

ZOe Pediatrics

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"Your Child Doesn't Have to be Sick to Get Better!"

Happy Saint Valentine's Day

Stephanie H. Kong, MD

In the middle of the February, in the middle of winter comes the most romantic day of the year. While it may not be a national holiday, it is much anticipated and celebrated in most countries of the world.

The Saint was imprisoned for promoting love and marriages for soldiers during the Roman Empire. While in prison, he also performed a "miracle" by healing the daughter of his guard and just before his execution, wrote her a letter of farewell and signed it: "Your Valentine". During the middle ages, it evolved into a celebration when lovers were encouraged to write love songs, poems and letters to their special somebody accompanied with flowers and/or candy. As women were already a gift to their men, this is a one way event when only men are required to do something special for their significant other or love interest. I believe "Hallmark" was responsible for the cupid, the red color and the heart shaped greeting cards.

How the heart became so intimately associated with love and heart ache is a mystery. The heart is not responsible for any of these feelings. They are but some of the many tasks of our brain. The heart is merely a pump that feed and delivers oxygen and nutrients to the cells of our body. It does this job 70 times per minute, 24 hours per day, and 365 days per year for our entire lives and never taking a break. I could go on, but I don't have the heart for it!

In any case, it is one of the fun holidays, so enjoy cutting out hearts (the ones made from paper) with your children, sending cards and hopefully Cupid will shoot an arrow straight to the object of your affection. Most of all, say: "I love you" with feeling to the important people in your life.

Our Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt

All of our patients who are up to date on their "Well Child" checks will receive two free tickets to the Rock Ranch for their **Annual Easter Egg Extravaganza** on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. 40,000 prize eggs will be yours for the taking. Tickets will be distributed during March and up to the event. This promises to be a grand time. Five hundred of you went to our Halloween Festival compliments of ZOe and told us how much you enjoyed it. This is our way of sharing the love. Zoe sponsored guests should gather on the hill in front of the stage at 2:15.

FEEDBACK:

There has never been a more caring doctor when it comes to kids. Dr. Kong, along with her staff make sure her kids are ok and well behaved and she shows great support to parents. She offers guidance on how to deal with them in creative ways. I love her for that. Thank you, Dr.Kong!
~Phyllis Kina~

Insurance we accept

Aetna
Amerigroup-Medicaid
Blue Cross Blue Shield (PPO, POS, HMO)
Cigna
Coventry
Georgia Medicaid
NoviNet
Peachstate-Medicaid
Secure Health (URMC employees only)
Starcare
SuperMed
Tricare (Standard ONLY)
United Healthcare
Wellcare- Medicaid
Peach Care For kids
and Self Pay Patients are Welcome!



Call For An Appointment!!!

Adopting children in Georgia *Charlaya Campbell, M.D.*

Recently, the aunt of a patient asked how she could adopt her sister's children while her sister is serving a long prison sentence and the children's grandmother could just not handle the responsibility. I am offering some general guidance to those of you who are in similar situations. As I am just a concerned citizen, please consult a lawyer for your particular situation.

The State of Georgia offers a straightforward process for adoption by relatives whether by a grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, or a sister/ brother related either by blood or by marriage. To adopt a child, you must have lived in Georgia for at least 6 months, and be at least twenty five years old and ten years older than the child to be adopted. You merely file a "Petition for Adoption" in the Superior Court in the county where you live or where the child is living. The child will have to agree to the adoption if he or she is over 14 years old. If you are married, you must both agree and demonstrate that you have the wherewithal to support the children. The judge will send someone to your home to make sure the statements in your petition are true, and conduct criminal background checks for the parties on the petition. Interestingly, while desirable, biological parents do not have to consent to the adoption. The judge can make a judgment regarding what is in the best interest of the child. After the "Petition for Adoption" is filed, a hearing date will be set in which a judge will make a decree (decision), or not, to support your petition.

Please note that adoptive parents may not offer anything of value to induce the biological parents to give up their child. Under 18 U.S. Code 2251A (Selling and Buying of Children), even an offer to purchase a child is punishable by imprisonment.

"I wish every kid felt loved and valued so there would be no need for a Valentine's Day."

~B. Wayne Kong~

Children with learning disabilities *Theresa Shornack, CNP*



Learning problems do not come about suddenly. Typically, parents are inclined to overlook the signs, and believe they will go away. It usually doesn't. Early identification and intervention of learning disabilities are the keys to assure that your children become all they can be. ZOe Peds is grounded on the premise that "children do not have to be sick to get better."

We highly encourage parents to faithfully bring in their children for their well child visits to assure them the best opportunity for early identification and intervention. Through a cooperative and supportive partnership between special students, informed and involved families, a responsive school system and ZOe Pediatrics, we can more effectively serve the needs of the 5,000 children in Middle Georgia who are eligible for special education services. The best gifts you can give your children are good health and a good education and the cornerstone for these gifts are their well child visits.

If your child is not meeting his developmental milestones such as taking first steps, crawling and walking, have difficulty communicating his needs, learning more slowly than other children of the same age, earning poor grades, has difficulty handling his bottle or a spoon and slow to toilet training as well as does not seem to hear, see, walk, or talk appropriately, please share your observations with your Pediatrician.

While some children and teenagers resist school, it should be no news to you that American society value education not only as a way to advance our personal ambitions but to advance our country's agenda. Educated and enlightened citizens are our best guarantee against tyranny and a host of other bad things that beset countries that keep their people ignorant. If we are committed to keeping our nation strong, no one should be left behind. We now have effective strategies and technologies designed to ensure educational success for all children.

Finally, what is the difference between a waitress and a lawyer? The answer is: one generation! In these United States, a lawyer's child can become a waitress and the daughter of a waitress can become a lawyer. Isn't America great?