



**1st Qtr 2009**

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## Upcoming events

### **Events Sponsored by the Independence Foundation:**

For members of SBAWNY and their families **Page 2**

**Hutchin's Wild Game Dinner:** This is one  
of our biggest fundraisers. **Page 3**

**Adult Network Info:** Dinner and a Movie in  
February. **Page 3**

If you have any suggestions for events you may want to us to sponsor please contact one of the board members.

Greetings from the President:

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and that the new year is off to a good start. As a group we are looking forward to the challenges for the new year. We have several new members on our board. It's very exciting to have fresh ideas, but we are always looking for more. Anyone interested need only come.

We are working on the 2009 events schedule with the next up-coming event the Game Dinner. It will be February 15 at the Buffalo Launch club on Grand Island. This is a fund raiser that raised over \$11,000.00 for our group. There is a great wild game dinner, an inspirational speaker, as well as Chinese auction. It's a fun afternoon for the adult pallet. Complete details are included in this newsletter. We will have a short Board meeting before the dinner. Everyone is welcome.

The young adults are planning dinner and a movie night on February 21 at the Galleria Mall. Anyone interested please contact Karen Savanyu at kes484@aol .

Be sure that you renew your membership this year. This allows us to keep you informed with what is going on and keeps us informed about you. There is a membership form in this news letter.

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming events.

Take care and God Bless!

Cindy Carlson , President SBAWNY

### **Upcoming Activities With The Independence Foundation**

The Independence Foundation, led by Chris Muller, is continuing to share some of their activities with our organization. Here is the list of events:

Bowling at AMF Lancaster Lanes - 4913 Transit Rd near Losson, Lancaster, NY Ramps provided, \$2 a game. Fun for the whole family. Volunteers are always welcome!

Sunday, Feb 8th 3pm to 5pm  
Sunday, Mar 8th 3pm to 5pm  
Sunday, Apr 26th 3pm to 5pm

Mom's Night Out for mothers of children and young adults with physical disabilities, and also for young adult & adult women with physical disabilities. All are informal gatherings where we share ideas, concerns, and life! All events are pay your own way.

Monday, Feb 23rd at Smokey Bones, 2007 Walden Ave (near Galleria Mall) at 6:30pm  
Friday, Mar 27th at Friday's, 1746 Walden Ave (near Galleria Mall) at 6:30pm

You can also check out their website at: [www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org](http://www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org) for more info.

If you are interested in any of the above events Please RSVP Chris 716-685-3976 or Karen 716-457-9867 or KES484@aol.com

Thank you to the Independence Foundation and their generosity!!!

### **In Memorium**

We recently lost another member of our Spina Bifida Family. Ms. Delma Santiago passed away on January 10th. She was the daughter of Miguel and Gladys Santiago. She had been a member of our organization for many years.

## DISABLEDFEST HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

From March 20th thru 22nd the National Disabled Sports Festival, a USA Hockey event, will take place HERE at the Pepsi Center in Amherst, NY. Over 400 athletes from all over the country, will participate in hockey in either the Sled, Hearing-Impaired, Amputee, or Special Divisions. On Friday night, there will be a US/Canadian Paralympic sled hockey game. This weekend, planned by our local sled group, is not to be missed! You may be a part of this event either as a spectator, volunteer, or as a sponsor (ads may be purchased for the program book or donations made for a Chinese auction). For further info contact Dan Murray at 716-208-1640. Hope to see you there!

## ADULT NETWORK

There will be a lunch and a movie outing for our adults on Sunday, Feb 22nd at the Walden Galleria Mall. We will meet in the food court at 2:30 to have something to eat and then attend your movie of choice. You will need to purchase your own meal but the movie tickets will be purchased by SBAWNY. Please RSVP to Karen at 585-457-9867 or via email at kes484@aol.com or Cory at 585-457-4022. We are also looking to do a fishing/boat ride this summer on the Excalibur. Please let us know if you would be interested in this or if you have ideas for other events.

We will also be holding our annual fundraising raffle this Spring. Please contact Karen for tickets.

## INVITATION To A Wild Game Dinner

**When:** Sunday, Feb 15th, 2009  
From 12:00 Noon – 5 PM

**Where:** Buffalo Launch Club  
Grand Island, New York

*VEGITARIAN = Ancient Indian Word  
Meaning Poor Hunter*



If you're "game", you are cordially invited to the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Game Dinner hosted by John Hutchins, Joey Alberico, Alfio Pitruzzella, Tony Martino, Billy Swiercz, Earl Schultz and many other friends in memory of Carol Hutchins and the Spina Bifida Association of Western New York.

The bill of fare for this year will include duck, pheasant, venison, black bear, antelope, smoked trout, elk, wild boar, mule deer, smoked salmon, halibut, wild turkey, venison sausage, goose sausage, buffalo and any other road kill donated between now and February 14th. (Just kidding!)

The location will be at the Buffalo Launch Club with directions from Interstate 190 as Follows:



: Merge onto I-190 N / NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY. Take EXIT 18B toward BEAVER ISLAND STATE PARK. Merge onto SOUTH PKWY / BEAVER ISLAND PKWY. Turn LEFT onto BUSH RD / CR-577. Turn RIGHT onto E RIVER RD. End at Buffalo Launch Club: 503 E River Rd, Grand Island, NY 14072.

Dress is very casual. Wild game is best served hot, so please come early (any time after 12:00 Noon) so that you're ready when the meat is done. If you live locally, we would appreciate a dish to pass and we do have warming facilities available if you bring food which has to be heated. A cash bar will be provided by the club with beer, wine and premium mixed drinks available.

Our entertainment immediately following the dinner this year is simply amazing. The music this year comes all the way from Miami courtesy of Raul Fernandez who will be singing a wide variety of Latin songs accompanied by the Sal Alberico Jazz Trio from Utica, NY. It will be an awesome afternoon and kids are encouraged to come.

PLEASE RSVP (Email works best) and if you are able to bring a dish to share, please let me know what your specialty is when you RSVP and it's best to bring it in a disposable dish. For the first time we are pre-selling tickets to avoid overbooking. We have a strict limit of 300 seats available and they will sell fast. Avoid waiting if you can to buy tickets at the door. If you send me a check it, please make it out to "John Hutchins for SBAWNY". (Spina Bifida Association of WNY)

This year the ticket price will be \$50.00 at the door and \$40.00 if you prepay with a check. You will get an email confirmation if you prepay. All proceeds will go to the Spina Bifida Association in memory of my sister, Carol Hutchins. Thanks for your friendship and support and we look forward to seeing you on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Spina Bifida Association of Western New York  
137 Warner Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Feb 15th—Hutchin's Wild Game Dinner

Feb 22nd—Adult Outing

Feb 8th/Mar 8th/Apr 26—Bowling Dates

Please make a note of our correct mailing address located on the front of this newsletter. The mailing address associated with the phone number is not correct. We have not had any success with getting it changed or removed.