

Almost every day, you hear of another celebrity with an autistic child. Ernie Els, Jim Carey, Phoebe Snow, & Wynton Marsalis, and tragically, Jett Travolta, to name a few. Did you know that there are hundreds of autistic children right here in our own community?

We are very fortunate to have an organized school and treatment facility in it's infant stage. It is called the St. Gerard House (named after the patron Saint of unborn children) and is located at 718 Oakland St. in downtown Hendersonville. Their goal is to provide state of the art equipment, training, and treatment using an evidence based practice at an affordable price that will be available to all walks of life. This program will help families, parents and teachers to be more efficient when working with children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder).

Currently, The Grotto offers help for pre- school children (2 to 5 year olds). The goal of this new system is to help those affected from diagnosis through early adulthood. (You can see our new state of the art facility being built on Oakland Street.) Your much needed donation will help families who cannot afford this elite treatment schedule.

Please plan to attend or participate in our upcoming event, End of Summer Blues Festival to be held September 17, 2011 at Camp Green Cove in Tuxedo, NC. Tickets are only \$10 for those of us who are over 16, \$5 for ages 3 to 16, and children under 3 are free. There will be a variety of bands, including Bayou Diesel, Peggy Ratusz, Taylor Moore Band, Eric Congdon, Viper's Dream, and Zataban. The music will go from 11:00AM to 10:00PM as you enjoy great food from various vendors, an excellent line up of Arts and Craft booths, and a kiddie play area.

If you need more information, or would like to sign up as a volunteer, please check out our website at www.endofsummerbluesfestival.com , or email us at summerbluesfestival@hotmail.com. Please, no pets, outside food or coolers inside the Camp area. We look forward to seeing you!