



THE MAYOR'S OFFICE ON AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES

ADDRESSING CITIZENS' CONCERNS

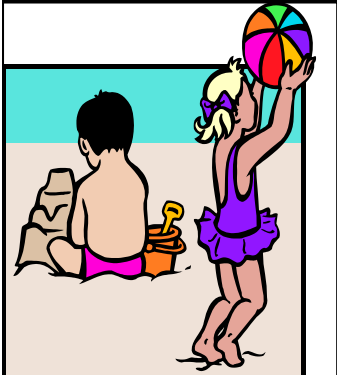
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Birmingham to Host City's 1st Wheelchair Tennis Camp

Inside This Issue:

REFINING THE RULES GOVERNING SERVICE ANIMALS UNDER ADA	2
EXTRAORDINARY ARTS FOR EXTRAORDINARY KIDS EVENT	2
SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNITIES AND EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR ALL	3
HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM	4

Happy Summer to All





Wheelchair Tennis Camp

Presented by the Mayor's Office on Americans with Disabilities

Come out and get your *GAME* on!



Tennis is FUN!

Registration: June 11, 2011
 Place: George Ward Park
 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday
 Starting June 13, 2011

Kids Lessons: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
 Adult Lessons: 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.






UNITED
 FOR THE GOOD OF THE CITY
 MAYOR WILLIAM A. BELL, SR.

For more information, please contact Rudy Roussel, Jr. at (205) 297-8013

With the help of the Parks and Recreation (James Lewis Tennis Scholarship Program), the Mayor's Office on ADA, the City of Birmingham is hosting its first wheelchair tennis camp at George Ward Park Saturday, June 11, starting at 10:00 a.m. with a wheelchair tennis exhibition that will showcase the different styles of this amazing sport.

The exhibition will kick off with a "one up one down," featuring Tennis Dave who uses a wheelchair, in a match with an able-bodied player. We invite the public to come and see this extraordinary display of skill and talent.

Following the exhibition matches, all wheelchair users will be encouraged to come onto the court to try their hand where professional tennis instructors will give hands on demonstrations. Participants will then have the opportunity to sign up for an eight week tennis camp that will begin the following Monday, June 13, 2011 and every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. **Lessons will be FREE for KIDS 10 –18.** Anyone that's had tennis lessons knows how expensive lessons can be, which means this is truly a special opportunity for all wheelchair users, children as well as adults. Most of all, this wheelchair tennis camp will highlight the abilities of persons with disabilities and introduce others to the possibilities of adaptive recreation.

Addressing Citizens' Concerns

Refining the Rules Governing Service Animals under ADA



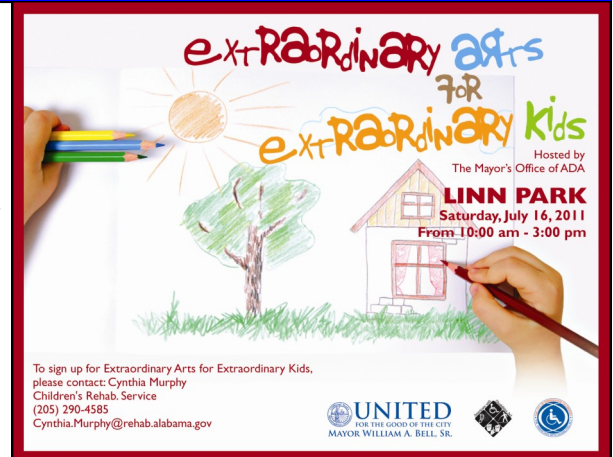
Service animals play an integral role in the lives of many individuals with disabilities, providing assistance in a wide variety of ways so that they can have the freedom to go about their daily activities. For this reason, Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that places of public accommodation, such as hotels, restaurants and retail stores, accommodate individuals with disabilities who use service animals.

However, when the Department of Justice (DOJ) originally issued its Title III regulation in the early 1990s, the Department did not define the parameters of acceptable animal species. Few anticipated that every conceivable animal would be used as service animals. Some individuals, who do not have disabilities, have claimed that their animals are service animals covered by the ADA. The proliferation of individuals who do not have disabilities claiming that their animals are service animals under ADA, as well as the original vague definition of a service animal, has led to confusion. Additionally, individuals with disabilities who use trained guide or service dogs have expressed concern that if untrained or unusual animals are termed "service animals," their own right to use guide or service dogs may become restricted or questioned.

The new ADA regulations that took effect in March 2011, DOJ clarified the rules governing service animals, and **The Department therefore has decided to limit this rule's for service animals to dogs**, which are the most common service animals used by individuals with disabilities. **The final rule defines a "service animal" as "any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability.** The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability. An animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition."

