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Deer Park Home-Link Newspaper

## Home-Link newspaper students share special winter memories

Winter is finally here again. Are you ready to have some fun? Ready for sledding, snowboarding, skiing and snowball fights? What are your favorite memories of previous winters?

"I remember two years ago when my cousin Taylor and I built a jump. It was pretty good for our first one, good-sized and sturdy. We had so many wipe-outs on it, and it was a blast. One of my wipeouts was hilarious. I was going really fast down the sledding hill and went off the jump so fast that I caught some serious air. The sled landed first, and I was still in the air. I landed on the sled with my feet, like it was a snowboard. But I only got a couple feet down hill before falling backward. It was awesome!" – Paige Kavanaugh

"I always love to sit with a cup of hot cocoa and stare out the window. I do it at least once every year. Also I remember one year where we had so much snow we had to shovel our roof; the pile was so big my sister and I would sit on the shed next to the roof and just talk. It's fun." – Kayley Kavanaugh

"My favorite winter memory was on Christmas day. The whole family came over and opened presents and had a big Christmas dinner. After dinner all the kids went outside and played in the snow. We made a giant snow hill and jumped off the roof into the snow. It was fun until we broke the gutter! Afterward we had our yearly snowball fight. Everyone on the block was in it, and people had snowball launchers and snowball makers! Then we went

inside for a cup of hot chocolate." – Dustin Rothrock.

"I remember when one morning it had just snowed the day before and one of my parents' friends came over and brought his special sleds and we went up and down our long street while the

was the first to try. Down the hill she went and off the ramp! She flew so high! We all had so much fun with the ramp, sleds, and family!" – Kyla Connelly

"My favorite winter memory was sledding off my grandpa's barn. My

uncle had plowed the snow and it was roof high where we could climb on the barn. It was like a steep sledding hill." – Grant Rogers

"My sister, my cousin and I went outside and built a ton of smallish snowmen. Then we all backed up and took turns running and tackling them. It hardly took us three minutes to flatten them." – Clara Chantry

"My favorite winter was when we had a lot of snow and we went snowmobiling, and the

snow was so deep it pulled my brother and me off the sled. Then when we went inside for nice, warm, hot cocoa." – Cheneen Schliep

"I snowboard every weekend at 49 Degrees North with my brothers and friends and dad. I've been snowboarding ever since I could walk. While my dad skis, we fly off jumps and cliffs on Black Diamonds and land in deep powder, which saves us from getting hurt." - Jake Wilson



*There's no time like a snowy day to read the newspaper – staff members and their new friend agree.*

sleds were attached to the car going 15 miles an hour. He took us over jumps and into a parking lot to turn around. My brothers were trying to kick each other off the sleds. We were laughing the whole time." – Laural Brown

"My siblings and exchange student Sam and I went sledding. We were all having so much fun, and then my younger brother had an idea to make a sledding ramp!! As soon as my brother and Sam finished, my younger sister

# A relaxing yet short weekend at Oregon's beautiful Cannon Beach

By Kyla Connelly

Your mom shakes you awake. "It's time to go," she whispers.

You get your backpack of multiple things to do on the long eight hour car ride to...the beach.

As you climb into the car you get more and more excited by the minute. You are headed to the beach with your whole family for a weekend of fun!

You are about an hour down the road. "Seven more to go!" you excitedly tell yourself.

You look out the window, and you see trees, trees, trees, and more trees. Everything flashes fast by you out the car window.

When you finally arrive at Cannon Beach and your hotel you are staying in, you check in, run all your belongings

inside, drop them on the floor, take your shoes off, and run down to the beautiful beach.

When you get down to the beach it is sunny and not a cloud in the sky and the sun is reflecting off of the crystal

clear water. It is almost blinding. You wished you would have brought your sunglasses! You have the soft sand beneath your feet, the smell of the salty air in your nose, and the sound of the big waves in your ears. This is perfect you think to yourself.

You sit down on the sandy beach. The sun starts to go down and the wind starts up. You start to get cold and so you pull on your sweatshirt tighter.

The sky soon turns vivid colors of yellow, orange and pink painted right before your eyes.

The waves get smaller and so does the sunset. The sun is setting fast and so are the colors.

You finally get up and walk back to your hotel with the beach at your back. You take a final look at the beach. It is so dark and you can't see hardly anything —

all you can see is the memory of the stunning sunset.

