
Happy Happenings

45th Edition - August 2002

Lana & Aaron

Jancy got her tonsils out. We had a nice visit from the Wilson's. Aaron, Greg, Jeff and Jaxon went fishing and had a good time. The kids are getting ready to go back to school on the 21st. We're thinking about putting Amberly and Jancy in preschool. Aaron said Amberly can go to preschool if she stops sucking her thumb so she's working on that. Amberly learned to blow bubbles and she thinks that's pretty cool. Sometimes her face gets all red and she works and works and finally a little bubble comes out! Our new church is done. Now we only have 20 miles to drive to church instead of 50. Much nicer!

Loreen & Todd

In June Brittney had her first piano recital with two other girls. She had memorized her three songs and did a great job. Afterwards we had a brunch and let the kids play. It was a good experience for

her and fun for all of us.

We went to the Boston temple. We met up with our friends, the Cranes, and took their kids to the park while they did a session. We could only imagine what people were thinking to see us with six little kids (seven and under) and one on the way! Then the Cranes took our kids to their apartment while we did a session. It was so nice to be at the temple and fun to visit with our friends.

Hannah had a fun birthday. She chose to go ice skating so Todd, Britt, and Hannah really enjoyed that. She had to get her kindergarten shots. It was a rough thing to have to do, but she made it through and we went to Wendy's for lunch and ice cream afterwards. Aubrey loves band-aids so she found all five of Hannah's and felt very sorry for her.

July has been fun, especially having

Brittney home. She's been out of school for a month now. She cried on the last day because she really loves school and her teacher, Mrs. Toubman.

Brittney and Hannah had swimming lessons. Brittney loved it and passed her level. She really enjoys swimming. Hannah's lessons were in the evening and it wasn't always warm enough. She's more timid in the water anyway, so she didn't really love the whole thing. In the morning when Brittney was having her lessons we stayed at the kiddie pool and Hannah and Aubrey really enjoyed that.

We go to storytime at the library. This week they had a farmer and his REAL pig, Daisy. She weighs 113 pounds and he brought her in in a stroller. Daisy sleeps between him and his wife! They got Daisy a cat and the cat thinks Daisy is her mother and sleeps on top of her! Daisy loves books, especially the kind that make noises because she can push the buttons with her

snout. What entertainment!

The library also has a summer reading program with tons of great prizes.

Each child ends up with three books, tickets to a baseball game, free ice cream at Wendy's, free ice cream and dinner at a restaurant (Applebee's), and lots of other little things. They also get to choose a new book for the library and their name goes in it on a gift plate. We have enjoyed it a lot.

A theatre here has a deal where if the school-age child does a book report (five lines), then they, their guardian, and any siblings under seven years old get into a free matinee. We saw "Shrek" and plan to see "The Trumpet of the Swan." We read that book to the kids so we are looking forward to that.

I've been going to the doctor for non-stress tests and an ultrasound for almost a couple of months. The baby looks great. He has hair and weighs almost seven pounds. While I'm gone we have a 12-year-old girl from the ward babysit the kids. It's just too hard to find someone to watch them that often, especially

since everyone's kids are out of school. The girls really like her because she brings books and crafts for them.

We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our little baby boy. We moved Aubrey up to the bedroom by Brittney and Hannah so the baby's room next to our room is empty now except for the baby furniture and stuff. Aubrey is doing better than expected in her new room. All in all, things are going really well. I don't have the severe back pain like I did with Aubrey. Yes, I'm uncomfortable and tired and have a lot of pain, but it's way better than last time and I can deal with it. Just a couple of weeks left.

Todd's youth hosted a very successful dance at our church. There were about 100 young men and women in attendance from the stake and everyone had a very good time. He also took the young men on a camping/ canoeing overnighiter last month at the Housatonic river about an hour from here.

It went well except for the canoe that got bent in half on a rock under the water. Todd's still busy

with work and taking care of us.

We love and miss you all and will let you know when the baby comes.

