



RISING STARS

ACADEMY

A few Words from the Superintendent.....

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We had a fabulous fall season here at Rising Stars Academy and look forward to welcoming winter! As the calendar year comes to an end, we have an opportunity to look forward to what's to come in 2024. With the new year comes new opportunities. On December 4th we will be hosting an informational evening with Official Driving School to talk with families about our upcoming drivers education program. Even if you feel your student is not ready for driving at this time, please feel free to drop in and get information about planning for the future. See additional details in the flyer on page 9.

Communication is key in a school. Please make sure to always communicate with the school if there are any issues that arise. Our weekly updates and monthly newsletter are a great resource to find out information about what is happening at the school. We also recommend that you follow our Facebook and Instagram pages for photos of daily activities. The school also continually updates the school website to keep everyone as informed as possible.

We hope you and your family find time to enjoy the holiday season. Thank you all for being part of the Rising Stars community. We are looking forward to the new year and new opportunities.

Ms. Emily

DECEMBER 2023



Ms. Maureen's Classroom

Veteran's Day
November 11, 2023



Veterans Day: Veterans were honored by creating ribbons for the Veterans Day celebration at Gather + Grounds as well as staff and students at RSA. Students learned about the different branches of the military and created a Wall of Honor for those currently serving, those who previously served, and family members who await their loved ones to come home.



Budgeting 101: Students headed outside with whiteboards for a working meeting to create and discuss budget priorities. Students planned an event and money management was demonstrated in a simulated garage sale. Ads were placed throughout the building to help students practice buying /selling techniques and roles as well as calculating expenditures for needs vs wants.

Life skills learned included: how to iron; how to fold towels; and helping students realize that appearance is an important part of a job interview.

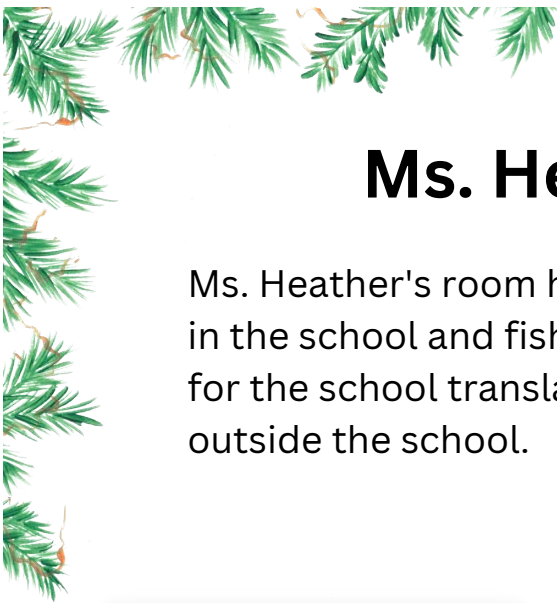


Mental health topics were researched, generating sound discussions regarding social media's healthy and unhealthy impactfulness as well as human trafficking awareness and safety.

A pre-Thanksgiving Sweet Potato relay race coupled with other simple items from home transformed into challenging sportsmanship skills and provided ideas on fun and simple ways to socialize with friends and family.