As you walk into your hotel, and as you walk into your room you can hear the waves crashing on the beach perfectly from your bedroom. This has been a perfect day at the beach you think to yourself as you drift off to sleep to the sound of the crashing waves on the beach.

You soon wake up, and you run onto your balcony overlooking the beach. It is a perfect sunny day. It is also fairly warm out, a slight breeze, and the air smelled of fish and salt.

You remember that tomorrow you have to leave the beach, but in the mean time you just try to have fun! You go in your room and get dressed, and you run out on the beach and you just keep on running.

You decide to run out in ankle deep water. The water is splashing and getting your clothes a little bit wet, but you don't mind. Then after you run a

little while you decide to take a rest and sit down.

The breeze turns into a hard wind. Good thing you brought your kite! So you run to your hotel and grab your kite, then head down to the beach to fly it. Once you finally put your kite together you decide it is time for flying! It is a rainbow tie dye kite, and it stands out from all the other ordinary kites. It takes a few tries to finally get it up in the air, but you did it! It is up in the sky soaring. You try a few tricks with it, but it falls quickly to the ground. So you try again. By noon you are able to make your kite turn left and right and do awesome tricks. Your parents call you in to eat. So you quickly land your kite and take apart the kite and put it away.

Your parents decide to go out to eat at *Doogers*. *Doogers* has the best clam chowder in town, and the clams are always fresh.

When you get done eating you decide to walk up to *Bruce's Candy Kitchen!* *Bruce's* handmakes their salt water taffy. As you walk in a wave of different candies hit your nose.

Taffy, gummy bears, chocolate, jelly beans and more! The sweet sensation is almost overpowering. You *have* to get something!

When you walked out of *Bruce's*, you got Sea Foam. Sea Foam is caramelized sugar covered in chocolate (personally the writer's favorite). When you get back to your hotel it's almost dark.

There is another sunset, your last one. This time it is purple, red and orange. It is just stunning. You decided to watch the sun go down and the stars come up. The whole sky is a bright red, stunning orange and a deep purple.

The sun is going fast; you hardly had time to watch it. The sky is getting darker.

When the sun set you walk to your hotel for the last time with the waves in your ears, the salty air in your nose, the wind in your face, and memories in your head.



## Home-Link Newspaper Journalists

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## Advisor

Debbie Trepanier



## Blue, colors, girls, boys, pull-up bar – random, just random

By Paige Kavanaugh

Blue.....Hmmmmm....I have nothing to say about this.....Nope.....No Wait.....No...Never mind.....

Colors, hmm, without colors the world would be black and white. No wait, black and white are colors too, so it would be grey, no grey is a color too.....Grrrr what would the world look like, would it be transparent? Aughhhh!

Food, what do I need to say? Food is yummy.

Homework, need I say anything?

Parents, it's the kids' job to drive them nuts. XD

Girls, they make a fashion statement throughout their lives, each girl has her own style, and they have amazing color coordination....



*Daniel Mattison and Clara Chantry and the color blue*

Boys, no comment..... Well they are good at sports..... but besides that.....no comment.....

How to fall off a pull up bar, I knew someone who did that once; he was hanging by his arms and fell six inches to the ground. He taught me how to do it. Now I'm a professional — it just takes lots and lots of practice, oh and-ughhhh-pain. But it's really fun!

Bluuuuuuuu, wait a second, have I done this already?

Life, life is random; it's like sticking your hand in an animal cookie jar. You never know what you're gonna get.

Random, random, everything random, I'm random, you're random, we are all random! Woohooo!

## Who would have thought falling off a pull-up bar could be so fun?

By Paige Kavanaugh

I bit my lip as we walked outside, praying I wouldn't have to get up on the pull-up bar. School was getting close to the end, the yearbook had been shipped off and we yearbookers had nothing to do. So we joined the newspaper, and one of our articles needed a picture, a really hard-to-get picture.

The article was about money problems and so we needed a picture with people having their hair on end, literally. How were we gonna get our hair on end? The pull up bars on the playground were just the answer. So there we were, walking outside in fading cool morning air, on our way to the pull-up bars. Debbie Trepanier, our teacher, turned to face us, "Okay who's going to get on the pull up bar?"

