

R F N I

March - 2021

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40
YEARS OLD



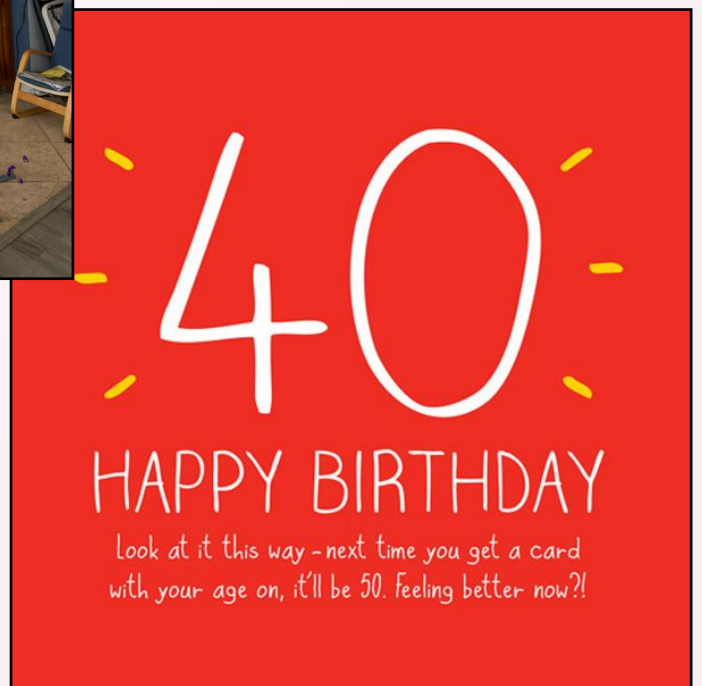
Chavva Turns 40!!

By Carol Benesch

On January 26, Chavva turned 40! She is not crazy about it, (we would love to be there again) haha! Due to COVID the celebration was a family dinner at our house and then 3 nights with Jason at an AirB&B (with no kids!)

Noah, Madeline, and Camden got to stay with us. We had a fun time despite the rain and hail. Camden got to explore the rain with an umbrella, and they all had fun constructing Legos and a take apart, put together, car.

Jason also had a COVID safe party with Chavva's family and a few friends on the last day of their little birthday vacay.



On March 5th, Madeline turned 5!! Her golden birthday was a lot of fun. On her actual birthday, Jeff and I picked her up from school and took her to the toy store to pick out a present. We took her to Gepetto's to look for a different variety of toys than Target. But she still found the Barbie section and picked out another Barbie.

Next the Lego store where Noah picked out a perfect gift to give to her, Lego Friends, while finding a little something for himself as well.

Madeline loves dolphins, so on Saturday we started off at Sea World with the Dolphin show first on the list, followed by flamingoes, turtles, tide pools, and Shamu.

After that, Jason and Chavva had a cul-de-sac & friends BBQ with lots of ride-on vehicles and dancing. It was a complete day with lots of fun and celebrating!

Madeline Turns, 5!!

By Carol Benesch



Bryce Sorem

Brett Sorem

"Just promise me ONE thing.
Never be friends with skaters, EVER."

"Dude, NEVER!"

A TWO BRO CREW PRODUCTION

BRO'D TRIP



March 19

WE PRESENT A TWO BRO CREW PRODUCTION **BRYCE & BRETT SOREM**

TALENT WRANGLER **"DONNY" THE DODGE** CINEMATOGRAPHY & SOUND BY **NO ONE**

BABY SITTERS **BRIDGET & CARINDA SOREM** PRODUCTION DESIGN **THE WORLD**

MUSIC BY **SOME SERIOUSLY AWESOME BANDS**

LOOSELY WRITTEN & IMPROVED BY **WHO DO YOU THINK**

EDITED & DIRECTED BY **BRETT SOREM**

amazon

prime video

Bryce and I are thrilled to share with you the exciting news that our Bro movie is going to be up on Amazon and also available on Amazon Prime starting March 19. If you just want the details scroll to the bottom and I got you. But here is a little back story on how this all got started.

This is a film that is almost 20 years in the making. Bryce and I made the first "Steve" Movie when we were still teenagers. You may ask what is a "Steve?" Well, a Steve is basically the same thing as a "Bro", but you can call them Steve's to their face and they have no idea. Steves and Skaters are arch-enemies. So, we made the first film. It was barely watchable, but hey, it was a fun project to make.

About 5 years later in our young 20's we made a sequel, "The Steve's Quest for Enlightenment... and Babes" which you may have seen. That one was admittedly marginally watchable, though it showed promise, and was a product of a weeklong vacation to a couples resort we went to with Francie. (What else were we going to do at a couples resort? Not score with babes obviously)

After that film I moved to New York, Bryce began his culinary school; our lives as adults started to take shape. There were times I dreamt of making a real full length feature Steve movie, I even fantasized about it with many of my film buddies, but deep down I knew it was probably never going to happen. The Steve and Skater characters had always been a huge part of who we are and bringing them to the "Big" screen would be epic. However, Bryce and I had our adult lives across the country, our paths crossing to make this movie would have to take a miracle ... Fast forward about 10 years; that miracle happened.

It is 2016 in Europe. We were having the trip of our lifetime, lots of beers, bars, and soccer. Then Bryce got a phone call, and the best thing that could have ever happened did ... Bryce's restaurant closed down (the one he worked at, not his own.) Bryce was now unemployed.

This meant that for a short period of time Bryce was going to be a free man. Immediately I was like, "Bro, I'm sorry you lost your job and all, but I think it's time." He knew exactly what I was talking about. "Let's make the Steve Movie feature."

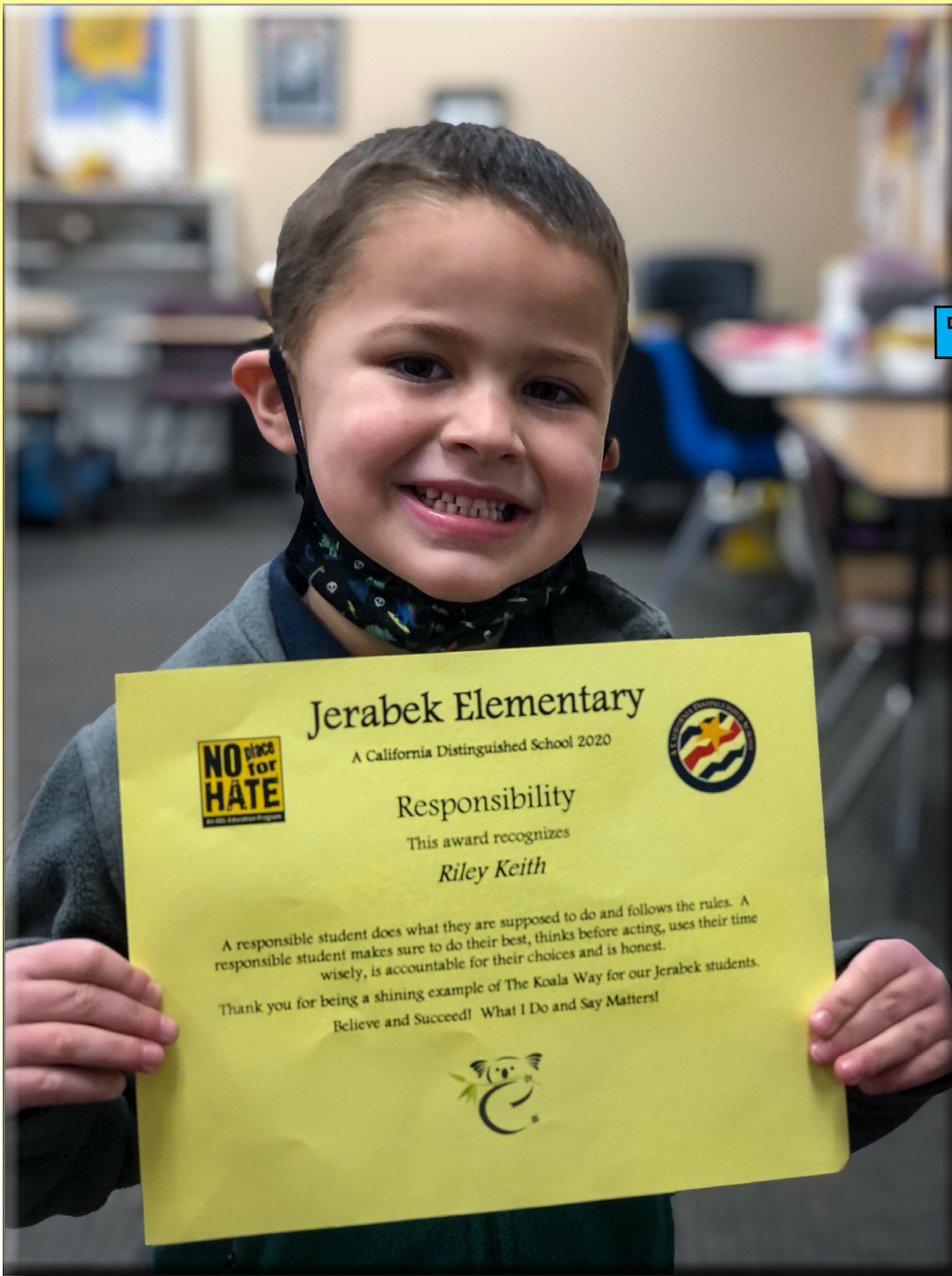
After a few weeks of drinking and brainstorming across Europe and back home in the states, we pulled the trigger. A month later we set off on the road trip across the USA from San Diego to NYC filming Bro'd Trip.

A lot of things have happened since then. We both got married, Bryce had a son, Kieran, and unfortunately, we lost our Mom Francie to cancer. I know she would have loved to see this movie, with both her sons up on the website she shopped on religiously.

So, if you can, when March 19th rolls around, check out our movie. You can see the trailer and a little blurb about Bro'd Trip. It is available for purchase on Amazon, and for free if you have Amazon prime. Both Bryce and I greatly appreciate your support.

I hope you all are well and I wish everyone a much better 2021.

Cheers-



Riley Earns Responsibility Award

By Listy Gillingham

The Keith family is on a role in terms of capturing special honors. Last month was Riley's turn as he was selected by his teacher to be awarded the Responsibility Award for his kindergarten zoom class.

His teacher was quick to note all the special reasons why Riley was selected which included:

- Logs into Zoom every day and is always early (one of the first students to log in).
- Checks in with teacher to make sure he's done all of his work.
- Asks his teacher regularly if he got it right and is eager to redo anything that isn't perfect.
- Does his work independently (without help from parents or teachers) as he is in a classroom at Parker with his two older brothers.

Kristy was seen sitting with Riley as he got the award that came in special envelope for him to open during the Zoom meeting. The principal was there to congratulate him as well! We are all so very proud of Riley for this special recognition.



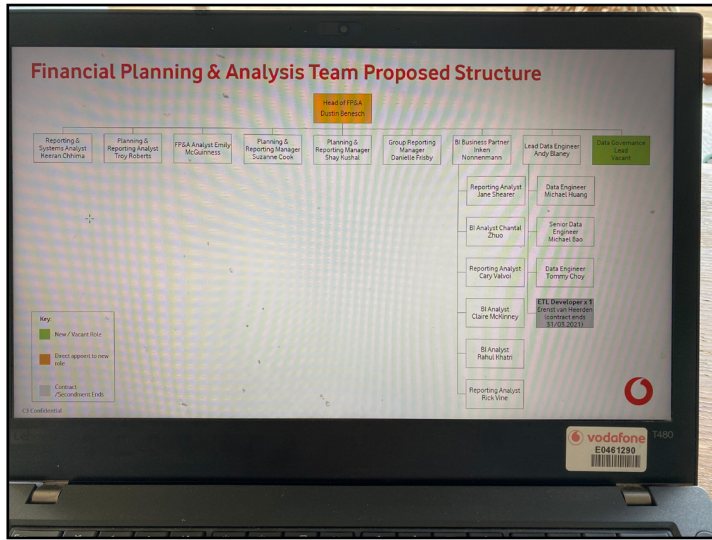
Miguel and Jessica Become New Parents!!

By Carol Benesch

The Rios family welcomed a new member, Shelby to their family! Shelby is a terrier mix and one cute little dog. They adopted the 2-year-old puppy the weekend of the snow storm which dumped 18 inches in just a few days!! It didn't bother Shelby a bit, she loves the snow. It was love at first sight and the kids are over the moon with their new canine sister!

Dustin gets a Promotion and Lauren gets closer to being an Author!!

By Carol Benesch



Dustin's hard work and good performance has moved him up with Vodafone New Zealand!! He was promoted to head of Financial Planning and Analysis. He has an 11-person team under his leadership, and he reports and works closely with the CFO of the company. It was quite a promotion for him, and we are incredibly proud of how well he has done.



Lauren, while taking care of their 4 boys, has been writing a book, [THE ATLAS OF MOTHERHOOD](#): Global stories, insights and advice to help the modern mother thrive in pregnancy, birth & beyond. She recently sent it out to a few publishers and was contacted by the main one in Australia. She had a meeting with the publishing company, they liked it and it is being presented to the sales force team. Fingers crossed, it will soon be in print and we will have an author in the family!!



