

# THE CLAYTON CHRONICLE

*The Scottsdale Scoop*

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## SCATTERED TO THE WINDS

**PHOENIX, UTAH, SIN CITY, BIG APPLE—ALL IN ONE WEEK: JUNE 19—JUNE 26**

The biggest event of the month was not really just one event, but a week where the family split up and went in several different directions, often individually.

Ever since our move we talked about letting Chad fly to Salt Lake to spend part of his summer there with friends, and soon we added Jeff to the plans. When Angie needed to spend four days in Las Vegas for a business trip, it seemed like the perfect time to let the boys travel to Utah.

On June 19, Chad and Jeff, who have flown many times before, took their first flight by themselves. Chad stayed with friends from our Taylorsville neighborhood while Jeff went to his Aunt Debi's in Layton to visit his cousins Alex, Raychel, and B.J. In the meantime, Angie was at the Bellagio teaching 500 people how to do the electric slide (work, work, work!), and Ken and Marnie were the homebodies until the end of the work week.

On Friday morning, Angie returned to Phoenix and immediately packed to fly to the Big Apple that afternoon with Ken while Marnie went to a two-night sleepover at the Rosers.

On Saturday, Ken and Angie took the train into Penn Station and headed for the Theatre District, walking in the rain. We caught the matinee of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, which debuted as a Broadway musical last year. Angie had seen the play on a prior visit to the city when John Lithgow originated the Michael Caine role. This time Jonathan Pryce was in that role and Norbert Leo Butz was in the Steve Martin role. We stopped at a Spanish restaurant for a dinner of gazpacho, paella and Spanish tortilla. After short glimpses of Central Park and the Manhattan Temple, it was time for the second show at the Lincoln Center, *The Light in the Piazza*.

The whirlwind tour of New York ended with a three mile walk back to Penn Station and a train ride back to our New Jersey hotel. An early flight on Sunday morning reunited Ken and Angie with Marnie in Phoenix, and Monday evening the boys returned home from Salt Lake. When everyone was finally back together, Marnie summed up her feelings this way: "Now we're all a family again!"



*The only picture we took all month:  
Angie in front of the Manhattan Temple*

### brush with fame

Apparently former Utah Jazz player Thurl Bailey flies Southwest. He was seated next to both Chad and Jeff the entire trip. However, neither of them noticed who he was until they deplaned, so they were not able to request an autograph or talk his ear off for the 90 minute flight.

### on the town

After ducking into a drug store to buy a pair of collapsible umbrellas and passing a homeless man who offered to let passers-by insult him for \$2, we were still able to see two Broadway plays, Central Park, the Manhattan temple, Lincoln Center, and Penn Station.

### visitors arrive

Our pool was repaired on the 29th, and the next day Grandpa and Grandpa Clayton, together with Kim and Trevor, arrived in town. Debi and Calli's families drove into town the next night, on the last night of the month. (More on their stay next month).

# MY TRIP TO UTAH

By Jeff

Last month I got to go to Utah for a week. Chad and I flew on a Southwest flight by ourselves. I was nervous at first, but it was OK. I got to stay at my Aunt Debi's house and played with my cousins Alex and Raychel. One day we went to Chuck E. Cheese's and I got to play SkeeDaddle. Another day we saw Ice Age 2 and we also went to the park. We rented *Doogal* and *Hoodwinked*. On the last night, they took me to Grandma and Grandpa's and I slept on their really comfy couch. The next day I played Chuzzle, a game Grandma and Kim showed me, on the internet. That night Dan came and took me and Chad to the airport to fly home.

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## **Ice Age 2**

Plot: There was a big melt down or something.

jeff: ★★☆☆½

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## **Hoodwinked**

Plot: Little Red Riding Hood, just a lot of really funny things. A cute little bunny keeps meeting her, but really he's an evil criminal.

Jeff: ★★★★★

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## **Doogal**

Plot: Dogs are saving the world just by getting three orbs and making it so that the world doesn't collapse. It was really funny.

Jeff: ★★★★★

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## **Chuck E. Cheese**

I had a blast! It's actually half a restaurant, so it can go five stars.

Jeff: ★★★★★★

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## **Skedaddle**

You're supposed to pick up the balls and throw them in the holes, but I just picked them up and put them in the holes. I liked it.

Jeff: ★★★★★½

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## **Chuzzle**

I don't really know how this game is played. Maybe I didn't even play it. I don't remember it if I played it.

