



# ARK International Au Pairs in the USA

## News & Views



Stephanie Taylor from Tauranga received a warm welcome upon arriving in Pleasanton, CA

*"I really love it here so far. My host family is very nice and they have been very welcoming to me. The area where they live is really beautiful. It is good because there are lots of things close by like shopping malls and the beach and it is not too far to drive to get to the children's school and sports. My host family has taken me to lots of places like the movies, shopping, out to dinner, to Downtown Disney and a really nice beach called Salt Creek. On Sunday it was the Super Bowl and we had lots of fun watching that."*

**Nikki Bylsma - Invercargill - Laguna Niguel, CA**

### 4th of July



Elizabeth Saywell - Christchurch - Maplewood, NJ

*"Maplewood had lots of events - I went to the circus, had my face painted (I was the oldest person in line to get this done but who cares!), rode a camel (yes I know, not very American but it was FUN!! (I was the oldest person in line for this too!) and I went to a concert then watched the fireworks! It was a great day and I will always remember my first 4th of July!"*

Jennifer Scott from Dunedin living in South Orange, NJ



*"I've been having the time of my life over here. Every weekend I go somewhere or have been doing something. My life is crazy here, there is always something happening. No week is ever the same!"*

*We have had Halloween too. Nothing like back home because Americans go all out with decorations and all. I went into New York with Jacinta and we watched the Halloween parade in the city. It went on for like 3 hours! There was around 60,000 people in the parade and 100,000 watching it. It was something to see.*

*We also just had Thanksgiving. So we had a four day weekend for that and went up to Walton (New York in the mountains) where my family has a holiday house. So I got to celebrate an American Thanksgiving. Nothing too amazing, we just ate a lot of food, haha."*