

Tahquitz Ward Express

3-18--2024—Send info:

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We chronical the partying and worshipping, comings and goings & general memory-making moments of our **GREAT** YSA Ward in Hemet. If you are missing, you

In other words...You snooze, You looze!!

You need us & we need you!—Do something brave today, venture out & don't be a wall flower! Go out of your way to make someone else's day better!—You have a lot to share, now's the time!

Tahquitz YSA news, future happenings & Casper's mission journal

Sunday services take place at 27020 Meridian St.

Sunday School/Priesthood at 12 pm

Sacrament meeting at 1 pm.

All FHEs —Park Hill Building at 7 pm, unless otherwise noted 1151 Park Ave, San Jacinto.

RIDES

Our ride coordinators are Keoni Buenavista (951-391-3007) and Eric Diaz (951-492-8202) Please contact either for help with rides. Give as much notice as possible.

FHE Assignments:

1st Monday - Gray

2nd - Stange

3rd - Van Jindelt

4th - Hartvigson

5th - Frosties & Fries

CFM

Gray, Stange, Diaz, Casper—(This is not week specific as we sometimes have a 5th Thursday)

Tahquitz Ward Newsletter Addresses and Info — Gray: 25355 Rockford St, Hemet—

Stange: 27077 Val Deane Way, Hemet Casper: 409 E Thornton Ave, Apt A201, Hemet—

Diaz 781 Madden St Hemet—Park Hill building: 1151 Park Ave, San Jacinto —

**Past issues of Tahquitz Ward Express available at recoveringidiot.com
Top left —“Mission Posts” To contact Ben or suggestions— Top right**

FHE

3/18 Spring Bash (bocce ball, corn hole, backyard games) at McSweeny Park

3/25 European Handball

4/1 Hoedown Night

Know anybody sitting at home? Please invite your friends!

COME FOLLOW ME

3/21 at Gray's

3/28 at Stange's

4/4 at Diaz's

OTHER DATES

3/29-30 Easter Pageant in Meniffee (see flyer)

3/31 Easter sacrament meeting only at 1 pm

4/6-7 General Conference

4/12 Disneyland Dreams dance (see flyer)

4/14 Fast Sunday and Break the Fast

4/27 Hemet Beautiful/Helping Hands 8am-12 pm

TEMPLE DATES

5/17 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms. Carpool meets at stake center at 5 pm.

6/7 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms

BIRTHDAYS!

3/18 Stephen Tadlock

RELIEF SOCIETY

Look for your new ministering assignments on tools.

Upcoming Relief Society lesson talks for our ward can be found on the home page of your Gospel Library App. If you can't locate it ask a member of the RS presidency for help.

MISSIONARY INVITE From our ward mission leader—Invite YSA age friends from your home ward to come to church on Sunday! They are out there. They just need an invitation and a friend to make them feel welcome.

New callings!

Elena Carbullido—YSA regional representative

Gavin Jiminez—Assistant tech specialist

Sunday:

We heard from Bryn Drummond, Elena Carbullido and Isaac Collett. Bryn's topic was charity, the highest and noblest love and the most joyous to the soul. Charity is the spiritual gift that helps us cast off the natural man. It's not a single act, but a state of the heart. Christ has perfect charity. He knows what we're feeling. If we have faith, hope and charity we will abound in good works.

Elena built on the topic as she spoke about God's love, which we can both receive and give. God loves us, but He wants us to change, because no unclean thing can enter into His kingdom. We can show our love to God by serving others, eliminating distractions and doing those things He asks of us.

Isaac, who is leaving soon to begin his mission to New York, taught about how to prepare for a mission. Even if you haven't decided to go on a mission, why not prepare as if you were? The habits he listed will bless all our lives. 1) Put effort into prayer and having conversations with God 2) Receive a patriarchal blessing 3) Talk to the missionaries (why did they choose to serve? how has it blessed their lives?) Join lessons 4) Really study the scriptures and search for answers 5) Start sharing the gospel and pray for missionary opportunities. We wish you well, Elder Collett!

