

# Toomey Times

Volume 31

December 2018

It has been a challenging year. We lost both Holly's father and Harold's mother; and here are some things we have been up to:

★ **Heather** (19) graduated from high school and earned a substantial scholarship to St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. Impressed with the college campus and their psychology program, she decided to attend there. So, she became a Rattler. (Cool historical story behind the "Rattler" mascot. Ask Holly about it sometime.) Heather has become quite comfortable riding the city bus, Uber/Lift and the Greyhound bus. She also rode her bike to the polls to vote in November. Now, that's commitment.



★ **Andrew** was in his very first professional play this year: "My Fair Lady" at Garland's Granville Arts Center. Grandpa Morrow would have been proud to see him ballroom dancing.



Andrew became a licensed minister in 2018 and performed a marriage for a close friend. When he's not at work or rehearsal, Andrew can often be found either building computers, gaming, or playing Dungeons and Dragons with his friends. This December, he was once again Young Scrooge and (the best ever) Ghost of Christmas Future in McKinney's Performing Arts Center's "A Christmas Carol." In February, he'll play

Freddie (a lead role) in "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" the musical.

★ **Jonathan** tried his hand at several things at Market Street this year. He worked behind the meat counter for a time, dabbled in produce making fresh salsa, cared for the plants in the floral department, and served free-samples. Market Street likes Jonathan a lot. His heart is really in ocean-life and plant ecology, so he continues to care for and study fish and plants in our home. Earlier this year, Jonathan had Lasik surgery on his eyes partly in preparation for PADI Open Water Scuba Certification, which he and Harold completed this December.



★ **Harold** keeps busy working (13 years now) for McAfee as a Security Architect (focusing on Product, Enterprise, and Cloud vulnerability management). He is serving as Scoutmaster for one of McKinney's LDS Boy Scout troops, with which he spent a week at Kia Kima Scout Reservation in Arkansas this past summer. He now has 2000+ hours of Calculus/Physics tutoring under his belt. He continues preparation for a PhD in Applied Mathematics. Earlier this year, Harold twisted his ankle, while doing scuba, causing him to back off on marathons, but only after completing 100+ of them.



2018 **Honorary Quote of the Year** comes from one of our favorite individuals, Dr. Amar Joshie, of All About Children Pediatrics, when he said, "**Context is so important in life, especially when talking with the Toomeys.**" How true that is, especially with the quotes of the year found on page 2.



**Holly** currently conducts music in sacrament meeting for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints McKinney 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. She also volunteers as a Cub Scout den leader, which she enjoys. She feels den leading has helped her get in touch once again with her inner child in preparation for having their two grandsons in their home. Holly decided she hadn't had enough challenges, so earlier this summer, she had yet another surgery (well, two-in-one) for carpal tunnel and arthritis of her left hand. Bring it on! She enjoys having her 4 kids and 2 grandchildren around.



**In conclusion:** Christ gave us so many gifts, especially the gift of His atonement. May we consider what gifts we can give Him, to let Him know of our love and appreciation for all he has done for us. *"Our kind deeds and good works are the best indication of our love for the Savior"* (Elder Gary E. Stevenson, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2 Dec 2018).

*Merry Christmas*

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**David and Julie Ann's crew** moved to Texas in September to prepare for medical school after

**David** graduated from Utah Valley University with his bachelor degree in Integrated Studies of Psychology



and American Sign Language (ASL). He recently wrote an app for android and will publish it by the end of December. **Julie Ann** wrote and published her first book, "Failure to Thrive." You can buy the kindle version on Amazon.com. 😊 **Nathaniel** (almost 3) is FINALLY potty-trained. Yee-haw! (And tee-hee-hee... David continues to get pay-back for the challenges he gave his parents.) **Ronan** turned 1-year old the day before Thanksgiving. He is getting into a lot of things, walking around furniture, and displays tremendous talent in high-pitched screeching (to the detriment of the dogs' ears.)

**Quotes of the Year**

When put in context these quotes make perfect sense. Out of context, they are somewhat strange. Try to guess who said them! (Answers are upside-down at the bottom of this page.)

- (1) "I loved it when the cow picked his nose!"
- (2) "Life is like a cashmere sweater. When you eat it, it tastes bad."
- (3) "Don't touch Heather. She used to be a fetus."
- (4) "We only have one tongue; don't eat it."
- (5) "This time I only had ONE leg on the whale."
- (6) "Your burping abilities exceed many others'."
- (7) "Don't stick your head in the toilet. Just flush it."
- (8) "That's NOT my quote of the year."

(1) Holly; (2) Jonathan; (3) Andrew; (4) Harold; (5) Heather; (6) David; (7) Julie Ann; (8) Jonathan

*From our house to yours,*



*happy new year*

