



# KFCA Newsletter

[www.kitsapfostercare.org](http://www.kitsapfostercare.org)

October 2007

## KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

### **KFCA Harvest Festival & Silent Auction October 24, 2007**

Please join us for this fun family event! Adults and children wear your costumes, prizes will be awarded to the best costumes, so think up a good one now. First and Second prize will be awarded in the following age categories: (0-5) (6-11) (12-17) (18 and up)

There will be candy for all, as well as games! We are in need of donations for the silent auction. There will be no training this month. If you have questions, input, or wish to help, contact  
Phyllis Bishop @ 275-5725

**The creepy menu...**Chicken hearted wings, Monster mac & cheese, Ghoul losh, Green meany beans, Sliced-diced-chopped salad bar, Goober puddings, and Marsh snacks.

### **November 7, 2007 Dinner Meeting...**

Please note, this is earlier than usual to avoid the Thanksgiving Holiday. Also, there will be no training this month. Instead, we will be having an informal business meeting after dinner.

### **Interested in providing childcare?**

We are looking for someone to assist with childcare at our monthly dinner meetings. The approximate time would be 6:45pm to 8:15pm. You will be reimbursed \$30. Must pass a criminal background check  
Contact Lesa LeClair for more information.

The purpose of the **D.R.E.A.M. Project** is to grant "dreams" to our children in foster and kinship care in Kitsap County. Each child is entitled to one request per year. These requests come from the children themselves, and can be for items such as: Athletics, sports equipment, specialty classes and school memories (such as prom and graduation items). Dreams are granted for the actual cost of the item requested, not to exceed \$75.

The request form can be downloaded from <http://www.kitsapfostercare.org/>  
Forward to:

**The Dream Committee @ KFCA, PO Box 4542, Bremerton, WA 98312**

## **HOLIDAY MAGIC UPDATE**

710 KIRO Foster Child Holiday Magic in partnership with Treehouse will deliver gifts directly into the hands of foster kids this holiday season. A new streamlined registration process and simplified gift-delivery system make it easier than ever to participate in the program.

- **Registration begins October 16, 2007**
- Each child registered will receive one premium holiday gift
- Each child will choose a gift they want AND the gift will be delivered right to their home.

Children's Administration, in collaboration with Treehouse and the 710 KIRO Foster Child Holiday Magic program, is helping to make the holiday season bright for foster kids across Western Washington. For more information:  
Barb Bofinger  
(360)475-3612  
[boba300@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:boba300@dshs.wa.gov)



### Join Us Now!

Kitsap Foster Care Association membership is open to foster parents and others interested in foster care.

Make \$15 check payable to: KFCA, PO Box 4542, Bremerton, WA 98312

#### Thanks!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foster parent      agency staff      renewal?  
Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

## KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### • GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- **Where:** Silverdale Community Center, 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
- **When:** Fourth Wednesday of each month, Dinner 6pm, Guest Speaker and Discussion 7pm.
- Free child care available on site.
- Members pay \$4 for dinner (50% off) and receive a free raffle ticket to win great prizes (additional raffle tickets may be purchased in support of KFCA).

### • BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- **Where:** Changing locations, contact any board member for this month's location.
- **When:** First Monday of each month @ 6:00pm.
- KFCA Board Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please contact Debra Converse two days prior to the meeting.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Debra Converse, *President***  
president@kitsapfostercare.org

**Phyllis Bishop, *Vice President***  
vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

**Chuck Converse, *Treasurer***  
treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

**Erin Bowman, *Secretary/Membership***  
secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

**Sharon Williams, *Historian***  
historian@kitsapfostercare.org

**Lesa LeClair, *Child Care***  
childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

**Chuck Converse, *Webmaster***  
webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

**Debra Converse, *Education/Training***  
education@kitsapfostercare.org

**Jennifer Martin, *Newsletter***  
newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

**Phyllis Bishop, *Special Events Coordinator***  
Phone 275-5725  
events@kitsapfostercare.org

**Laura Marshall, *Culinary Coordinator***  
culinary@kitsapfostercare.org

**Vacant, *Legislative***

**Teresa Walton, *Foster Parent Liaison***  
Cell (360) 990-9995  
liaison@kitsapfostercare.org



## Upcoming Training

### **PRIDE Pre-Service Training**

October 3, 4 (5:30-9:30pm), 6 (9:00-4:45pm), 10,  
11, & 12, 2007 (5:30-9:30pm)

