



From Our Home To Yours

A HAPPY STORY FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wichita Children's Home

-On the Cover-

A Happy Story

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Wish List Needs

Adult size socks & underwear for teens

If you know a victim of abuse or crime who needs help, please contact the Home at 684-6581. We can provide referrals for assistance.

This Christmas just past, a proud mother watched her joyful ten year old daughter romp enthusiastically through a program at school, and remembered her concern when little Emily * came into her home as a foster child.

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She was three months old, but only weighed nine pounds. She had been in and out of the hospital since birth, her parents bringing her to the emergency room with vague complaints, frequently changing hospitals in an effort to avoid suspicion. Both parents were developmentally delayed, able to live independently, but worried about how to care for little Emily.

Emily's mother frequently forgot her little one, and would appear at her parents' house with empty arms. When asked "Where is the baby?" mom would look blank and say "I can't remember." The grandparents would then search for the child, finding her in unlikely places, often left with strangers, many times alone, covered with feces and sometimes with bug bites.

Finally, when mom appeared at the hospital with a crying three month old Emily, the doctor remembered her and was determined to solve the mystery. He ordered a complete body scan and found four broken ribs. The baby was taken into protective custody and was to remain at the hospital until the next day. But when the social worker called the parents to inform them of the change, the outraged father yelled that he was on his way to the hospital with a shotgun and that everyone would be dead. The police were called and the baby girl was taken in the middle of the night to the Wichita Children's Home.

The next morning, a worker arrived at my home with her. Although my first worry then was her physical condition, I soon found that she was desperately afraid of further abuse by her parents. As a foster mom, I worked with the parents in an effort to return the baby to their home. What a trying time! Every time her father came near, the infant would begin screaming. During supervised visits, I had to remain with Emily every minute because of her terror. Eventually social services realized this child would never be able to live with her biological parents, and parental rights were terminated.

We were then asked if we would be interested in adopting her. Wow! What a question! I thought we would never get the chance! So we started the long adoption process. Adoption day was a party day and Emily is now the joy of our lives. Although she is mentally retarded from Shaken Baby Syndrome, Emily is leading a productive life and has many friends. Everyone in her school knows her and loves her. The terror she once felt is gone, and she is a curly-haired bundle of energy, with boundless enthusiasm for life.

*Name changed

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If you would consider sharing your home and love with a child in need, please contact WCH Foster Care Program Manager Cindy Holcomb, 684-**6581, ext 255 for information about licensing, training, and financial reimbursement.** Many children and teens fare better in family foster homes, and the need for caring foster parents is never-ending.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THESE DATES!

Saturday, April 29, 2006
Child Abuse Prevention Event
in Wranglers' Park

Thursday, May 11, 2006
Dinner With Golf Pro
Woody Austin

Monday, May 15, 2006
23rd Annual "Fore The Kids"
Golf Tournament
*For Sponsorship &
Registration Information*
316-684-6581 #241
www.wch.org

Please consider a gift to the
Wichita Children's Home.

We Welcome
Your Questions
Or Comments
About Our
Newsletter

Please Call
316-684-6581
Ext. 241



Guardian Angels




 Our friends at UPS made this Christmas most memorable for our Phase I Independent Living residents. Employees at UPS were challenged to light up an entire Christmas tree by adopting a child from our Independent Living Program. A light was lit for every child adopted and in no time the entire tree was glowing. The employees showered the children with gifts and made this the best Christmas yet for many of the teens.

Our Phase II Independent Living teenage residents, struggling to live on their own at such a young age, were not forgotten this Christmas thanks to the efforts of Marvin Mackay and employees of the Full Scale Structural Test Lab at Wichita State University. Marvin and his team provided these young adults with bicycles to get to work, vacuum cleaners, microwaves for their apartments, and electronics for their entertainment.

 The children had a wonderful time with area Allstate Insurance agents who gathered to host a Christmas party which included a chance to open a piñata filled with candy and a visit from Santa who brought gift cards for each child.



 Our friends from Eastside Rotary hosted their yearly Christmas party providing a morning of crafts, food and fun. Children mastered the skill of making gingerbread houses, decorating cookies as quickly as they could eat them and making gifts for family and friends. The morning was concluded with gourmet pizza courtesy of Yia Yia's Eurobistro.

