

Dana Ward Bishopric

<i>Bishop</i>	<i>Richard Hale</i>	<i>834-3041</i>
<i>1 Counselor</i>	<i>Dwight Morris</i>	<i>962-8221</i>
<i>2 Counselor</i>	<i>Mark Standage</i>	<i>964-1685</i>
<i>Exec Secretary</i>	<i>Pat Rogers</i>	<i>695-4370</i>

Please note that Pat Rogers is the new Executive Secretary. If you need an appointment with Bishop, you may schedule thru Brother Pat!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
We are so blessed to be living in this day and time, and in a country that affords us the privileges and freedoms that we enjoy – particularly the freedom of religion that blesses our lives so richly. I have been reading The Book of Mormon this summer as a part of the STOMP program our youth are participating in, I am reminded over and over again of how fortunate we are to have these wonderful scriptures to turn to for answers and to find peace within its pages.

We recently had the privilege of attending Stake Temple Day. It was wonderful, and most of the youth from our ward were able to attend and participate in doing baptisms for the dead. It was touching to witness the emotion of some of our youth as they were baptized and confirmed for descendants that they had researched and found on the internet and Church website, with the help of Sister Martin.

We will also shortly be wrapping up a ward 40-day fast for missionary opportunities. It has been a blessing to make the extra effort to sacrifice and fast on a day other than a normal Fast Sunday on behalf of our ward missionary effort. Nothing could be better than to share the message of the restored gospel with our non-member friends and neighbors. Then we can watch them enjoy the blessings that come when the gospel enters one's life. Whether they embrace the gospel or not, we should never be afraid to share our feelings and testimony with them.

Many have paid the ultimate price so that we may have the blessings we enjoy today. It is my hope that we are taking advantage of the blessings we have - that we are spending time reading and studying the scriptures each and every day – that we are attending the temple as often as possible since it is so close and accessible to us – and that we will “gird up our loins, fresh courage take”, to share our testimonies of this wondrous gospel, with our friends and neighbors.

We enjoy blessings today because of the sacrifices others made before us. We too can bless the lives of others by the sacrifices we make. Let us express our gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the blessings we have by making those small sacrifices each day so that others may enjoy the same eternal blessing we enjoy. This is my prayer for all of us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Love – Mark Standage

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July

1	Kaler Mehlberg
2	Karen Schnebly
3	Donovan Blau
3	Kylie Hassell
4	Kyndra Hassell
5	Zack O'Bryant
5	Nadia Morello
7	Dolores Barnum
7	Jennifer Carter
8	MaKayla Edgmon
9	Mariah Morales
9	Eddie Rodriguez
10	Billy Reynolds
12	Daniel James Stevens
13	Jessica Trimble
14	Michael Hale
19	Kaeden Blau
22	Anne Berryman
22	Denean Beals
22	Bella Morello
23	Tyson Hill
25	Aubree Stradling
25	Alec Turner
27	Kevin Schnepf
27	Reed Tiffany
28	Dawn Southwick
29	Renle Hird
29	Susan Jackson
30	Lauryn Tiffany

August

3	Myrna Pace
3	Emma McGraw

Missionary Mailbox

Elder Justin Schnepf
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Salt Lake City, Utah 84130-0150

Elder Schnepf will complete his mission and arrive home July 10th. His family and ward are excited about his return!

Letter from Elder Justin Schnepf:

I am looking forward to coming home soon, but at the same time I am already homesick for my mission. I have made some really good friends here and have grown to love the people. I hope to be able to come back soon to see how they are all progressing.

We have been teaching an 18-year-old girl named Johanna and last week I had the opportunity to baptize her. She has been a golden contact. She seems to just drink up the gospel as we teach her. She comes to church each week and sometimes she brings friends with her. It's awesome to see people's lives change through the gospel. We were teaching a young man that has a testimony and we set a baptism date but his family is very much against the church so for the last few weeks each time we go to see him they say he is gone even though we know he is not. That happens a lot here.

A few weeks ago we had stake conference and had Elder Johnson of the Seventy's and President Gonzales of the presidency of the Seventy. President Gonzales gave such a powerful talk and it was a great conference. We had 2 investigators attend conference. One of them came because she told us that after teaching her and inviting her to pray to know if this church was true, she did. That night she had a dream; in her dream the Savoir told her that she was to go to His church on Sunday. So she came to conference and we have been teaching her and have set a baptism date. I have learned to have a stronger testimony of the power of prayer and that our Heavenly Father loves all of his children no matter where they are. The friendships that I have made here have been amazing. I had my last interview with President Thomas, I really love him, he has been so good to me as he has taught me to serve. After zone conference 18 elders went out to Taco Bell and ate dinner. It was really good!!!! And really fun!!!! We don't have very many investigators so we are working with the less active members and fellowshiping them. We are still working hard. I want to leave without any regrets, and know that I did everything that the Lord wanted me to do. It has been a great experience and I am thankful that the Lord gave me this chance to serve and grow. Love, Elder Justin Schnepf

Elder Michael Hale
(Washington, Spokane Mission)
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Spokane Valley, Wa. 99206

We had a wonderful week full of blessings and miracles. Sunday of last week, as all of the missionaries in the district called in their numbers, I really tried to encourage them all to do their best to reach the goals they had set. As missionaries, we set goals all the time, but there's a huge difference between SETTING a goal and actually WORKING toward achieving that goal. The true blessings come when we set our goals in faith and then do everything in our power to achieve those goals. When we have an attitude like that we are then able to pray with faith and plead with the Lord to add his help to our efforts in accomplishing our desires.

