

708 W 10th Ave.

Eugene, Oregon 97402

Bridgeway House offers treatments, developmental therapies, enrichment courses and support to children and families of all income levels with autism and related disabilities

March 2009

[www.BridgewayHouse.org](http://www.BridgewayHouse.org)

Bridgeway House

## Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser

Save the date! The Bridgeway House 2009 Cinco de Mayo celebration and fundraising auction May 2, 2009 is nearing and we're turning up the heat! The planning committee is busy organizing a fabulous extravaganza at the Autzen Club, with many favorite personalities returning, guaranteed to make this the best year yet!

Emcee Josh Daugherty, a Hollywood actor and brother to a sibling with autism, returns this year to host the event. Larry Tardie, our lively and experienced auctioneer, thrills us again with his fast-paced vocal talents. And Lo Nuestro, our upbeat salsa band, will entertain us once more with hot dance music.

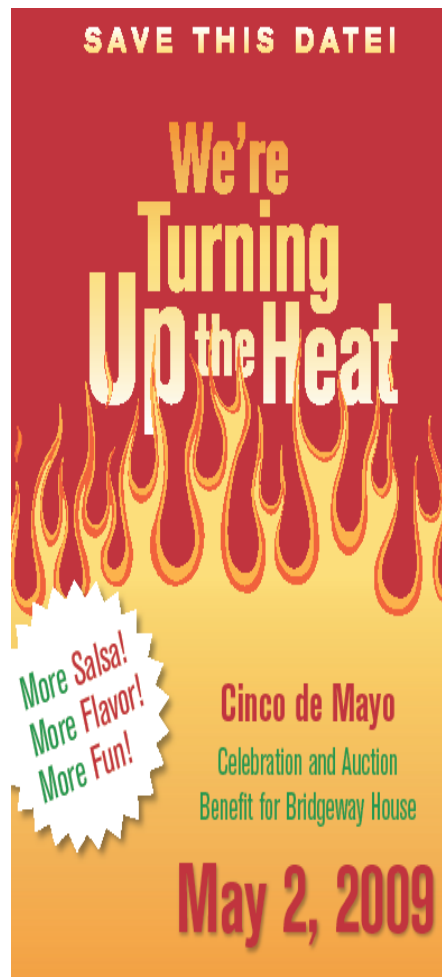
Last year's Cinco de Mayo celebration was a tremendous success, attended by more than 280 people. We hope to see you this year, too! Please reserve

your seats with tickets available through Bridgeway House at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net) or at (541) 345-0805.

### Hurry!

Thanks to generous donor Stephen Vorhes of the Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble, 20 people from Bridgeway House are welcome to attend **Jazzin' It Up for Kids at the Silva Concert Hall, Hult Center, on March 7, 2009.** Pre-concert activities start at 10:30 a.m. The concert, which features jazz, gospel, and motown music, starts at 11:00 a.m. The tickets are good for children and adults.

Bridgeway House is offering tickets on a first-come, first-served basis. Please reserve your tickets by calling us at 345-0805.



[www.bridgewayhouse.org](http://www.bridgewayhouse.org)



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### NEW Bridgeway House Calendar

Please note that Bridgeway House now has its own service calendar that may differ from the 4J school calendar. Please check our website, [bridgewayhouse.org](http://bridgewayhouse.org), for the new schedule.

When the schedule indicates "no services," Bridgeway House will be closed for all services, including Home Therapy Programs and school. If you are uncertain whether Bridgeway House will be open, please call 345-0805 for clarification. Thank you.

## "Soaring in the Soreng"

Actors are busy rehearsing for this year's Bridgeway House play *Soaring in the Soreng* to be performed at the Hult Center on April 25th at 1 p.m.

Performers are crafting their visions of flight, taking shape as kites and birds; magical flying crea-

tures; superheros; and a dramatic, comical airport scene. The sky is the limit for this showcase of many talents!

There are seven easy ways to purchase tickets at the Hult Center, including calling 682-5000 or visiting online

at [hultcenter.org](http://hultcenter.org). Tickets go on sale March 1st. Please mark your calendar for this not-to-be-missed event!

