

CHILD CARE CORNER

NEWS LETTER WINTER 2006

VOL. 3 NO. 5

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
DEPARTMENT OF CHILD CARE

FROM THE CHILD CARE UNIT

- We will no longer have a table out in lobby on the 1st of the month to take payment requests. Payment requests can be dropped off with the receptionist or you can make an appointment to see your child care worker.
- Effective 01/01/07 there will be changes in our Family Fees. Please read any Notice of Action you receive for more information.
- Certificates are **NOT** contracts and **do not guarantee payments**. Parents are only eligible for reimbursement when they are participating in a pre-approved activity such as work, school, job search.
- Handbook Addition:
Unexcused Absent Policy

If a child does not attend their contracted licensed child care for any reason that is not an excused absent reason on our Licensed Absent Policy on pages 49-51 of our handbook, the absent day will be considered an unexcused absence and is NOT reimburseable.

- *If you know someone who has received cash aid / TANF in the last 24 months and needs Child Care services please refer that person to our Child Care Information Line at (209) 558-2332.*

IMPORTANT REMINDERS TO PARENTS & PROVIDERS:

- If you have an **Address Change** you must inform your TANF/FS/MC/WTW StanWorks worker & your Child Care worker immediately to prevent any interruption in services.
- Remember to send in **ALL** check stub COPIES each month.
- Please review paper work for **COMPLETENESS** and **ACCURACY** each month BEFORE submitting payment request(s) to ensure timely payments.
- If a correction needs to be made on ANY of our forms: Cross out, then Initial & Date. **White out is NOT to be used** on any of our forms.

RESOURCE AVAILABLE

ChildCareAware

Child Care Aware is a non-profit initiative committed to helping parents find the best information on locating quality child care and child care resources in their community. They do this by raising visibility for local child care resource and referral agencies nationwide, and by connecting parents with the local agencies best equipped to serve their needs. Please visit their website at www.childcareaware.org or call toll free at (800) 424-2246 for more information.

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Key Facts about Influenza (Flu) Vaccine

► When to Get Vaccinated

October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but you can still get vaccinated in December and later. Flu season can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

► Who should Get Vaccinated

Anyone who wants to reduce their chances of getting the flu. However, it is recommended that certain people should get vaccinated each year. They are either people who are at high risk of having serious flu complications or people who live with or care for those at high risk for serious complications.

► People who should Get Vaccinated each year are *people at high risk for complications from the flu, including:*

- Children ages 6 months up to their 5th birthday.
- Pregnant women.
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions.



Preparation

Preheat the oven according to the package directions. Bring both cans of biscuit dough to room temperature (makes rolling the dough easier). Form each batch of dough into a ball. (Try not to knead the dough too much as it will make it tough.)

On a lightly floured board, roll each ball of dough out flat, about a 1/4 inch thick, into a rectangle. Spread a little margarine and lightly sprinkle some or all of the cinnamon sugar all over the biscuit dough. Top with the raisins Start at one end and roll the filled dough jelly-roll style into a log and pinch to seal the seam. Cut each filled roll into 8 cinnamon rolls and lay them on the cookie sheet.

Brush a little melted margarine on top of each roll. Bake according to dough package directions. After the rolls have cooled, shape them like Christmas trees and put colored plastic wrap over them as a gift or just eat them and enjoy.

Wishing For a Season of Wellbeing

- Dress appropriately before going outdoors. The air temperature does not have to be below freezing for someone to experience cold emergencies such as hypothermia and frostbite.
- Traveling and winter can be a dangerous combination. Allow extra time when traveling. Monitor weather conditions carefully and adhere to travel advisories.
- Never allow anyone who has been drinking alcohol to drive.

"Quality" NOT "Quantity"

These are busy times...especially with the holidays coming. Parents sometimes feel guilty that they can't spend enough time with their children. When quantity is an issue, you may still focus on the quality of the time you spend together. Focused, positive, and supportive time with your children will make the limited time you have a memorable time.

SWEET 'N WARM RECIPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Cinnamon Roll Christmas Tree

Ingredients

Two cans (small size) refrigerator biscuits
cinnamon sugar (add ½ tsp. cinnamon to ¼ cup sugar)
¼ cup margarine (or softened butter)
½ cup raisins or dried cherries (if desired)
¼ cup melted margarine or butter
rolling pin
cookie sheet
non-stick spray



*Hi, I'm your tooth. Can we talk? *



I've been asked to represent the rest of your teeth. We are feeling a bit neglected after all the sweets'n yummys of the holiday season and now we need your help. We like to be clean when you show us off with that big, wide smile of yours.

Did you know we not only help you bite and chew but we also help you to talk? That's right. Try to say "tooth" without letting your tongue touch the back of your teeth. It sounds pretty funny doesn't it? Well to keep us healthy we need to be brushed twice a day, everyday. And not just a quick brushing!

Brush us for at least two to three minutes and use fluoride toothpaste. We like a brush with soft bristles, those hard ones scrape off our enamel. We need to be flossed every day too. If not appropriately cleaned you could lose me or some of my buddies. So, brush away.

INDOOR FUN FOR WINTER BREAK