I made it a point to follow up with the Elders nightly and ask them how they were doing on achieving their goals and it has been a truly great experience. There's a lot to do in missionary work and most often the reason it doesn't get done is because we focus on too many things. It's quite literally like trying to juggle many balls at the same time. It's easy to focus on catching one ball and throwing it back in the air, but when you take the focus off of that one ball, you realize all the others have fallen to the ground.

Now, there's no question in my mind why the Lord has called young men and women to preach His gospel. But there is one question I often ask myself about why we only get to serve for two years. I'm sure anyone that has served a mission would agree that after two years of being a missionary, I finally feel like I've got it somewhat figured out. As a greenie, I must have looked like a "doofu"s as I continually tried to speak a language I didn't understand. I didn't even know they were actually laughing at ME and not at the balls hitting the ground. Now, two years later, I have a great deal more confidence in my abilities at juggling many balls, but all that

really happens when you get good at something is you realize, in a different way, the times you mess up. I often find myself dissappointed because I can't juggle 23 balls instead of just 20. It's then that I stop and slap myself on the wrist because I'm missing the point. If the Lord really wanted missionaries to be effective at juggling more balls, he'd extend the length of our service. If there was a finite number of balls that we could juggle, say 22, then eventually we'd all get really good at juggling 22 but we would cease to grow. There's really no limit to the number that we can juggle, and it really doesn't matter how good you get at juggling the number of balls you are currently juggling. Until you add another ball, you will cease to grow. There's no limit to the amount of knowledge and experience we can gain in this life and there never will be. That's not the point. I've learned that I need to be grateful for the experience that I DO have, and that if my "attitude of gratitude" never changes, the Lord will honor me with even more experiences and blessings. Once I can handle those, I will be given more to challenge me and cause me to grow.

Now I'm not sure how all of that turned into the "Parable of the Juggler".

As I thought about it, maybe it's allowed me to realize some neat things I have learned on my mission. Hopefully those things will continue with me throughout my life. I love my mission so much and I will continue to love it even after it ends.

I know that Jesus Christ is my Savior and that this is His church here on the earth. What a special blessing it is to be a part of it!

Love, Elder Hale

(Note: Elder Michael Hale will be home July 14th. The Hale family is so excited!)

Elder Keith H. Hunt
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Someone had the brilliant idea to ride bikes to Oakland today for P-day. Oakland is about 45 minutes away by car. We left at 7:00 am this morning

and finally arrived at 1 pm. It was one crazy adventure. We had to get off and walk for some of the time because we were too tired to pump uphill. We coasted down from the top of the last hill right to the temple and mission office. We were beat. We could barely walk and also starving. So, we stopped at a pizza place and grabbed something to eat. We rode home on BART, the local transit system. We are going to sleep good tonight! It was a really fun trip, although I never want to do it by bike again! We kept saying "This is the worst idea we ever had"!

We had some amazing experiences this past week. Some of them might be hard to believe. You could say they were coincidences, but I know it was the hand of the Lord moving His work along. We've been teaching a girl named Yasmin and one day she wasn't home, but her sister was. Hazel told us she had the lessons a few years ago but "dropped out". We had a good conversation with her and then taught both sisters a few awesome lessons. They ask good questions and have a good understanding of the Gospel. We feel really good about them accepting baptism.

While trying to make contact with a lady who never seemed to be home, we met her brother-in-law and his friend and got into a short lesson with them. They have invited us back again. He asked "So, how important is it for me to know that God called Joseph Smith as a prophet today?" We invited him to eat dinner on Thursday at a member's house - a few streets away. As we talked to him, I could totally picture him getting baptized, literally, and seeing him all dressed in his baptismal clothes. That may seem weird, but as we walked away, I told my companion. He said he had experienced the same thing. Hopefully that will become reality!

So the other day we were tracting and ran into a Mexican anti-Mormon. I didn't know they existed! He laid into us and told us all kinds of things about how the FBI had proved that Joseph Smith was a fraud and that none of his prophesies had been fulfilled. My companion and I both were really frustrated and he looked like he was going to get violent. We just walked away. We drove to our next appointment and arrived 20 minutes early. We decided to knock anyway. We asked for Jorge and were told no one lived there with that name. We had just talked to him there a few days before and then realized we had knocked on the wrong door. We were embarrassed, but used the opportunity to talk to them about the gospel. They turned out to be pretty interested and let us set up a return appointment. It was so cool and made us feel so good after having talked to the "anti guy". It helped me realize that God knows what he is doing and he puts us where we need to be. He even uses our mistakes to bring about His purposes! It was pretty neat. A few days later, while at the gas station paying, a dude came and stole a few beers and walked off. The cashier was kind of frantic. He used our cell phone to call because their phone wasn't working. Anyway, we noticed that the cashier's name was Javier but didn't think anything more of it. Then, when we went back for our appointment and knocked at the wrong house, it was Javier that answered the door! Out of the thousands of

houses in our area, he happened to live in that one. I know it wasn't a coincidence and that God really wanted us to find that family.