QUOTES

“God's love fills the immensity of space, therefore, there is no shortage of love in the universe, only in our willingness to do what is needed to feel it.”—John H. Groberg

Spotlight: Ann & Bishop Gray

Ann Gray:

I was born in Boston, Massachusetts. At the time my dad was finishing up dental school, my mom worked cleaning a bowling alley, and I had three older brothers. When I was born my dad was in the autopsy lab, and the doctor nearly didn't make it! It took my parents three months to decide what my name would be. You would think after having three sons they would've come up with something! They made the final decision in the car on the way to the church the day I was to be blessed!

My dad spoke Danish because my grandmother was from Denmark, and he served his mission in Denmark, and so until I actually had a name he had called me his sweet "Lille pude", which interpreted meant his "sweet little ball of fluff"!! This evolved into "Pudie", which was my official nickname until I had graduated from high school!

I grew up in Lincoln, a little town outside of Boston. We lived in the woods, and had a "duck pond" about 100 yards behind our home where we would ice-skate every winter. We often saw foxes, raccoons, deer, and other wildlife on our property. We lived right in the heart of where the Revolutionary War started, so I was raised steeped in early American history. In fact, Lincoln was where Paul Revere was captured by the British! I miss Boston, with its beautiful landscapes, forests, change of seasons, history, lobster, clambakes at the beach, and best ice cream you'll ever eat! I have five brothers and one sister, Becky. She's my favorite sister. My brothers loved to pick on me. Maybe because I was a middle child. My most embarrassing moment was the day I went to kindergarten wearing a dress, but had forgotten to put on my underpants after my morning bath. Yikes! I told my best friend, who told her sister, who told the entire school bus!! I was mortified!

My family comes from a great pioneer heritage. They knew the prophet Joseph Smith personally. On occasion the prophet stayed in their homes, and my 3rd great grandfather, Howard Egan, was one of his personal body guards. The prophet said he always felt the safest when Howard was guarding his family. My pioneer heritage is one I am very proud of. They made huge sacrifices for their beliefs, and I feel an obligation to honor their legacy through the way I live my life.



When it came time for college I attended BYU. I loved it! And that's where I met a really cute guy on a blind date... and ended up marrying him! I didn't finish college, but I guess you can say I earned my MRS degree! Instead I worked hard to help put Scott through his undergrad studies at BYU. When we moved to San Francisco for dental school, I worked at the school for one year, and then two years as an apartment manager. After graduation we moved back to Scott's hometown, Hemet, and raised our family here.

We have three girls, two boys, three great son-in-laws, an adorable daughter-in-law, and next month we will have a total of eight grandchildren! We love them all! I love the gospel and I love the Lord. I was raised in the church, but I will always remember the Sunday when as a teenager I was sitting in Sacrament Meeting, and the spirit bore a powerful witness to me that this church was true! Fun fact: Elder L. Tom Perry lived in our ward, was our bishop, Stake Pres., and closest LDS neighbor! We loved their family!

As an adult I would say my favorite hymn is "Be Still, My Soul". It brings me great comfort when new changes and challenges have come into my life. I have had many church callings over the years, but I would say my favorite was serving as Stake Relief Society President, and I am now absolutely loving serving with the fantastic YSA in the Tahquitz Ward!



**With the Queen
of England (or
their daughter)**



Bishop Scott Gray

My earthly existence began in Los Angeles, California. My father was attending Dental School at USC and my mother worked the switchboard as a telephone operator. Apparently I helped my mom with some of the connections as she worked up to the day I was born.

We lived in Hawthorne, CA until I was two years old. We then moved to Hemet, CA where my father opened up his dental practice. There was one stop light in town at that time. I was a natural born athlete (the older I get...the better I was). I won the Punt, Pass, & Kick contest every year, except when I entered the 8yr old division as a 7yr old...I won second. I loved to swim and was on the Valley Dolphins swim team from 8yrs to 15yrs... of course I was so awesome, I grew gills.

I got a job as a paperboy when I was 11 and always had a job from that point on in my life. When I was 18, I started asking Heavenly Father if I should serve a mission. I had been offered a scholarship to play football at USC, but turned it down and instead, filled out my missionary application. Not many people know, but I was called as a Health Missionary to Peru. That's right. I didn't know what that was either. My first companion was a Dentist from Australia. We were together for almost a year. I had to learn all the missionary discussions, but we spent most of our time teaching new leaders in the church about their callings (not giving Yellow Fever shots in the jungle). Half way through my mission, my calling was changed to Priesthood Service Missionary. We spent a week in every Branch in the mission.

