

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch The News

November 2012

RFNL 261

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST RESULTS

RFNL

Catch the News

The RFNL Halloween Costume Contest



This Halloween, I was Mr. Potato head with my Assistant teacher playing the role as my Mrs. I think Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head are a perfect representation of the RFNL for many reason. First of all, each Riel get together that involves food. In fact, I can't think of any Riel event that does not, so I should win the prize on that idea alone....however, I would venture to guess that we even have served some sort of potato at each Riel gathering be it baked, fried, chipped or in a salad.

However, if that doesn't clinch the title for me (as it should)...here is my second best response. Mr. and Mrs. Potatoe head are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. And our RFNL began with a wedding that happened over 60 years ago and the collective years of anniversaries in this family continue to grow. As we keep having weddings after weddings, I hope to proudly say that we all continue to aspire to be the best spuds in the bowl and follow the example that they have shown in their long standing relationship.

And if that does not clinch my title (shocking thought)...how about the fact that our family just loves to joke around. I have included some of my best Mr. Potato head jokes:

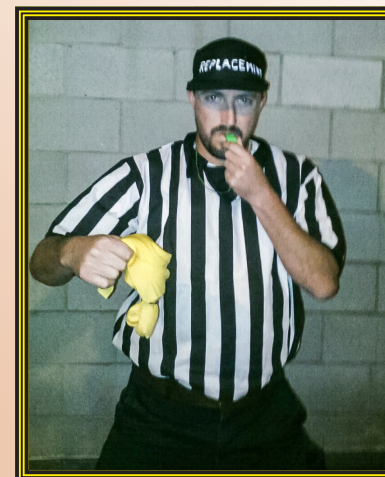
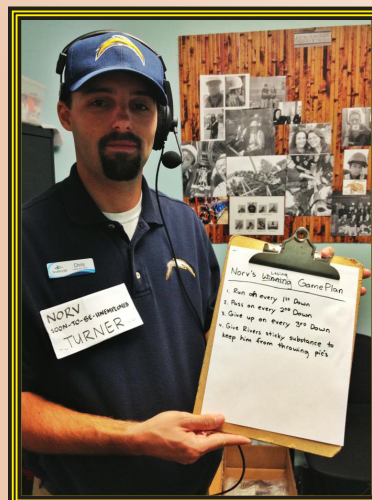
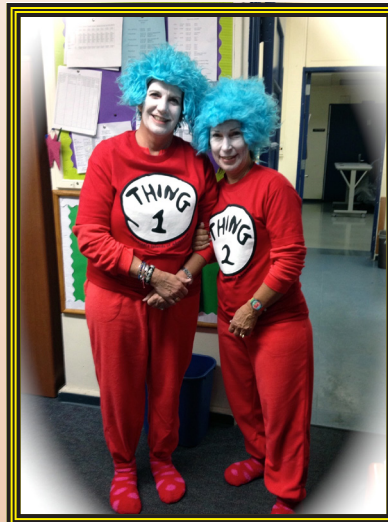
What do you get if you divide the circumference of a sweet potato by its diameter? - Sweet potato pi.

Why are potatoes good detectives? - Because they keep their eyes peeled.

And finally, My personal favorite. Why is Mr. Potato Head the perfect man?? - He's tan, he's cute, and if he looks at another woman, you can rearrange his face...



Carol tells us "Then our mother came home, Should we tell her the things that went on there that day?" Hmmm How many times was that lined used after a golfing weekend with Margaret and Francie babysitting? hehehehehehe





Margaret's entry is very unique as she dressed in Grandpa Frank's uniform that he wore in college while attending the Citadel in South Carolina. What we really want to know is; exactly where did she get that horse? Better yet why didn't she ride it, now that would have been special. Of course she finally did find a horse more her speed as shown below.



Listy's "A tribute to Mom and Dad.... to say thank you for the many trips to "The Happiest Place on Earth.... Disneyland" and to mom who I'll always remember being a "Sleeping Beauty" in her chair in the sun room....perhaps that's why she always is asking if we kissed her when we arrive to a function?"

You know Matthew goes to a performing arts school when he leaves in regular clothes and comes home as a zombie hockey player.

Corbin Hartman was Max, from the story Where the Wild things Are. And if you have ever read the book you know that Max is the king of the wild things. The story tells of an enormous monster bash that goes on and on. The monsters gnash their horrible teeth and play their wild games until Max yells....STOP! That could have been a report from any Riel Newsletter about a Riel event and we NEED a Max like Corbin to tuck us all in after a "good time was had by all."



SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTURES

By: Robert Riel



Once again it was time for my annual electrical industry conference which this time was being held in Las Vegas. So Karla and I decided to take some extra time after the convention and visit the Moab, Utah area; a sort of mini vacation after work thing.

So on Friday, September 28th we packed up the motorhome, hooked up the jeep, and off to Vegas we went. It was a good convention with lots to see and do. We even got to see the show La Reve at the Win Hotel, which we really enjoyed. But by Wednesday the convention was over and off we drove into the east arriving at Moab late that afternoon.