Honors & Memorials

Gifts donated between November 1 and December 31, 2005.

HONOR GIFTS

From November 1 and December 31, 2005

Aiko Allen
Nye and Associates
Cheryl Alley
Heather Emry
Mr. and Mrs. Larry K. Arbuckle
Atlantic Services Employees
General Distributors Employees
Steven Bailey
Atlantic Services Employees
Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Barkett, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Regan
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Behrent
Mr. and Mrs. Dwain Nusbaum
R. L. Britt
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Salter
David Bumpurs
Nye and Associates
Barb Campbell
Heather Emry
Mr. and Mrs. George G. Carnahan
Dr. and Mrs. John R. Carnahan
Dr. and Mrs. John R. Carnahan
Mr. and Mrs. George G. Carnahan
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Timberlake
Darlene Cornett
Vicki L. Faber
Susan Couch
Dawn Heady
Kelby Deterding
Julie H. Deterding
Greg Emerson
Heather Emry
Jay Emery
Heather Emry
Mr. and Mrs. Don Enoch
Karen A. Penner-Wedel
Wadiha Farhood
Mr. and Mrs. William Farris
Bill Farris
Blanche A. Pearce
Dr. Donald Farris
Mr. and Mrs. William Farris
Julia Francisco
Nye and Associates
David Garretson
Nye and Associates
Jean K. Garvey
Garvey Kansas Foundation
Dawson Grimsley
Steamatic Carpet Cleaners
Elard Harden
Mr. and Mrs. Darrel G. Roland
Terri Hall
Heather Emry
Ken Hayes
Donna L. Travis
Shana Hill
Nye and Associates
Robert B. Hughey
Wendy E. Clemons
Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Hughey
IOTA XI
Evelyn A. Chirinos
Johnny Johnson
Derby Bus Drivers Association
Juvenile Court CINC Division
Evelyn A. Chirinos
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard H. Koster, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Davis
Dean Lott
Nye and Associates
Skip Madsen
Heather Emry
Mr. and Mrs. Drew M. McEwen
Mr. and Mrs. Owen C. McEwen
Mr. and Mrs. Owen C. McEwen
Mr. and Mrs. Drew M. McEwen
Nancy McEwen
Steve McKinney
Nye and Associates
Mid-Kansas Pediatric Physicians
Debra A. Binkley
Cheryn Gillespie
Debra L. Morris
Kim J. Pouch
Earlyn Scott
Stacy L. Short
Kelley J. Smith
Kimberly Steventon
Signee A. Walker
Kristia Wells
Debbie Miller
Nye and Associates
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Morrow
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Salter
Therese Munley
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Munley
Maxine Pullman
Terry Pullman
Diane J. Rath
Jennifer Woods
Risa D. Rehmert
Dr. Johnnie Bruner
Mr. and Mrs. Roland D. Reimer
Karen A. Penner-Wedel
Bill Rinehart
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Salter
Sarah Robinson
Karen Coup
Barbara G. Salter
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Salter
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Salter
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Salter
Mr. and Mrs. Kyle H. Stuart
Mr. and Mrs. Jon H. Cramer
Maggie Thompson
Nye and Associates

MEMORIAL GIFTS

From November 1 and December 31, 2005

Stephanie Brant
Mr. and Mrs. David Brant
Layna Plummer
Danny A. Chapman
Danny G. Chapman
Mary Christiansen
Superior Fence and Supply Co. Inc.
Robert Clark
Marvaline J. Ray
Maurice Edwards, Jr.
Nicole D. Jones, R.N.
Chandler L. Fortner
Cathlynn E. Purvis
Matt Gamm
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis D. LaGree
James L. Garver
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth G. Garver

