

Dec 7, 2019

Cyndi here. It's difficult to report on the 11 members of my family branch in a few short sentences but I will try! Frank continues to juggle teaching, mentoring his PhD student (4 of them), ramanujaning (his new verb for math research), and caring for his family at 3540 who now include Lily (18 month old miniature dachshund) and Willis (7 month old Corgi). Mike volunteers at the Gainesville Opportunity Center (GOC), a Clubhouse for adults living with mental illness. The GOC is launching a magazine and Mike is part of the writing team.

Jeff (Knoxville) has now purchased his 7th car in four years – a 2006 Mustang GT V8 with only 23,000 miles on it. Despite his serious position at Blue Cross/Blue Shield and his serious devotion to his beautiful family - Jeff is a fun guy. Jeff and Brittany parent their girls Sydney (12) and Claire (5) masterfully. Sydney is now a young lady in middle school. She is on the dance team and the school soccer team. She enjoys being popular among her peers but never has an unkind word for anyone. Claire is a firecracker whom I believe is destined for a profession in the healing arts. At the big family gathering at Lake Wallenpaupack, Claire was the only one who noticed that Grandma Sue didn't have a piece of cake.

Onto Gerard, Gerard is a volunteer at UF's Occupational Therapy department. He has a terrific group of friends who are usually doing something interesting. Gerard is very close to completing his Master's degree in Biostatistics. He has a lot of talent as a biostatistician and work in occupational therapy is an excellent fit.

And finally there is Maggie (Atlanta). I try to weave trips to be with family as often as I can. Maggie blows me away with her gentle competence. She and Devin are both engineers at Enercon, a firm which specializes in electrical engineering updates to nuclear power plants. More important, they are parents extraordinaire to Liam (3 on Jan 16, 2020). Liam, aka James William Justice, is a sweet natured little boy who also is going through "a bit of a teenager phase" according to Maggie (e.g., "Leave me alone, Mommy.", e.g., "Mommy, be quiet, I am talking to Papa [Frank].").

And this leaves Cyndi. Throughout her life, Cyndi has had an affinity for castles, structures of beauty with pragmatic purpose. These days, in her work in the non-profit world of mental health and in her day job as a biostat professor in UF's Department of Anesthesiology, Cyndi gets to build castles. This she finds is truly rewarding.

Right now I am with sister Cathy in Warrington, PA, nursing her as she recovers from knee replacement surgery (done on Dec 3). As part of the rehab regimen, Cathy and I have watched about ten Hallmark Christmas movies. We now think we could program AI to write a Hallmark Christmas movie. They are that predictable. And yet Cathy and I keep watching. We are happy to watch movies with lots of positive messages which don't make us think. Yet as overdone and predictable as the Hallmark movies are, the Christmas messages of love, beauty, giving, and family are enduring. And let's not forget hope.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas and a happy, hopeful New Year!

Love from Frank, Cyndi, Mike, Jeff & family, Gerard, Maggie & family, Jinxie, Lily, Linc, & Willis

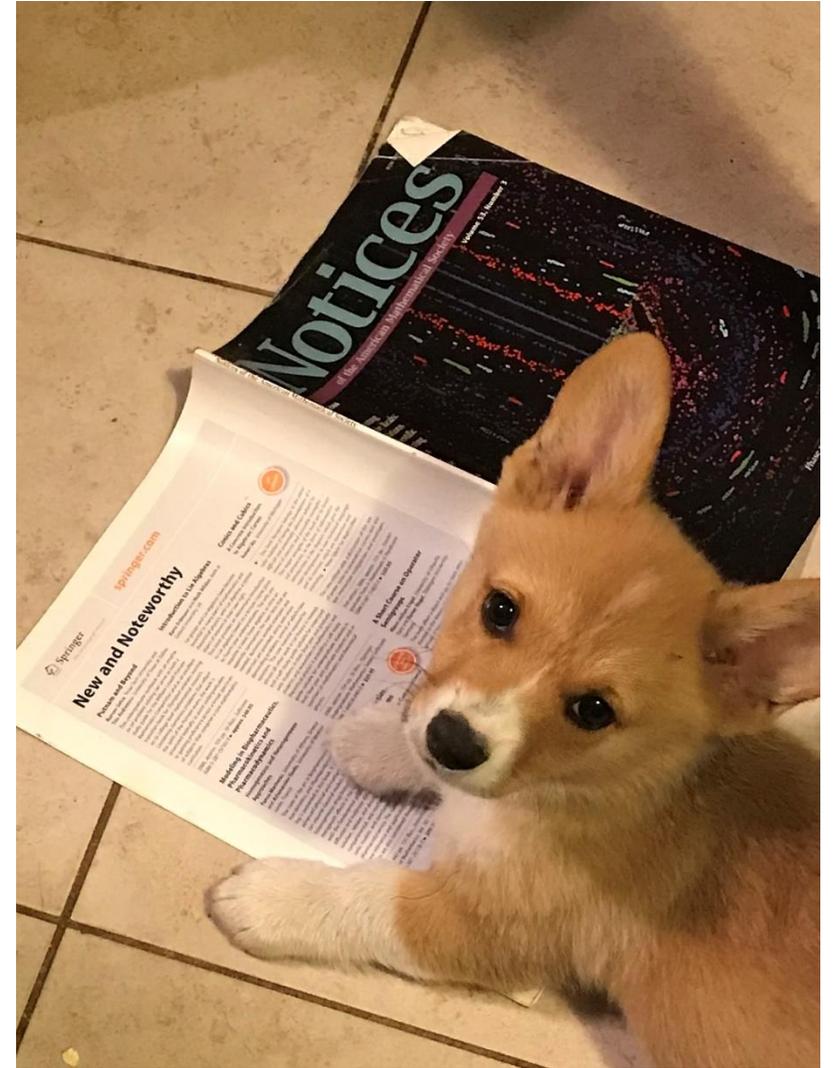
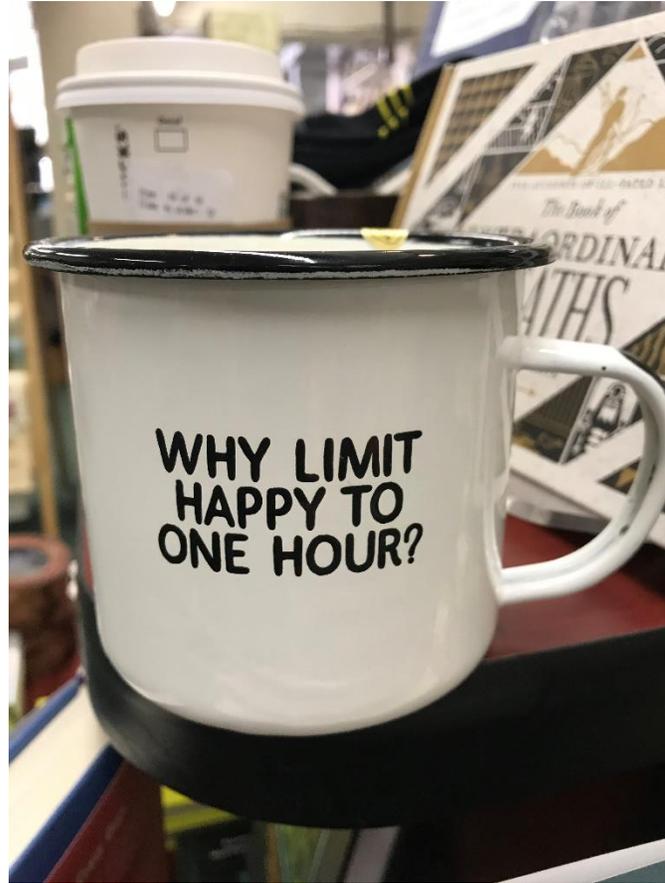
Family Photos 2019

Fashionable Claire, Liam feeding cupcakes to dinosaurs, David (adopted nephew) at Medieval Faire, Sydney at soccer tournament with coach.



















