



What a Child Needs to Succeed

Vinton County Juvenile Court Judge Robert Grillo's speech, at the Foster Care Awareness ceremony on May 15th, focused on what children need to be successful.

In his speech, Judge Grillo focused on the need for caring adults in children's lives. "We are fortunate to have many fine foster homes...that do what I like to refer to as 'God's Work' with these chil-

dren who are not their own. They give children...love, a family...and teach them to value an education, and restore hope."

He also spoke of the importance of respite care, to reach the ultimate goal of permanency. "When relatives aren't available, we use respite care until family situations can be resolved."

The judge also shared a poem by Nicolas Gordon, titled "Thank You for Loving Us":

*Thank you for loving us,
Having us in.
All you have given
We now hold within.
Kids out in limbo
You made your own,
Or else we might still be
Unloved and alone.*

Notes from the Director



Opportunity: *n. pl.*, a favorable juncture of circumstances; a chance for progress or advancement.

When we think of opportunities, we often think of situations that appear from the sky...designed perfectly, just for us—opportunities to pursue life-long dreams, to travel to far-away places, or to ex-

plore further education. And most often, we look for just the right time.

That's not what opportunity is, at all. Thomas Edison said, "opportunity is missed by most people because its dressed in overalls and looks like work.." Swindoll said, "We are all faced with a series of great opportunities, brilliantly

disguised as impossible situations."

I ask everyone to join me in congratulating Sojourners 2009 high school graduates, who faced impossible situations, and dared to achieve, and achieve greatly. Congratulations!

Steve

Year-End Achievements

Mary Haggy graduated from Meigs High School on May 22, 2009.

Kayleigh Stockmaster graduated from Westfall High School on May 31, 2009. Congratulations to both of you!!

Calendar

- *Foster Care Training*, "Educational Advocacy," June 11, 6-9 p.m.; June 12, 9 a.m. to noon. Both sessions will meet in the Sojourners Classroom.
- *Chinese auction*, June 13, 1-3 p.m., Logan Hocking Community Center, 1593 E. Front Street, Logan. Call Barb at 740-385-4322 for information.
- *Food Bank*, June 15, 11:00—3:00
- *Summer Foster Family Picnic*, June 21, all day, at Lake Alma's Birchbottom Shelter. Potluck lunch at 1:00.
- *Sojo's Celebration of Success*, June 26, 1-3 p.m., Wyman Park in McArthur.

Father's Day Picnic

You're invited to the Sojo Summer Foster Family Picnic. Let's celebrate Father's Day with fun and sun on June 21.

Things to Do...

...include hiking, swimming, canoeing, fishing, playground, and horse-shoes

Location is...

...Lake Alma, just north of Wellston off of SR 93. We'll be in the Birchbottom Shelter across the road from the lake.

We'll Eat...

...at 1:00—it will be potluck, so bring something tasty. Sojo will supply lemonade and iced tea.

All Day...

We have rented the picnic shelter from sunrise to sunset, so feel free to use it as a home base—someone will be there from 9:00 until 5:00 to watch your stuff.



Caring for Kids in Care

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Shelia | 464-1411 | General Questions |
| Steve | 418-1072 | Director, Foster Care |
| Lisa | 357-0143 | Placement/Respite |
| Barb | 418-0250 | Licensing/Training |
| Joy | 591-6279 | Recruitment |
| Liz | 596-1117 | Operations |
| Sojourners Fax Number: 739-4357 | | |

All numbers are in area code 740.

Please call Joy with questions about the newsletter—or to submit news or recipes.

SHINING STARS!



- * B.C. and M.L. each won a gold medal at the Special Olympics at University of Rio Grande. You are true champions.
- * C.T. went to prom—and he looked goooooood. He's mainstreaming in all regular classes next year. Good job.
- * W.O. is going to day camp and sleep-away camp this summer. Have fun!

Call Joy (591-6279) to report good news about the young people in your care.

Training News

- Training catalogs are on their way—expect yours to arrive soon. Call Barb with any questions about training or to book a session.
- June Training: “Educational Advocacy: Helping Your Foster Child Be Successful at School,” presented by Brian Lowery. The training will be offered twice, on these dates:
 - Session 1:** Thursday, June 11, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in the Sojourners classroom
 - Session 2:** Friday, June 12, 9:00 a.m. to noon, in the Sojourners classroom.

Remember to plan ahead to make arrangements for childcare.



Spares and Strikes

The foster care staff recently had a retreat to discuss goals and plans, and then for some fun in Chillicothe to do the real work of the day—bowling. When Steve showed up with his own ball, shoes, and bowling towel, it was easy to guess the day's outcome! However, others also took a moment to shine. BJ was a superstar in game 1. Joy managed to never come in last (she was second-to-last twice). Liz showed championship form on her new knee. Shayla had a beautiful style, but nothing like Russ's overhead delivery. Barb played a brave game of tendinitis vs. bowling ball. Lisa bowled well and cheered us all on. Shelia was great—especially when she remembered it was her turn next! We recommend bowling as a great stress reliever.



Sojourners' Celebration of Success, June 26, 2009

You'll be hearing more about this event as the month moves on—we will be honoring Age Up and ECOT graduates, as well as those who graduated from community high schools. We'll recognize many other accomplishments of Sojourners participants, too. Friday, June 26, 2009, Wyman Park in McArthur, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Put it on your calendar!

Free Summer Movies!

Thanks to foster mom Mary Ann for providing this list of free movies, sponsored by Jackson County Broadcasting and Tri-City Theatre. Movies are shown every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Admission is FREE for everyone! Tri-City is in Jackson just south of the intersection of US 32 and SR 93 (before you get to Wal-Mart). Call 740-286-1997 for more information. All movies are rated G. Here's the schedule:

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|---------|----------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| June 9 | Horton Hears a Who! | July 14 | Journey to the Center of the Earth |
| June 16 | Nim's Island | July 21 | Tale of Despereaux |
| June 23 | Kung Fu Panda | July 28 | Hotel for Dogs |
| June 30 | Kit Kittredge: All-American Girl | Aug 4 | Paul Blart, Mall Cop |
| July 7 | Madagascar 2 | Aug 11 | Space Chimps |

Shelia's Corner

Summer Chicken Marinade

Ingredients:

- 2 cans 7-Up or Sprite
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon teriyaki sauce
- 1 small onion, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt and pepper

Mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Put in chicken pieces and coat well. Cover the bowl with the chicken in it and place in the refrigerator for three hours. Remove from refrigerator and put chicken pieces directly on the grill. Serve with corn on the cob and a salad.