We had an Area Conference in Lima, Peru while I was there. I was an Assistant to the Mission President at the time, and was asked to interpret for my Mission President's wife during the conference. My Mission Pres had to translate or interpret for Bruce R. McConkie. He was having a tough time understanding Elder McConkie and turned to me and asked me to take over for him. I just about died. Elder McConkie put his hand on my shoulder and told me to let him know if he needed to talk slower. He then talked about all the American missionaries that were serving in Peru and related it to a baseball team. Basically, the Americans were the second team and were playing until they had enough Peruvian missionaries to field the first team. He then asked all the Peruvian missionaries to stand...there were quite a few. He said, the missionaries that were standing were the first team...to which I said, that those sitting were the first team...which I caught right after the words left my mouth and quickly corrected my mistake.



Those in attendance started laughing (comedic timing) and Elder McConkie looked down at me and said..."What I said wasn't funny, why are they laughing?" I wanted to ask my Mission President to get back up there and take over for me.

Elder McConkie and I had a very short conversation and then he continued his talk, but not before he told a joke to break the tension. I had never heard Elder McConkie (an Apostle) tell a joke before.

(Elder McConkie's father was Elder Casper's father's mission president)

After my mission I had received a scholarship to play football, but they wanted me to give from 12:00 to 7:00 every day to the team. I was confused

as to when I would study, how could I take all the science classes, and get good grades...as well as date, in the time that was left, so I turned it down... which worked out pretty good for me as I dated 67 different girls...of which I only kissed three (don't tell my wife about the other two.)

My third blind date was with my wife...the girls from Hemet who were playing matchmakers failed on the previous two and I kept turning them down on that third date...until they pointed her out...to which I said yeeeee! We were married in the Salt Lake temple 45 years ago. We have 5 children (girl, boy, girl, boy, girl). My advice and/or counsel is: If you want a happy life: marry a smart girl with a strong testimony. (The Caspers were also married in the Salt Lake temple 45 years ago and also met on a blind date.)

We moved to San Francisco to attend Dental School, which was a fun place to live. Lots of fun family outings. After I graduated from Dental School, we moved back to Hemet and have been here ever since.

From an early age, I knew that prayers were answered. One experience was when I went on a backpacking trip to Tahquitz Valley/Tahquitz Peak with my family. I was about 9 yrs old. I also brought a friend with me. It's a long hike. The first day, we hiked to Tahquitz Valley, where we camped that night. The next morning we were to hike to Tahquitz Peak. I had done that hike several times with my father and so I told him I knew the way. He let me and my friend leave early and were told to stay on the trail and we would all meet up at the Ranger Station at the Peak. I brought some water and an orange to eat later. It didn't take long before I said, I know a short cut that would save us 20-30 minutes. Before long, I was lost. The shortcut really wasn't a shortcut. I told my friend I was lost. He wanted to go one way and I thought we should go a different way. When I realized I needed help, I told my LDS friend that maybe we should ask Heavenly Father for help. He told me that I could pray if I wanted, but he was going to keep looking for the trail.

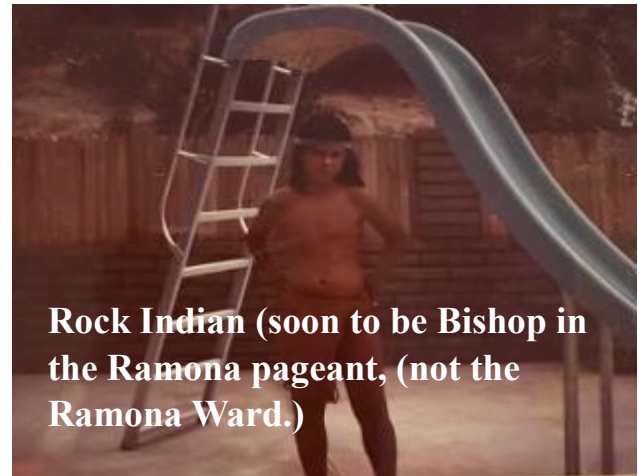
I knelt down by a tree and said a 9 yr old's prayer and apologized that I hadn't followed my father's advice. After I ended my prayer, before I had even stood back up, I looked off in the distance (in a different direction than either of us wanted to go) and saw something orange on the ground. We walked over to see what it was... and it was pieces of the orange peel from the orange I was going to eat at the Rangers Station. We followed the orange peels back and found the trail we had left earlier that morning. This time, I stayed on the trail, only stopping to thank Heavenly Father for his help.