The AP's taught us a new way to find people and asked us to try it out. They said to set a specific time and place (like an actual appointment) to find someone that is ready to hear the gospel. Then pray in advance that God will place someone ready for our message, in our path. I doubted for a bit, but I knew the only way to find out was to do it. So, we set the time and place. As we arrived at the street, we got out and started tracting. Before we even knocked a door, we saw a lady sitting on her porch. We went and talked to her. It turns out she lost her dad about 8 years ago and has been bitter at God. She seemed intrigued by our message and said we could come back.

We were so amazed that it was the first person we talked to. I know this new system really works now and I am sold on it. We are going to do it every week. Once again, it strengthened my testimony that God is preparing people to hear the gospel and sending us to them or them to us. Thanks for your love and prayers. I love you all!!!

Elder Keith Hunt

Elder Jared K. Stradling (Russia, Yekaterinburg Mission) POB 30150 Salt Lake City, Utah 84130-0150

I have some good news! We have an investigator that was baptized June 7th. I just got transferred here the last part of May so have not worked a whole lot with him, but it is still way cool! He is 19. He has accepted the gospel and understands it very well. He has a testimony and the missionaries have only been working with him for 3 months, which is kind of quick here. He never seemed to be very confident about praying out loud, so we talked a little bit with him about it and then Elder Boles had the idea that all of us would pray in turns. Elder Boles went first and then me and then Sergie prayed. It was awesome! His prayer was so sincere and it was obvious that he meant what he was saying. It was such a great experience for him and for us. His mother was not in favor of him getting baptized, which made

it all the more miraculous. We held the baptism in the morning at a local lake, so it was pretty cold - about 50 degrees. Sergie took it like a champ. When they were standing in the water, both of them were shivering with the cold. We did the baptism really quick at the lake and then went back to the church for the talks and a little program. I did not really do much at all, but I certainly appreciated the joy that Sergie had in that spiritual moment.

Tuesday, Elder Boles and I went to Miass which is a small city about 2 hours away. It is beautiful and in the mountains. We don't have many mountains around here. You have probably heard of the Ural Mtns but they are basically just hills, at least the parts I've seen.

We have been working with some inactives. We had a good meeting with a fellow who basically lives at his work place. He only goes home to shower and eat. He is a security guard for some garages and in one of the garages, he has a little shoe repair shop. He lives a hard life. His family is very poor. We held a lesson with him about the Book of Mormon and how we can find happiness and peace by reading and applying the principles of the B of M. We gave him a small copy he can keep at work and he says he will read it. We plan to go back soon and have him repair our shoes. We are also meeting with an investigator named Eddik who has to travel 3 hours to meet with us. He actually makes the trip each appointment and wants to be baptized. He read the whole Book of Mormon in one night and the next morning. He says he

believes in the Plan of Salvation, and the Word of Wisdom. He says he will give up smoking. The trick is that he will be gone for 3 months and can't be back to be baptized until Sept. He thinks he can do it all. We are wishing the best for him and hoping we will still be here when he returns and that his faith will sustain him in the meantime!

We attended a small branch at a little town called Kishtim, last Sunday. There were about 7 members that meet in a member's apartment. There are no missionaries assigned to Kishtim because the radiation levels are too high. The Zone Leaders visit there about once a month. We have 2 branches here in Chelyabinks with about 50 in our branch and abt. 40 in the other. We meet in an office building where the Church rents one floor.

We got transfers today and my comp will be moving and my new companion will be Elder Scott, whom I know very well. He is a good missionary and we will enjoy serving together. It's getting hot here. The sun comes up at 4 am and doesn't set until about midnight.

Love - Elder Stradling

Elder Patrick W. Rogers Jr.
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Dear Family and Dana Ward,
This past week was so busy. We hardly got to spend any time working in our area. We were busy all week preparing everything for the arrival of Pres. Heyn and his wife. Pres. Carmack spent the week speaking at zone conferences. He encouraged all of us to continue

working hard as a mission. He talked about what is most important for us to be doing as missionaries. Number one is to **sanctify ourselves**. Number two is to **baptize**. Many times we get caught up in baptisms and just getting numbers. We need to look at ourselves to see what we can improve on as individuals. He also said, "Life is short, leave a legacy." This mission experience, in reality, is so short. I'm just starting to realize that. The time goes so incredibly fast. President told us to leave the mission better than we found it. He is a great example of that. When he arrived here in July of 2005, the mission was baptizing 140-150 per month. In September of 2005, those monthly numbers jumped to 200 and for 19 months, it was never less than 200 a month. Two of those months saw over 300 baptisms each month. President Carmack set the example for us and we need to follow it.

It was hard for me to say good-bye to Pres. and Sis. Carmack. They were both emotional but also excited to be going home after 3 years. The mission staff got pretty excited when we saw Pres. Carmack drive up with Pres. Heyn. The office is up on the 2nd floor, so we had the opportunity for some first looks. I gave Pres. Heyn a big hug when they entered the office. He and his wife seem like wonderful people. President Heyn's English is perfect and his wife has a bit of an accent but she has excellent English skills. She taught Spanish at a high school near Lehi, Utah. I have found Pres. Heyn to be different compared to Pres. Carmack, but I'm adjusting to his methods and I know that I'll enjoy my time serving here with him. I will probably continue to serve here until Oct. and then be transferred. It seems a long way off right now, but it really is just around the corner.

Thank you for your love and support. I pray for you every day.