*We are so proud of our Bridgeway House performers whose talents, perseverance, and accomplishments constantly inspire us, renewing our belief in the beauty of achieving our dreams.*



## GoodSearch, GoodShop: Good News for Bridgeway House!

Have you ever asked yourself how you could make a simple but meaningful contribution to your favorite non-profit, Bridgeway House? Here's the answer! Each time you search the Internet using [GoodSearch.com](http://GoodSearch.com), a Yahoo-powered search engine intended to help charities create effortless, ongoing fundraising, you give Bridgeway House one penny! GoodSearch donates one cent to Bridgeway House when you specify them as the non-profit of your choice at the GoodSearch.com homepage.

And that's not all! When you shop online, you can enjoy discounts on your favorite purchases *and* effortlessly contribute to

Bridgeway House using the GoodSearch-inspired site [GoodShop.com](http://GoodShop.com). GoodShop offers you a seamless shopping experience by directly entering retailers' sites, and rewards you by searching for coupons at your store of choice *before* entering the retail site (in order to enter discount codes necessary at the time of purchase). Additionally, GoodSearch sends a percentage of your sales to Bridgeway House as the charity of your choice! With more than 1,000 stores participating, you are sure to find what you're looking for! Please consider making GoodSearch your homepage. Thank you for choosing Bridgeway House as your charity of choice!

## Autism Risk Management Presentation

Can you imagine combining urinals, sex, wandering, poison, and pools in the same discussion? Retired officer Dennis Debbaudt, national autism risk management expert, author, and father of an adult with autism, covered these critical topics when a Bridgeway House audience of parents and educators gathered to learn how to protect individuals with autism in high risk situations on February 12, 2009.

Debbaudt accentuated the importance of teaching children with autism about sexuality—both the mechanics of sexuality and the social understanding of sexual issues in public places such as restrooms. Additionally, Debbaudt stressed that the best plan for low-

ering risk is disclosure, informing police about a child's autism profile. What makes your child feel safe or have meltdowns? How does he or she communicate? Debbaudt emphasized that professionals cannot help if they don't understand our children.

Throughout the evening, Debbaudt riveted the audience with discussion of the need to secure the home, protect wandering children or "runners" with door locks, keep watch around pools and ponds, lock up weapons and poisons, and alert neighbors of a child who may become lost. For more information and poignant suggestions, visit <http://www.autismriskmanagement.com>.

## Gluten-free, Casein-free Support Group

Individuals with autism can experience significant behavioral and cognitive improvements by making dietary changes; however, dietary changes, and the steep learning curve associated with making sweeping lifestyle changes related to planning, shopping, and cooking using alternative ingredients, can be overwhelming for parents.



To lend support, Bridgeway House will be offering a gluten-free, casein-free (GFCF)

support group led by Michelle Cheney, author of *Climbing Out Of Autism One Bite At A Time*. Join Michelle for fun, beginning-level sessions starting March 16 from 7:00-8:30p.m. Learn to shop for, cook, and bake with, alternative flours. Childcare is available! To sign up, please contact us at 345-0805 or at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

**Please indicate whether you need child care.** Course syllabus will be e-mailed before the first class.

## We Need Donations!

We welcome your donations for our Cinco de Mayo fiesta fundraiser! We appreciate gifts of all types ranging from trips, cruises, and weekend excursions to estate items, artwork, one-of-a-kind articles, and smaller items to be placed in gift baskets. Please contact us at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net) to make arrangements for drop-off. All items are appreciated!

We also welcome volunteers to assist in the many details of organizing this event. We meet every other Wednesday evening. Please contact us at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net) or 345-0805 for more details. Thank you.

## Heads up, baseball fans! Bridgeway House Autism Awareness Night with the Eugene Emeralds!

The Eugene Emeralds, our local baseball team, will be sponsoring Autism Awareness Night at the ball park this summer (date to be announced) as a fundraiser for Bridgeway House! Details to be announced as they become available.

# Services at Bridgeway House

## Open Play!

Bridgeway House families can enjoy open play time at Rainbow Park and Playground Company. Dates to be announced.

## NEW! Asperger's Support Group

New group for adult professionals with Asperger's Syndrome. Limited enrollment—no fee. Please call Bridgeway house at 345-0805 for more information.