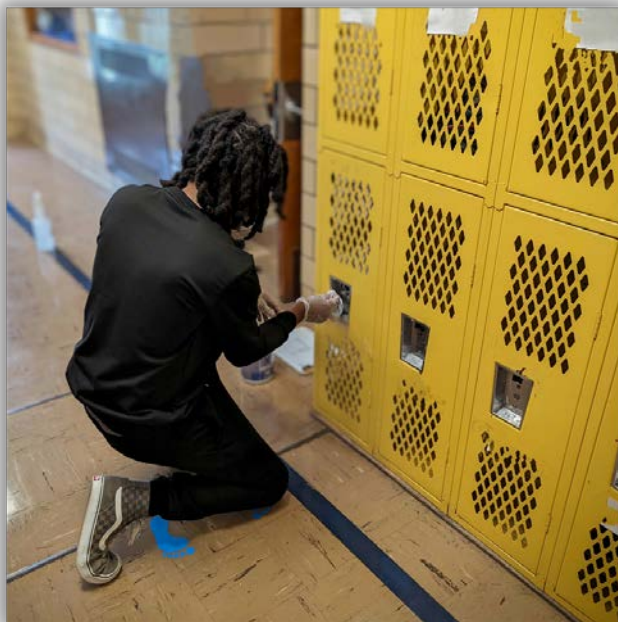


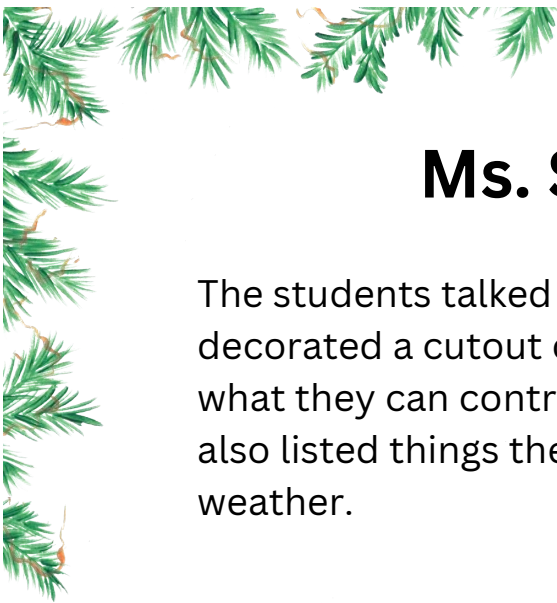
The importance of being thankful and saying 'Thank You' was reviewed paired with thank you notes written to those we care for during the Thanksgiving season.



Ms. Heather's Classroom

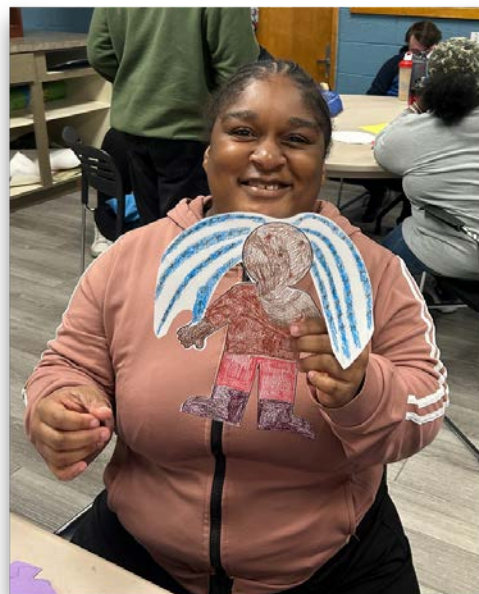
Ms. Heather's room has been keeping things clean! Custodial duties in the school and fish tank care in our classroom are priorities. Caring for the school translates into caring for our homes and businesses outside the school.

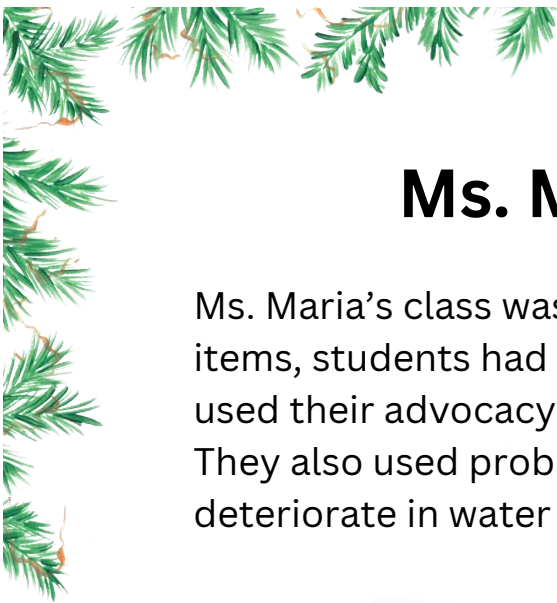




Ms. Sarah's Classroom

The students talked about things they can and cannot control. They decorated a cutout of a person so it looked like them and then listed what they can control like themselves and how they react. Students also listed things they cannot control such as other people and the weather.





Ms. Maria's Classroom

Ms. Maria's class was given tape, bowls, paper, and tin foil. With these items, students had to build a boat that could float in the water. They used their advocacy skills to ask for the specific help they needed. They also used problem solving skills to figure out what materials will deteriorate in water and which will allow the boat to float.



DECEMBER LUNCH MENU



LUNCH Menu DECEMBER 2023

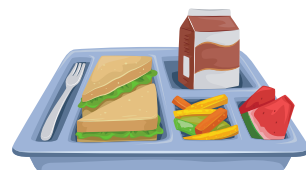
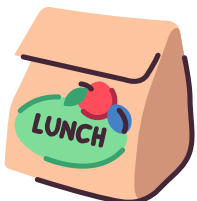
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | Turkey Sandwich Salad Goldfish 1 |
| Eggroll in a Bowl Rice 4 | Cheeseburger Tater Tots Corn 5 | Chicken Parmesan Green Beans 6 | Hot Dog Tater Tots Baked Beans 7 | Calzone Salad Marinara Sauce 8 |
| Corn Dog Tater Tots Baked Beans 11 | Calzone Salad Marinara Sauce 12 | Unstuffed Cabbage Mashed Potatoes 13 | Chicken Tenders Tater Tots Beans 14 | Chef's Salad Roll 15 |
| Calzone Salad Marinara Sauce 18 | Mexican Casserole Refried Beans 19 | Hot Dog Tater Tots Baked Beans 20 | Bean Burrito Refried Beans Salad 21 | Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Salad 22 |
| NO SCHOOL 25 | NO SCHOOL 26 | NO SCHOOL 27 | NO SCHOOL 28 | NO SCHOOL 29 |

