

# RIEL FAMILY NEWS LETTER

VOL. 1 NO. 4 JULY, 1991 PRICE 1 CENT THE COPY-FREE TO FAMILY

## BIG DAD'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IN JUNE

Grandpa Riel was treated to no less than three separate celebrations during the month. The first one was an invitation from Ed and Jan to join them in seeing the Ocean Beach Elementary and San Diego Opera presentation of the opera "Rip Van Winkle". The performance, which is described in more detail later on, was preceded by a barbecue in the school yard. Grilled hot dogs, baked beans and soft drinks were served. After the show we all convened at Bakers Square for ice cream, and a good time was had by all.

The second celebration took place at the Castro home, where we were treated to a delicious home cooked meal, Mexican style, by chefs Jose and Francie. The carne asada was superb as were the other items. After dinner we were treated to home movies of Brett and his baseball team. The highlight of the evening was the special card created by Francie. It consisted of a series of appropriately positioned candy bars on a large sheet of cardboard, with cleverly worded connecting phrases. Since it is hard to describe I have included the accompanying picture. Since the words are too small to read the message it has been duplicated (sort of) underneath the picture. The problem now is to get the candy out without destroying the card.

The third celebration was another feast, this one a shish kebab meal at the Gillingham home. The twins and Carol brought their own favorite combinations, which were expertly broiled by Bruce. There was lots of chips and dip, salad, garlic bread and of course liquid refreshments. It was another great party, and the card and golf shorts and shirt was much appreciated.

## VACATION NEWS

Grandpa and Grandma enjoyed another trip to the gambling world in June. It was Laughlin again, this time at Sam's Town. Since the weather was so hot we checked in at 4:00 PM on Monday and stayed in air conditioned comfort until Friday noon departure. As usual, we about broke even at bingo, but made our usual contributions to the machines. No big winners, but grandpa almost won a power boat (3 out of 4 sevens on the bottom line). We traveled there and back via the Robert Riel scenic route and short cut, which took us through Hemet, 29 Palms and on to I-40 and Laughlin. This way is almost 50 miles shorter than the I-15 route through Barstow. Also the change of scenery was welcome. If anyone is going that way and wants to try it out we have complete instructions including mileage to the various junctions, recommended meal stops, gasoline stops and some notes on road conditions and turn points. Its all in the computer, so let us know if you want a copy.

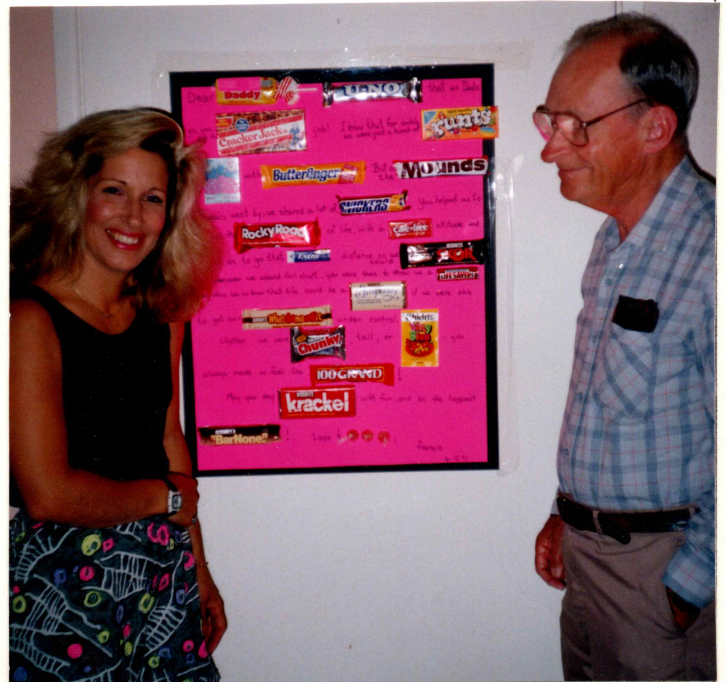
It's no vacation, but Bob Gillingham is in Phoenix taking some more classes toward his degree. He will be away for a month, and in the meantime Listy is keeping busy being in charge.

