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Check Off an Item from the Ol' Bucket List

Plymouth Woman Shares Her Joy of Having a Son with a Disability

PLYMOUTH, MI – August 9, 2010 – “Writing a book has been on my ‘bucket list’ for awhile now so when I put my mind to it, it only took about three months to get it all down on paper,” said Author Joan Broggi.



Broggi’s first book, *Bursting with Joy: Discovering Universal Truths through Our Special Needs Son* is about her family’s trials and tribulations in living with their 19 year-old son Alex, who has epilepsy and is cognitively impaired.

“I want to give hope to other parents who may be struggling to try and cope with their child who has a disability,” said Broggi. “I want people to know they should look at the *ability* of their child and not their disability and in that, there can be great joy!”

Alex, a Livonia Franklin high school graduate, attends the Western Wayne Skills Center in Livonia which helps people learn life skills. Alex was six months old when he had his first seizure which affected his cognitive abilities.

“When we first learned about Alex’s epilepsy, which led to his cognitive impairment, I was so overwhelmed that I was desperate to find resources that would help us understand and teach us what to do, but I couldn’t find anything. That’s why I wanted to write this book, to give people a resource but also to give them hope.”

Broggi will be signing books in Novi at the Borders Town Center, 443075 Crescent Boulevard, on Friday, August 13, 2010 at 7PM. The book is also available at Border’s and Barnes and Noble and through amazon.com. You can also purchase it (\$12.95) at Broggi’s website, www.joanbroggibooks.com.

Alex is supported by Community Living Services, a non-profit organization that provides supports and services to more than 3,000 adults and children in Wayne County. CLS is funded through the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency.

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