Grayson celebrated his 6th birthday on February 15th. He also loves Lego's and enjoyed putting together the spaceship we sent him, along with 4 walkie talkies to use while hiking with his brothers.

It is Summertime in NZ and they are enjoying the outside with very few COVID cases. When the country gets 3 cases, they all go on lockdown for a few days and then it's back to normal with no need for masks. They do a great job with contact tracing and only go on lockdowns when the cases can't be traced.

Holden is enjoying sailing lessons and they all are enjoying the beach life!



Congratulations to both Lauren and Dustin, we miss you bunches, but are very happy with the successes you are having in New Zealand. Hopefully we will be able to visit soon!

The Benesch Owl Box

By Carol Benesch

As many of you have already heard, we put up our first owl box! I have been wanting one after watching many through local cam sites. I asked some questions about purchasing one, when a neighbor on the Next Door app, offered me one he was taking down.

Jeff and I picked it up, cleaned and painted it, installed a nest cam, and with the help of our neighbors, erected it just off our patio in our backyard.

Within 3 days, we had a visiting owl. He would come and spend a few minutes looking around and then leave. Eventually he talked his mate into coming by and once she saw it, she seemed to give it the ok as they both moved in the Friday before Valentines' Day.

We have been told a number of times that it usually takes months and sometimes years for owls to move in, but once they do, you stand a very good chance of having a pair every year.





Barn Owls do not make their own nests, they use trees, barns, holes in cliffs, and boxes! We think that the lingering owl scent...a very strong scent, attracted the pair to our box. They moved in for good on February 10th and by Feb. 14th, we had our first egg!!

We named them Val 'n' Tino and have watched the mating rituals of the owl life cycle from the very beginning. I have since read a lot about owls, but watching it happen right outside our house is something we never expected!



Barn owls do not hoot, they screech. They call out a lot to each other and now while we are out in the evenings, we can hear them in the distance. We enjoy watching them fly in and out of the box. They are incredibly beautiful, and do not make a sound when they fly by. They don't seem to mind us staring and taking a few photos, which I'm enjoying immensely. We now have 4 eggs that we can see, but since Val has moved somewhat out of ideal cam view, there could be more. They lay between 4-10 with 6 being the average. Of those, usually only 2-4 owlets actually survive.



Our next adventure will be trying to get up to the 13' high box on a ladder while both of them are out of it hunting, so I can move the shifted camera back into place. Not an easy feat, so we are taking our time trying to figure out the best way. Stay tuned for pics of the new hatchlings in late March.

Here is a link to the live feed of our owl box.
<https://video.nest.com/live/2a4Mssop5e>





Richard's Trip Across The USA

Editor's Note: As many of you know Richard is on a trip across the country to visit the four corners on the continental United States. Below are some excerpts from his Facebook account of his trip.

It is 6AM on the start of the longest drive of my life. In a few hours I will leave San Diego on the start of a trip that I have been dreaming about. Yesterday I drove down to the parking lot of the South West corner of America on my way to the physical location of the SW corner. On the advice of my friend Mike Anthony, I rode my bike to the beach. On the way to the beach, I made three discoveries. The first is that once again relying on Google for accuracy is a mistake. The second is that San Ysidro is not the SW corner of America. The third is Imperial Beach is.

I have already been to my next stop which is Key West. That unlike the SW corner is clearly marked and not a well-kept secret.



It's another day in America and I am ensconced in the luxurious accommodation of the Amazon Motel in Tucson Arizona after a soul-searching odyssey through the mountains and deserts of the south west. For a mere \$58 dollars I am warm, happy and have an internet connection as I arise from my first sleep on my travels to find the truth in America.

The only drawback in my motel is there is no coffee maker. Being a veteran traveler, I always bring diet cokes for my morning caffeine fix.



Today I am in Houston with my classmate brother Dennis, yesterday I was in San Antonio with my classmate brother Fred. Part of the reason I was in San Antonio was to do interviews for my radio show. I went to the Alamo and interviewed my fellow Americans.



Today I woke up to the sound of the gulf coast surf crashing on the beach. I have now traveled almost twenty-five hundred miles on my quest. Yesterday I went through four states in about four hours. I stopped for gas, and at rest stops speaking to a wide variety of employees, natives and tourists. All of them are Americans. I would not call it scientific, but I would call a cross section. We talked about Truth, America, and voting.