Salad Dressings: Low-cal Ranch
Low-cal Italian

Salad includes: 1 cup Greens and ½ cup Tomatoes

Daily Fresh Fruit: Apples, Bananas, Grapes, Oranges, Peaches, Pears

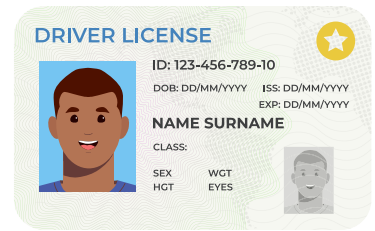
Milk Options: 1% White, Fat Free Chocolate, Soy



FOUNDATION HOTEL

The Foundation Hotel is one of the external jobsites available to students at Rising Stars Academy. Students learn to cut, prepare, and plate food.





Drivers Training

We are partnering with Official Driving School to bring drivers training to Rising Stars Academy!

For information about this program, please join us on
Monday, December 4th anytime between the hours of
2:30pm-6:00pm

Official Driving School will provide information about the program followed by the opportunity to sign up for a consultation/assessment to determine student readiness for driving.



More about the program:

- 10 sessions of in person classroom session - sessions are 2 hours
- Temp adult license will need to be obtained prior to behind the wheel drives
- Class will be held on Mondays at RSA starting in January (dates and times TBD)



Recruitment Event: Test Work Chat Software



The University of Michigan Level Up Lab is looking for 18 to 26-year-old individuals with autism to participate in a new virtual computer program designed to help practice conversations at work. You can earn up to \$215 while you spend time at a virtual store and practice talking to customers, coworkers and supervisors.

Come to this event to learn more!

Wednesday December 6, 2023

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Disability Network Eastern Michigan

1709 John R Road, Troy, MI 48083

Pizza will be provided.

**Register by
December 4, 2023!**

Scan this QR code.



tinyurl.com/WorkChatRecruitment

Questions?

Contact Traci Comer-Scarcella at
TComer@DNEMichigan.org or (586) 268-4160, ext. 6622.



Stand Out!
Adaptive Adult Organization

Fall Semester Schedule

October

- 10/19 - Halloween Party- Social Night 6:30-8:30pm
- 10/25 - Craft Night - The Art Shack 7:00-8:00pm
- 10/28 - Adaptive Workouts - CrossFit Freshwater 10:45-11:45am

November

- 11/1 - Adaptive Yoga with Angela - Social Night 6:00-7:00pm
 - **SPECIAL CLASS!! Limited spots, first come first served. Hosted at Shores Yoga.**
- 11/08 - Craft Night - The Art Shack 7:00-8:00pm
- 11/11 - Adaptive Workouts - CrossFit Freshwater 10:45-11:45am
- 11/16 - Karaoke Night- Social Night 6:30-8:30pm
- 11/22 - Craft Night - The Art Shack 7:00-8:00pm
- 11/30 - Trivia Night- Social Night 6:30-8:30pm

December

- 12/06 - Craft Night - The Art Shack 7:00-8:00pm
- 12/09 - Adaptive Workouts - CrossFit Freshwater 10:45-11:45am
- 12/14 - Christmas Party- Social Night 6:30-8:30pm

**All Social Events will be hosted at Bruce Post VFW. All Craft Nights will be hosted at The Art Shack. All Adaptive workouts will be hosted at CrossFit Freshwater.
 Social Nights: \$15.00 per class. Craft Nights: \$15.00 per class. Adaptive Workouts: \$10.00 per class.*





"Sterling Special" December Calendar

|  DECEMBER  | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| | | | | | 1 Ice Rink Opens  | 2 Sterling Christmas 5:45-8:30 p.m.  |
| 3 | 4 | 5 Adaptive Yoga 5-6 p.m. | 6 | 7 | 8 Holiday Dance 6-9:30 p.m. | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 Adaptive Yoga 5-6 p.m. | 13 Creative Community "Holiday Character Paintings" 10-11:30 a.m. | 14 In-service All buildings closed 9 a.m.-5 p.m. | 15 Unplug and Play "Reindeer Games" 6-8 p.m. | 16 Artist Inside "Holiday Creations" 11-12:30 p.m. |
| 17 | 18 | 19 Prep like a Pro "Holiday Hors D'oeuvres" 6-7 p.m. | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 All Buildings Closed 31 | 25 All Buildings Closed  | 26 All Buildings Closed | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 All Buildings Closed |

This calendar is for the City of Sterling Heights, Parks & Recreation from their recent "Sterling Special" newsletter. The newsletter focuses on adaptive recreation services. For more information, please call 586-446-2700.