Robert E. Lipp
Pete and Louise Morris and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Rank
Carol Lipp Strauss
Lynda G. Wonn
Rebecca "Becky" Green
Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Bartak
Glenda Crouch
Patricia M. Dengler
Mr. and Mrs. Gary D. Eppler
Les and Mary Gould
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Green
Rosanna S. Green
Dr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Hoss
Dr. and Mrs. John E. Littler
Mr. William G. and Dr. Debra L. Messamore
Mr. and Mrs. Don I. Norton
Mr. and Mrs. Rod Richey
Carol Lipp Strauss
Helen Swinton
Vess Oil Corporation
Dr. and Mrs. Whitney L. VinZant
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Worsing, Jr.
Berdean Isham
Christine C. Bastian
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Kelley
June Jabara
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Ayesh
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Brewster
Mr. and Mrs. Merlin R. Bullard
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burger
Doctors Howell and Loehr
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Fields
Mr. and Mrs. Warren L. Knop
Mr. and Mrs. James V. McKinsey
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Powell
Mr. and Mrs. Larry E. Sherrill
Margaret Jones
Mary and Kenneth Cornwall
Mary Katharine Lipp
Robert E. Lipp
Carol Lipp Strauss
Lynda G. Wonn
F. Ross Little
Sallie J. Norton
Timothy McClard
Mr. and Mrs. Bert J. McClard
Margaret J. McKinney
Janet S. Black
Aaron Melhorn
Dr. Mary C. Boyce
Judge Robert L. Morrison
Donna Morrison
The Reed Family
Derby Bus Drivers Association
Maggie Rice
Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Bullard
Molly Sophia Schmidt
Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Antonelli
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Aspenson
Associated Advertising
Melissa Attebury
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin A. Bailey, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Barragree
Joan E. Barrier
Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Bartak
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Bennett
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Beren
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Bergh
Sherri D. Bowlby
Mr. and Mrs. Perry Bridges

E. Ann Coffey
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Corrigan
Diana R. Crook
Documents on Demand Services
M. J. Edwards III
Mr. and Mrs. Claudio Ferraro
Mr. and Mrs. George Fulghum
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Girrens, Jr.
Gorges and Company
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gragert
Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hagan
Darlyn R. Hagen
Mr. and Mrs. Keith L. Harper
Mr. and Mrs. Greg A. Harpool
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Harter
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Helmer
Mr. and Mrs. Deril E. Hosford
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey F. Hund
Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Jacobs
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Jones
Tom Kennalley
Dr. and Mrs. George H. Khoury
Mr. and Mrs. Rober B. Lashley
Ruth Ann Lay
Pauline Martin
Rosemary Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. McGrath
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Meitzner
Mr. and Mrs. Todd A. Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley J. O'Brien
Barbara Orsak
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick E. O'Shaughnessy
Park Elementary School
Amanda Pfister
Christopher J. Pierpont
Carleeta M. Price
Dulce Rios
Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Robertson II
Mr. and Mrs. Chris S. Rott
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Schaefer
Nancy L. Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. Ivan P. Schmidt
Phyllis R. Shahin
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth F. Smith
Mrs. Lee A. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin H. Snyder
Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Somes
Mr. and Mrs. David Stalker
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Stalker
Jon Steffens
Don and Dave Waller Families
Ellen M. Walters
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Watenpaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Tom V. West
Melissa M. Whalen
Wilson Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Lee H. Woodard
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Wright
Xact Duplicating Services
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Zongker
Dean and Fern Swan
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Frazier
Ella Mae Wilder
Vincent Geraci
Wanda Summers

From Our Heart to Yours

We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of children needing a safety zone. We cared for 439 more children in 2005 than in 2004, an increase of 21%. Thank you for your commitment to these youngsters. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to each person who so generously gave of his or her time, talent and treasure during this holiday season. Because of you, each child who came through our doors received the best care possible at a time when their life situations were oftentimes unbearable.



Kids Helping Kids

Since we are in the business of making a difference in the lives of children and youth, it is especially meaningful to us when young people give of themselves to help others.



Sam, Dan and Joe Brazelle enjoyed playing Santa Claus by delivering toys and popcorn for our children.



Zane Killebrew and his cousin Conner brought new hats and gloves for Christmas to keep our children warm this winter season.

For the second year, Sarah Nabi saved a portion of her weekly allowance and donated it to the Home as her Christmas gift to our children. Sharing her commitment to youth, Sarah also volunteered at the Home during the holiday season, wrapping Christmas gifts to be opened on Christmas morning.



WICHITA
Children's Home

810 North Holyoke
Wichita, Kansas 67208

Return Service Requested



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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