

Continued from page 1

If the document is not signed 14 days prior to the expiration, we will need to put in what is called a "14 day notice". This means that unless the paperwork is signed we/you will no longer be able to have the child in your care (he/she will need to be moved). This is frightening stuff, but 99% of these issues will be resolved and the bottom line is the notice will enact a response that will solve the contractual issue.

I want you all to know that our need to follow these rules are based not only on assuring we/you get paid, but also to ensure that all placements made are done so legally. In other words, if children are in your home and a current CPA is not in place, you and the agency are in violation with our contract and subsequently the law. I believe the steps we are now taking will seem heartless, but you need to know the reality is not the case. **Sincerely, Mark Fullington**

If you would like to have direct deposit for your check that is paid on the 10th of the month, please email John Fullington at payinfo@cfsf.net.

Community and Family Services would like to extend a big Thank you to the **Gold Wing Road Riders Assoc. Wa Chapter "O"** for the gift donations at Christmas for the past two years. The group gave the gifts during a toy drive with the knowledge that some children come into care at a difficult time of the year. The families that received these children at Christmas were grateful for the gifts to welcome each child into their home during the holidays. Once again, a big thank you to Ken Smith, Rick Williams and all the members of **GWRRR Chapter WA O!**

Mother's Day is May 9, 2010

Answers to Page 3 Word Scramble:

1. Obese 2. Sadly 3. Lazy 4. Badge
5. Rhyme 6. Oasis 7. Naval 8. Silly

Answers to Page 3 Trivia questions:

1. Petco Park 2. Tom Hanks
3. Gale Sayers 4. Jim Thorpe
5. Sally Field

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 11:00a.m.

It is recommended that you arrive at 10:45 to register for door prizes.

Westsound Community Church

2356 NW Rude Rd.

Poulsbo, WA 97370

If you have any questions, please contact Celeste D. at 360-895-7889 Ext. 104



Trust Your Grandma

Researchers keep trying to figure out why chicken soup does a sick body good. One finding: cysteine, an amino acid that's released by cooked chicken. It's chemically similar to acetylcysteine, a bronchitis drug, and it works with other soup ingredients to reduce inflammation. Salty broth also helps thin mucus. Chicken soup helps even more if you rev it up with spices: garlic, which has a well-earned reputation for squelching infection, and hot red pepper, which contains capsaicin, a powerful decongestant that intensifies the soup's sinus-clearing effects.

CFSF Family Connection



Dear Foster Parents,

I hope and pray all is well with you all. We are exceedingly grateful to you all for the work you do with children. I am constantly amazed by what I hear from our case managers and licensors. Your ability to welcome children into your homes and love, nurture and direct them toward a path of health is nothing short of miraculous. Thank you and may God Bless you.

As we continue to head into challenging times in our state and federal budgets, I want to inform you of a specific challenge that may affect you. As you may or may not know, our agency and all private agencies have contracts with the state that have expectations and requirements. One of the requirements is called a CPA (Child Placing Agreement). A CPA does several things that affect us all, including:

- Authorizes CFSF to serve the children in care
- Authorizes foster parents to serve children placed with you
- Authorizes respite
- Authorizes level of care (1,2,3,4) or BRS
- Authorizes case aide services (most children do not use case aides)
- Authorizes reimbursement for case aide miles, etc.....

In the past we have had certain liberties when children are placed without a CPA in place or when a CPA expired and a new agreement had not been signed. Well, those days are gone. We have been informed by the WA State Contracts monitors that we can no longer conduct business in this manner. I want to be clear on this next point because it leaves us with a very harsh and challenging practice we must undertake. I will divide this into two areas where it will impact you as a foster parent.

1. **At Time Of Placement** - we will need to have a CPA signed prior to children being placed in your home. This may delay placements until the proper signatures are found. *Emergency placements-emergency placements will still occur, but the SW will need to have a signed CPA within 5 calendar days or the child must be returned to the state's custody.
2. **At Time Of Renewal**-this will be a real challenge for us all. Many of you have had children for months and even years. We will begin the process of trying to get a new CPA signed 6 weeks prior to expiration and will increase our efforts as time shortens. **Continued on page 4**

March 10, 2010

**Washington State Patrol
Clearinghouse for Missing
Children**
1-800-543-5678

Training Website
[http://
www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/
fosterparents/
ongoingvid.asp](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/ongoingvid.asp)

[www.independence.wa.
gov](http://www.independence.wa.gov)
Info and programs
available for youth (13-
21) in out-of-home care.

