

## Calendar of Events

- February 8 **UB Women's Basketball Game**  
Alumni Arena, 175 Webster Rd, Amherst  
2PM
- February 15 **Valentine's Dance**  
MaGruders, 4995 Broadway, Depew  
5:30PM
- Feb 29 **New Family Socials**
- March 28 **Bornhava**, 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst  
9:30AM
- March 22 **Spaghetti Dinner & Basket Raffle**  
The Columbus Hall, Cheektowaga  
3:30PM
- April 25 **Full Day Conference with Libby Kumin**  
Catholic Health Administrative & Regional  
Training Center, 44 Genesee Street, Buffalo  
8:30AM

*We host events for both our kids and their family members. None of our events are drop off or respite.*



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

*In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, we will only be mailing printed versions of this newsletter to anyone not currently on our email list. You can receive a printed copy by mail by sending a request to [dspg@dspgwny.org](mailto:dspg@dspgwny.org).*



*The DSPG News is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November*



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



February 2020

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*We host events for both our kids and their family members. None of our events are drop off or respite.*

### UB Women's Basketball Game

February 8

Join us as we cheer on the UB Women's Basketball team on Saturday February 8 at 2:00pm at Alumni Arena!

**There is a limited number of tickets available, so please request them only if you are sure you will be able to attend.** Register by February 1st on line at <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/UBBulls20> or contact Amy Monson at [amonson23@hotmail.com](mailto:amonson23@hotmail.com) with any questions.

### Valentine's Dance

February 15



The Valentine's Day Dance will be held Saturday, February 15 from 5:30 to 9:00pm, at Magruders,

The DSPG will be charging a fee of \$5 per person and will provide all food including: pizza, salad, snacks, drinks, and desserts. If you would still like to bring in a special treat for the group please feel free to do so. If you would like to sign up with cash or check or have any questions please feel free to contact us at [dspgwny@gmail.com](mailto:dspgwny@gmail.com)

Please RSVP by Monday, February 10, so that we can ensure adequate food and seating. Register on line at [form.jotform.com/dspgwny/valentines2020](https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/valentines2020). We will be limiting the number of people in attendance so please do not bring additional guests. Thank you for your understanding.

### Spaghetti Dinner & Basket Raffle & World Down Syndrome Day Celebration

March 22

The Spaghetti Dinner will take place at The Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Road, Cheektowaga, NY from 4-7PM. Doors open at 3:30PM. Tickets are available for advance sale only. **No dinner tickets will be sold at the door.** Raffle tickets may be purchased when you register below or on the day of the event. **Please purchase your dinner tickets by March 15 to allow time for mail delivery.** Please contact Marc at [Marc.Kotarski@yahoo.com](mailto:Marc.Kotarski@yahoo.com) if you would like to make a donation to the raffle.

Register online at <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/spaghetti-dinner-2020> or contact Marcy at

### Join the Down Syndrome Parent Group of WNY for our 2020 New Family Socials

Families of children with Down Syndrome from birth through their 5 birthdays are warmly invited to join fellow DSPG members and other new families for these fun and informal social get togethers.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.  
Siblings are grandparents are welcome.

Dates are the last Saturday of the month\*

1/25, 2/29, 3/28, 5/30, 6/27, 7/25,  
9/26, 10/31 and 11/21.

\* UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

9:30-11:00 a.m. | 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY 14228  
Contact Amy Monson at [amonson23@gmail.com](mailto:amonson23@gmail.com) or  
(716) 677-0604 for more information. [www.dspgwny.org](http://www.dspgwny.org)



PRESENTED WITH SUPPORT FROM THE DOWN SYNDROME PARENT GROUP OF WNY  
Enhancing the lives of individuals with Down syndrome for over forty years.

### Full Day Conference with Libby Kumin

April 25

Join us for a full day of information from Libby Kumin, a professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology at Loyola University in Maryland. She is also an author and founder of the Down Syndrome Speech and Language Center for Excellence.

She will discuss the many factors that affect speech intelligibility in individuals with Down syndrome. Attendees will learn about methods and techniques that can be used at each stage - infants, toddlers, children, adolescents and adults - to help develop speech that is easy to understand. Methods and techniques for identifying, analyzing, and treating the factors that affect speech intelligibility (including dysarthria/oral motor skills and childhood apraxia of speech) will be presented. Information on team approaches and family-based treatment will be included in the presentation.

Register on line at <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/LibbyKumin> or contact Barb Wakefield for more information at [bb.wakefield1@verizon.net](mailto:bb.wakefield1@verizon.net).

## Resource Corner

### Financial Planning for your Disabled Child

<https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/financial-legal/info-2019/planning-future-for-disabled-child>

### Managing Difficult Behavior

<https://www.down-syndrome.org/en-us/services/training/courses/managing-behavior>

### Taking Care of the Caregiver

<https://caregiveraction.org>

### Supporting Positive Behaviors in Children and Teens with Down Syndrome

[http://www.peirsoncenter.com/uploads/6/0/5/5/6055321/49617491\\_2285068018172023\\_8576422427318288384\\_o.pdf](http://www.peirsoncenter.com/uploads/6/0/5/5/6055321/49617491_2285068018172023_8576422427318288384_o.pdf)

### Preparing Your Loved One for Independent Living

<https://noahsarkflorida.org/preparing-your-loved-one-for-independent-living/>

## Recreation Options in WNY

There are many recreational options for your loved one with special needs, but sometimes finding them is not so easy. We've put together a list of organizations that offer something for everyone. *Please let us know if you have something to add.*



Best Buddies: <https://www.bestbuddies.org/newyork/>

Challenger Baseball: [www.centralamherst.com](http://www.centralamherst.com)

Daeman CAUSE: <https://www.daemen.edu/news/cause-program-offering-fall-sport-sessions>

Danceability: <http://danceabilityinc.org>

DeCamville Arts: <http://decamvillearts.com>

Fantastic Friends: <https://www.fantasticfriendswny.org>

Flash S.T.A.R.S. Soccer: <https://wnyflash.leagueapps.com/events/1499917-stars---spring-2020>

Flix Sensory Friendly Movies: <http://flix10.dipsontheatres.com/content/Sensory+Friendly+Family+Film+Series>

Gigi's Playhouse: <https://gigisplayhouse.org/buffalo/>

Miracle League: <https://miracleleaguewny.org>

Moving Miracles: <https://www.movingmiracles.org>

SABAH: <https://sabahinc.org>

Sensational Fun: <https://www.sensationalfun.org>

Shannon's Fitness: <https://www.shannonsfitnessdance.com>

Special Olympics: <https://www.specialolympics-ny.org/regions/western/>

Sweet Charlotte's: <https://www.sweetcharlottes.org>

TOPSoccer: <http://www.amherstsoccer.com/topsoccer>

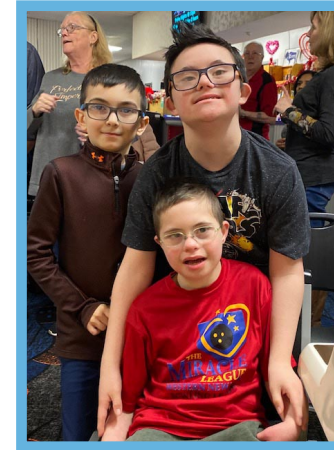
WNY Challenger Sports: <https://wnychallengersports.com>

Young Athletes: Contact Courtney Partridge at (315) 529-1249 or [corky3012@hotmail.com](mailto:corky3012@hotmail.com)

In 1979 the Down Syndrome Parents Group of Western New York (DSPGWNY) was established.

Since then, we have supported hundreds of families, as well as promoted awareness of Down syndrome and acceptance of individuals born with Down syndrome. PLEASE VISIT [dspgwny.org](http://dspgwny.org) TO LEARN MORE.

Support for New Parents • Social Groups • Informational Meetings and Resources • Hospital Visits  
Volunteer Scholarships • 40 years of experience supporting individuals with Down syndrome right here in WNY!



## Family Bowling Fun!

Thanks to everyone who came out to bowl with us on January 25. There was lots of fun, food and friends enjoying the day!

## Thank You To Our Donors

All Donations through United Way

All donations through Embrace the Difference

Paige, Donna and Fred Kittleman

Mollenberg-Betz, Inc. Specialty Contractors

Sonya Prince

Elaine Fisher Perry

Irene Smith and Amy Engler

## Board News

### College Scholarships

The DSPG is providing college scholarships to deserving high schoolers who have volunteered with us for at least 4 years. Please email [dspg@dspgwny.org](mailto:dspg@dspgwny.org) with questions or to receive a copy of the qualifications for the 2019-2020 school year. Applications for the fall of 2020 are due on May 30, 2020.



The 2nd Annual Buffalo Friendship Walk will take place on  
April 5th 2020  
at the ADPRO Sports Training House at New Era Stadium!!!

### How you can get involved?

1. Register yourself and your team! Just head to [www.bestbuddiesfriendshipwalk.org/westernny](http://www.bestbuddiesfriendshipwalk.org/westernny)
2. Share that you are participating with family and friends
3. Become a sponsor
4. Join the 2020 Planning Committee

For more information please email  
[LindsayJewett@bestbuddies.org](mailto:LindsayJewett@bestbuddies.org)

## Holiday Party Highlights

Thanks to our generous hosts at Sacred Heart we celebrated the holidays with family and friends in a fun and festive atmosphere.

Santa made a visit with treats for all, while Hank the DJ got everyone in the holiday spirit with festive holiday music!



## DSPG BOARD MEMBERS

### Presidents:

Amy Monson, 716-677-0604  
Barbara Wakefield - 716-983-2140

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