My hands tighten on the camera I'm holding as all of us look at the pull up bars. The Home-Link school used to be a public elementary. I should know. I attended kindergarten and first grade here, so whatever play equipment that was left behind was meant for one thing, to be played on by younger, much younger kids. The pull-up bars went just a little higher than my waist, and I was short! Aubry was the first to volunteer; she was flexible and good at this stuff. It wouldn't be hard for her. Good! Now we needed one more.

"I'll do it," the voice came as a surprise to me; I turned and looked over. Cody, stood there with his hand slightly up, "I'll do it," he repeated.

The rest of us watched and readied our cameras. Aubry pulled herself gracefully onto the pull-up bar, no problem. Cody, on the other hand, wobbled and teetered threatening to fall off any second. "Ummm, Cody, you sure you want to

do this?" Mrs. Trepanier asked nervously.

"No, no I-I got, got it." His voice was as wobbly as his balance at the moment; some of us couldn't help but giggle.

Slowly but surely Cody steadied himself on the pull-up bar, and the rest of us got into position to take pictures. "Okay when I say so, flip upside down," Mrs. Trepanier instructed. "One....Two.....Three!" Aubry instantly flipped upside down, Cody, not quite as fast. Actually it wasn't fast at all, and it took him over ten seconds to get upside down.

Then everything went loopy. Cody's legs slid right off the pull-up bar; luckily his hands were still holding onto the bar, so he was just hanging there, bent and curled up like a cannon ball, at least six inches off the ground, with only his arms to keep him from hitting the ground.

And then as quickly as it happened, THUMP! Cody hit the ground! We just stood there speechless. "Cody, are you okay?" Mrs. Trepanier asked.

"Ouch!" was his only reply.

The others burst out laughing, as did I. I couldn't believe what had just happened! Cody, falling six inches off the pull-up bar, and all he could say was ouch! I laughed harder, tears peeking out from the corner of my eyes. It was all so sudden, and it was so funny. We all tried to stifle our laughter as Cody stood up; he was smiling so he obviously didn't mind.

"Okay let's try that one more time," Mrs. T grinned. I stifled another wave of giggles as I again got my camera ready. Already I knew that we would be mentioning and laughing many times about what happened this day in the future.

# The roar of the wind, white-outs, and wipe-outs – all a part of sledding

*Thrilling rite of passage offers exercise, super memories, and exhilaration for children and adults alike*

**By Clara Chantry**

“Here I come!! Get out of the way!” I yell as I push myself on to the sled and down the hill. The snow that was slowly drifting to the ground now is stinging my face as I fly down the hill! I can’t see a thing. My grip on the sled is like iron. I feel every bump in the path as I speed down the hill.

I wonder if they got out of the way fast enough. Thwack!! Darn they must not have heard me. “Ow! Get off me!” All of us yell at the same time. We untangle ourselves and then get up laughing and race back to the top.

“Let’s do a train,” someone yells. About five seconds later we are ready. We slowly start to push ourselves down. But before we can do anything else, we are racing down the hill. We can’t hear anything above the roar of the wind, the yelling and the screaming until....

Crash!!! Then everything is silent. No

one makes a sound, then slowly laughter starts to fill the air. All we can see is a tangle of arms, legs and sleds. But finally we get everything under control. “Wow that was fun!”

I just can’t stop sledding. I speed down the hill and I rush back up. Then I do it again.

It starts to get dark on us, so we head inside tracking snow as we go. We change into warm pajamas. Then we all sit down to a cup of hot chocolate to finish off the day.



# Spokane County 4-H Competitive Trail offers 25 miles of exhilaration

**By Cheneen Schliep**

Tap tap, tap tap! I’m trotting. Squeeze my legs. Thud thud thud, thud thud thud, lope; I look to see that my sponsor is still behind me. This is Competitive Trail.

Competitive Trail is a 4-H event in which 4-H members can ride a ten- or 25-mile loop. For this ride, horse and rider must be conditioned and fit. This is my first year competing in this event and I’m glad I decided to. Judging usually starts at seven a.m., while rides can start at any time.

To condition my horse, I rode all through the summer. I also rode five days during the month before. The rides were always fun, otherwise we would not have accomplished anything. I also had to condition myself by doing a lot bareback riding!

Competitive Trail is a national interest and began in 1952. The Spokane County 4-H competitive trail ride rules book says, “Groups of riding horse owners are getting in friendly competition to compare the abilities of their mounts

as working trail horses, to learn to condition themselves as well as their horses.” Washington State has been blessed with some of the nation’s best riding country.