CPR/1st Aid/BBP
www.keepthebeat.net
or call
1-888-704-6074

**Adoption Referral &
Information Service**
[www.adoptionreferralservic
e.com](http://www.adoptionreferralservice.com)

Taxes and Foster Care

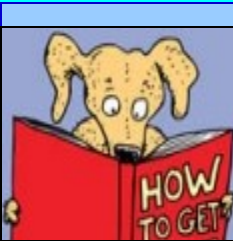
Taxes and foster care funds can be confusing. The National Foster Parent's Association website—www.nfpa.org has the Federal Tax Guide for Foster Parents under the Foster Parent Information section on the left. Circumstances vary and CFSF can provide general information, but foster parents should check with their accountant, tax preparer or other expert for specific situations.

Foster care maintenance—Basic Rate, Child Assessed Levels and FC Special Supervision REIMBURSES foster parents for parenting and caregiving responsibilities the **foster parent(s)** provides for their children/youth placed in their home. These funds are not considered reportable income and are **NOT** reported to the IRS as income, so foster parents do not have to report the funds when filing taxes. Respite and case aide service payments are considered income and are reported to the IRS by DCFS and Agencies. Foster parents should report these payments as income when filing taxes.

Whether or not you can claim a foster child (or other relative/ fictive child/youth) as a dependent for tax purposes depends on the situation. Generally, a child must have lived with you for the majority of the year. The birth parent, relative or other individuals can also claim the child/youth on their tax return and usually pops up as a 'red flag' for IRS. If this happens, you would need to prove the child lived with you during that time; which is fairly easy for foster children. You need the child/youth's social security number when filing taxes—contact Celeste Carey if you need assistance.

Celeste Carey, Burien Office: 206-246-5262

Cell: 206-794-8316 Email: cace@cfsf.net



Training

The CFSF office in Port Orchard offers monthly training classes for both staff and foster parents. The classes are held the first Thursday of every month in the conference room. Times are:

10:00am-12:00pm

or

6:00pm- 8:00pm

Reminder

All foster parents need a minimum of 36 hours of training during their licensing period or 12 hours a year. BRS parents need a minimum of 30 hours a year or 90 hours for the licensing period.

Word Search: Find the items associated with Spring: Baseball, Showers, Sunshine, Windy, Cool, Daffodil, Tulips, Cleanup, and Spring Training

S	u	n	s	h	i	n	e	a	p	d
t	h	a	t	u	l	i	p	s	u	a
b	n	o	k	l	p	p	r	y	n	f
s	w	j	w	v	c	o	o	l	a	f
p	i	x	i	e	s	r	z	n	e	o
r	n	g	h	j	r	b	v	q	l	d
i	d	o	v	e	m	s	k	i	c	i
n	y	l	l	a	b	e	s	a	b	l
g	t	r	a	i	n	i	n	g	o	i

School Excuses from Parents:

Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday, he had diarrhea and his boots leak.

Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.

Duct tape is like the force.

It has a light side,

A dark side,

And it holds the universe together

Author Unknown

Word Scramble

Meaning:

Very fat: Beoes -----

Unhappily: Asldy -----

Not willing to work: Azly -----

Identification: Gdbae -----

Verse: Eyhmr -----

Green Area: Saosi -----

Having to do with Ships:
Avaln -----

Foolish: Yslil -----

Trivia (Answers on Page 4)

1. The Padres play in which stadium that replaced the old Qualcomm Stadium, which was later named after an animal and pet supplies?
2. Who was the voice behind Woody, the cowboy doll in Toy Story?
3. What Chicago Bears great ran six kickoffs back for touchdowns over seven seasons?
4. What Native American was the NFL's first president?
5. Who did Burt Reynolds develop a hankerin' for on the set of Smokey and the Bandit?