



Listy wins promotion New job is vice principal at Scripps Ranch High School

Some time ago Listy became aware that there was going to be an opening for the position of vice principal at the school where she used to teach math, Scripps Ranch. Off the record, several of her former associates urged her to submit an application. Thinking that she had no chance to win such a position, she put off applying. At the urging of one of her friends she submitted a last minute application. To her surprise she survived the initial screening, the final screening, and after the field was narrowed down to four, she won the final walk through and interview. Shortly after she got the good news she and Birdy enjoyed lunch with Grandpa and Grandma, and after the meal the RFNL editor interviewed her. She responses are as follows.



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RFNL – How many candidates were under consideration for the position?
 Gillingham – Nineteen were under consideration in the first screening evaluation. After the initial interview there were seven, and after the walk through there were four.

RFNL – What was the most significant factor in your winning the position?
 Gillingham – The fact that I had taught there before.

RFNL – Were you interviewed by more than one person? If so, who, by position?
 Gillingham – Yes, there was a panel of eight people. There was a teacher, two principals, (one from the school, one from a neighborhood school, Mira Mesa H.S, and there was a secretary from Scripps Ranch. There was a community member from Scripps Ranch, who I did not know, and there was an instructional leader who I did not know, who is the boss of the principal at .

RFNL – Who made the final decision on your selection?

Gillingham – It was between ?????? and the principal, they did the final walk through interview. After that it went to Alan Bersin, the Superintendent of the San Diego City School System. He gave his stamp of approval to the decision, and passed it along to the School Board, for final OK.

RFNL – What will your duties be?
 Gillingham – The duties will be defined by the principal when I get there. I'll have to figure that one out. I am sure there will be some disciplining, some supervising, and a lot of grant writing.

RFNL – Do you know some of the present staff? If so, do you visualize any problems arising from your past associates?
 Gillingham – Yes. No, most of the people I know are very nice, and we get along very well. We worked on lots of projects and that certainly was a benefit to me.

RFNL – Does this move mean you are no longer interested in classroom teaching?
 Gillingham – No, it just means I am just trying it to see if I like it. If I like it then it is something I will do for a while, Then when I retire I will go back in and maybe teach part time somewhere. But at this time I want to try it to see if it is for me.

RFNL – Do you plan to stay in the San Diego City School System, as opposed to seeking college level teaching?
 Gillingham – Well, this is something I have been debating back and forth, especially since there is an opening at UCSD. Well, frankly, I will see how things go. If it is something that works for me I will stick around. If it doesn't then I'll look around for something different.

RFNL – Do you have any ambition to seek a public office, such as the school board?
 Gillingham – Well!!!! A definite NO!

RFNL – Do you plan to continue to consult for BER , and will you be putting on the same seminars you have presented in the past ?
 Gillingham – Well, I'm going to complete this year because I have a contract, and I am sure the school will let me do it. And then I don't know what next year will hold. It will depend on the principal's approval. We will just see how it goes.

Needless to say, we all are proud of Listy for achieving this new level in the education world. There is no doubt in our mind that she will be a smash hit at Scripps Ranch High School. We wish her the very best in this new position, and also for whatever she wants in the future. **CONGRATULATIONS, GO LISTY!**

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The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

October, 1999

Birthday celebrations

September was another busy month for birthday celebrations. David Gillingham was the first, celebrating his 14th. We had lunch at Oscar's and then we took in the movie "A Dog of Flanders", which was fairly good, but not exactly a winner. We forgot to get a picture on the day of the celebration, so this one was taken a few days later, at the gift dinner for the Gillinghams. (see later on for details)



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The next celebration was for JJ Riel. We enjoyed lunch at the Souplantation on West Point Loma Blvd. We had a pleasant surprise when we entered, as the person just ahead of us was none other than Kevin Riel. Thus, the oldest grandson had the chance to wish the youngest grandson a happy birthday. Afterwards we took in the movie "Inspector Gadget". Although amusing for children in JJ's age group, it is not one that Walt Disney would be proud of, if he were alive to see it.



Annie Gillingham was next, and we celebrated her 12th birthday with lunch at the Chili's restaurant on Camino Del Rio North, near the stadium. Then we took in the movie "For Love of the Game". This was a fairly good movie, and one we can recommend.



Finally, on the 26th of September we celebrated Nathan's and Christopher's 18th birthdays. Since both were working (Sea World) on that date it was mid-afternoon before we could get together. On a tight schedule we rushed over to Fashion Valley AMC for a late lunch at Screens Bistro and

the chance to see the Chargers blow another game, on large screen TV. Afterwards we took in the movie "The Sixth Sense". This was a good movie, and we enjoyed the plot and the somewhat complicated series of incidents. It was an interesting movie, with a surprise ending.



We then went home for some dessert, cookies plus mint chocolate chip ice cream with chocolate syrup and M and M's candy. As you can see from the adjoining picture, this may have been the best part of the day.

Birthday calendar to October

Edward Riel	October 3	51
Katy Riel	October 6	14
Scott Hartman	October 15	14

Gillingham family collects on Riel Bowl VIII white elephant gift exchange win



You may recall that Listy won the annual RFNL dine out gift certificate at the last celebration. After much delay they finally scheduled the family outing, selecting the Embers restaurant on West Point Loma Blvd. We all enjoyed some great food, and David and Annie did some crayon artwork.



The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

October, 1999

News from the Merica family in Manchester

Recently we received a nice letter from Michael and Morag Merica, which we reproduce as follows.

98 Dene Road
Manchester
M 20
16th September '99

Dear Lilika and Frank,

Thank you so much for sending your family newsletter, with news of Margaret and Bud's visit, with their splendid son and daughter, in July. I cannot tell you how much we enjoyed it. What a splendid family. You must be very proud of your daughter. Margaret has grown into a charming, distinguished American lady.