Holiday Karaoke & Dance Party

December 13, 2023

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

DNEM Troy Office

DISABILITYnetwork

Eastern Michigan

Register:

tinyurl.com/DNEMkaraoke

Or call 586-268-4160



PREP LIKE A PRO

(All Ages)

This program guides chefs of all experience levels through the basics of food preparation. Bolster your independence while gaining valuable knowledge for both in and out of the kitchen including knife safety skills, motor skills, problem solving skills, confidence and more!

Classes will be held once a month and will teach meal prepping basics through different recipes. Each participant will take home their meals to freeze and prepare at home. Main ingredients will be provided, you will just need to add your choice of protein at home.

This class is inclusive and designed for all ages and abilities.

Children 13 and under must have adult supervision.

Instructor: Katie LaChance

Cozy Crockpot Meals

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 5003.070 | T | 9/26 | 6 – 7 p.m. 6 – 7 p.m. | \$22 / \$33 CC |
|-----------------|---|------|--------------------------|----------------|

Savory Soups

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|--|----------------|
| 5003.071 | T | 10/24 | | \$22 / \$33 CC |
|-----------------|---|-------|--|----------------|

Thanksgiving Leftovers

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|------------|----------------|
| 5003.072 | T | 11/28 | 6 – 7 p.m. | \$22 / \$33 CC |
|-----------------|---|-------|------------|----------------|

Holiday Hors D’oeuvres

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|------------|----------------|
| 5003.073 | T | 12/19 | 6 – 7 p.m. | \$22 / \$33 CC |
|-----------------|---|-------|------------|----------------|



ARTIST INSIDE

(All Ages)

Discover your inner artist while learning new techniques and designs. Each class offers a new project allowing our artists to create a masterpiece that they can take home. These art classes are guided and no experience is required. Open to all ages and abilities. All supplies included with fees. **Instructor:** Danielle Edwards

Basket of Apples

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|------|----------------------|----------------|
| 3000.026 | SA | 9/30 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | \$26 / \$34 CC |
|-----------------|----|------|----------------------|----------------|

Spooky Houses

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| 3000.027 | SA | 10/14 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | \$26 / \$34 CC |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|

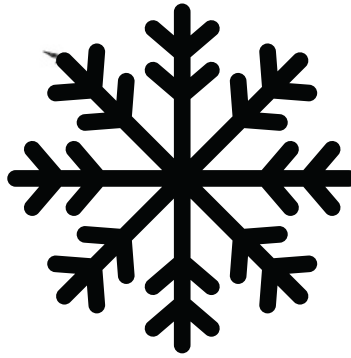
Autumn Forest Painting

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| 3000.028 | SA | 11/11 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | \$26 / \$34 CC |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|

Holiday Creations

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| 3000.029 | SA | 12/16 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | \$26 / \$34 CC |
|-----------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------------|





“A Sterling Christmas”



Everyone is invited to ring in the holiday season with a variety of family fun activities at the 46th Annual “A Sterling Christmas”!



Saturday, December 2
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Dodge Park

“A Sterling Christmas” is sponsored by:



- Tree lighting
- Holiday music and caroling
- Visits with Santa
- Petting farm
- Refreshments
- Pony rides
- Horse-drawn wagon rides
- Train rides
- Ice skating
- Warming fires
- Sterling Stars
- And much more!





DODGE PARK ICE RINK

The ice rink located within Dodge Park will officially open for the season on December 1. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @myshpr, check our website or call the hotline number at (586) 446-2711 for daily updates. Ice skating enthusiasts of all ages can enjoy the feel of an open air ice rink, but with protection from the wintry elements. The refrigerated ice rink will be open seven days a week and will be available for open skating only. Heated restrooms are available at this facility.

Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday, Noon - 9 p.m.
Fridays, Noon - 10 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Fee:

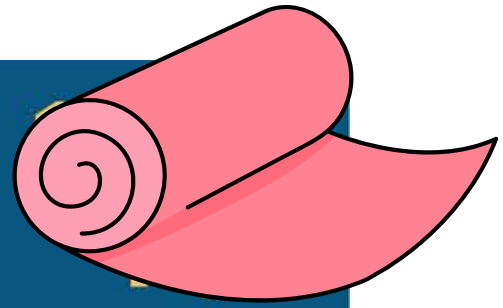
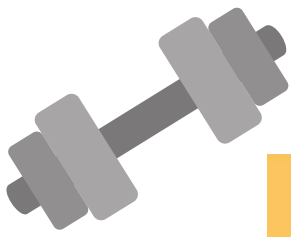
Sterling Heights Residents :
FREE (with Photo ID)*
Non-residents: \$5 per person
Cash or Credit is accepted
(Visa, Master Card & Discover)
Skate Rental: \$3 Skate Sharpening: \$5

*Adults & Teens 16 and up must show photo ID
Ages 13 - 15 must show ID if not accompanied by an adult
Ages 12 years old & younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Holiday Hours of Operation

Dec. 24 & Dec. 31 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Dec. 25 & Jan. 1 Closed





12/09

STAND OUT! ADAPTIVE ADULT ORGANIZATION PRESENTS

ADAPTIVE WORKOUTS

WITH CROSSFIT FRESHWATER

REGISTER ONLINE:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BA4AB2FA1FEC43-45049630-adaptive>

JOIN US!

