Stacey Yeshion.

## Favorite Activity

What is Jacob’s and Macie’s favorite school activity? That’s easy: swimming. Both children love their weekly swim classes, and the Yeshions noted that Jacob has learned a lot about pool safety.

The Yeshions also say that Jacob has benefited from the reading readiness program FastForWord and Handwriting Without Tears, an approach to teach young children how to print. They say he also brings home a sense of order evident in the classroom. “He has really grown in independence and taken on more responsibility for himself—hanging up his coat or getting dressed on his own without prompting.”

## Being Included

In addition to the innovative educational curriculum, Happy Hearts is distinguished by its inclusive approach—enabling children with disabilities to learn along side “typical” children.

“This was very important for Macie because she imitated everything,” said Mary. “We wanted her to be in a setting where she could learn from her peers and have good role models in other kids.”

The benefits to typical children are equally valuable, according to the Yeshions. “Jacob is definitely more sensitive to others, and I think school helped to foster that,” said Dr. Yeshion. “We live in a heterogeneous society with all kinds of people. It is healthy for children to be exposed to people with disabilities to have a better understanding.”

### From The Parents

As a first-time mom, Mrs. Yeshion also appreciates having access to nursing staff. “I had a lot of questions, like when to take to Jacob to a doctor, etc. They always make me feel welcome, and always give me the kind of answers I need. And it’s always with a smile.”

Mrs. Clark also likes the special events, such as the Christmas Play and the holiday parties. “We are pleased with every aspect of Macie’s experience,” she said “If I had a typical child, I would also definitely choose Happy Hearts. They have the classes in swimming, art, music—not many other preschools can offer all those opportunities to students at such a young age.”

“The teachers’ experience and training allow them to provide an amazing environment for our children,” adds Mrs. Yeshion. “We can’t imagine a better place to have been during the last two years. Moving on to kindergarten is bittersweet, but we feel confident that we have established a solid foundation!”



*Jacob plays a math game with teacher Louise Humenay.*

*Every day, Jacob and his classmates learn new words.*



For a complete description of the recommendations, visit [www.BarberInstitute.org](http://www.BarberInstitute.org); for information or a tour, call Happy Hearts at 878-4023.

## What Makes A Quality Preschool?

The National Institute for Early Education Research established ten characteristics of a quality preschool program. Happy Hearts meets—and exceeds—all of them:

1. Comprehensive curriculum standards
2. Bachelor’s degrees or higher for all teachers
3. Specialized training requirement for teachers
4. Degree requirement for assistant teachers
5. Teacher in-service requirement
6. Limited class size
7. Student/adult ratio of one staff for every ten children
8. Health screenings and referral services
9. Required support services for families and children
10. At least one meal daily

# Hitting the Right Note

Some of the children shake rhythm instruments, some sign, and others are singing their hearts out.



*Teacher Julie Moore leads the Children's Chorus.*

The students are part of a newly formed Children's Chorus at the Elizabeth Lee Black School that ranges from preschoolers to preteens. The group includes students in the Happy Hearts preschool and the preschool for children with hearing impairments, and youngsters with autism or multiple handicaps.

"This is a very enthusiastic group that enjoys music," said Julie Moore, a teacher who directs the Chorus. "School has to be fun to learn, and music can do that. Everything in the curriculum can be enhanced by music."

Julie speaks from experience. She has been a vocalist, musician and song writer for the popular Tennessee Backporch for nearly 26 years.

"The Chorus helps students communicate in different ways, and really improved socialization skills. It's also important to learn how to become comfortable getting up in front of people," Julie said.

While some children sing, others play rhythm instruments, sign the lyrics, or use voice output devices that have been prerecorded with words or phrases. At an appropriate time in a song, staff assists the children in pressing a button to play the message.

"We make this as individual as possible so that all children can participate no matter what their abilities are. All of the staff have been wonderful and really supportive in making this happen."

The Chorus debuted at the statue unveiling ceremonies, and received a warm reception at the Arc Valentine's Party. Their next project is learning Irish songs—and a few dance steps—for the Auxiliary St. Patrick's Day Luncheon.

No matter what the song, audiences agree that the children are making beautiful music together.

## The Importance of Being Included

**F**or a child, few things seem as important as feeling included. Playing games, making friends, having fun with the group. The Inclusion Program at the Barber National Institute fosters greater acceptance and understanding by building opportunities to play and learn together.

One aspect of the program enables students from schools in the community to visit classrooms at the Barber National Institute on a regular basis for age-appropriate activities. Students often work together on art projects or play basketball games or soccer in the gym.

"Sometimes students from the community are a little nervous at first, but it is amazing how any apprehension soon melts away," said Celia Portenier, Inclusion Specialist. "Pretty soon they are all just kids having fun."

Celia begins by visiting interested schools to conduct sensitivity training. She explains common disabilities, and then gives students the opportunity to "experience" them on their own. They may be blindfolded to simulate blindness, or wear socks on their hands to see what fine motor problems can feel like.

