

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren of Brevard County, Florida

A newsletter for grandparents and other relatives in a parenting role

SUMMER 2010 - ISSUE 113

WELCOME to the new edition of our newsletter! I hope that you find it to be informative, educational and entertaining.

Mary Ann Sterling,
Executive Director

Free Summer Kids Movies

The Oaks-Melbourne

Tuesday, Wednesday, &
Thursday's

Doors open at 8:45am
Movies start at 9:15am

Cinema World - Melbourne

Free films, seven days a
week, 10am, new movies
premiering on Fridays.

Rave Motion Pictures - Viera

Tuesday & Wednesday's
Movies start @ 10:00 am

Roxy Cinema Grill - Palm Bay

Tuesday & Wednesday's
Movies start @ 10:00 am
Doors open at 9:00 am

Satellite Beach - Cinemas

Wednesday & Thursday's
10:30 AM Admission is
\$1.00 per person

Cobb Theater @ Merritt Square Mall

Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday's
Shows start at 10am
Doors open at 9:30am.

United Artists Sears Town Mall - Titusville

Tuesday & Wednesday's
Movies start @ 10:00 am

For more information:

<http://www.destinationbrevard.com/articles/2010/freesummermovies.html>



ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC ON JULY 17, 2010

Our picnic this year will be held on July 17, 2010 at the Kiwanis Park located on the Merritt Island Causeway just east of the Merritt Square Mall. The time is 12:00 Noon until 4:00 PM. There will be a water slide, games, and other entertainment for the children.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided by GRG of Brevard, bring a large covered dish to share. Please call 631-7776 to let us know how many will be attending which will enable us to have enough food for everyone. Please come and make this a great picnic for the children.

Mark Your Calendars!

- **Tuesday, June 1st** - Titusville Support Group Meeting, 805 Century Medical Dr, Building B, Titusville. This group will be joining with Parrish Senior Solutions to reach as many North Brevard grandparents as possible. 9:30 am - 10:30 am
- **VACATION** - Our office will be closed for vacation from June 18th through June 27th. In case of an emergency please call the warm-line at 631-7776.
- **Wednesday, June 16th** -- Volunteer Training Meeting, GRG Office, 705 Blake Avenue, Bldg. D, Cocoa, FL. Please call 631-7776 if you plan to attend. 10:00 am - 11:30 am.
- ***DUE TO THE CHILDREN BEING OUT OF SCHOOL AND SUMMER VACATIONS there will be NO Support Group Meetings in June with the exception of the Titusville Meeting on June 1.***
- **Saturday, July 17th** - Annual Summer Picnic at Kiwanis Island Park, Merritt Island, 12:00 til 4:00 pm.
- **Saturday, September 11th** - Annual Child First Gala, Radisson at the Port, 6:30 pm til Midnight.

Shining Star of the Month



This month's **Shining Star**, the grandchild that started it all, Mary Ann Sterling's grandson; Matthew Armstrong, practicing attorney in Orlando and member of GRG of Brevard BOD.

If your grandchild has had a special event, received an award, or given you a happy moment please write an article so when can highlight them in our newsletter Page 1



Florida Department of
Children & Families

Foster Care Information

Florida foster care laws establish that preference is given for placement with a family member. The underlying theory is that a child in foster care is more likely to thrive and feel safe when living with a family member as opposed to someone who is a stranger.

There are presently 800 children in protective custody within Brevard County:

- 240 children are in Foster Care
- 560 children are in Relative Placement or other facilities

When looking to place children removed from dysfunctional home, the Department of Children and Families look for blood relatives first.

Foster Care Funding:

- 0-11 year old children receive \$14.49/day
- 12-18 year old children receive \$16.96/day
- There can be only 5 children in a foster family at one time.
- Up to 2 years of age children of the same sex can share a room after that age girls and boys must have separate rooms

SOCIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

If you need to contact the Social Security Administration:

New office locations:

Melbourne Office:

1715 W. Nasa Blvd., Melbourne, FL

Phone 1-866-716-7667

Office hours are: 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Cocoa Office:

310 Canaveral Groves, Cocoa, FL

Phone: 1-866-964-0798

Office hours are: 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Website:

www.socialsecurity.gov

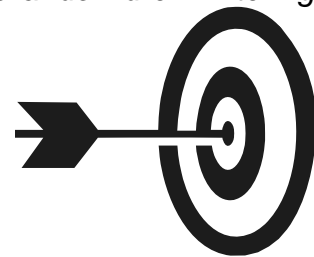
New Support Group

The North Brevard Support Group will be starting this month in collaboration with the Parrish Senior Solutions.