Love, Elder Rogers

Elder Jared R. Eyring
China Hong Kong Mission
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Kowloon
HONG KONG

Hello from Hong Kong:

We experienced a black rainstorm here in Hong Kong. There are three levels of rainstorms and black is the worst. There were

lots of flooding and mud slides. The missionaries were part of the “Mormon Helping Hands” service project in Hong Kong. We helped remove rocks and mud from flooded homes. I got transferred again. I am out of the international area, so now I feel like I am back in China with the Chinese people, its great. I am in Tsing Yi. My new companion is Elder Kieren. He is from Globe, AZ. Our apartment is on the 19th floor of a 40 story building. It is a very nice apartment. We went outside about 10 pm to turn on the a/c and the door slammed shut and it was locked. We couldn’t find a way to get in, so we called the senior couple who is in charge of the apartment, he said we could just break in. We got so excited and we drew numbers to see who would get the first hit. I was number 3. We ended up busting the door handle off with a dumbbell, it was pretty fun. Some members took us out to eat. I definitely eat stuff that I would never have eaten back home. I had a pizza with some kind of seafood on it. It was pretty good. My companion and I went to see an investigator we had been teaching awhile back. He lives on the sixth floor. He wasn’t home, but when we were walking down we saw a Chinese Book of Mormon on the ground. It was soaked and dirty. It looked like someone threw it out the window, I wonder if it was him or his family, it made me feel pretty sad. I picked it up and propped it by the door with a note. I hope he sees it.
Love, Elder Eyring

(Note from Jared’s family; Ng Kathy Ka-Lai, a Young Adult from Hong Kong, on the cover of the June ’08 Ensign, is in Jared’s current ward. You can read some wonderful suggestions from Kathy and other Young Adult members on pg. 10.)

Elder Caleb Timothy Oldner
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Hola! Everything is going so fast here at the MTC. I’m working on the 2nd lesson in *Preach My Gospel*. The Devotionals and firesides are amazing. The talks are awesome. The new mission presidents are here this week and during that time, there are many apostles walking the halls and eating in the cafeteria, according to my Branch President. I hope one of them speaks at the Fireside or Devotional. Rumors are that Elder Bednar is scheduled to speak to us this week. We can hardly wait to find out if that is true. Won’t that be exciting?

This week, the Consul of Argentina held a meeting with us. It was so great! He explained that there are lots of anacondas and jaguars in the forests and over 343 waterfalls. He also stressed that it is very hot. There are millions of penguins and hundreds of killer whales down on the southern point. What a contrast! He suggested that it is pretty cool to see the penguins and killer whales up close. He also spent a lot of time just answering the questions of the Elders and Sisters.

Gym time is awesome after sitting in class all day. I enjoy volleyball, basketball and four square. The cafeteria food is way better than Home Town Buffet. There’s lots of variety. There are over 2,500 missionaries in the MTC right now. Wow! I’m loving it!

Elder Caleb Oldner

“If we wish to collectively reap a bountiful national harvest, we must sow the seeds of integrity, selflessness, and devotion to God in our children. Freedom isn’t always lost on the battlefield. While America continues to show signs of goodness, there are worrisome signs that our collective moral fabric is unraveling. Devotion to God motivated the people who established the foundations of the United States; Columbus, the Pilgrims, early colonists and the Founding Fathers. The most crucial service any of us will ever give is in our homes, for the family unit. If the family fails, our country will fail!” (Sheri Dew)

The Story of the Star Spangled Banner

During the War of 1812, the British marched through Washington DC in 1814, burning the White House and the Capital buildings, and then marched on to

Baltimore, Md. In September, 1814, Frances Scott Key, a Baltimore lawyer, and John S. Skinner, an American prisoner-exchange agent, set sail for a British ship moored in the Baltimore harbor, flying a flag of truce, on a mission approved by President James Madison. Their objective was to secure the release of Dr. William Beanes, the elderly and popular town physician of Baltimore, and a friend of Key's who had been captured in his home. Beanes was accused of aiding the arrest of British soldiers. Key and Skinner boarded the British flagship and spoke with the British Admiral over dinner, while he and some of his officers discussed war plans. At first, the Dr's release was refused, but after Key and Skinner showed them letters written by wounded British prisoners praising Beanes and other Americans for their kind treatment, it was agreed he would be released.

Because Key and Skinner had heard details of the plans for the attack on Baltimore, they were held captive until after the battle ended.

During the stormy night of battle, Key had witnessed the bombardment and observed that the fort's smaller "storm flag" continued to fly, but once the shell and rocket barrage had stopped, he would not know how the battle had turned out until dawn. By then, the storm flag had been lowered, and the larger flag had been raised.

Key was inspired by the American victory and the sight of the large American flag flying triumphantly above the fort. Aboard the ship the next day, Key wrote a poem on the back of a letter he had kept in his pocket. At twilight on 16 September, he and Skinner were released. He finished the poem at the Indian Queen Hotel, where he was staying. Key gave the poem to his brother-in-law, Judge Joseph H. Nicholson and suggested it be sung to the tune of an old, popular, British gentleman's song which had been written by a Brit in 1776. Nicholson took the poem to a printer in Baltimore, who anonymously printed copies of it. It was originally called "Defence of Fort McHenry." The song's popularity increased over many years but it wasn't until March 1931 that it was officially made the National Anthem by Pres. Herbert Hoover. By then, it had become known as "The Star-Spangled Banner". The flag, with fifteen stars and fifteen stripes, came to be known as the "Star Spangled Banner Flag" and is today on display in the Smithsonian Institution. It was restored in 1914, and again in 1998 as part of an ongoing conservation program.

