

## The Children Who Wait

# Kim Gives Light and Love

The little girl playing with the puppy is "adorable" in the words of the folks who are trying to find a home for her that will give her the love and security she, like all The Children Who Wait, needs and deserves.

Her name is Kim, and she is featured in The CAP Book, the extraordinary photo listing of hard to place children issued by the Council of Adoptive Parents (CAP).

Kim's description reads:

"Kim is a petite, 10-year-old girl born with Down's Syndrome. She is an adorable, affectionate character, who loves to be photographed. At the BOCES school she attends, she is at the top of the trainable class. She relates equally well to her peers and adults. Her foster home contains several children, both older and younger and she thrives in this atmosphere."

"There are no physical problems. She is toilet trained both day and night and enjoys her meals with the family."

"She would make any home light up with her charm and has a great deal of love to offer a permanent family."

Children are considered hard to place for a variety of reasons. Some have mental, physical and/or emotional problems, some are older. The age range for The Children Who Wait runs from



KIM

infancy through early teens. Some children are from a minority race and some are racially mixed. Some are siblings who should not be separated.

The one thing they all have in common is the need for an adoptive family.

In years past there was a great emphasis on placing healthy infants in adoptive homes. Today however, a special drive is underway to find loving and secure homes for children like Kim.

Persons considering adoption of to roll up my hair on the electric curlers.

When none of those distractions produced a column idea I found the box of dried lima beans in the back of the cupboard, removed some ham hocks I'd been hoarding in the freezer and began tonight's supper knowing full well that the pressure cooker could do the entire job late this afternoon in plenty of time for the evening meal.

In between all these machinations I went to the basement to check the peanut butter supply (non-existent), called the weather number twice for the temperature, reread a letter from my grandmother and drank the umpteenth cup of coffee, now muddy and miserable.

There also was time to dig out the kindergarten's tote bag after the weekend respite, pull a few yellowing leaves off the ivy geranium, make an appointment to have the car inspected and resolve to clear the dining room table of everything but the pads by the time my husband is due home from work.

And finally sat down at the typewriter and wrote these paragraphs about not being able to write which I guess is a comment on something or other.

In the meantime the bean soup is beginning to send tantalizing aromas throughout the downstairs, my hair is crimped enough to go to the store and lay in a supply of the kids' (and mine) favorite sandwich filling and there are enough clothes ready to fold to get me through the afternoon TV shows.

So much for the muse.

The Children Who Wait should know of the dramatic change in adoptive patterns in recent years. Today both couples with large families and singles are taking these children into their homes.

Children are being placed across religious and racial lines. Financial subsidies are available to ease the burden of adoption. The basic requirement is a loving, caring environment that can meet the needs of the children.

For general information about adoption, the following agencies should be contacted:

Catholic Family Center, 546-7220; Monroe County Department of Social Services, 442-4000; Northaven, Inc., 266-4320; the Council of Adoptive Parents (CAP), 288-7989.

For further information about Kim THE CAP BOOK should be contacted at 436-5070.

## Education to Be Topic for Widowed Parents

The Catholic Widowed Parents Club will meet at 8:30 p.m., April 2, at St. Theodore's Church, 168 Spencerport Road, Justine Yates from the Department of Sociology at Monroe Community College will be the speaker.

The topic will be Continuing Education for Mature Adults, covering opportunities for those who wish to pursue a certain line of studies new to them, to resume an interrupted program, or to delve into enriching subjects.

A social hour will follow the meeting.

## Science Center Sets Course on Teens and Genes

William Chamberlain, a science teacher at St. John the Evangelist School in Greece will lead a new human biology course offering called Teens and Genes in the spring program at the Rochester Museum & Science Center's School of Science & Man.

Directed toward area youth ages 11-13, Teens and Genes is an action-oriented inquiry into the basic principles of heredity. Chamberlain will pose such questions as "Why do we look like we do?" "Where did we come from?" and "Why are humans alike in many ways, yet so different that no two look exactly the same?"

Registration for Teens and Genes is open to the public. The course meets at the RMSC for six Saturdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m., beginning April 24. Tuition is \$15.

For a free brochure describing courses in detail, call the RMSC School of Science & Man at 271-4320, ext. 37.

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## ALL IN THE FAMILY



Sarah Child

Every once in a while somebody asks the question: "But how do you come up with a different column idea every week?"

I once answered smugly that it was the mark of a professional to sit down and produce copy whether or not the muse struck. Actually it's not quite that easy and while there was a time when I produced seven columns a week (on another subject) for a daily paper, the truth is that when I'm lucky and have an idea the column writes itself and when I don't there is an inordinate amount of hedging, procrastinating and general gnashing of teeth.

Take this morning for example. I have sat down at the typewriter four times, inserted paper three times and removed it twice.

In between although I regularly put aside this morning of the week for writing I emptied the crisper of last week's Baldwins to make room for this week's and started peeling and coring for applesauce.

Two loads of clothes have been put through the washer and dryer cycle since I first pulled myself up to the typewriter and I've managed

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