



THE LOON TRIBUNE

The Sidewalk Poetry of Saint Paul

By: Hannah

Origami bird

*You have great long wings to fly
Why do you sit still?*

Wet cement

Opportunity.

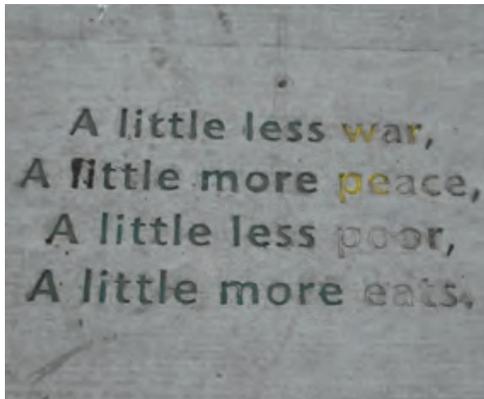
*It only takes a second
To change this spot forever.*

Sidewalk poetry is a collection of poems stamped in the sidewalk. Marcus Young, St. Paul's Public Artist in Residence, created the Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk three years ago. His inspiration was from his childish desire to draw or write something in wet cement and his idea that the community could use more poetry.

The city holds a contest each year to pick new poems. This year, in 2010, five poems were picked. Prior to 2010, twenty-six poems were chosen and stamped throughout the city in 260 stampings. There are guidelines for submitting poetry on the project website (<http://publicartstpaul.org/everydaysidewalk/info.html>). The poems are stamped into sidewalks that are already being redone in St. Paul. The project goals include to make people more interested in art and to inspire people to get interested in writing and reading poetry.

There is a poem near my house that I walk by a lot. One day I walked by it and the words were painted. It was a lot easier to read. A person who lived in the area painted them. The paint is starting to wear off now but hopefully someone will paint it again. If you have a sidewalk poem near your house, you might want to think about painting the words.

I think that the Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk project is a good idea because it makes the community more enjoyable, beautiful and happy. The project is also good because all the poems have meanings or messages, and because it is nice to read them. Some things I dislike about the project are that it only includes poems that St. Paul citizens have written and not famous poems,



the cement wears down so that it is harder to read and some of the poems are confusing. I also think some aspects of the contest are unfair. I don't like that only St. Paul citizens can enter the contest, there are only five winners, contestants can only enter two poems and the winners get money. It would also be nice if the contestants could get feedback on how to make their poems better. I also dislike that there are no famous sayings or quotes, and that sometimes the poems have words that not everyone would understand. But in general, I like the project.

Dementia

*I reach for a name, a song, a tune
and memories scatter, minnows fleeing
a toothy pike
I catch a few laggards.
But know these are nothing
to the hundred fish that fled.*

Cutout Sky

*Cut the trees out of the sky
with your silver scissors
Tear the rain from the faint
shapes of bruised clouds with
your open hands.
Weave the thin strands of rain
through the branches like pearls
melting against dark silhouettes.*

Happenings in the 'hood

By Laurel

In front of 221 Mackubin Street last week, two people in yellow vests from Xcel Energy were diligently working. They said they were measuring gas and sewer lines to put on maps. The measurements help residents avoid the lines when they dig in their yards.

Along Mackubin Street there are poems printed on the sidewalks. One of them, on the Mackubin side of the Happy Gnome restaurant says:

What hurt you today

Was taken out of your heart

By the meadowlark

Who slipped the silver needle

Of her song

In and out of the gray day

And mended what was torn.

Welcome to the Aerobic Newspaper!

Dear Readers,

The Loon Tribune is a different kind of newspaper in two ways. One is that it is written by kids, not adults. The other is that we are an aerobic newspaper! That means we move as much as possible when we report—we walk everywhere—and even when we write because we have relay writing and we do scavenger hunt writing. We do this because it's good for heart health according to a new theory of metabolism called Non-exercise Activity Thermogenesis: NEAT, for short. NEAT says that consistent simple movements throughout the day are really good for you. It's not only sweat-drenched exercise that improves heart health—NEAT can too. So we are a NEAT newspaper—and that's really neat! Fun, too!—The Loon Tribune Staff

THE SUMMIT SCOOP

The Perfect Summer Experience

By Annie

If you're just planning to lie on your couch, watch TV, and veg out for your entire summer, you are required to read this article—even if you are watching Phineas and Ferb. This amazing program will transform your summer.

The Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth, (MITY) has been around since 1967. Students can participate in fun classes, take informative and exciting field trips, and hang out with their friends during Super Rec Time!



