



*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.*



Google Glass prototypes tested by Alaska youth

In February 2013 the Google Glass 'Explorer Program' was launched and a select group of consumers were enlisted to test early prototypes of the futuristic device, a wearable computer with an optical head-mounted display. Google's promotional material stated that "bold, creative individuals" were being sought out to test prototypes of the eyewear. Téa and Skyler Neilson immediately signed up.



While wearing Google Glass, users issue voice commands to the eyewear by first saying "OK glass", followed by the command. Adolescent beta testers such as the Neilson siblings have helped to pinpoint several significant glitches with the planned system. For example, very young children such as two-year-old Skyler may be misunderstood by the computer voice-recognition software. Instead of hearing "OK glass", the computer repeatedly thought Skyler was saying "OK ass", and immediately shut down. In addition, his older sister Téa frequently confused the computer with her repetitive, non-stop commands.



At the moment Google Glass comes in five colors: Charcoal, Tangerine, Shale, Cotton, and Sky. Six-year-old Téa has been lobbying the company to add pink to their color line. She says they can call it "Salmon" if "Pink" is not hip enough. To date, Google has not returned her emails. Meanwhile, beta testing continues.



Obamacare comes to girl's aid

Téa Neilson of Gustavus, Alaska has reason to celebrate this holiday season. The young girl, who has been without health insurance for years, recently signed up for a low-cost policy under the Affordable Care Act, more commonly known as Obamacare. Prior to having insurance, the only health care practitioners Ms. Neilson could afford to go to were unlicensed and unaccredited. For



example, when a loose tooth proved to be unusually stubborn in coming out, Ms. Neilson had no option but to ask her papa for help. As he extracted the tooth with a pair of rusty pliers, she put on a brave face while focusing on her mantra, "All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth." Now things are looking up, for not only does Ms. Neilson have health insurance, but her two front teeth started to come in just in time for Christmas, and she has an appointment for a tetanus shot on Monday.

Driver's ed classes to be offered in Gustavus

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Smoothie snorting beneficial to sinus health

A young boy in Gustavus, Alaska has discovered that snorting smoothies leads to optimal sinus health. Skyler Neilson, age 2, recounts the day he made his discovery: “I had been snorting warm salt water daily to clear my sinuses and prevent sinus infections. It worked fine, but one day I accidentally got some banana-blueberry smoothie up my nose and WOAH! I felt instant relief!” He now maintains a daily regimen of smoothie snorting and



nose-picking to maintain optimal sinus/nasal health. Neilson claims that he can instantly tell when his mother tries to sneak kale into his smoothies,

because they don't work nearly as well at clearing his sinuses. He insists that the perfect smoothie snorting recipe contains nothing leafy or green.

Patagonia's newest child models

The Neilson children of Gustavus, Alaska, have signed a life-time contract as models for the outdoor clothing company Patagonia. And because Patagonia's products never seem to wear out, they

are expected to eventually grow into the jackets they are seen modeling here. Téa, who has been known to change her outfit six times a day (or more), is adjusting to the idea of wearing the same garment for decades to come, while still looking chic. “I have



always known that being fashionable is about pairing my clothes with the right accessories,” she explains, “so as long as Patagonia gives me the artistic freedom I need to continue to express myself, everyone will be happy.”

As ice retreats, nudist colony discovered in Glacier Bay National Park

Rangers have found a nudist colony at an undisclosed location in Glacier Bay National Park. For years, there have been rumors of scantily clad campers in the upper reaches of the bay. Last summer, rangers set up motion sensor cameras and captured these images as part of a sting operation.



They were surprised to find the colony in an area that was, until recently, covered in ice. A park spokesperson explains, “Glacier Bay is a place of dynamic change in the wake of dramatic glacial retreat. This glacial retreat has exposed a resilient landscape that hosts a succession of diverse marine and terrestrial life...Until now, we did not know that this included nudists.”

Boy sent to remedial hide-and-seek school

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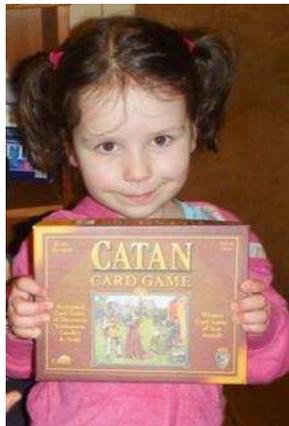


Young Catan champion loses crown

In November, reigning World Catan Champion Téa Neilson lost her crown to her father, Sean Neilson, also of Gustavus, Alaska. Championship organizers were stunned that the tiny community of Gustavus, with only about 400 year-round residents, had produced another world champion. “It must be something in the water there,” commented a competitor from Romania. Indeed, a surprising number of Gustavus residents, both young and old, are closet capitalists and ardent fans of The Settlers of Catan board game, in which players try to be the dominant force on the island of Catan by amassing resources and building settlements, cities, and roads.



Now that she has lost her coveted crown, six-year-old Téa says she is devoting her energy to developing an alternate version of the popular game called “Children of Catan”. She explains, “In the original game, players try to amass five resources: brick, wood, wheat, ore, and wool. In this kid-friendly version, players will instead hoard legos, playdough, mac ‘n cheese, mud, and stuffed animals.” Ms. Neilson plans to introduce the game to students in the Gustavus Preschool to ensure that the town’s youth are competitive players by the time they enter kindergarten. After all, she points out, Catan is “the game of OUR generation.”



Siblings open pizzeria – See page A-2



Boy discovered living in rhubarb jungle

Anthropologists made an astonishing discovery in August 2013 when they announced they had found a young boy living in a rhubarb jungle in Southeast Alaska. At first contact, the boy appeared surprisingly robust and healthy, despite the fact he had never eaten anything but rhubarb pie.



When asked how a child could remain undiscovered for so long, authorities explained that during the summer of 2013, Southeast Alaska experienced freakishly warm and sunny weather which led to

record-breaking growth in many plants, including rhubarb. In some places, this led to nearly impenetrable forests of rhubarb, turning away even the most intrepid explorers.

DEAR ABBY

My sister dresses me like a girl



DEAR ABBY: Please share this photo with my therapist in 30 years so they understand why I turned out this way.

My sister insists on playing dress-up with me every day. As you can see, she especially likes putting me in tutus. This Ariel bathing suit with an attached tutu is one of her favorites. I don’t know how to make her stop. My parents are no help...they think it is funny and make me pose for photos. Please help!



Signed, MORTIFIED

Boat captain insists he has a monkey on his back

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Children's fashion tips for 2014

Full story on page C-2



CEO of "Terrible Twos, Inc." enjoys a rare moment of R&R

Full story page A-7



...And that's the news from our world!
We hope 2014 proves to be as newsworthy.

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year ~

with love from Janet, Sean, Téa & Skyler



