

# RAPP September 2015 Newsletter

Support Group Meetings			
Monthly Sessions	Upcoming Dates	Time Frame	Location
1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday, monthly	<b>Girls with a Purpose (GWAP)</b> Next group is <b>September 2, 2015</b>	4:30 – 5:30 pm	Carver School Road Library Branch 4915 Lansing Drive, WS Phone: 336-703-2910
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, monthly	<b>Next RAPP evening group is</b> <b>September 3, 2015</b> Our speaker is Tonja Fultz, employment specialist with Project Re-Entry	6-7:30 pm	Rupert Bell Recreation Center 1501 Mount Zion Place, WS 27101 Phone: 336-727-2051
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, monthly	<b>Next RAPP lunch group is</b> <b>September 9, 2015</b> Our speaker is Tonja Fultz	12:00 –2:00 pm	Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center 501 Reynolds Blvd, WS 27106 Phone: 336-727-2428

## What is the Relatives As Parents Program, RAPP?

Forsyth County's Department of Social Service's Relatives as Parents Program, or RAPP, provides support and activities to any relative or person providing full-time care-giving duties to another person's child, living full-time in their home, and whose parent(s) is absent. All RAPP activities are provided at low or no cost, and create ways for relative caregivers to meet others in their community. RAPP understands that caregivers face unique challenges in *unexpectedly* parenting someone else's child.

## Why should I attend a group?

Because you are not alone! You may feel alone as a care giver, but you are not! Support gives you strength in finding others like yourself who have traveled this road. There are currently 7.8 million children in the US living with someone other than a parent. This information comes from Generations United, a NY group that supports kinship families like yours. (Note: No groups are held in July and August!)

## Important Dates

- ✓ **School begins August 24!** See this edition for more information you may need as the new school year begins!
- ✓ **No Parent Left Behind** will be part of the **Parent Power** meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2015, from 4 to 8:30 p.m. at the Career Center.



## Relatives as Parents Program, RAPP

Attn: Susan Parker, Program Coordinator P.O. Box 999, WS, NC 27102-0999 Phone: 336-703-3744  
e-mail: [parkerse@forsyth.cc](mailto:parkerse@forsyth.cc) Office located on the ground floor, 741 Highland Ave.  
RAPP Coordinator Supervisor, Carmen Willis

## Required Immunizations for Kindergarten Students and Rising 7th-Graders

New immunizations laws are affecting children entering kindergarten and seventh grade for the 2015-16 school year. Children starting kindergarten or seventh grade this fall are required by North Carolina to have specific vaccines to protect them from serious diseases.

**Kindergartners** are required to have:

- two doses of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine if they do not have a history of disease documented by a health care provider;
- the fourth dose of polio vaccine must be given after 4 years of age and before entering school for the first time;
- a physical exam signed by their physician.

**Children who start seventh grade this fall** are required to have vaccines as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Students are required to have:

- one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis);
- one dose of meningococcal vaccines if they have not previously received these vaccines.

State law requires the school system to suspend students who haven't received the vaccination after 30 days into the school year.

The health department (799 Highland Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC, 27101) offers the vaccination at its walk-in clinics at the following times:

- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
- Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m.
- Friday, 8:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

This information comes directly from the Winston Salem/Forsyth County Schools website, at: <http://www.wsfcs.k12.nc.us/Page/523>

*What's amazing is, if young people understood how doing well in school makes the rest of their life so much more interesting, they would be more motivated. It's so far away in time that they can't appreciate what it means for their whole life. - Bill Gates*



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## A Request from Susan for RAPP Families Old and New!

Our program has seen some changes over the past year, and in just the last few weeks, a lot of new families have joined our mailing list. But I think we've lost good contact information for some of our families, and I've had to take names off our list because the addresses are no longer accurate and the mail was being returned to me.

I have also been trying to call all the families on our mailing list, and have left a lot of messages. I would very much appreciate a call back so that I can hear about how your family is doing, and see if there's anything I can be doing to better assist you. I'd even enjoy coming for a visit, if your family would like that; I love to meet RAPPers!

If you have moved, changed phone numbers, or added an email address, I would love to hear from you too, so that we can have the most up-to-date information. And if you do have changes, make sure you also give those to your child's school too, so that they can be sure to keep you aware of things.

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### Holiday Project, 2015!

I'll soon be mailing out Wish Lists for the 2015 Holiday Project! Remember that I have to have a Kinship Verification Form from you in order to participate. Also remember that we are following our RAPP "definition" closely, and will be serving relative's children who are under 18, and who live with you full-time.

If you want to complete a Kinship Verification Form, call me at 703-3744 as soon as possible.

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### Grandparents Day is September 13!

Generations United has ideas for ways to celebrate Grandparents Day:

- Grandparents and Older Adults: We're asking you to commit to do something grand and share your wisdom, perspectives and key civic values with young people and advocate on their behalf.
- Children, Youth, and Younger Adults: We're asking you to commit to do something grand and connect and serve with your grandparents or older adults in your community.
- Grandfamilies: You provide a safe and loving home to your grandchildren or other relatives in your care. We think you are doing something grand for children every day of the year. As part of our week-long celebration of Grandparents Day, Generations United recognizes, honors, and thanks grandfamilies.