Francie and Jose vacationed in Phoenix during the past week, and soaked up a lot of sunshine beside the pool.

Another "no vacation" - Richard is spending several days per week in Blythe, where he is contracting for construction of an apartment house.

## BUNNY NOSE DEPARTMENT

We are most happy to be able to report that Bruce is doing well in his recovery from the thyroid problem. Although by no means well, he is making progress, and it is hoped and expected that once the thyroid is gone and he is on controlled medication he will be back to normal



Dear **Daddy** — **U-NO** that as dads  
go, you did a **Cracker Jack** job. I know that for awhile **runts**  
we were just a bunch of  
and **NERDS** with **Butterfingers**. But as the **Mounds**  
of years went by, we shared a lot of **SNICKERS**. You helped us  
conquer the **Rocky Road** of life, with a **Care-free** attitude, and  
taught us to go that **Extra** distance, so we could **SKOR**  
And whenever we would fall short, you were there to throw us a **LIFE SAVER**  
You also let us know that life could be a **Symphony** if we were able  
to get our **Whatchamacallit** under control.  
Whether we were **Chunky**, tall, or **Chirrels tiny Size**, you  
always made us feel like **100 GRAND**.  
May your day **krackel** with fun, and be the happiest  
**Bar-None** ! love & \* \* \*  
francie  
6-15-91

**ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES**

We have three new achievements to report. First of all, Kevin Riel made his operatic debut in the Ocean Beach Elementary School presentation of the opera "Rip Van Winkle". This show was put on under the guidance of the San Diego Opera Education program, with all parts played by the students. Although not in a lead role, Kevin performed very well as one of the Town Men, and the overall quality of the performance was most impressive.

After the first communion ceremony reported in the last issue, Michelle Hartman participated in a musical presentation, in which she played a solo on her violin. Grandma reported that her performance was extremely good, displaying a lot of talent.

Finally, we received a contribution from Megan Riel-Mehan in the form of a short story. We are pleased to be able to publish this first work by the daughter of that famous writer Margaret Riel.

**THE GREAT BIG ENORMOUS SNAKE**

By Megan Riel-Mehan

Once upon a time in a quiet town and all was well except one thing scared them. There was a... SHIVER...SHIVER...SHIVER.. a great big enormous --eek--sorry about that. Should I tell you? OK It was a great big enormous a...a...a...sssnake! I said it! Oh yikes here he comes. He was at the beach then he came to the desert now he is in town. Whoa! I tripped over it. "Come on let's follow it", I said. "You really want to?" That is my assistant, he is really no help. "Well come on," I said. "I'm scared" "Come on, don't be a scardy cat," I told him.

So we followed the enormous creature, except my assistant. He was hiding behind rocks and stones. Of course that made me embarrassed. But such is life. We are now entering THE JUNGLE. Well we camped out next to the snake, well not everybody. My assistant was stuck in the tree and he don't want to come down for dinner.

The next morning we woke up and my assistant was still stuck in the tree. We tried to get him down, but we didn't succeed. As a matter of fact, we all got stuck. So there we were stuck in the tree and I guess that my assistant was right. Well so much for following the snake. So we stayed overnight in the tree. I guess we had no choice but to sleep in the tree. And a few birds flew by and I wish that they could talk. At first I was scared. But after a while I started to have fun. Actually I was doing gymnastics in the tree. They thought I was crazy. Then I thought I could do a shooting star. They thought I was crazier. Then I did it. They thought I was craziest. So I decided not to do it anymore. They said, "that's better." After I thought it over, I agreed with them. "What! You don't agree with me?" You would too if you were going to do a shooting star from a 100 feet off the ground. We slept in the tree again.