\$10.00 for Adults 18+
10:45AM to 11:45AM
Located at behind the
Dollar General at:
31020 Harper Ave, St
Clair Shores, MI 48081

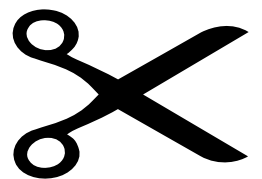




STAND OUT! PRESENTS
Craft Night
WITH THE ART SHACK

Wednesdays from 7pm-8pm
\$15.00 for Adults 18+
Located at: 23707 Jefferson Ave, St Clair Shores, MI 48080
Register prior to the event using The Art Shack's link: <https://occ.sn/RtQ52rts>

Dates:
12/06





December Social Events

Monday, December 4 from 5:30p-7p

Troy Special Needs Events – **Monday Mingle**

Troy Community Center (3179 Livernois Rd, Troy, MI 48083)

Enjoy a variety of activities including: music, karaoke, games, pizza, and refreshments. All ages are welcome, however those under 14 must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver. \$12 Res, \$15 Non-Res. Pre-registration required. For more info, visit rec.troymi.gov.

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 from 6p-8p

Oakland County Parks Adaptive Needs Event – **Jingle Bell Ball**

Waterford Oaks Activity Center (2800 Watkins Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328)

Social events for adaptive needs adults often include dancing, music, and fun at various locations throughout Oakland County. A new, fun theme (nearly) every month. Events require preregistration with payment for individual PLUS caregiver. Call 248-858-0916 to register or call or text 248-221-8040 for program questions and information. Hosted by Oakland County Parks and Recreation.

Wednesday, December 27, 2023 from 6p-8p

Oakland County Parks Adaptive Needs Event – **Almost New Year**

Royal Oak Community Center (3500 Marais, Royal Oak, MI 48073)

Social events for adaptive needs adults often include dancing, music, and fun at various locations



Social Events Cont'd

Rochester Avon Recreation Authority (RARE)

https://www.rararecreation.org/adaptive_services/social_engagement/index.php

Diners Club

One Monday a month enjoy a meal with friends at various local restaurants. This opportunity is designed to support persons with special needs. Participants pay for their own meal, beverage, and tip. PRE-REGISTER EARLY as spots are very limited and so that we have enough assistance and space reserved in the restaurants. 14+ Years. All times are 5:00-6:30.

- December 4 Olive Garden (Registration begins August 1)

Movie Night Out

This opportunity is designed to support persons with special needs. Enjoy a movie with your friends at the theater one Wednesday a month. You will pay for your own ticket and concessions. Movies and times are based on the current theater schedule. Spots are EXTREMELY limited, so you must pre-register so that we have enough assistance and space reserved. Movie select/times will be emailed the week of the program. 14+ years

- December 13 (Registration begins August 1)

Movie Pizza Night

Enjoy a movie and a pizza snack with friends one Friday a month. This opportunity is designed to support persons with special needs. Participants are asked to bring along a movie and the group will vote on which movie to watch. Supervised by Ms. Wendy.

- December 15 (Registration begins August 1)

Jingle All The Way Dance

This dance is designed for persons who have special needs. Come boogie down with great music and dancing, while enjoy a fun evening with friends with a holiday theme. Refreshments will be served.

Location: Chief Financial Credit Union Event Space

Oakland County-December Social Events

Friday, December 1, 2023 at 6pm

Special Needs Events – TR Pizza and Movie Night

Clintonwood Park (6000 Clarkston Road, Clarkson, MI 48348)

Enjoy an evening with your friends for a favorite movie and some delicious pizza. This program is for persons, ages 14+, with cognitive disabilities, with or without physical impairments. Call 248-625-8223 to register. \$10. Hosted by Independence Twp Parks & Recreation.

Saturday, December 2, 2023 (first Emagine Theatre Showing of the Day)

Metro Detroit Adaptive Needs Events – Emagine Theatres Sensory Friendly Movie Screening

ALL Metro Detroit Emagine Theatre Locations

This movie is open to friends, families, children and teens with sensory needs along with their supporters. Lights up a bit, sound down a bit. If your child needs to get up, move, dance, sing... No problem. Guests are welcome to bring a safe snack for any food allergies or food avoidance/restrictions. First Showing of the Day. Check theaters for showtimes. Tickets are available at the box office, online at Emagine-Entertainment.com. FEATURED MOVIE – Wish

Sunday, December 3, from 10a-11:30a. By reservation only

Adaptive Needs Santa Claus Visits – Great Lakes Crossing Sensory Santa

Great Lakes Crossing Outlets at Santa's Flight Academy

Sensitive Santa has dimmer lights and softer music, creating a welcoming, sensory-friendly environment for children with sensory, physical, or other special needs. Plus, reserve online for your time slot and avoid long lines. Visit GreatLakesCrossingOutlets.com to find the reservation links.

