

# THE CLAYTON CHRONICLE

*The Scottsdale Scoop*

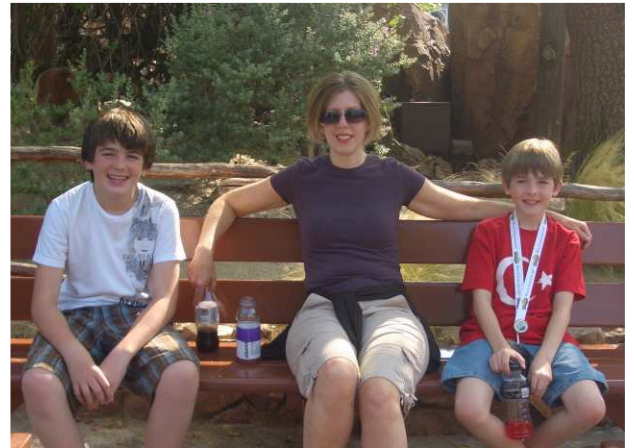
ISSUE 203

JUNE 2008

## SUMMER DAZE

As defined by Paradise Valley Unified School District, summer lasts eleven weeks. We fast forwarded the first week while in Europe, but returned home for ten weeks of work but no school. So how did we spend the first few weeks of the summer?

- **Weekdaze** – Chad and Jeff stay home together. At 13 and almost 10, respectively, they are pretty reliable. For example, they can be relied on to feed themselves and (usually) get dressed. They can also be relied on to play too many video games and leave their dirty breakfast and lunch dishes on the table. Marnie goes to her kindergarten, although it is more day care than school in the summer. Ken and Angie go to work most days, but look for opportunities to work from home to help keep the boys company (and the house clean).
- **Saturdaze and Sundaze** – Weekends are a little lazy. We grocery shop and do laundry, plus try to knock out a little project or two. We almost always eat out on Saturday night and we go to Church on Sunday. Besides that, we spend much of the weekend is spent in or near the pool.
- **Scout camp daze** – Chad went to scout camp for one week near Flagstaff. While he was gone, Jeff spent much of his time with Lexi Reinstein. Marnie was still at school, and Ken and Angie were still at work. Ken drove north to spend two nights at camp with Chad and help drive the scouts home. You can read Chad's Scout Camp recollections on page 2.
- **Disney daze** – The whole family got a break at the end of the month, spending a long weekend in Southern California. We met up with the extended Clayton family for a few days of Disneyland and lounging by a pool in California (instead of one in Arizona). You can read Jeff and Marnie's perspective on Disneyland on page 3.



*Chad, Angie and Jeff take a break at Disneyland*

### healthy?

Ken and Angie participated in health screenings at work. We could go into lots of detail, but suffice it to say that Angie is healthier than Ken.

That said, Ken was happy to see that his results weren't "bad," just "borderline."

### service

We had a terrible experience one night at CPK with the Egberts. In a single meal, our waitress managed to spill a drink on Jeffrey, not bring enough silverware for everyone, neglect refills, and get the order wrong (and not offer to fix it).

The only bright side is that it saved us a tip.

### get lost?

While planning for Jeff and Marnie to fly to Salt Lake in July, Marnie expressed some concerns about flying without adult supervision:

"Dad, there are way too many planes for a five-year-old to know which one to get on!"

# SCOUT CAMP

By Chad

JUNE 16-21

This year my scout troop went to Camp Raymond, near Flagstaff, for scout camp. Besides me, our group consisted of Zach, Ben, Tanner, Nick, Eli and Brother Callister, our Scoutmaster.



I worked on the Indian Lore, Leatherwork, Pottery, Woodcarving, Environmental Science and Swimming merit badges. My favorite was Indian Lore because it was more hands on, with requirements like making a model of a dwelling, playing games, and making clothing.

Swimming took a little coaxing. I tried early in the week to inflate my clothes in the water, but my skinny jeans were too hard to get off and I couldn't inflate them. The aquatics director suggested I try in the valley, because I was also having trouble breathing because of the elevation. Bro. C. and my Dad told me early Friday to try again, and Dad offered a root beer float as a reward. Just before the pool closed for the week, I went and did it, and ended up earning all six merit badges.



