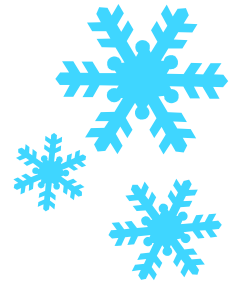




Village Voice

January/February
2012



FWC EVENTS

The Annual FWC Christmas Party



The Annual Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at the Robert Ketterer Charter School Cafeteria on the Adelphoi campus in Latrobe. Families brought delicious homemade desserts and salads. The special treat this year was having FWC Alumni and recent culinary school graduate JD Frena-Baughman prepare breaded chicken breast, roast beef and spaghetti with three different special sauces, zucchini and egg plant, as well as corn with roasted peppers. Attendees brought a non-perishable food item which was donated to Welcome Home. There were 21 resource families and their children in attendance totaling 136 including FWC staff. \$258.00 was raised from a Chinese Auction to support future FPA events. Santa arrived bearing gifts for all the children. Smiles were seen on all the faces as family photos were taken with Santa. Happy New Year to everyone!



Foster Care - Blair Region Holiday Party

A fun and festive time was had by all at the annual foster/adopt Blair Region Holiday Party! The festivities occurred on Saturday, December 3, 2011, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Marzoni's restaurant in Duncansville, PA. The resource families and their children dined on a variety of foods "buffet style" in the restaurants cozy banquet room. The menu included: pizza, panini sandwiches, breadsticks, pasta salad, tossed salad and cookies for dessert. After the delicious lunch, families and staff had a time for fellowship before joining together to open gifts left by Santa. The 55 in attendance included: the Copenhaver family, the Baughman family, Gerald and Leona Drenning and family, the Dehoyos and family, the Hartman-Goehringer family, the Lingenfelter-Terek family, Jennifer Figard and family, Vanessa Lopez and family and the McConnell family, Carole Housum, the Mulraney family, Christa Bush, Robin Klimke, Christine Sims and Chris Gresko and family. The party was a huge hit and an enjoyable time was had by all who attended.—Chris Gresko

FAMILY PREPARATION CLASSES

Connections by Choice at WCCC:

register the Friday before the week of the trainings. Call 724-838-9074

Jan 7, 9:00-4:00	"Who are the children?", "Grief and Loss", "Child development", "Parenting Skills"
Jan 21, 9:00-4:00	"Who are the Parent's?", "Attachment", "Healing the Hurts", "Resources/Legal Issues"
Mar. 10, 9:00-4:00	"Parenting Skills", "Child Development", "Grief and Loss", "Who are the Children?"
Mar. 24 9:00-4:00	"Resources/Legal Issues", "Healing the Hurts", "Attachment", "Who are the Parent's?"

Professional Family Care Services in Johnstown:

Please call to register 814-255-9559

CCYS:

Jan 14, 9am-4pm	"Laws and Regulations Court Process Permanency Plan", "Parenting/Discipline"
Jan 23 6pm-9pm	"Child Development and Sexual Abuse"
Feb. 6 6pm-9pm	"Laws and Regulations Court Process Permanency Plan"
Feb. 18 9am-4pm	"Child Development/Sexual Abuse" "Lifebooks/Panel"
Feb. 23 6pm-9pm	"Parenting/Discipline"

PFCS:

Jan. 21 9am-4pm	"Attachment", "Grief and Loss", "Who are the Children?", "Who are the Families?", "Resources"
Jan 30, 6pm-9pm	"Crisis Intervention"
Feb 9, 6pm-9pm	"Attachment", "Grief and Loss"
Feb 16, 6pm-9pm	"Who are the Children?", "Who are the Families?", "Resources"
Feb 23, 6pm-9pm	"Parenting/Discipline"
Feb. 27 6pm-9pm	"Crisis Intervention"

Three Rivers Adoption Council:

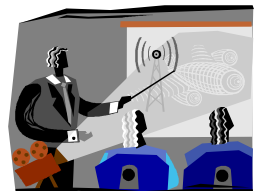
Please call 412-471-8722 x230 for details of training dates for January.

Adelphoi Village Scalise Training Center in Latrobe:

Please call 724-838-9074 to register.

Jan. 20 8:30-1:00	CPR/First Aid
Feb. 4 8:30-3:30	CPR/First Aid
Feb. 10 8:30-1:00	CPR/First Aid

Just a reminder... CPR/First Aid certification is now good for two years.





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Content Editor: Paul Johnson

Layout/Design: Lisa Carey



Just as an FYI....

Now that bath salts are illegal (not that they can't be found) there is a new product to be concerned about called Jewelry Cleaner (synthetic cocaine). It can be purchased at any head shop or convenience store. It comes as a **powder in a vile**. The drug has two main side effects hallucinations and sweating. -Information from a PA Probation Officer.

E-Learning and Resource parents

Just a reminder that each resource parent is able to take two E-Learning trainings per calendar year. These trainings are at no cost to the families and were reset effective January 1, 2012. Please consult your individual caseworker prior to taking these trainings. Each additional training will be at a cost to the family.



Foster Parent Association

Thanks for everyone's support of fundraisers throughout the year, over \$1000 was spent on Christmas gifts for AV kids.

Thanks to "Tickets for Kids", for providing free tickets. Foster families and kids attended the "Twas the Night before Christmas" play at the Palace Theater in Greensburg, the Harlem Globetrotters at the Consol Center, and Overly's Country Christmas in Mt. Pleasant. Everyone had a great time.

SAVE THE DATE: 3rd Annual Ice skating party Saturday March 24, 2012 1-3pm at Center Ice Arena in Delmont. Come for fun, food, and fellowship!



The John and Nancy Boyer Family



ADOPTION TAX CREDIT 2011

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law extending adoption tax credit for 2011 and also refundable for 2010. The credit is paid one time for each adopted child and should be claimed when taxes are filed. Families who adopted from 2005 to 2010 who have not already claimed the adoption credit for those adoptions may still be able to benefit from the credit.

For parents assuming Permanent Legal Custody they should not report cost of care reimbursement as taxable income, a guardian child may be claimed as a dependent if the guardian provides for more than half of the child's support and the child lives in the caretaker's home for a full year. Amended Form 1040X may be filed up to three prior years. More information Publication 972 Child Tax Credit.

Welcome new families!

- Heath and Alicia Vanwhy New Kensington, PA
- Joe and Lori Dudzinsky Blairsville, PA
- David and Crystal Cowan Kittanning, PA
- Bob and Lola Barton Jeannette, PA
- Rob and Cindy Tarzain Loyalhanna, PA
- Tim and Rachel Szolek Everson, PA
- Jennifer Morrison Greensburg, PA
- John and Nancy Boyer Blairsville, PA
- Christina Geiger Irwin, PA
- Daniel and Tammy Dziagwa, Seward PA

Welcome new staff!

Meghan Key—Adoption Caseworker

We Look Forward To Working With You!