For students at the Barber National Institute, the visits are invaluable. "You can just see their faces light up," said Celia. "The students are just treated as 'one of the gang,' and they really find a greater sense of belonging."

In another phase of the program, students from specialized preschools visit Happy Hearts classrooms for play time and activities with "typical" students. Many times, the visits help prepare a child for a transition to public school.

Through the program, children learn a valuable lesson: we are all much more alike than we are different!

*Cassandra Adams, center, visits Happy Hearts student Sarah White, and teacher Holly Kitchen.*



# AROUND THE INSTITUTE

## Gateway Health Plan Awards Preschool Scholarships

Gateway Health Plan presented a \$50,000 donation to the Barber National Institute in support of pre-kindergarten scholarships. The gift was made through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

Businesses contributing to the preschool scholarship program or school-age programs for children with disabilities at the Barber National Institute can be eligible for significant state tax credits. Businesses interested in participating in the tax credit program should contact the Barber National Institute at 878-5903 for more information.

Through the program, tuition scholarships of up to \$500 are available for any pre-kindergarten program in the state. The student must be a Pennsylvania resident at least three years of age and a member of a household with an annual household income of not more than \$50,000 (with an additional income allowance of \$10,000 permitted for the student and for each dependent within the same household.)

Scholarship applications are available by contacting the Barber National Institute at 878-4029.

## Students Accept Gift of Books



Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, center, Executive Vice President of the Barber National Institute, joins students in the Happy Hearts Preschool to accept a donation of books from Jeff Szumigale, Executive Vice President and Managing Director for PNC Advisors and Chris Knoll, Executive Vice President, PNC Sales Manager for PNC Corporate and Business Banking. PNC employees held a book drive, collecting hundreds of books that were donated to several agencies during the holiday season. The book drive was part of PNC's Grow Up Great Initiative, a program that encourages school readiness for preschoolers.

The Barber National Institute is among six non-profit agencies partnering with PNC's Grow Up Great Initiative. The program's components include volunteerism, advocacy and financial contributions through the PNC Foundation.

During their visit to the Barber National Institute, Szumigale and Knoll also read books to preschool students.

## Baskets Brighten Holidays

Christmas was merrier for more than 150 individuals and families throughout the region, thanks to employees of the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute. The Employee Service Fund coordinated a drive to raise donations for food baskets for families in need. The baskets were assembled by Wendy Sadlier and her "team of dedicated elves" who packaged the boxes of food and ensured that they reached the intended recipients. Wendy's daughter, Wronetta, and Sean Lingenfelter are pictured amid the hundreds of food boxes that were delivered to the needy this holiday season.



# AROUND THE INSTITUTE

## Trans-Siberian Orchestra Visits Barber National Institute

Six members of the musical phenomenon Trans-Siberian Orchestra visited the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute on Nov. 10. The group was performing at a concert in Erie that evening to launch their 2005 nationwide holiday tour.

Band members visited several classrooms in the Elizabeth Lee Black School and the vocational rehabilitation program in Building 101.



*Members of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra visit a preschool class in the Intensive Autism Program during a recent tour of the Barber National Institute. Pictured front row from left are Heather Gunn and Danielle Landherr; student Noel Belle; Mee Eun Kim and Robert Kinkle. Back row from left are Jay Pierce, Jennifer Cella and James Lewis.*

## Wal-Mart Employees Present Donation



*Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, Executive Vice President of the Barber National Institute, and Institute President John Barber, right, accept a donation from the Harborcreek Wal-Mart Supercenter. Presenting the check for \$2,000 are James Kennedy, left, Assistant Manager, and Adam Montanye, Wal-Mart Co-Manager. Wal-Mart associates selected the Barber National Institute as the recipient of their annual holiday donation.*



## Major League All The Way!

Hooray for the Cleveland Indians! Students Luke Stewart and Matthew Serafin give a warm welcome to the Cleveland Indians on their recent visit to the Barber National Institute. Front row, left is coach Derek Shelton and Victor Martinez; standing are Rafael Betancourt and Cliff Lee. The players and coaches traveled to Erie as part of the Winter Caravan held annually at the Barber National Institute. More than 600 fans attended the event, which includes an auction of team memorabilia. All proceeds benefit the Barber National Institute.



## News & Notes

✦ **The Barber National Institute Adult Choir**, under the direction of Musical Director Patti Sullivan, was invited to perform at inauguration ceremonies for Erie Mayor Joseph Sinnott. The group performed two of their favorite selections, “America the Beautiful” and “You’ll Never Walk Alone.”

✦ **Family Support Services** recently received a grant to expand “Kids on the Block,” a program featuring life-size puppets to teach children about a variety of disabilities and medical conditions. “Kids on the Block” is offered by the Barber National Institute at no cost to schools, scouting troupes and other groups. The program provided 92 performances last year to more than 9,000 students. The grant will enable the program to expand to additional schools in the surrounding counties. To schedule the program for schools or community groups, call Family Support Services at 878-5961.

