

STEVENS' FAMILY NEWSLETTER



THE YEAR IN REVIEW...

We just got back from a week at Disney. It was an early Christmas with Aubre (since she won't be home until after the New Year). The Christmas 'Elf' even found us in Disney with our family tradition of new pj's on our special Christmas Eve. We celebrated Christmas the next day with Aubre. It was amazing to see Disney in December, all the decorations, all the lights, all the characters.. I'll be updating my website with some of the many photos, so please pay a visit when you have time.

I started a new job last December. I miss my friends, but try to stop by and see them.

Last year we had sustained some roof damage before Christmas. It took two months, but finally we were able to 'move' back into our bedroom. It's beautiful.

In May we were so fortunate to have a mother robin lay her eggs right outside our front door. It was amazing to see God's miracle right outside our door.

We did a couple day trips to the beach this past summer. It's so hard to believe that soon we won't have any kids at home to go away with us.

We had a wonderful family vacation in August to Disney. Several of the photos are from our trip.

On September 5th we said goodbye to Aubre, as she would be spending four months interning at Disney.

Later that same day Dale had his Harley Davidson delivered!!! Dale had wanted a bike for as long as I can remember and finally he was getting something for himself. I was so happy for him.

On October 4th we surprised Dale and flew Aubre home for his birthday. Boy was he surprised!!!

A couple weeks later, Dale and I went back to Florida for a short weekend trip to visit Aubre and got to experience our first visit to the park in the fall. The decorations were amazing.



As I mentioned above, our trip last week was an early Christmas. We got to go to Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party! We stayed in the All-Star Music Family Suite! We visited some of the amazing deluxe hotels that we would never be able to stay at – The Grand Floridian, Animal Kingdom Lodge, Wilderness Lodge and the Boardwalk (in addition to all the parks).

The Stevens Family

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TYLER

Tyler turned 16 on February 23rd. He has finally started to grow. He is now taller than me. He is driving by himself and LOVES the independence.

The swim team at Brandywine High is a very close-knit family. Ty joined that family last school year. He made lots of friends.

In the spring he was on the golf team again and actually got some playing time. I got to see him play (finally) and it was such a wonderful experience. He is good!!!

In May, Tyler's art teacher selected some of his metalworking projects to be displayed at the Brandywine School District Young Artist Exhibit.

Tyler finished his sophomore year on the honor roll (this is great news as he's able to get a discount on his car insurance with good grades).

AUBRE

Aubre has had quite a few highlights this past year. One of the best is that her back surgery that was scheduled for January never came about. She worked with her chiropractor closely and has had a lot of success alleviating her back pain.

Aubre decided she wanted the experience of living on campus, so in February she moved into the Christina Towers with a very good friend for the spring semester at the University of Delaware. She had a ball and loved the independence (except when it was time to buy groceries, or pay the bills)!

In March Aubre was accepted into the Walt Disney World College Program! She was so excited; she'd be spending four months with Mickey and friends. We had already planned our family trip for August so at that point we decided we would have to go back to Disney in December so we could see her. I couldn't imagine not seeing her for four months.

Tyler switched jobs in August when he went to work at Stonegates, a retirement community in Greenville. He is now able to drive himself to work.

Ty still spends most of his free time skateboarding! Fortunately, he hasn't broken anything.

Once again, Ty joined the art club. They did an amazing job on their annual haunted house.

Tyler had a great week at Disney (added bonus to missing school for the week).

On our last day, we spent time in the medical aid unit due to Tyler getting his fingers smashed in the door jam.



While we were in Disney last week, Aubre graduated from the College Program. Here is a photo of her with Mickey, her graduation 'EARS' and her diploma!!

Aubre has made friends from all around the world while in Disney. She has been learning several different languages from her friends from other countries. Although she has been having a lot of fun, she is looking forward to coming home and seeing her friends who live close by.

DALE & STEPHANIE



In May, Dale graduated from Wilmington College with his Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice.

A week later, Stephanie graduated from Del Tech with her Associates Degree in Occupational Therapy. Steph has a great job working at Manor Care, an assisted living facility. She loves what she is doing.

Unfortunately, Dale was not accepted into the police program. He is discouraged and trying to decide what is the best thing to do at this time.

Dale & Steph celebrated their first anniversary in May. Hard to believe they've been married for more than 1½ years already.

They spent a week in the Outer Banks with their friends and did some day trips to the beach.

It was great to share our early Christmas in Disney with them!

