

Waterford Country School Foster Care

July 2007 

July Family Fun Events

Summer's arrived. On Tuesday, July 3, Norwich hosts an Independence Day Celebration at the Marina with food, entertainment and a large display of fireworks. The event begins at 3:00 pm and the fireworks at 9:30 pm. For info, call (860) 886-6363. East Woodstock hosts the 51st Annual Fourth of July Jamboree on Wednesday, July 4 from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Events include a barbecue, parade, live entertainments, relay races, hay rides, silent auction and more. For info, call (860) 928-7449. On July 13 - 15, New London hosts the 30th Annual Sailfest featuring tall ships, amusement rides, food, entertainment and Saturday evening fireworks. For info, call (860) 444-1879. Finally, on July 27 - 28, Old Lyme hosts the 21st Annual Midsummer Festival featuring outdoor performances, kids activities and more. For info, call (860) 434-5542.



Forever Families

Congratulations to Anthony and Gary and their forever families on their recent adoptions. Anthony was adopted by Lisa Wickham on May 29 and Gary was adopted by April and Erik Olson on June 20. We wish both families the best!!!

Coffee Talk

Several of you have suggested that we host informal gatherings to bring foster parents together to enjoy conversation, camaraderie and coffee with others facing similar challenges. We'll be mailing out a survey designed to gauge your interest, your time availability, hear your location suggestions, find out what format interests you, etc. If this is something you'd like us to pursue, please take a moment to fill out the survey or contact Kathryn at (860) 886-7500, x306 or by email at ksullivan@waterfordcs.org.



Congratulations to our Graduates

Congratulations to Miles, Rosie, Aaron, Michael, Davonta, Oslayda, Howard and Gary who all celebrated graduations. Miles is now a graduate of New London High School and is planning on attending vocational training in the fall. Congratulations also to the following who've completed Eighth Grade and will be moving on to high school this fall. Among the graduates are: Davonta from Clark Lane Middle School; Oslayada from Isaac School; Michael and Howard from Waterford Country School; Aaron from Tyle Middle School; Gary from Natchaug CDT; and, Rosie from Mystic Middle School. Great work, guys and good luck in the fall!



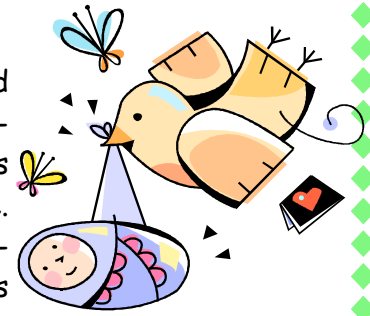


Book Club

A great beach read is "The Glass Castle," by MSNBC reporter, Jeanette Walls. The memoir chronicles her upbringing at the hands of eccentric, nomadic parents who, motivated by whims and paranoia, continually uproot their children and leave them largely to their own devices. Walls writes about what it was like to grow up in her family, from the embarrassing (wearing shoes held together with safety pins) to the horrific (being told, after a creepy uncle pleased himself nearby, that sexual assault is a crime of perception). Despite childhood circumstances that could be categorized as abusive and unquestionably neglectful, Walls never believes herself to be a victim.

Moving On

This month we bid a fond (and temporary) farewell to Supervising Clinician Rachel Newer as she begins her maternity leave. Rachel will be home for the summer with Baby Newer. She plans to return in the fall in her new position as a Trainer/Licenser with the Therapeutic Foster Care Training & Support Team.



"... As I head out on maternity leave, I want to thank all of you for the commitment you have made to foster care. I admire the self sacrifice it takes to bring someone new into your home and to make them a member of your family. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with all of you. I look forward to working with you again in my new role next fall."

Rachel Newer

We look forward to your return, Rachel, and wish you, your husband and Baby Newer all the best!

Parent Support Group

As in year's past, the Parent Support Group will be on hiatus for July and August. Should you have a topic or concern that you'd like to see the Parent Support Group address in the fall, please call Tamara at (860) 886-7500, x302.

Summer Dessert Recipe

Super-Easy Peach & Blueberry Cobbler

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups frozen sliced peaches

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup water

1 tbs. plus 1 tsp. cornstarch

Butter for the baking dish

Heavy cream, for brushing the biscuits

2 cups blueberries

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar

1 tbs. fresh lemon juice

1 (7.5 oz.) can refrigerator biscuits, (pull apart)

Sugar, for sprinkling on the biscuits



Preheat oven to 450 degrees. In a saucepan, combine the peaches, blueberries, water, sugar, cornstarch and lemon juice and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and let simmer for 5 minutes. Transfer the fruit mixture to a buttered, shallow baking dish. Arrange the biscuits on top of the fruit mixture, and brush with heavy cream and sprinkle with sugar. Bake until the biscuits are browned, about 15 minutes. Serve with ice cream