Sunday, December 3, 2023 from 10a-11:30a

Adaptive Needs Santa Claus Visits at Twelve Oaks Mall – Sensory Santa

Twelve Oaks Mall (27500 Novi Road, Novi, MI 48377)

Families with special needs can experience the time-honored tradition of a visit with Santa during an event created just for them. Must pre-register. Pre-registration required. For more info, visit shoptwelveoaks.com.

Oakland County cont'd...

Friday December 8, 2023 from 6p-8p (Also)

Special Needs Events – RARA Recreation Themed Dance

RARA Recreation (500 E Second Street, Rochester, Michigan 48307)

Hosted by RARA Recreation. This dance is designed for persons who have special needs. Music and dancing with a fun theme. Refreshments will be served. Cost is \$20 for residents & \$24 non-residents. Register via RARAREcreation.org. Each dance has a holiday theme (St Patrick's Day / Cinco De Mayo etc)

Friday, December 8, 2023 from 7p-9p (Also Friday, February 9, April 12...)

Troy Special Needs Events – Friday Frolic Dance

Troy Community Center (3179 Livernois Rd, Troy, MI 48083)

Dancing with DJ with a fun holiday theme and refreshments. \$6 admission via punch card. The Friday Frolic Punch Card costs \$36, is good for 6 admissions, and can only be used for Friday Frolic Dances. For more info, visit rec.troy.mi.gov.

Saturday, December 9, 2023 from 1p-4p

Rochester Adaptive Needs Events – OUCARES Holiday Party

Oakland Center at Oakland University

Ages 15+. This party is for Teens and Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders ages 15 and up. Join us for DJ, dancing, games, pizza, a photo booth and more! Come to have a great time and meet friends. This program is to encourage independence. A parent or caregiver is permitted to register only if the participant requires 1:1 support. There is a \$15 registration fee for any parent or caregiver attending. To register, visit www.oakland.edu/oucares.

Thursday, December 28, 2023 from 6p-8p

Oakland County Parks Adaptive Needs Events – Almost New Year

Waterford Oaks Activity Center (2800 Watkins Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328)

Social events for adaptive needs adults often include dancing, music, and fun at various locations throughout Oakland County. A new, fun theme (nearly) every month. Events require preregistration with payment for individual PLUS caregiver. Call 248-858-0916 to register or call or text 248-221-8040 for program questions and information. Hosted by Oakland County Parks and Recreation.

Macomb ISD Inter-Agency Transition Council Presents:
Navigating Employment with Social Security Income for Students
with Disabilities

Seminar for Parents

Wednesday January 31, 2024

6:30-8:30 pm



Please join Arc's **Jennifer Vandermark, B.S.W., J.D.** , and Michigan Rehabilitation Services' **D'Anna Taggart, MA, CRC, LPC** as they discuss enhanced programs available to assist with all stages of seeking employment and navigating Social Security Income (SSI) for students with disabilities.

Place: Macomb Intermediate School District
44001 Garfield Road
Clinton Township, 48038
Room: 103a&b

FREE TO ATTEND

Registration is mandatory.

To register:

Go to events.misd.net

Select COURSE OFFERINGS tab on top

Select COMPLETE LIST OF COURSES/EVENTS on left

Login or Create New Account top of screen on right

Click SPECIAL NEEDS from gray box on the left

Select TRANSITION from dropdown

Find course





easterseals | MORC



COSMETOLOGY & DENTAL SERVICES



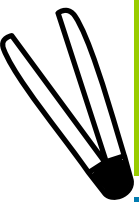
Easterseals MORC is proud to present some of our favorite Michigan businesses offering cosmetology or dental services for individuals with disabilities and/or sensory needs.



HAIRCUT HUT



Located inside Autistic Play Place (39337 Mound Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310) Offers kid-friendly salon services by professionally licensed stylists, themed stylist chairs, and TV or movie selections. Their hour-long haircuts are designed to accommodate meltdowns or panic attacks. Haircut Hut provides fingernail clipping too!



For pricing and availability, call: 586-254-6533.