I have had many experiences like that in my life where my prayers have been answered when I desperately needed an answer. I can tell you that you can all have your prayers answered if you ask in faith. You are entitled to the promptings of the Holy Ghost. Learn how to listen, feel, and sometimes even hear those promptings.

The Tahquitz Ward thanks and loves the Grays!!



**Modern Dental
Anesthesia
Available
Only At
Dr. Gray's**



FHE

Family Home Evening was a lot of fun last week! Cake Wars was the theme. Cakes were decorated by people who were blindfolded. Instructions were relayed by people who couldn't hear the instructions given by other's who had their mouths duct tape shut.





The evening was a hoot watching the nice cakes get destroyed by inept attempts to decorate by deaf, dumb & blind—Whoops!!!!

(Sorry, I forgot all about living in a politically correct world.)

Wonderful mastery of the premium art of decorating cakes was carried out by hearing impaired, sight compromised and silent young people.

(That's about all the politically correct mumbo jumbo I can handle!) Now, back to reality...



So I was standing by the stage and noticed Raegyne stealthily creeping around others with a cake held in a very unusual configuration. It looked like politically incorrect trouble. I got my phone out and started snapping pics just after she smashed Aaron face first with cake.

He grabbed another cake and took off after Raegyne. (I think Raegyne originally came up with the title Cake Wars before this evening ever happened.) No one really knew what was in store, especially Aaron.

It was a blast tonight. However, I warned Aaron afterwards that the way I saw how cakes were decorated, he should not partake or ingest the hazmat compromised cakes. Totally unsanitary!

Aaron is not as bright as I thought he was nor as smart as he thinks he is. He laughed at me and just started chomping down on stuff I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. (Which happens to be Aaron!)



Sunday School had some great teaching moments. Ben was well-prepared with a lesson on 2nd Nephi 28, a discussion about the apostasy, many churches, false teachers and all the false doctrine that would abound in the last days.

Reviewing these prophecies and looking around us at all the thousands of conflicting churches is very enlightening. It amazes me that more people don't make a more concerted effort to find the true Church of Jesus Christ! Looking for attributes like modern-day revelation, priesthood authority, temples, missionary work, additional scripture and restoration of all things are just a few of the qualities that Christ's Church would have and has.

In the middle of the lesson, someone dropped thousands of pencils on the floor by the noise and my estimation. (I'm pretty sure Brother Noel paid Colby to drop all the pencils to demonstrate how churches and pencils can be scattered haphazardly in every direction around the world!)



Thursday night was Come Follow Me at the Casper apartment. Jayro gave the lesson. It was a good evening although attendance was a hair sparse. I'm not sure if it is Sister Casper's healthy & wholesome refreshments or my abrasive personality that sets these attendance records.

We went to lunch with the Lundeens this week. I had a little heartburn and during our lunch, I noticed a firetruck pulled up outside and a stretcher rolling toward me. I was amazed these firemen would have the inspiration to come and treat me for a heart attack that was coming my way.



I was more than a little disappointed when they rolled right by our table and headed for another gentleman in the back of the eatery.

I'm now of the opinion that Hemet fire guys aren't all that inspired. In fact, this incident gave me additional heartburn.



We went to the temple Friday eve. After rolling into the parking lot and exiting our vehicle, I noticed Baduras sitting in their car. I didn't ask but assume that they didn't have their recommends. Especially after the good doctor asked me if he could borrow mine. I told him no. He quit smiling. We never did see them inside. (We love the Baduras unless he adjusts my wrist during a gout attack)

The Lundeens traveled with us to the temple. We did sealings and enjoyed the experience!

Afterwards, we happened to meet up with our great mission president and his wife, the Hendricksons.