## Home Therapy Program

The in-home therapy sliding-scale payment program is now accepting applications for 1:1 intensive therapy or school support. ABA, Floor Time, and DI available. For more information, please contact [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

## Parent Support Group with Debby Laiman, PhD

This support group is for parents with **children to seven years old** and meets every other Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All are welcome!

Debby is an Early Childhood School Psychologist who has a special interest in working with children with autism and their families. Childcare available, so please call ahead if needed. We encourage both parents to participate! For more information, please contact us at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

## Salsa Dancing for Teens

Thursdays at 7:00 pm with Erin & Sergio. Ages 14+. To register, call 345-0805.

## Kids' Night In!

Parents get a night out! On the third Friday night of every month, Bridgeway House offers Kids Night In, where kids come to Bridgeway House and parents have respite. The cost is \$10 per child. Please bring a healthy snack for all to share.

Kids Night In, 6:30-9:00 p.m., third Friday of each month. Call 345-0805 to reserve a spot or just drop by.

## Individualized Music Therapy

Emily, our board certified Music Therapist, has openings for individual music sessions. Sessions are designed to address your child's unique needs, whether communication, concentration, academic or social skills development. The rate is \$50 per session. For more information, please contact Bridgeway House at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net)

## Parent Support Group with Jennifer Wassermiller, MSW

This support group is for parents with **children seven years or older** and meets every other Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 pm. All are welcome!

This group will focus on the unique challenges and delights of having an older child with a disability. Childcare available, so please call ahead if needed. We encourage both parents to participate! For more information, please contact us at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

## Tutoring!

Tutoring in academics, reading, math as well as handwriting and behavior management planning, if needed. Fine motor skills and language using direct instruction and precision teaching. Call Bridgeway House for more info: 345-0805.

## Family Swim Day!

Bridgeway House families and all families with special needs are invited to swim at the aquatic salt water pool at Tamarack Wellness Center on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 2:30-4:30 p.m.! The pool is warm and comfortable. They provide lifeguards and tables. Please bring your own snacks and towels. Donations of any amount are requested. Tamarac offers a wonderful 92 degree saltwater experience!



Sponsored by  
Hydro Fit

## Low Cost Counseling

Lola Broomberg will be providing counseling services through Bridgeway House for families with special needs for \$25.00 per session! Fee waivers available upon request. In the near future, we hope to accept insurance. For more information regarding an appointment, please contact [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net). Thank you.

## Bridgeway House Class Policy

Bridgeway House has developed policies to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the community and respecting the time of our instructors. We require a registration and materials fee of \$10 per series. Scholarships available for all class fees. Please call for the scholarship application process.

There will be a maximum number of applicants per series. The deadline for registration will be one week prior to the start of each class. If a minimum number of students fail to pre-register, class may be cancelled at the instructor's discretion. Please call Bridgeway House to sign up for any of our classes at (541) 345-0805. Thank you for your cooperation.

# Services at Bridgeway House

## Social Group Information

All Bridgeway House social groups are currently full. Enrollment for each group is limited to four children. If you are interested in enrolling your child in a social group, **please call Bridgeway House at 345-0805** for more information and to be added to our waiting list. Once we have a group of four children in the same age range, we will form another group. There is a \$10 registration fee. Thank you.

## Social Groups

Boys' Social Group (6-10 years old)

Boys' Social Group (8-12 years old)

Teen Boys Social Group

Girls' Social Group (7-10 years old)

Girls' Social Group (12-16 years old)

Teen Girls Social Group

Groups are facilitated in a small and supportive setting. Arts, crafts, games, and topic-specific conversations allow children to work on social skills and build lasting friendships with peers.

## NEW Video Game Night!

Beginning March 13th, and occurring the second and fourth Friday of each month thereafter, kids 12+ will have a chance to come to BWH and play video games! \$3 per person. Limited number of players allowed. **Reservations required.** BWH staff supervised. Video game guidelines apply. Please call us at 345-0805 to register.