This is my favorite event the entire 4-H year. Here is a

rundown of the obstacles. First we had to open and close a gate, walk over a log, walk through water, and my favorite, a low jump. During the



ride there is an “obstacle” that is not judged. We have to ride by a river and on the other side is a shooting range; that was interesting. Well we made it by the shooting range and I placed first in novice intermediates. I’m glad I competed in Competitive Trail.

## Soccer offers the thrill of competition and a great form of exercise

By Dustin Rothrock

Have you ever gone to a soccer game? It's not all about kicking a ball! It is about a team working hard for winning a game of soccer. Sometimes the sport of soccer does get rough. A lot of soccer players have torn muscles or broken or fractured bones and end up with a cast, and most know about horrible shin splints.

There are **many** positions on the field! Although the names of these positions tend to change over the years, the primary positions are forward, midfielder, defender and goal keeper.

I think the goal keeper has the hardest position on the field because they try to prevent the ball going into the net. Most keepers sprain their wrist at least once while trying to get the ball. Also the keeper is the most important person on the field! They have to be extremely athletic and confident as well. How would you like all of that pressure!

I played soccer in my youth and enjoyed it a fair amount. It was pretty fun, but I didn't like it enough to stick with it. But my siblings did. My 18-year-old brother Chris and 16-year-old

sister Ashley started playing at five years old and they still play. Chris will play this spring at Spokane Falls Community College and plans to play in college in Seattle next year. Ashley is a sophomore and is goalkeeper at Shadle. My other sister is 15 and recently tore her ACL and can only watch for now. She hopes to play again.

A lot of soccer teams travel around to tournaments in nearby states to play the game against different competitors at different levels! Only the best of the best soccer teams make it to finals because they have to challenge many other soccer teams. The best wins the state trophy!

If a soccer player trains hard enough they can become profes-



Ashley is the goalkeeper in yellow.



Chris dribbles the ball toward the goal.

sional and play for bigger and better teams all around the world!

## Dirt and biking - this is dirt biking, the extreme racing sport

By Jake Wilson

Dirt biking is something for all those adrenaline junkies out there. You can do so many things: dirt biking jumping, racing, hiking and so much more. Jumping is a great thing for dirt bikes and very very fun for those more experienced dirt bikers who know what they're doing but still very dangerous if not wearing the proper gear. A very important thing is to wear a helmet if you don't want to hurt your head or even die. You should always wear the proper clothing for dirt biking or you will have a higher risk of hurting yourself.



Jake looks back while riding dirt bikes at home.

Never wear loose clothing especially pants - you don't want to get that caught in your chain, which happened to me once; it's not a pretty scene. I would recommend jeans if you don't have any dirt biking pants. You should never wear shorts unless you really want

to.

I like dirt jumping. Dirt jumping is a jump made out of dirt; dirt is my favorite. I love the feeling of the nice landing and never having to worry

about losing control.

Racing!! is a fun thing to do with your friends; you can challenge them to see who's best and it's always good to get bragging rights and to watch my friends eat my dust when I pass them. You can get going really fast which I really like. Speed is fun but never take your eyes off your path at high speeds. It's not a very good idea because you can risk yourself losing control and crashing, what I call speed wobbles, not fun at all. It hurts. I race about every week and don't ever think about stopping. I would do it every day if I could.

Hiking is one of the most fun experiences I've had riding dirt bikes. You can experience a lot - seeing wild life, the smell of trees and going on long trails. I've always liked just getting my mind off everything and enjoying the fresh air and the feeling of riding my bike through the trees and riding up big mountains.

## Piercon Ridge, Idaho was the most exiting elk hunt of my life

By Grant Rogers

It started out on a cold morning when Dad and I had just woke up. A blood-curdling scream echoed around us and vibrated the floor of our camp trailer. I heard a bull elk across the river. Dad commanded, "Slip on your water socks! Let's go across the river!"

In 50 seconds, we reached the river and started frantically rolling up our pant legs. I knew the water would be brisk. My heart stopped when I heard a footstep in the water across the river, then another out of nowhere. A second louder and closer bugle made me fall in the water which also made the bull run off. I didn't care! I was too busy trying to get out of the water! I don't think I've ever been that cold in my life. Dad laughed when I finally struggled out — both my arms and my pride hurt.