The flag was made by Mary Pickersgill, a professional flag maker. The army, in the summer of 1813, gave her a contract to make two flags for Ft. McHenry. The smaller storm flag, was 17 X 25 feet and the larger official flag was 30 X 42 feet. The larger flag was about the size of a quarter of a basketball court and it consisted of 15 stripes of red and white British wool bunting, and a blue field which contained 15 stars made of cotton fabric. At that time, there were 15 states, thus the 15 stars and stripes. Mary was paid \$405.90 to make the large flag and \$168.54 for the storm flag. She was assisted by her 13 year old daughter, Caroline, and her 2 nieces, Eliza and Margaret Young and her mother, Rebecca Young, who was also a professional flag maker. Mary started the flag in her Baltimore home, but when it came time to lay out the flag to add the stars, her house wasn't large enough so a nearby brewery gave her the use of their empty mail room where she finished the flag. In 1777 Congress declared the American flag to be 13 alternating stripes of red and white with a union of 13 white stars in a blue field. In 1794, Kentucky and Vermont joined the Union and congress added 2 stars and 2 stripes. In 1818, five more states had joined so Congress changed the design to 13 stripes to represent the original 13 states and 20 stars to represent the then current states and provided a star would be added for the admission of each new state.

The large flag became the possession of Maj. George Armistead, the commanding officer over Ft. McHenry during the attack of the British. Over the following years, the Armistead family loaned the flag for parades and pageants for patriotic occasions and particularly to be carried in the annual parade celebrating the anniversary of the Ft. McHenry Battle. In 1912, Maj. Armistead's grandson donated the "Star Spangled Banner" to the Smithsonian where it has been preserved and displayed for over 100 years. It is displayed in its true condition as a tattered but treasured piece of our nation's history. Because of its fragile condition, it has been undergoing a restoration process to preserve its weakened wool and cotton fibers. and a special room is being built for its permanent display. It contains 11 recognizable holes caused by shots fired during the historic battle. Over the years it was in the possession of the Armistead family, 8 feet was cut from the fly end of the flag and cut up into small

pieces and given as mementoes to important people who asked for them and others the family considered worthy of such a memento. His daughter said that nothing would have been left of it if everyone who had asked, had been given a piece. Mrs. Armistead also used scissors to cut one of the stars from the blue field to present to some unknown recipient. She also sewed a narrow red chevron pattern on one of the white stripes, supposedly to represent an "A" for the Armistead family. It is assumed that the smaller storm flag was destroyed or lost in the battle of Ft. McHenry. (Source:Wikipedia) (Quiz on pg. 11)

New Dana Ward Faces

A great big welcome to the new family of **Dan and Jennifer (Jen) Oliver**, who have moved into 1752 E. Nielson (the Stradling home). The Oliver family also includes three children: **Jackson**, age 4, daughters **Morgan** (2) and **Taylor** (1 in August) and an unknown, but expected arrival about the end of October. Dan graduated last year from ASU with a degree in electrical engineering. He worked this past year for General Dynamics on a spacecraft project for the Dept. of Defense. He is currently working for Raytheon in Tucson but hoping he might be getting a transfer back to Mesa soon. Dan graduated from Mt. View High School here in Mesa, filled a mission in Boston where his first mission president was Dale Murphy of baseball fame, and says his hobby is being a computer nerd. He likes to tinker with computer hardware for fun. Jen graduated from Gilbert High School and BYU where she earned a History degree. She was planning to attend law school but Dan made her a better offer! She also filled a mission, to Macon, Georgia. Jen played basketball for Gilbert High Sch. and also for Scottsdale Community College and won several championships with her respective teams. She is also the grand daughter of Ron and Donna Lax, former members of the old 19th ward. Welcome to the Dana Ward Family!

Houston and Cara Reynolds are staying with parents, Billy and Arlyce Reynolds while they do some job searching. Houston just graduated in May from Southern Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in Administration and Leadership. Houston would like to find a job in farm and ranch appraisal. SVU is owned by LDS (not THE Church) folks since 1996. It is a residential liberal arts university committed to providing an excellent and broad based education

in an environment fully supportive of the values and teachings of the LDS Church. Houston graduated from High School in St. David, Az. which is on the Mormon Battalion Trail in Southern Arizona. He filled a mission to Charleston, West Virginia. Buena Vista, Va. (location of SVU campus) is in that mission, so he felt right at home going to school there. He attended 2 years at MCC and earned his Associate Degree there and also served as the MCC Institute President. In Buena Vista, he served in the Bishopric in a Y.A. ward during the school year and as the Priest's Quorum Advisor in the regular ward, summers. Cara was raised in Heber, Az. and graduated from High School in Heber. She also earned her cosmetology certification by the time she graduated from high school and worked for Great Clips both in Mesa and in Virginia. They are expecting their first child in October. Houston has been called to teach the 17/18 year old SS class and Cara is teaching the 6 year old CTR Primary class. They are welcome additions to the Dana Ward Family!

Notes on Dana Ward Folks

Congratulations are in order for **Lance and Lynette McGraw**! **Camilla McGraw** was finally born June 23rd @7:43 pm. She weighed in at 8#, 9 oz and has BROWN hair! At the urging of the Newsletter Staff, Lynette was induced so they could make deadline. The McGraw Household are Team Players!

Connor Morgan is the son of **Martha O'Barr Morgan** and grandson of **Joe and Mickey O'Barr**, all members of the Dana Ward Family. Morgan was diagnosed with Autism when he was eight years old. Soon after that, he was accepted into the Autism program in MPS and attended Barbara Bush Elementary and Brimhall Junior High.

