



Fall 2016
CPFA NEWSLETTER

CONCERNED PERSONS FOR ADOPTION

"Every Child Deserves a Family"

A Message from our Presidents



This last year has been another busy one for CPFA! In November of 2015 we offered our yearly conference, co-sponsored by Rutgers, Institute for Families, in the spring hosted our mini-conference for children and parents, led four adoptive book club discussions, had our yearly golf fundraiser, held three social events plus our day at Turtle Back Zoo, not to mention our Annual Holiday party is almost upon us. Many of you may wonder why we are changing our annual "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference from November to April of next year. Once Rutgers became one of the "Big Ten" in football, it became apparent that we just could not book the Busch Student Center on a Saturday during game season. Therefore, we are going to debut our new time of the year starting on April 1st, 2017 with a list of wonderful speakers, workshops and exhibitors. Please mark your calendars for this great state-wide conference! At this time, I would like to thank all the wonderful CPFA Board Members and volunteers for their hard work and dedication! Without them volunteering their time, CPFA just would not be the organization that it is today. The Board's next term began in September with some new members and some members changing responsibilities. With that, I would like to personally introduce Carolyn Bosa, our new Co-President! Carolyn has been very active with CPFA for many years and brings great enthusiasm, experience and humor to the position, which we very much appreciate.

With much gratitude,
Dana Fried
CPFA Co-President (Con't Next Page)

Mark Your Calendar! (see www.cpfanjer.org for details)

Saturday, December 3rd

Annual Holiday Party - 12:00 - 3:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church of Whippany, 494 Route 10 West at Whippany Road, Whippany, NJ

Thursday, January 26th

**CPFA Adoption Book Group - 7:00 - 9:30 pm
For Parents and Kids ages 7-13**

"All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

Meeting held at Panera Bread, 187 Columbia Turnpike, Florham Park, NJ

Saturday, March 4th

Annual Heritage Party - 1:00 - 4:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church of Whippany, 494 Route 10 West at Whippany Road, Whippany, NJ

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 1st

35th Annual Let's Talk Adoption Conference - All Day

Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

See website for details

CPFA – Celebrating 40 Years of Service to the NJ Adoption Community!

New Members & Guests Always Welcome!

Most Programs held at The First Presbyterian Church of Whippany, NJ
494 Route 10 West at Whippany Road,
Whippany, NJ

Directions: From Route 80 take 287 to Route 10 East. Travel approximately two miles on Route 10 East making the first U-Turn after Whippany Road.

Mission Statement

CPFA is a non-profit organization in the State of New Jersey dedicated to the belief that every child deserves a family. CPFA is not an adoption agency, but a volunteer organization working to support those who wish to adopt, and to provide educational and networking resources to those who have adopted.

Visit our website at www.cpfanjer.org

Message from Presidents, Continued

Thank you, Dana. As a proud member of CPFA for over 10 years, I am really excited in my new role as Co-President. I believe strongly in CPFA's mission and commitment to the adoption community. A lot of changes have taken place in those years, primarily how we reach this community. As the coordinator of publicity for several years, I, along with the team, look forward to increasing CPFA's network to reach those audiences who use social media as a primary means of communication. CPFA has a lot of resources, events and networking to offer both pre- and post-adoptive families and we want everyone to have an opportunity for outreach and support to keep CPFA thriving and relevant in this technological age.

In addition to the upcoming social and cultural events, next year the CPFA book discussion group is celebrating its 10th year! This newsletter includes the list of books we will be reading in 2017 and will post on our website the interesting books we have read the last 10 years. 2017 is on its way to becoming an informative and fun year. Thank you for being a part of it.

Yours sincerely,
Carolyn Bosa
CPFA Co-President

Board of Directors

President	Pat Bennett	908-273-5694
Vice President	Anna Marie O'Loughlin	973-492-5921
Treasurer	Pascale Lafontant	732-321-1835
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Pollio	973-659-9772
Secretary	Barbara Podstawski	973-838-1646

Executive Committee Chairpersons

Co-President	Dana Fried	973-285-0956
Co-President	Carolyn Bosa	201-536-7889
Treasurer	Lynn Riker	973-736-7032
Recording Secretary	Angela Calzone	973-568-6491
Book Club Coordinator	Kathleen Walz	973-625-5628
Conference Advisor	Pat Bennett	908-273-5694
Social	Michelle Mulhern	973-586-9669
Newsletter Editor		
Newsletter Circulation	Miriam Frowl	973-293-2621
Mini Conference Coordinator	Wendy Paladini	609-466-3284
Membership	Cindy Mizelle	973-309-1747
Publicity	Carolyn Bosa	201-536-7889
Ways and Means	Hugh O'Neill	908-552-9342

Remember we are all volunteers! Please contact us if you would like to help!



