

February 2002

Happy Happenings

39th Edition

Hello all. Landon is getting close to walking. He stands up by things and takes one or two steps before going down and crawling. It's funny to watch him because he's usually so focused on whatever it is he's moving toward that he doesn't even seem to think about what his feet are doing! He just has his eye on where he's going, takes a step or two, goes down to his knees and crawls the rest of the way!

Thayne started going to a new preschool. He really like his other one and had more kids there that he knew, but Kelly didn't feel like he was learning much. She switched him to another one and feels it will be better.

Tanner will be starting piano lessons today (1/25/02). Hopefully he'll take to that and enjoy it. He will also be starting basketball pretty soon. For his age Roy City does a short basketball season to let the kids get exposed to it.

Cason will also be taking piano lessons. He's been playing basketball for a few weeks and is having fun with that. He entered the science fair with "The Great Popcorn Experiment!" He counted out a bunch of piles of 200 popcorn kernels and put some in the freezer, fridge and some at room temperatures. Then he popped them all and kept track of which ones popped better and bigger. He concluded that the fridge was the best place to keep your popcorn. It didn't really seem to pop any bigger, but had fewer un-popped kernels. He was awarded 3rd place for his project. The judges said that his project was really age appropriate and that he did a really good job explaining the whole thing to them. Good job Cason!

Some of you know my friend Gabriel from Chile. He's been living in Provo for quite a few years now. This last week he got married in the Mt. Timpanogas temple. Lisa and Laura helped take care of our kids so we could go to the ceremony. I got there and found out that I was one of the witnesses! That night they had a 4 hour

long reception. We thought that was way too long, but it's actually kind of short compared to how they often do them down in Chile. It's a lot more than just a couple of hours where you go through and congratulate the newlyweds. They do more stuff and have a lot of dancing time. It was funny because I went out and danced some with Kelly while holding Landon. I saw Cason kind of dancing around on the side and tried to get him to go out with Kelly, but he didn't want to. She ended up taking him out and he danced for a while with her. Later on Tanner and Thayne both went out and danced with her. I think Thayne was the funniest - he just kept going and going, turning around in circles and all!

We're trying to have one on one time with the kids. We try to have one of us parents take out one of the kids once a week. Last night I took Cason out. We didn't do anything spectacular, but we had a lot of fun. We went to Petco and looked at the fish, birds and rodents. The mice were funny in their little exercise things. One or two would be in there, sometimes running together, sometimes going opposite ways and keeping each other from going anywhere. Every once in a while a third one would jump in and start going. Whichever side the 3rd one took would make the mouse on the other side go all the way around the thing! After that we went to Toys R Us and played the X-Box and Playstation 2. Now we think we need to get both of them! We went to Baskin Robbins and had banana splits to finish off the night. It was fun to get out one on one. Hopefully this will help our relationships with our kids.

Hope everyone is well. Lawson, Kelly, Cason, Tanner, Thayne and Landon.

Other than being sick, sick, sick, we are all fine. Brittney started piano lessons at the first of the year and is doing great. Todd is reading *Where the Red Fern Grows* to the family. We are almost half-way through it and it's something we all enjoy doing together. We played Disney Monopoly at Todd's parents' house for days and days and Brittney decided she really wanted to buy it. She got Hannah in on it, too, so they get a sticker for certain jobs they do, then get 50 cents for 10 stickers. They have almost earned enough for the game and tithing. I wish it would last longer because the girls sure have been cooperative and helpful. Aubrey gets cuter and funner every day. She says a couple of new words most days and keeps us all happy and entertained. We love you all and hope you're well. **THE COONS**

Here is the Christmas gift list for this summer:

Giver	Receiver	Giver	Receiver	Giver	Receiver
Tiffany	Brianna	Ondylyn	Baby S.	Larry & Jill	Loreen & Todd
Heather	Landon	Zachary	Cason	Lisa & Steve	Lana & Aaron
Katelyn	Jancy	Cason	Jeff	Leslie & Greg	Larry & Jill
Christie	Aubrey	Tanner	Jeremy	Laura & Greg	Lisa & Steve
Jared	Ondylyn	Thayne	Rich	Lawson & Kelly	Leslie & Greg
Jenny	Amy	Landon	Anthony	Loreen & Todd	Laura & Greg
Cory	Katelyn	Brittney	Jaxon	Lana & Aaron	Lawson & Kelly
Rich	Heather	Hannah	Zachary		
Amy	Tiffany	Aubrey	Thayne		
Brianna	Amberly	Jaxon	Cory		
Jeff	Tanner	Jancy	Brittney		
Jeremy	Christie	Amberly	Jenny		
Anthony	Jared	Baby S.	Hannah		



THINGS I'VE LEARNED FROM MY CHILDREN... HONEST AND NO KIDDING (from a mother in Austin, Texas):

1. If you spray hair spray on dust bunnies and run over them with roller blades, they can ignite.
2. A 3 year old's voice is louder than 200 adults in a crowded restaurant.
3. If you hook a dog leash over a ceiling fan, the motor is not strong enough to rotate a 42 pound boy wearing Batman underwear and a superman cape. It is strong enough, however, if tied to a paint can, to spread paint on all four walls of a 20 by 20 foot room.
4. You should not throw baseballs up when the ceiling fan is on. When using the ceiling fan as a bat, you have to throw the ball up a few times before you get a hit. A ceiling fan can hit a baseball a long way.
5. The glass in windows (even double pane) doesn't stop a baseball hit by a ceiling fan.
6. When you hear the toilet flush and the words "Uh-oh," it's already too late.
7. A six year old can start a fire with a flint rock even though a 36-year-old man says they can only do it in the movies. A magnifying glass can start a fire even on an overcast day.
8. Certain LEGOs will pass through the digestive tract of a four year old.
9. Play Dough and Microwave should never be used in the same sentence.
10. No matter how much Jell-O you put in a swimming pool you still can't walk on water.
11. Pool filters do not like Jell-O.
12. Garbage bags do not make good parachutes.
13. Marbles in gas tanks make lots of noise when driving.
14. Always look in the oven before you turn it on. Plastic toys do not like ovens.
15. The fire department in Austin, TX has a 5 minute response time.

Happy Happenings

39th Edition Addendum (For the Late Ones)

February 4, 2002

FLASH: Exclusive Pictures of the Burnett/White Family Olympic Team!

By now the whole world knows that the Olympics Games are coming to Salt Lake City Utah!

What they don't know is that Happy Happenings got a big scoop. Yes, we were allowed an exclusive interview and photo shoot with some of the hopefuls—The Burnett/White Family Team!

We happened on them in the middle of a rigorous practice session December 29, 2001. (They want to get an early start!) They were practicing in a most peculiar place—a golf course in Ogden! Some were more involved than others but they all seemed to be having a great time.

The choice of events and equipment took lots of deliberation, consultation, and most important, plain ole GUTS!



A not-so-candid picture after a hard work-out



While interviewing them it was discovered that their ace(s) in the hole are five sparkling athletes from Mesa Arizona. Now, while these players are more accustomed to basketball, golf and swimming, they certainly show promise at the "scrunched-up-face belly slide". Don't you think?



We have high hopes for the Arizona Contingent: Larry, Jill, Tiffany, Heather and Katelyn!

Family Olympic Team Pictures continued

Other athletes include our own local Burnetts: Lawson, Kelly, Cason, Tanner, Thayne and Landon. We found great variety in their style and method.

"Laid-Back Relaxed"



"Gung-Ho Daredevil"

Last but not least: The "Headless Airborne Slide" (Or is that a "pop-up kiss")



You probably noticed the coaches in the background-Mom and Lynn. Actually, we had an entry for Leah but unfortunately the picture got lost. Just as well-we don't want to embarrass an old lady. (They had the most fun!)

News from the PIERSONS

Hello, family! We are all doing well and staying busy. Just a little update - **Christie** is still working fulltime (she has her own insurance now!) with the family in our ward. Some days are very challenging, but she said she really does enjoy it. She is learning lots of good parenting skills that will help her later. She loves having her car (maybe not all the payments!). She teaches the Sunbeam class and loves that.

