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## **FREE CHILD SAFETY DAYS JUNE 19 AND 26 AT FRANKIE'S PLAYCE, THE SHOPS AT ATLAS PARK**

*Local Author Angelica Harris teams with store owner and New York Life to provide free child identification cards to parents and safety tips and activities to children*

**GLENDALE, N.Y. (June 10, 2009)** – Summer is a time when kids are out of school and out of their routines – the perfect environment for children to fall astray from home, which could lead them right into the hands of a drug dealer, pedophile or even be kidnapped by someone familiar or a parent running from an estranged spouse.

Local Fantasy Fiction Author [Angelica Harris](#) ("[Excalibur Reclaims Her King](#)," Writers of the Round Table Press, April 2009) believes that parent education and child identification is critical to keeping the children in her community safe. Because of this belief, along with Frankie Janello, owner of Frankie's Playce, and New York Life, Harris will host free Child Safety Days on Fridays, June 19 and 26, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 3 – 8 p.m. at Frankie's Playce in The Shops at Atlas Park.

Child safety is one of the primary concerns of parents today. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), as many as one million children are reported missing every year.

"Many of these children are never seen again due to the fact that their parents do not have the vital information needed for the police and investigators to find their child," said Harris, who is also the producer and director of the Hall of Imagination at Frankie's Playce, where she hosts a weekly book club for kids. "If Frankie and I can help with the safety of a child by giving their parents the right tools to bring them home alive and safe, then that is the message we are bringing to our event."

During the Walk for St. Mary's Children last month, Harris met New York Life's Makiko Bridgid Ito and Scott Caggiano, who talked to Harris about the benefits of child-identification for the safety measures of children and the peace of mind it gives parents. Because of her love for children, Harris thought the idea of bringing the event to her community was an important one.

Parents attending Child Safety Day will receive a free laminated ID card that contains their child's recent photo, digital fingerprints, parental contact information, and all of the child's basic information including but not limited to name, race, health concerns, and distinguishing characteristics. Parents will be given a larger ID sheet as well. These sheets can then be given to the police for them to quickly begin a search for a missing child.

Local police and firefighters will be on hand to talk to kids about being safe, why it's important not to talk to strangers and what to do if a stranger approaches. Other activities including Kiwally the Koala Puppet, a clown and balloon artist will also be available.

For more information about the event, call Frankie's Playce, 718.326.2023. To learn more about Angelica Harris, visit [www.angelicaharris.com](http://www.angelicaharris.com).

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