In addition to knowing a lot about MITY, the people on the support staff, Kristin Mathews Long (Coordinator), Kristin Moffit (Intern), and Anja Crowder (Intern), are very friendly. "We make the copies, book the busses for the field trips, provide the juice, and keep the lunchroom clean," Coordinator Long said. "We try to be very efficient."

Some of their favorite classes were Whooooe Chemistry!, How Green are YOU?, Picture This!, Mock Trial, The Art and

Science of Special Effects, and Fantasy Fiction: Al Fresco. If a morning class appeals to you but the afternoon ones don't, or vice versa, don't worry! You can choose to take only one class. One fun class is Sports and Science, and something you get to do in that class is create and test your own sports experiment. An interesting example is an experiment that John did. "I decided to test whether people's kicking or throwing were more accurate," John said. "My hypothesis was throwing." The results were 8 out of twelve for throwing, 2 out of twelve for kicking, and 2 out of twelve were even.

Another fun-looking class was Exploring Aerodynamics! "We made gliders out of tape, paper clips, folder paper, and a straw," said Emma J. from Exploring Aerodynamics. "They were very successful and more fun than paper airplanes," she said. The class also made hot air balloons, and I was told that there were no low points. Two other fun-looking programs from MITY are YES (Your Exciting Saturday) for younger kids and EYM (Expand Your Mind) for older kids. So get off the couch and register today!

INTERVIEWS WITH STUDENTS

By Lillie

Interview with Abby and Henry

What is your class Abby and Henry?

A: Picture This!

What do you do?

A: We learn about taking pictures.

H: We learn about what is beauty to us, and then we take pictures of it and develop them.

Is it fun?

A: Very much.

Interview with Zoe and Henry

What is your class?

Z: Exploring Electricity and Magnetism.

What do you do?

H: Stuff.

Z: Well, today we were in the computer lab looking up stuff on lightning and yesterday we did an experiment where we put mint lifesavers in our mouth and if you don't suck on it right away you will see sparks. But the lights have to be turned off.

Do you like it?

Z: Sometimes it can be boring, but it also can be really fun.

Interview with Sarah

What is your class?

Exploring Aerodynamics

What is it about?

Airplanes and things that fly or take off the ground or that float off the ground.

Do you like it?

Yeah.



By Alden

Interviewed: Oscar

What class are you taking Oscar?

Exploring Aerodynamics

How do you like your class?

I like it a lot

Why do you like your class?

Because we get to build cool airplanes

What is your favorite part of your class?

Flying airplanes

By: Nile

What class are you in?

Picture This.

What do you do in your class?

We take pictures and then we develop them.

Do you like your class?

Yes, I love it.

What is your favorite part of your class?

I like developing photos.

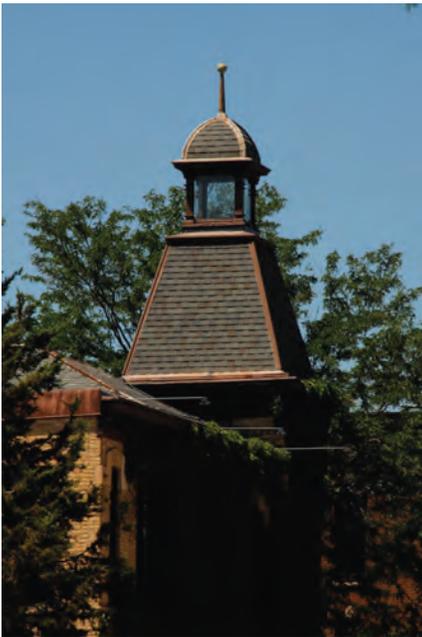
What did you do on your field trip?

We took pictures

Do you like your teacher?

Yes, he is really nice





Walking everywhere because it's NEAT (Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis) to do, The Loon Tribune staff reported on: The Pioneer Press, in downtown St. Paul that welcomed us to its Opinion Pages meeting and 2:30 p.m. news huddle; the Griggs mansion on Summit Avenue; Common Good Books, the University Club and bakeries near and far. Our staff best was 3 bakeries in 3 miles in about 1.25 hours.

Q & A With Mary

Mary owns Piece of Cake, a great local bakery just a few blocks from our Loon Tribune offices on Selby Avenue in St. Paul.

By Jessica

(with Loon Tribune staff writers contributions)

Q: What convinced you to start A Piece Of Cake?

A: The desire for baking. I love to bake!

Q: What pastry are you most proud of baking?

A: Probably cakes. Wedding cakes.

Q: Why?

A: They are the most challenging. And they are all different. No two are alike.

Q: Do you have one that you particularly like?

A: No. I kind of like it when people come to me with ideas of what they like and I do them.

Q: Do you own any other restaurants?

A: Bon Vie down the street. It is a cafe for breakfast and lunch.

Q: We think you must have something like a philosophy of cookies because we've been to many bakeries and your cookies are different, they are our favorites. So, what is your secret ingredient?

A: Butter. Lots and lots of butter! Also we cook our food fresh every day.

Q: What was the first cookie you ever baked?

A: That's a hard one. Maybe a chocolate chip cookie.

Q: What about the Whoopee Cookies? I heard they were pretty famous.

A: They are. In fact, a gentleman from England came by who happened to own a bakery there, and he said that the whole cupcake phase was gone and whoopee cookies were the new fad. We made a new red velvet whoopee cookie. In fall a pumpkin and ginger one. That's the next big thing I think.

Q: The black and whites were interesting. What made them so famous?

A: There was a Seinfeld episode about it. That's how they got so popular. They are even more popular in New York and around there.

Q: What are they made of?

A: A softer sugar cookie with a bit of lemon. On side is dipped in vanilla frosting, the other in chocolate.

Loon Tribune: Thank you for your time.

You are very welcome!



Bakery Reviews

Ezra's Review



Hello, whoever is reading this! This is my Bakery Review. The bakeries you will be reading about are: A Piece of Cake, Great Harvest, and, last but not least, Bread and Chocolate!! Our ratings were fairly high according to our class. First up is A Piece of Cake! We gave it five stars because its food is delicious and it's very quiet. Next up: Great Harvest! When we tasted the food, we all thought it lived up to its name. It got five stars. And, finally, Bread and Chocolate. The food was great, but we didn't like the busy atmosphere, so we gave it four stars. Well, that's all for now!

Lilly's Review



Hi! My name is Lilly and I went to 3 different bakeries: A Piece of Cake, Great Harvest Bread Co., and Bread and Chocolate.

My favorite was A Piece of Cake. For service I would rate it 5 out of 5 stars, for the quality of food I would rate it 5 out of 5 stars, and the overall rating is 5 out of 5 stars. I have no complaints at all. The cookies are \$1. A large cupcake is \$3.50, medium is \$2.00, and

small is \$1.00. It is located at 485 Selby Ave. in St. Paul, MN.

The next bakery is Bread and Chocolate. This is my second favorite bakery. For service I would rate it 5 out of 5 stars, for the quality of the food is 5 out of 5 stars, and the overall rating is 5 out of 5 stars. The only objection I have is that the cookies cost a little more than the other bakeries. The cookies are \$1.50. There are lots of different kinds of cookies and here are a few: chocolate chunk, carrot, almond, oatmeal raisin, ginger, cherry almond with white chocolate and snicker doodle. Bread and Chocolate is located at 867 Grand Ave. in St. Paul, MN.

And last but not least, Great Harvest Bread Co. This is my third favorite bakery. For service I would rate it 4 out of 5 stars, for the quality of the food is 5 out of 5 stars, and the overall rating is 4 out of 5 stars. The only objection I have is that there are not a lot of cookies. You also have to buy the cookies in packs. The packs are \$5.00 for 5 cookies. Great Harvest Bread Co. is located at 534 Selby Ave. in St. Paul, MN.

That is my rating of those three bakeries. Why don't you head on over to the bakeries and see if you agree with the ratings that I gave? You might, you might not. But I think you will at least like one of them! Also, you can see that I like cookies!

French Fry Reviews

Know thy fries: rate them in CDUs

By Duran

During my work as a reporter for the *Loon Tribune* at MITY based in Capitol Hill Magnet School in St. Paul, I'm developing a scale to determine the best French fry. My favorite French fries are the pub fries from Town Hall Brewery in Minneapolis, and I'm talking about the whole U.S.! My new scale will measure the crunchiness of different French fries for sure. With the scale, Town Hall Brewery is still bathing, in this case, in beer. The French fries are measured in Carlson Detail Units, CDUs. It's a lot like the Scoville scale that measures the amount of "kick" in a chili pepper.

My scale will probably have more than 1 detail, but I'm not sure about it. The Bhut Jolokia, with more than 1,000,000 Scoville Heat Units, SHUs, set the record for the most "kick" in a chili pepper. French fries will probably not have more than 20,000 CDUs. I don't think this scale is going to be official, but hey, if someone is reading this and spreads the word, who knows?

The ideal French fry would probably be one from Wendy's and I would probably give that a 500. It has all of the traits you need:

1. Crunchiness
2. Average length of 4 inches
3. Medium saltiness

Duran's Review

University Club:



On June 24, 2010 our class walked 1 mile to the University Club for French fries. I gave them 700 CDU's for crunchiness, but I gave them 300 for everything else.

The Happy Gnome:



On June 28, 2010 our class walked a few blocks to The Happy Gnome for French fries. I gave them 700 CDU's for crunchiness, but 250 for everything else.

Overall, the French fries from the University Club won. They tasted much better.

HAPPY GNOME FRENCH FRIES

Today we interviewed the French Fries from Happy Gnome. They were okay, but they had too much pepper and too much salt. We would go here if we wanted homestyle fries, but for taste, we definitely prefer University Club.

That's all for now.
BYE!



A quest for perfect French-fries

By Laurel

A perfect French fry is very hard to find. French fries at fast food places are good, but soggy and salty with no other spices. So I went to other places to try their fries. The French fries at The University club are pretty good. They are crispy, salty, and soft on the inside. The waiter said that they put pepper on them to give them a unique flavor. He also said that what makes them better than other places was that they take them right from the freezer to the fryer. They were good, but some fries were way too peppery and others had no pepper. I decided to look for something else. So, on a recommendation, I went to The Happy Gnome. These fries were better than The University Club's. They were crispier (but not crunchy) and were baked with lots of tasty spices. I could taste a hint of potatoes. The Happy Gnome cut their own french-fries, and that is really necessary. Their fries aren't perfect, but are very close!

French Fries in Saint Paul

By Hannah

The University Club on Summit Avenue had French fries that cost \$3.95. They were served with a little bit of salt and pepper sprinkled on them. They were soft on the inside, crunchy on the outside and warm. They were served with ketchup. I did not like how the pepper and salt was not spread around evenly. I liked how they tasted salty but not too salty.

The Happy Gnome on Selby Avenue had French fries that cost \$3.95. They were served with a lot of pepper and salt sprinkled on them. Most of them were soft on the inside, but very crunchy on the outside and were very warm. They were served with ketchup that had extra vinegar in it. I liked how the salt and pepper were spread around more evenly. I did not like how some of the fries looked like they were burnt in some places.

If you feel like fries with a lot of salt and pepper, then go to the Happy Gnome. If you want fries with not a lot of salt and pepper, then go to the University Club.

Book Reviews

Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives by Michael Buckley

By Grace

"What happened to our lives? Sabrina wondered. When had their world become unrecognizable? And what had happened to her, the eleven-year-old girl who only two days ago had been just an orphan on a train?" This is a perfect example of the fantastic insights into characters' thoughts and the adventure and excitement in the plot of *The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives*. It focuses a lot on Sabrina Grimm (one of the main characters), how she feels about being moved from place to place, and her thoughts about how people treat her. It is an excellent book because it has an interesting mystery and tons of unexpected twists. It is about two girls, Sabrina and Daphne Grimm who are from a normal family in New York City. One day (before the story starts) they find that their parents have disappeared. The police only find their parents' car with a red handprint on the windshield. Sabrina and Daphne are sent from foster home to foster home with horrible people. When the story begins, Sabrina and Daphne are headed to a tiny town called Ferryport Landing to live with their grandmother who they thought was dead. Their grandma tells them that they are descendants of The Brothers Grimm, whose books were not fairy tales but documents of magical happenings in Ferryport Landing. Ferryport Landing is a town full of Everafters (magical characters from fairy tales that have been forced to stay in Ferryport Landing by a powerful enchantment, cast by the witch Baba Yaga). The Everafters cause a lot of trouble and it is up to

the Grimms to set everything right! Along with their grandma and her butler Mr. Canis, Sabrina and Daphne must solve the biggest mystery of all with a giant, a beanstalk, a magic mirror and the big bad wolf in the town that will now be their home!

I would recommend *The Fairy-Tale Detectives* because the characters are smart and interesting. They use their heads when times are hard and they have quirks and habits that make me think of them as real people. There are splendid descriptions of Ferryport Landing and the actions and emotions of the characters. It connects to fairy-tales that many people have read which makes it very humorous and fun! One of the things I love about this book is how close Sabrina and Daphne are. Sabrina is suspicious and always on her guard while Daphne is trusting and gets easily excited by all of the fairy-tale characters they meet. Even though the sisters are so different, they rely on each other whenever they are in tough situations. Sabrina is convinced that their grandma is an imposter and is lying to her and Daphne, which is described very well and it makes the reader connect with Sabrina because the writing helps make the uncertainty and wariness of so many new people and places and being moved around all the time understandable. I would suggest this book to people that like fantasy, adventure and fairytales. This is one of my favorite books and I would highly recommend it!

