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City Boy: Back in His Day

By: Maria D.

Interviewing: My Grandpa Ken

Kenneth James Barnes has a history behind every piece of his name. He was named Kenneth after his uncle and he was named James after his brother's Confirmation name. There is a very good story behind his last name. On his dad's father's birth certificate his last name was Barnowski and he was adopted by another couple. When Ken's father got married his mother was not a fan of his last name. After Donald, (Kenneth's brother) was born, they changed their last name to Barnes.



Ken was born May 3, 1934 in his home near 7 mile and Van Dyke. His home was about the size of a twenty-by-twenty garage. He has one older brother, Donald, who is nine years older than him. The two were not very close until later on in his life. He was an engineer for Chrysler and he was one of the first people to put air bags in cars. He was also the first one in his family to get a college degree.

He went to Saint David for grade school. His favorite teacher was Sister Dianna and his favorite subject was his religion class. He was a great student and was considered the "angel" in the school. His best memory of grade school was playing football, baseball, and basketball. As a child, he wished to be a baseball player because he was great at pitching and claims he could throw at least 90 miles an hour. His best friend growing up was Paul Katatera who loved to play sports with my grandpa. He never got in trouble and he always listened to his parents. Although he was a good kid he often got strapped. His favorite game growing up was an indoor game. He enjoyed it because it was like football and you were able to put down offense and defense.

He decided on his career to be an engineer for Chrysler because his marks in school were highest in chemistry and mathematics. His first car was the 1956 Chevy. His very first job was at the Chrysler Missile Plant. Three years into college my Grandpa Ken met my Grandma Phil. She couldn't wait to get married to him so she told him to "quit school and get a job." He went on to have four children before finishing his degree six years later.

Ken's grandpa was a brick layer. He initially went to Canada to be a lumberjack before later coming back to Detroit as a contractor. His grandpa died at 93 and never rode or drove in a car; he walked everywhere.

The most significant event to happen in his lifetime was World War II. Nationally it made him, "love and be proud of his country." Television was considered to be the most important invention of his lifetime because he could watch football, basketball, hockey, and baseball. According to him computers are the biggest change in the time from him growing up to now because the state of art has completely changed to electronic devices.

When Kenneth was 33 years old the Detroit Riots occurred. They were the worst riots in the history of the United States. The riots began on 12th Street in downtown Detroit and over 1,400 buildings were burned, 342 people were injured and 43 people were killed.

He never served in the military, because he flunked the physical exam due to a thyroid issue. If he had gone to war, who knows what his life what have turned out like. How different would my life be if he did end up going into war? And although he never participated in them, he did watch the pigeon races.

The most beautiful place he has ever been to structure-wise is Rome, because he had an appreciation for the history behind it. But for religious reasons he enjoyed visiting Medjugorje for his appreciation for his religion.

My Grandpa Ken was for sure a city boy. Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. His home, my home, our home. He was very happy that I interviewed him, he said, "Really, you want to interview me, what for?" I really enjoyed sitting down and listening to his stories and not just so I can get a good grade, but so I can learn more about him.



🎁 *El San Nicola* 🎁

🎁 By: Albina Juncaj 🎁

I love Christmas mostly everyone does and if your Jewish happy Hanukkah. I love the presents, spending time with family and most important food! My only problem is Santa. He is okay but a little old and so over worked he needs a break. So why not help him send him on a vacation a retirement he deserves it and we deserve something new and maybe a little skinner not haten Santa just stating.

Introducing the new and improved saint Nicola. Unlike Santa Claus saint Nicola is born in Venezuela which is in south America and Santa Claus who was born in Patara which is now Turkey. Nicola lives in a beach house on the coast of Caracas, Venezuela. The



beach is surrounded by black sand and blue ocean. Nicola is very skinny she is actually a Victoria secret model during the summer break. She wears a cute short Santa dress with black leggings and the cutest pair of combat boots ever plus a bedazzled hat best part it is bedazzled with little candy cane gems.

Nicola is clever to. She actually calculated the path through the world two times faster than regular Santa. So that means twice the presents and that speared more Christmas cheer. The first time is what you want for Christmas like dolls of play sets anything. And on her second round she delivers money and electronics. She won't give you 5 dollars or 10 dollars the most she has ever given was 1,000 dollars and Miss Sally Sue was very good that year. To deliver the presents as fast as she does she rides in a red and green Ferrie. And instead of reindeer she has horse power Pu Da Chu.

Nicola is multilingual she will talk to you in which ever langue you speak. If you're German Guten tag. French Bonjour. Spanish or Portuguese Hola. Italian Ciao. Hindi Namaste. And Persian Salaam. Those are just her favorites. She just never wants you to feel left out. Christmases new date would be any day in December because she loves surprises and even if you didn't set up anything she won't care she trying to lay off the calories any way.

