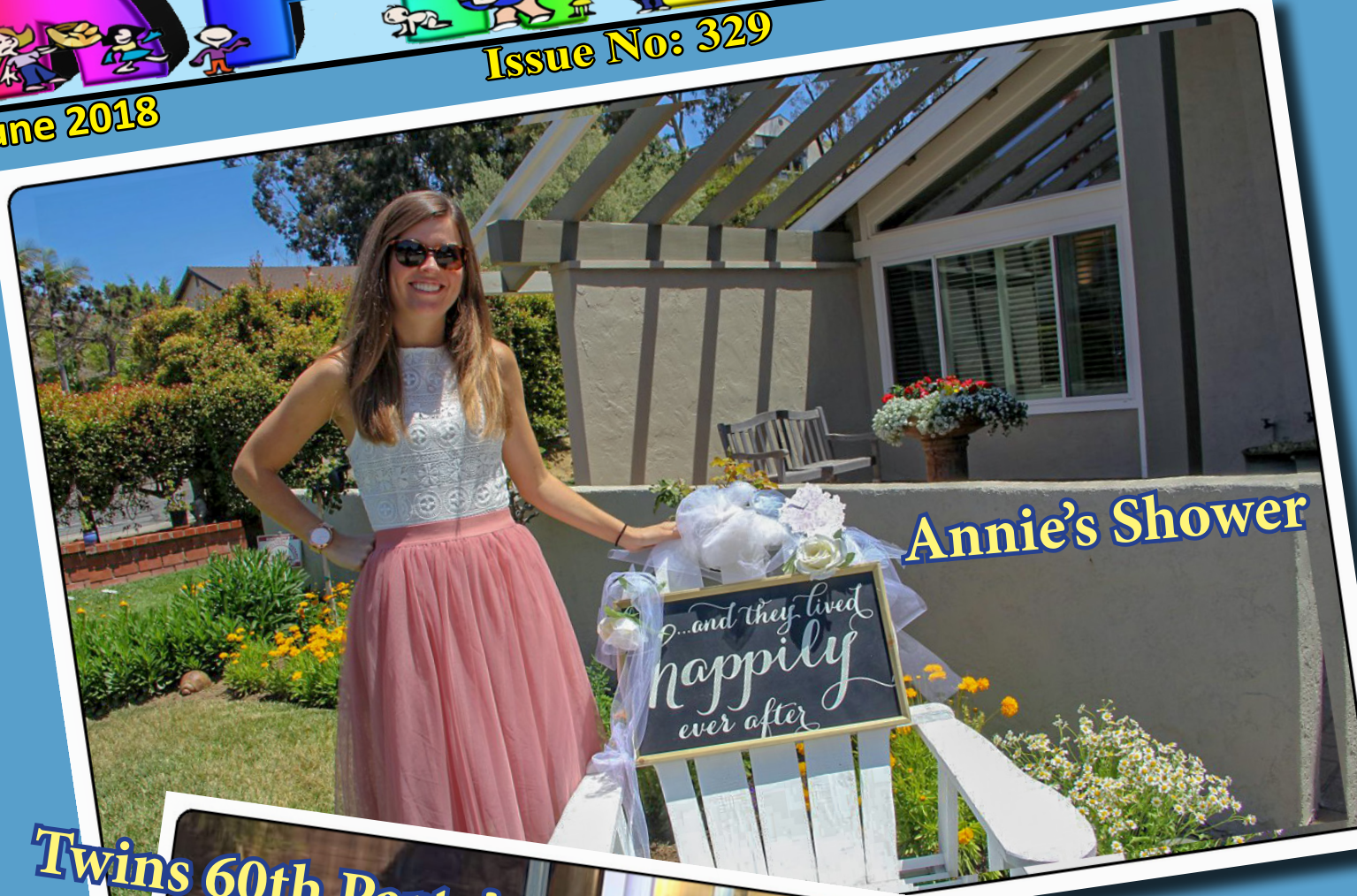


June 2018



Annie's Shower

Twins 60th Party!



Party Time!



Saturday June 9th was a historic day for the Riel Family as it marked the first time that I can recall, where two major events took place. First in the afternoon Annie's bridal shower was held at Holly and Rex's home (good friends of the Gillinghams from the old hood) and later that evening Bob Gillingham (with the help of his kids) put on a party for Birdy and Listy to celebrate their 60th birthday.

The reason the twin's birthday party was held almost a week later was mostly due to the fact that the San Diego Rock and



Roll marathon took place on their birthday. And with almost the entire Gillingham family participating in the run (see article in this edition) they might not be in a mood to party as hard after running all that way.

Since I didn't attend the shower (no men were invited, and we are thankful for that) I can't really tell you what happened in great detail. However, based upon past events I can almost perfectly describe it... Friends and family showed up at the appointed time, everyone laughed and talked while enjoying munchies and drinks. More food was served, Pictures taken, and the gifts were opened to much ohhhs and ahhs. By the end of the party everyone had a great time.

I'm not trying to be flippant or disrespectful, but the fact is, it is very hard to put a new spin on our parties. To be sure, they each are unique and quite wonderful, but I find it very difficult to describe them especially as I am not very good at writing articles (which explains why I am always bugging you guys for material).

So, for the last few days I have been thinking what can I do to write an interesting story about Annie? Not that she is not interesting, quite the opposite. I find Annie to be the

most interesting person I have ever met. There is a reason I call her my favorite Niece (apologies to all the other nieces and nephews, I love you all) she has the perfect combination of adventure, intelligence, creativity, happy personality, helpfulness and just downright fun to be with, that I can't help but smile when I see her.



So, as I am mulling over how to write an article about her I walk into a meeting with a client of ours and notice this brass plaque on the wall outside the conference room. It reads "the Bruce Hartman Memorial conference room" (my meeting was at Hawthorne Power where Bruce used to work) and I realize Bruce is talking to me. He reminds

me that he wrote an article about Annie back in February of 2015 and I should print that.

Well never wanting to disagree with Uncle Bruce and also knowing that I could never do as good a job as he did. I thought it was a great idea! Also, it got me out of writing one myself. So, what follows is Bruce's interview with Annie...

This month's "Bet 'ya didn't Know" is all about Annie. We met for dinner on Friday night for the sole purpose of digging and prying into Annie's life to bring you all something that... I bet you didn't know!

Only just a very few years ago Annie was living in Spain and teaching English to age 3 through adult learners.



There were some frustrating times which, at the time, had Annie on the bubble with trying to decide her direction. She was at the end of a three year chapter of her life in Spain and Annie was giving serious consideration to the pursuit of a law degree with her eye toward a career in law. Interestingly enough it was living in Spain that killed the idea of that degree.

In Spain the people "work to live" but here in the U.S. we tend to "live to work." This insightful perspective gave Annie a more balanced look at what she was doing with her life and the good she was bringing to those that she worked with. Annie recognized that, on the whole, Americans were more creative and innovative in the work place / classroom than those people she worked with in Europe. She decided that the world needed more people like herself in the classroom that had a true passion to teach...something she was beginning to recognize she possessed but was sadly missing in Spain.

Annie's desire to make a difference brought her home with a laser-like focus on obtaining a teaching credential and getting into a classroom. She began this year as a first grade classroom teacher in a Spanish immersion school. Annie teaches all the subjects including PE and Art in Spanish to a class of six year olds that, for the most part, do not speak Spanish. She starts her day at 7:15am and ends at 3:00pm and in all that time never utters a single word in English. There was no hesitation in her answer when I asked if this was simply a job or was this to be her career. Without a doubt this is Annie's passion.

I asked Annie what she felt was the best part of her job. Her answer showed me a side of her I hadn't noticed before. I realized I was interviewing a mature, professional woman and not my little niece Annie when she explained that the best part of her job was being witness to the kids just being six years old with the innocents and magical moments that go along with that. She expressed that she wished she had another adult in the room to share some of those magical moments with. When I followed that question with "what is the worst part of your job?" her answer was similar: "being witness to them being six years old!" When all of them are melting down and she is tired there is a recipe for the perfect storm. Luckily those days are few and far between.

It was so awesome to listen to Annie speak about her life path with all the confidence in the world. She is setting some lofty goals with a plan to go for her master's degree in language, administration or policy in bilingual education. She is exceptional at her job and is able to articulate why that is... "We are nearly halfway through my

first year and no one has died yet.” Annie is retrospective and goes through the process of self-analysis regularly to keep herself on the right path. When I asked her if this was her dream job or more of a stepping stone toward a different path there was pause. She absolutely loves the classroom but nonetheless feels that this is more likely a stepping stone to do more in the bilingual education world. She sees bilingual education as being in its infancy and in serious need of research and development and sees herself in either an administrative or research role down the road. For now, Annie is fulfilled and loving what she is doing!

This next summer Annie has been invited back to Spain as the director of the “Study Abroad Program.” It is a one month commitment but she will stay in Europe for an additional month or more to take in the sights that she hopes will include Iceland for at least some of the time.

It is so cool to watch all of our kids grow up and become something! It was absolutely my pleasure to sit and chat with Annie about her life and plans for the future...these are not kids anymore!



Twins 60th Party Blowout!



I could also describe the Twins Birthday party (which I did attend) with much the same detail as above... but I will add a few things. Kristy, Annie (have you noticed how much Annie is in the news these days?) and David all did a great job of decorating the house (oh did I mention it was at Riel Party Central a.k.a. The Gillingham house) and there were plenty of games to keep kids of all ages entertained. Jeff wrote a Birthday song (see sidebar) and there was a lot more dancing and drinking (and more Drinking) than most other parties. In fact, I'm told it didn't break up until the wee hours of Sunday morning. So again, I'm

thinking what can I write about that would be interesting? Bruce? Bruce? Darn I guess even he has his limits.

So first off, I will start by saying I am closer to the twins than any of my other siblings. Mostly because we are so close in age and we would always hang out together as kids. Also, I run with Listy 3 -4 times a week so I spend a lot of time with her. Birdy and I walk on occasion, but I will never forget how after I had my back surgery and was limited to walking, how Birdy and Holly (yes, the same Holly from above) got up early every morning (5:30 AM) to walk with me until I was ready to run again.

The twins have always been there. Not just for me, but the whole family. They, along with Francie, were and are, the glue that binds us together. Many times, I said Mom and Dad should have stopped with me, but the reality is, our family and this world is a much better place with the twins in it. I love both of you very much and I am looking forward to another 60 years of fun!



Sung To Hello Dolly:

Hello Twinnies,
Happy Birthday Twinnies,
It's so nice to have you reach that Golden Age.
You're lookin' swell, Twinnies
We can tell, Twinnies
You're still goin', Rock 'n' Rollin'
Still in your shopping stage.

We see the magic teachin'
And the teen's you're reachin'
They're among your best traits from way back when.
So, wish them the best day ever, fellas.
They're so very clever, fellas.
Twinnies never age a day at all.

Hello Twinnies,
Happy 60th Twinnies
It's so nice to see you've kept that youthful glow.
You're lookin' good, Twinnies
It's understood, Twinnies
You're still boppin', City hoppin'
It's all the wine, you know.

We feel the room swayin'
And the music's playin'
For all those friendships from way back when.
So, wish them the best life ever, fellas
Maybe down the aisle again, fellas
Twinnies deserve to have their special day!

OK enough of the sappy stuff, how about a story about when they were very young? Let's see what shall it be. How they got their names (birdy and Listy)? No, too many different versions (I like mine the best). How a large gate fell on Birdy? I think not. Wait what about how when Birdy slid down the hill and ended up sitting on a cactus plant (I can still see mom pulling thorns out of her rear end with tweezers)? Well now that I think about it, that was all there was to the story. Hmmm.

Ok since it's their birthday let me tell you how they took advantage of their older brother back in 1972. I remember we were in the kitchen, of our original house on Lyndon road. I was 15 at the time, working 32 hours a week at K-mar Market making a decent amount of money, well enough to pay Carol \$20 to clean my room. Keep in mind that according to dollartimes.com the 2018 equivalent is about \$120.00 so that was a lot of money back then. And for the record Carol earned every dollar I paid her because my room was an absolute mess!



Anyways, I was paying Carol when Listy walks in and says “hey what about me?” I of course offer her a job but Listy is having none of that and reminds me that it’s her Birthday. “so what” I say and she promptly tells me that I should give her a gift. I look in my wallet which was already significantly lighter from paying Carol and find another Twenty. I pull it out and tell her that she needs to split it with Birdy, Unfortunately for me, about this very same time Birdy walks in and all she sees in Listy getting money from me. “No fair!” She yells “Where is mine?” I patiently explain that this was a birthday gift to the both of them and that Listy would share. Oh, how trusting I was back then. Listy promptly tells me that it was hers because it had an “L” on it for Listy. Upon examination of the Bill sure enough, it was an L series twenty. Birdy seeing that I still had my wallet open looked inside and saw another twenty and yes, it was a “B” series twenty. She grabbed it and said, “see B is for Birdy” and the Twins both left the room before I even knew what hit me. Moral of this story? An open wallet around the twins is not something that you want to experience (maybe Bruce did help me with this story after all).

Well there you have it Happy Birthday Twins!



Bud's Birthday Celebration



By Margaret Riel

Margaret and Bud celebrated Bud's Birthday by a trip to Catalina, the lovely mostly uninhabited island off the coast of Long Beach. The ferry is quick and



enjoyable and the scale of the one city on the island, Avalon, is small with very few year-long residents. The residents drive golf carts instead of cars. Most of the people you see are tourists from the mainland or from the cruise ships that stop nearby and ferry people to the island.

We had a great time hiking to the summit on the first day. On

the second day we gave our legs a break and worked on upper body strength as we kayaked around the north end of the island. It was so peaceful to be out in the ocean gliding along. The third day we gave both our legs and arms the day off and joined others in a hummer exploration of the back country looking for the tiny fox that have evolved to live on the island, as well the bison (buffalo) who roam free.



Funny story -- the buffalo (males only) were brought to the island to be movie stars in a feature film, but once they got here, they got free and never appeared in the film. When Mr. Wrigley bought the island, he decided that the buffalo needed some help to run free and brought over 30 females and now there is a small herd of



about 150 bison.

There was still plenty of opportunity to eat well and enjoy tourist watching before we returned home. We had a great time and highly recommend this weekend get-a-way!

Catalina Island History

Santa Catalina Island has a long and storied history. There have been inhabitants on Catalina Island for the past 7,000 years. The Island's history as a resort community spans only the last 120 years. The first Europeans to arrive claimed the Island for the Spanish Empire, it was later turned over to Mexico and then to the United States. The island has served as a stop for smugglers, gold diggers, pirates, hunters, the Union army and missionaries.

By 1864, after a series of owners, the Island was entirely owned by James Lick, who was once considered the wealthiest man in California. After a few failed attempts at a resort development, Santa Catalina was sold to the sons of Phineas Banning in 1891. The Banning Brothers established the Santa Catalina Island Company to develop the island as a resort. The brothers developed the city of Avalon, and paved the first dirt roads into the island's rugged interior. They built hunting lodges, like the Banning House Lodge, and ran stagecoach tours around the island. They created access to Avalon's beach areas, like Lovers Cove, Casino Point and Descanso Beach. In 1909, they built the green pleasure pier, which still stands today. All was going well until 1915, when a fire broke out, burning down half of Avalon's buildings. The fire, along with the hard times and restrictions of World War I, forced the brothers to sell the island in 1919.

William Wrigley Jr., founder of the chewing gum, bought nearly every share of the the Santa Catalina Island Company until he owned the controlling interest. Wrigley invested millions in the island, building infrastructure and attractions. To bring attention and tourists to the Island, he made the Island the spring training home of the Chicago Cub's, which he owned. Wrigley built the Catalina Country Club to house the team's lockers and provide a gathering place for players. The team continued to train on the island until 1951. In 1929, he built the iconic Catalina Casino, which boasts the world's largest circular ballroom. Philip Wrigley, son of William Wrigley Jr., took over and continued his father's vision, after his father passed away in 1932. During World War II, the island served as a military training facility and was closed to tourists.

The Island was a popular spot with the Hollywood elite during the 1930s, 40s and 50s. It was also a popular spot for Hollywood filming. Many silent films was filmed here. Hollywood filming continues today.

In 1975, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Wrigley and Philip's sister, Dorothy Wrigley Offield, deeded 42,000 acres owned by the Santa Catalina Island Company to the Catalina Island Conservancy, giving the Conservancy control of 88% of the island. The conservancy is the oldest and largest private land trust in Southern California. Catalina Island is home to 60 plant, animal and insect species found nowhere else in the world.

Today, the Santa Catalina Island Company is owned by descendants of William Wrigley Jr., who carry on his vision for building and maintaining a world class island resort.



DID YOU KNOW?

William Wrigley Jr. purchased stock in the Santa Catalina Island Company without having seen the island. Once he came to see what he had invested in, he decided to buy out the other investors and became sole owner of the island in 1919.



On Sunday, June 3, most of the Gillingham family participated in the Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Marathon & 1/2 Marathon. Listy, Kristy, Seamus, David and Annie all ran the race. Listy, who turned 60 on this very same day, was the only one who took on the whole marathon, while the rest pumped out a half.



It was a very warm day and the Gillinghams all set fast paces. So fast that we (Lyle, Birdy and Robert) missed Listy at the first vantage point. Fortunately, we were able to see the rest of the group. Lyle and Birdy caught up with Listy and running associate Doug, by old town, while Robert found both of them at Mission Bay and Fashion Valley.



Listy would have finished under 5 hours but the race was disrupted at just about the time she was due to cross the finish line because race officials were made aware of a situation that required the event to be stopped. The situation involved reports of an active shooter who was engaged with local law enforcement which was not related to the race. Officials, in conjunction with first responders, activated their critical incident protocol and the course was shut down and approximately 4,900 athletes, including Listy, were rerouted into a designated safe zone.

The race was officially stopped for about 30 minutes until law enforcement officials gave the clearance for runners to resume their progress toward the finish line and the post-race finish area where they were

able to meet up with their family and friends. Everyone was incredibly grateful for the quick response and partnership with first responders as they all worked together to keep the race participants safe.

Thankfully no one was seriously injured and except for the 30 minute delay the race was a big success. Listy's time may not be correct but she has still kept intact her "Legacy" status by completing all 21 races that have been held. Below you will see everyone's race times, congratulations to all the finishers!

Listy Gillingham

6.2	13.1	20	26.2
01:07:47	02:24:42	03:45:32	05:32:59
PACE	PACE	PACE	PACE
00:10:56	00:11:02	00:11:16	00:12:42
PACE		CHIP TIME	CLOCK TIME
12:42		05:32:59	05:43:35
OVERALL		DIVISION	GENDER
2553 / 4023		6 / 30	877 / 1600

Kristy Keith

3.1	6.2	10	13.1
00:30:08	01:04:13	01:36:23	02:05:33
PACE	PACE	PACE	PACE
00:09:43	00:10:21	00:09:38	00:09:35
PACE		CHIP TIME	CLOCK TIME
09:35		02:05:33	02:39:10
OVERALL		DIVISION	GENDER
3536 / 13849		269 / 1370	1342 / 8029

Seamus Keith

3.1	6.2	10	13.1
00:30:09	01:04:14	01:36:23	02:05:34
PACE	PACE	PACE	PACE
00:09:43	00:10:21	00:09:38	00:09:35
PACE		CHIP TIME	CLOCK TIME
09:35		02:05:34	02:39:10
OVERALL		DIVISION	GENDER
3537 / 13849		354 / 921	2195 / 5820

David Gillingham

3.1	6.2	10	13.1
00:32:23	01:08:38	01:45:42	02:17:23
PACE	PACE	PACE	PACE
00:10:26	00:11:04	00:10:34	00:10:29
PACE		CHIP TIME	CLOCK TIME
10:29		02:17:23	02:51:01
OVERALL		DIVISION	GENDER
5394 / 13849		508 / 896	3011 / 5820

Annie Gillingham

3.1	6.2	10	13.1
00:32:06	01:09:09	01:54:51	02:29:11
PACE	PACE	PACE	PACE
00:10:21	00:11:09	00:11:29	00:11:23
PACE		CHIP TIME	CLOCK TIME
11:23		02:29:11	03:02:48
OVERALL		DIVISION	GENDER
7191 / 13849		665 / 1370	3456 / 8029



FAMILY

SHORTS

Brett and Carinda are on the Move!

Fun news!!! Carinda and I have decided to move back to the city that never sleeps!! New York here we come! Jessica and Bryce are excited, that's about it lol! Oh, and Marianne our god mother!

With that, we had to say goodbye to my first home! The few of you who have visited will understand the attraction I had to it, first moving in and then getting to call it home for a year and a half! From learning how to build fences to picknick tables and installing custom wood paneling on the breakfast bar, this home taught me I could possibly be related to much more capable humans such as Craig Hartman and Bob Gillingham.

Carinda and I have formed some great memories in that house which we will hold to the heart, but we are also happy it's going into great hands, another first time home owner!

The journey continues, and for us it will carry on in New York. We'll spend the summer between LA & San Diego, then will depart on our cross-country journey in the most reliable hunk of machinery man has created, Donny the Dodge!

That's it for now. Signing off from Barcelona. And we promise a spectacular article next month from our Europe/Russia World Cup trip, but gotta go live it first. - Brett and Carinda