OR

October 22, 23, 24, 25 (9:00-4:00pm), & 26, 2007  
(9:00-noon)

OR

November 7, 8, 9, 14, 15 (5:30-9:30pm), & 17,  
2007 (9:00-4:45pm)

OR

November 29, 30, December 5, 6 (9:00-4:00pm), &  
7, 2007 (9:00-noon)

### **Engaging Biological Families for Change**

November 1 & 2, 2007 6:00-9:00pm

The above trainings are held at  
Bremerton First Methodist Church  
1150 Marine Drive; Bremerton, WA 98312  
Contact Hildegard Stone to pre-register @  
475-3586 or 1-800-423-6246

### **PRIDE Pre-Service Training**

November 19, 26, 28 & December 3, 2007  
9:00am to 4:00pm

Harbor Covenant Church

5601 Gustafson Drive NW, Gig Harbor, 98335

### **Aggression Replacement Training for Foster Parents**

Thursday, October 18, 2007  
9:00am to 4:00pm

### **Sexually Aggressive Children and Youth**

October 23, 2007  
9:00am to 4:00pm

### **Physically Assaultive Children and Youth**

October 25, 2007  
9:00am to 4:00pm

### **Brain Gym: Enhancing Effectiveness Through Movement and Play**

Saturday, November 3 & 10, 2007  
9:00am to 4:00pm

### **Ansel-Casey Life Skills Assessment**

November 20, 2007  
9:00am to 1:00pm

DCFS room 195, 1949 South State Street  
Tacoma, WA

To register for the above training, contact Linda  
Falcocchio at 1-253-983-6474

### **Grow and Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents**

[www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/)

**Check this website for fall 2007 updates!**

### **First Aid/CPR Training for Foster Parents**

[www.keepthebeatcpr.net](http://www.keepthebeatcpr.net)  
Or call (253)217-1105

### **DSHS Electronic Forms Link**

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/forms/eforms.html>

### **Check out these web sites:**

[www.familieslikeours.org](http://www.familieslikeours.org)

[www.usfosterfamilies.com](http://www.usfosterfamilies.com)

[www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/)

### **Interested in volunteering....**

Nikki Johanson [nikkijwa@yahoo.com] of Pheasant Fields Farms is looking for anyone interested in volunteering to help put with their Wild Woods event. A teenager accompanied by an adult would be helpful. It runs the last two Friday and Saturdays of October. Some folks have a lot of fun doing this and since this event is growing, they are always seeking new volunteers. Their main theme is safety so extra hands are a big help. If interested please contact her at the email address above or at 697-6224 or 509-0744.



## Kitsap County Resources...

- 1) **ABRAHAM'S HOUSE (405-0488)**  
\*free furniture, household goods, etc.
- 2) **DR. CHARLES BROWN (779-7115)**  
\*children's dental care with med coupon
- 3) **FIRST (foster intervention prevention support team) 1-800-391-2273**
- 4) **KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION (692-1927)**  
\*free duffel bags for foster children  
[WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG](http://WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG)
- 5) **MARY BRIDGE Center for Child Safety (360-662-1198)**  
\*Free child safety seat checks, bicycle helmet sales & fitting, free loaner life jackets
- 6) **NK FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP (206-842-2362) or Sufisher@aol.com**  
\*meets as needed, call for support
- 7) **NORTHWEST ENTERAL SUPPLY (1-888-885-2386)**  
\*free pull-ups for foster children
- 8) **OLYMPIC PHARMACY & HEALTH CARE (1-253-858-9941)**  
\*free delivery of diapers, medical supplies
- 9) **PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS (337-4738)**  
\*Youth Services Program
- 10) **SKILLS CENTER (478-5168)**  
\*free hair cuts for foster children
- 11) **Anointed Hands Hair Care (782-2409)**  
\*Dewanda Evans welcomes any/all questions re: African American hair care. Located on 6th Street in Bremer-ton.
- 12) **Christine Njoroge (475-3527)**  
\*For foster/relative care providers needing support for FASD children.
- 13) **Center for Children with Special Needs**  
\*[www.cshcn.org](http://www.cshcn.org)
- 14) **[www.kidsdirectory.com](http://www.kidsdirectory.com)**

