

**Town of  
Amherst Youth  
& Recreation  
Department**

**January - March 2016**

The Family Room is a play/learning environment for children ages birth-five, with their parents or caregivers. We provide a clean, safe, and fun educational play area where children are encouraged to explore, experience, and engage.

To make it fun for all, please remember the following tools for the program...

\* It is your responsibility to "parent" your child  
Please supervise and encourage your child to play safely and appropriately with toys and other children.

\* We are an "ALLERGY AWARE" program  
Please keep all food and beverages in designated eating areas. Hand sanitizers are readily available. Please use them upon entering The Family Room or after eating/drinking.

\* Sick children and caregivers... please stay home!  
Keep germs away and let's play on a healthy day!

\* Please put all toys that have been drooled on or in a child's mouth in the disinfecting baskets!

\* All coats and strollers must be placed on the hooks or in the coat room  
Please keep all personal belongings on you. We are not responsible for lost or missing items.

\* Changing tables are provided in the restrooms  
Please do not change your child anywhere else in the facility

\* Let's keep it fun for EVERYONE!  
Clean up after yourself and put toys back in their proper centers. It's a part of the learning process!

\* The Family Room no longer accepts cash for program fees  
We will gladly accept check, money order, or credit/debit cards for payment.

\* Please remember to sign up for all field trips and special events in order to participate!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION  
IN FOLLOWING THE RULES  
AND HELPING TO  
MAINTAIN THESE VALUABLE TOOLS!**



**WINTER FUN FOR EVERYONE!**

When the weather outside is frightful...you still have The Family Room to keep you warm with friendly, family fun! Check out our program hours for this winter weather season. Pass this info along to your friends and family, and, don't forget, The Family Room is open to ALL families in WNY with children birth to 5 years of age. ALWAYS check your calendar for field trips, special events, and room closings. Calendars are also available online at [www.amherst.ny.us](http://www.amherst.ny.us) or [amherstyouthandrec.org](http://amherstyouthandrec.org)

**OPEN DOOR HOURS**

Monday & Friday

9:30-11:30 am Harlem Road  
12:30-2:30 pm Northtown Ctr.

Wednesday

9:30-11:30 am Northtown Ctr.  
12:30-2:30 pm Harlem Road

Saturday

10:00-12:00 pm Northtown Ctr.

**PLAYGROUPS**

"Toddler 101"

Tuesday @ Harlem Road  
10:00-11:30 am 18 mos.-3 yrs.  
12:30-2:30 pm 3-5 yrs.

"Fit Kids"

Thursday @ Northtown  
10:00-11:30 am 18 mos.-5 yrs.

\*Playgroups are for registered participants. Please note the registration dates on your calendar.\*



**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Kristen M. Norton  
Mary Beth Hopkins**

**CALL US:**

Harlem Road 631-7218  
Northtown Ctr 631-7298

**EMAIL US:**

[knorton@amherst.ny.us](mailto:knorton@amherst.ny.us)  
[mhopkins@amherst.ny.us](mailto:mhopkins@amherst.ny.us)



## PLAYGROUPS!!

### "TODDLER 101"

The Family Room offers "Toddler 101" for children 18 months - 3 years at Harlem Road on Tuesdays from 10 - 11:30 am. Children 3-5 years of age meet from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. Your child will learn from many themes introduced each six week session through songs, music and movement, stories and arts & crafts. All that learning with YOU by their side! The winter session's theme will be "WINTER WONDERS" beginning on Tuesday, January 12th through February 16th.

You **MUST PRE-REGISTER** to participate.

**REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 7TH.  
JUST CALL 631-7218**

"Fit Kids" is **"FIT KIDS"** essential for the child with lots of ENERGY! "Big Room" fun and structured gross-motor activities round out this musical, physical and recreational playgroup for children 18 months to 5 years, offered on Thursdays at the Northtown Center from 10 - 11:30 am. Perfect for those upcoming winter months! This session will be 8 weeks beginning on Thursday, January 21st.

You **MUST PRE-REGISTER** to participate.

**REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 14TH.  
JUST CALL 631-7298**

## IMAGINATION PLAYGROUND!

### THE BLUE BLOCKS ARE COMING!

Thanks to the years of fundraising efforts and Miss Mary Beth's perseverance, The "BIG ROOM" at Harlem Road will be getting its very own

### IMAGINATION PLAYGROUND!

You may have seen these blocks at Explore & More Canalside or Buffalo Museum of Science, but now we will have them in our very own gross motor room!

We can't wait to see what your kids will create.

Look for them on Monday and Friday mornings during Open Play at Harlem Road.



## FIELD TRIP TIPS!

We have many exciting and fun-filled field trips that highlight the upcoming winter months!

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION**

Please make a note that

**FAMILY ROOMS ARE CLOSED**

on field trip days and special events.

### Leaps N Bounce

**Friday, January 15th**

**10:30-12:30 pm**

**Bryant and Stratton Way, Williamsville**

This is a fantastic indoor bounce facility with lots of fun for everyone! Can't beat the price either!! Be sure to have socks for the kids and yourselves. It's a great way for all of us to work off some cabin fever energy!

### JumpBunch of Buffalo FREE DEMO

**Wednesday, February 3rd**

**10:30 am Harlem Rd. Gym**

**PE FOR PEE WEES!**

JumpBunch is a fun, structured program that introduces children to a wide range of sports, helps build coordination, self-esteem, and a life-long love of sports and fitness. From the music to the activities and equipment, every aspect of JumpBunch has been carefully researched and developed to be both fun and beneficial to the development of young minds and bodies. JOIN US FOR THE FUN!

### Sesame Street LIVE @ Shea's

**Friday, February 26th**

**10:30 am SHOWTIME!**

Take the train with us or park downtown, just be ready to laugh, clap, and sing along with your favorite Sesame Street friends. Discounted ticket prices for everyone!

### Spring Fling & Egg Hunt

**Friday, March 18th**

Let's welcome some spring weather with springtime songs and look for springtime eggs! Peter Cottontail will lead the way. Pizza and potluck lunch to follow.

**SESAME STREET LIVE AT SHEA'S! FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH 10:30 AM**



**Sesame Street LIVE tickets are AVAILABLE!!**

Show date is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH 10:30 AM @ SHEA'S**

**Just \$8.50 per ticket!!**

**It's the BEST price you'll get for this fantastic family show!**

**CALL 631-7218 OR E-MAIL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS**

**ALL PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY JANUARY 22nd CHECKS ONLY : MADE OUT TO AMHERST YOUTH FOUNDATION**

# BIG WISHES!

We have **BIG WISHES** for some **BIG PRIZES** or just **HELP** with our upcoming **"MARCH MINION MOVIE NIGHT MADNESS"** fundraising event. See what you can do to help make our wishes come true!

**PIZZA DONATION!** - We are looking for pizza shop owners or friends who would be willing to donate or discount sheet pizzas to the event.

**CORPORATE SPONSORS!**

We have a variety of sponsor opportunities that will feature **YOUR** business while supporting a good cause. See the sponsor sheet included with the flyer for more info!

**THEME BASKETS!**

Everyone loves to buy tickets and wait for their name to be called...but we need baskets to auction! You can make your own or find a business to donate. Lots of different themes to choose from including lottery tickets, kids stuff, seasonal goodies, sports, bath and beauty, ETC!! Show your creativity in a basket made by **YOU!**

Basket value \$25 - \$50

**GOLD THEME BASKET PRIZES!**

These are the **BIG** ticket items that really **SELL!** Typically worth \$100 or more!

- SPORTS TICKETS, MEMORABILIA, JERSEYS
- OVERNIGHT STAYS & PACKAGES TO LOCAL HOTELS
- JEWELRY
- SALON & SPA
- RESTAURANT CERTIFICATES
- CAR DETAILING

Monetary or corporate sponsorship donations can be made out to: **Amherst Youth Foundation, YBDDA.** We are a 501c(3) organization and your donation may be deductible for state and federal tax purposes. Please check with your individual financial advisor for specifics.

