Like the fallow and unplanted soil in our gardens, children and their families come to Alternatives For Children in need of the experienced knowledge and guidance of our staff that will allow each child to grow and flourish. We prepare children to become independent, self-confident, and curious learners. Our teachers and therapists provide a natural learning environment, implanting opportunities to enhance and enrich each child’s educational experience. We are always mindful of the unique qualities of each child and attend to their individual goals. Our team of experienced and dedicated early childhood professionals provide invaluable educational and therapeutic programs that prepare our graduates to be ready to learn and ready for Kindergarten.

We are pleased to announce that Alternatives For Children Aquebogue has received two new classroom approvals from the NYS Department of Education. Our class offerings at Alternatives For Children Aquebogue had been limited for our children and families to a half-day, integrated option.

Based on the needs of children and families on the North Fork and the lack of class placement options for them, applications for modification to our classes were submitted to the NYS Department of Education. Alternatives for Children Aquebogue, is now also approved for a 6:1:1 self-contained class, as well as a 12:1:2 full day integrated option. It will provide us with another growth opportunity, while meeting the needs of children with special needs and their families on the East End. Our Universal Prekindergarten Program with Riverhead School District will be renewed again as well.

A special thank you to Donna Menna, our Curriculum/East End Coordinator, for the leadership provided through this process, and to Erica Mailand, Aquebogue teacher, for your ongoing efforts. Thanks also to all our East End staff for the exceptional services you provide for our families.
On a beautiful day in June we hosted our 11th Annual Golf Outing at the Huntington Crescent Club. I would like to thank our Golf Outing Chairs Dr. Fred and Mrs. Sunny Mendelsohn and the Golf Outing Committee for helping to make this year’s Outing such a huge success. With tremendous gratitude, I thank all our sponsors, donors to our Silent Auction and Basket Raffle, our golfers and tennis players, and the staff at the Crescent Club who help us make the day so special. Please make plans now to join us next year for this fun event.

We have begun our six-week summer session after graduating 100 children in June. Our preschool program is designed so that children will meet their IEP goals and/or meet developmental criteria, be ready to learn and be successful as they transition to the kindergarten environment. We are so proud of each one of them.

Please make plans to join us for our 20th Annual Classic & Sports Car Rally on October 15th. Find sponsorship and registration information in this newsletter.

As always, thank you for your generous support of our mission. Please give us a call if you would like to come visit!
Thank you Donors, Golfers, Tennis Players.

Michael & Barbara Russell
Vivian & Ather Mirza
Mark Dickson
Robert & Barbara Ryan
Nancy Knapp
Robert & Eileen Kaler
Steven & Melissa Michalik
Brian H. O'Leary
Viswanathan Balachandar
Jean McCarroll
Kathleen Mich
Joseph Miller
Gail Chemick
Shakeel Amir
Christine O'Reilly
Maureen Potter
Al Fumuso
Regina Giglio
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Lessing's Inc. - Peter Lessing
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Arlan Damper Corp. - Al Sapio
Donald Hehir & Associates - Donald Hehir
Robert James Contracting Corp. - Richard Mohring
Prudential Insurance - Anthony Bettano
Rosenblatt, Levittan, Vulpis, Goetz & Co. - Steven Rosenblatt
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Herrick Hardware Inc. - Noel Hare, Jr.
Mayne Construction - Joe Ferrara
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Golden Five Realty Corp. - Patrick & Marie Scarangella
The Legend Group - Albert Oppedisano
Printing Plus - Elizabeth Miastkowski
Sanna Mattson MacLeod, Inc. - Tricia Follieri

Find all the pictures from our
Golf & Tennis Outing on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/AlternativesForChildren
All the while as Parker was painting, he was talking to the observer; there was an ongoing narration. The colors and placement of them was explained - every stroke was conveyed into speech.

**Pragmatic language development and social interaction**

“The blue at the bottom is the pool. I like swimming. It is an elephant. See his trunk? These are his eyeballs. They are yellow. His eyebrows will be orange. He has long feet. 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 feet. This is his tail. That’s not an ear, that’s the sky. An ear here. More blue for the sky.”

So much learning going on, including carry-over and reinforcement of therapeutic skills learned. All the child knows is that he has been given the encouragement and freedom to use what he has taken in through the classroom and therapeutic sessions and use his whole body to create art with a purpose... a true masterpiece!

---

**Caterpillars, butterflies, box turtles, dandelions, fresh air!** When the playground is your classroom and nature is your teacher there is so much to see and do! The children at Alternatives For Children Aqueboque have had some hands-on science, language/literacy and tactile sensory experiences lately.

Who wouldn’t love to learn about turtles by actually finding one on the playground, learning about what they eat, where their natural habitat is, and observing how they move and protect themselves? And the Caterpillars! How do they move? What do they eat? Does it tickle when they crawl on you? What happens to a caterpillar when it grows up?

*Endless Lessons*  
*Priceless Experiences*
The children loved our dinosaur unit and making
dinosaur eggs. The children measured and mixed
the secret ingredients for the eggs. Then came the
gooey part - placing some of the dough in their
hands and forming it into an egg. We painted the
eggs then needed to wait a few days for the eggs
to dry. During our “egg waiting time” we read
dinosaur books, sang dinosaur songs, pretended to
move like dinosaurs, made scary sounds like di-
nosaurs, and painted dinosaur pictures. We were
dino crazy! After a few days we studied the eggs
with magnifying glasses and investigated different
ways to open the eggs. Crack them - or watch
them magically dissolve in a potion? We did it
both ways! The children were so surprised to find
that we had snuck dinosaurs inside the eggs!