"Well now, there is only one more thing to do," I said. "What? Everyone shouted. "Sleep in the tree of course," I said "Oh, you got us excited all about nothing." So my idea was settled. We slept in the tree for a third

time. I wish someone would help us. That night I dreamed about me yelling at the top of my lungs, "Someone help us!" and no one helped anyone. Finally I woke up and it was morning time and the others were already up. And just then an idea popped into my head. I would call my dog. (He came but he was no help.) Then I accidentally called the snake and he helped us out of the tree. But my dog was barking at the snake. I decided to have him come along with us. So we rode home on the snake, but my assistant was not convinced yet.

Well the journey of the great big enormous snake ended.

**BIRTHDAY CALENDAR**

There were no grandchildren birthdays in June, so Grandma had no excuses to celebrate.

**JULY BIRTHDAY SCHEDULE**

Bryce Sorem	July 8	4
David Gillingham	July 20	5
Frances Castro	July 21	39
Timothy Riel	July 26	9

**ANOTHER GOOD CITIZEN AWARD - CURTIS HARTMAN**

We received the following report from RFNL reporter Curtis Hartman "I got a good citizen award today. It was fun! Good citizen is all about getting a pin for being the best student in the class. I got a blue pin. Good citizen is something you can pin on your backpack or on your shirt. This year I'm the only one in my family that got it." CONGRATULATIONS, Curtis!

**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Margaret reports that both Michael and Megan had perfect attendance records for the past school year. Also, Bud received the 3rd College outstanding teacher award for the past year, which is a real accomplishment and honor. CONGRATULATIONS! Finally, Margaret gave seven presentations in four different cities during June. It's tough work, but someone has to do it.

**SPORTS NEWS**

In addition to his soccer skills, Michael Mehan is excelling in long distance running. He came in second in the Encinitas mile run, and first in the Paul Ecke Central track meet. His time for the mile run was 6 mins. 46 sec.

Curtis Hartman reports that his team won their latest soccer game by a score of 5 to 3. He scored one of the goals, and their team record for the past season was 3 wins and 3 losses.

Brett Sorem reaped another award by winning the Tecolote Pinto Yankees team batting championship, with a cool .716 batting average. Nice going, Brett! We are out of space, so we can't fit in the copy of the certificate. We will try and fit it into a future issue.

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go, you did a **Cracker Jack** job. I know that for awhile **runts**

and **NERDS** with **Butterfingers**. But as the **Mounds**

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And whenever we would fall short, you were there to throw us a **LIFE SAVER**  
You also let us know that life could be a **Symphony** if we were able

to get our **Whatchamacallit** under control  
Whether we were **Chunky**, tall, or **Chiclets tiny Size**, you

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May your day **krackel** with fun, and be the happiest

**"Bar-None"** ! love & \* \* \*

francie

**MAGIC CHORUS**

John Merritt \* Israel Jimenez  
 Hector Camarillo \* Josh Rubio  
 Heather Gelbman \* Tait Walker  
 Susan Hollenbeck \* Sarah Colwell  
 Helen Speer \* Joe La Frenier  
 Windy Fernandez \* Dale Mills  
 Diana Disimone \* Dominic Espinoza  
 Jacqueline Keenan \* Jamin Garrick  
 Julia Holland \* Anne Gregory  
 Christine Mosier \* Jatawn Robinson  
 Rosamaria Vasquez \* Tanya Hertel

**SET CREW**

Lucas Bearce  
 Octavia Gonzales  
 Rickey Bell  
 David Jones  
 Daniel Frey  
 Chris Hagerman  
 Erik Gonzales  
 Jason Richardson

**COSTUME CREW**

Magali Nava  
 Shawna Brown  
 Mayra Navoa  
 Tiffany Duncan  
 Julianne Robinson  
 Emily Janckowicz  
 Theresa Noeggerath  
 Nicola Barrila

