

Site Locations and Times

Chatham:

Tuesday and Thursday
Morris Memorial,
2nd Floor,
Park Row
9:30-11:30

Copake

Monday and Friday
Copake Community Center,
Mountain View Road
10:00-Noon

Germantown

Monday and Thursday
Reformed Church of Germantown,
20 Church Avenue
9:30-11:30

North

Chatham
Wednesday
Methodist Church,
Route 203
10:00- Noon

Board of Directors:

President: Donna Verna

Vice President: Meg Everett

Treasurer: April Mountain

Secretary: Christine Cunningham

Ivy Cote
Nancy Cuddihy
Gail Foster
Dana Rosenstreich
Lorraine Warner
Elie Ward

Director: Bethany St. Dennis

Spring 2008
Volume 1, Issue 2

resource centers
family
OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

Phone: (518) 392-3911
www.familyresourcecenterscc.org

FRC's Giant Tag Sale --- Saturday June 7th

Wow! What a sale this is going to be. Preparations are well underway and the success of this sale depends on our community. We are asking everyone to please donate quality items to the sale. If every family and friend on our mailing list donated just \$10 worth of items they no longer use, we would recycle great stuff while making money to support our Centers and all of our special programs! Last year's sale raised over \$12,000 for our centers. Can you help us surpass this goal? **See the enclosed flyer for donation guidelines.**

We need volunteers to help us sort and price before the sale. No experience necessary! Have some fun and enjoy the wonderful and wacky things that are donated. If you can spare some time, call our office at 392-3911 or e-mail us at frc@familyresourcecenterscc.org.

Last but not least, we need you to come to the tag sale and bring your friends and family!

Kids Bike Safety Clinic

Here's one more great reason to visit our tag sale!

The tag sale will also be the site of a bike safety clinic for kids. Join us from 10 a.m. to Noon at the Columbia County Fairgrounds in Chatham on June 7th.

Kids will learn the ABCs of bike safety and an expert will be on hand to ensure that bike helmets are properly fitted. Bring your bikes so kids can practice their safety savvy on a bike obstacle course!

This event is sponsored by FRC and Steiner's sports.

Field Trip to Spruce Ridge Alpaca Farm

The Spruce Ridge Alpaca Farm in Old Chatham is hosting this popular outing for both kids and adults! Join us on **Tuesday, May 8 from 10:00 to noon** for a farm tour fun with the alpacas. Adults will love the beautiful views afforded from the top of the farm and children love watching the alpacas while enjoying the great outdoors! A snack will be provided for all kids following the tour.

Spruce Ridge is located at 434 Route 13 in Old Chatham. Details and directions can be found on www.spruceridgefarm.com.

Please note that the Chatham playgroup site will be closed on May 8th.

Kid's Concert Slated for September 6th

Hold the date! Saturday, September 6th, FRC is sponsoring a kid's concert! The ever popular Uncle Rock and folk favorite Elizabeth Mitchell will be performing in this back to school event that is sure to be a favorite of both kids and adults.

Event plans are underway and details will be announced over the summer. If you're interested in volunteering for this event we are in need of event planners, ticket sellers and folks to help out during the event! Call our offices any time at 392-3911 or e-mail us at frc@familyresourcecenterscc.org

Be sure to look for details over the summer on FRC's web calendar at www.familyresourcecenterscc.org.

Parent Education Workshop May 11th

Join FRC and the Kinderhook Memorial Library on Sunday, May 11th for this final in a series of six parent education workshops entitled "**The Reluctant Reader**". The workshop will explore techniques for inspiring and creating an enthusiasm for reading among elementary schoolers may be less than enthusiastic about a trip to the library! How does a parent encourage a genuine life-long love of reading? How do you select book topics that appeal to children with different interests? Do boy and girls differ in their early literary tastes? These are just a few of the questions which will be explored.

The workshop takes place at the Kinderhook Memorial Library at 3:00 p.m on May 11th. Call FRC with questions at 392-3911.

July 20th --- Film Showing ---- Where Do the Children Play ?

Join FRC and Kinderhook Library on July 20th for a showing of this PBS documentary about the vital importance of open-ended play for the healthy development of children. The documentary explores how this kind of play is disappearing due to electronic games and entertainment, and increase in teacher led instruction that is pushing child initiated learning and exploration out of the classroom; and diminishing access to woods, fields, vacant lots and parks and other wild play spaces.

The documentary is inspired by Elizabeth Goodenough's book "Secret Spaces of Childhood" (University of Michigan Press, 2003). Before viewing the documentary, parents may want to visit www.allianceforchildhood.org which is the outreach project for Ms. Goodenough's work on this timely topic.

The film will be screened on July 20th at 3:30 p.m. at the Kinderhook Library. Bring a picnic supper and join FRC and KML staff for a picnic at Ooms Farm in Old Chatham immediately following the film! The event is free. For details see FRC's web- calendar at www.familyresourcecenterscc.org or call 392-3911. **Rain Date** for the film and picnic is July 27th at 3:30

Summer Fun Ideas

FRC's 37th annual season comes to a close on Friday, **May 30th**. Playgroups will resume **October 1st**.

Are you looking for some summer fun activities? Here are some wonderful suggestions given to us by parents residing in and around Columbia County

Parents may want to meet up informally at one or more playgrounds in the area:

Rothermel Playground in the Village of Kinderhook on Tuesdays at 10:00 am
Palatine Park in Germantown, Mondays at 10:00 am.
Copake Community Center Playground, Mountain View Road, Mondays at 10:00 am

Some other suggested activities free of charge or with a minimal fee:

Town Summer Recreation Programs
Crellin Morris Summer Programs
Taconic Lake State Park
New York State Museum
Local Library Summer Reading Programs (sign up now!)
River Front Park in Catskill
Bash Bish Falls, Copake
Albany Art Institute Summer Programs for Kids

Also check out FRC's web-site resource section with links to programs and activities or call our office at 392-3911, maybe we can help you find what you're looking for!

You will also want to check in regularly with **CoCoToDo.com** for a weekly listing of local happenings for kids and adults.