

****Alert: TVDSA Website and Emails are temporarily OUT OF SERVICE due to a server issue.**
If you have contacted TVDSA since 4/25/16 and NOT had a response, please contact them directly or call the TVDSA number: 208-954-7448 for help. Thank you. Sorry for the inconvenience!



TVDSA Newsletter

In this Issue

May's issue is STUFFED with information, activities, and events to put on your calendar!

Kicking off the month is [Idaho Gives Day](#), May 5th. Please consider selecting TVDSA as your non-profit cause this year!

Please take a moment and read about the two young ladies with Down syndrome that will be representing Idaho this year at the National Miss Amazing Pageant in July. We wish them the best of luck and hope they have a lot of fun!

The 3rd Annual Treasure Valley iCan Bike Camp registration is underway. Registration is scheduled to close May 15th so don't hesitate to send in your application! TVDSA members get a \$50 discount! We are also in need of volunteers! We need 100 physically fit, 16 years and older individuals who can dedicate 75 min of their day for 5 days (M-F). A great experience for all! See page 2 for more details.

Please check out the many social activities in May and mark your calendar for the TVDSA Family Picnic and the Inaugural TVDSA Golf Tournament.

Have you bought your raffle tickets for a chance for a 7-day vacation for four to Disneyland? It's not too late! See page 3 for more information. If you are interested in helping sell tickets, please contact [Reme!](#)

Monthly and archived TVDSA newsletters are available on our website at: www.idahodownsyndrome.org for viewing and sharing.

Newsletter Editor: [Celena Auger](#)

May 2016

Congratulations and Good Luck!

The 4th Annual Idaho Miss Amazing Pageant was held April 8th & 9th at the Nampa Civic Center. The mission of the Miss Amazing Pageant is to provide opportunities for girls and women with disabilities to build confidence and self-esteem in a supportive environment.

Friday night was an optional talent showcase. Saturday the contestants spent the day with a "buddy" (volunteer) as they had several interviews with judges, practiced their introductions on stage, learned how to do the cat walk to show off their evening gowns that evening, and enjoyed a dance party and relaxed. Then the real excitement started as 83 participants ranging from 8 years to 43 years old, with various disabilities, showed the sold out audience how AMAZING each of them are. By the end of the evening the 2016 queens were crowned in the 6 different age categories. Congratulations to: Pre-Teen: Chantell Rupe, Junior Teen: Samantha Knox, Teen: Baily Adams, Junior Miss: Courtney Lynch, Miss: Tiffany Wood and Senior Miss: Rosie McDaniel. They will represent Idaho at the National Miss Amazing Pageant held in Chicago June 30th-July 4th.

Among the 2016 Winners was 35 year old, Rosie McDaniel of Twin Falls. Rosie's mother shares "Rosie has always been a very happy, entertaining person. She has always loved to dance, and sing for our family, and friends. When she was younger, actually still does.....she places name tags for seating to listen and watch her new dance, or song she is ready to perform. We, as a family, have always enjoyed her performances, at times they can make me cry, as she puts so much emotion into her performances."

Rosie has taken Jazz and Modern dance at the College of Southern Idaho for two semesters. These classes have made a huge impact in her life. She has made many friends that love her, and have made her feel very welcomed. Rosie danced to "On Broadway" during the talent portion of the Idaho Miss Amazing Pageant.

Rosie has never allowed her disability get in the way of what she wants to accomplish, since she started teaching herself how to walk. As she grew, she started saying "I do it myself." And on she went, like sponge taking in and learning.

The Miss Amazing Pageant has impacted Rosie. It has given her so much confidence to work hard. This was Rosie's 3rd year participating. She was perfectly satisfied to be crowned Princess the past two years. She never loses; she always wins in her heart.

She Loves her family, and is very loyal to her family and friends. Rosie does not like confrontation, but makes peace. She volunteers at the YMCA, St. Luke's, and Senior Center (meals on wheels) and loves what she does. She never likes to miss work.



Continued on Page 3

May 3rd:

TVDSA Board Meeting
7:00pm at A New Leaf.
Contact: [Kristie Yerger](#)

May 5th:

Idaho Gives Day
Click [here](#) to donate today!