CUTIE CUTS

13435 Hall Rd. Utica, MI 48315



Our friends at Cutie Cuts offer haircuts, styling, detangling, and braiding for children by appointment only. They also offer a Quiet Room, which is sensory friendly for children that struggle with a sensory disorder or anxiety. This room allows children to receive salon services in a private calming environment. The Quiet Room is designed with calming colors and equipped with a television, tablet, and tactile sensory toys. Whether your child has a sensory disorder, fear of receiving a haircut, or would simply like their own space, the Quiet Room is available upon request. Learn more at www.cutiecuts.com



COOKIE CUTTERS - HAIR CUTS FOR KIDS



Located throughout the United States. Michigan locations include Royal Oak, Northville, and Canton.



Cookie Cutters is a children's hair care salon with over 25 years of experience. Each location includes an in-store playground, televisions at each station for the children to watch shows or play video games, along with fantasy cars to sit in. At Cookie Cutters, they specifically train their stylists to work with a child's individual needs. Stylists have even been known to give haircuts walking around the salon. Whatever it takes to make a child most comfortable, they will work around. Learn more at: www.haircutsarefun.com





4 CIRCLES

STORE & CAFE

@RSA

4 CIRCLES STORE & CAFE

PHONE: 586-806-6455 X133 (CAFE)

STORE HOURS:

TUESDAY-THURSDAY

9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

CASH, CREDIT, AND CHECKS ACCEPTED

BREAD CAN BE PURCHASED IN THE STORE.

CARRY OUTS FOR LUNCH ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

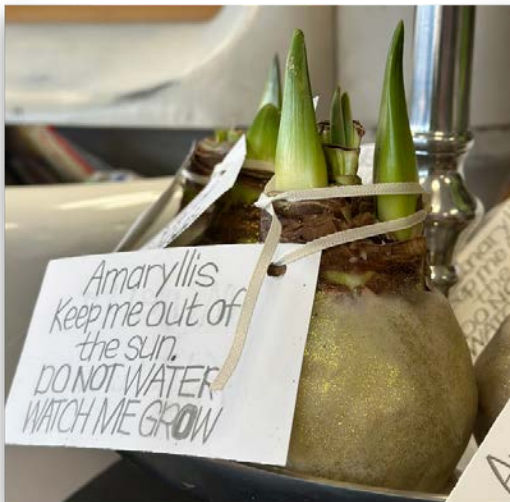
4 CIRCLES

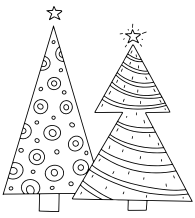
STORE & CAFE

@RSA

Below are just some of the items available for purchase:

- Amaryllis bulbs dipped in colored wax
- New Rising Stars Academy and Home Hub apparel available in sizes S-3XL
- Vases with holiday arrangements, starting at \$15 (available December 19)





COME CELEBRATE 2023 WITH US!

GLOW IN
THE DARK

Party

DECEMBER
22ND

4PM - 6PM

AT

GATHER + GROUNDS

\$10 PRE PAY

ANY QUESTIONS

CALL 586-501-3399

KARAOKE

SNACKS



ASK THE ADVOCATE

2023-2024 SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS



Ask The Advocate is a training series to help families and caregivers to prepare for the future of their loved ones who have disabilities. The topics covered will help you better navigate through the Special Education and Community Mental Health systems, help you to prepare financially while preserving government benefits, and give you the information you'll need to plan for your loved ones future goals.

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|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| Sep 12th | Supported Decision Making | Topics covered include person-centered planning, Power of Attorney, Patient Advocates, and Guardianship |
| Oct 10th | Creative Housing Options | Learn about the variety of ways to support individuals to lead a healthy life in a home of their choosing. |
| Nov 14th | Special Education Services | Topics covered will include Dispute Resolution |
| Jan 9th | Navigating Medicaid Supports | Topics covered include how to apply for Medicaid and other benefits through Department of Health and Human Services, what Medicaid covers and how to access those services. |
| Feb 13th | Social Security Benefits | Topics covered include SSDI and SSI Benefits, qualification for benefits, and what is needed to apply |
| Mar 12th | Estate Planning | Learn creative ways to plan for your future including, wills and Letters of intent |
| Apr 9th | Special Needs Trusts | Learn how Special Needs Trusts differ from typical trusts, but can be an excellent addition to your Estate Plan. A Special Needs Trust can help to prepare for your loved one's future while ensuring they are eligible for government benefits. |
| May 14th | Community Employment Services | Learn about options for skill building, employment options, and ways to preserve benefits while working. |

*Registration is mandatory, minimum of five registrants needed to hold all sessions

For more information:
www.arcservices.org/asktheadvocate
deneen.davis@arcservices.org
586-630-3046
All sessions are 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
The Arc of Macomb
44050 North Gratiot Ave
Clinton Township MI, 48036

The Arc is dedicated to securing for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to choose where and how they learn, live, and work throughout their lifetimes in the community we share.





