



Weather: Fair 70°

[Home](#)
[News](#)
[School Zone](#)
[Sustainable Life](#)
[Columnists](#)
[Opinions](#)
[Obituaries](#)
[Outdoors](#)
[Sports](#)
[A&E](#)
[Nonprofits](#)
[Calendar](#)
[Directory](#)
[Online Store](#)
[Jobs](#)



Noozhawk Newsletter Your email address

BRIEFS » LOCAL KIDS FIND 'FOREVER FAMILIES' DURING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

Local Kids Find 'Forever Families' During National Adoption Month

By LAUREN BURLESON | Posted on 11/13/2008

[EMAIL](#)
[PRINT FRIENDLY](#)
[COMMENT](#)

At 1:30 p.m. Nov. 20, local children who are dependents of the court will legally be adopted by their foster families at the Santa Barbara County Juvenile Court in Santa Maria according to Julie Nicola, Court Clerk. The afternoon will be devoted to this as well as the celebration of other recently finalized adoptions as the judge performs a martial-like ceremony uniting the children with their newfound forever families with a celebratory reception to follow.

The Nattell family of Santa Maria will be in attendance as they celebrate the addition of their two new family members. After trying for years to have a child of their own, Becky and Michael Nattell decided to become foster parents with the Family Care Network in 2005.



The day their first foster son entered the Nattells home, Becky found out she was pregnant. Having a big family was always a dream of the Nattells, so they happily adopted their first foster child and plan to adopt two more Nov. 20. When asked why she chose to adopt, Becky said, "There are so many [kids] that need a mom and dad that don't have one, it just made sense to me. I wanted to have one biological child of my own, but after that, having kids was my goal ... I didn't care

where they came from."

Becky said their initial research into the adoption process through adoption agencies proved to be costly and complicated, so they turned to the Family Care Network. "When I looked into [foster care], everything fell into place perfectly," she said. The Nattells now have two daughters, two sons and a foster son.

Becky says adopting children from foster care is rewarding because foster children appreciate so many of the things others take for granted, such as family outings, time with Dad and being able to show off their new family through school projects.

The Nattells have watched their children transition from uncertainty to security.

City Ordinance Committee Denies Plan to Crack Down on RV Parking

Rob Kuznia, Noozhawk Staff Writer

Women's Economic Ventures Selected as Partner for Maria Shriver Program

Marjorie Wass

Goleta Planners Put Out Welcome Mat for Camino Real Hotel

Sonia Fernandez, Noozhawk Staff Writer

Plight of the Poor Hits Close to Home in Santa Barbara

Rob Kuznia, Noozhawk Staff Writer

UCSB's Ocean Road Housing Project Draws Criticism

Sonia Fernandez, Noozhawk Staff Writer

Clay Nelson Life Balance: Are You Voting for a Better Future?

Clay Nelson, Life Balance

Goleta Planning Commission Takes Up Camino Real Hotel

Sonia Fernandez, Noozhawk Staff Writer

Beachfront Montecito Home

View beach house now for sale in Montecito near the Biltmore Hotel
www.MontecitoBeachfrontVilla.com

Santa Barbara Attorney

Stephen E. Penner, Esq. Practicing locally over 30 years!
www.attorneypenner.com

Mason Beach Inn

Special Discount Rates year-round! Steps to beaches, downtown, harbor.

www.masonbeachinn.com

Santa Barbara Ca Car

Find Great Offers on Chrysler® Vehicles at a Local Dealer Online
ChryslerDealer.com/CaliforniaDealer

"[Our foster son] had been through 14 foster homes before ours and used to go to his room and pack his stuff and say, 'It's time for me to go.' He went through stages of testing me by acting out every month, then every two [months]. When we knew we could officially adopt him and explained to him that he wasn't going anywhere, [this behavior] just kind of went away."

There is an overwhelming need in Santa Barbara County for individuals and families to affect the life of a child by becoming foster parents. Foster parents can be married or single, work full-time or stay at home, have children of their own or not. Excellent tax-exempt monetary compensation is provided to meet the needs of the child and family.

Foster parents serving Santa Barbara County are available for interviews, as are various other staff members with the Family Care Network. To learn more, click here or call the Family Care Network at 805.781.3535.

Lauren Burleson is public relations and event coordinator for Family Care Network Inc.

Post a Comment

Name:

[CONTACT NOOZHAWK](#) · [TERMS OF USE](#) · [PRIVACY POLICY](#)
[NOOZHAWK STORE](#) · [SITE MAP](#)

© MALAMUTE VENTURES LLC 2007-2008. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED