

THE NORRIS NEWS

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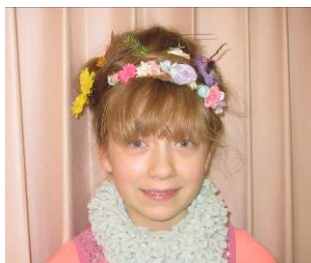
Is that Santa?

I was nestled all snug at my desk, with an electric heater warming my toes and a brisk internet entertaining me. When all of a sudden there rang such a clatter, I turned my chair to see what was... going on.

It seems that Bonnie Santa had come for a visit with her trusty reindog, Buddy.



Bonnie's Hair



Bonnie has always enjoyed her hair. There isn't enough room here to show all of the fun and crazy things she has done.



If you look closely, you can see sticks, pine cones, and Christmas decorations in her hair.

Since the day she was born, Bonnie has had hair.



Until this spring, she had not wanted to cut it. It had gotten long over the years, with only a trim here and there to keep it looking nice.

One day, Bonnie decided that she wanted to try something new; something shorter. She wanted to get her hair cut! There was plenty there to share so when we had it cut, she donated her hair to one of

those places where they make wigs for children and adults. She has enjoyed the short hair. I have heard a rumor that she is going to grow it out long again.



Pizza Anyone?

It seems that Warren was able to find some time between car and engine projects to deliver some pizza to the table.



Another Mower!

When Warren isn't busy delivering pizza to the table, you can find him outside or in the garage working on a car, truck, mower, tiller, snow blower, go-cart, or anything else with an engine.



Based on this picture, it seems that Warren is about 60% Chevrolet and 40% Ford. His 2003 Focus is the newest vehicle in his fleet and the '77 blue Ford F150 is the oldest.

Tech College!

This summer, Warren applied to the Light Truck program at St. Cloud Technical Community College. We were pleased when he was accepted into this popular program. When we had visited SCTCC this summer, all of the available positions had been offered to other students. His good grades and enthusiasm must have impressed the administrators and they gave him one of the positions that had not already been accepted.

As a junior in high school, he is taking his classes through a program called PSEO (Postsecondary Enrollment Options) which lets him take college level courses for free and apply them toward his high school education and toward an associate's degree. The plan is to finish high school and college in the spring of 2023.

What We Did This Summer



This was Bonnie's last year of eligibility to play soccer in the Corner Ball program. She was on the Pink team and our friend Phil was her coach.

She was able to join the soccer team at her school in the fall. Her small school had a short season of only four games where they played some other smaller schools in the area. (Bonnie has pink socks on.)



While Bonnie was busy playing soccer, Warren and Arthur were out playing ultimate Frisbee with a bunch of friends from church. Most of the players were "youths" and a few were dads. Once Bonnie was done with soccer, she joined in playing Frisbee.

After Frisbee, it was a quick walk to the lake where water shenanigans took place. It was all about getting wet and cooling off. It is still unclear how playing King of the Raft is cooling off. But it worked.

Warren found some time off from all of his projects to vacation with some friends where they triked around and spent some time out on the water.



Arthur joined in on the whole "working on cars" thing and took the back of Barbara's new car off.



It seems that is what you have to do to install a new trailer hitch.

Just remove the tail lights, back shroud, bumper beam, and the muffler. Just bolt the hitch on and re-assemble.



Off to Holland

That's right, we went to Holland this summer for a quick vacation. "We" as in Arthur, Barbara, and Bonnie. Warren was busy and didn't want to drive to Holland and hang out with his parents' friends.

So off to Holland, Michigan we went. We toured a working windmill that was imported from Holland (the country). It is called De Zwaan (The Swan).



Holland is on the east side of Lake Michigan and we spend some time on the beach, in the water, and even **in** the beach!



They say that Holland is where L. Frank Baum wrote *The Wonderful Wizard of OZ*. Bonnie was able to get her picture taken with all of the characters from the book. And yes, Toto too.



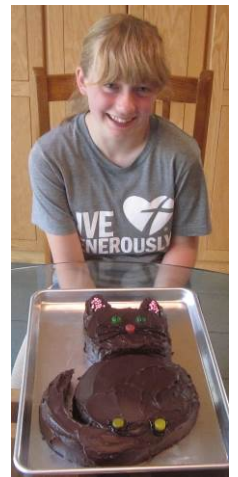
We had a wonderful time visiting and ended our trip at an outdoor concert by Harry Connick Jr.



How Old Are We?

In July, Bonnie turned 13. We seem to have started a tradition where we end up in Fargo, ND for a birthday celebration. It is a fun, long weekend.

In August, Warren turned 17. We had some friends over for pizza.



One of Warren's presents was a bin full of snacks. It may have lasted two or three days. We aren't quite sure.

Buck Frenzy

Warren and Arthur went to the annual dads and kids weekend that is now called Buck Frenzy. There is camping, hiking, games, shooting, and maybe even blowing up a few vegetables.



If you look closely at the picture above, you can see something blaze orange in the tree. You can ask Warren about the underwear flag if you are curious.



Arthur made a special treat for the dads this year. He created several cans of Buck Frenzy Cola. It won't be going on the market any time soon. It seems there are numerous patent infringements with Coca-Cola. But the can is unique!

Thanksgiving

On our way back from celebrating Canadian Thanksgiving with Barbara's family, we stopped at Minnesota's Largest Candy Store. Warren was able to get a little taste of Holland and Bonnie enjoyed some Frozen.



They said \$3 for any pumpkin. Guess which one we picked?



We had a volunteer pumpkin



grow in our garden this year. We didn't plant it, at least not on purpose. Bonnie said she was going to make a pie out of it but she didn't. She made two pies out of it! It was very good, as were the seeds.

Tree Planting

We planted a tree in the back yard as a memorial to Arthur's dad. The whole family was able to come.



Christmas Time

We were able to celebrate Christmas in Fargo with Barbara's family and in Onamia with Arthur's. Both gatherings went well. There were games (cousins were playing until 7 in the morning), music, food, and maybe even some presents.



Bonnie took on the task of getting the manger scene out and all set up. She is really good at this and may update the arrangement from time to time.

On the way up to Fargo, Bonnie was working on a quilted scarf she was making for Daisy dog. All I

know is that it was done by the time we got there.



Bonnie played several Christmas songs during the musical part of the evening. She played both the piano and her violin. Arthur dusted off his saxophone and played a duet with Barbara's nephew Ben. Not to

be confused with Arthur's nephew Ben who used to play saxophone. It can be so confusing.



Happy holidays to all!

*Arthur, Barbara,
Warren, & Bonnie*