

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living (WNYIL). Our guest today is Cathy Campbell, assistant director of Mental Health PEER Connection (MHPC), and I'm your host, Ernie Churchwell. Welcome to the program, Cathy.

00:00:15 Speaker 2

Thank you for having me, Ernie.

00:00:17 Speaker 1

It's our pleasure. You're here because you have the lowdown on an event which has come to be an annual celebration by MHPC, which is the Kite Festival Celebrating Mental Health.

00:00:36 Speaker 1

I know it's been going on so many years that they've actually changed its location to a more centralized place in Cheektowaga a few years back. First of all, can you tell us whom this event is dedicated to?

00:00:53 Speaker 2

Well, our annual MHPC Kite Festival is to invite all people in the community who have families to celebrate mental health.

00:01:08 Speaker 2

So, they could be individuals with mental health or have family members with mental health, or they could just be a person who likes to support individuals who have mental health. It's open to the entire community.

00:01:23 Speaker 1

Terrific to give people a chance to get their pencils, but to tease them a bit on the information, can you tell us the when and where of the event?

00:01:33 Speaker 2

This year's is going to be September 21st, which is a Saturday from 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.

00:01:42 Speaker 2

And it will be located at Cheektowaga Town Park Pavilion, shelter #1.

00:01:50 Speaker 1

Terrific. Since it is a kite festival, do people have to bring their own? Will you supply the kites or is there an option either way?

00:02:00 Speaker 2

Everything at the event is free. We have free food. Normally we've had hamburgers, hot dogs, hot dog sausages. There's always hot dogs and they're free. The kites are free and any activities that we offer at the festival are also free. So sometimes we'll have coloring, face painting. You never know who's going to come and join us in our celebrating mental health.

00:02:27 Speaker 1

And if people decide to use the kite that MH PC provides for the event, they can decorate it any way they want, correct?

00:02:36 Speaker 2

Sure. I mean it's their kite. Once we give it to them, they can do whatever they want.

00:02:44 Speaker 1

As long as it starts and ends within your time frame, people can go on and celebrating with the kite flying for hours at a time, right?

00:02:54 Speaker 2

Absolutely, absolutely. We have many families come out. There's a playground across from our pavilion. So, most people who come and celebrate this with us tend to stay for a few hours and enjoy it. And I have left and seen people still there flying kites.

00:03:14 Speaker 1

And is there any charge to participate?

00:03:18 Speaker 2

Absolutely free. The only thing we ever ask is if you would like to either sponsor or volunteer, you could give Kevin Smith a call at 836-0822, ext. 147. He will also be taking any request for people needing transportation to and from the event.

00:03:42 Speaker 1

And is there a need to RSVP before coming down, or can you just appear?

00:03:48 Speaker 2

If you need transportation, you need to RSVP by September 14.

00:03:52 Speaker 2

Otherwise, you can just show up. You don't have to RSVP.

00:03:57 Speaker 1

Alrighty. And could you just remind people of the time, date and place once more?

00:04:05 Speaker 2

September 21st, which is a Saturday at Cheektowaga Town Park Pavilion, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

00:04:14 Speaker 1

We're totally out of time if people need to get more information, how can they reach you?

00:04:19 Speaker 2

I can be reached at 716-836-0822, ext. 139.

00:04:26 Speaker 2

But most people who might want to RSVP could call Paula at 716-836-0822, ext. 146 and again and for rides, it's Kevin Smith at 836-0822 ext. 147.

00:04:47 Speaker 1

Thanks so much for being with us, Cathy.

00:04:50 Speaker 2

You're welcome. Thank you for having me, Ernie.

00:04:52 Speaker 1

Our pleasure. You've been listening to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of WNYIL. Our guest today was Cathy Campbell, assistant director of MHPC. And I've been your host, Ernie Churchwell.