

THE H PPENING

An Annual Easter Publication - "The Village Years"
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Dear friends!

Things are always "hoping" at the Kessie's and the families they have become. I said to Horace several years back, that I could tell what was getting ready to happen. As we began to place the students into their language classes and process orders for where they would be going, I kept seeing the same facial features assigned to identical departments. Equivalent leadership qualities and equal compassion for others, was also something that I noticed. Even though we are discouraged from looking too far into their files, I knew all these things as a Kessie trait. Shoot half the town is managed by your family or a family that is linked to you all. They say opposites attract, but not around here. I have had much time to compose my thoughts this past year, because Earth has quarantined The Village, except under "essential" business. Teeth still needed to be collected and toys distributed, but two-thirds of the Dreamweaver factor was laid off, because the Sandman wasn't allowed to send out his nightly crew to distribute sleepers. Many people got insomnia, but we weren't to blame!

As I spent many a sleepless nights, I thought about some of the most recent loved ones to leave The Village and some of the more memorable moments that I noticed. Here is a sample of the top hits on V-Tube. The first time Sawyer met Brielle, was a sweet moment. He is one of the top guitar players The Village has ever had. He auditioned for the Fall Festival of Lights at Novemberfest and was chosen as the lead guitarist out of 35,000 other players. It was November 6, 2000 and the band was on stage to kick the weekend off. Sawyer was into their third song when the new arrivals bus pulled up across the street at the Depot. All Sawyer could see from the stage was this beautiful brunette step off the bus. She had a backpack and a bible under her arm. Sawyer unstrapped his guitar and handed it to his assistant walked across the street and introduced himself. They got coffee at Messy Curls that night and were best friends for 20 years.

Eli was voted MVP in the Village basketball playoffs, and as a souvenir the coach gave him the game ball. Something like that generally sells on V-bay for a thousand dollars or more. Eli was

on his way back to the lockers when he saw a boy in a wheelchair tell him how good he played and wished he was that talented. Eli sat down with him for about an hour explaining that God handpicks us all to be who we are and shine a light. Eli got up to hit the showers when the little boy held up the basketball and offered to toss it to Eli. Eli told him it was his to keep. *-That young boy was Dylan Alcott; he became an Australian wheelchair basketballer, wheelchair tennis player, radio host and motivational speaker.*

Ava came to me one afternoon and told me she was looking through the nursery rosters, and some of the babies only have one parent listed. Why? She asked me. I said, well as much as we hate to admit it, some children will leave the Village with one parent, and sometimes for different reasons, no parents that will raise them. Sometimes we can cross reference candidates and help guide them to adoption, I said. Her heart was broken that some of the friends she has grown young with might not enjoy the hug of a father. She asked to be a volunteer to help train the spirit's of these children to learn the importance of family. Over 1 million students took her curriculum, and its been made available in 10 languages.

After Titus became famous for saving lives with his strength, his life changed dramatically. No longer the loaner that worked out by himself, he was busy doing interviews, and promoting athletic equipment. When Theodore opened his ministry @ Baker's Mill he contacted Titus to be the spokesperson behind the new push for Heroism in dating lifestyles. No longer promoting physical strength Titus became the marketing icon for becoming a *HERO*, the man she desires. Interesting how somehow we touch so many others through out our lives, as we become available for God.