**VOLUNTEER!**

We **ALWAYS** need help sending out donation letters, distributing flyers, organizing prizes and setting up for the event. Whatever you can do to help is **AWESOME!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT KRISTEN OR MARY BETH**

# START SPREADING THE NEWS!

Want to tell all your friends about The Family Room but can't find us on the **WEB!**? Well, we will have to new ways to share our information! Starting in the New Year The Family Room will be prominently featured on the Town of Amherst website with links to all your program needs, forms and questions! Here's how to start...

**WEBSITE:** [www.amherst.ny.us](http://www.amherst.ny.us)  
**KEYWORD:** **Family Room**

**WEBSITE:** [www.amherstyouthandrec.org](http://www.amherstyouthandrec.org)

**TAB:** **Youth Programs - Family Room**

**FACEBOOK:** **Friends of the Family Room**

**INTERNET SEARCH:** **Family Room Amherst**

We are very excited to spread the news about what The Family Room offers to all families in **WNY.** Please help us by sharing the above information and of course, your experiences in the program. **The best advertisement is word of mouth!**



# COMMUNITY CORNER

**Town of  
Amherst Youth  
& Recreation  
Department**

## WinterFEST

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Noon-3:00pm  
Harlem Road Community Center  
4255 Harlem Rd., Amherst

DESPICABLE ME 2  
showing at 3pm  
in the Auditorium!



Featuring:

- Horse drawn Wagon Rides
- Outdoor Games
- Mini Golf
- Refreshments
- Minion Crafts & More!

Snow activities  
weather dependent

Brought to you by  
Town of  
**Amherst Youth  
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Department**



**CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES FOR MORE  
FAMILY FUN IDEAS & EVENTS!**

[www.beenews.com/wnyeevents/](http://www.beenews.com/wnyeevents/)

[http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com/things-to-do/  
calendar-of-events/](http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com/things-to-do/calendar-of-events/)

[Fun4kidsinbuffalo.com](http://Fun4kidsinbuffalo.com)



The Family Room will be your favorite party place! Children can ride, romp, & play in our large, safe and age appropriate center. The "BIG ROOM" is available for children celebrating birthdays up to age 5, complete with ride-on toys, foam climbing equipment and toddler sized bounce house! Table and chairs are provided for seating and eating (up to 40) and you can bring in or have delivered your own food!

\*Why try to fit your family and friends into your house when you can invite them to the Family Room and let someone else do the clean-up for you! Party packages are available for 2-3 hours and as a Family Room member, you will receive a special discount!

**Be sure to book early as dates fill up fast! Call today @ 631-7218 and we'll make sure you have the best party ever!**

## KEEP IT CLEAN!

Tis' the season for cold and flu viruses and all the more reason we need **YOU** to volunteer to disinfect toys.

**PLEASE REMEMBER, WE REQUIRE EACH MEMBER TO DISINFECT TOYS AT LEAST ONCE DURING THEIR MEMBERSHIP!**

It only takes a couple of hours but gives us all the reassurance that our kids are playing in a safe and clean environment. Please fulfill your commitment.

\*Check your calendar for dates and times and email Miss Kristen at [knorton@amherst.ny.us](mailto:knorton@amherst.ny.us) when you are available.

**THANK YOU!!**

## Winter Weather CLOSING Policy

In the event that winter weather is severe enough to close Amherst, Williamsville, or Sweet Home School Districts, we advise our families to stay home.

The Family Room is officially closed when the Amherst Youth and Recreation Offices are closed, a travel ban or advisory has been imposed, or when announced on

TV Channel 2 and/or WBEN 930AM.

If you are unsure, give the office a call at 631-7218.

Thanks and stay safe this winter!

## WISH LIST!

Could you please help us restock our shelves with the following items?

**BABY WIPES  
HAND SANITIZER**

**SPONGES  
WAX PAPER**

**DISINFECTING SPRAY**

**ZIPLOC BAGS (SANDWICH, GALLON & QUART)**

**DISINFECTING WIPES**

**KLEENEX**

**BATTERIES (C & AAA)**

**PAPER PLATES (LARGE & SMALL)**

**MAGIC ERASERS**