Visit our website at www.cpfan.org
"Like" us on Facebook at Concerned Persons for Adoption- CPFA NJ

OUR 2016-2018 CPFA Board of Directors and Executive Committee Chairs WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS AND THANK THOSE WHO HAVE RETURNED!



From the left to right:

Anna Maria O'Loughlin, Barbara Podstawski, Janet Pollio, Michelle Mulhern, Mike Bennett, Pat Bennett, Pascale Lafontant, Lynn Riker, Stewart Turnbull, Carolyn Bosa, Dana Fried and Wendy Paladini.

Missing: Kathleen Walz, Miriam Frowl, Cindy Mizelle, Hugh O'Neill, Angela Calzone*.

Plus many annual conference volunteers.

*New Committee Chairperson

Social Update

We are pleased that our social events have been well attended this year! On March 12th, approximately 25 people enjoyed lunch and celebrated Russian heritage, while doing crafts and making paper dolls at our annual Heritage Party. In May, several families enjoyed a trip to the Turtle Back Zoo. Spending the day watching the animals, and sharing lunch together was great! Summer brought us our annual summer picnic at Sunrise Lake in Lewis Morris Park, where we hosted approximately 22 parents and children. Everyone enjoyed the socializing, lake, and beach activities. On October 22nd the annual Family Bowling event at Hanover Lanes attracted 25 parents and children, with many dressed in costume. It was an afternoon filled with bowling, food, and fun! Please join us on Saturday, December 3rd from 12:00 – 3:00 pm for our annual Holiday Party! It's always fun for the children when our "guest" arrives! Please bring a dish to share and a wrapped gift for your child valued at about \$15.00. The party will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Whippany, 494 Route 10 West in Whippany. For more information, please visit www.cpfan.org (Calendar of Events tab) or send an email to Michelle Mulhern at themulhernfamily@verizon.net. We hope you can join us!

In 2017 CPFA celebrates its 10th year hosting our Adoption Book Group!

Below are the books selected for 2017:

January 26: "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

April 27: "No Biking in the House Without a Helmet" by Melissa Fay Greene

July 27: "Lucky Girl" by Mei-Ling Hopgood

October 26: "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman

We invite you to join us for some wonderful discussions on the above dates at Panera Bread, 187 Colombia Turnpike, Florham Park, from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Check our website for updates and for weather cancellations. For a complete list of the books read and discussed over the past 10 years, visit the CPFA website at www.cpfan.org.

ADOPTEE'S BIRTHRIGHT ACT—UPDATE

By Pam Hasegawa and Judy Foster of NJCARE

Beginning January 1, 2017, adopted persons who were born in NJ and subsequently adopted, or who were born elsewhere and adopted in NJ, will be able to obtain a copy of their original birth certificate (OBC) upon request to the State Registrar.

The Department of Health (DOH) and Office of Vital Statistics worked on regulations for implementing the Adoptees' Birthright Act, Public Law 2014, c. 9, which was enacted on May 27, 2014.

Currently, birth parents of NJ adoptees may indicate their preference regarding contact with their daughter or son by filing a form with the Office of Vital Statistics. The document of contact preference – whether direct contact, contact through an intermediary whom the parent may name, or no contact at this time – may be filed at any time in the future. A birth parent may change her/his mind at any time by filing a new form reflecting that change, and the adopted person will be notified. A birth parent may request redaction of her or his personal information from the copy of the OBC. Such request must be filed by December 31, 2016 or the opportunity to redact is lost. At any time, a birth parent may rescind the request for redaction and authorize the Registrar to release an unabridged copy of the OBC to the adoptee.

Birth parents filing their preference regarding contact or a request for redaction are strongly encouraged to simultaneously submit a completed family history document (medical, cultural and social history) to the Office of Vital Statistics. Birth parents indicating a preference for no contact will be requested to update the family history information every 10 years until the birth parent reaches age 40 and every five years thereafter. It is important for birth parents to be aware that the court gave many adoptive parents copies of the Order of Adoption ("decree") when the adoption was finalized. These documents contained the names of the child and the birth parent(s). Therefore, identifying information may be available to the adoptee through his or her adoptive parents or by other means.

