

THE NORRIS NEWS

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Olympic Swimming pool?



There was some big equipment in the back yard this spring. The neighbors were thinking we were putting in an Olympic sized swimming pool. As fun as that might be, that is not what

we were doing. We changed our heating and cooling to a geothermal system that uses the temperature underground to heat our house in the winter and cool it in the summer.



The new system did a good job of keeping things cool this past summer and so far this winter things have been good. Not too much frost on the inside of the windows (humidity is under control.)

Princess Bonnie



Bonnie turned 4 this past July. She is all good things princess. She loves taking care of the flowers in the gardens. And when she is not tending to the gardens, she is tagging along with whatever Warren is doing.



Bonnie is into all sorts of things: gardening, stuffed animals, babies, dolls, running, kites, wrestling, pink, sidewalk chalk, playing house, building houses, horses, and the list goes on and on....

Sir Warren

Brave, brave sir Warren. Warren passed first grade with flying colors and is now burning through second grade with great success. His favorite subject is still recess and gym.



His new subject this year is violin. There was much talking about learning to play and setting expectations

for daily practice; without complaining! So far so good. He played during the Christmas show at his school.



Warren was thrilled with the new geothermal system because of the big equipment in the yard for a couple weeks. For some reason he kept asking for a

dirt bike.



Warren played Corner League again this summer and Arthur volunteered to help coach. How is it that he avoided being in the team picture?

Minnesota Zoo

We spent a day at the Minnesota zoo looking all of the penguins, bear, dinosaurs... Yes, dinosaurs at the zoo. Warren was in heaven. Bonnie had a blast too. She just loves animals.





At the small animal petting park, there were plenty of smaller animals that you could touch.



At the large cat exhibit, Warren and Bonnie had a different experience with the cats. Warren was being "held up" and Bonnie was taking a ride.



Warren at the Dragon's Mouth



Yellowstone OR Bust!



After Bonnie's birthday in July, we loaded up the Subaru and headed West; destination, Yellowstone and all points in-between. We made a counterclockwise loop from Nowthen, through North

Dakota, Montana, down through Wyoming, back toward Minnesota through South Dakota.



We found a very pink truck. Poor Bonnie was too tired to get excited about it at the time. She does enjoy seeing the picture. And why wouldn't she? The truck is pink after all.



We have established that Bonnie likes animals; but when they are larger and "get in your face" it is a different story. Arthur heard the "Help! Help!" screams from the back seat while Barbara captured the mule asking for a kiss.

Fall and Winter

Many fun activities going on this past fall and winter.

At the end of October, we all had a fun time at the 101 Market's fall event. There were peddle cars, potato slingshots, corn maze, corn swimming area, rubber duck water pump races, inflatable horses, spider web, pumpkin jumper, etc....

Warren and Bonnie each got a miniature pumpkin. Warren drew 4 faces on his; one for each member of the family.



We finally got some snow in mid December. It had been a dry summer and fall. The 14" of snow was very welcome for its moisture. Keeping the driveway and sidewalks clear, not so much fun.

Bonnie didn't mind the snow at all. She loves the snow.



With Roberta gone, Lucy stepped into the girl entertainment role with Bonnie. They played all sorts of games including hopscotch down the hall and some sort of giggling game.



We like Christmas so much, we had to celebrate it twice this year. Once with Barbara's family and once with Arthur's.



The snow on the hill at Barbara's mom's house was great. It was cold (single digits) and a little powdery. It made for a fast and fun sledding hill. Bonnie didn't even bother with a sled some of the time and slid down the hill on her rear.

Adestinn

Arthur is back hard at work with Adestinn. The business has officially launched and it is slowly picking up steam. Nobody can seem to get an answer as to what it is he does there. He vacuums, changes light bulbs, brings home the recycling, shovels snow, analyzes data, designs database schemas, moves money around electronically, and anything else that needs to be done.



Warren wishes he had gotten his new hat sooner so he could have worn it for the sledding.

Warren and Bonnie enjoy getting together with their cousins on both sides of the family. Roberta and Derik

live out in Pennsylvania and were not able to be there in person. They did participate via FaceTime (video conference on the computer.)

Happy holidays to all!

*Arthur, Barbara,
Warren, & Bonnie*