



Open Doors

Volume 36, No. 3 Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Inc. (PCHH)
Third Quarter 2011

THE FURNITURE PROJECT: SUCCESS ON EVERY LEVEL



Webb Cottage has a new look and feel... the boys are enjoying the new cushions, mini-blinds, and comforters. As one resident put it, "It's nice to come home to a relaxing, comfortable place."



Buchanan Cottage is now a bright, airy cottage that exudes a warm, inviting place where the girls can let their hair down or entertain guests on visitation day.

Many, many thanks to all the people who helped with our recent Furniture Project. The sponsors acknowledgements are being installed in the hallway beside each room and we invite you to come see what a difference the new furniture has made in the everyday lives of our children.

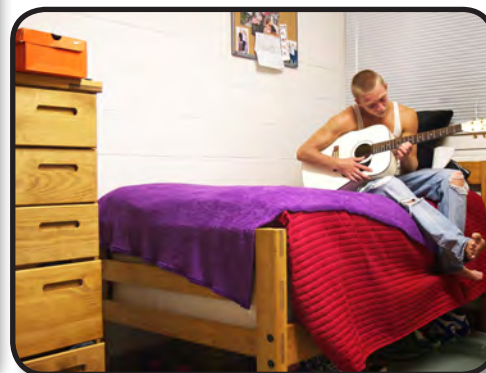
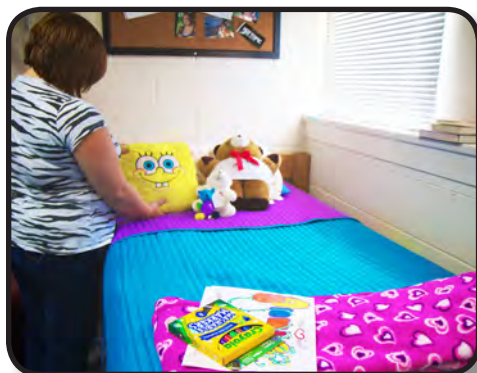
Each cottage was involved from the beginning in choosing designs, styles, and colors. It has been delightful to watch as each cottage has taken ownership in their "fresh" environment.

Although privacy rules and regulations may hinder us from displaying

all the faces of our residents, you can rest assured that smiles are not easily won but when they are, it's a special thing. One of our Webb Cottage boys commented, "Wow, this place looks good! Can we throw a party?"

Rhonda Hounshell, Case Worker for Buchanan, was impressed how readily the girls pitched in to clean the building from top to bottom. Rhonda commented, "It's great to see the sudden interest the girls have in their home. They are excited!"

Come see what you've helped achieve... you've made a difference in this home for years to come.





Billy Rice
Executive Director

time, was a father figure to the children and had an everlasting impact on their lives. I had the opportunity to spend some time with him at the 2006 Alumni Day celebration and his love and devotion to our ministry and the children he served was quite evident. We will miss him greatly, and will strive to honor his memory through the work of the ministry he helped to build.

Billy

**Thank You
For Remembering
Us In Your
Estate Planning**

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

[HTTP://PCHH.ORG](http://pchh.org)

SEARCH FACEBOOK FOR US TOO.

I am always amazed at the response of our supporters when we have a special need. When a fire ravaged Gilmer Cottage in 2003, we were overwhelmed by the love and support we received as we went through the rebuilding process.

Our latest special need was not that serious, but nonetheless very important. After many years of use and numerous repairs, it was time to replace our children's beds and chest of drawers. We asked for your help at the end last year, and the response was immediate. Donations from church groups and individuals allowed us to not only purchase 20 new beds and chest of drawers, but also new cushions for the cottage living rooms. The children and staff are very excited and grateful. The transformation was amazing, but don't take my word for it – stop by and see for yourself! We would love to show you in person how you have impacted our children's lives.

I want to take a minute to brag on our staff. We just completed our licensing renewal process and we received a three-year license, which is the maximum time granted by the state. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and I hope you are as proud of the accomplishment as we are.

