



*WHERE ALL THE WOMEN ARE STRONG (NOT REALLY)
ALL THE MEN ARE GOOD-LOOKING (SORT OF)
AND ALL OF THE CHILDREN'S CHEEKS ARE ABOVE AVERAGE.*



Rehearsals begin for new vaudeville show in Gustavus

A troupe of artists in Gustavus, Alaska promises a theatrical extravaganza as they begin rehearsals for a new vaudeville show set to open in 2019. The performers, who at first glance appear to be a ragtag collection of misfits led by a mystery man in striped tights, are quickly making a name for themselves as a highly talented and colorful group of entertainers.



Reviewers from the Strawberry Point Pioneer newspaper hailed the troupe as “visionary and imaginative on a scale not seen previously in rural Alaska”. In a recent interview, lead actress and choreographer Téa Neilson explained the genesis of the show, “There are so few types of entertainment available in Gustavus besides watching your kale grow. We decided the town needed an energetic infusion of color and flair.” Lead dancer Skyler Neilson promises all that and more. The outdoor show will feature a combination of slapstick comedy, poetry, song, and dance, culminating in a raucous finale featuring “Singing in the Rain”.



Performances daily, seven days a week. Call the troupe’s manager, Oliver, at 697-2140 for tickets.

Boy uses Jedi mind tricks to persuade parents to feed him more candy

The parents of a 7-year-old boy in Alaska are seeking professional help after they realized their son has been using Jedi mind tricks to get them to feed him more candy. “We’ve been duped,” says mom Janet Neilson.



It appears the young boy has been honing his skills for years. “Every time I offer him a healthy snack, the next thing I know...he has convinced me to hand him more candy!” exclaimed the boy’s father, shaking his head in disbelief. The force is strong in this one!

Photographer forces kids to stand still and smile, despite gold nearby



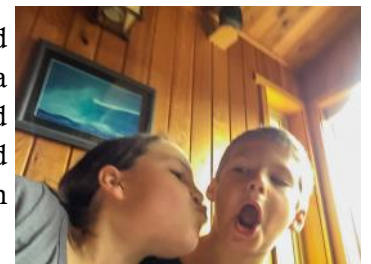
Kids miss out on chance to seek gold; location of jackpot remains unknown. Details on p. A-2.

Americans react to recent plunge in stock market



Americans young and old reacted with alarm and outright dismay as the stock market plunged last month. In rural Alaska, siblings Téa and Skyler Neilson offered live coverage on their YouTube channel as the market sunk to lows not seen in 7-year-old Skyler’s lifetime. Although the duo have a reputation for over-reacting to most situations, financial experts say their response to the current financial crisis is warranted. “Our college funds are tanking,” bemoaned Skyler in a recent tweet.

Off camera, Téa tried cheering up Skyler with a kiss, but he wanted nothing to do with it and insisted on wallowing in his misery.



Millions of fans of the duo’s YouTube channel adore the siblings’ honesty and raw, unfiltered interactions. One long-time fan commented, “They have that classic love/hate sibling dynamic. I can’t fathom what it would be like to be around them 24-7, but anytime I’m bored it’s a great channel to watch because there’s never a dull moment in their house!”

Club Mud celebrates third anniversary in Gustavus

Therapeutic benefits of regular mud baths touted by longtime staff. Family rates available, kids under 3 free.



SE Alaskan photographer offers to Photoshop sunny skies, dry climate into locals' damp family photos



Example photo “Before”



Example photo “After”

(Note – for an extra fee, Alaskan customers can also have their images retouched so that any visible unnaturally pale skin appears tan.)

White House announces new Chief of Staff

In a surprise Christmas Eve announcement, the White House has revealed the sudden appointment of a previously unknown and apparently 100% unqualified, new Chief of Staff. An unnamed source close to Trump worries that the newest addition to the White House shares the President's inflated sense of self, often seeing herself in grandiose terms, with occasional lapses in sanity. In an early morning tweet, the president tried to allay Americans' concerns, “She’s going to be tremendous. She is totally unqualified (like the rest of my cabinet), but she certainly has the look, which is all we need. NO COLUSION!!! ... #maga”



Mutiny during annual rhubarb patch photo shoot

Typical bribes fail, leaving future of traditional photo shoot uncertain. Full story on page C-4.



Alaska children train to assist with cave rescue in Thailand

In the spirit of international peace and goodwill, two children from Gustavus, Alaska volunteered their time and utilized their marine backyard and other select locations as a testing ground for a cave rescue to be carried out in Thailand. When the two youngsters heard of the summer 2018 accident trapping so many children, they immediately went to work testing a variety of equipment and techniques.



The children practiced diving, jumping, spelunking, and even contortionism in their attempts to master the best practices for cave rescue.



Rescuer-in-training Téa Neilson meditates to practice mindfulness while training in 40 degree water, meanwhile her dive buddy takes a quick nap.

The youngest member of the training team, Skyler Neilson, age 7, even figured out clever ways to acquire fresh snacks while undergoing the rigorous training. Here he is shown with a tasty tanner crab he was able to grab



off the bottom. He reflected, “I knew that if the sea otters could do it, so could I. I just hope all of this work will pay off.”

In the end, it did. The Thai cave rescue operation was successful with all of the trapped children rescued. Unfortunately, the Alaska team was unable to participate in the final mission after freakishly warm (80 deg F) weather in July prevented planes from being able to land on their rural community’s airstrip. A spokesperson from Alaska Airlines claimed that the runway got so hot that the asphalt became too soft for jets to land safely. Although this seemed like an implausible explanation at the time and the kids chalked it up to fake news, the Gustavus rescue team later learned that it was true.



They are standing by to assist with any water-based rescue operation and are lobbying their parents for cell phones so they can be reached anywhere, any time, day or night.

Learning local natural history the hard way

The ringleader of a shady group of Gustavus youth (names withheld for privacy) recently experimented with cow parsnip cigarettes, but now vows she will



never smoke again. The perennial herb, which grows in abundance in the area, is well-known to adults for producing a toxin that causes skin irritation. On a backcountry trip this spring in Glacier Bay National Park, the gang convinced their unsuspecting leader to try the cigarette. “Despite being older than many members of the gang, she is not necessarily wiser,” lamented the girl’s family as she recuperated at home.



Reverse evolution – humans take to trees in Alaska to prepare for sea level rise

Story continues on page D-5.

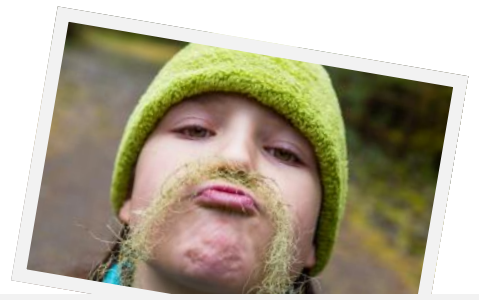


...And that's the news from our world!
We hope 2019 proves to be as newsworthy.

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year ~



with love from Janet, Sean, Téa, and Skyler





Salmon River, Idaho - Jun 2018



Todos Santos, Baja with the Gregos - Feb 2018