Adopted persons may now submit their paperwork to request an uncertified copy of their original birth certificate (OBC); however, OBC's will not be sent out until January 2017. To review and download these forms, please visit the NJ Department of Health and Vital Statistics, "New Records System for Birth Parents, Adopted Adults" page at <http://www.nj.gov/health/vital/adoption>. This site includes forms, directions, identification, fee requirements as well as answers to Frequently Asked Questions. Once an adult adoptee submits the request form along with the required fee and proof of identity, it will take four to six weeks to process.

Please note that OBC's for births that occurred prior to November 19, 1940 are available to adult adoptees at any time and do not have to wait until January 2017 to request or obtain their OBC.

To request these forms by mail, call 609-292-4087 extension 582. For more information, visit NJ Coalition for Adoption Reform and Education (NJCARE) at nj-care.org or find NJCARE on Facebook.

Thank You!

Thanks to all our CPFA 2016 Donors!
Your generosity helps us to offer adoption and foster care education and support

Our thanks to Russell Banks, Steve O'Dowd, Joe Devaney for your support. In addition, we thank Vanessa Lomastro / FISERV employees for donating more than \$1,200 so CPFA may purchase gift cards for foster care children during holiday time.

New Jersey's 35th Annual "Let's Talk Adoption"sm Conference

Saturday, April 1, 2017
8:30am – 4:00pm

(7:45-8:30am Registration, Check-in, Breakfast, Exhibits, Book Sales)
Rutgers University, Busch Campus Center
Piscataway, New Jersey

Keynote speaker: Robert O'Connor, MSW
will speak about Transracial and Multi-cultural Issues

Plus over 30 workshops on pre- & post-adoptive issues

Coordinated by Concerned Persons for Adoption
Co-sponsored by the New Jersey Interagency Adoption Council and
Rutgers University School of Social Work: Institute For Families

Early Registration Fee: \$65 per person (\$100/couple)
Walk-in Registration Fee: \$90 per person (\$150/couple)
Student Fee \$30

Continuing Education Hours

NJ & PA Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, NJ Teachers
Maximum 5 CEH Hours
Provided by Rutgers University Office of Continuing Education
\$20 processing fee for Continuing Education Hours/Credits

Are you a parent of a child born overseas?

With November being National Adoption Month, it's a good time to be sure your child/adult adoptee's paperwork is in order including having their:

- Final Adoption Decree
- Birth Certificate
- Current Passport
- Naturalization/ Citizenship papers

The Department of State, Intercountry Adoption site has information on acquiring U.S. Citizenship, the Child Citizenship Act of 2000, as well as information on adoptees that are not qualified under this Act (for adoptions finalized prior to 2000).

Children who were 18 or older on February 27, 2001, did NOT automatically acquire U.S. citizenship under the Child Citizenship Act. In recent years, many adoptees have found that although they were legally adopted and have been U.S. residents for most of their lives, they do not hold U.S. citizenship. Many discovered this as young adults when applying for jobs, registering to vote, applying for a U.S. passport, or, unfortunately, when getting into trouble with the law and facing deportation to a country they no longer call home. The reasons vary, but the fact remains that many adoptees are considered to be foreign-born, non-citizens and do not even know it. For more information visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/adoptionsabroad/en/us-visa-for-your-child/acquiring-us-citizenship-for-your-child.htm>.



Saturday, December 3rd
12:00 - 3:00 pm
Annual Heritage Party
First Presbyterian Church,
Whippany

Free for members/ \$10.00
for non-members. Please bring
a small gift for your child;
we will also be collecting

gift cards/funds for children in foster care. Please visit
www.cpfan.org for details. If you have any questions,
or would like to volunteer, contact Michelle Mulhern at
themulhernfamily@verizon.net.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 1st 2017

**35th Annual "Lets Talk Adoption" Conference:
ALL DAY**

Rutgers University Busch Campus Piscataway, NJ

30 + workshops on adoption, foster and kinship care

Membership & Renewal Form

PLEASE TEAR OFF AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Make Payable to: CPFA

Mail To: Cindy Mizelle
14 Lea Place, Rockaway, NJ 07866

Please Check off the Appropriate Box Below:

- \$25 New/Renewing Membership & Newsletter
- \$45 New/Renewing Membership & Newsletter for 2 years

Social Events Are Free To All Members & Their Families! | Dues are tax-deductable and are paid annually.



CONCERNED PERSONS FOR ADOPTION

P.O. BOX 179
WHIPPANY, NJ 07981

"Every Child Deserves A Family"

**IS IT TIME TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP?**

The expiration date of your
membership is shown on
your address label.

Please remember to renew
your membership on the
back so that you don't
miss any issues.

TO CHANGE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL 973-293-2621 OR CONTACT US THROUGH OUR WEBSITE

Visit our website at www.cpfan.org