Jared - what to say about Jared! We sure do love him. He is really getting into the kids game of telling a line to a movie and having people guess what movie it is from. He is actually pretty good at it, but sometimes gets frustrated when he can't get the right answer out. He surprises us lots of times! He went bowling with his class yesterday and told me his score was 102 to 2 (what kind of score is that?). He was so excited to go on a field trip. That morning he jumped out of bed right when I woke him up, instead of messing around. He still loves basketball. He can't play in the backyard, but sometimes I take him to the church to play. One time he played for almost 2 hours!

Jenny is busy with her last semester at UVSC. She is so excited! Her graduation date from college will be April 26, from High School on May 21, from Seminary May 19, and from Young Women on April 2. That's a lot of graduating!! She has been accepted to Weber and is very excited about that. She is in a Physical Therapy course now. She loves it and will have a PT assistant certificate when she is finished. She is still working at The Great Steak, and manages to read her books and watch movies!! You go, girl!

Cory is playing the Baritone this term in band. There are lots of trumpets, and no baritones, so he volunteered to switch. He likes it, and is good at it. He had a playing test last week, and the band teacher said that was the best baritone sound he had heard from one of his students - Yea, Cory! He got a snowboard for Christmas, but forgot to order lots of snow! He has been able to use it some, but not as much as he would like. He'll be a teenager in a few days! He's excited for that.

Steve stays busy with work and helping the Bishop. Work is going well - they have lots to do, which is good.

Laura and I have been having fun with a new quilt - Leslie, just wait till you see it! Each quilt has more than 4300 pieces, and we are making three (I know, we have to be crazy!). We've got it in our blood, though! And it is fun to be together working on a project. YW is busy as always. We got New Beginnings over, and the parents and YW oriented to the new program. I thought things would slow down, but now I am busy planning our Youth Conference which will be a three night, four day Wyoming Trek. What do I do to myself!! We are excited about it - if we can get it all figured out. From what I understand, it will be a great experience. Jenny went with a friend a couple of years ago, and can't wait to do it again. We'll see!! We love you all and hope life is going well!! We feel blessed!! Love, the Piersons

We love you all and hope life is going well!! We feel blessed!!

Love, the Piersons

ELDERLY COUPLE REPORTS:

“Life is moving too fast” Read the whole story!

How can life be moving so fast when we're OLD and moving slow?

Lynn retired on January 31 and they gave him the *best* party. At noon his division sponsored a dinner for his family and work people. Gwen, Ed and Preston, David and Shauna, Lisa, Lawson, Kelly and Thayne, Lana, Jaxon, Jancy and Amberly were all there to support him. His sister Barbee and her husband Burnell, brother Karl and wife Jerilyn, and sister Jeanan were too. We sure do thank those who could come.

Each section of his work division made a little humorous presentation and they were sure cute. After lunch they began the formal part of the reception. Elder Brough, a Seventy, presented Lynn with a great framed letter of thanks outlining the highlights of his accomplishments in nineteen years of service, *signed by Elder L. Tom Perry!* It was a great day. I think he feels very satisfied.

On the weekend of January 17-21, we took a trip to Moab to celebrate our 15th anniversary. We stayed four days and went to Canyonlands and Arches National Parks. It was so great. No crowds, just wonderful scenery. Of course it was awful cold too. But we took lots of pictures (some from the car window) and enjoyed being together.

We discussed stopping at Laura's house on the way home. We had been trying to sort out our Paris pictures and needed a little help. But, on an impulse (that's all it was), I asked Lynn to drive out to Saratoga Springs. Saratoga Springs is a housing development on the north end of Utah Lake. We became acquainted with it when we were on our folly in 1998. You know—where we were going to sell our house and build a grand one on an acre? The plan that Heavenly Father squashed but good with a stupor of thought? Ever since then Lynn had expressed his desire to live in Utah County, but we were scared to look.