A Cool Moonlight by Angela Johnson

By Kally

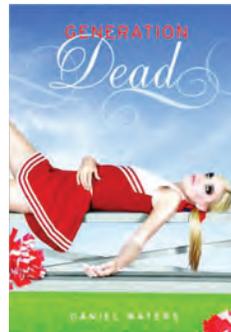


Lila has xeroderma pigmentosum, a rare allergy to the sun. She's had it all her life, but she still thirsts for the sun. On her 9th birthday everything will change, at least Lila hopes so. You see, she met two girls who have a plan to help Lila see the sun. But there are some odd things about the girls. One, no one else sees them, and two, even in the night, they seem to shine with an inward light. Can they really help Lila?

3 Stars - Science Fiction

Generation Dead by Daniel Waters

By Kally



Once you're dead, you're dead, right? Wrong! All over the country, dead teens are coming back to life. And some people don't like it. When junior Phoebe Kendall falls for a "living impaired" kid named Tommy Williams, you can tell there is going to be trouble. First, one of her friends, Adam, realizes he loves her. Second, no one can believe it, not even her friend Margi. Oh yeah, also, one boy is out to get living impaired kids...5 Stars - Science Fiction, Romance

The Mystery of the Third Lucretia by Susan Runholt

By Grace

The Mystery of the Third Lucretia by Susan Runholt is about two girls, Kari and Lucas (yes, Lucas is a girl) who get involved in an art mystery. It is set here in the Twin Cities, and Kari and Lucas go to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA) a lot. The MIA is home to the famous painting of Lucretia by Rembrandt van Rijn. One day, Kari, Lucas and Kari's mom were there looking at it. They saw a man there who was painting and, when they went up to him, he snarled at them, "Go a-

way!" They went traveling, and amazingly, saw the same man at the National Gallery in London! When that happened, they knew he was up to something suspicious. That started a mystery that brought them all around Europe.

I would recommend this book because there is tons of girl power, it is really well written, and it is exciting. I couldn't put it down and I couldn't stop myself from reading ahead to see what happened!

A Mansion Story of Summit Avenue

By Hannah

This beautiful sandstone mansion stands on Summit Avenue, one of the quaintest roads in Minnesota. Walk through the heavy, dark wooden doors with me and see a house of history, grace and intrigue. There is the secret room in the parlor—turn sideways, left shoulder first, and you can slip up the stairs to a child’s hide out, complete with a peep hole so they can watch adults and all their boring talking. There is the stunning dining room with golden wallpaper, and arched windows that go from the floor to the ceiling. And of course there is the library, quiet and elegant. All these places have a story.

This particular mansion is the Griggs Mansion. It is supposedly the most haunted house in St. Paul according to one book, *Weird Minnesota*. But the authors who claim it is the most haunted house in the state didn’t even talk to the person who would know best—the owner who has lived there for 27 years!

Well, I did talk to her. We went on a walking field trip to Summit Avenue with the Loon Tribune staff writers, and we learned the Griggs Mansion has had a very interesting past. I was fortunate enough to tour the downstairs with the owner, Olga Zoltai. She and her family loved the home for its history, beauty and fun. As she said while we each took turns climbing the ladder to the children’s secret room: “We had a lot of fun in this house!” Let me tell you about its history.

Griggs Mansion was designed by the famous St. Paul architect Clarence Johnston, who was only 23 at the time. Chauncey Griggs, a



wealthy grocery businessman, only lived in his house for four years. After Griggs moved, out Griggs Mansion served many purposes, including an art school for 25 years. Griggs Mansion has 24 rooms and nine fireplaces and nine bathrooms.

Of course Mrs. Zoltai has heard the mansion is haunted. But she never thought so. Once, she said, she did hear footsteps and was afraid. But when she went to look—it was another person coming down the other side of the staircase! “So you see, there are explanations for these things. But most people don’t want to look for them. They like ghost stories.” When we were there, it certainly didn’t seem haunted.



The Frisbee: From pie plates to flying fedoras – the ultimate

By Annie

For a toy that started as a pie plate, the Frisbee has sure gotten around! When Frisbie Baking Co. started selling pies to hungry college students, they had no idea of the wars they would start over “who flung first.” Pretty much every college on the East Coast claimed the honor as theirs! After the college students discovered how much fun throwing Frisbie pie plates was on the East Coast, Walter Frederick Morrison invented the Pluto Platter on the West Coast when he finished being a pilot in World War II. He got the idea from throwing pie plates. Then he sold the patent to Wham-O, who named it the Frisbee since Frisbie Baking Co. had closed down, and Wham-O liked the name, but not the spelling—they pepped it up with the “-ee” on Frisbee.