Our director and board member, Jim Proctor met with Dr. Tronetti, Chris Male, Lori Duester, Janet Rooks, and Bridget Griffin to discuss the benefits of working together to reach as many seniors as possible. The Senior Solutions is a wonderful organization that assists seniors in many areas. We are looking forward to our first meeting in their facility; if you live in the Titusville Area please plan to attend on June 1st at 9:30.

TARGET Training Conference

*Training and Resources for Grandparents
Raising Grandchildren Entering Transition*



TARGET training was a great success. For seven weeks we received very valuable information from many sources. Some of the comments from the attendees were:

“Excellent training and information provided. Recommend all grandparents raising grandchildren attend this training, Thank you. This was very beneficial and interesting.”

“I think every grandparent should come to this training program. There are so many questions that can be answered if they attend this program.”

“This has given us insight on many things we were not aware of.”

“I think all grandparents who are raising grandchildren should partake of this program. And any grandparents doing part time help with their grandchildren would benefit.”

Thank you for your comments and we appreciate your attendance.

www.grandparentsraisinggrandchildren.org

Volunteer Opportunities:

Interested in volunteering with GRG of Brevard? Contact Mary Ann Sterling at 321-631-7776 or email: masterling321@aol.com

We are in need of volunteers for fundraising activities, grant writing, office work, and upcoming events.

Need information? Don't know where to go?

Call the Warm-Line! 321-631-7776

Get answers to questions on custody, guardianship, adoption issues, public benefits, legal services, support with groups and other community services. When you call, be prepared to leave a message and contact number.

Brevard Zoo

Through the efforts of a great friend of GRG we have received six passes to the Brevard Zoo. The pass will get 6 people in free of charge. If you are interested you must request the pass and have it back in an allowed amount of time, so that other grandparents can utilize this great gift. Please call the office at 321-631-7776 and leave your name and telephone number to acquire the pass.

http://www.brevardzoo.org/explore_florida.php

We would like to thank the following organizations for their contributions to GRG of Brevard!



And Special Thanks To: MeeMaw's Restaurants, Parrish Senior Solutions & Club Esteem who provide meeting space for our monthly support meetings. Our community partners who work by side with us to create a better world for children and families. Thanks too to our faithful volunteers and donors across the county. Your support is essential to the success and continuation of our organization.

Summer Fun at the Library

There is so much to do at the library and best of all it's free... Brevard County Libraries have over one million, two hundred and fifty thousand books, periodicals and newspapers! Over 18,000 videos and 21,000 sound recordings to check out. There are computers and special programs, story times for younger children, and it can reduce the stress of summertime boredom. Located in each library are special collections for the physically and visually handicapped. For more information about the library:

<http://www.brev.org/index.php>

Did You Know?

A **Power of Attorney**, which is signed by a notary, is not a court or legal document. In order to obtain CUSTODY you must have a document signed by a judge. At this time the Judge who is over the Dependency Court in Brevard County is Judge Crawford. A grandparent does not qualify for Relative Caregiver Funds unless the grandchildren were adjudicated to the grandparents through the Department of Children and Families.

Relative Caregiver Funds are as follows:

- 0-5 years of age \$242.00 per child
- 6-12 years of age \$249.00 per child
- 13-17 years of age \$290.00 per child

You will also qualify for Medicaid, child care and college tuition. You must recertify yearly.

If the grandparents get custody privately they still do not qualify for Relative Caregiver Funds. To receive TANF the child must be related to you.

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

- 1 child \$180.00
- 2 children \$241.00
- 3 children \$303.00
- 4 children \$364.00

The first child receives \$180.00 with each additional child receiving \$61.00 per month. You will be eligible for Medicaid. You may also be eligible for child care if you work 20 hours a week or attend school for 20 hours a week or if you are receiving Medicare you will be able to obtain a doctor's statement of disability to receive child care.

**Help the grandparents and children of GRG of Brevard
Become a Member and/or Friend**

Members of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren of Brevard County, FL, Inc. receive our newsletter and invitations to events where they can meet others in similar.

Name _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**I am raising children who are not my own
I am their:**

- Grandparent
- Aunt / Uncle
- Sister / Brother
- Other (please specify)
- I am not in this situation but I want to join GRG of Brevard because I am interested in what you do.

Annual Membership \$20

Annual Corporate Membership \$500

I want to be a friend of the GRG of Brevard and enclose an additional donation of:

\$100 _____ \$75 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 Other: \$ _____

*Please make your check payable to: **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren of Brevard (GRG of Brevard),**
705 Blake Avenue, Building D, Cocoa, FL 32922*

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren of Brevard County FL, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. All gifts are deductible on corporate, foundation and individual tax returns to the extent provided by state and federal laws.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Of Brevard County, FL, Inc.
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