Jeff: ???

# MY TRIP TO UTAH

By Chad

It was fun to go to Salt Lake again and to fly on a plane by ourselves, just Jeff and me. We even got to sit next to (Utah Jazz player) Thurl Bailey on the plane, although we didn't notice him until we landed.

I got to stay with my friend Jordan Pendleton and his family. Jordan is really into baseball. While I was there, I actually hit a home run off my friend Jordan's fast ball, and I also beat his favorite game on PS2. I also got to watch Jordan in his league finals.

While I was there, I got to see *Benchwarmers* and *Just My Luck* at the movies, and I also had a Kryptonite Ice Slurpee. I also got to watch the "bad Easter bunny" on the internet at my friend Jesse's house. It was fun to go back to the Mountainview Ward and see all my old friends. Speaking of mountains, it was great to be back where the mountains are actually mountains and not just speed bumps.

Thanks to the Pendletons for letting me stay with them and to Dan for being our airport escort (just like old times).

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## **Benchwarmers**

Message: Everyone should be allowed to play baseball, even if they suck. And make movies.

Chad: ★½

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## **Just My Luck**

Message: Something about kissing I think. Kissing is bad luck?

Chad: ★★

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## **Kryptonite Ice Slurpee**

Chad: ★★★★★

## AT THE MOVIES...

### **X3: The Last Stand**

Those crazy mutants are at it again! Bad mutants fight against good mutants to get to an innocent mutant who can take away mutants' powers.

Angie: ★★★★★

Chad: ★★★★★

### **Flight Plan**

Jodie Foster is at it again! With her husband dead in the cargo hold and her daughter missing, Jodie has to figure out what is going on by climbing all over in the plane she engineered. Is she crazy?

Angie: ★★★

Chad: ★★★½

## ...AND THE THEATRE

Ken and Angie saw two Broadway plays in New York, and Angie saw a Cirque de Soleil performance in Vegas.

### **Cirque de Soleil "O"**

People in wedding clothes stripping to their skivvies and doing 50 foot dives into water on stage—now that's theater!

Angie - ★★★★★

### **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**

Two con artists do their thing in this musical comedy. Who knew they could make a song about *Ruprecht*? Leo Norbert Butz won a Tony for this performance, and he was outstanding!

Ken - ★★★★★

Angie - ★★★★★

### **Light at the Piazza**

Based on the 1950s novel of the same name, this play is a romantic musical about a young girl in Italy who falls in love with an Italian boy. Then in the second act, things are revealed to be different than they seemed. Chris Sarandon (Prince Humperdink in *The Princess Bride*) played the Italian father.

Ken - ★★★★★

Angie - ★★★★★

## RANDOM NOTES

- During our move to Arizona, one of the moving crew stole a bank full of \$150 in coins. We were reimbursed for the loss, but from that point on, whenever something was missing, the kids would blame it on one of the movers by name (whether he really did it or not). After months of saying "Cole" stole his Game Boy, Angie found it in the bottom of Chad's messy closet.
- Chad and Angie had fun going to the movies together. During X3, there is an elaborate scene when Magneto moves the Golden Gate Bridge for the final battle, Angie suggested that at that point the director yelled "Cut! I don't like how he said that. Do it over! People, let's get that bridge back in place!" Then, when Wolverine got kicked in the crotch in another scene, Chad suggested that he probably called for his stunt double to step in and take the kick. There were so many credits at the end of the movie that we thought they should have only listed the people not in the movie.
- JUNE 14 – Angie and Chad had trips to the dentist. Clean bill of health for Angie, but Chad had two cavities.
- JUNE 20 – Marnie had her very first appointment with the dentist. She was very good and did everything the dentist asked. Ken also went and neither had cavities.
- JUNE 26 – When the family was reunited at home, we found the pool dirty and not working right. This kicked off a week of trying to fix the pool. Angie likened Ken to Wile E. Coyote, as he kept devising new ways to get the pool (Roadrunner) back in working order. Contrary to what she may say, no packages from ACME Pool Repair arrived at the house.
- JUNE 27 – Jeff's turn at the dentist (one cavity), and Chad got his fillings done.
- JUNE 29 – With relatives arriving at any minute, Ken abandoned his coyote-like plans and called for pool repair. Within an hour they had everything cleaned up and working.