



REGIONAL NEWS

Exciting News For Foster Parents of Henry and Charlton Counties!



Henry County

Central West 1 Region

Commissioner Gives Check To Help Foster Kids



Henry County Commissioner, Gary W. Freedmon graciously donated a sum of \$7500.00 to the Department of Family and Children Services to be used towards school expenses for school age Foster Children. When the money was divided up amongst the Henry County children it equalled out to \$50.00 per child to be used for school clothing or other school related necessities. Commissioner Freedmon is a long standing supporter of Foster Care and all of the people involved. Henry County is very thankful to have such wonderful support from its Commissioners.

If you would like to contribute to the Regional News column, please label your entry with the region you are from and send it to: Richard Wampler, Editor • 110 Southern Court • McDonough, GA 30252 E-Mail to: seeker@afpag.org



Charlton County

South East 2 Region

Foster Parents Have Dinner To Honor DFCS



Charlton County Foster Parents gave DFCS a dinner at a local restaurant in August. Everyone enjoyed the lunch and fellowship which was concluded with the giving of a bouquet of flowers to DFCS.

The Foster Parents and DFCS of Charlton put on a successful mini-conference at Mikey's Pizza. Foster Parent Association President Betty Johns and DFCS Social Service Supervisor Brenda Marts organized the event with 7 dynamic speakers to show their level of commitment to long-term child welfare and safety.

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Oh to be able to look through the eyes of a child again!

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. My kids see flowers for Mom and blowing white fluff on which you can make a wish.

When I look at an old drunk and he smiles at me, I see a smelly, dirty person who probably wants money and I look away. My kids see someone smiling at them and they smile back.

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry a tune and don't have much rhythm so I sit self-consciously and listen. My kids feel the beat and move to it. They sing out the words. If they don't know them, they make up their own.

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up my hair and pulling me back when I walk. My kids close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it, until they fall to the ground laughing.

When I pray I say Thee and Thou and grant me this, give me that. My kids say, "Dear God!!! Thanks for my toys and my friends. Please keep the bad dreams away tonight. Sorry, I don't want to go to Heaven yet. I would miss my Mommy and Daddy."

When I see a mud puddle I step around it. I see muddy shoes and clothes and dirty carpets. My kids sit in it. They see dams to build, rivers to cross and worms to play with.

I wonder if we are given kids to teach or to learn from? No wonder God loves the little children!! *Author Unknown*

IF YOU CAN...

If you can start the day without caffeine or pep pills... If you can be cheerful... ignoring aches and pains... If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles... If you can eat the same food everyday and be grateful for it... If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time... If you can overlook when people take things out on you... when through no fault of your own something goes wrong... If you can take criticism and blame without resentment... If you can face the world without lies and deceit... If you can conquer tension without medical help... If you can relax without liquor... If you can sleep without the aid of drugs... If you can truly say that you wake each morning with undying loyalty to everyone you know... If you can find great happiness in the simplest things in life... If you can forgive any action in the blink of an eye... Then... you are almost as good as your dog.



Author Unknown