Once again we started across the river. On the other side, I could see that Dad was starting to get pretty cold since he was shivering. As we started moving out, we both started to warm up. I was enjoying my surroundings, looking at the leaves changing colors when we heard a bull not fifteen yards away. My heart started to pound faster and faster. "There!" Dad whispered. Right in front of us standing



*Woo wee, he's a nice one, according to Grant's dad.*

broadside was a five-point bull. BANG!!!! When the smoke cleared, that bull didn't go far.

## Abandoned Clayton millenium mine makes a great hiking trip

Written by Daniel A. Mattison

My summer was great because of the hiking trip that took place last fall. It all started out as just an idea that maybe, just for fun, my uncle, my two other brothers and I should go hiking up one side of a mountain (literally!) and down the other to check out an old abandoned millenium mine shaft located in Deer Lake which had been shut down for forty some years. Anyway, when we first started the hike it was kind of boring because all we did was walk up a fairly steep road for about an hour until we came to this landing sort of thing; we decided to take the long road



*Daniel at the opening of the Clayton melenium mine*

which allowed us to check out the crew cabins and a somewhat large pond they dug for themselves. We set up camp some time around seven o'clock.

Naturally, we had to find wood for the campfire in the dark which led to the discovery of the underwater mini-salamander that was taking up residence in a small stream passing by complete with half grown tadpoles and occasional full grown frogs. Yes, that night was pretty cold; I remember that much along with the awareness that a bear was somewhere, though we never did see him.

My younger brother and I both got up in the midst of a big squirrel fight going on in the pine trees a bit to the left of the trail which was more like an old logging road that was turned into a four-wheeler trail. While my older brother and

uncle were still snoring my younger brother and I went to explore everything from the still standing crew cabin (which I must point out still had the crew's water cooler that was intact) to a root cellar that my uncle didn't know existed until we happened to see it while checking out some old ruins that were most likely to be the dining hall back in the day when it was still in use. Anyway, when my uncle and older brother got up, we had some oatmeal for breakfast, cleaned out the dishes real quick, packed up our stuff and were off again.

Our journey back wasn't quite as amazing because we had already passed all the cabins, the hand-dug well, both of the mine shaft entrances, and

the small but heavily secured dynamite shack which, I must say, had been pad-locked twice plus had rock walls lined with wood for extra protection against accidental blasts going outward and into the road instead of up in the air like it's supposed to do.

When we got back, we had lunch, went about our various chores and prepared to be taken home by my uncle. My brothers and I loaded the car while my uncle went about his last few things to do and then we went home tired, but happy.

## What's the difference between baking soda and baking powder?

By Cheneen Schliep

Baking soda and baking powder are similar and both are agents for rising. Baking soda is pure bicarbonate, which fizzes when it comes in contact with acids. Baking powder is a mix of baking soda and other things. The exact mix determines whether it is "single" or "double" action, and both are leavening agents; this means they are added to baked goods before baking. These ingredients produce carbon dioxide in baking goods which causes them to rise. Baking powder contains baking soda, but the two substances are used under different conditions.

Baking soda is pure sodium

bicarbonate, also called bicarbonate of soda. This produces a gas called carbon dioxide. Baking soda is often used in fizzy drinks and remedies for heart or acid reflex, and it's this reaction which facilitates rising in baked goods.

Baking powder is more complex according to recipes4us.uk. It is composed of

baking soda and one or more acid

salts such as cream of tartar, sodium aluminum sulphate or calcium acid phosphate. In baking powder there is also a drying agent, one being corn flour. The



What will it be? Cheneen helps you to decide between baking soda or powder.

exact mixture tells whether it is "single" or "double" acting.

## The many amazing candies of Asia offer new flavor to your life

By Laural Brown

WOW!!!!!! That smells so good! The sweet smell of Asian candy. Out of the many Asian candies, I'm going to start with Japanese candy. One of my absolute FAVORITE candies is Hi-chews – you think it's gum when you start to eat it, and then all of a sudden it turns into liquid. There are many varieties of the flavors.

Here is another one of my favorites, Pocky! A delicious biscuit stick dipped in a variety of delicious flavors.

Topo is a very popular Japanese candy. It is a delicious pretzel filled with creamy chocolate. "WARNING.

Do not eat more than 12.....or you will EXPLODE....."