May 19th:

Buddy Walk Committee Meeting
7:00pm – open to all interested!
Contact: [Andrew Kopping](#)

May 21st:

Hispanic Outreach Potluck
Lyons Park, Nampa
Contact: [Lucy Olmos](#)

May 22nd:

Best Buds 12:00pm-3:00pm
at Babby Farms in Caldwell
Contact: [Danielle Williams](#)

May 24th:

Mom's Night Out! 7:00pm
at Idaho Pizza Company in
Eagle
Contact: [Reme Echevarria](#)

May 27th:

Lil' Buddies 9:30-11:00 at
Settler's Park – Idaho's First
Universally Accessible
Playground
Contact: [Fiona Robles](#)

June 6th-10th:

**Treasure Valley iCan Bike
Camp.** Registration closes
May 15th!
Contact: [Paul & Celena Auger](#)

June 15th:

TVDSA Family Picnic
6:00pm-8:00pm at Kleiner Park
in Meridian.
Contact: [Lynda Wells](#)

July 15-17th:

TVDSA Camp Out! at Cold
Springs Campgrounds
Contact: [Danielle Williams](#)

July 23rd:

**Inaugural TVDSA Golf
Tournament** at Eagle Hills Golf
Course. Contact: [George Taylor](#)

Treasure Valley iCan Bike Camp 2016



iCan Shine's iCan Bike program is designed to teach individuals with disabilities how to ride a conventional bike and become lifelong independent riders! iCan Bike uses a fleet of adapted bicycles, a specialized instructional program, and a trained staff to teach individuals with disabilities how to ride a bike.

Riders attend the same 75-minute session each day for five consecutive days (M - F) whereby they are physically assisted and encouraged by two volunteer "spotters". Over the course of the 5-day camp the adapted bike is adjusted to gradually introduce more instability in an effort to challenge riders at their own individual pace.

For additional information about the iCan Bike program or to download the **rider registration form** , please visit the Treasure Valley iCan Bike website at <http://icanshine.org/boise-id>.

Requirements for Participation (Riders must meet all criteria below):

- * Minimum of 8 years of age
- * Have a disability (not limited to those with Down syndrome)
- * Able to walk without assistive device (such as a walker or cane)
- * Able to sidestep to both sides
- * Minimum inseam of 20"
- * Maximum weight 220 lbs.
- * Willing and able to wear a properly fitted bike helmet
- * Able to attend camp all 5 days



Monday through Friday, June 6th-10th

Session times:

8:00am - 9:15am
9:35am - 10:50am
11:10am - 12:25pm
1:10pm - 2:25pm
2:45pm - 4:00pm

Where:

HomeCourt YMCA
Meridian, ID
[\(map\)](#)



Cost:

\$199.00 for Non-TVDSA Members \$149.00 for TVDSA Members
**\$25.00 Discount for returning participants
**\$25.00 Discount for multiple participants from same immediate family

Registration:

All interested participants must complete the Rider Registration Form in its entirety and mail with full payment **by May 15th**. Session availability and placement is on a first come, first served basis. Early registration is recommended as there is limited availability each session. Please download the **rider registration form** , on the Treasure Valley iCan Bike website at <http://icanshine.org/boise-id>.

Volunteers:

This camp requires 100 physically fit volunteers, 16 years and older, to be a success for everyone. If you are interested in volunteering as a spotter for our 2016 camp, please complete the online registration form at: <http://2016treasurevalleyicanbikecamp.eventbrite.com>.

For more information, contact Paul or Celena Auger at paulauger@cableone.net.





Congratulations and Good Luck (Continued from page 1)

Rachel Massingale of Meridian was the runner-up in the Teen group. Due to the Queen being unable to participate at Nationals, Rachel will also be representing Idaho at the National Miss Amazing pageant. Eighteen year old, Rachel is a Junior at Centennial High School where she is also a cheerleader. Rachel showed her energy and enthusiasm during her cheer performance in Friday night's talent showcase. Rachel enjoys coloring, watching "her shows", singing & dancing and of course cheer. Rachel loves to help and hates chores. She loves her 2 dogs, Molly and Toby.

TVDSA wishes both Rosie and Rachel the best of luck at Nationals!

If interested in participating in the 2017 Idaho Miss Amazing Pageant scheduled for February 9-10th, 2017, please visit their website at <http://www.idmissamazing.com/>.