Lake Wallenpaupack 2019





Mike in his cabin at Lake Wallenpaupack







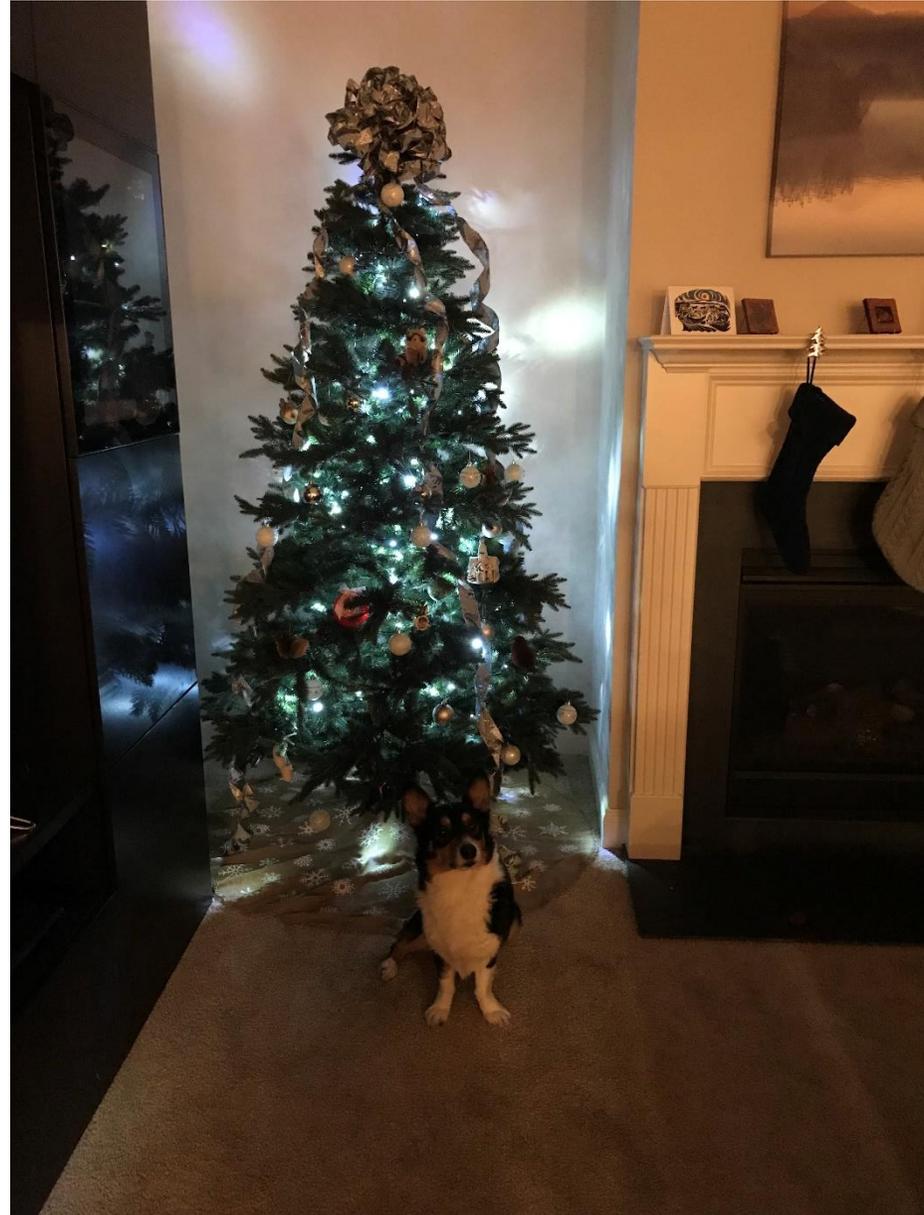


Hayride in Great Smokey Mountains





Gerard IS Easy Rider





we do real
we do mistakes
we do second
chances
we do fun
we do hugs
we do
forgiveness
we do loud
we do
family
we do
love.