Extraordinary Arts for Extraordinary Kids Event

With help from a number of organizations, the Mayor's Office on ADA will host Birmingham's second art day in **Linn Park on July 16, 2011**. "**Extraordinary Arts for Extraordinary Kids**" will give children with disabilities an opportunity to come out and show off their creative abilities. The Birmingham Museum will offer tours and a number of art instructors will be volunteering their time to show the participants a few instructional tips that they can apply to their own projects. In addition to teachers, other volunteers will be on hand to accommodate any additional needs of the participants to ensure a fun filled educational event. The success of the last "Extraordinary Arts for Extraordinary Kids" event not only enriched the lives of everyone who attended, but it also ensured the anticipation for this one. To insure the success of the Exceptional Arts Program, organizations such as the Birmingham Zoo, the Birmingham Fire Department, and Birmingham Police Department, and others will also be in attendance. For information, or to **sign up to participate, call Cynthia Murphy: (205) 290-4585**.



Special Needs Communities and Emergency Planning For All

FREE Training for Emergency Planners and First Responders (MGT-333)

EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNITIES



Course Description

The purpose of the FREE "Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities" course is to address the need to incorporate special needs considerations into the development of emergency plans. The course's goal is to utilize a strategic multi-disciplinary universal planning approach to provide information for and encourage partnerships between emergency personnel and special needs organizations with the resources necessary to save more lives during a disaster. This approach will emphasize the role of emergency management and provide examples of best practices, lessons identified, tools, resources, and other support aids.

June 9, 2011
8:30am (Registration)
Class Time 9:00am-5:00pm

June 10, 2011
9:00am -12:00pm

**Alabama Department of
 Rehabilitation Services
 236 Goodwin Crest Drive
 Homewood, Alabama 35219**

**To register please contact:
 Annette Davis
 205-254-2039
 davis@jccal.org**

All training and course materials are FREE. Course development and delivery is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Average of 12 Hours to Complete

Target Audience

This workshop's target audience are those who are involved in emergency management and response. This includes emergency planners and emergency operations personnel as well as government organizations and non-government organizations representatives who are involved in emergency response procedures or represent constituents with special needs.

Recommended Prerequisites

Successful completion of *at least* the first two free FEMA online courses (<http://training.fema.gov>) listed below:

IS-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS)
 IS-230 Principles of Emergency Management
 IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction
 IS-800.b National Response Framework (NRF), An Introduction

About HSP@ WVU

Homeland Security Programs at West Virginia University (HSP at WVU) designs, develops, and delivers online and direct delivery high-quality training to first responders that enhance their skills for preventing, protecting, responding to, and recovering from manmade and natural catastrophic events.

HSP@WVU is committed to and will make every attempt to, within reasonable accommodation, serve the needs of attendees with disabilities. Persons needing a disability related accommodation should contact Joan Caridi at 304-293-1455 or by email at Joan.Caridi@mail.wvu.edu.

Visit our website at <http://www.hsp.wvu.edu> for more information



FEMA



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We are on the web!

**Office On American with
Disabilities**

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www.birminghamal.gov

**The ADA Committee meets every
Second Friday, 10:00 AM 2nd
Floor City Hall Rm. 215**



ADA Advisory Committee

Chair – John Duplessis—Easter Seals, Navigator Program

Vice Chair - Lorne Kelly—MAX Transit (VIP Para transit)

Committee Members

Xaveria Anderson—Ms. Wheelchair Alabama 2007

Trisstun Burrows—Ms. Wheelchair America/Alabama 2005

Twanna Carter—VA Medical Center

LaWanda East – Pastor, King of Faith Outreach Ministry

Shirley Hollis—Manager, Birmingham Parks & Recreation Centers

Tina K. Hughes– Chronic Illness Advocacy

Dan Kessler—Director, Independent Living Resources, Birmingham

Mike Norris—Independent Living Resources/Greater Birmingham

Charles Priest—Director, Alabama Head Injury Foundation

Alice Sanders-United Cerebral Palsy

Graham Sisson—ADA State Coordinator, Alabama Rehabilitation

Ron Talley—ASSISTECH Group

Peggy Turner– The Lakeshore Foundation

Independent Living Resources of Greater Birmingham, Inc. Housing Accessibility Program

Independent Living Resources of Greater Birmingham, founded in 1980, is a non-profit, United Way agency serving people with disabilities in the Birmingham metropolitan area. The agency provides a range of services that promote the independence of people with disabilities. For almost 20 years, Independent Living Resources of Greater Birmingham has operated a Housing Accessibility Program funded by the City of Birmingham Community Development program. During that time, more than 1,000 homes in the City have been modified to make them more accessible, resulting in increased independence and safer living conditions. Examples of modifications under this program include, but are not limited to:

- a. Enlargement of doorways to accommodate wheelchair users.
- b. Installation of transfer bars in bathrooms and other bathroom modifications.
- c. Construction of wheelchair ramps
- d. Installation of stair chairs to permit access to upstairs and downstairs rooms.
- e. Installation of low-rise, long tread stairs for walker users.

The program serves people with all types of disabilities and all ages. Participants must meet income guidelines established by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The demand for this program continues to grow as our population ages. To learn more about this program and others, call 205-251-2223, or visit the agency's website at www.ilrqb.org. The agency's Birmingham office is located at 206 13th St. S., Birmingham, AL 35233.