They tagged along with the senior couples to a Chinese restaurant. Sister Casper and I were planning on visiting a historic daffodil place in the mountains the next day. I asked the President if he and his wife would like to join us. He looked at me with kind of sideways glare, pointed his finger at me and said they couldn't since they had missionary work to do. (See pic below)

He then asked me if we would like to be sent home early. I said "Sure".

He then said "How about April 3?"

I quickly agreed. (I don't think President knows that we are being released that day anyway.)

We have really loved getting to know the Hendricksons & everyone else In the Riverside Mission!



Since we're getting released early from the night before conversation AND I know that being married to me is kind of an eternal wear and tear situation, I took my sweet wife to the mountains around Arrowhead Lake.

In the 50s a lady started planting daffodils. She planted 50,000 bulbs & Michele wanted to see them. Once we got up there, I started wondering how we would see the flowers with all the snow. Then, a lady drove by and laughed when we told her what we were looking for. She said they had been gone for many years because of forest fires, etc. I guess our information was outdated. But it wasn't a wasted trip.

We had a nice lunch at Lake Arrowhead and even found some daffodils along the way. The poor suckers looked pretty cold. The area is called Rim of the World. There are lots of cabins in the area. Most of them are built on steeply



angled hills. The trees must keep everything from sliding down. I don't think I could get a good night's sleep in one of those homes. I'd be freaking out just wondering when we were going to start sledding downward.



On our way downward, I saw a couple of helicopters hovering. We stopped and watched as they had ropes dangling down. I soon saw there were guys on the radical hills working. I think they were cutting brush around the power poles. As soon as they finished in one spot, they would hook on the line and the copter would haul them to another.

They seemed really close to the power lines. They couldn't pay me enough to do that work. In fact, they wouldn't have to pay me. I'd do it for nothing. Every once in a while, they would take off and ferry their man or load down towards San Bernardino.

Maybe they have to go get warmed up, get lunch or collect their last paycheck. As they flew down, we could see the person they were hauling stretched out in a horizontal position, probably to cut down on the wind drag. A bigger helicopter shown below was carrying 2 bags (circled).

Those bags might have held chainsaws and tools or even more likely, they were body bags. I thinking if I want that job, I better turn in an application before I turn 70 next year.

The copters moved fast & seemingly without caution. By the looks of those body bags, I've got a good chance of joining up as they probably have a high turnover rate.



Inland Empire SSA Ward Presents

Disneyland Dreams

Friday April 12th 5pm-11pm
522 W Francis St Ontario, CA 91762

MagicBand Entrance- 5 Dollars

(Cash, Venmo, Apple Pay, Zelle)

DJ Juicebox Mixing After Dark

There will be Churros!

Church Dress Standards Apply

Bring your Mickey/Minnie Ears and Disney Merch

No Park Reservation Needed! See you all there!



Hemet Beautiful A Community Day of Service

Join us for a day dedicated to a
cleaner and more beautiful Hemet.



Saturday,
April 27
7 am - 12 pm
West Valley HS
3400 Mustang Way

Volunteer for:

Litter Pickup, Painting, Gardening, Planting, Weeding, and more

Work on Potential Projects like:

Business Beautification, Park Beautification, Public Space Improvement, Street
Refurbishment, Urban Cleanup, and more

Do you need help with a project around your area? Would you like an
area in Hemet beautified? Nominate a project today!

To nominate projects for this event or sponsorship opportunities, visit:

hemetca.gov/HemetBeautiful

Easter Pageant

March 29th and 30th

Friday - Open Dress Rehearsal

1 hour tours every 15 minutes from
6:00 to 6:45 pm

Saturday - 1 hour tours from 2:00-
3:45 pm and 5:00-7:45 pm

*6:45 pm tour on Friday and 7:00 pm
tour on Saturday will be translated into
Spanish



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 29275 Bradley Rd. Menifee, CA 92586



Academic Calendar

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EVENT	WINTER 2024 (JAN.– APR.)	SPRING 2024 (APR.– JUL.)	FALL 2024 (SEPT.– DEC.)
Priority Application Deadline	Dec. 20	Apr. 2	Aug. 27
Last Day to Complete an Application	Jan. 3	Apr. 17	Sept. 11
Courses Start	Jan. 8	Apr. 22	Sept. 16

*If you are a currently enrolled student, sign in to your [BYU-Pathway Portal](#) to view dates and deadlines that are relevant to your program.