**SOUND CREW**

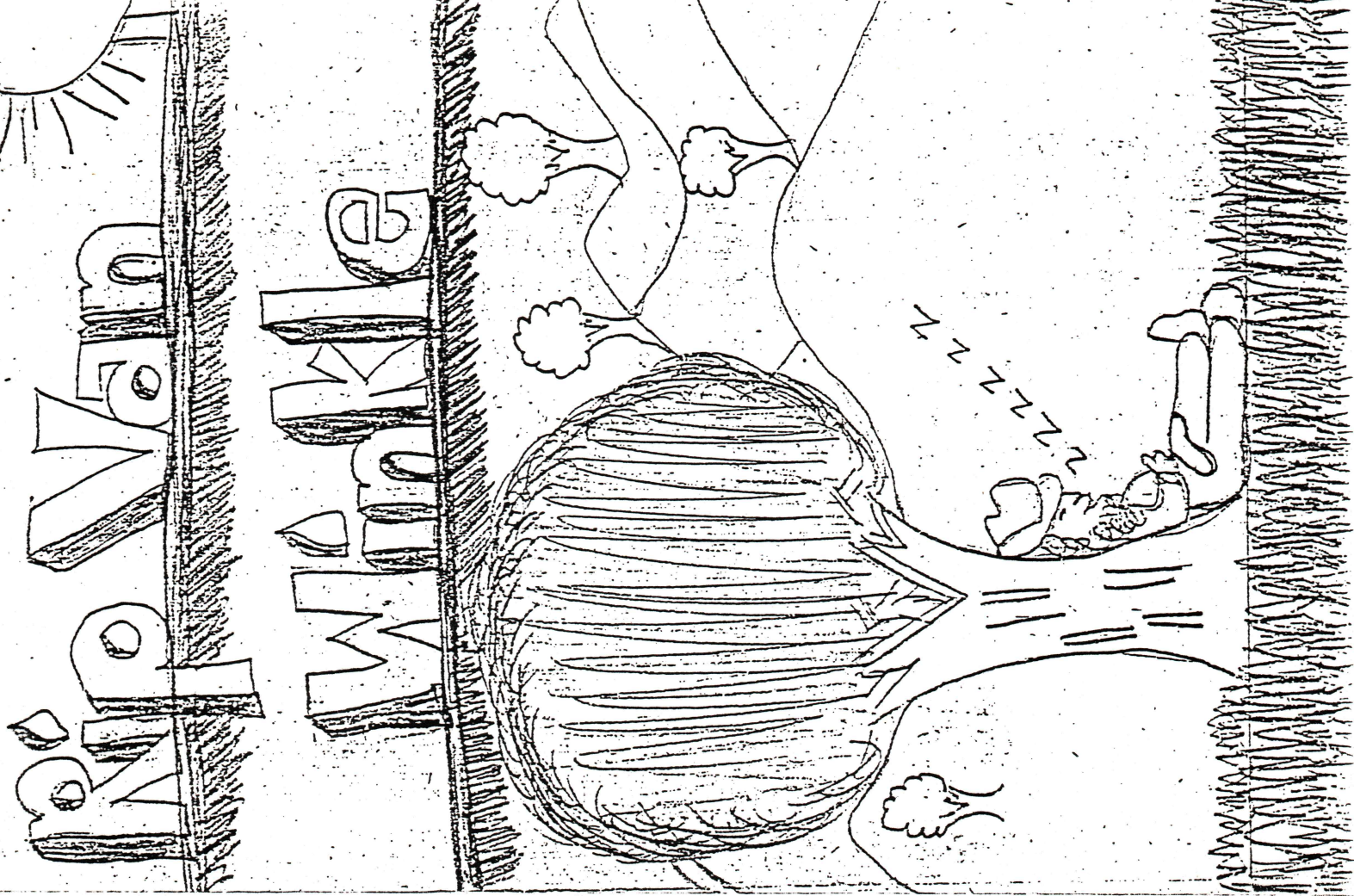
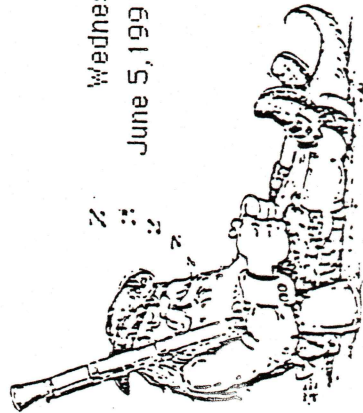
Shawn Clark  
 Ibrahim Rahim