Glico pakitz — white. An interesting crispy chocolate. Three YUMMY features in this new white chocolate which is ready for tastebud enjoyment. The top, a delicious wafer shell encapsules white chocolate, with little puffs inside!!

Glico Uranaikko Gum. Here are some "wooden" sticks called "omikuji" that have fortunes on them. You pull one out, and based on the message on the stick, you'll have good luck or bad luck in the future. Which fortune will you get? Heaven or.....worse.....

(Dah DAH DAH DAAH~~~~~)

Lotte Tsubu Rock Grape Gum. Hey you. Yeah you! Add a little new flavor in your life. I like Asian candy because it's different from our everyday American candy. I first tasted Asian candy five years ago when we had a foreign exchange student from Japan who brought us a taste of his favorites.

You can find these yummy treats and many others at Amazon.com. Or if you'd like to find some a little closer, you can find them at Asian World at North Division Street, Spokane, Washington, United States.

## The history of the world's favorite treat Xocolatl or Chocolate

By Rebekah Carlson

What's so good about chocolate? Creamy, rich, smooth — what's not to like? But where does chocolate originate? Chocolate is believed to have been discovered over 2,000 years ago by the Mayans who used it as far back as the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Wow, chocolate is old!

Did you know that the Aztecs used it as an ingredient for the drink of the gods? Pretty weird huh? The Aztecs also used chocolate as a form of currency. Cool, money you can eat. I'm all for it.



But the chocolate that the Mayans and the Aztecs ate is not the same chocolate we eat today. The Mayans and Aztecs called it xocolatl. But

anyway in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century cocoa cultivation began in Africa.

In 1876 Milton S. Hershey established his first business in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; this business however declared bankruptcy. After

Hershey returned from Philadelphia, he opened his second business which also ended in failure. Milton was then looked on by his family as being

financially irresponsible. But Milton would not give up; he launched another business in caramel. He made the candy by day and sold it in a pushcart which had been given to him. Milton then filled a big order for an Englishman who liked the fresh taste of his caramels. Milton had made enough money to pay off the bank loan from making and filling the big order. I sure am glad he did. I love Hersheys! In 1891 Milton continued to make his baking chocolate, cocoa and sweet chocolate.

This is the chocolate we know today. Pretty different from xocolatl isn't it? And I'm sure it's much sweeter too!

## Jack and Mesa, a couple of mules on their way to a new home

By Sabrina Crooks

The owners had already gotten the mules out when we pulled our trailer in. So we went right away to loading them up. First we tried to load Mesa, tried being the word. She wouldn't budge! She was positive that going into a small dark trailer was not a good idea! Since it is no easy feat to try and persuade a 1200-pound stubborn mule to go anywhere, we decided to try Jack. He had been watching Mesa and had decided that he would rather not go in either.

Finally after pulling, pushing, and prodding we got Jack in. He timidly placed one hoof on the edge of the trailer and decided to jump inside. As my mom pulled him into the trailer, she went to the escape hatch (the upper opened portion of a slender half-door), and Jack decided to follow her. He leaped through and he got stuck since his hind quarters didn't fit!! So now we have a big mule, stuck half way in our trailer, it is

almost dark and it's starting to rain!!!

First we had to figure out what to do. After a bit of thought we decided that the best way would be to get a jack and widen the top so that he could get his hindquarters up and out. After doing this we tried to persuade him to jump

but he wouldn't budge, so finally we decided that we would have to cut open the trailer. Once we had it all ready to cut the trailer open, we started the engine. Of course at the loud sound he became frightened and in a flash, jumped up and out of the wide upper part.

Now what? We still had to get the mules home. Would you believe that after all of this, they would load into the trailer like they were born to do it?

Well nether would I if I had not seen it with my own eyes. But they did and after closing the trailer we went home in the dark with two stubborn mules.



Sabrina, siblings and her dad walk with the mules.

## German Spotlight is a great family game of tag in the dark

By Paige Kavanaugh

Thum-thump! Thum-thump! My heart was pounding against my chest. I was pretty sure it would fly out any second and land on the dirt ground. Ahead of me I could barely see my cousin Garret and my Aunt Pam. Behind me, I could hear my other cousin, Taylor, breathing. My breath was short and silent as all four of us made our way down the dirt trail; the woods on either side of us were nothing but shadows and infinite blackness that hid dark secrets.