We were entranced and very impressed with the Riel Family Newsletter. What a good way to keep all your children in touch with each other's news. I really enjoyed it and would be happy to be put on the mailing list if that were not impossible.

We are very well, especially Michael. He and Lilika are the sole survivors of the six Merica brothers and sisters. We shall be celebrating our golden wedding next year. How the time has flown. Theo is married to a lovely girl but they have not made us grandparents yet. Elizabeth continues to be a career woman.

*Fondest love to all,
Michael and Morag*

For those of you who are wondering who Lilika is, that is the name Grandma was known by when she was young. Perhaps if you ask her she will explain it to you.

We hereby thank Michael and Morag for the news, and hope they will continue to fill us in, as things happen. We hope Theo and his wife will be visiting us next year, and look forward to having them meet the entire family.

Travel news

Francie has been on the go again. After an R&R trip to Cancun, Mexico, she got back on the *iso* trail with recent business trips to Chicago and Minneapolis. When she got back from Chicago she was bursting with excitement over a possible trip to London. At Chicago she had a long talk with a Louise Galvin, who is the daughter of a hair stylist named Daniel Galvin. Mr. Galvin owns a very exclusive and famous salon in London, specializing in hair coloration. For a fairly large fee his name now is on all *iso* products. Since his operation in London does not offer

permanent wave service, Louise has told Francie that she wants her to spend a week or so in London training the Galvin operators. Francie has submitted a quotation, and thinks that if Mr. Galvin decides to so expand his business Francie will be needed. Needless to say, Francie is hoping to get this all expenses paid trip, so that she can enjoy a visit to London. We will keep you informed.

Some sad news from Liz

It is with much sorrow that we have to report the passing of Liz's mother, Josephine Drewek.



JOSEPHINE S. DREWEK

November 4, 1914
August 31, 1999

Prayer Of St. Francis
Lord, make me an instrument of thy
peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow
love;

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness, joy.

○ Divine Master, grant that I may not
so much seek to be consoled as to
console; to be understood as to
understand; to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive, it is
in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.

Greenwood Mortuary

Josephine was born in Youngstown, Ohio. She was the oldest of ten children and as the oldest played a big role in helping her mother with her younger brothers and sisters. She was much loved by her entire family.

Her husband, Joe Drewek, was from Chicago. During the depression years Joe worked as an electrician in the city. They also rented a seven-acre farm in New Springfield, and raised chickens, ducks, geese, pigs, rabbits, etc. In addition they grew corn, potatoes, and various garden vegetables. They were able to not only feed themselves but also help the other family members. In 1944 Jo moved to Pearl Harbor, to join her husband in the latter stages of the war. In 1950 they resettled in Lemon Grove.

Josephine was a wonderful mother to her two daughters and a very special loving grandmother to four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

We enjoyed seeing Josephine, especially at every Grandparents Day at St. Columba school, and we will miss her very much. We expressed our condolences to Liz, Richard, and JJ at the funeral.

Some Merica family history

During the recent visit by Margaret and family with

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

October, 1999

Michael Merica in Manchester, he gave her several copies of old family photos, which we have copied and reproduced, as follows. In case you do not recognize the person shown on the left, it is none other than Grandma, taken when she was a teenager. It was taken in Alexandria, Egypt, when she was traveling with her parents. She had already met Grampa, who by that time had been transferred back to the USA. It was not long after this picture was taken before Grandma left Iran to attend college at the University of Dubuque, in Iowa.



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The above photograph was taken in Tehran, Iran, probably in about 1939. It was taken in the yard of the home of Romulus Merica, Grandma's oldest brother and the father of Michael Merica, in Vista. The persons shown are identified, as follows, from right to left.

Edith (Grandma) at about 16 years of age.

Ophelia Merica, the wife of Byron Merica, the fifth child in the family. Byron died in Paris, in 1988. Ophelia is now living in Nice, France.

Theodore Merica, Grandma's father, born 1883, died in Teheran in 1963.

Marilene LeGrain, (Xanthippi Merica) the third Merica child. She married Jean LeGrain, a French diplomat. She died in Paris, in 1963.

Gerard LeGrain, was born in 1934. He presently is living in London with his wife, Katrina. They have three children, Phillip, Millie, and Pierre. Some of you will recall that Girard was visiting when Richard and Liz were married, and he attended the wedding.

Grandma's mother, whose maiden name was Evriklia Amaxopoulou. She was born in 1888 and died in Teheran in 1966.

Francoise LeGrain, born in 1937, presently is living somewhere in France.

How to tell if you are a real teacher

We are indebted to Listy for this list of characteristics of real teachers.

- Real teachers grade papers in the car, during commercials, in faculty meetings, in the bathroom, and (at the end of the nine weeks) have been seen grading in church.
- Real teachers cheer when they hear April 1st does not fall on a school day.
- Real teachers drive older cars owned by credit unions.
- Real teachers clutch a pencil while thinking and make note in the margins of books.
- Real teachers never sit down without first checking the seat of the chair.
- Real teachers are written up in medical journals for size and elasticity of kidneys and bladders.
- Real teachers have been timed gulping down a full lunch in 2 minutes, 18 seconds.
- Master teachers can eat even faster

To be continued

RFNL computer crashes !!!

You may have noticed that the October RFNL has arrived much later than the usual issue date. As we were about to finish the last page it was discovered that it was not possible to print anything, and the computer was making strange noises. We called in Robert, who stated that a hard drive transplant was necessary. The operation was carried out, and the patient is almost well. However, some additional treatment is required to revive the e-mail and on line capabilities. Therefore, hold the e-mail until further notice. We are sorry about the delay, but technology sometimes fails to perform.