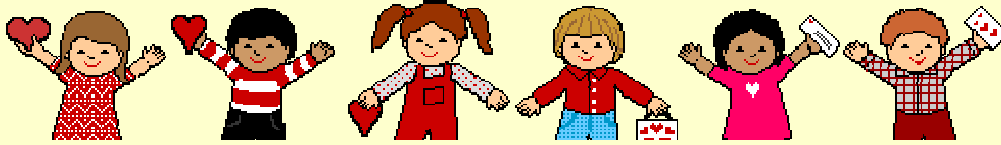


SONNENBERG CONSULTANTS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2010



Company News

- ❖ All therapists must sign the updated Sonnenberg Consultants rules, ask your senior if you have not signed.
- ❖ If schools are closed therapists do not have to make up their hours, therapists can still perform therapy on snow days if desired
- ❖ If you do have to call in, call both the family and your Senior a min. of 2 hours before your start time.
- ❖ Mark at the bottom of your timesheets whether all shifts have been completed for the month.
- ❖ Thank You to all the parents who attended the support group this month!

You've heard of *Rainman* starring Dustin Hoffman, but have you seen some of these other movies involving the subject of Autism?

(autismsuperstore.com)

Movies Involving the Subject of Autism

[Backstreet Dreams](#) (Brooke Shields) (1993)

[The Boy Who Could Fly](#) (Jay Underwood) (1986)

[Change of Habit](#) (Elvis Presley) (1969)

[David's Mother](#) (Kirstie Alley) (1994)

[Down In The Delta](#) (Wesley Snipes) (1998)

[Mercury Rising](#) (Bruce Willis) (1998)

[Molly](#) (Elisabeth Shue) (1999)

[Nell](#) (Jodie Foster) (1994)

[The Other Sister](#) (Diane Keaton) (1999)

[Silent Fall](#) (Richard Dreyfuss) (1994)

[Touched By Love](#) (Diane Lane) (1980)

[What's Eating Gilbert Grape?](#) (Johnny Depp) (1993)

[When The Bough Breaks](#) (Martin Sheen) (1993)

Upcoming Events

2010 ASW Annual Conference

A Great Chance to Listen to Temple Grandin in Person!

March 18-20

Hotel Sierra (formerly the Regency Suites)
Green Bay

Thursday March 18

Preconference Workshop

Paula Kluth, Ph.D. Friday March 19

Keynote Presenter

Temple Grandin, Ph.D. Saturday March 20

Keynote Presenter

Eric Courchesne, Ph.D.



Temple Grandin: The HBO Movie Starring Claire Danes

Article written by Chantal Sicile-Kira

Temple Grandin, a world-renowned designer of livestock handling facilities and a professor of animal science at Colorado State University, is arguably the world's most famous person with autism. Temple has written many books about autism, others about animals, and even more about both. Last week I called Temple (who wrote the forward to my first three [books](#)) to get her input on my latest book, *41 Things to Know About Autism*. Temple told me that the long-awaited movie *Temple Grandin* directed by Mick Jackson is finally premiering on HBO on Saturday, February 6. The screenplay by Christopher Monger and William Merritt Johnson is based on Temple's book *Thinking in Pictures*, as well as *Emergence* by Temple Grandin and Margaret Sciarano. Temple is well-known for her ability of thinking in pictures, and I was therefore curious as to how she would react to seeing her life in images created by others, not necessarily the same pictures she has in her mind about her life. Temple discussed her thoughts with me about the movie.

Q: How much input did Temple have on the making of this movie? A: I gave input into the screenwriting, spent a good amount of time, four days, with the writers and two days with the director. I think they did a great job. They built a cattle dipping vat based right on my original, off of my drawings. My drawings are all over the movie; I really liked that. In a scene near the end of the movie, I am selling a job to one of the meat plants, my drawings are out on the conference room table. Well, not my originals, I copied them at Kinko's! They did really cool animations of the conveyor system for handling cattle at the slaughter plant from those drawings - really cool animations taken from my drawings - they really emphasized my projects. The cattle stuff was very accurate. They showed all the sexual discrimination I

had to put up with in the livestock field. Women did not work in the yards back then just the office. It's a lot better now.

Q: What was it like for Temple to see Claire Danes playing her? A: Weird. It was weird to see me on the screen. It was like going in a weird time machine, going back in a time machine into the '60s. They put a wig on Claire and dressed her up in clothes and she had to wear these ugly false teeth apparatus. She looked like me, except she was shorter than me and we couldn't do anything about that, but she sounds and moves just like me. She does accurately portray how I would act in the '60s and '70s. Claire did a great job.

Q: Did the film attempt to portray how Temple's mind thinks in pictures; and if so how did they do that? A: The movie is great. They really showed how my mind works. They have a neat scene where they show how I think in pictures, very effective. I love how they showed that. They showed sequentially pictures of "shoes" that is exactly how I think - like snapshots of different types of shoes: high heels, flats, all different types and shapes and colors.

Q: What was it like for Temple being on the movie set, watching them put her life story into pictures? A: I only watched a small part of it being filmed. I watched it through a monitor because I didn't want to make Claire nervous. What really interested me was the number of people on the set that had Asperger's Syndrome. Smart people. Let's just say they weren't sweeping the floor. They are all part timers. There are a lot of technical jobs in production and it was like a big construction project.

Q: What message does Temple want people to take away from seeing this movie? A: I hope one of the things they get from it is the importance of a good teacher and mentors. Mr. Carlock (David Strathairn) saw that I had some areas of strength and he developed that. He spotted my ability with science; mentors are attracted to ability. Sometimes you find the mentors in the oddest places. In fact, the first meat plant I ever went to, I got in because I met the wife of their insurance agent, because she liked my hand embroidered shirt.

It's a great movie and not just for people interested in autism or cattle, because It's a wonderful, inspirational, and entertaining story. The messages that Temple hopes people will take away are true for everyone, not just those with Asperger's, especially in

this economy. Watch this movie, whoever you are,
you'll be glad you did.