Lawson & Kelly

Cason, Tanner and Thayne all played baseball this summer. Thayne in T-ball, Tanner in coach-pitch and Cason in regular baseball. It was a lot of fun watching them and they had fun doing it, but it sure kept us busy. Every Monday & Wednesday we had 2 games and Tuesdays and Thursdays we had 1 game. It will be nice to have a little break before soccer starts up next month.

Cason had his last Cub Scout day camp last month. He'll be finishing up cub scouts in the next few months and moving on. Tanner will start cub scouts in September and he's excited about that.

The ward boundaries in our stake were changed and we got moved to a new ward. We've been there a few times now and are starting to get to know people. It seems like it will be a nice ward. Kelly was called to be the gospel essentials teacher and I was put in the Elder's quorum

presidency as 2nd counselor. We've had a fun and busy summer. It was great to see all of you at our family reunion and then to see Kelly's family the next week for their family reunion. We've been able to go to the sand dunes and a few other places with our 4-wheelers and that's been a lot of fun. The other evening we drove way up Ogden canyon and then unloaded the 4-wheelers and rode about 15 miles over to Hardware Ranch (which is up Hyrum canyon in Cache Valley). That was a fun ride and we saw a bunch of deer and a beaver. We were able to go to Lagoon the other day with the Wilson's. That was fun overall, but Rich, Cason, Tanner and I went on the Cliffhanger after it was dark and had cooled off. We got completely soaked and the water was FREEZING! Cason and I were still wet and cold when we got home a few hours later! We'll be heading up to Canada to stay with Kelly's mom for a week. After that we're going to Bear Lake for a few days and then it's back to school! Busy, busy but lots of fun. Hope everyone is well.

Lisa & Steve

Hi, family! We are finding it hard to believe that July is gone and August is here! It has been a great summer, but so fast! Cory got the chance at the last minute to be on staff at Timberline, a scout leadership training camp. He was so excited to be on staff - lots more privileges and fun stuff. He left on a Saturday and we picked him up the next Saturday. He was worn out, but he loved it. Cory was also on a summer swim team. That was a good work-out - and very long swim meets!! The Eagle project is finally finished - now all the paper work. Our goal is to have all that done before school starts. Mom at least is ready to be finished with it all!! Cory has caught up to me in height, and is only one shoe size smaller than Steve. He sure is growing - and is very proud of it! He had a piano audition on Saturday and passed, so he'll be starting lessons again. He is excited about that. He wants to be able to sit down and play anything. Jenny has been so busy working that we hardly see her. She leaves for Weber on

the 19th, and is so excited. She has collected lots of things to outfit her apartment. Her scholarship came through - YEA! This will be her last week of work, then only one more week till she leaves. I don't know what I'm going to do - except miss her a lot! I am excited for her and the adventure. Jared is doing well since his surgery. He is back in both shoes now, and doing great. It is so nice to see straight toes! We got arch supports in his shoes to hopefully prevent this from happening again. His Eagle project is finished, too. I will be so glad when I don't have to think about them anymore! Christie has gone with Dave and his family to their cabin for the weekend. They spend a lot of time together. She is mostly working or with Dave or wishing she was with Dave! He is a great guy, and we like having him around. Steve, Jared, Cory and I drove to Price for a couple of days to see what was over there. There are some cool Indian, dinosaur, coal mining and railroad museums and sites. We also went on a drive through Nine Mile Canyon which is really closer to 50 miles. There were

neat petroglyphs and pictographs, Freemont Indian dwelling ruins, and old settler ghost town ruins. Pretty cool! We had a great hotel and spent a lot of time relaxing and swimming. Jared especially loved the hot tub and "his arcade". There was a small game room. There was never anyone in there, so Jared played the games all he wanted (no money, of course!). We are going to Las Vegas tomorrow to take Jenny and the boys to the dinner show at Excalibur. We'll only stay one night there - don't want to spend too much time in that place! Well - hope everyone is doing well! Love you all - The Piersons

Larry & Jill

As we near the end of summer break it seems like it goes so fast. However, it's nice to think about getting back into a normal routine. Heather and Katelyn will start the school year on the 15th of this month and Tiffany will begin college life on the 26th.