When he entered the 9th grade, he also started Seminary. Although he reads very little, he carries his set of scriptures with pictures to help him remember the particular scriptures for the scripture chase. His mom, Martha, helped him study for the chase early in the mornings before the bus picks him up for school at 7 am. Connor got really excited about the recent Stake temple day project. **Chris Martin** and his Grandma Mickey, were able to find 5 family ancestor names for Connor to do baptisms for. He loved the experience and would like to do more. He was ordained to the office of a Priest and received the Aaronic Priesthood (by his Grandpa Joe), so he could do the baptisms. Connor is a student at Red Mtn. High School and will also be attending some classes at E.V.I.T. this fall. WAHOO Connor! GOOD JOB!

A special Stake Temple Day was held June 20th. The Stake had asked that each ward participate with ordinances for our own ancestors and of the 1,054 ordinances done by our stake members that day, 698 were for ancestors of our Dana Ward members. Many of the ward youth(12 boys – 6 girls – 2 new members) did baptisms for family members they sought out with the assistance of family and Sister Chris Martin. Nadia Morello did her grandmother's baptism, Jessica Hardina did the baptisms of her 2 grandmothers, Jeff Hoeppner did many of his family, and Tyler Sandburg worked on much of his 4 generations. Many other ward members also contributed names. It was truly a special and spiritual experience for all who participated. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Baby, **Kanon Mehlberg** continues to progress in the Tucson hospital. The bone marrow transplant was a complete success. They are trying to get him completely off the ventilator and they were able to dissolve a blood clot. It is just an ongoing problem at this point, but going well. The next major step will begin an "adjustment period" in which Kanon leaves the hospital and stays with Mom, Jennifer, at the Ronald McDonald House, next door. So Far – So Good! Hooray! Jennifer would love mail!

Jennifer Mehlberg

C/O Ronald McDonald House
3838 N. Campbell Ave. – Bldg. 6
Tucson, Az. 85719

She also has a blog site where she is posting Kanon's daily progress: bjmehlberg.blogspot.com

Arliss Ellsworth is finally home after her bout with a broken hip. She can stand and get around a bit with the help of a walker, but is grateful for the assistance from a home nurse, a physical therapist and lots of love, concern and help from her family of daughters and a sister who came down from Payson and stayed with her for a couple of weeks. She also has some caring neighbors. Arliss knows this is only a temporary "fix", putting screws in her broken hip. The hip will need to be replaced soon. She is trying to gain ground with her injuries before they can go back in and replace the hip with an artificial one. We're rooting for you Arliss. Keep up the good work and know there are lots of folks out here that love you! Arliss would like to get over all of this and be able to return to do volunteer work at the Mesa Humanitarian Center where she has put in a lot of volunteer hours over the past 14 years.

Dolores Barnum had to return to the hospital because of pneumonia. Your prayers will be appreciated by her family!

Rowena Root had a bad fall and broke a rib. She is doing quite well! She is in a rehab facility to assist her with physical therapy. Our prayers are with Rowena as she struggles with these injuries.

Tjanna Standage has been working here at Az. Bridal and has transferred to work as a shipping manager in a Bridal Warehouse in Provo. Have fun with this new adventure Tjanna!

Pat Martinez had gall bladder surgery June 30th. Hope you feel better fast, Pat!

Helen Fort is doing much better now and says she is anxiously awaiting her new walker which should come as a "Hi Rider" and she wants everyone to know that she is "Back in the Saddle Again!" Yahoo Helen!

(Bishop) Gary Tiffany recently experienced some excitement! While on the highway driving his 18 wheeler, a fellow was darting in and out of traffic and managed to skid **under** his trailer. The trailer is a "wipe-out", but everybody was able to walk away. Gary has some shoulder injuries but says he would much rather share his story about his recent 1500 mile motorcycle trip to Utah with a group of friends. Ask him for details! **(We are all grateful for miracles!)**

Craig Montgomery has converted all of their vehicles to burn recaptured "french-fry oil" instead of petroleum products! That wonderful aroma is not coming from Marie's kitchen, but rather from Craig's garage! Sorry Folks! They have no plans to open up **Montgomery's Fast Foods & Fuel!**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Mesa Temple will be closed for maintenance for 2 weeks - July 20th through Aug. 4th. The Baptistry will remain closed for remodeling until Aug. 19th.

The Panama City, Panama Temple construction has been completed and will be dedicated Aug. 9, 2008. It will become the 127th operating temple.

Ground was broken June 20th for the Manaus, Brazil temple which will make it the 6th temple for Brazil.

The July 10th temple social will be held afterwards at the Kaberry home. If you can, bring "finger foods".

Elder's Quorum

Pres. Dustin Redd 834-7788
1st Couns. Paul Allen 733-4339

2nd Couns. Cassidy Trimble 223-2837
Secretary Loni Unga 275-4414

Cassidy Trimble is the new second counselor in the Elder's Quorum Presidency. We welcome Cassidy to this new calling. We also want to thank **Clyde Ransom** for his past service as instructor for the Quorum lessons. Both **Clyde and Anthony Kayberry** have left the Quorum and have been ordained High Priests. The Quorum has 2 brand new Elders. **Mark Driggs** and **Isaac Standage** have been ordained to the Melchizedek Priesthood and we are excited to have them in our Quorum! There will be a Social for the Elder's Quorum and wives, July 24th. Watch for details! (Handcarts will **NOT** be required!)