I brought Pop Tarts so I was able to sleep through breakfast some days and get the extra sleep. Some of the scouts were a little out of hand. Eli, Ben and Tanner tried to wake me up by throwing sticks and stones at my lazy bones.

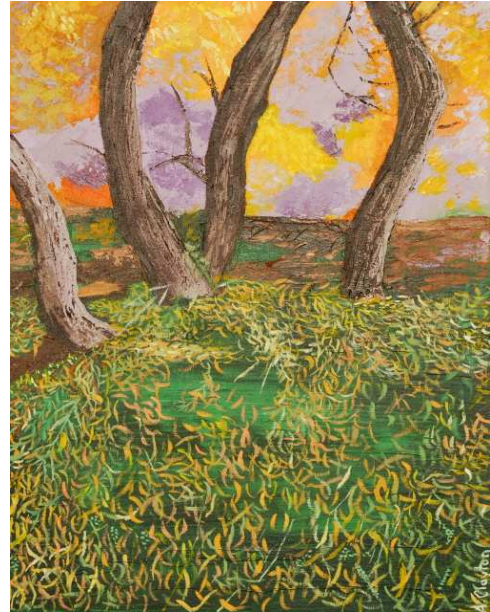
By the end of the week I was extremely dirty because I refused to go in the grimy, slimy, icky,

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yucky showers. You can even see some of the dirt in this picture as well as my severely chapped lips.



## FROM ANGIE'S EASEL...



Marnie likes it, but not as much as the paintings in the museums in Paris

## ...AND KEYBOARD

June posts at Mormon Matters:

- *Mormon Ancestor Worship (a Power Pick on the Desert News' Mormon Times)*
- *How's Your Mo-dar?*
- *Brainwashed: Polygamists and Terrorists*
- *Rock the Gerontocracy!*
- *Gender Roles Debunked!*
- *A Few Choice Words on Swearing*
- *White-washing*

# DISNEYLAND: WHAT'S NEW

By Jeff & Marnie

JUNE 26-29

At Disneyland, we were both a little bigger and got to do some new things. Plus there were new rides. Here's the new stuff:

**Ariel's Grotto (Marnie):** On the last day at Disneyland, we went to Ariel's Grotto for lunch. It was exciting. When we came in to the restaurant, we got to take a picture with Ariel. She was a human and she was wearing her wedding dress.

While we were eating, a guy rang a bell and announced which princess was coming. First was Aurora, then Belle, then Cinderella, and last was Jasmine. It was pretty amazing and exciting!



**California Screamin' (Jeff):** I never went on this before because I was afraid of the loop. Now I wish I would have gone on it earlier. You're going so fast that you feel like there's no way you could fall out, even though you're upside down.

**Twilight Zone Tower of Terror (Marnie):** This was just scary. In the story there were five people and the lightning struck them into the Twilight Zone and made them ghosts. The elevator was making us hold still and then it shot us down and back up again. Up and down again.

**Maliboomer (Jeff):** On the ride I told my Dad "That scared the crap out of me!" He was worried because right before we got on the ride I told him that I needed to go to the bathroom. I would totally do that ride again.

**Indiana Jones Adventure (Marnie):** I liked the ride except for when there was a big, huge snake and it looked like it was going to eat us.

**Orange Stinger (Jeff):** This was really good. I would go on it again and again and again...

**Space Mountain (Marnie):** It felt like I was in space because there were like blinking lights that

were yellow. I liked the ride and I was holding on to my Dad's arm in the picture.

## Finding Nemo Submarine Voyage (Jeff):

I didn't think Nemo was worth 75 minutes in line. The ride was a little toddler-ish.



**Matterhorn (Marnie):** I liked it except for the Yeti growling at us. Other than that it was fun.

**Toy Story Midway Mania (Jeff):** This was a really good ride because I liked shooting stuff. I'd like to try that again and improve my score.