Doesn't she sound great? I mean who doesn't want two presents and a more face to look at. Nicola is actually related to Santa. She is his second cousin once removed. Complicating but they always have fun. This is why I think we should give Santa a break and give this new Santa a chance.

Valentine's Day Oreo Pops!

Athena's Kitchen Corner

By: Athena R.



Sometimes on Valentine's Day it may be hard to come up with some fun, delicious, easy treats. I have an idea, how about Oreo Pops!

HERE IS WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Valentine's or original Oreos (preferably mega stuff)
 - Lollipop sticks
 - 1 pkg. pink and/or white candy melts
 - Your choice of Valentine's sprinkles
 - Extra-large sheet of wax paper

Instructions:

1. Lay your wax paper on your work surface.
2. In two, microwave safe, bowls melt your candy melts according to its directions.
3. Now dip the tips of the lollipop sticks in a small amount of the candy melt, and put it about half-way though the frosting part of the Oreo. Then let them sit for about 5 minutes.
4. Finally, dip the cookies into the candy coating, using a utensil to help coat all of the sides of the cookies. Shake off any extra coating. Repeat this process for all of the other cookies.
5. Add in any additional candy coating or sprinkles if you would like.

Materials: I got the lollipop sticks, sprinkles, candy melts, and Oreos at my local grocery store.

Inspired by: Lil' Luna.com

An Idea

By Jean D.



Do you want books for a cheap price? You do??!! I am writing this article to tell the students and staff at my school about a new way to purchase books for the classroom. The store is called *Second and Charles*. It is a used book store, and sells books at ridiculously low prices.

Second and Charles is located on Hall Road. You can reach this wonderful haven by turning into the same plaza with *Sam's Club* and *Best Buy*. It is in the building where *Spirit Halloween* used to rent every Halloween.

Once you enter, you can either take old books back for store credit, or take just shop! They have a children's section, with chapter books and picture books. They have an adult section and comic section too!

Second and Charles is a great way to buy any books that are expensive at most other places and not at the library. It is most likely a close location to you, and if you don't want a used book, they have new books too! They are also not just a book store, they sell cd's and records, too.

After reading about *Second and Charles*, doesn't this store seem like the better option, rather than an overpriced store like *Barnes and Noble*? Try it, and (like your mom will say about broccoli) YOU'LL LIKE IT!!!

Vixen

Alivia G. & Adeline P.

In the snowy days of December, not much seems to be happening in the snow-caked woods. But truly, the animals have their own festivities to attend. Especially me, Ginger, the new vixen around these parts.

I traveled here from the north's pine forest, down to a smaller forest community. I created my own little den near the creek, but turns out a fellow fox lives nearby, and he had the 'chivalry' to tour me around my new home. I don't know about him, but I think I will like this place.

His name is Pine-he's a reddish-brown fox who seems to like tailing me around. Honestly, he's pretty annoying but he has his goods and odds. But he's formally invited me (as he phrases it) to attend a celebration for the Winter Solstice. He said it's an honor to be able to come, as many newbies aren't even aware of it. I'm not fully sure if I'm going to attend, but Pine seems to really wish for me to join, so I think I might anyways. Maybe it will be fun?

December 20th

Tomorrow is the day of the festival. Pine and I have really bonded over the last few days-he's like a younger brother to me. A bit immature, but I appreciate his company. I think I'm going to go. I mean if Pine wants me to go and if it's such a great honor... Why not?

Today I met the guardian of the festival: a gray wolf who is a serious, yet kin



Winter

Ella H.

Winter is here. We play in the snow and we have lots of fun.

When winter is gone there is no fun in the snow.

When winter goes the spring comes. And Instead
of cold, there is warm. No more coats no more gloves

Now there is warm fun instead of being cold.

Now you can wear short sleeve shirts instead of heavy coats

Now there is summer fun!

A White Winter

By: Rainna, Abriella, Isabelle

Winters are white,

Snowy and bright.

Cold cold snow,

Freezing my window.

Winters are white,

Whirling in the night.

Baking the cookies,

Shaping the dough.

Long day of snow play,

Hands are like ice.

Cookies were delicious,

Filling my full belly.

Outside was very cold,

Had hot chocolate twice.

And to be specific,

Cookies filled with jelly.

Caroling through the night,

Our voices did blend.

The night has come to an end,

All day we did spend.



Fortune

By: Addison B. & Luke W.

It was coming closer. If you are asking what “it” is, I happen not to have an answer for you. However, it was coming at a rapid speed, and I had absolutely no idea what to do. I was terrified. Everybody was asking me what to do, but I didn’t know. Then my instinct changed;

“RUN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”, I shouted, hoping that they would follow me. But they didn’t, and the thing was right behind me. For the first time, I couldn’t solve this problem.