High Priests

Group Leader: Anthony Kaberry 835-5149
1st Assistant. Joseph Stark 964-7754
2nd Assistant. Clyde Ransom 602-672-5933
Secretary Alfred Berry 964-2602

The High Priest's Group leadership has been reorganized as listed above. Anthony was ordained by his father who was visiting from Australia. Anthony then ordained Clyde. Joe was already a High Priest. The High Priest Group looks just a tad younger now...☺ Many thanks to the outgoing leaders of Lester Stradling, John Barnum and Jarvis Carter. Anthony stated, "We will miss the Stradlings and I am grateful for his great example, to me, especially." We also had a great social activity in June with an excellent turnout! The food was wonderful and the entertainment may have been heavy on the "corny" side, but it was still a lot of fun! Joe O'Barr, David Morales, Jonatan Morello, Daniel Zepeda and Billy Reynolds did a lot of work putting it together (along with their wives).

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Relief Society

Pres. Cris Rogers 695-4370
1 Couns. Melissa Standage 964-1685
2 Couns. MaryAnn Kaberry 835-3973
Sec. Karisa Budge 610-6407

The annual **Pueblo Stake Service Project** will be Tues., July 29th at the Stake Center from 7 - 9 pm. We are again collecting school supplies; crayons, pencil boxes, glue sticks, white glue, erasers, glitter, tissue paper, pencils, colored pencils, Kleenex, markers, children's scissors, water colors, 2 pocket folders, writing paper, construction paper. Gently used or new: backpacks, books, basketballs, footballs, kick balls, soccer balls, jump ropes and volleyballs. We will also be making baby quilts for the Phoenix Children's Hospital.

July RS Lesson Schedule:

July 6 - "Looking Back & Moving Forward"
 July 13 - #13 "Obedience: When the Lord Commands, Do It!"
 July 20 - #14, "Words of Hope & Consolation at the Time of Death"
 July 27 - "Ask in Faith" - Elder Bednar, May 2008 Ensign

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Dana Ward Enrichment Night Tues - July 8

Cooking Class Mondays @ 9:30am @ the Storehouse. July 7: Salads, picnic and sandwich ideas. July 14: NO CLASS July 21: Back to School Lunch ideas. July 28: Tortillas, Salsa & refried beans.

Quiet Book Call Cheeri Redd for details. 834-7788.

Senior Single Sister's FHE Mon, July 21, 5:30 pm @ home of Helen Fort. (969-1810)

Book Group July 28, 11 am, @ home of Violet Rogers. Book: "Rhett Butler's People" by Donald McCraig

Temple Session (ward-July 10, 6pm), Thurs. July 17. 10 a.m. session/lunch @ 12pm @ temple cafeteria.

Kid's Play Group Will resume with cooler weather.

Stake Service Project Tues, July 29, 7-9 pm @Stake Center

Young Women

Pres. Arlyce Reynolds 615-1628

1st Counselor Lou Hunt 833-4867

2nd Counselor Janet Hassell 969-4276

Secretary Yolanda Zepeda 834-4469

The **Youth Stake Pioneer Trek** is scheduled for **January 1, 2, and 3, 2009** for all YM & YW who will turn 14 years of age by Jan. 3rd. The Youth will Trek the Mormon Battalion Trail and camp out New Year's Eve. AWESOME!

Lana Hunt is newly called as the YW representative to the Stake from the Dana Ward.

The YW & YM started off the summer with the Laurels sponsoring a combined activity at the Allen home. Everyone had fun visiting, eating, swimming, and breaking a piñata made by the Laurel Class.

Stake Girls Camp held in June, was a resounding success with many of the leaders and helpers coming from the Dana Ward. The theme this year was "I Stand All Amazed". All of the Dana YW attended and had a wonderful time making new friends, eating good food, going on hikes and growing spiritually. The adults who provided leadership and service were: **Doreen Stradling, Josie Carter, Jill Schnepf, Br. & Sis Hunt, Janet Hassell, Tima Hird, Kim & Bishop Hale, Bro. & Sis Eyring, and Bro and Sis Reynolds.** The Junior Staff members were: **Mirinda Hunt, Kelcie Schnepf, Anjulie Hale, Jessica Mott, Aubree Stradling, and Kylie Hassell.** JC's were **Carol Ransom and Jessica Hale.** Thanks to the fathers and priesthood leaders that went from the ward to assist in many ways.

Our YW's Laurel Advisor, **Nadia Morello** was released and will now be working with the stake YW as their secretary. We will miss Sister Morello so much. We loved her enthusiasm, great lessons & handouts and her strong testimony.

We know her special love for our YW will always be there.

July CALENDAR

July 2, 9, & 16: Stake volleyball games at our ward at 7 pm.

July 23 – Personal Progress & making B-day cards for our Prophet Thomas S. Monson.

July 30 – The YM are sponsoring a combined activity Variety Show for the YM & YW. Each class has 15 minutes to be on stage. Members of the class can do something individually, or something with friends, or do something as a class. We hope everyone will participate and have fun. Parents are invited to attend.

Young Men

Pres. Darren Eyring	835-1799
1 st Couns. Trent Payne	967-1101
2 nd Couns. Lance McGraw	699-0723
Sec. Conley Martin	313-7194

Mark Driggs will be honored at an **Eagle Court of Honor** July 10th, 7 pm, at the Stake Center. Congratulations Mark for this special award and all your hard work!