After a good night's sleep we took off for a jeep ride to Pritchett Natural Bridge via Picture frame arch at "Lone Rock". We jeeped along the "behind the rocks" trail and were treated to many beautiful sights. The road was a little rough with lots of boulders and drop-offs along the way but we had a great time. Once we got to Pritchett Bridge we had to hike the last mile or so, up a very large cliff, along a ridge and then up a slip rock formation to get to the bottom of the bridge.



As you can see from the picture it was huge! Karla looks like a small ant next to the bridge. There were three more arches in the area all of which could be seen along our hike. Since we had jeeped in, we were the only ones there and enjoyed the spectacular view all by ourselves.



The next day we decided to get up early and hike to Delicate Arch in Arches National Park. This is about a 3.5 mile hike with the trail out being all uphill. Since we wanted to be the first to visit the arch that morning, we left a 4:30AM just to make sure, also that guaranteed that we would see the sunrise as well. Unfortunately, the trails are only marked by rocks stacked on top of each other which a very hard to see in the dark with a flashlight. However technology to the rescue! I had downloaded an app called "EveryTrail" and we were able to use the GPS in my phone to keep us on the trail. It worked great!



We arrived at the arch well before anyone else did and were treated to a wonderful sunrise. This hike has to be on your bucket list as it truly is a magnificent view of such a natural wonder. It's hard to imagine just how this arch was formed as it stands all



alone on the side of a cliff but easy to see how it got its name. Soon it was time to hike back to our jeep and as Karla says "downhill... Yes!" We spent the rest of the morning exploring the jeep trails of Arches National Park.

Later, that afternoon we drove to Canyon Lands National Park via the cut-off jeep trail. This is a great trail where you climb out of the valley, up 1,000 feet to the plateau above (going through a rock opening) and then on to the park. Next, we took Shafer Trail back down 1,500 feet (in less than a mile) to the Colorado River below and followed it back to Moab.



On Saturday we started our trip back home, going South and West through Monument Valley. We came in the East entrance to the Grand Canyon and camped right on the south rim of the canyon. We got there in time to watch the sunset cast its long shadows over the canyon. Unfortunately, it was somewhat of a hazy day but the view was awesome.

By Sunday we were home and unpacked in time to watch the Chargers game (too bad they lost). It was a great trip and we really had a good time. Next year's convention is in Washington DC and we are already planning our extra time off in the capital. A visit with Michelle and Dave will be high on our list and we are really looking forward to it.





**PATRICK
HENRY**
High School

LISTY IS ANNOUNCED AS NEW PRINCIPAL

After nearly 10 years at the helm of de Portola Middle School, Principal Elizabeth "Listy" Gillingham has left the Tierrasanta campus to head Patrick Henry High School.

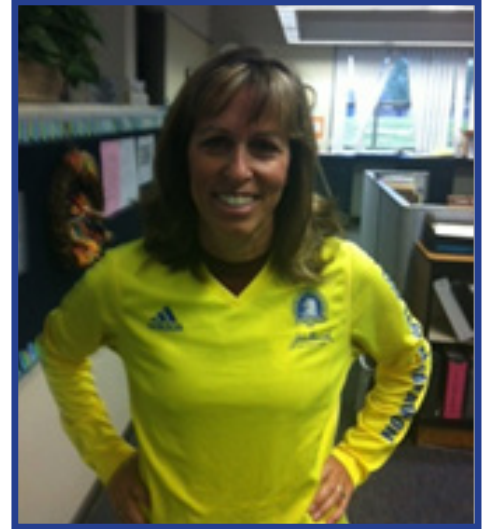
The move, effective Nov. 5, was bittersweet for all those associated with de Portola and for Gillingham who has seen much success at the middle school. "I loved working at DPMS and will always have fond memories of this very special school and community," Gillingham said.

During her tenure at the school, Gillingham's most notable accomplishments include the campus being named a Taking Center Stage School to Watch in 2006, 2009, and 2012, and scoring an Academic Performance Index (API) over 800 every year she was principal – a feat that was celebrated annually with an ice cream social for the entire school.

Gillingham was also on hand to help the school's Foundation host its first auction a few years ago, and has been an ardent supporter ever since. During her time, the foundation has raised more than \$200,000 to help fund zero period, printer toner, computers and classroom activities, among other things. She gives credit for much of her success as a principal to the faculty and staff at the school, who have garnered many awards and accolades locally, and at the state and national level, she said. The feelings of respect and admiration are reciprocated by the staff.

"Listy has been a true treasure for the staff at De Portola these past ten years," said Sheila Weiner, teacher and ASB advisor. "She is an amazing leader, champion for the kids, and a friend that will be missed by everyone on the staff."

Gloria Eide, who served as Gillingham's administrative assistant during her time at De Portola, was equally as complimentary. "I've admired how she meets every challenge head-on. Her energy is contagious. She only sees the positive in every situation making de Portola the best place to be. Patrick Henry is clearly the winner in this scenario. I wish Listy the best in her new endeavor."

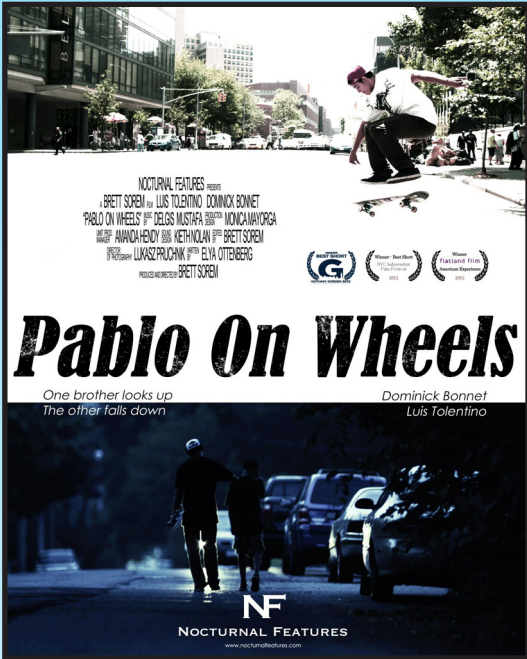


Other accomplishments that Gillingham is proud of include creating the Top 100 list celebrating students' great work, celebrating de Portola's 20th and 25th anniversaries with the community in Crespi Hall, and dancing with students during the school's lunchtime "Chill on the Hill" events. Gillingham was given one last opportunity to dance with the students during a special "Chill on the Hill" event held on her last day at de Portola on Nov. 2, where the students presented her with a giant poster signed by all and wishing her luck.

Prior to her arrival at de Portola, Gillingham served as vice principal at Scripps Ranch High School. At Patrick Henry, she replaces former principal Pat Crowder who retired at the end of September. Until a replacement leader is named at de Portola, retired school administrators Carol Waldron and Mary Romeo-Heyne – both of whom previously served as vice principals at the middle school – will serve as co-principals in the interim.

Photos: Above – Gillingham on her last day at de Portola. Side – Last year, Gillingham pictured receiving her 30 years of service certificate with Dr. David Lorden and vice principal at the time Ernie Remillard.

FAMILY SHORTS



Brett's film "Pablo On Wheels" has won three awards in the last few weeks they are: "Best Short Film" - Gotham Screen International Film Festival. "Best Short Film" - New York City Independent Film Festival. "American Experience Award" - Flatland Film Festival. . Congratulations Brett!

Brian, along with a few friends attended DayGlow (life in Color) which initially began as a college tradition and now has transformed into a world-renowned live concert, featuring spectacular DJs, soaring aerial acts, stilt-walkers, contortion acts, fire shows, and cannons to deliver the famous "Paint Blast," along with many other unforgettable live performances.

All we can say is; that paint better be water based!!!



Jessica and Miguel faced the super storm Sandy and thankfully had no damage to report. Unfortunately, they were without power for some time and had to resort to using the fireplace for heat and to cook marshmallows to get by.

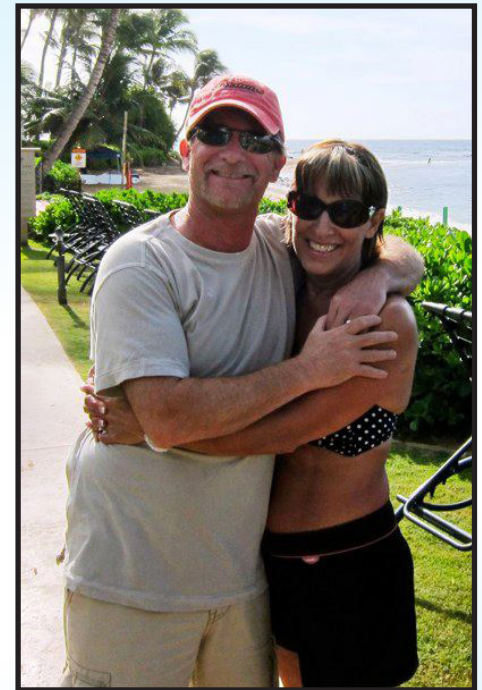
Other areas close to them were not as lucky as even the sharks came in to see what was going on.



Lyle tell us that The 2012 TTU NASA (National Auto Sport Association) Championship is his!

He sends a big THANKS to John Mets. Best mechanic and fabricator ever and special thanks to his beautiful wife for letting him pursue a life long passion.

CONGRATULATIONS LYLE !!!



Francie and Lyle were out and about once more last month with their trip to Hawaii. They were accompanied by longtime friend Cindy Hellmann and her husband. They visited both the big Island and Kauai, but still made sure to have plenty of time to lounge on all of the best beaches. Fortunately, they were home before the tsunami warning hit the areas, once again proving that Francie has impeccable timing!

Riel Bowl XXII will be held at Bob and Listy's home on December 30th

Check with Listy for more information