

FEBRUARY 2019

# Monument

## LIVING



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MARTHA STALLINGS

The Perry Family:  
God Provides!



# The Perry Family: God Provides

By The Perry Family  
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Photography Credit: Martha A. Stallings

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
TWIN LEAF KITCHENS AND INTERIORS  
FOR SPONSORING THIS MONTH'S FEATURE STORY.**

**M**onument Living would like to introduce you to your neighbors, the Perry family, Clint, Stephanie, Sean, Conner and Brandon..

### **How did you meet? When did you marry?**

This is kind of funny. We met in her living room. A good friend of mine was moving to Missouri right after graduating college. She needed a place to stay for a week or so until her moving date and after she had to leave the college. She ended up, through a series of events, staying with my now wife (although she was technically staying with my wife's roommate). I went to visit my friend and met Stephanie.

### **What can you tell us about your education and career backgrounds?**

Clint – California Baptist College (studied Business). Stephanie finished her degree at Pt. Loma Nazarene University (She has a BA in History). Clint owns Unlimited Benefits, Inc. He is also the Worship Director at Tri Lakes United Methodist Church. He also is the lead singer and founder of The Boo Hoo Crew and is an author of the “Jack Ferrington and the School for Swabbies” series of books. Oh and the “Stay-at-home-dad”. Stephanie is a middle school math teacher at Rocky Mountain Classical Academy.

### **Tell us about your hobbies, favorite activities, and sports teams you follow.**

Clint loves Mt. Biking, Hiking, Kayaking, Archery, Automotive repair, Basketball and working out. The family volunteers at Catholic Charities and Clint and his son Sean volunteer with the Children's Literacy Center in Monument. We LOVE the Nuggets!! Stephanie does cross stitch, loves Kayaking and Hiking, plays Bunko with neighborhood friends. Clint has a recording studio in the basement. His kids' groups latest album is at #2 in the CDBaby.com Top Sellers. The previous album hit #1.

### **What would you like to share with us about your children?**

Sean (14) plays Violin. Connor (13) plays Clarinet and Piano. Brandon (12) is picking up Trumpet. Brandon loves Basketball. Their special talent is bickering with each other. Ha Ha!

### **Do you have any pets?**

We own four guinea pigs, two ball pythons and four cichlids (fish).

### **How long have you lived here? Why did you move here?**

We've lived here for two years. We moved here to be close to Monument. We loved this northern El Paso County area.





Photo Credit: The Perry Family

**What do you enjoy about living in your neighborhood?  
How do you feel about your neighbors, your community?**

We love our neighborhood. It's the first time I have ever lived anywhere in which the idea of moving to a new house (not that we're going to) comes with a sad heart to leave these neighbors. It's an awesome area. The community is friendly, helpful and great to be around.

**Are you involved in any activities with your neighbors?**

Stephanie plays Bunko with neighborhood friends.

**Do you have any interesting stories about your family?**

When we first moved here, one of my old high school friends (who lives in Castle Rock now) took us to tube down the South Platte River for the first time. We had no clue on what to do other than buy some decent innertubes and let the river take us to our destination. We didn't buy water shoes. We didn't buy water tight packs for our keys or phones. We didn't have sunscreen.

So, we set off. I think we'd tubed about five miles by the time we were done. There were two adults and five kids. My youngest, then 10, shared a double with me. Well, about halfway down the river our double tube popped! It was a high watershed that year and flowing fast. My buddy saw us pop as I watched my other two boys (then 12 and 11) float down the river unaware and without us. I freaked out yelling at Zach to chase them but got near enough to me to grab my Mini Van key FOB. However, the FOB was soaked, and I had no idea if it would work when it got to the van. He grabbed it and tried to paddle his way, along with his own kids, closer to mine that had now floated out of sight.

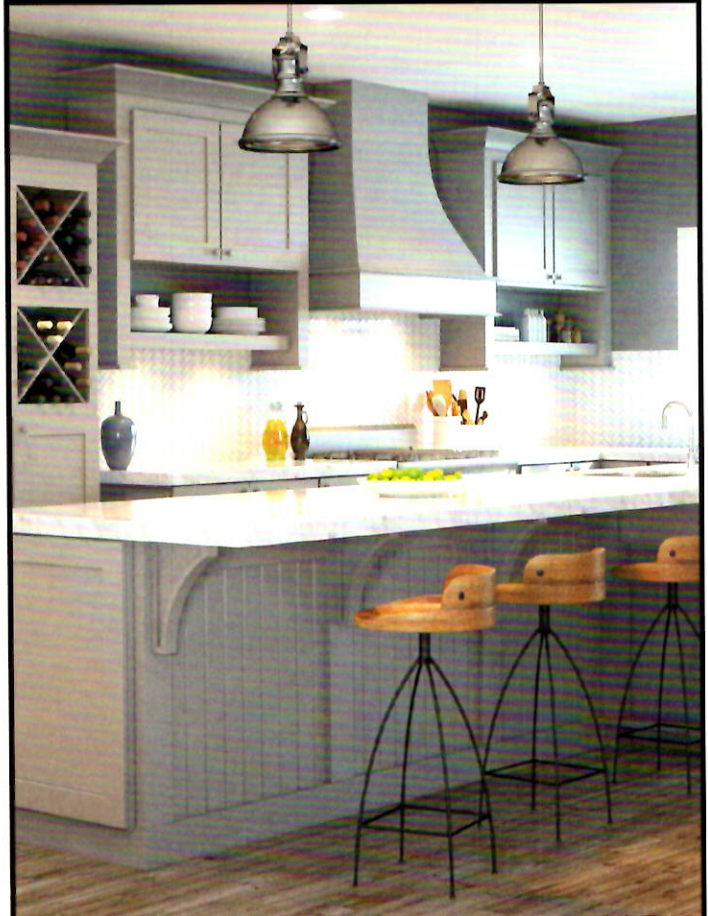
Meanwhile, Brandon and I were so close to the west side (the wrong side) of the river that we ended up going to shore there. We had bare feet and by this point in time I realized that my phone and wallet were now missing. They had floated down the river!!!

We walked the west side of the river for a long time, caking red sand, thorns and brambles into our feet, attempting to find different areas to cross back. But ultimately, my son panicked at each crossing location and we went back to the west, wrong, side of the river. Literally hours passed, and we finally came to a bouldered crossing that gave us the footing Brandon needed to feel safe enough to cross. We crossed and then walked down the side of the road until finally our van, with my friend driving and the kids safely in the passenger seats, came and picked us up. I was crazy frazzled and just wanted to get home.

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### Do you know a neighbor who has a story to share?

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Contact us at [mstallings@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:mstallings@bestversionmedia.com).

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Our feet were bloody, and throbbing and we were sunburned pretty severely. Needless to say, Brandon has not tubed again.

Now the best part of this story, because there was a happy ending, is that some guy found my wallet and phone as he was fly fishing. He spent an hour driving up and down the river trying to find me. Then when he couldn't, he called my office number on a card in the wallet, got me and drove my wallet and phone and hour and 15 minutes down the mountain just to return it to me. Then he went back up the mountain to fish again. That was an amazing introduction to the kindness of strangers here in Colorado. We couldn't repair the phone but at least I didn't have to do all the work it would have taken to get a new license, credit cards and other items in my wallet. I've been tubing many times since.

**If your family had a motto to live by, what would it be?**

"God provides"

**Does your family take an annual vacation each year or have you taken any interesting trips recently?**

We came from California. We just go back there a lot. Nothing super special just visiting family.

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