Learning as we Explore!
So Much Learning . . . So Much Fun

In preparation for the big event, the children helped
set up the incubator. The incubator temperature has
to be kept at 99.5 degrees. The humidity has to stay
at 50%. In late spring, the eggs arrived. The
children were surprised that the eggs were not
white but a variety of colors. The children counted
and then placed the eggs onto the egg turner in the
warmed incubator. We made a hatching calendar to
track the 21 day incubation process. Our days of
waiting for our eggs to hatch were filled with a
variety of egg activities. Then it happened
- one
after another the chicks started making their way
out of the shells. The children loved having the
chicks in the classroom. We fed, cleaned, held,
petted, compared, drew, and wrote about them.

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So Much Learning . . . So Much Fun
### Sponsorship Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsorship Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monaco Sponsor</td>
<td>Event Sponsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis Sponsor</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytona Sponsor</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lime Rock Sponsor</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watkins Glen Sponsor</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridgehampton Sponsor</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting Line Sponsor</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL SPONSORSHIP $**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enter a Car</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car Club Registration by September 30th</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150 by September 15th</td>
<td>$165 after September 15th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Car Make: __________________ Model: ____________ Year: ____________________

Member of Car Club? If yes, which one: ____________________________________

**TOTAL CAR REGISTRATION $**

**PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKET**

1. I would like to purchase _______ @ $100 each

**TOTAL RAFFLE TICKET PURCHASE $**

**AWARDS LUNCHEON TICKET**

1. I would like to attend the reception ONLY at $55 per person

**TOTAL AWARDS LUNCH RECEPTION $**

**DONATION**

1. I can’t attend, but would like to support Alternatives for Children with a tax deductible donation of $__________

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $**

Name: __________________________

Company: __________________________

Address: __________________________

Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

**Method of Payment**

1. Check Enclosed
2. Credit Card type: __________________________

Credit Card #: __________________________ exp date: __________________________

Name as it appears on card: __________________________

Card Holder’s Signature: __________________________
Alternatives For Children invites you to join with us in honoring our Classic & Sports Car Rally Team

Jim Buzzetta
Classic & Sports Car Rally Chair
Competition Automotive Group
Event Sponsor
Alternatives For Children Trustee

Jim joined the Board of Trustees in 2005 where he quickly became a strong advocate for, and an ardent supporter of the administration, staff, and the vision and mission of Alternatives For Children. Serving as the event chairperson, Jim has literally been the driving force behind our annual Classic and Sports Car Rally. Through his sponsorship of this fundraising event, Jim has been personally involved in raising much needed funds to assure that Alternatives For Children can continue to offer the highest quality educational and therapeutic services to the children and families we serve.

Dr. Mark DiBenedetto
Classic & Sports Car Rally Master
Village Internal Medicine
Physician/Owner

Mark is an avid fisherman, competitive cyclist and a self-proclaimed classic car enthusiast. He has been one of the creative minds that has fashioned the devious rally routes that have confused and confounded many a driver and navigator team.

Jim Lynch
Classic & Sports Car Rally Master
Fine Art Photographer
WUSB Radio Talk Show Host

Among his many passions and talents, Jim admits to being a “car nut.” Jim loves to craft and create rally routes that are scenic, and literally and figuratively twisted.

It is because of the dedication of our two Rally Masters, Mark DiBenedetto and Jim Lynch and the support of Competition Automotive Group and the Buzzetta Family that this much loved event has been such a success through the years, generating a fun and exciting day.

Always mindful of the changing landscape of special education, the administration at Alternatives For Children is constantly reflecting on and developing plans that take into consideration the impact these changes may have on current and future best practices.

Alternatives For Children hosts a minimum of two staff conference days per year where a variety of topics are presented. We are fortunate to employ many individuals with experience and expertise within their discipline, who throughout the course of the year present in-service training for the teaching and therapeutic staff. In addition, cross-discipline training is held monthly, while specific discipline specific training is ongoing.

This summer, all staff underwent an extensive six week twelve hour training to review existing, as well as new policies and procedures. In addition, in order to be ready for the beginning of the school year in September, training on implementation of the Sixth Edition of the Creative Curriculum was presented.

Your generous Support Makes this Possible!
Professional Development and Training in the Most Current Philosophies and Trends in Early Childhood Education

Your Financial Support Provides Professional Development & Staff Training

Dr. & Mrs. Fred Mendelsohn
Victor Nelson
John Knab
Mike Russell
Mark Senders
Rapid Diagnostics
Heffernan Insurance Brokers
Sector Microwave Industries
UBS
Alternatives For Children
WHAT OUR PARENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT US

We are absolutely thrilled again this year with my son’s team. His teacher is a dream teacher. His Speech teacher has been a huge factor in his speech development. His IEP Coordinator is very aware of and accommodating of his individual needs. His integrated teacher and teacher assistant are super and caring. The women from daycare are also excellent. Thank you!

I truly feel my daughter and my family are in the best hands and care. I have reached out to teachers and staff members with questions and concerns, and have gotten speedy and insightful feedback. I feel my child’s growth and well-being are a top priority.

Our son has been at Alternatives For Children in Dix Hills for only three weeks and we are already seeing positive results of his therapy and just the day to day school activities. Being able to place our son at Alternatives has been the best decision we’ve made.

We thank our families for sharing their children with us and placing their trust in us!