

Jane Likes Singing

Jane is among The Children Who Wait, for whom the Council of Adoptive Parents (CAP) would like to find a home.

"Jane is 7-1/2 years old. She is slender with brown hair and eyes and medium brown complexion.

"Jane is slow in development and functions as a retarded child. Her potential may be up to borderline intelligence [I.Q. 75]. Diagnostic tests do not show reasons for Jane's slow development and her functioning as retarded. She thrives in a routine with firmness, to maintain independence in self-grooming skills, playing with children, etc.

"Jane has had the benefit of a single foster home since her birth. She is happy and secure with her home and school. New situations are difficult for Jane and she needs warmth, patience and encouragement.

"Jane especially likes singing, swimming, riding her bike and being with people she knows well."

CAP is an organization which published a photo-listing of more than 200 children who are hard to place. The above quotation is from that listing.

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 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



JANE

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 Jane.

Persons considering adoption of 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., 266-4330; the Council of Adoptive Parents (CAP), 288-7989.

NEWCOMERS NIGHT

The Parish Life Committee of Holy Ghost Church in Gates is sponsoring the annual Newcomers Night Monday May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the school hall. Leaders of many parish organizations will be on hand to explain their various activities. The Holy Ghost folk group will perform and refreshments will be served. Further information may be obtained from Sylvia Morgan, 594-9884, or Robbie Statt, 594-9592.



Barb Ralston, (left) Jim Ralston, and Ron McKenna, plan St. Christopher's Community Fun Fest and Garage Sale.

Parish Plans Summer Fete

North Chili — Plans are in the making for St. Christopher's Parish annual Fun Fest and Garage Sale. According to Father Raymond Booth, the event will be held Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31 on the church grounds.

Committee members Barbara and Jim Ralston are planning to assemble enough items to make the garage sale one of the largest in Monroe County.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Sarah Child

Some random thoughts, none of them related

* The New York Times tongue-in-cheek columnist Russell Baker recently took on the zero population movement and described the joys of having uncles galore. He had nine or ten, I think. Each brought something different to his life even the one regarded as the family wastrel. It was this particular uncle who dealt in falsehoods (of the big fish variety) which neither he nor anyone else took seriously. Yet his fantasies enriched the young child's life and may even have contributed to his own ability to see the ludicrous in the seemingly serious side of life.

As one of an ever increasing family, I must concur with the belief that to be a member of an expanding circle is to be rich, rich, rich. True it can be confining and, yes, we have had our differences, our arguments, our shouting matches.

But to belong to such a family is a little like being one piece of a patchwork quilt. Each is different in size, shape, each cut from his or her own particular fabric and yet

together we form an overall sustaining pattern that has a certain strength, comfort and definite beauty.

* My Gram sent me an Easter gift several weeks ago which I heartily recommend to those who like to see things happen rapidly. When I first unpacked the Amaryllis there was the merest green shoot barely visible above the soil. In the last couple of weeks it has shot to 19 inches with the kids measuring its daily growth with a yardstick.

* When does something classify as a piece of art? Is it the little painting of a wicker basket of eggs which we bought recently at a local art show? Or the scrap cloth pictures and clay bowl and flower holders the kids made at school and are displayed throughout the house? Or is it the colored two-page chart showing 15 varieties of apples grown in New York State with cigarette advertising under it which I found in an old copy of New York magazine and affixed to the pantry door. No matter. They are all part and parcel of the furnishings and make for an ambiance uniquely our own.

* The paper girl who delivers the area pennysaver has just looped the plastic bag it comes in around the front door and I am anticipating a good read during lunch. Later generations will later learn a great deal about our life styles by reading our classified ads. It's one of my favorite parts of any newspaper and incidentally if you haven't browsed through the Courier-Journal classified section recently you're in for a surprise. Like Topsy, it's grown.

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