I held my breath as we came within a hundred yards of our trailer. From where I stood I could see the campfire glowing. "All clear, go," Taylor hissed behind me. Aunt Pam and Garret moved forward. My muscles tensed, everything was going good. But, where was...

A flashlight whizzed around the corner ahead, Aunt Pam let out a cry of surprise and we all scattered, "German Spotlight Garret!" I heard a voice yell. Drat Garret had been caught! I had to get away or I would be caught next! I dashed to the left and jumped into the woods; I wrapped my arms around my legs and did a cannonball into the bushes. Branches snapped and scratched my face as I

hit the ground. The ground was slanted and hard as I rolled a couple of feet down hill. I shoved my hands in front of me, forcing my body to stop. Nearby I heard a thump, and a groan...Sounded like Taylor. Apparently she had done the same stupid thing I just did.

I struggled to silence my breathing as the flashlight raced down a smaller trail near the main road and ran past me. That was close, about four feet too close. I watched silently as the flashlight disappeared around the corner. I chuckled to myself, as I heard another shout, "German Spotlight Pam!" Two people left, Taylor and I. Uncle Johnny made a good German; I scolded myself as I thought about what happened. Of course four people should not be walking down the main road together! It's like saying to the German, "Hey we're over here!"

I saw the flashlight come back down the other side of the main road. It was time to move. I crawl back up the slope and crossed the road to a better hiding spot.

Do you like games, do you like playing outside, and do you like getting your adrenaline going? But are you tired of tag and hide and seek? Well German Spotlight is a nice twist

to your outdoor games; only, it's played in the dark.

German Spotlight is a super fun game to play in the dark, and all it takes is four people or more, a flashlight, and the great outdoors to hide in! Here are some tips to avoid getting caught in German Spotlight. Tip 1, Try wearing all black and nothing shiny while playing the game; that way, if you get stuck hiding behind a really thin tree, you blend better. Tip 2, Jackets, jackets can be your best friend in German Spotlight. Whenever you run into someone and have time, switch jackets, yeah you heard me, switch jackets. That way if spotted the German thinks you are someone else. This technique works best when you switch jackets with someone your height and build, like a twin brother or sister or something. Tip 3, Move only as fast as you can while at the same time being silent, you don't wanna rush. Take your time; it won't do you any good to go running around as fast as you can while making a bunch of noise. Stay sneaky and silent – it works best. Tip 4, Afraid of the dark? Tag team, that way you're with someone. You can both work together to keep an eye out on the German and still be in your comfort zone. Finally tip number 5, Have fun!

## Helpful video game tips for the serious, active Xbox and wii gamer

*Super Mario Galaxy 1&2, Legend of Twilight Princess, Fable 2 & 3 games offer hours of fun and play*

### By Kayley Kavanaugh

Are you a video game lover? Do you spent most of your free time on TV? Well if that's the case, then here is some information and tips on popular games.

*Super Mario Galaxy 1 & 2 wii:* The biggest challenge on these games is the camera; most often you see yourself upside down. For those who have trouble on your numchuck, the C button will be your best friend. If you have a friend or sibling to play second player, they can help you on many things such as freezing enemies and getting coins WHICH BY THE WAY IS YOUR LIFE!

*Legend of Zelda Twilight Princess wii:* This game is one of my favorites but the wii controller is hard to control, so make sure you have a good signal. On this game, don't be so quick to go to the next quest. Get as much money as you can and buy new equipment. You don't want to go to a level with ZERO of the things you need! Don't skip on the dialog; you need to know what's going on. Trust me. I've been

there ... yeah, not fun.

*Fable 2 & 3 Xbox 360:* Fable 2 is an action role playing game. YES, you choose your path, good or evil, or the type that just doesn't care! I've found that evil is a lot more fun than good BUT you can't get all the good weapons which are most often better, but you get less money being good. The game can end in three ways according to what wish you choose at the end. You can choose money, sacrifice or family. I like family because that way I get my dog back. I don't have Fable 3 yet but I know you play the daughter or son of the hero (or

villain) of Fable 2. Fable 3 creators took out the RPG playing system and you are more focused on ruling Alben which is the main quest of the game.

But on this game there will be more action such as when you want someone to follow, you grab their hands. In Fable 2 they just followed.

So there you go, game lovers, some tips



*Kayley Kavanaugh loves video games and the color orange.*

on what to do on some of the most popular games (halo not included). NOW GET OFF THE COUCH AND GO OUTSIDE!

