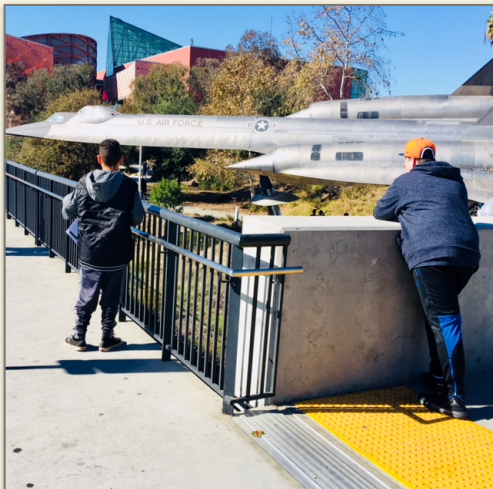


## L.A. Science Center



Last month, our group home boys toured the California Science Center located in Exposition Park, Los Angeles. The Science Center itself was absolutely beautiful, spacious, and well maintained. Admission included access to the permanent exhibits such as the Space Shuttle Endeavor, prominent aircrafts, spacecraft and demonstrations. According to our boys, the main attraction was the Space Shuttle Endeavor. This Space Shuttle is a retired orbiter from NASA's



Space Shuttle program and the fifth and final operational shuttle built. The actual tour was very informative, fun, and educational. It's by all means a great scientific achievement! The narrator and crew did a very impressive job of taking us through ideas about space and astronomy. Overall, this trip was a blast and a wonderful educational experience for our boys.

# Save the Date

Our annual Resource Parent appreciation dinner will be on May 10 at Hodels.

## Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

**April 14, 9:00-11:00AM:** "Supporting Children and Non-Minor Dependents in School" with Bibi Carrasco. RSVP to 661-428-2915

**May 9, 6:00-8:00PM:** "Prudent Parent Standard" with Jessica Mosley. RSVP to 661-396-2357

**May 16, 6:00-8:00PM:** "Managing Aggressive Behavior" with Mark Dominguez.

## Ongoing Trainings

Mark Dominguez will be offering the following trainings on an ongoing basis (participants must RSVP by the Thursday prior to the training to 661-865-2352):

**CPR/1st Aid Recertification** (*for anyone who has previously had CPR/1st Aid training*): First **Monday** of every month from 10:00am-Noon and from 6:00-8:00pm.

**CPR/1st Aid-Initial Course** (*for those who have never had the training before*): First Saturday of February, May, August, and November, 10:00am-3:00pm.

Please Note!

Mark has changed his CPR/1st Aid recertification trainings from the first Thursday of every month to the **first Monday** of every month.

# Save the Date

Our annual Easter event will be held at Skateland on March 24 from 11:00-1:00. Details will be sent in the mail soon.

## Child Birthdays

- April 1: Christopher O.
- April 2: Taylor F.
- April 7: Audrey C.
- April 8: Paloma P.
- April 9: Tayari F.
- April 15: Jay C.
- April 18: Shania E.



## Foster Parent Birthdays

- April 2: Hugo Hernandez
- April 4: Everardo Viramontes
- April 8: Alberto Cortez
- April 13: Neal Call
- April 16: Michael Drummer
- April 19: Ana Perez

## KBYH Staff Birthdays

- April 3: Rick Ramirez
- April 17: Karen Kenney
- April 23: Mike Nieto
- April 30: Jessica Mosley

## KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- Jill Howard: 1 Year
- Steve Kresha: 2 Years
- James Boston: 5 Years
- Jessica Mosley: 15 Years



## Foster Youth of the Month: Mya W., Mariah W. and Shania E.

This month we are happy to recognize Mya, Mariah and Shania as foster youth of the month! Mya, Mariah and Shania all participated in the third annual YES (Youth Empowering Success) conference held at Bakersfield College on February 23, 2018. This event brings together foster youth, their caregivers and community agencies to address barriers foster youth experience and create solutions that will increase their success in school and in becoming young adults. Many local high schools and middle schools have YES groups or clubs on their campuses and Mya, Mariah and Shania are all active in YES at their schools. Mariah and Shania participated in panels where they shared their experiences with YES models on elementary and middle schools and the impact of caring adults in their lives. We admire these youths for their advocacy skills and sharing their experiences. Great job ladies!! A special thanks to Resource Parent Monica Alfaro for attending the conference and supporting Mya and Mariah!

## Resource Parent Spotlight: Everado & Teresa Viramontes

KBYH is proud to recognize Teresa and Evardo Viramontes as March's Resource Parents of the month. The Viramontes, or "Grandma" and "Grandpa", as the children call them, are excellent Resource Parents. The children feel as though they belong in the home. The Viramontes had already raised their own children but felt the desire to become resource parents again. The Viramontes provides each child with a loving and stable environment. Each child receives the unconditional love, nurturing and parenting they need in order to become happy, well-adjusted children. The children are always well dressed and well mannered. The Viramontes take the children on family vacations, camping to the beach, the mountains, lakes and even have season passes to Magic Mountain. The Viramontes are great Resource Parents for teenage boys and Teresa finally has two grade school female siblings that she has wanted for a long time. The Viramontes believe every child should have a chance to succeed in life, especially when life serves them lemons. The Viramontes home is filled with lots of love and the belief that every child deserves a home. Congratulations on a job well done!!

## Social Worker Spotlight: Kati DeWalt

KBYH would like to recognize the work of Kati DeWalt. Kati has worked for the Kern County Department of Human Services for 18 years and has recently served as the liaison between the Department's RFA unit and KBYH. We appreciate Kati's kind spirit and for helping us navigate all the RFA-related changes over the last several months. Kati recently announced that she is retiring from the county and moving on to pursue social work with an FFA. Thank you, Kati, for all you've done and we wish you all the best.



## Safety Notes

### Fire Extinguishers

Kern Bridges staff and group homes recently underwent practical application training on the use of fire extinguishers on an actual fire. It is important for members of the family who are old enough to know how to use fire extinguishers. Remember, when buying fire extinguishers and considering the size or price, you may want to consider how much your life and home are worth.



When purchasing a fire extinguisher, keep the receipt to verify the age of the fire extinguisher. Recently, a fire representative informed me that extinguishers with plastic handles should be changed to metal. Plastic handles have been found to break with age. You may choose to teach members of the family how to use the extinguishers by using an outdated unit.

### Read the Label

The ingredients in each type of fire extinguisher dictate the type of fire it puts out. Every fire extinguisher has a color-coded label that indicates the class of fire for which it is intended. Class A fire extinguishers are used with ordinary combustibles such as wood, paper and cloth. Class B fire extinguishers are used for flammable liquid fuels such as oils, grease, gasoline and paint thinner. Electrical fires require a Class C extinguisher, and Class D extinguishers are meant for combustible metals, such as magnesium. Class K fire extinguishers are used to extinguish cooking combustibles, such as animal and vegetable fats and cooking oils.

### Dry Chemicals

Mono ammonium phosphate is a dry chemical used in Class A, B and C fire extinguishers. It is nonconductive, but corrosive, so it must be cleaned up soon after extinguishing the fire. Sodium bicarbonate is another dry chemical used in fire extinguishers, but is meant for extinguishing B and C fires. It is a nontoxic, noncorrosive dry chemical which requires minimal cleanup. Potassium bicarbonate is a dry chemical used in Class B and C fire extinguishers. It is nonconductive and noncorrosive and, like sodium bicarbonate, is easily cleaned after the fire is extinguished.

-*“Read the Label” and “Dry Chemicals” information taken from*

<http://homeguides.sfgate.com/ingredients-fire-extinguisher-94660.html>