

Open Doors

Vol. 28, No. 3 THE PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE HIGHLANDS, INC.

Fall 2003

OPPORTUNITIES GIVEN — HONORS EARNED

Over the history of this great country, when special individuals have been challenged, they have taken on the challenges and succeeded.

Residents and staff during the Summer of 2003 at the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands can really appreciate that statement. Beginning with the end-of-school Honors Banquet and proceeding through the summer with all its activities, the young people of PCHH have met the challenges and earned top honors.

One of the goals of this ministry is to provide the kinds of opportunities that stimulate efforts and let it perform its magic. Something magical does happen when preparation meets opportunity. Add one pinch of attitude and the results can pleasantly surprise everyone.



At the 2002-2003 Annual School Awards Ceremony, Billy Rice presented Justin the top honor, The Citizenship Award, for showing respect for other people, displaying character that produces trustworthiness, and demonstrating over-all outstanding citizenship.



The Summer of 2003 has been a very good year for successful off-campus employment. Amber and four of her friends from the Home work at Hardee's. Hard work and a positive attitude are great assets in the world of work. Congratulations workers!

The Children's Homes Summer Olympics provided chances to meet other young people in similar circumstances and to compete for fun and honors.



The campus is well-equipped to provide opportunities for summer fun. The Cain Ropes Course is used for team building as well as confidence building. Activities such as these not only produce confidence and team building but are great fun.



Billy Rice
Executive Director

As you look through this edition of Open Doors you will find articles and pictures recounting the varied activities our children are involved in. During the summer we try to maintain a healthy balance between work and fun. We hope the lessons they learn are ones they can take with them when they leave us for the “real world”, so we try to make their experiences as realistic as possible.

A prime example of this approach is our six students who held down their first jobs this summer. Since we want them to have a successful experience, we make sure they are well trained before we send them out into the community. Our students must complete our vocational training program before they can apply for a job. They receive training in work ethics, interviewing, money management and other skills that are essential to be a good employee.

They also have the opportunity to work on our campus so they can practice these skills. It is important that the community see our residents as well trained and dependable.

We were able to combine fun and a great learning experience when seven of our youngsters participated in the Children’s Homes Olympics (known as the H’Olympics) in Springfield, Missouri.

The H’Olympics bring together children from all across the country to participate in athletic and cultural

events and to meet children who have experiences similar to their own. Our children and the four staff that accompanied them had a wonderful time.

The children returned with a host of medals and new friends that they can correspond with for years to come. Their sightseeing included a trip to the top of the arch in St. Louis. It is safe to say we provided these children with an experience they will never forget!

The cover of this issue tells about our first annual awards banquet, which we held on June 5. I have been in this business for twenty-six years, and I have always loved the award ceremonies we hold for our children. To see their faces as we celebrate their accomplishments, both large and small, is a true reward for everyone involved in our mission.

I really believe that events like these help our children understand that they have the opportunity to succeed, no matter what they have experienced in their past. As a supporter of the Children’s Home, you are part of that success story. I hope you will celebrate with me as you read the stories and see the pictures of success we feature in this newsletter.

Billy



The 2003 Hope For Children Homes Tour in Northern Virginia was a big success again this year. Our many thanks to the wonderful friends who opened their homes for this fundraiser and especially to Nancy Schroeder and her team for making it happen.

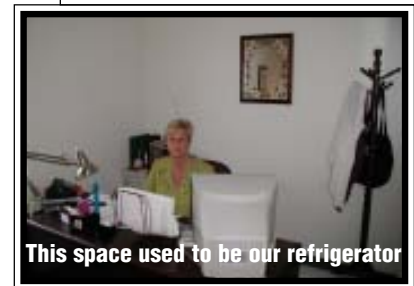
Renovations Are Complete Would you believe...



This space used to be our dishwasher



This space used to be our freezer



This space used to be our refrigerator

Open Doors

PRESBYTERIAN

CHILDREN’S HOME

of THE HIGHLANDS, INC.

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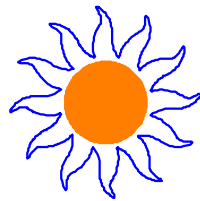
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*Moderator ** Vice-Moderator

The mission of this Home is to give children hope and purpose for the future.

This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations. A financial statement is available for the asking.

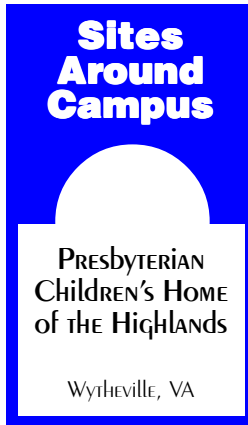
SUMMERTIME — GREAT FUN & HARD WORK



Special thanks to Thomas Spaulding for many of the photos in this issue.



Registration during Alumni Day helps keep mailing lists up to date. All alumni should call the Home with new addresses.



Evening Supervisor Scott Hammond plays the role of "Pawpaw" many times to girls and boys.



CURRENT NEEDS

- FOUR SETS OF HORSESHOES
- SOFTBALL GLOVES, BATS & BALLS
- SPONSORS FOR BASKETBALL UNIFORMS
- SPONSORS FOR HOME OLYMPICS
- QUILTS FOR WALL HANGINGS

(CALL FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION)

Thank you for helping with our needs list. It sure helps keep our expenses down.

This summer has produced a bumper crop of weeds and undergrowth with so much rain.



As the old saying goes, "You can pick on me but not my little brother!"

Our Home Olympic Team had a very successful trip. They won several medals and ribbons in addition to having tons of fun.



Learning to keep your eye on the ball is an important part in many of life's experiences. Larry does a great job!



Travel experiences are a bonus on trips such as the Home Olympics. Recognize this location?

It's amazing how teenagers can catch "20-winks" on 12-passenger vans with little effort.