Since then, a group of New Jersey high school students invented the game Ultimate Frisbee, which has gone on to become famous. The Frisbee has had its great moments, but the day Fedora Frisbee was invented by the aerobic newspaper staff two years ago was possibly the greatest.

“I got some fedoras at a garage sale for our last day exhibit so that we could dress up as old-time newspaper men and women,” Aerobic Newspaper teacher Anne Brataas said. “Then we discovered their aerodynamic possibilities in class, since, as the world’s first aerobic newspaper, we are dedicated to keeping moving when we report, research, reflect and write because it is more fun than sitting, and because it is a great way to develop life-long heart healthy habits. To the untutored eye, it may appear as if we goof around a lot. But for us, it’s a discipline.” She also said that our whole class is excellent at Fedora Frisbee. “In fact, you are prodigies!”. Watch for us on her Fedora Frisbee website later this summer.

You can do lots of cool things with a fedora. You can play Ultimate Fedora; stick your finger in the hat and twirl it, or pretend that the brim has poison blades. But the best way to throw a fedora is to throw softly and slowly. One person advised me to throw it at a skipping-stone angle. However you throw it, you’ll never look at a hat the same way again.



Garden of Advice
By Lilly and Lillie

I once had this “friend.” He was really nice to me. We were partnered up a lot. Then he started to be mean to me. He lied to teachers about me and tried to make me do his homework for him. What should I do?

Sincerely,
MAD!

Dear Mad,

When you are partnered up can you chose who you work with? If not, try to talk to the teachers about having a different partner. Also, about the homework thing, he can’t make you do his homework. If he threatens you, you should talk to some adult.

Sincerely,
Lilly & Lillie

My mom is packing me disgusting food! I tried talking to her, but it didn’t work. I wake up too late to pack my own lunch! What should I do?!

Sincerely,
I hate my food.

Dear I hate my food,

Talk to your mom about going shopping with her and picking out some food you like. Or set an alarm so you have time to pack your own lunch.

Sincerely,
Lilly & Lillie

My brother and I are always fighting. How can we stop?

Sincerely,
Exploding Taco

Dear Exploding Taco,

When you realize that you and your brother are fighting, say something like “Hey, this is stupid. Let’s stop.”

Sincerey,
Lilly & Lillie

Loon Tribune Staff Photo



A NEW GENERATION OF VIDEO GAMING

By Duran



X-box 360's new Project Natal (also known as Kinect for Xbox 360) motion-sensing gaming technology is a wireless wonder, larger than life. It now brings controller-free gaming. It was released June 13, 2010. Photo Credit: XBox.com

The PS2's Eyecam used a camera to sense movements required for games that needed the Eyecam. Then there was the Nintendo Wavebird: the first wireless controller for a video game console. However, the Wavebird wasn't for a console of its own. It was just a wireless version of the Nintendo GameCube controller. Next was the famous Wii: a console with a wireless controller that responds to your movements. It also has some non-movement games. When I first tried the Wii, I thought things couldn't get any more futuristic, except for one thing, which is now on the new Xbox 360. The Xbox 360 is a console with no controller at all. The Xbox 360's Project Natal uses the regular RGB camera, just like an Eyecam, but with a depth sensor, a multi-array microphone, and a custom processor. On Boxing for Wii Sports you use the controller and an expansion controller (the Nunchuk) to pretend your boxing by doing punching movements. On Project Natal, you'll just be punching, but I don't know how they'll do bowling on Project Natal. All this goes into one question: Will Project Natal make the Wii obsolete? That's anybody's guess, but I think in 30 years, they'll still be playing Wiis. The price is not set for the new Xbox 360, so don't start paying everything you have at a Gamestop... yet.

LOONY ANIMALS BREAKING NEWS!!

By Ezra

Scientists recently discovered mammoth DNA !!

It's true. They found it. We may be able to bring them back from the Ice Age. Pretty cool, don't you think? MORE NEWS!! We found a new type of salamander!! Oh, the news! Soon we are going to find a living dinosaur or something. Let's talk about the ocean. Oh! I know! The mimic octopus! A wonderful species. They can mimic over 20 different species! Isn't that cool? Well, I guess I should go discover more species.



Top: This cave painting from 13,000 years ago on the wall of a cave in France shows the massive woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*). The animal is now extinct, beginning about 10,000 years ago. Bottom: Using hairs collected from frozen woolly mammoth corpses found in Siberia, scientists at Penn State University mapped much of the extinct woolly mammoth's genome, discovering a mutation that may have allowed it to survive the Ice Age by oxygenating its blood slowly at very cold temperatures. Photo Credits: Nature, Penn State.