## Calendar of Events

### October 2007:

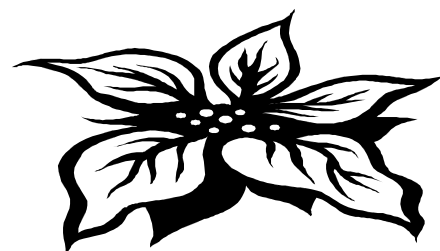
- 1: KFCA Board Meeting
- 3: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 15: Region 5 Quarterly Mtg.
- 16: Register for Holiday Magic
- 18: ART for Foster Parents
- 22: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 23: Sexually Aggressive Youth
- 24: KFCA Harvest Festival & Silent Auction
- 25: Physically Aggressive
- 31: Happy Halloween!  
Be Safe!!!

### November 2007:

- 1: Engaging Biological...
- 3: Brain Gym
- 5: KFCA Board Meeting
- 7: KFCA Dinner Meeting
- 7: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 12: Veterans Day Observed
- 19: PRIDE Preservice: Pierce
- 20: Ansel-Casey Life Skills
- 22: Happy Thanksgiving!
- 29: PRIDE Preservice Begins

### December 2007:

- 1: KFCA Holiday Party
- 3: KFCA Board Meeting
- 25: Merry Christmas!



# Insect Bites and Insect Repellents

Michelle Terry, MD  
Medical Consultant Region 5

There have been many recent articles in the news and on television regarding West Nile virus, Lyme disease. Infected insect bites can also cause diseases that require antibiotic therapy such as impetigo and cellulitis. Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus (MRSA) has become an increasingly common skin and deep tissue infection that is easily spread and difficult to treat – open sores, from scratched insect bites, can present a starting point for the infections to develop.

Proper use of insect repellents can protect children from diseases that are linked to bug bites.

DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide) and Picaridin are commonly used insect repellents DEET was developed around 60 years ago and is the most widely used repellent. DEET has a long safety record although there has been sporadic reports suggesting rare neurologic events (e.g. seizures) after its use.

Picaridin (KBR 3023) has had wider use in Europe, but has recently been marketed for use in the United States. Picaridin has been recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an alternative to DEET for prevention of West Nile virus-related illness, it is generally a pleasant-smelling product without the oily residue of DEET.

Choosing the appropriate concentration of repellent is important. Insect repellents typically are available in concentrations from 5-100%. The average protection time of 30% DEET is about five hours; for 10% DEET, protection provided is about one to two hours.

Picaridin is available in concentrations of 5%-10% and the duration of effect is about equivalent to 10% DEET – about one to two hours.

Following are recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Environmental Protection Agency regarding insect repellent use in children.

- Do not apply insect repellents to children under two months of age
- Use products that contain up to 30% DEET depending on the duration of outside activities. Avoid the use of higher concentrations of DEET in children.
- Apply the repellent only to exposed skin and clothing. Do not use the repellents under clothing.
- Do not apply the repellent to the eyes or the mouth, and apply sparingly around the ears. Do not apply directly to the face – spray the product on the hands first then and then apply to the face.
- Do not apply the product over cuts, eczema or other breaks in the skin
- A parent or caregiver should apply the repellent – a child may apply to much or inadvertently swallow the product through hand to mouth behavior.
- Wash off the repellents with soap and water at the end of the day
- Combination products containing DEET and sunscreen are not recommended, primarily because sunscreen should be reapplied frequently, particularly for activities centered around the water. In contrast repellents should be applied as infrequently as possible.