**LIGHT CREW**  
 Catherine McKinley

**MAKE-UP**  
 Kindra Jackson

**PROP CREW**  
 Crystal Scott  
 Kristine Mc Adams

Wednesday  
 June 5, 1991 7 P.M.



OCEAN BEACH ELEMENTARY  
and SAN DIEGO OPERA

present

**RIP VAN WINKLE**

Music & Lyrics.....Jeffery Rockwell  
Libretto..... J. S. Montgomery & J.  
Rockwell

Vocal & Music Direction.....Hollace  
Koman

Technical Direction .....Robert  
Cervantes

Production Designed & Directed by....  
J. Sherwood Montgomery

Costume Designed by Susan Ortmeir  
All scenery constructed & painted by  
San Diego Opera Shop

San Diego Opera Education Director  
Roger Pimes

TIME: 1769

PLACE: *Falling Water, a small town in the Hudson River Valley*

*The story begins in pre-revolution times and ends during the period of George Washington's presidency. The adaptation of the classic Washington Irving story about a man who loses twenty years of his life in a deep sleep because of an impossible quest, focuses on the moral, there is no place like home.*

\*\*\* CAST OF CHARACTERS \*\*\*

RIP VAN WINKLE (*The Younger*) ..... *Jan-William Ennis*  
RIP VAN WINKLE (*The Older*) ..... *Matthew Finch*  
HENRY HUDSON ..... *Damarine Pridgen*  
DAME VEDDER ..... *Quin Leberman*  
NICK VEDDER ..... *Charles DiSimone*  
DAME JOHANNSON ..... *Monica Souza*  
HANS JOHANNSON ..... *Derek Bolton*  
KATIE ..... *Monica Wood*  
YOUNG KATIE ..... *Jessica Mellor*

TOWN MEN

Aaron Bautista  
Steve Contreras  
Omar Duran  
Kevin Lemos  
Damien Powell  
Jesse Comacho  
Mathan Diaz  
Stephen Ennis  
Christopher Griffith  
Kevin Riel  
Jason Robinson  
Dwight Stephens  
John Anzalone

Daniel McQueen  
Dale Miles  
Ben Pettite  
Rio McDonald  
John McDonald  
D.W. Fox  
Arthur Guererro  
Justin Markland

TOWN WOMEN

Vanessa Jimenez  
Banessa Romero  
Elizabeth Breton  
Sara Devlin  
Charelle Breaux  
Lea Hitt  
Amy Cortes  
Josy Peterson  
Traci Ross  
Catherine Dean  
Catrina Loo  
Sabrina Breton  
Amy Caffarella

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Last monday my soccer team won the game. The score was 5 to 3. I scored a goal. This season we won 3 games and we lost 3 games.

love

curtis  
Curtis Hartman

Hartman

# The Great Big Enormous Snake

by Megan Riel-Mehan

Other family News:

Both Kids had perfect attendance for the year

Michael came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Encinitas mile run

Margaret gave a total of 7 presentations in 4 different cities this month  
+ first place in Paul Ecke Central track meet - time for 1 mile

Buel got the 3<sup>rd</sup> College outstanding teacher of the year award.

for the newsletter

(hope this isn't too long

Margaret

6 mins  
46 secs

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"You really want to?"

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