Our ministry is mourning the loss of the Rev. Don Buchanan, who served as the Executive Director of the Children's Home from 1961 to 1967. "Pop", as he was known to children who lived here during that

Open Doors

**Giving Children
Hope & Purpose
for the Future**

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This agency complies with all state and federal non-profit fundraising regulations. A financial statement is available for the asking. Open Doors is an educational publication produced in-house periodically to provide insights about PCHH.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Billy Rice

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Winter Sidewalk Safety

It's hard to imagine 20 degree weather with ice and snow being a problem as hot and humid as the summer has been, but winter will soon be upon us with many irritating discomforts.

We can increase safety for people using our many sidewalks on campus and leverage our available manpower by utilizing an ATV with a snow blade to clear and clean our sidewalks. Our solitary maintenance man is very efficient but he needs some help clearing sidewalks. We need a gently used or new ATV big enough to handle a snow blade before the harsh reality of winter sets in.

If you or your group would like to sponsor such a need or would like to contribute towards the project, please let us know. We're anticipating another snowy winter and we sure could use some help with this.

The pick-up truck and snow plow that was asked for and given last winter is working fine and doing a good job on the roads. An ATV will help us solve the problems of winter safety on our sidewalks.

Bikes

Bikes are one of those things that mean much more when it's yours and you're responsible for its care and upkeep. We've issued many bikes over the years and when a child leaves the Home, we allow the child to take his/her treasure with them when they go. Our supply is dwindling down to a very few and we can use more. If you would like to donate girls/boys youth sized bike(s), call us.

Snow Sleds

We could also use some snow sleds. Our residents love to play in the snow.

DIRECTOR, FRIEND, FAMILY... DON BUCHANAN PASSES



This picture was taken during the 2006 PCHH Alumni Gathering. Don and Margaret Buchanan pose with their daughter Margaret Anne.

The Reverend Donald G. Buchanan died August 17, 2011 at his home in Ladera Ranch, California. Rev. Buchanan, known to our children as “Pop”, made such a positive impact on the lives of the children he served.

Pop served as Director at the Children’s Home from 1961 to 1967 during which time the Home moved from Foster Falls to Wytheville. During his administration the Home made great strides in increasing its financial base of operation and increasing the number of children served. His contributions to this ministry were recognized by placing his name on one of our cottages. Buchanan Cottage is a daily reminder to us all of his love, dedication, and commitment to this ministry.

Peggy Duncan, one of the residents served during his administration commented: “I loved “Pop” like a father. He and his wife Margaret “Mom” loved us like we were their own. Even though they had three children of their own, Donald, Jr., Margaret Anne and Andy, they bonded us all together to feel like we were one happy family.”



Don’s warmth and genuine love of people was felt by young and old... and appreciated by all.

Peggy continued, “When Mom and Pop visited the area, he made a point to see as many of the former residents as possible. The last Alumni Gathering at the Children’s Home that he attended brought back so many of the former residents, which made him so happy. I always looked forward to his visits and phone calls. He will definitely be missed!”

Anyone wishing to send a card to the Buchanan family can send it to: 1 McGwire Road #278, Ladera Ranch, California 92694. Please remember this family in your thoughts and prayers.

NEW DAWN SOCIETY

The PCHH New Dawn Society is a unique concept that is literally changing the fiscal foundation of the Home.

The New Dawn Society is quite simply a collection of individuals who have remembered this ministry in their estate planning. They have left directives as to what and how they want to give. Some give cash, others stocks or bonds, yet others life insurance policies or real estate.

They are making a difference in the long-term fiscal future of this ministry. We honor each individual with his/her name, hometown, and year being engraved on a leaf of our giving tree that is located in our board room.

Two of our latest inductees are Sharon Phillips, our Program Director, and Rev. Brad Simpson, Minister of Wytheville Presbyterian Church.

Ms. Phillips said she joined because she had seen what a difference this ministry can make in the lives of children.

Rev. Simpson has been an advocate of this ministry since coming to Wytheville volunteering many hours preparing and delivering chapel services, speaking at special occasions, as well as spending quality time with our children. He has no hesitation in telling anyone how he feels about the ministry. Rev. Simpson commented, “My experience with PCHH has been a blessing. I want to help any way I can.”



SUMMERTIME: A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL



GIVING CHILDREN HOPE & PURPOSE FOR THE FUTURE



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