References: American Academy of Pediatrics – AAP News July 2007

## Notice of Quarterly Foster Parent Consultation Meeting

Recently, you received a letter about the implementation of new legislation requiring Children's Administration to consult with foster parents. The goal of the legislation is to ensure foster parents participate directly or through a representative selected by foster parents, and have a meaningful opportunity to offer input at each stage of ongoing work regarding:

- Recruitment of foster homes.
- Retention of foster homes
- Effective training for foster parents
- Development of coordinated and comprehensive plans that strengthen services for the protection of children

The quarterly meeting in Region 5 will be on October 15 at 10:00 AM at the Tacoma DCFS Office at 1949 South State Street. You are invited to bring your issues yourself or be represented by Debra Converse, the Kitsap Foster Care Association President (360) 692-1927, or by Teresa Walton, Foster Parent Liaison (360) 990-9995, or Donna at the Placement Desk (360) 475-3535, or by your licensor.

If you have questions about this please call Cherrie Druffel at (253) 983-6235.

### **The AARP Foundation Women's Scholarship Program:**

#### **Offering Scholarships to Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren!**

Supported by a generous donation from AARP, the AARP Foundation is offering scholarships to women aged 40 or older of limited financial means who are:

- 1) individuals returning to the workforce after an extended absence;
- 2) individuals in jobs with insufficient pay, benefits or growth opportunities;
- or 3) grandmothers or other female relatives raising another family member's children (with the ability to demonstrate significant financial responsibility for those children).

[www.aarp.org/womensscholarship](http://www.aarp.org/womensscholarship)  
Access key is AFWSP

Submit applications by October 31, 2007

## **SeaStar Project Enrichment Grants Application Form**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Foster Parent:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Vendor or Supplier:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Social worker Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Foster Parent Signature:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Checks will be made out to the vendor.**

**Eligible activities:** Seasonal sports fees, sports equipment, swimming lessons, summer camp, prom tickets, school pictures, ASB cards. Enrichment project does not reimburse for prior personal expenditures. **Ineligible for funding:** clothing, shoes, school supplies, beds, car seats, toys, computers, IPODS, electronic games. Application can be made by e-mail or phone from foster parent, DCFS representative, or foster parent licensing agency. SeaStar Project: 360-697-7772  
E-mail: [info@campseastar.org](mailto:info@campseastar.org)

Mail to: SeaStar Project  
19689 NE 7<sup>th</sup> PMB 335  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

## *From the President...*

Wow! Has another month flown by already? We've had a couple of events over the last month and half which were enjoyable times even with questionable weather. Due to raining/overcast weather the attendance at the picnic and afternoon on the farm was minimal; however those who attended had an enjoyable time. The weather cooperated by clearing in time for us to enjoy these events. The first event was the annual KFCA picnic at Evergreen Park was a highlight on this overcast August day. There was quite a spread of delightful food, thanks to Laura Marshall and the kitchen (grill) crew. There was plenty of food, so if you left the picnic hungry it was your own fault. The picnic is an annual event put on and paid for by the Association in appreciation for the foster families. If you were not able to attend we missed you, and hope to see you at future events. The second event was the KFCA afternoon at the Pheasant Fields Farm in Silverdale. We only had a few families attend this event due to the questionable weather; however those who did had an enjoyable afternoon. All the kids (young and old) enjoyed the farm tour as they fed and visited with the animals as well as venturing thru the corn maze and picking their own special gourd or mini pumpkin.

Just a reminder to be planning and designing that winning costume for the Harvest festival costume party and be saving your money to purchase some of those wonderful silent auction items. Our Dinner Meeting on Wednesday, Oct 24th is our Harvest Festival and Silent Auction. There will not be any training provided at this meeting due to the festivities. This event brought out the kid in all of us, young and old alike; we had so much fun last year with the silent auction to raise funds for KFCA activities, the costume contest, and games, not to mention the wonderful treats to eat. You do not want to miss out on the fun so we hope to see you all there to join in the festivities.

FYI: At our November 7<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting, our Holiday meal (note different meeting week due to holiday) we are planning on having a business meeting in lieu of training. The KFCA Board has several business items to bring before the Association. Please try to be present so that you can have input on the items that will be brought forth to the membership for vote. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Converse  
KFCA President  
President@kitsapfostercare.org

KFCA Newsletter  
P.O. Box 4542  
Bremerton, WA 98312

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