

Dear Friends and Family,

It's been another full year for us, so much so that we're writing this annual update in November. That's because December is booked up with the imminent arrival of a new child! If you're reading this, things have probably gone more-or-less according to plan, and you can see her vital stats and glowing visage on the front of this card.



The year got off to a strange start, with the first accumulating snowfall in Tallahassee in 28 years in early **January**, which proved the first of many challenging forecasts for Ryan in 2018, as well as being deeply confusing to our little Floridaman. As you might imagine, it was a year of many strides for Isaac, including literal first strides early in the year and summiting his first state highpoint on a trip to Arkansas to celebrate his first birthday in **February**.

We made an unscheduled trip to Baltimore just a few weeks later to mourn the passing of Erica's Uncle Marty Kahl. While a solemn occasion, it did provide a chance to spend time with family and friends, as well as afford Isaac another opportunity to frolic in and come to terms with the existence of snow.



Spring brought other opportunities to reconnect with friends old and new, from spending Easter with friends on Cape San Blas in **March**, to seeing colleagues at the AMS Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology Conference in Jacksonville in **April**, where Erica and Ryan each presented original research. Ryan also attended his 10th college reunion in **June**, where he represented WeatherTiger at Princeton's Entrepreneur Forum.

Along with her ongoing responsibilities as Associate Director of the Office of STEM Teaching Activities at FSU, Erica also taught a college-level



Modern Physics course for talented high schoolers this summer, in the teeth of first trimester nausea and fatigue. In **July**, we took a bold step of engaging in international travel with a toddler, attending friends Hannah and Michael's wedding in the English countryside and

sightseeing in London. Ryan won his ninth consecutive Summer Track series title, and Isaac made his track debut in the 40m dash.

We traveled to NY in late **September** to celebrate friends Tom and Julia's wedding in the Catskills, extending our stay to partake in fall activities unavailable in season-challenged Florida, such as foliage viewing and apple picking.

This proved to literally be the calm before the storm, as Hurricane Michael landed a glancing blow on Tallahassee in **October**. Power was out for five days, but we were very fortunate to escape the utter ruin just miles to our west. WeatherTiger forecasts were regionally ubiquitous, providing real-time coverage for the USA Today Florida Network along with several international media appearances. For example, this happened:



If you're in North Florida and Ryan shows up on CNN, you know it's going to be a bad day.

As we made our final preparations for Helen in **November**, Ryan and Isaac made a trip to Orlando to visit family and be inducted into Trinity Prep's Athletic Hall of Fame, and we finished up the month celebrating Thanksgiving and completing the traditional Turkey Trot.

We are all looking forward to 2019 as a party of four. Isaac will welcome his bahboo sister as a boisterous 22-month-old at 99th percentile in height and weight (already 36.5 in and 34 lb), with a rapidly expanding vocabulary of over 250 words and an impish sense of humor. Thankful that Isaac continues to spend his weekdays with his MomMom and PaPa Staehling, painting, working with tools, and generally having a great time, Erica and Ryan are reassuring themselves that you can still play one-on-one defense with two children. Please wish us the best of luck, we will need it.



**Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year!**

Ryan & Erica