It was getting dark and all we could see were huge fancy (expensive) homes and we sure weren't going to go there again. I think I can safely say that we learned our pride lesson and are ready to be meek, submissive and sensible about our next home. I was a little confused about why we had even wasted our time driving out there. But, oh well.

We had been looking at condos or homes in a Planned Unit Development, a safe place with no yard work where we felt we could lock up our house and go on a mission. The ones in our price range here in Davis County were *not* very satisfactory. The ones we had kinda settled on were just “O.K.”

When we got home and unloaded, I decided to get on the internet and look for PUDs in Saratoga Springs. **THERE IT WAS!** I couldn't believe it. A twin home for *much less* than here in Davis County. **PLUS** you had the use of the warm springs pool and hot tubs, club house, weight room, tennis courts, golf course etc. etc. I read about the house and it sounded too good to be true. Lynn was right beside me and he too thought it looked great. We called the realtor listed and made an appointment to see it the very next night.

ELDERLY COUPLE REPORTS: “Life is moving too fast” Continued

I got into bed but couldn't sleep. I got back up and read all about how Saratoga Springs has been a resort for *many* years. I mapped it and looked into all I could about the area. I was *on fire!* Finally, after much praying and looking, I went to bed at 3:30.

The next day the realtor didn't call to set up the appointment! I was frantic to see it, so I called the central office and got someone who would show it. I picked Lynn up at work and Laura met us there and we *loved* it. The view is fabulous! The house is 2600 sq ft with a few drawbacks but still just great. After Laura left, we looked at another unit which was bigger but no view. We were hooked on the first one!

The next night we went back and looked at other units and homes but no deal. We had pretty much decided that this was for us. I still had some worries—mostly about ME and my funny personality. I have always loved to garden and do yard work. How could I even be thinking of moving into a condo? We began a fast and the next morning I went to the temple. It was sure a great experience. After praying in the Celestial room, I decided to just listen and it was sweet. I got the definite impression that “the season for garden and yard work is past—the season of serving the Lord, taking his gospel to others, is now. And that this home would not stand in the way of doing that.” I just felt so good about my ability to adjust to this totally new way of life and knew I could do it.

That very day Lynn made an appointment with a financial advisor we have been working with and we got the ball rolling. And boy, has it been rolling! We've made an offer on the house and it has been accepted. We've done some creative financing which will allow us to pay cash for it. Then when we sell this house, we're out of debt! No mortgage, no payments, Mission, here we come.

So, family, we're so at peace with everything. We know there are still struggles to come and would appreciate your prayers that this home will sell. But, boy, do we feel good! Thanks for all your support!

We love you all. We think of you and pray for you. You are GOOD!

**Worthy Worker Honored At the close of Nineteen Years of Faithful
Service
Read the letter written by Elder L. Tom Perry!**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

January 31, 2002

Lynn C. White
Research Information Division
Correlation Department

Dear Brother White:

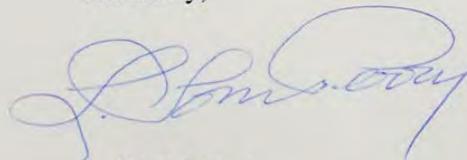
On behalf of the Church, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for your dedicated service over the past 19 years. Your work in the Research Information Division, and before that with the Presiding Bishopric, has helped greatly to advance the work of the Lord throughout the world.

Particularly, we are appreciative of your recent efforts to understand the challenges of young adults in developing areas such as Brazil and Mexico. Your travels to Brazil helped enlighten the Church Education System and others to the critical needs of the people you love and served as a missionary. Your research colleagues have also benefitted greatly from your caring friendship, spiritual strength, and thoughtful work.

At this time of your retirement from Church employment, we hope that all of the righteous desires of your heart will be fulfilled. As you move on to this next phase of your life, we counsel you to remain close to the Lord in all of your doings and to continue to seek out ways to serve Him and to further His work throughout the world.

Again, thank you for your dedicated service.

Sincerely,



L. Tom Perry
Quorum of the Twelve