

Family Milestones ~~2016~~ 2017

- Thank you to Amber Freitag, Carlee Ventura and their wonderful committee for a fabulous 2016 family party! I think everyone can agree that it was a huge success and is always so much fun to have our family here from out of town!!!
- Thank you to Candie VanderMeyden for putting together our wonderful and informative directories. If you have any changes with your information, please contact Candie, as she does her best to keep things current and to keep us all in touch (801-647-7373)! If you have family party pictures you want added to the directory, send them to Candie as well.
- Thank you also to Uncle Dennis Morelli for everything he does with the family trust to help those in need and who deserve it!
- This year's family party will be held in the memory of Luigi Ventura and Fortunata Maria Morelli.
- Our cousin Alyssa Morelli, Michael Chad Morelli's daughter (Mike and Jayme's granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Carl and Rose Marie Morelli), is this recipient of the 2017 "Marie (Morelli) McCorvey scholarship of \$500.00! Alyssa graduated at the top of her high school class and will be attending Fresno State on a track scholarship! Congratulations Alyssa, but how are you old enough to be in college?!
- Penny Patricia Barney was born January 25th to Kort and Lindsay Barney and making her entire family smile ever since, especially Grandma DaNise!
- In early February, Kayla Freitag was 1 of 10 winners in her school science fair, advancing her to compete at the district level, which she also WON! She placed in the top 4 from secondary school earning her the Morton Salt Award and \$50.00 and has since competed at the state science fair. Way proud parents are Sam and Amber Freitag!
- Jonathan and Candice Bronson and Brandon and Sherry Bronson sailed away on a seventeen day Hawaiian cruise and had the time of their lives, but missed their children dearly!
- Jonette Pantos and PJ Clayton tied the knot in beautiful Bryce Canyon at Look Out Point! Andrea was elated to be her sister's maid of honor! Jonette and PJ were so thankful to all who were able to come and celebrate with them and they said that "everything went smoothly until Aunt Patti fell off the wagon"...rest assured, she's back on the wagon everyone!
- Emmie Sue Morelli, Brady Stanger and big brother Bo, welcomed their beautiful baby Ruby Gene (after great-grandma Emogene Morelli) on July 13th and everyone is crazy about her!
- Mike and Colleen Thornton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary February 9, 2017. Congratulations to a wonderful couple!
- Gia Sorn basketball is playing basketball on the collegiate level at North Idaho College and doing great! Go NIC!
- Riley Sorn was named the state defensive player of the year in the MV Conference and also made first team All-Area for the Richmond Bombers! Proud parents of both Gia and Riley are Jennifer and Andy Sorn/grandparents Mike and Colleen Thornton.
- Jack Jordan went to state in wrestling for Raymond High School this year and rocked! He is also involved in student leadership. More proud parents are JoDean and Kirk Jordan and grandparents Mike and Colleen Thornton again!