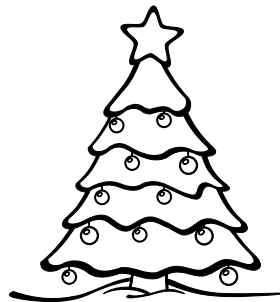
Home Hub Information

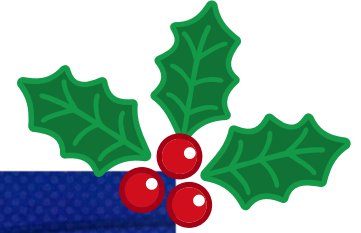
If your student is interested in attending Home Hub during the summer as well as when the Academy is closed, please contact Mr. Ryan Moir at 586-806-6455 or 248-508-1651 (cell). Below is information regarding the process. Please note that a supports coordinator is required.

For Macomb County, call Access Center if you do not already have a supports coordinator at 586-948-0222.

For Oakland County, call 248-464-6363. Please be aware that only Community Living Services (CLS) in Oakland County will approve individuals to attend our program.

Once that is set up, tell them you would like to go to the RSA Foundation for skill building. Your student will need 22 units per day they with to attend our program.





h Honor Yourself
o Observe Your Surroundings
m Manifest Your Dreams
e Explore Your Opportunities



Training Location:
 Rising Stars Academy
 23855 Lawrence
 Centerline, MI 48082

When:
 Monday through Friday
 8:30-1:00pm

Contact Information:
 Ryan Moir
 586-806-6455 Ext. 2
 rmoir@rsaonline.org

Limited transportation assistance is available.

10 Most Important Traits for Successful Employment

1. Honesty/Integrity/Morality
2. Adaptability/Flexibility
3. Dedication/Work Ethic
4. Dependability/Responsibility
5. Loyalty
6. Positive Attitude/Motivation
7. Professionalism
8. Self-Confidence
9. Self-Motivated/Ability to work with little or no supervision
10. Willingness to learn



H.O.M.E. Hub is an innovative work-based learning program that promotes success in the workplace and in life.

Our day program and workshops provide structure that will suit each person's needs while promoting self-advocacy skills and personal independence.

Program components include learning about employment processes, career exploration, hands-on experience and personal/professional skill building. Additionally, on-site and off-site internships may be available.

We are committed to a safe, equitable and diverse learning environment where high achievement and lifelong success can be achieved through various learning opportunities, hands-on experience and through the development of personal skills.

Workshops provide opportunities to learn about & broaden skills in the following areas:

- Culinary
- Hospitality
- Retail/Sales
- Janitorial
- Agricultural
- Clerical
- Money Management
- Independent Living
- Do-It-Yourself
- The Employment Process
- Healthy Eating
- Personal Advocacy

Admission Criteria:

Our goal is to provide quality work-based/skill-building learning opportunities that produce outcomes desired by program participants. Intake staff will consider all applications and try to be flexible in meeting individual needs. Applicants MUST meet the following criteria to begin the intake process:

- Age 18+
- Medicaid beneficiary
- Macomb County resident

Admission Process:

Referral of applicants should be made to the H.O.M.E Hub support coordinator/intake staff by calling (586) 806-6455 and by completing application. The intake staffing consists of the support coordinator, program staff, the applicant and referring party. At the intake meeting, the applicant will receive an overview of the H.O.M.E Hub program and expectations.





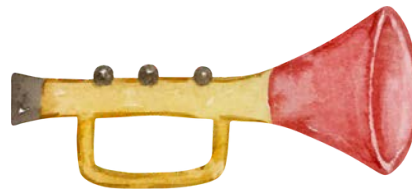
IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 3 | NO SCHOOL (HOLIDAY BREAK) |
| JANUARY 4, 2024 | RETURN TO SCHOOL |
| JANUARY 15 | NO SCHOOL - STAFF REPORTS PROF DEV |
| JANUARY 29 | SECOND SEMESTER STARTS |
| FEBRUARY 14 | SPRING COUNT DAY |
| FEBRUARY 19-23 | MID-WINTER BREAK |



RISING STARS ACADEMY WISH LIST:

Rising Stars Academy now has a donation list for supplies! The list can be found on Amazon.com. To access, please visit the following link: <https://a.co/6pSISYQ>



Thank you to all who donate their time, supplies, and/or have contributed monetarily. All support is appreciated and vital to our students' success!



Thank you!



Resource Page

The ARC - <https://arcmi.org>

44050 Gratiot Avenue

Clinton Township MI 48036

586-469-1600

Advocate organization for those with developmental disabilities.



Social Security Administration - www.ssa.gov

Toll Free: 1-800-772-1314



New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc. - www.newhorizonsrehab.org

Ms. Elizabeth Foradori

Social Security Specialist



Macomb County Community Mental Health - www.mccmh.net

586-948-0222 Access Center

Offers a variety of supports and mental health services to meet the needs of those with developmental disabilities, coordinated by a therapist or case manager.



Think Big