

## Season's Greetings 2020

What a year it's been! I think we'll all be glad to see 2020 in the rear-view mirror. Despite the difficulties experienced, our family is doing well.

We did have some sad news in July when Barb's mom passed away at the age of 89. She was in an assisted living facility in Austin, TX and like so many others around the world, had to be isolated for her own protection from the COVID virus. This may have hastened her decline in the final months, although we'll never know for sure.

Rachel and Tim bought their first home in Parker, CO (suburb of Denver) in June and have settled into suburban life. Rachel is teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade remotely as of now, although she was in the physical classroom from the beginning of the school year up until Thanksgiving. She completed her Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language online at ASU in May. Tim continues to do well at Schwab in the financial crimes investigation division and had the chance to work in an acting team manager role at the end of this year. They enjoy hiking and camping in the mountains whenever they can find the time.

Brianna started medical school in July at Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Parker, Colorado (not far from Rachel & Tim's new home). Due to COVID, the school has been online thus far. Not ideal, but it is what it is. As expected, her life is pretty well consumed by classes, labs and studying. At this time she doesn't know which area of medicine she wants to pursue, but she still has time to figure it out. She is enjoying the experience so far and still finds time to exercise and run occasionally.

Jacob and Bella both graduated in only three years from NAU in May and have settled into Portland where Jacob has started his studies at Western Seminary (remotely) and Bella is nannying for two young children. They are slowly getting acclimated to their new surroundings and have begun making friends. They tried to get by without a car when they first moved there in July, but found life a bit inconvenient and ended up bringing up their car from AZ. We were fortunate to have them come visit for several days around Thanksgiving to enjoy the sunny weather and spend some time with family! Although they like Portland, they still love Arizona and may look for a way to move back someday.

Barb had to have surgery to repair some torn ligaments in her ankle, which really put a damper on her normal exercise routine for quite some time! Fortunately, she is back able to resume running, swimming, hiking, yoga, online exercise classes and such. She is MUCH happier now (and so is Stan). She also continues to help Stan with his marketing efforts with his Brightside Mortgage clients.

Stan continues to do mortgages and enjoys it so much he isn't contemplating retirement any time soon. With rates low, it's been a busy year for him. Not being able to go to the gym has caused a change in his exercise routine, but working out at home and doing more hiking in the nearby mountains has kept him in reasonably good shape. We helped Brianna & Jacob with their relocations this summer and spent much of the hot weather at our place in Flagstaff, but otherwise didn't travel much. A pre-COVID trip to see the Aurora Borealis around New Years was about it. We had scheduled a family trip to Toronto to see the final baseball stadium, but had to cancel due to COVID.

Best wishes for a joyous Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

**The Wang Family**