- March- Kinzy Bronson competed in her first solo dance competition and won Queen!!! Congrats little lady! Jonathan and Candice Bronson are sure proud as are grandparents Becky and Bill Bronson.
- Cameron Renstrom, son of Amber and Mike Renstrom, (grandson of Jerry and Cheryl Morelli) has been busy this year pursuing his acting and singing talents. He has starred in Alice in Wonderland, Mary Poppins, Willy Wonka and most recently, Beauty and the Beast! Great job Cameron!
- Our darling Nadia Michelle Kureghian, weighing 7lbs. 3oz., was born April 18th to proud parents, Demi and Raffi Kureghian (granddaughter of Dan and Suzanne Miles and Great-Granddaughter of Ralph Morelli).
- Jeffrey Morelli graduated with his bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and has started working at the University of Utah. John and Anita are sure glad to have Jeffrey in Utah again!
- Aunt Patti and Carol's Princess party was another huge success! The Beauty and the Beast themed decor was just perfect and of course the food and fun was spot on! Thank you for your generosity!
- Linda Kelly Zupo just welcomed another grand baby in May.
- Lexi Johnson, daughter of Kelli and Nick Pantos, graduated from high school.
- Keli Mattinson and Nick Pantos were married on June 3rd in Las Vegas, Nevada and had a lovely reception with family and friends at Uncle Joe and Aunt Martha's house on July 4th!!!
- Uncle Joe and Aunt Martha once again hosted another wonderful 4th of July party with great food and even greater family. There was horseback riding, fireworks and all the fun that could be handled! Thank you both for your generosity!!!
- Alyssa Morelli, daughter of Michael Chad, granddaughter of Mike and Jayme Morelli, and of course great-granddaughter of Aunt Rosie, graduated from high school 3rd in her class with honors! She now heads to Fresno State University to pursue her education.
- Our beautiful cousin Alessia Guida, who came to visit with her mother Antonella a few years ago, married her sweetheart Antonio Marciano July 1, 2017 in lovely Italian fashion!
- Josh Pantos proposed to his sweetheart Lizzie Winchester and she said "yes!" They are expecting baby girl Pantos in March of 2018. Congratulations you two!
- Dennis and Karyn Morelli and Mike and Colleen Thornton set sail for 7 days from Norway to Finland and had a wonderful adventure together!
- Kirk, Jodean, and Jack Jordan had the opportunity to travel to Italy in July and experienced a wonderful family vacation!
- Luke and Cassandra Barney are having baby #2 and it's another boy! How fun for Elijah!
- Natasha Hoogveldt and Andy Halulic welcomed their beautiful daughter Aria Marie Halulic on July 30th weighing 6lbs 9oz 18.5 inches long. The Hoogveldt's are ecstatic to have their first Grandchild!
- Shelby Waldron is the 2017 National Elite Miss Texas! She is such a beautiful and determined girl and her parents Raylene and Mike Waldron (grandparents Jerry and Cheryl Morelli) couldn't be more proud! She is in her senior year at University Dallas playing on the women's basketball.
- Our dear cousin Aurelio Ventura from Italy passed away August 14th 2017. He is certainly missed in Italy and here in Utah as well!
- Michelle Hoogveldt and Justin Wallace got engaged on August 20th. Congrats!
- Brooklyn Wadley started hair school mid August and is absolutely ecstatic! (Tina and Shaun are also very happy).

- Hayden and Presley Schofield welcomed their third beautiful boy to the world! His name is Ryat James and his brothers Ruegar and Roxyn are pretty stoked! Congrats everyone! Proud grandma, Elizabeth Bronson and great-grandparents Bill and Becky Bronson are excited too!
- Dan and Suzanne Miles ventured on an exciting get away to Stockholm, Sweden and celebrated 30 years of marriage! Congratulations to two great people and here's to many more!
- The Pantos boys killed it in Motocross, placing 3rd and 4th overall out of 45 racers and are on their way to the state championship!
- Dennis and Karyn Morelli spent their 55th wedding anniversary in San Francisco! Congratulations to a great example of a lovely couple!
- Aunt Della's sweet cat Buffy passed away in September in Aunt Patti's arms. Buffy was the last of Aunt Della rescued cats and lived to be 7 years old! Aunt Patti lovingly took over care of Buffy upon Aunt Della's passing and brought him into her home! He was the Aunt Della of cats outliving everyone!
- Austin and Karlla Saurdiff are continuing to live their traveling dreams! They visited the Mediterranean coast and had the time of their life this fall!
- Our very own Aunt Patti and Antonella have been taking ballet classes together and have promised to notify everyone when their first recital will be held! It just goes to show, that you can't take the little girl out of the grown woman!
- Joey Bonsignore Jr. (half brother to Harold Ventura), passed away December 3, 2016.
- Mike Thornton's sweet mother Marie Thornton passed away November 16th 2017. We express our deepest condolences to all of our Thornton family!
- John Hoogveldt's brother Robert, passed away November 19th 2017 at a very young age. We express our heartfelt condolences to John, Sharee and family!

It is very special to be a part of such a close- knit family that cares for one another! We absolutely recognize those in our family going through trials, especially health related! We pray for those who need it and hope that we call upon each other for meals, baby sitting, adult sitting, cleaning and visits!

May we have a blessed 2018, free from tragedy and sorrow and full of all wonderful things with family, friends and food!

*With Much Love,
Andrea Vandermeijden*

**A New Year is like a blank book.
The pen is in your hands. It is your
chance to write a beautiful story
for yourself.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!