Let's put the "FUN" in Fundraiser!

TVDSA will be hosting the **2016 Inaugural TVDSA Golf Tournament**.
Saturday, July 23rd, 2016 at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Eagle
 9:00am Shotgun Start
 Cost: \$75 per Player - Includes Golf, Cart, Lunch and more.

This is a **FUN**draiser for TVDSA with the proceeds being used to **FUN**d existing and future programs provided to you by TVDSA. This will be a great time and for a great cause.
 Your participation is **FUN**damental to our success!



Players need to be at least 14 years of age; all abilities are welcome.
FREE Registration to Players who have Down syndrome.
 Do not want to play? There will be numerous sponsorship opportunities.
 Many prizes and discounts will be available.



Tournament will be a scramble format. Online registration will be available soon.
 Come on out for some **FUN** and we hope to see you there!

Boise Open tickets will also be available with proceeds to benefit TVDSA.

Check out our website or email golf@idahodownsyndrome.org for more information.

WIN A DISNEYLAND VACATION PACKAGE!

2016 TVDSA RAFFLE

2016 TVDSA RAFFLE

The Disney vacation package includes the following:

- 7-DAY TRIP FOR FAMILY OF 4
- AIRFARE
- ROUNDTrip AIRPORT TRANSFERS
- 7 NIGHTS IN DISNEYLAND HOTEL
- 3 DAY HOPPER PASSES TO INCLUDE MAGIC MORNING EVERY MORNING (ENTRANCE INTO PARKS 1 HOUR EARLY)

UP TO A \$6,500 VALUE

ONLY 2,500 TICKETS SOLD!

Winner will be drawn June 15, 2016 at the TVDSA picnic.

You do not have to be present to win.
 Trip will be booked by Harmon Travel and will expire 12/31/2016.

Tickets are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25.

To buy or help sell tickets, please contact:
 Kris Goodwin: 208-599-2556 Reme Echevarria: 208-866-4095
 or call TVDSA: 208-954-7448





TREASURE VALLEY
DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

Social Groups Page

Mom's Night Out!

**Tuesday, May 24th
at 7:00pm**

Amazing TVDSA Moms, come enjoy a night out with other moms who share the same journey. It's a time to relax, share stories, and laugh. It will be at Idaho Pizza Company in Eagle. TVDSA will pay for pizza and drinks.

Idaho Pizza Company is located at 78 E Eagle River St, in Eagle.

For more information about Mom's Night Out! contact [Reme Echevarria](#) by email or by phone (call/text) at 208-866-4095.

Hispanic Outreach

**Saturday, May 21st
at 6:00pm
Lyons Park, in Nampa**

All families with a family member with special needs are invited. Please come join us for a Potluck dinner at Lyons Park in Nampa. Lyons Park is located at 508 Davis Ave in Nampa.

TVDSA will provide main dish, drinks, and plates/silverware. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

For more information about TVDSA Hispanic Outreach please contact [Lucy Olmos](#) by email or by phone (call/text) at 208-631-2588.

Lil' Buddies

Lil' Buddies will be going to **Settlers Park** for a playdate on **Friday, May 27th** from **9:30am-11:00am**.

Please come to "Idaho's First Universally Accessible Playground" for a fun play date!! Settlers Park has lots of fun features that will

keep our little ones entertained. Siblings are always welcome!

Need more information about Lil' Buddies? Please contact: [Fiona Robles](#) or call: 208-761-3844.

Best Buds

Best Buds will be going to Babby Farms on **Sunday, May 22nd** from 12:00pm-3:00pm. **Babby Farms** is located at 5900 East El Paso Road in Caldwell. Admission for all children with Down syndrome will be covered.

Best Buds will have a snack first at the play area, while we all gather.

For more information on Best Buds contact [Danielle Williams](#) or call: 208-794-8995.



2nd Annual Cut-A-Thon

**Saturday, May 14th
11:00am-4:00pm**

- \$10.00 Haircuts
- \$10.00 Perfectly Plum Lip Tutorial w/ Gloss
- \$6.00 Brow Wax
- \$5.00 Single Tan (UV or Red Light)
- ** No appt. necessary ****

100% of Proceeds will go to TVDSA in honor of Miss Amiah.

