

Happy Holidays

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December 2005

From our family to yours...have a very happy holiday!!

Holiday Greetings from our family to yours!

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We've been busy this year and 2005 has been very good to us!

In February, I bought the house I was renting and Tim's been helping to fix it up. (Ok, I'm lying...Tim's doing the fixing! I know how to take directions, help when asked, and otherwise stay out of the way!)

We've taken the two-bedroom house and turned it into a three bedroom house and it's shaping up quite nice. We work on it as time and money permits, and I'm sure by the time it's all fixed up, I'll be ready to sell it so we can move into a nicer house (that needs work of course!)

Isn't that how it works?

In addition to the new bedroom, which was turning



the living room into the bedroom, moving the front door and the living room over and converting the central room in the house into an office, Tim's put new siding up on the front and has been working on some other odd jobs around the house. It's great that

he's so crafty.

He put shelves in the kids' rooms just after we moved in...just like the ones that John and I had as a kid! Must thank Dad for that wonderful idea!

On the slate for the house is to get rid of the hideous wallpaper in the dining room and work on the bathroom. Eventually, I'll get that new kitchen too...in due time!



Our new addition...

On December 13th we welcomed Napoleon to our home! Since the death of Bert last December, we had talked about getting a new dog, and since Tim grew up with great danes, that's what he really wanted.

He's a good dog and great with the kids! He's just big and always underfoot! The tree doesn't have any ornaments on the bottom half since Napoleon's tail moved them all...but we'll adjust!

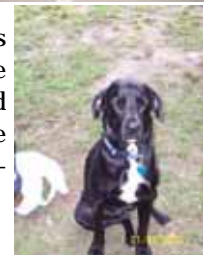
An update on Rhoda...(and Napoleon!)

Rhoda turns two this December and what a blessing she is to our family. We had some rough moments with her, but in the end she's turned out just fine. She loves to play in the yard with Matthew or in the living room with Tim

and she LOVES when Jack comes for a visit!

She's also very fond of her new brother, Napoleon! Napoleon is a 7 month old great dane and just as sweet as sweet can be! Napoleon was an early Christ-

m a s
p r e -
sent for us
and we're
t h r i l l e d
with the
new addi-
tion!!



An update on Heather...



I've been busy! In September I was contacted by a former manager and was asked to come

work for KMIZ/KQFX/KZOU in Columbia, MO as their Director of Sales Promotions and Research and I gladly accepted the position! I'm now working from home and loving it! I have so much more time with the kids and the company is wonderful to work for! I love being back in TV and it's all coming back to me!

In July, my best friend Sondra and I attended our annual Kenny Chesney concert, only this time it was a



gals' weekend in Charlotte! We had a blast and I can't wait until next year!



In October, I went to St. Louis to a virtual assistant conference and was able to meet

a few people I've encountered on line. I've been doing some freelance work and maintaining web pages (as well as creating a few of my own) and wanted to meet others in this industry. It was a great weekend away and I hope to do it again next year!

In addition to that, I've become a cheerleading mom, PTA mom, and a slew of others...and loving it!



An update on Tim...

I say I've been busy, but it's really Tim that has. In addition to his new job with Branch and Associates and working on the construction project at Ferrum College, he's been doing side jobs here and there and working on this house! He started his new job in April and loves it. The 45 minute commute isn't all that bad when you're driving that route. He sees the beauty of Southwest Virginia every

day!

He's been working on his golf swing and playing every chance he gets! He tells me he's playing a good game and I have to take his word. He always goes and finds a group to play with and I've never seen it!

He's now the proud owner of a boat and all it's parts...all he needs to do now is find the time to put it all to-

gether!

With all that being said...he does take time to relax...and it's normally with his buddies...



An Update on Patrick...

Patrick turned 19 in October and will begin his 4th semester at Virginia Western in January. He's so close to that Associate's Degree! He's still working at the Auto Wash part time and doing very well for himself.

He recently moved to Botetourt with some friends and is now living the life of a bachelor. He and his friends are redoing the attic (his room) and its coming along nicely!

He and Molly spend as much time together as they can and she comes home and he travels to James Madison to see her as well. They celebrated their 5 year anniversary recently. I know he's happy that she's home from Christmas break!

Patrick and Heather went to the Brad Paisley concert recently and had a great time!



An update on Matthew...

Matthew is in the 3rd grade this year and after a rocky start with the grades he's turning around this quarter! He began his year wrestling and gave that a shot although he's decided that soccer is more his speed, so we'll register for that when it rolls around.

He's decided that he wants to be a scientist and loves all the science projects that he brings home. He's al-



ways looking at things and performing his own experiments, so who knows...he could be the one who comes up with the cure for something in the future!

He loves to play with the kids on the street and has recently joined the Destination Imagination Team. They will compete in March and it's very similar to Olympics of the Mind or Odyssey of the Mind. He loves it!



Matthew's also started helping with dinner and is going to start making dinner one night a week. He picks out the recipe and tells me what he needs and then I let him go! He made some GREAT potato soup and is always a big help in the kitchen!

He's been a great elf this year and has helped hide gifts and wrap. He even went shopping with me on Thanksgiving day...and I'm not sure he wants to do it again!



An Update on Samara...

Samara's had an eventful 2005 as well. She began 1st grade and is doing wonderful with her reading and her grades. She loves to read to me and LOVES to practice her spelling words. She's a whiz on the computer and will often type out her spelling words.

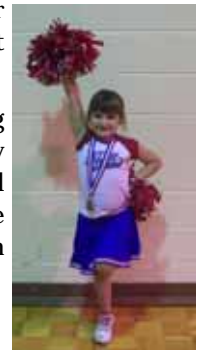
She's decided that she wants to be a nurse when she grows up and work in

the NICU. It's apparent that the nursing career suits her as she's the first to help when someone is cut and doesn't mind cleaning up blood! She also loves to watch the Discovery Health Channel and any type of baby/ER television shows on TV.



Nothing grosses her out! (She doesn't get this from her mother!)

She began cheering this fall and does very well with it. She will begin cheering for the football team when they start in the fall!



An Update on Regan...

Regan started school this fall and is doing very well. She's even learning Spanish in school!

She comes to visit us every other weekend and the girls continue to get along famously! It's babies and barbies galore around here when Regan's here! (And that room gets a mess!)

She came for an extended stay this summer and I took a few days off and we went to the zoo and had a picnic



and lots of other fun things around town.

Regan and Samara love to sing and

dance around the house and often perform concerts for us.

She's a great help when she's here and loves to play with the neighborhood kids as well.



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Our new home on the internet...

As most people know, Heather's big into web-sites, technology and all that other geeky stuff! One of the things that she's worked a lot on this year is blogs!

Blog is short for Web Log and she's created one for our family located at www.ellis-jacobson.com

She installs these blogs on her webhost and then takes a template and modifies it to her liking, takes the pictures, keeps it up-



blogs for their families and businesses!

Please take a minute and check out the website and see what we're up to!

dated and designs the graphics for it. It truly is her passion...so much in fact that she's helped her friends create

She's also added a picture gallery to the site which she keeps updated and will be adding past pictures of the kids there as well! You can find the picture gallery at www.ellis-jacobson.com/pictures

