

Adoption Loving Word

To the average person, the word "adoption" awakens visions of a happy young couple eagerly reaching out to a beautiful little baby. This is a very real aspect of adoption. The other side of the coin—the birth parents who choose adoption for their child—is not so widely understood.

"People sometimes seem to equate adoption with desertion," said Ruth McCracken, Executive Director of The Child's Home Society, a statewide adoption agency. "This is unfortunate, because the birth parents we work with spend much time and do a lot of soul searching before deciding on adoption.

Adoption is not giving a baby away, but making a plan for his life."

Last year The Children's Home Society, a United Way agency, worked with 161 birth parents who decided on adoption for their babies. They ranged in age from 12-years-old to 40, but most were in their teens.

"I don't think people realize how much love can be involved when a birth parent releases a child for adoption," said Miss McCracken. She mentioned one recent case as an example.

A young, unmarried mother had decided on adoption before her baby was born. The baby was born premature, and he had

to stay in the hospital for several weeks. This young mother felt that her baby needed her. She visited him everyday that he was in the hospital.

"The young mother fed him and held him whenever possible," said Ruth McCracken. "She poured out her love to him, yet she remained committed to adoption. This young mother gave her baby everything she had to give when he needed her the most. Then she gave him something more by asking us to place him with a mature, two parent family."

Miss McCracken added that the young girl is now finishing her education. The baby is growing up in a secure and stable home.

The Children's Home Society offers counseling to young people facing a problem pregnancy. Adoption is not the only option that is considered. When the expectant parents decide on adoption, it is usually the culmination of a long process of weighing the options. The decision to adopt must be made by the birth parents. No one else can make this decision for them.

North Carolina law states that the birth parents must sign a consent to adoption before the baby may be placed in an adoptive home. After the consents are signed, the birth parents have 30 days during which time they can consider their decision. During this 30-day waiting period, The Children's Home Society cares for the baby in a family care home in the Greensboro area. There the babies receive medical care and much love during the weeks before they are adopted. As soon as a baby is legally freed and medically cleared by his doctor, the agency places him in his permanent home.

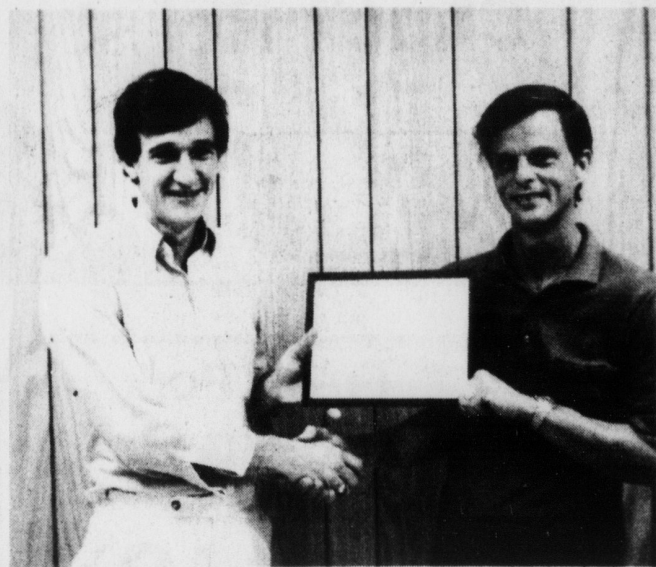
"Often the birth parents have concerns or ideas about the kind of home they want their child to have," said Miss McCracken. She added that their desires are considered when a home is chosen for the baby.

The law does not allow birth parents and adoptive parents to

know one another, but The Children's Home Society shares some general information with the birth parents after the baby has been placed in his adoptive home.

Miss McCracken mentioned that some of the agency's volunteers have had bumper stickers printed that say, "Adoption is a Loving Word."

She added, "I hope that when people see that phrase, they will think not only of the adoptive parents, but also of the birth parents who planned for their child with love."



WINS AWARD—Pictured is Gene Hardin (right), employee of Spectrum Fibers, Inc. in the Color Development Department, receiving his Five Year Service Award. Presenting the award is Keith Morrow, Color Development Supervisor.

Christmas In August Party Honors Visitor

Mrs. Madge Arrowood entertained at her home Friday evening with a "Christmas in August" party honoring her sister, Mrs. E.J. Acquistapace of San Jose, Calif., who was in Kings Mountain visiting Mrs. Arrowood and other relatives.

Mrs. Acquistapace wore a green polyester dinner dress. Green napkins were used on the refreshment plates. Homemade cookies and red punch were served. Donna Arrowood assisted Mrs. Arrowood in serving.

Christmas gift packages were presented to Mrs. Acquistapace, who opened and displayed them. Gifts were also presented to Mr. and Mrs. B.H. Hardin, who observed birthdays August 6 and 7, respectively.

