



Kindness Konnections



This fall we started a new pilot program, Kindness Konnections, a community service program for those over the age of 21. We had two returning Aaron's Acres Campers, Ben & Carson, to support us in our giveback mission. Throughout the four-week session the group volunteered with the Lancaster County Food Hub, and Powerpacks, and helped us prepare for ExtraGive.

These participants showed up with a willingness to work to which the volunteer sites were both thankful and impressed. From a supervisory perspective, what impressed me the most was the way these two participants had a space to connect with each other. In the early weeks, there was more parallel work, where the guys were doing the same job in the same room and passing a few words back and forth. Yet, during our last session at Powerpacks, the guys were putting together candy bags for children to pick-up during the holiday season, and they were laughing together almost the entire time.

A specific moment that stood out to me was when Carson remembered Ben was getting a new puppy; this was a conversation they had briefly touched on in a previous week. He went out of his way to ask Ben, "How is your new puppy?" which Ben responded that "Ranger" was coming home to him the very next day! Ben then proceeded to ask Carson if he had any dogs, which he responded that he has two daschaunds; the two then laughed about how Carson's dogs look like hot dogs.

"While writing this out, it does not seem to convey the impact of the moment, yet as

someone who has known Ben for over eight years, that moment of unprompted conversation was huge. It is just really cool to be a part of these programs that provide social opportunities for adults, as there are not many that presently exist".--
Madison Heider, Program Coordinator

Ben's mom stated, "Ben participated in this new program during the month of November. Not only did he enjoy giving back to the community by volunteering, he had so much fun doing it!! He laughed, socialized and made a new friend. He felt valuable and looked forward to his time at the Kindness Konnections program.

Carson's mom commented, "So many others have given a lot to benefit our kids over the years, but it is really special when there is a program that allows our young adults to give back to the community. Kindness Konnections is just that, it is a wonderful program that inspires our young people to feel like they are doing something really special. Carson looked forward to going each time, socializing with Ben and seeing other non-profit organizations."



Spring Sports League Applications are now available!

WHAT: A recreational sports league (soccer, basketball and pep squad)

WHO: Adults with disabilities, ages 18-40

WHEN: Every Saturday, starting February 1st and ending on March 22nd

WHERE: Lancaster Brethren In Christ Church (1865 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601)

Deadline to register is December 16

**There is no fee to register.*

[Click Here To Learn More](#)

PROGRAM FUN!!!

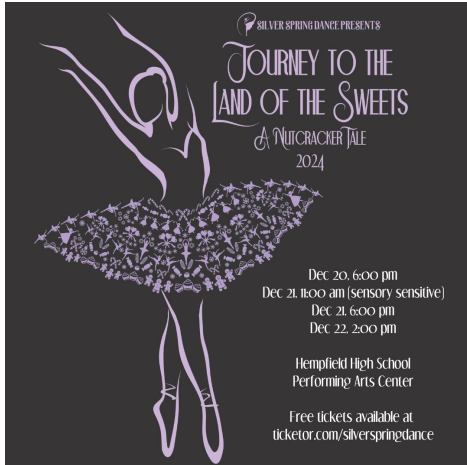
WINTER I SPY ACTIVITIES!

Follow the link below for free I Spy printables and let the fun begin.
three different difficulty levels available.

[Click Here Printable Sheets](#)



Community Events



Silver Spring Dance Conservatory
Presents:
Journey to the Land of the Sweets

Several Dates Available Dec. 20, 21, 22
Sensory Sensitive Dec. 21 @ 11:00am

Location: Hempfield High School
Performing Arts Center

**Obtain FREE Tickets
Here**

Sonic 3 Sensory Sensitive Event

Start date: December 21, 2024

End date: December 31, 2024

Time: Times Vary By Day

Location: Penn Cinema 541 Airport Rd
Lititz PA, 17543

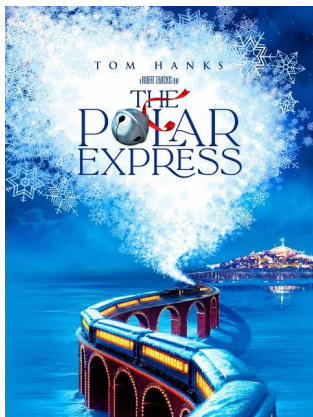


Polar Express Sensory Sensitive Event

Tuesday, December 24

10:00 AM

Location: Penn Cinema 541 Airport Rd Lititz
PA, 17543





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