9768 W. State St. Star, Idaho
208-898-4252

[\(map\)](#)

Boise School District Developmental Screening

for children 3-5 years old with developmental concerns.

Please call to set up a FREE evaluation appointment if concerned your child has possible delays in speech, language, concepts, motor skills, self-help skills, social emotional, vision, and/or hearing.

2016 Screening dates are: Aug. 29th, Sept. 19th, Oct. 17th, and Nov. 14th

208-854-5520

Save the Date!

TVDSA 33rd Annual Family Picnic

**Wednesday, June 15th
from 6:00pm-8:00pm
at Kleiner Park**

1900 N. Records Ave. Meridian
Join us at the gazebo near the playground.



**Bring the entire family for an evening of friendship, food and fun!
There will be dancing, music, face painting and more!**

For more information, please contact:
Lynda Wells at advisor@idahodownsyndrome.org

**The TVDSA Disneyland Raffle winner will be drawn at 7:00pm.
Will you be the winner?**

Conferences, Workshops, Webinars & TVDSA Scholarship Information

IPUL Webinar

Tuesday, May 31st at 11:00am or 9:00pm

Topic: Stop Spinning Your Wheels: Advocacy and Coordination Skills for Your Child's Special Health Care Needs: You will learn about the patient-centered, comprehensive, coordinated approach to health care for children and youth with special health care needs. Participants will be given tools to identify their particular needs and how to talk with their child's providers to ensure a system of coordinated care. Parents will also be given information and training on what "advocacy" means, learn the skills necessary to be an effective advocate, and what additional resources they may need and where to go for more information. Please RSVP at 208-342-5884, but RSVP not required.

Click time to register: [11:00am-12:00pm](#) or [9:00pm-10:00pm](#)

To contact IPUL: 208-342-5884 or parents@ipulidaho.org

Save the Date:

Idaho Partnerships Conference on Human Services
"Shake It Up!"

October 5th & 6th, 2016
Boise State University, Boise

Temple Grandin to kick-off the 2016 Conference!
To learn more about Temple Grandin, PhD, please [click here](#).

This is a quality training for those who serve and support individuals with disabilities and mental illness.

[Registration](#) Opens in June!

NDSC Conference July 21-24th, 2016

JW Marriott Grande Lakes, Orlando

Each year, thousands of people from across the globe attend the National Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention. For most, it's to hear the latest information from world-renowned experts. For others, it's a great vacation. But for nearly all, there's the one-of-a-kind NDSC family reunion feeling that permeates the convention weekend.

Take a peek at the [Convention Brochure](#) and the [Convention-At-A-Glance](#) for an overview of what the weekend offers.

[Registration Now Open](#)

Please note: Both the Self-Advocate and Sibling Conferences are already SOLD OUT!

TVDSA Scholarships

Did you know that TVDSA supports members in gathering information at local and national conferences and/or workshops?

The TVDSA Scholarship program is NOT income based, so all TVDSA members are eligible.

Please see our [Scholarship application](#) for the guidelines and how to apply today.

Special Needs Legislative Update by Virginia Beringer

NATIONAL UPDATES

The ABLE Act: The ABLE Act allows people with disabilities who qualify for SSI to still be able to save money for education (529A account), housing, employment and/or transportation. In March 2016, a trio of bills were introduced to expand the ABLE Act:

- **ABLE to Work Act:** Allows additional contributions up to 100% of the federal poverty level
- **ABLE Financial Planning Act** - Allows a rollover from 529 college savings funds to an ABLE Account without tax penalties
- **ABLE Age Adjustment Act** - Raises the age limit to 46 (for individuals diagnosed with a disability later in life)

Although Idaho NEEDS state legislation, in December 2015, the federal act was amended to eliminate the state residency restriction. This means families can open accounts in any state, although guidance is recommended as each state's rules vary regarding the operation, monitoring and reports required for these dedicated accounts. A new national website dedicated to the ABLE Act is currently up and running: <http://ablenrc.org>. [Click here](#) for more extensive information about the ABLE Act. Information on each state's ABLE program website can be found [here](#).