Attending the party, in addition to Mrs. Acquistapace, were Mr. and Mrs. Hardin from Patterson Springs; the hostess and grandchildren; Mrs. H.L. Conley of Shelby, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Kee of Lattimore, Mrs. Doris Moore of Blacksburg and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anthony of Pompano

Beach, Fla.

Other recent guests in the Arrowood home were Mr. and Mrs. John Brookie and daughter, Miss Kelli Brookie; and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kee, all of Lattimore.

Mrs. Doris Moore, Mrs. Madge Arrowood and Donna Arrowood accompanied Mrs. Acquistapace to Douglas Airport in Charlotte Sunday, where she left on United Airlines for a trip back to her California home.

This was Mrs. Acquistapace's first visit to North Carolina since the 1960's. She was honored at a number of other parties while here.

Mrs. Arrowood and grandchildren, and Miss Lana Arrowood, attended a party in Lattimore July 30 honoring Mrs. Acquistapace and Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Kee, who were celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary. The party was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Brookie. Miss Kelli Brookie baked the cake and Jeff Arrowood made pictures.

ONE HOUR
"MARTINIZING"
THE MOST IN DRY CLEANING

MONDAY-TUESDAY SPECIALS

★ **SPECIAL**
Men's or Ladies' 2 piece
SUITS OR DRESSES
2 for \$4.49

Must be picked up same week for SPECIAL

Laundered crips, bright folded or on hangers

SHIRTS 5 for \$1.89

★ **SPECIAL**
Trousers, plain skirts or sweaters

Mix or Match **ANY 3 for \$3.49**

Must be picked up same week for SPECIAL

KitchenAid

See the New Energy Saver V

\$499

Installation Available
KDC-20

Compare Dishwashers!

Compare Low end KitchenAid (KDC-20) features against the best models of competition's dishwashers

- Multi-level wash with chinaguard (patented)
- Three layer porcelain interior. 10-yr. limited warranty (unlike plastic, fireproof) (Exclusive!)
- Stainless steel self-cleaning filter and softwaste disposer (Exclusive!)
- Flo-thru, forced heated air drying (safe for plastics & fine china) Energy-Saver option
- ½-h.p. motor with five-year limited warranty
- Automatically heats its own water to approximately 150°
- Rated #1 in washability by independent tests
- Requires only 120°F incoming water temperature (Competition requires 140°-160°F incoming water therefore wasting energy 24 hrs. a day every day.) (Exclusive!)
- Drain valve (Prevents backflow of sewer water) (Exclusive!)
- Built by Hobart—World's oldest and largest manufacturers of dishwashing equipment (over 100 years experience in dishwasher manufacturing)
- Sanicycle—Approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- Multi-pack Panels . . . Black, White, Almond, Harvest, and Trim-Kit included
- Low Energy Wash (Only 8½ gallons of water used.) COMPARE Competition.

Golden Value Days

Gibson Golden Edition Laundry

\$369
\$259

Washer Model WA1805DL
Dryer Models DE 0618A5DL
Contemporary styling outside, heavy-duty construction inside for an economical, efficient laundry team!

GOFORTH PLUMBING

108 York Road—Phone 739-4736

Introducing the Independence Rehabilitation Loan.

The perfect tool for fixing up an existing home.

Independence National Bank is pleased to announce that we're now an authorized lender for Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), or Fannie Mae Rehabilitation Loans.

These conventional fixed rate mortgages are now available to people who wish to purchase or refinance existing homes and rehabilitate them.

Who may apply?

You may apply for one of these mortgages if you already own a one-to-four family dwelling and wish to rehabilitate it. Or, if you desire to purchase a dwelling and rehabilitate it.

What type of property?

Only existing one-to-four family residential properties in need of rehabilitation are eligible for consideration. New or proposed properties are not eligible.

In addition, the property must be located in Gaston, Cleveland or Rutherford County.

What size mortgage?

For single family homes, the size of the loan can range from 75% to 90% of the appraised value of the property after restoration. The maximum amount is \$98,500.

Does one loan cover all costs?

Yes. A single long term mortgage covers both the purchase or refinancing cost, as well as the rehabilitation costs.

What is the repayment period or term?

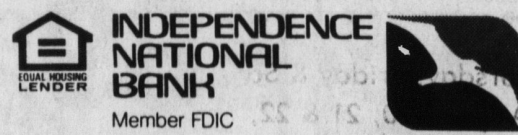
There is no minimum term. The maximum term for owner-occupied properties is 30 years. For tenant-occupied properties, the maximum term is 20 years.

What is the interest rate?

The interest rate on these loans is based on the current FNMA market yield for conventional mortgages. The current rate varies, but would be fixed after your home purchase is completed.

To apply for one of these mortgages, or for further information, contact the Mortgage Loan Department of Independence National Bank. In Gastonia, call (704) 866-6527. In Shelby, call (704) 482-4321.

The Independence Rehabilitation Loan. If you want to fix up an existing home, it could be your most valuable tool.



PROFESSIONAL BANKERS YOU CAN DEPEND ON