

The Free Lance-Star

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THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2009

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ADOPTION » GIRL DREAMS OF BEING A NURSE

Teen seeks family support

BY AMY FLOWERS UMBLE
THE FREE LANCE-STAR

For 13-year-old Rebecca, nothing beats a Friendly's lunch topped off with an M&M sundae.

But it would be even sweeter if she sat in the restaurant booth with a family.

Rebecca has been in foster care in the Richmond area since last year and wishes she had a family that would not only treat her to Friendly's, but also give her "a nice home that I can sleep in."

Wearing embroidered jeans with a flowered top and bright pink purse, Rebecca modeled her caseworker's sunglasses and said being a foster child is "boring."

A budding fashionista, the seventh-grader loves to match her purses to her clothes and fingernail polish.

Though she loves clothes, Rebecca wants to wear scrubs when she grows up. For as long as she can remember, the teen

WANT TO ADOPT?

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

has wanted to be a nurse.

She loves to play the piano, ride horses and draw. She especially likes to sketch horses.

Rebecca does well in school and loves to help her teachers. Her favorite subject is math.

She likes to eat healthy but has a sweet tooth. She balances the treats with running in the evenings.

Rebecca said she thinks a family would adopt her "because I am smart, kind and loveable."

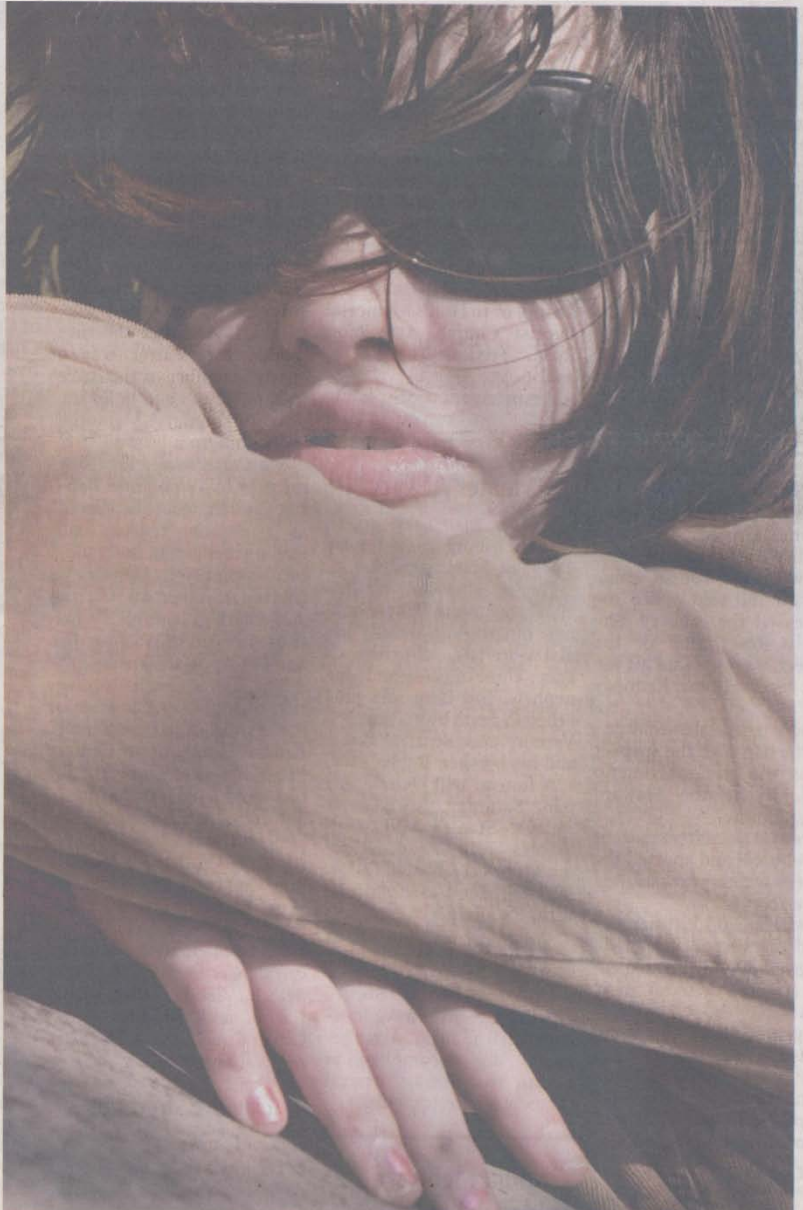
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ABOUT THE SERIES

On any given day, 1,600 Virginia children seek 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. First names are used, but no last names are published to protect their identities.

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



DAVE ELLIS / THE FREE LANCE-STAR

Rebecca models her caseworker's sunglasses. She's been in foster care since last year.