

REGION



TOURISM BUSINESS LETS PEOPLE TEST-DRIVE CAREERS

Vintner enrolls his wineries in VocationVacations program.

BUSINESS » B10



GENERATION GAP IS GENTLER

Things different 40 years after Woodstock.

CULTURE » B2



RECYCLED JEANS SET RECORD

33,088 pairs collected at Union Station.

WASHINGTON » B4

ADOPTION » GIRLY GIRL LIKES PETS AND PIZZA



DAVE ELLIS / THE FREE LANCE-STAR

Dajah has been in the foster-care system for two of her eight years, but would love to have a family adopt her.

Family could help rising third-grader

BY AMY FLOWERS UMBLE
THE FREE LANCE-STAR

Dajah's ideal family would take her to Chuck E. Cheese's and buy her lip gloss.

She loves eating pizza, playing games and getting prizes.

And she loves lip gloss—especially Hannah Montana lip gloss.

This girly 8-year-old likes to have her nails painted in different colors; green and pink are the best combination. A good pedicure with the perfect flip-flops goes a long way, she said.

But Dajah also loves walking in the woods, playing with animals and cleaning the house.

She recently volunteered with the SPCA in Richmond, where she lives with her foster family.

"I got to hold three kittens at once," she said, beaming.

When Dajah grows up, she'd like to

WANT TO ADOPT?

Interested in adopting Dajah or any other foster children waiting? Contact Kristy Taylor at the Children's Home Society of Virginia at 804/353-0191, ext. 17.

work at the SPCA.

For now, she enjoys school, especially math. She made the honor roll last year but is a little worried about the coming year, when she'll learn multiplication and cursive writing.

"It's going to be even harder in third grade," she said.

Dajah has been in foster care for almost two years, and would love to find a permanent family, especially one with pets.

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ABOUT THE SERIES

On any given day, 1,600 Virginia children are seeking an adoptive family. The Free Lance-Star joined with the Children's Home Society of Virginia, a private adoption agency offering foster-care services, to spotlight some of these children. To protect their identities, only first names are used.

The newspaper will periodically feature a Virginia child available for adoption.

ON THE NET

■ chsva.org or adoptuskids.org