See more at <http://grandparentsday.org/> or at <http://www.gu.org/>



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## September Support Group Programs

Our September support groups will both be led by Tonja Fultz, Employment Specialist at Project Re-Entry. Project Re-Entry, housed at GoodWill Industries, helps people who are coming out of prison, providing tools to help with finding employment, and with adjusting to life in general.

If you know someone who is re-entering the community after spending time in jail, Ms. Fultz can help provide information and resources. Project Re-Entry has a high success rate in helping people secure employment.

*If a doctor, lawyer, or dentist had 40 people in his/her office at one time, all of whom had different needs, and some of whom didn't want to be there and were causing trouble, and the doctor, lawyer, or dentist, without assistance, had to treat them all with professional excellence for nine months, then he/she might have some conception of the classroom teacher's job. ~Donald D. Quinn*

### Re-establish Your School Day Routines!

1. Pack the book bag and put it at the door the night before.
2. Pick out clothes the night before; be ready to jump in them!
3. Have an assigned “office” area used for studying and work.
4. Keep needed supplies in the “office” and the back pack:
  - Stapler, ruler, scissors, glue sticks, tape, pens/pencils
5. Keep the office organized; if items are used, make sure the child puts them back where they belong.
6. Finish ALL homework before games, internet, texting, TV, etc.

Finally, be sure to mark your calendars as there is no school on Labor Day, September 7, and there are two early release days, 9/16 and 9/30.



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# EXCEPTIONAL FAMILIES

A monthly discussion group for parents of children (of all ages) with special needs.



**WHEN:** 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month  
(January-October)

5:30 – 6:00 Light Supper

6:00 – 7:30 Program *\*See Topic Schedule below\**

**WHERE:** Little Creek Recreation Center  
610 Foxcroft Drive, WS 27103



Light supper and childcare provided at no cost with **RSVP**.

Call **703-4289** to register.



## 2015 Remaining Schedule

**Aug 27 Teaching Self Advocacy Skills/Self Determination**

Mark Steele, Executive Director The Adaptables, Inc

**Sept 24 Developmental Pediatrics**

Dr. Kurt Klinepeter

**Oct 22 Post Secondary Options for Students with Disabilities**

Guest Panel

### Events sponsored by:

Family Support Network of Greater Forsyth  
~ an outreach of The Centers for Exceptional Children

4505 Shattalon Drive

Winston-Salem NC 27106

336-703-4289 (office)

336-924-0388 (fax)

[www.fsngreaterforsyth.com](http://www.fsngreaterforsyth.com)



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Saturday,  
September 12

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## BOOKMARKS 11TH ANNUAL *Festival of* BOOKS AND AUTHORS

*Hanesbrands Theatre, Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts, Sawtooth School for Visual Art, Winston Square Park, and surrounding area on Spruce Street*

**Festival Welcome Ceremony & Celebration of Summer Reading Participants**  
*10 – 10:15 a.m. | Reynolds Place, Rhodes Center*

**Spanish & English Storytime**  
*11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Winston Square Park*

Authors will share stories in English & Spanish in this family-friendly event.  
*Presented with support from Qué Pasa*

**Photobooth**  
*10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Hanesbrands Theatre Lobby*

Remember the fun you had at Bookmarks all year! Pose for a picture with your friends, family, and/or favorite authors and characters. Photos are free and printed on site. *Presented with support from Truliant Federal Credit Union*

**“Illuminated Letters” & “Artist Altered Books”**  
*10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Sawtooth School for Visual Art, Second Floor of the Rhodes Center*

Come see art as it connects to books in these two featured exhibits.

**Summer Reading Program Exhibit**  
*10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Womble Carlyle Gallery, Rhodes Center*

In Bookmarks' inaugural year of this program, K-12 students across North Carolina have read and prepared written, visual, and video responses to the books on Bookmarks' summer reading list. These responses (many to books by authors participating in the Festival) will be on display to showcase the students' talent.

While in the Gallery, check out the bookmarks by the 2015 student art contest winners and the art exhibit, “Unbound and Unleashed” presented by Art for Art's Sake. Artwork celebrating books and authors is for sale through September 22.

**Summer Reading Book Pick Up & Kids' Passport Table**  
*10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Winston Square Park*

Summer reading participants may present their book certificate at this table and choose their free book. Also, children attending the Festival may earn a free book by visiting Children's Exhibitors and attending the Children's sessions. Information available at this table.

**Location Details**  
*Please note that all events are held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.*

The Bookmarks Office and Bookmarks Book Shelf, Coffee Park ARTS, Reynolds Place, Sawtooth School for Visual Art, and the Womble Carlyle Gallery are all located inside of the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts at 251 North Spruce Street. Please see the map enclosed in this brochure for more detailed directions.

**Tickets**  
Unless otherwise noted, events and programs are free and open to the public. For some events, tickets are required and can be purchased by clicking the ticket icon at the top of our website: [bookmarksn.org](http://bookmarksn.org) or by calling Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006. For specific questions, you may also call our office at 336-747-1471. Please note that for many of our special events, there may be limited space and/or we expect to sell out. Don't delay in reserving your spot!



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