## Teen Social Night

Catered event/music/dance/game room

Ages 13 and up—Location and time TBA

## Fitness Therapy

Fitness class for children and young adults of all ages and abilities. Sessions cater specifically to each individual's needs, interests, and level of ability.

Activities include bike riding and safety skills, running and hiking, yoga, light weights, balance activities, and exercise/obstacle courses. Weekend sessions available upon request.

To register, please contact Bridgeway House at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

## NEW Dates for Camp Tawasi

Camp Tawasi is a day camp established for children on the autism spectrum. Camp Tawasi offers activities ranging from ropes courses to horseback riding utilizing Bridgeway House therapists for support.

Camp Tawasi offers children with autism the unique experience of attending camp with them in mind. Supervision ratios are appropriated according to campers' skill level. Aides are available.

Registration for Camp Tawasi will be handled through Bridgeway House. Camp Tawasi is a collaboration with Bridgeway and Camp Wilani.

A registration meeting familiarizes parents with specifics, providing a forum for questions and answers and accommodation of specific needs. Carpooling by arrangement. Last year's camp was tremendous success!

**The dates for Camp Tawasi have changed.** New dates will be announced in the future. For more information, or to register, please contact Bridgeway House at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net).

**Scholarships available upon request.**

Monthly activities and parent support groups operate on a drop-in and donation basis. Social groups and classes require pre-registration. For more information, please contact Bridgeway House at [bridgewayhouse@comcast.net](mailto:bridgewayhouse@comcast.net) or 345-0805.

# Thank You!

*Bridgeway House would like to give a big Thank You to the following individuals and businesses who gave so freely of their time and resources. Without their help BWH would not be able to help the families and children of this community. We appreciate your efforts and continued support.*

Catherine Gallo  
 Kathy Kitchel  
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Boys' Social Group  Girls' Social Group	<b>3</b> Boys' Social Group Parent Support Group with Debby 6:30-8:30 p.m.	<b>4</b> Boys' Social Group	<b>5</b> Girls' Teen Social Group Boys' Teen Social Group Teen Salsa Dancing 7:00 p.m.	<b>6</b> Boys' Social Group	<b>7</b> <b>Jazzin' It Up for Kids-Hult Center 11 a.m.</b>  Play Rehearsal—Magical Creatures and Bats 10:30-12pm
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Boys' Social Group  Girls' Social Group	<b>10</b> Boys' Social Group Parent Support Group with Jennifer 6:30-8:30 p.m.	<b>11</b> Boys' Social Group	<b>12</b> Girls' Teen Social Group Boys' Teen Social Group Teen Salsa Dancing 7:00 p.m.	<b>13</b> Boys' Social Group  <b>Game Night 7-9 p.m. \$3.00 per person Children 12+</b>	<b>14</b>  Play Rehearsal—Kites and Birds 10:30-12p.m.
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Boys' Social Group Girls' Social Group GFCF Support Group 7:00p.m.	<b>17</b> Boys' Social Group Parent Support Group with Debby 6:30-8:30 p.m.	<b>18</b> Boys' Social Group	<b>19</b> Girls' Teen Social Group Boys' Teen Social Group Teen Salsa Dancing 7:00 p.m.	<b>20</b> Boys' Social Group  <b>Kid's Night In! 6:30-9:00 p.m.</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Family Swim-Tamarac Wellness Center 2:30-4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>22</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>23</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>24</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>25</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>26</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>27</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break	<b>28</b> Bridgeway House closed for Spring Break
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Boys' Social Group Girls' Social Group	<b>31</b> Boys' Social Group  Parent Support Group with Jennifer 6:30-8:30 p.m.	<b>Did you know that Bridgeway House has an excellent lending library?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Dev. delays</li> <li>•Autism</li> <li>•Asperger's</li> <li>•Behavioral tech.</li> <li>•Social skills</li> <li>•Sensory integration</li> <li>•Dietary intervention</li> <li>•Famous authors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sign language videos</li> <li>•Sign language DVDs</li> <li>•Song games for language development</li> <li>•Baby Einstein DVDs</li> <li>•Baby Bumblebees DVDs</li> <li>•Bee Smart Baby DVDs</li> </ul>	<b>Please feel free to borrow or donate a book or DVD!</b>