Kimball Rogers (will be 12 in Sept) and Joseph Standage (will be 12 in Oct) have passed their Board of Review and have earned their Star award. Watch out older boys – If these 2 continue their current pace – they will soon pass you up! Way to go Kimball and Joseph! You are sooooo OKEY DOKEY!

Special thanks to all the **ward Scouts** and **Brother Darren Shope** for **putting out all of our flags** for July 4th! Call Darren at 827-7854 if you have any problems with your flag, want to subscribe to the flag service or know a neighbor who would like to participate. The fee goes to finance our own ward scout activities and expenses.

The Venture Scouts have a major activity July 16th thru 19th. The Scouts will be attending Camp Geronimo July 19th thru 26th. We know the boys will enjoy their adventures!

New Deacon's Presidency:

President: Brandon Boone

1st Counselor: Alec Turner

2nd Counselor: Jacob Standage

Secretary: Stan Ransom

New Teacher's Presidency:

Pres: Sheldon Hassell

1st Counselor: Kevin Hale

2nd Counselor: Alex Shope

Secretary: Brandon Eyring

The Varsity Scouts went on a High Adventure outing the last weekend of June and were able to do 2 days of kayaking, fishing, canoeing, hiking, and bolaing (a game that mixes bowling, golf, and speed basketball.. a game created by Pres Haws). We had some great food planned and prepared by the boys. Especially good was the live sushi Sheldon ate (a 3 inch minnow). A bunch of the boys jumped in the lake and swamped a canoe and had to swim back to the shore through a bunch of seaweed. We had a great time! Leaders were Bros. Hill, Eyring, Hassel and Payne. The varsity scouts present were Sheldon Hassell, Brandon Eyring, Jonathan Martinez, Alex Shope & Alex Espinoza. We had nightly devotionals including reading scriptures and continued the youth STOMP program. Pretty Terrific!

PRIMARY

President Kim Hale 834-3041

1st Couns Naomi Morales 218-5887

2nd Couns Elizabeth Stark 964-7754

Secretary Erika Payne 967-1101

Sunday Assignments

July Theme: Because I know we are all children of God, I will share the gospel with others.

July Scripture: "And if it so be that ye should ... bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy". (D&C 18:15)

7th Article of Faith: "We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc." (Practice-Practice!)

July 6:

O. Prayer: Kaeden Blau

Scripture: Cayden Shope

Talk: Taylor Payne

Art. of Faith: #7 Tanner Payne

C. Prayer: Corey Downs

July 13:

O. Prayer: Molly Allen

Scripture: Korben Mehlberg

Talk: Sarah Morales

Art of Faith #7 Jocelyn Gardiner

C. Prayer: Kaia Mehlberg

July 20:

O. Prayer: Evan Redd

Scripture: Claire Rogers

Talk: Isaac Root

Article of Faith #7 Sophia Allen

C. Prayer: Cole Montgomery

June 27:

O. Prayer: Salessi Morello

Scripture: Joseph Standage

Talk: Kimball Rogers

Art of Faith #7 Chris Germany

C. Prayer: Kaler Mehlberg

Class Presentation: Sunbeams and Valiant 10

FAMILY CANNING

Closed for extensive remodeling, the Mesa Family Canning facility will open again, probably in August. Questions? **Call Rosa Rodriguez 644-0128.** Much information, food items and prices can be found at: **providentliving.com**

Star Spangled Banner Quiz

- During which war was the poem that became our National Anthem, written?
 - Revolutionary War
 - War of 1812
 - Civil War
 - Mexican War
- Who was responsible for making the "Star Spangled Banner" flag?
 - Mary Pickersgill
 - Betsy Ross
 - Ben Franklin
 - Tima Hird
- How large was the Star Spangled Banner when it flew over Ft. McHenry?
 - 4 X 6'
 - 17 X 25'
 - 30 X 42'
 - 255 X 505'
- How many stars and individual stripes were on this flag?
 - 13 stars and 13 stripes
 - 13 stars and 15 stripes
 - no stars but 13 stripes

d. 15 stars and 15 stripes

5. Who wrote the song, "The Star Spangled Banner"?

- Kerwin Blau
- Violet Rogers and Kelcie Schnepf
- Frances Scott Key
- Dr. William Beanes

6. How much did the Army pay to have the larger flag made?

- \$25.72
- \$405.90
- \$5 and 100 pounds of sugar
- \$1000

7. Today, the original flag is preserved in perfect condition with no visible damage, in the Smithsonian Museum. T or F

8. Was the battle at Ft. McHenry in Baltimore harbor, BEFORE or AFTER the Battle of New Orleans?

9. What happened to the missing star from the original flag?

- Mrs. Armistead cut it out and gave it away.
- It was blown away during the battle.
- The moths ate it.
- Not wanting to tell a lie, George Washington said he did it.

10. What are the 3 colors in the American Flag?

- green, red and white
- red, white and blue
- amber (for waves of grain), purple (for mountains) and blue (for pure skies)
- green, gold and Mesa High purple

*Answers to quiz are on the Calendar Page***Answers to Star Spangled Banner Quiz**

1. b, 2. a, 3. c, 4. d, 5. c, 6. b, 7. F, 8. BEFORE. The Battle of New Orleans was fought in 1815, a month after the war ended. 9. a, 10. b

