

Family Newsletter 2018

Molto bene! What a wonderful 48th annual family party we had this past year! Thank you once again to Amber Freitag, Aubrey Mark, Carlee Ventura and their amazing committee for all of their hard work!

Along with the usual festivities, great food, and Santa visits, we also had the pleasure of honoring our Aunt Rosie for her 90th birthday with a beautiful cake and singing Happy Birthday! Tony Ventura and Joe Pantos paid a wonderful tribute of great stories and much love to Uncle Louis (Luigi) Ventura, and Dennis Morelli paid a lovely tribute to Aunt Mary (Fortunata) Morelli. It is so important to keep our heritage and memories of our loved ones alive!

2018 has brought our family much love, much happiness, and unfortunately, much heartache! It is with heavy heart that we honor significant family members who have passed from this life, but certainly not from our hearts...

- **January 15th, our dear Eugene "Gene" Rose passed away after having lived 93 years of an accomplished life! Gene so generously provided all of the toys and treasures for the children at every family party for years and years, from his successful novelty store Loftus. Sending our love to his wife Cherryl, son Jim and daughter Judith and family.**
- **April 4th, our beautiful Jane Morelli passed "lovingly encircled by family." Jane was such a positive and lovely individual, who loved her family dearly! Guy, Michelle (and family) and Tony (and family), we are so very sorry!**
- **August 11th, our beautiful DaNise Barney passed away "surrounded by loved ones," after a warrior's battle with cancer! DaNise lived a life devoted to her family, especially her grandchildren! A beautiful funeral was held in her honor and we express our condolences to Kevin, Erissa, Kort (and family) and Luke (and family)!**
- **October 27th, our unbelievable Farrell "Jiggy" Pantos was tragically taken from us. Jiggy was an amazing man, who loved his family, the Utes, and the Jazz. Earlier this year, he retired from the Olive garden after 17 years of hard work and was living life to the fullest! We are so sorry for Mary, Stan, Tara (and family), and his best friend, Derek!**

"A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person," and 2018 also brought us much love...

- **After 10 years together, Michelle Hoogvelt and Justin Wallace, were married March 24th on a gorgeous Hawaiian beach, with their loved ones all surrounding!**
- **On April 5th, Brittany Miles and Kendall Fujioka tied the knot with an intimate ceremony, followed by a breakfast at Eva's! Their fur babies Harley & Lucy, couldn't be happier!**

- John Farmer and Alicia Oberle were married on September 22nd in a beautiful Storm Mountain setting! Alicia also received her P.H.D. this year!
- Josh Pantos and Lizzie Winchester said "I Do" on September 29th in another beautiful mountain setting and with close family in attendance! Baby Adeline was so excited!
- Mallory Miles and Jaimee Flores were married on October 22nd! They enjoyed an intimate ceremony and dinner at Sylvestri's, and little Octavia couldn't be happier!

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!!!

"A baby fills a place in your heart you never knew was empty". We were blessed to have a couple of beautiful lives join us this year as well...

- Luke, Cassandra and Elijah Barney welcomed a beautiful new baby boy to their family. DaNeal Elessor Arthur Barney was born December 4th. His Grandma DaNise was so proud to have his name spelled just like hers!
- Josh and Lizzie Pantos welcomed beautiful Adeline Elizabeth Pantos on March 14th, no doubt sent with a kiss straight from her Great, Great Grandmother Adelina "Della" Pantos!
- Brayden Pantos and Bryce welcomed a beautiful new baby girl to their family! Blake Pantos was born April 17th and her big sister is in love!

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

- Brooklyn Wadley, Andrew Pantos, and Riley Sorn graduated from high school
- Gia Sorn signs with University of Puget Sound to "further her education and play basketball!" By the way, she is tearing it up on the court this season!
- Shane and Shelby Waldron both graduated from their Universities and have applied to grad school! WOW!!!
- Our 7'3" cousin Riley Sorn had a stellar senior year in basketball! Riley made 1st team all-tournament, defensive player of the year (with a record setting most blocks), and 1st team all-state, coaches association player of the year, USA Today's All-USA, and signed with Division I Washington Huskies! Dang Riley, you da "BOMBer"!
- A big congratulations to Jack Jordan for finishing 6th place in State wrestling and being the ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPION!!!
- Gabriel Price earned the title of 1st place in the district championship wrestling!!! AWESOME!
- Kayla Freitag organizes a "Toys for Tots" charity event in her community last December, with a visit from Santa Claus and Waffle Love food truck! Not to mention, she made the Cheerleading squad! WOW!!!
- The lovely Tori Vail made the Hillcrest softball and volleyball teams!!! What a talent!
- Anthony Vail tried out and made the Hillcrest baseball team!!! So Awesome!!

- Christian Price received student of the month honors in his school for academic achievement! Keep it up you cute thing!!!
- Kinzy Bronson takes her mad dance skills to the next level and makes the Bear River high "Hi-Steppers"
- Lilly Foust was honored by her peers at school to be a member of the "Junior Hope Squad" which only 2 kids in each class get to be a part of! They focus on friendship skills and being social, especially to those who need it most! Earlier in the year, Lilly also won a story telling competition in her school, then competed on a district level and won, and then got to compete on a state level!!! Way to be great Lill the Thrill!!!
- Both Lilly and Lydia Foust earned 1st and 2nd place medals in their most recent Karate tournament, defeating girls and boys alike! Hi-yah!

"People Forget Years and Remember Moments"

This year afforded some great travel opportunities in our family...

- Nick and Kellie Pantos had the opportunity to "cross an item off their bucket list" with a wonderful trip to New York! They were able to view a taping of Dr. Oz, Ride the subway, visited Ground Zero, and much more!
- Georgia Kline had a fabulous time in Cancun last December, where she experienced beautiful sunrises and sunsets, and just plain got to relax!
- Joseph Pantos had an amazing opportunity through work to travel to China. He visited many beautiful structures, including Temples, hotels, and high rises!
- John and Candie VanderMeyden traveled to Southern California for a week, relaxing in San Diego and then visiting Debbie and Mike Thornton in fabulous Laguna!
- Melissa and Trevor Foust celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary in beautiful Hawaii! They swam with dolphins, did yoga on the beach and loved life! Congratulations you two!
- Tony and Carol Ventura celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on January 20th. They are wonderful example of relationship goals!
- Carol and Morris Farmer celebrated 50 years of marriage! No doubt hosting all those parties is healthy for a marriage! Congratulations!
- Jeffrey Morelli moved to San Francisco this past year and we wish you the best of luck, but make sure and call your Mother!
- Martha Pantos received the prestigious award of "Woman of the Year" from St. Peter's Catholic Women's League! This is a huge honor for an incredible woman!!!

Well, that wraps it up for 2018! What a blessed year and certainly a somber year! With a large family comes much happiness and much sorrow! I'm grateful we have each other to laugh and cry with!

Andrea "V"