We have had a wonderful summer including girl's camp, family reunion and trips to San Diego. We just

returned from a four-day family trip to San Diego. It was a nice break from our scorching temperatures and nice to spend time together as a family. We also enjoyed the family reunion even though we had to make the long drive in such a short time.

Heather and Tiffany spent the summer participating on the swim team. Tiffany didn't want to compete - just wanted the exercise. Heather is into the competitive part of it and came away with an 8th place in the division and 19th in the league for backstroke, 5th place in the division and 15th in the league for butterfly and 1st place in the division and the league for breaststroke in her age group. She plans to compete on the Mesa High swim team for the second year beginning August 12.

Katelyn has enjoyed her summer by spending time with friends and shopping at the malls. Jill was able to do some of the "spring cleaning" type projects. Larry is adjusting to his new calling on the high council. Hopefully the stress in his job will be

lightened soon as he just replaced a director who was let go in mid May. Larry and friends from the ward won the stake golf tournament last month! (Stress Reducer!!!!)

Mom & Lynn

Dear Family,
Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers for your Mom / Grandma. I had my big bad hairy operation at 7:30 a.m. Monday, July 22. Leslie celebrated her birthday by coming to the hospital with Lynn and me at 5:30 a.m.-WHAT DEVOTION! They both stayed and waited for the word that I was all patched up-which came at about 11:00 a.m. When I returned to my room, (gotta be the smallest space that ever contained a bed, chair, table and all the paraphernalia that hospital rooms are noted for) I think I was quite alert and hooked up to a morphine pump. So-no pain! We were joined by Laura and then Lisa and Jared. Thank you all! As it turned out, I don't think you had to rescue me from some terrible drug reaction or other trauma-but you were there for me!

I am very impressed with my surgeon. A

few days before the surgery, I expressed some fears about one of the procedures to be performed, Dr. Steffen promised to pray about whether to do the radical form of the operation or a less complicated one. I found out later that not only did she think and pray a lot about it, her husband had actually given her a blessing to help her decide. I surely think she did a good job and I am doing very well. I had a little set-back and had to go back to the hospital Sunday morning the 28th. Turned out to be the very rightest thing to do and when I came home Monday I was unfettered by all internal and external obstructions.

Once again, thank you. I feel very blessed. From the day Lynn and Greg Dye gave me the blessing, I felt calm and assured that everything would work out fine. And they certainly have! I am amazed at how well I am recovering and I may even be taking heart to have the courage to schedule the knee replacement (but not quite.)

On Saturday before the operation, all available family Priesthood bearers gathered to give me a blessing. Well, OK, they gathered for Leslie's birthday. OK, they came to eat and swim. But, I just want to say how much that meant to me. And Rich, you'll never know how much you contributed to the Spirit! Your anointing with holy oil was done with perfect innocence-as a novice in Priesthood ordinances, but without pretense or guile. Thank you, honey-may you live so that you can administer many more ordinances to those in need. And maybe I'll be one!

I love you all. I thank Heavenly Father for such a wonderful family! He sure loves me!

Just a brief note from me - Grandpa. Grandma is doing very well indeed! She arrived home and right off was very up-beat and happy. She got a little less happy and more uncomfortable as the days went by - and as the pain medicine

wore off. By Sunday morning she was **very** uncomfortable. Her elimination functions weren't working. So, they got everything working by Monday morning, and she came home. She has really been doing well since. I, for one, am really glad she is through the surgery, and is well on her way to being a full-fledged wife and grandma again. She can't **ever** lift anything heavier than 20 pounds - and - for the next month or so - not even anything heavier than 5. We'll see how well she does with those kinds of restrictions. I hope I can always be around to help her with any heavy lifting - and that I will be able to lift it!

The Bountiful home is becoming a financial hardship on us. We've had some very interested lookers, and we were only a day away from a sale once (their loan fell through), but not as yet, a buyer. Please pray that we'll be able to sell it soon.

Thanks! We love ya'll! Grandpa.