Bill Fig the Flying Pig

By Ezra

This is a game by a local student named Nathan. It's about killing the black pieces. He said that if people knew about it, they would play it on occasion. It was a moderately fun game. He said that if he had a choice between chess and Bill Fig the Flying Pig, he would pick Bill Fig the Flying Pig.

Save Darfur:

By Grace

A few months ago, I read an article in a magazine about war and genocide. According to the dictionary, genocide is *“the deliberate killing of a large group of people, esp. those of a particular ethnic group or nation.”* The article said that, unfortunately, genocide is often ignored and terrible things happen because of the lack of action. It talked about the genocide in the ‘90s in Rwanda, and the genocide now in Darfur, Sudan. I was appalled that something so horrible was happening in the world and I didn’t even know about it, so I looked for an organization that was doing something to help, and I found the **Save Darfur Coalition**. I have since been working to spread the word about the war in Darfur and to find out what **Save Darfur** was doing to help. I emailed Rebecca Dennis, who works for **Save Darfur**, with some questions. Here are her answers:

Can you talk a little about the issues in Darfur? What is happening? Who is causing the problem?

In 2003, extreme violence erupted in the Darfur region of Sudan, the largest country in Africa. For more than 20 years, Omar al-Bashir’s National Congress Party had ruled over all of Sudan, including Darfur. Like Sudan’s leader before him, Bashir used the money that Sudan made from selling oil to benefit the northern part of the Sudan and its capital, Khartoum, while those living in South Sudan and the Darfur region of the country had almost nothing. Years of having no say in their government and living in poverty angered people in Darfur and rebel groups began to form.

These rebels attacked a Sudanese air force base in early 2003. In retaliation, Sudanese government funded and supported militias, known as the Janjaweed, who began attacking not only members of the rebel groups but the civilian population. Since then, more than 300,000 people have been killed and more than 2.7 million have had to flee their homes for safety.

The international criminal courts, charged Omar Al-Bashir with war crimes and crimes against humanity in March 2009. He can now

be arrested and sent to trial. However, in late 2009, violence in Darfur lessened as Sudan began preparing for its first presidential elections, in which political parties other than the NCP were also allowed to run. The Sudanese government appeared to be trying to make the world believe that change had happened in Sudan and that peace would follow successful elections. To those that were watching though, it was clear that elections in Sudan would not be free or fair. Many people were unfairly forced to vote for Bashir, so it was no surprise that Omar al-Bashir won the elections. Since the election’s ended in April of 2010, violence has increased in Sudan with more than 600 people killed May 2010, making it the deadliest month in Darfur in more than 2 years.

What is Save Darfur doing to end the genocide?

Save Darfur is an advocacy organization that is working to spread awareness about the atrocities in Darfur. We utilize media outreach, public education, targeted movement building and grassroots mobilization. These strategies are used to pressure policymakers and other decision-makers in the United States and abroad to help the Darfuri people. The ultimate goals that Save Darfur advocates for are:

- Ending the violence against civilians
- Facilitating adequate and unhindered humanitarian aid
- Establishing conditions for the safe and voluntary return of displaced people to their homes
- Promoting the long-term sustainable development of Darfur
- Holding the perpetrators accountable.

What needs to happen before peace can be reached?

Many things to happen before there will be peace in Sudan. Both sides (the Sudanese government and rebel groups) will need to be committed to the idea so that peace agreements can be signed and all parties keep their promises of peace.

To ensure that peace lasts many other issues will have to be (go to p.11)

Light Rail Transit, Triangles and Community

By Laurel

The state of Minnesota is trying to put a light rail along University Avenue. Most people would think it is a good idea because light rail is a great transit system where lots of people ride a train instead of lots of cars, which everyone knows causes problems (gas, pollution, etc.). So a light rail would be a good idea, right? First of all, to put in a light rail University Avenue would be torn up and all the cars that usually speed along there would clog up all the other streets. The neighborhood would become very loud and chaotic.

Also, Prospect Park is famous for their triangles. Where University Avenue meets some of the side streets there are triangles with some flowers planted on them. Those triangles would have to be destroyed to build the light rail there. The triangles are a historical part of Prospect Park and destroying them is destroying a part of history.

The light rail is a great idea, and if people are able to think of a way to save the triangles and put it in, I will fully support it.



addressed. Sudan needs to decrease poverty (particularly in Darfur and Southern Sudan), and build up these areas with things, such as schools, hospitals, roads, etc. People must also feel like they can participate freely in their own government. Also, those who are responsible for committing the genocide must be held responsible.

What are ways we can make those things happen?

