



Family Newsletter

The Family Picnic will be held on

Saturday August 3, 2024

At Raintree Park in Troy Michigan

**Let's start this off with a thank you from
Harold:**

“ I would like to thank everyone who prayed for me before, during and after my recent (Jan 29th) surgery to implant a shunt in my head to capture excess carnio-spinal fluid (csf).”

Love to all,

Thanks again,

Harold

(Cathy's Husband)

From Uncle Dan Fraga & Dean:

Our 3 kids, Dean, Susan & Greg have been enjoying themselves in Australia & New Zealand. Dean & Tea have been there since before Christmas since Dean has combined a research sabbatical (?) with a compatriot in New Zealand with an extended vacation. Greg & Jen joined them in late January and Susan joined them in late February. They are all returning home at the end of March. They've all been sending us almost daily photos and messages of their explorations.

An additional news item is that Helen & I will be headed to South America on March 31st for a 19 day trip that covers parts of Argentina and Chili. It will be in the lower part of South America, including parts of Patagonia -Dan Fraga

Details about our stay:

I am working with two colleagues from Victoria University at Wellington, Drs Wayne Patrick and Chelsea Vickers. We are studying protein evolution in hopes of learning better ways to 'design' proteins to help us solve industrial and/or societal problems. We have spent the majority of our time in Wellington with extended travels to the South Island with our son, Stefan, our friend James, and of course Susan, Greg and Jen.

Also worth noting - Tea retired in December and has been adapting to her new 'employment' situation by taking advantage of the spectacular scenery afforded us in just outside our door with extended walks that for some reason always wind up at a beach! We did get a chance to visit her relatives in Melbourne and that was something much appreciated as it had been over 50 years since they saw each other in person.—Dean Fraga

From DeAnna Smith (Delores's daughter):

1st is for Danica (Julian) Smith. she will be graduating this year and was awarded a \$100,000.00 scholarship to attend CCS this fall to pursue a degree in art & design.



Lake Shore High School

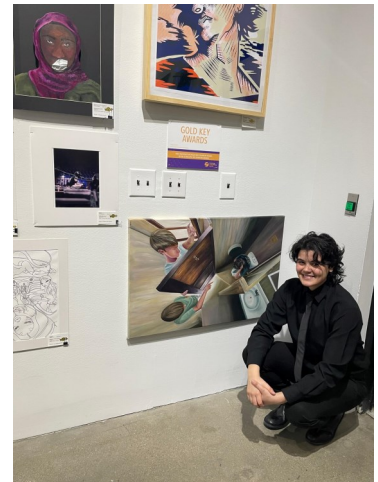
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Please join us in congratulating Senior Julian Smith for an outstanding accomplishment last night. The Scholastic Art and Writing Award is a competitive program with over 4400 artworks and 173 portfolios submitted from the southeast Michigan and thumb region, only 116 pieces and 60 portfolios were selected for exhibition this year. Julian received top award of 4 gold keys for painting, mixed media, and photography, 3 honorable mentions, and an honorable mention for his portfolio.



Congratulations Julian for such a prestigious achievement! Best of luck in the national competition.



DeAnna Smith (continued):

My son, Gavin Smith, is serving his last year in the US Navy and is currently deployed for 9 months in the pacific ocean on the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT. He will finish out his service in Hawaii and San Diego. He plans to work in the logistics department of the military.

He got engaged on NYE to Alanna Taylor and they are planning to wed in 2026.

Next up is Daniel Fraga (son of Paul Fraga)

Jude Fraga-Wolf (Adrienne Fraga's son, my grandson) has been accepted into the theatre program at Booker T Washington performing arts High School in Dallas, Texas!

From Jessica Rustoni (Steve Rustoni's Daughter)

Marigny Grace was a princess in Krewe of Mid City in 2024 Mardi Gras Season. It was the Krewes 90th year parading. Marigny Grace rode on the queens float and was even mentioned on local news channels. They paraded on Sunday, June 11, 2024. She was escorted by a friend, Andy Wellbaum. Hail Mid City (or Alvin City as Marigny says) She practiced throwing beads & toys for weeks. When she got off the float, she said "that was fun can I have pizza now?" We traveled to New Orleans on three separate occasions, once for her coronation ball, another for the Mardi Gras Ball and lastly for the parade. She loved getting stuffed animals at all of the parades, she said her favorite part was the stuffed animals and throwing out Doubloon's at everyone watching her. She told everyone she met that she was princess for the day. During our time down in New Orleans, we got to see a lot of our friends as well as go on a private zoo tour and play with penguins, swamp tour, boat tour of the city, went to the zoo & aquarium & much more. Our favorite parade was Krewe of Barkus, a parade that celebrates the local dogs & helps rescues dogs find their forever home. It was barbie themed this year so they were all dressed in pink.

From Camille Vondreele (Paul's daughter):

In December Robert VonDreele was honored in Washington for his contribution to science by his colleagues from around the world with a symposium and dinner.

On New Years Eve we had lots of family in for a big celebration and a visit from Robert & Jeff on New Years Day!



From Kristen Hughes (Camille's Daughter)

I want to thank anyone who ever did this newsletter. This is something that takes a lot of time and effort. I also want to specifically thank Cathy Stone for her reaching out and checking in on me during this first Newsletter.

I am headed off to New York this summer for my 2nd year as dance director and this year I will also be assisting in the musical . In December of 2023, I directed my first musical. My daughters, Isabel and Lucy were able to participate and it was such a wonderful experience.

Have a great summer and I hope you enjoyed a little change in the newsletter.

Kristen

Here is a collage of photos of my girls doing things they love!

Musicals & Music