## The best fall activities for an extremely bored person or family

### By Paige Kavanaugh

Not everyone likes fall. Even though many people do, what's their reason? Well they can't find any fun activities to do! They just sit there in front of the TV or the computer and say, "Man am I bored!" Well there are plenty of fun things to do in all seasons and fall is not excluded from the fun factor.

Sure summer has swimming and winter has sledding, but there are things in the fall too!



*Julianna Trepanier playing in the leaves.*

Still like playing in the outdoors? Well rake up some leaves and cannonball into them! Head outside for a nice walk in the cool brisk air. You don't have to stay inside just because it's cold; jackets weren't made for decoration you know! And with it getting

darker earlier, you could play a good game of German Spotlight without waiting for night to fall around 10 p.m.

Put on a warm jacket – the cold won't get to you; besides you'll be moving around too much for your body to get cold.

Visit a museum or a theater. Who says you have to make up your own activities. If you don't want to spend money, go to a park. Parks are really pretty in the fall with all the leaves changing colors. There are tons of parks everywhere so don't use the excuse of, "But there aren't any parks nearby!" You'll find one if you look hard enough.

Make crafts, yeah, gather up some leaves and twigs and make a fall wreath or put a paper on top of the leaves and stencil over them. That's really fun to do. You should try it.

These are just a few ideas you might enjoy during fall. You could always make up your own ideas, or ask friends for tips. Whichever way choose, there are plenty of things to do in the fall. So go out and do it!

# BRANDING DAY



*Grant holds the calf branded by his Uncle Coby Layton.*



*Grant and his friend Ben Wilson, also a Home-Link student, stretch a calf and hold him for the branding.*



*Grant's dad Dale enters the arena.*

## By Grant Rogers

Clitter, clack! Clitter, clack! The car makes sounds of its own as it travels down the dirt road. "We are almost there," said Grandpa Jim. Arriving at the gate, we can hear cattle bawling like banshees. As we drive through the gate, the air is filled with dust and the thunder of pounding hooves.

Finally upon my horse, I felt like a Calvary soldier as we charged after the cattle. I dug my heels in Rocky's side to turn the cattle toward the wing so we could get the cattle in the corral. I turned sideways in front of the cattle. The cattle screeched to a halt and turned toward the wing.

By the time the cattle got to the wing, the gate to the corral was open and the branding irons were getting hot. All the cattle had shoved their way into the corral.

We started to sort the cattle, starting first with the bulls, moving on to the steers and finally to the momma cows. They can get mean if you aren't careful. We left two cows to keep the calves from crashing the fence. The first calf we branded was a Herford color of red and white. The hair stunk horribly when the branding iron pressed against his side, and he was none too happy about this procedure, hollering out to his mom.

This process went on for two hours, and when the last calf was branded, things slowed quite a bit. Babies and moms were once again together and the little ones seemed to forget their pain. Time to put away the branding equipment until next year.

## The mysterious thing they call RIDDLES

### By Daniel A. Mattison

The date was Jan. 20 when someone approached us with a mysterious vigor in her step. She looked us in the eye and said, "Do this with four lines only, or else!" and with that she handed us a small piece of paper and pencil, flashed us an evil grin, and walked away, again, with a mysterious vigorousness that made us tremble with fear. Nine dots, the piece of paper possessed and I'm thinking, O.M.G, bro! I won't be able to do this!

Suddenly from the depths of the computer lab we heard a mocking voice that said, "Both of you guys are so slow! We girls got it by now and here you are sitting there with grim, hopeless faces, Ha-ha! You look so pathetic!"

Finally, when we could no longer withstand the pressure and fear, we cried out for help saying, "Uh...Little help here? Yes, you, over there, yep, that would be great, thank you." So we walked to the Girl with a Mysterious Vigor in her Step that again made us tremble in fear for our lives.

About five minutes later the Dreaded She showed us how to do it, but, once more, flashed an evil grin whilst doing it.

The End

### The Freshman Girl

The freshman girl  
Oh so shy,  
Sits and watches the sophomore  
guy  
The sophomore guy,  
With his head in a whirl  
Sits and watches the junior girl  
The junior girl,  
In her red sedan  
Sits and watches the senior man  
But the senior man so hot and wild  
Secretly loves the freshman child

by Paige Kavanaugh