10 Hours Earlier

Los Angeles, California, 2017

I was ecstatic!! At this very moment, it just so happens to be my first day of Jr. High and I’m SOOO excited!!! None of my friends moved the year before, so I still have Jay and Maya, including myself, Lizzie (short for Elizabeth). I’m standing at my bus stop which is right in front of my house. The bus pulls up and I see Jay and Maya who are waving at me vigorously and I waved back. I practically ran up the steps, and ran to the back of the bus where they were sitting. I sat next to them, and said, “Oh my gosh!!! The big day is finally here!! We all have 4 of the same classes, all of which are in the exact same hours!!!” “Yeah! It’s going to be great! I can’t wait!” Maya says with a smile on her face.

As I walk in to the school, I get shoved over by an 8th grader. He didn’t even stop to say sorry, or even stop to help me pick up all of my books. I was actually a little bit mad. I had to use my school map to find where my first period was, which was math. When I walked into the classroom I saw Maya and Jay with an empty desk in between both of them. I obviously knew that they wanted me to sit there. When I sat next to them Maya whispered to me and said, “Hey, Jay and I were wondering: want to meet up at that old abandoned park over on Washington Street?” “Um... I guess? I mean seriously, remember three years ago? When those two kids went there and never came home? Nobody’s gone there since!” I loudly whispered back.

After what Maya said, it got me thinking. Did those kids go there on purpose because they knew that something would be going on? Was something mysterious actually going on? Did they know that something was mysteriously awaiting their arrival? Then, the math teacher called out my name, “Elizabeth? Elizabeth? Elizabeth!?!?”

“Oh!! Here. Sorry, Mrs. Cora. And by the way, you can call me Lizzie.” After that “fiasco” I went back to thinking about the old abandoned park. Without thinking, I said to Maya, “Yeah! Let’s do it. After school, 5:00, meet me and Jay at the park.”

8 Hours Later

Abandoned Park, 5:30

“Well? Where are you, Maya? Me and Jay have been standing here like idiots for, like, a half-hour. Where are you?” I said talking to my phone.

“Sorry, Lizzie. My mom kept me home. And anyways, I had tons of homework from social studies. I’m two blocks away. I’ll see you in a few minutes.” Maya texted.

“Maya will be here in just a minute, Jay.” I stated. Well, Maya got here in about 30 seconds and we ventured into the park. We saw all of the old landmarks, the huge oak tree, the covered patio, and even the remains of the dog-walking trail. It was all so nostalgic. Then, out of the blue, Maya said, “Wait... what the heck is that thing over there??? I’m gonna go find out. I’ll be right back.”

“I’m coming with you, Maya. I don’t want you to get hurt” I said. “Let me touch it first, ok? It might be poison. If your mom found out that you touched something poisonous when you were with me, she wouldn’t even let you look at me. And that would not be fun, now would it?” I said with a sense of protection. Me and Maya left Jay behind and he shouted, “You better be back in one piece!!”

As we got closer to whatever it was, Maya noticed that it was a cootie-catcher. I held it up to her and said, “Pick a color?”

“Oh, ummm... sure. Pink.” I moved the cootie-catcher 4 times. “Pick a number?” I said

“Four.” I (yet again) moved the cootie-catcher 4 times. “Pick one last number”

“Two. Now... what’s my fortune?”

“It says, ‘Your worst nightmare will become reality?!?!?!’” I said in shock. “That’s weird... you’re not scared of anything!! Are you? Wait wait wait wait wait... I just closed the flap and opened it back up and the fortune... it... it’s gone!! How is that even possible?!?!?! I’TS JUST GONE!!!” The cootie-catcher started to glow as I dropped it to the ground. Maya screamed as I look at her and Jay came running over. Then Maya screamed, “It’s behind you!!!!” Then I started running and was really worried. It was coming closer. If you’re asking what “it” is, I happen not to have an answer for you. However, it was coming at a rapid speed, and I had absolutely no idea what to do. I was terrified. Everybody was asking me what to do, but I didn’t know. Then my instinct changed;

“RUN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”, I shouted, hoping that they would follow me. But they didn’t, and the thing was right behind me. For the first time, I couldn’t solve this problem.

To Be Continued...

Christmas Around the World

By: Maggie G. and Izzy I.

You know about Christmas in America. Most people put up Christmas trees, play in the snow, bake cookies, and get presents from Santa. But do you know about Christmas around the world.

Greece

In Greece the people play rituals so creatures called Kallikantzari do not play tricks on them. These creatures hide in people's houses. They play tricks and scare people.

Philippines

Usually Christmas lasts one day, but in the Philippines it is four months long. The months are September, October, November, December. This is the longest Christmas season.