# Shining In The Golden Years

Think retirement means sitting back in an easy chair? For participants at the Lakeside Senior Center, it is more likely to mean exercise classes, visits to art shows, and bocce games.

“We are more active than a lot of people would imagine,” said Instructor Patty Czulewicz. “Our program is focused on choices—giving our seniors choices from a lot of different activities. We believe that we all can continue to learn and grow at any age.”

The Lakeside Senior Center has been in its present East Lake Road location since 1991, where it serves more than 40 persons each day. Participants currently range in age from 56 to 87 years old.

“Many of our individuals have retired either from jobs or the Workshop, and this is an opportunity for them to learn new leisure activities to enrich their lives,” said Program Specialist Maggie Dimitriadis. “They really thrive in the social atmosphere, and embrace all of the opportunities to build friendships and learn something new.”



**Retirement Center participants present an award for “Best Coffee” to staff of the Terrace Garden Café. The group visited restaurants around the area to select their favorite coffee vendor.**



**The washboard band “The Callahan Clan” entertained at the Barber National Institute.**

Each morning, participants make their choices from a number of varied options. Some activities, such as current event discussions and exercise class, are held daily. Other days may include the Walking Club, bowling or an arts class.

A “Lunch Club” is also held monthly, where the entire day is focused around a theme as varied as Chinese New Year, the circus or ethnic celebrations. Seniors and staff also participate in volunteer activities such as Presents for Patients, shopping for Christmas gifts and delivering them to residents of the Twinbrook Nursing Home. About 20 seniors have also joined the Button Club, making promotional buttons for community events and organizations.

and artistically—and has a way of finding and enhancing the abilities of our participants.”

When staff came up with the idea for a washboard band, one man in particular jumped right in. It had been his lifelong dream to learn an instrument and perform. After weeks of practicing, the Callahan Clan debuted to lunchtime audiences at the Barber National Institute.



Music, art, exercise and more—all continuing to enrich lives and expand opportunities for adults in our community.

**Bridget Barber awards Rudy Black for his accomplishments in the “Amazing Pace” Walking Club.**

“It is really surprising how much talent we have here,” said Cheryl Lepkowski, Program Specialist. “Our staff has a lot of special talents—both musically



**The Mariachi Band performs for “Cinco De Mayo” Day.**

## The Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute

### Services for Children & Youth:

The Elizabeth Lee Black School  
Early intervention for infants and preschoolers  
Happy Hearts early care and preschool  
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program  
Autism Center of Excellence  
Specialists in all areas of Developmental Delays  
Children's Partial Hospitalization Program  
Respite Care  
"Connections" Therapeutic Summer Program for Children with High Functioning Autism/Asperger's  
Before/After School and Summer Child Care Programs  
Consultative services to schools & professionals

### Services for Adults:

Developmental Services  
Adult Mental Health Partial Services  
Community and Facility Based Vocational Training  
Dual Diagnosis services  
Residential Group Homes  
Supported Living in homes and apartments  
Lifesharing  
Respite Care  
Employment Opportunities Center  
Adult Education & Literacy  
Day Support Program  
Retirement Center

### Support for Life Enrichment:

Speech, Occupational & Physical Therapy and Behavior Therapy  
Family Support Services  
Family and Sibling Support Groups  
Audiology and Auditory Processing Testing and Treatment  
Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services  
Wrap Around Care  
Health Services Department  
In-Home Support Staff  
Speech, occupational therapy  
Psychiatric and psychological services  
Audiology testing and treatment  
Dietary

For more information about these and other services, call the Barber National Institute at 814-453-7661 or visit our website at [BarberInstitute.org](http://BarberInstitute.org).

# Calendar of Events 2006

**April 6**  
**"Making Sense of Autism,"**  
with best selling author  
Susan Senator  
7 p.m.  
Barber National Institute Forum

**April 22**  
**"500 Limited" Dinner & Drawing** sponsored by  
Arc Erie County  
Gym

**April 27**  
**Arc "Campaign For Independence" annual Kick-Off Luncheon**  
noon  
Emerald Room

**May 17**  
**Auxiliary Annual Garden Party**  
Noon  
Gym & Cafeteria

**June 8**  
**Elizabeth Lee Black School Graduation**  
Gym

**June 15**  
**Annual Shillelagh Golf Tournament**  
Riverside Golf Course

**June 19-July 28**  
**Connections Summer Camp**  
(for children with Asperger's Syndrome/high functioning autism)  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**June 23, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Erie City & County All-Star Game**  
Jerry Uht Park  
(rain date June 24, 2 p.m.)

*The community is invited to support our events and activities. For information, visit [BarberInstitute.org](http://BarberInstitute.org).*

Dr. Gertrude A. Barber National Institute

## CenterScope

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