Congressional Task Force on Down Syndrome: [The Congressional Task Force on Down Syndrome](#) was established in May 2015. It is made up of US Representatives and US Senators. Idaho has NO representation on the Congressional Task Force on Down Syndrome. PLEASE contact your senators and representatives to ask them to join. Members of Congress who want to join should contact [Megan Perez](#) in Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers' office and [Kyle Christian](#) in Senator Jerry Moran's office.

STATE UPDATES

- The **Idaho Medicaid** budget (Senate Bill 1391) was signed by the governor on March 24, 2016. The appropriation will increase state general funds by 3.4 percent next year and 6.2 percent in total funds.
- Unfortunately no legislation addressing the Medicaid gap was passed this session.
- More information on this year's state legislative session can be found [here](#).

The Disability Rights of Idaho is looking for new board members! If you would like more information about the position of Director on their Board and/or to fill out an application on-line, please [click here](#) (or contact their Administrative Assistant at 1-800-632-5125, ext. 111 or by e-mail at linda@disabilityrightsidaho.org).



TREASURE VALLEY
DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

PO Box 1404
Meridian, Idaho 83680
(208) 954-7448

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.idahodownsyndrome.org

Check us out on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!



Support TVDSA through Idaho Gives Day 2016:

Idaho Gives is a one-day online giving blitz. It is about philanthropy, 'friendraising' and much more. Idaho Gives is about coming together to support the charitable nonprofits that make our state so extraordinary. **On May 5, 2016** make a contribution to one or more of the nonprofits you love, or find a new one to support!

Since the inaugural event in 2013, Idahoans have raised more than \$2.3 Million for participating organizations, one donation at a time. Every year, on one amazing day, people across our state come together for Idaho nonprofits. It's a day to celebrate the awesome work of Idaho's nonprofits and benefit from the power of many.

TVDSA hopes you will select TVDSA as your nonprofit cause this year:

<http://idahogives.razoo.com/story/Tvdsa>.

Call for Volunteers – please help!

TVDSA is planning a full year of activities and events in 2016. The following committees are in need of some help to make them a success. Please consider helping in an area of interest.

Adults in Motion (AIM) Social Coordinator:

As the AIM Coordinator you would organize various activities for individuals with Down syndrome that are 18 years and older. Activities could include social, community outreach/volunteer opportunities, or other inventive ideas. Typically AIM and Cool Club come together for an end of year celebration, organized by both group coordinators. If interested, please contact Kristie Yerger at president@idahodownsyndrome.org.

Technology Committee:

Calling All Techies - TVDSA needs volunteers to participate in a Technology committee. If you are a professional technology expert or just a self-made techie, we can use your input. Our first task will be discussions and recommendations for updates to the TVDSA website. If you are interested please contact George Taylor at webmaster@idahodownsyndrome.org.

Golf Tournament Committee:

Calling All Golfers (and non-golfers) - TVDSA will be hosting a 2016 Golf Tournament and needs volunteers to help out both before and the day of the event. Whether you play golf or not, your help would be appreciated. Prior golf tournament planning experience is a bonus! The Golf Committee is planning the event but needs additional people to assist with getting sponsors, getting players for the event, manning tables, and many other tasks. If you are interested please contact George Taylor at golf@idahodownsyndrome.org.

The mission of the Treasure Valley Down Syndrome Association is to enhance the quality of life for persons with Down syndrome by promoting inclusive environments, providing accurate information to parents, families, and the community, and by advocating respect, dignity, and appropriate supports for people with Down syndrome.

Board of Directors:

President: [Kristie Yerger](#)
Vice President: [George Taylor](#)
Advisor: [Lynda Wells](#)
Co-Fundraising: [Kristine Goodwin](#)
Co-Fundraising: [Reme Echevarria](#)
Legislative Chair: [Virginia Beringer](#)

Treasurer & Spanish Contact: [Lucy Olmos](#)
Secretary & Membership: [Paul Auger](#)
Marketing: [Jason Robles](#)
Community Outreach Chair: [Erin Rosenkoetter](#)
Buddy Walk Chair: [Andrew Kopping](#)
Self-Advocate Chair: [Dylan Thaner](#)

For more information, articles, past newsletters and more, please visit our website: <http://idahodownsyndrome.org>

Mailing: PO Box 1404 Meridian, ID 83680; Check us out on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)