**Grizzly River Rapids (Marnie):** This was awesome! It soaked me and that was the best part. I got the most soaked on the huge one.

**Monsters Inc. Mike & Sulley to the Rescue (Jeff):** It was pretty good besides the wait. When I was four or five I was a huge fan of Mike.

**Mullholland Madness (Marnie):** On the ride, when I was up high and turning the corners I was scared. I thought it was going to tip over and fall down. I went in one with Jeffrey and Mom and Dad were right behind me.



*Marnie has grown up: pictures of her on King' Triton's Carousel in 2003 and 2008.*

# MEDIA ROUNDUP

## AT THE MOVIES...

### **Indiana Jones & the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull**

The jacket. The fedora. The whip. Indiana Jones comes out of mothballs to fight Russians, giant ants and high expectations from moviegoers.

Ken ★★★

Angie ★★★

Chad ★★★★★

Jeff ★★★½

Marnie ★★★★★ "I said one thousand. Not four. One thousand"

### **Iron Man**

Millionaire weapon manufacturer (Robert Downey Jr.) has a crisis of conscience and tries to right his wrongs.

Ken ★★★★★

Angie ★★★★★

Chad ★★★★★

### **Kung Fu Panda**

One word: "Skedoosh."

Angie ★★★

Jeff ★★★★★

Marnie ★★★★★

### **Wall-E**

A lone robot cleans up Earth after consumerism and waste drive humans away.

Ken ★★★½

Angie ★★½

Chad ★★

Jeff ★★★½

Marnie ★★★★★



## BOOKS

More Junie B. Jones books than we could count. We were reading other stuff too, but didn't finish anything.

## MUSIC

### **The Shins: Chutes Too Narrow**

Ken ★★★★★

Loved "Winning the Night Away" and liked "Oh, Inverted World." This album tops them both.

### **Death Cab for Cutie: Narrow Stairs**

Angie ★★★★★

Ken ★★★½

This is a great CD. I love "Bixby Canyon Bridge" and "I Will Possess Your Heart." Ken's also a fan, but maybe not quite as much.

### **Blink 182: Greatest Hits**

Chad ★★★★★

I had been noticing them a lot on the radio and then they were on SingStar, so I decided to buy this.

### **3 Doors Down: 3 Doors Down**

Chad ★★★★★

I've been a fan since 2005, and this was a new release. I bought it within a couple days.

### **Blue Oyster Cult: Don't Fear the Reaper (G.H.)**

Chad ★★★½

I heard "Godzilla" on the radio and "Don't Fear the Reaper" on SingStar.

### **Suicidal Tendencies: Suicidal Tendencies**

Angie ★★★

Since their music was in Iron Man (the song *Institutionalized*), Mom was nostalgic enough to buy this CD from her youth.

### **Rolling Stones: Jump Back (Best of 1973-1991)**

Angie ★★★

After buying this we realized that we like the Beatles a lot more than the Stones (but we like the Stones). Songs *Angie* and *Start Me Up* are still favorites.

### **Dead Milkmen: Big Lizard in My Backyard**

Angie ★★★

Still wrestling with nostalgia, Mom bought this one, too. Some of their songs are great (*Bitchin' Camaro*), while others kind of blow (*Plum Dumb*). Plus you gotta love those rural PA accents.

## RANDOM NOTES

- Ken and Angie thoroughly enjoyed the *Battlestar Galactica* cliffhanger that marked the middle of the final season. They're just a bit disappointed that it will be 2009 before the series resumes (and then concludes).
- Angie made one business trip in June, traveling to Linton, North Dakota. It's the right time of year for that trip.
- Jeff and Lexi Reinstein spent lots of time together in June, teaming to run a lemonade stand for several days. Marnie also helped out some of the time. They made about \$15 in two afternoons (four hours).
- Marnie said goodbye to Miss Pat, her Kindergarten teacher. She is gone on vacation for much of the summer, but will return for the last week before Marnie moves to her new school.
- Marnie also said goodbye to her first lost tooth. She still hasn't lost any front teeth, so this wasn't even good for one of those cute lost tooth pictures.