At the Save Darfur Coalition we feel that the US could be doing plenty more to help. One of the biggest things the US can do is use the influence it holds in the international community to motivate action, keep Sudan and countries that have directly or indirectly supported Sudan accountable.

In order to make sure the US government does its part, our leaders need to hear that it's important to the people around the United States that they represent. So, major things that people can do are talk to their local leaders and ensure that they are making sure the message is heard in Washington.

What can we do to help?

Quick Actions

- **Become a part of the Save Darfur community.** Sign up at SaveDarfur.org to learn more and take action.
- **Spread the word.** Tell everyone about what you is happening in Darfur. Encourage others to join the Save Darfur Community at SaveDarfur.org. You can link our website to the bottom of e-mails or post it on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.
- **Wear a Save Darfur t-shirt or wristband** to raise local awareness of Darfur.
- **Keep Darfur in the spotlight.** Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper, telling them about the Darfur and the hardship people are facing in Sudan, and urging others in your community to get involved.

Get Involved in Your School

- **Raise awareness** by talking to your peers and teachers, handing out flyers in your school, and organizing informational events such as presentations and film festivals.
- **Fundraise** by selling wristbands and other merchandise, holding a walk, run or dance-a-thon, or organizing a competition or event. Be creative. If you need any suggestions, information or have other questions e-mail Save Darfur at info@savedarfur.org
- **Start an Advocacy group.** You can start your own Save Darfur group at your middle school, high school or university. Contact us to find out how. Also, our coalition partner STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur) is a student-run organization that also specializes in youth advocacy. Visit www.STANDNow.org for information on their student initiatives and help forming your own STAND chapter.
- **Get your youth group involved:** If you already involved in a youth group through your local community, church, synagogue or other house of worship, encourage these groups to get involved in taking action on Sudan! Need ideas of what do? Contact us!
- **Participate in a postcard campaign.** Get your family, classmates, teachers and coaches to write a postcard to President Obama, urging him to ensure that Sudan's upcoming national elections don't legitimize a genocidal regime. Postcards are free and can be ordered at http://action.savedarfur.org/campaign/ballot_order

I think that **Save Darfur** is doing great work because we can't just let such a tragedy happen when we could be doing something to end it. They are doing so much not only to spread the word about the cause, but also trying to get leaders, like Barack Obama, take a stand to put a stop to the genocide. Learning about their work makes me want to do all I can to help, and get other people to help as well.

Missing Children by Kally

Carisha Lupree Wilson

Age: 16
 Height: 5'3"
 Weight: 137 lbs
 Gender: Female
 Race: Black
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Went missing from: St. Paul, Minnesota
 Case Type: Runaway
 Carisha went missing on October 17, 2009. She might be with a young female and they might be heading to Chicago, Illinois. If you have any information regarding Carisha, call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678. (1-800-THE-LOST)



Aaron Mitchell Anderson

Age now: 23
 Height then: 2'4"
 Weight then: 32 lbs
 Gender: Male
 Race: White
 Hair: Light brown
 Eyes: Brown
 Went missing from: Pine City, Minnesota
 Case Type: Non-Family Abduction
 Aaron went missing on April 7, 1989. The second photo is an age-progressed photo to the age of 21. He was last seen playing in his yard. If you have any information regarding Aaron, call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678. (1-800-THE-LOST)



Concert Review: Tom Petty

By Nile

I got to go to this concert last week and I liked the overall feel of the concert. This concert was a great place to take your family. Tom Petty sure knows how to get a reaction from the crowd. Mike Campbell is great on the guitar and I think he deserves more credit for his music. This is probably the best concert I have ever been to and will ever go to.

Through the years Tom Petty's voice has not tired at all. In fact, the only change is that it's gotten deeper. Even now he is still writing music, and I am glad he still is.

5 - Star Rating

SUDOKU

By Alden

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	5				6	2		



The Loon Tribune is written and illustrated by 13 kids who just finished 4th, 5th and 6th grades, most of whom just met each other because they go to schools throughout the metro region. All are enrolled in the Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth's (MITY) ExplorSchool Aerobic Newspaper class. It was created and led by Anne Brataas, a longtime MITY teacher who is President of The Story Laboratory (www.thestorylaboratory.com) a St. Paul science writing, curriculum development and e-learning company. Graphic Designer Paige Sandvik designed the newspaper; Copy Desk Chief Elizabeth Maher edited it; Scavenger Hunt and Relay Writing Editors Lauren Sawillich, Kip Hathaway and Aaron Hathaway kept us moving.

The Loon Tribune staff interviews Jim Ragsdale (left), Pioneer Press editorial writer



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