France

Many kids in France put out their shoes. Then they wait for Pier Noel to fill their shoes. Pier Noel will only fill their shoes only if they are good.

That's a few of the Christmases around the world.



I found all this information on google Santa tracker

The Fake Santa

Written By: Elmarisa H. and Emily K.

“EVERYBODY! FLY YOU’R LIVES!”

“Hello Snowflake, little Johnny wrote me a letter it said ...
HI E VERY GREEN AnD Snoflek I HOP u WILL BE AT MY crIstMas P ARTiE.
Froom JOONY.

“WOW he is ‘great’ at spelling and writing!” said Snowflake

“We are not going to that party, remember last year?” said Snowflake.

“Sorry, I had to go badly, Mrs. Lon took way to long!” said Evergreen.

“Yah... After that incident, I left without you,” said Snowflake

“Any way we have to get to work, we still have presents to make and we have lots to do for Mr. Claus,” said Snowflake

So, as Snowflake and Evergreen were walking to the toy factory, they heard a laugh and a BANG!

“What was that!?” said Evergreen

“EVERYONE FLY FOR YOU’R LIVES!” said both Snowflake and Evergreen together.

Everybody flew for their lives as BIG candy canes flew at them!
Evergreen and snowflake were confused, but then.... the bombs destroyed the toy factory.

“OH NO! The toy factory is destroyed” said Evergreen

And half the toy factory was gone!...

And then, Snowflake and Evergreen saw Santa laughing... Or was it Santa.....

When Snowflake and Evergreen saw “Santa” he looked *different*.

“HO! HO! HO! NO PRESENTS FOR ANYONE!” said Siren!

Snowflake and Evergreen thought Siren was Santa and wondered why he did that!

“Stop making presents you silly elves! Go to the nearest coal mine and get as much coal as you can!” yelled Siren.

The elves were confused about everything, they thought Siren was Santa, the elves flew to Mrs. Claus and asked why is Santa acting so weird?

“Wait.. is he making you get coal and does look he a cat?” asked Mrs. Claus

“Yes!” said the elves.

“That’s Santa’s evil twin *Siren*. He would always cause trouble when they were growing up together.” Said Mrs. Claus.

RRRRRUUUUMMMMMBBBBLLLEEEE!!

“Snowflake and Evergreen, get out of here and find Santa, The REAL ONE! NOW!” said Mrs. Claus.

“YES MA’MM!” said Snowflake and Evergreen.

So, Snowflake and Evergreen went to find Santa. As they were walking around they saw Siren, he was commanding the rest of the elves to mine coal and do his work.

So, Snowflake and Evergreen decided to tell the other elves a plan to find the real Santa and destroy Siren.

They all split up to find the real Santa. 20 minutes later, they found Santa tied up with candy taffy!

They told Santa everything that happened.

So, Santa returned to put Siren in his place! ... In the end, Santa won! And Christmas was SAVED!

“Hurray! Christmas is saved!” said all the elves.

But they had to work quickly to make up for all of the toys that were destroyed. They happily worked day and night until they made sure that each and every child had a present to open on Christmas morning!

The Most Important Thing About Christmas

By Katherine D.

Most children think the most important thing about Christmas is what’s under the tree, but, to me, they are incorrect. I think the most important thing about Christmas is spending time with loved ones. If you were poor you would not get any presents at all. Your family wouldn’t be able to afford presents. Some countries don’t celebrate Christmas. Even some people in America don’t celebrate Christmas. Always be grateful for what you have, and for what you get.

A New Year...A New You!

By: Ryan Snider

We all have made New Year's resolutions, some big, some small, some go far, some end right away. But, they all share one thing, MISTAKES!!! We can't wake up New Year Day and say, "I am not going to eat fast food this year." It's almost impossible! Resolutions are not easy, they are hard work, and take persistence and determination!

These are my resolutions I will work toward this year:

Resolution 1

I hope to get far in getting my math grade up this year! Fifth Grade had really easy math, but 6th grade is like 2x harder than fifth grade! My goal is to have a A or B every semester in Math!!! That is my Academic Goal for This Year!!!

Resolution 2

My personal goal this year is to study very hard for any test and to do my best in Science Olympiad!

Christmas Goes So Quickly

(a Haiku poem)

By. AnnMarie E.

Christmas is famous

Christmas is in December

Kids can get presents



LITTLE SNOWFLAKE

By: JAE G.

Poor little snowflake.

Just sitting there on the ground.

Waiting to be found.



Graebner students helped the marines pack up the donations for Toys for Tots, one of the many charities Graebner families helped out this year!



NEHS students present a check to our local Child Protective Services, CPS, program for \$791.00, along with many donations that will help children in their care.