

Lakeview Ledger

Peoria's Kid News



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Pet Show and Tell



York, a Pit Bull Terrier, made a guest appearance.
Photo Credit: Peoria Humane Society

By Erin Budzynski (Age 9)

On Saturday, March 13, 2021, I went to a virtual Pet Show and Tell with my cat Nigel. It was run by Elise Hearn from the Peoria Public Library. She has two dogs and a cat. The other kids and I showed our pets one by one, including Nigel, a dog named Ruby, and two cats named Billie and Mirel. A brother and sister participated and they are hoping to get a dog soon. After that was done, Elise asked us what we like about having a pet and we said playing outside, how excited the pets are when we get home, and how they make us laugh. The two kids who don't have a pet talked about what type of dog they would like to get. We also shared the kinds of toys our pets like to play with.

Then a woman named Ms. Kitty from the Peoria Humane Society joined and talked about pet adoption. Ms. Kitty said that before you adopt you should think about factors like size, cost, and attention. First, if you have a small apartment you probably shouldn't get a huge dog, and if you rent a home, you will have to ask your land-

lord. You will have to buy supplies for the pet and pay for veterinary visits. Also, pets need a lot of attention. Baby animals like puppies and kittens will need to be trained while older animals will not. You will have to play with and feed the pet as well as cleaning up after it. You should find out information about each animal. You might not know that rabbits are messy and are not always friendly, so they might not be a good choice for you.

Once you know what type of pet you want, you can go to petharbor.com to look at the animals available. You will want to select Peoria County Animal Control and Protection Services. The process for adopting animals is different now because of COVID-19. You will have to fill out an application before visiting the shelter. After your application is approved, then you can schedule a time to visit and meet the animals. With a dog you can go outside and play, and with a cat there is a special room where you can make sure they are the right pet for you. There are some small animals so you will watch them in their cage.



Henry & George attended the event.
Photo Credit: Elise Hearn/P.P.L.

Ms. Kitty showed us some of the animals at the shelter. Here are some of my favorites - Cinnabun the bunny and Tucker and Kitty the cats. There were some cute dogs too! As you can see, adopting a pet can be a great joy for both you and the pet, as long as you plan ahead.

LEGO Builders Club

By Bryce Budzynski (Age 7)

In case you don't know, the Peoria Public Library has a LEGO builders club. I joined and had a lot of fun. The first challenge was to build an animal, and I built a tiger. Someone built a cat on wheels. The next time I joined there were two brothers. The challenge was to build something outdoors. I built a building. The next month, there was a car challenge. I just put pieces on the car until I liked it.

This club meets the second Friday of the month at 4:30 pm on Zoom. It lasts about an hour. There is a theme each week and then you get to show and tell.

Email this address if you want to join, elisehearn@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us. The challenges are really fun. And if you join you maybe can make an article yourself for the newspaper.



Bryce, age 7, shows off his LEGO creation!
Photo Credit: Bryce Budzynski

School During A Pandemic

By Carson Powers (Age 12)

I am currently a sixth grader at Dunlap Middle School and have been learning in person, full-time since August of 2020. Many things are different going to school during a pandemic compared to how it is traditionally. At my school, you have to wear a face mask all day, every day and your hands are sanitized before entering a classroom. The only time a student is allowed to remove their mask is when they are eating during lunch or snack. At the beginning of the day, the students have their temperatures taken before entering their first-hour class. On top of all of this, after every period the teacher must clean every desk before the next class can sit down.

Two of the main changes that happened when school re-opened was that lockers are no longer allowed, and the school operates on a block schedule. Because of the absence of lockers, students must carry all supplies in their bags and take them from class to class. Teachers have started using online textbooks and assignments to limit the spread of COVID-19 and lessen the weight of backpacks. A block schedule is when you only have four classes a day that are ninety minutes long, instead of having nine classes that are forty-five minutes. This scheduling is used so that teachers are not exposed to as many students and it decreases traffic in the hallways.

Yes, my backpack is heavier; I have to wear a mask all day, and the classes are longer, but I have adapted to these changes and am thankful to attend school during this time. Going to school during the COVID-19 pandemic is difficult, but I feel comfortable knowing that my school is still a safe place with all these measures being taken.

Letter to the Editor

We hope readers of the Lakeview Ledger not only enjoy this unparalleled newspaper, but that you will engage with our Lakeview Ledger staff. Please feel free to write to us by sending emails to kidnewspaper@gmail.com. We would be delighted to hear from you! Letters may be edited for length and clarity and can be used in print or electronic form. Please include your first and last name, city and state. Letters must be 70 words or less.

Wildlife Prairie Park



Photo Credit: Bailey Myers

By Bailey Myers (Age 11)

Do you want to see otters, eagles, bears and white bison? Wildlife Prairie Park is a Central Illinois zoological park located in Hanna City outside of Peoria. Wildlife Prairie Park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

When you visit Wildlife Prairie Park you can see the animals, picnic, learn, and exercise. Look at all the fun things you can do! You can even stay overnight there. When I visit Wildlife Prairie Park, I love to find an animal and get out a sketchbook and draw the animal, or anything I think looks pretty. Some other activities you can do are ride the Prairie Zephyr train or slide down the Gollywhopper Slide.

It is a lot of fun to visit Wildlife Prairie Park. For more information on Wildlife Prairie Park visit www.wildlifeprairiepark.org.

Book Reviews

Percy Jackson

By Carson Powers (Age 12)

Percy Jackson by Rick Riordan is a book series about a boy named Percy trying to survive after finding out

about his godly heritage. The main characters are Percy Jackson, who is trying to wrap his head around the idea that Greek myths are real and find out who his dad is, Grover Underwood who is Percy's best friend, and



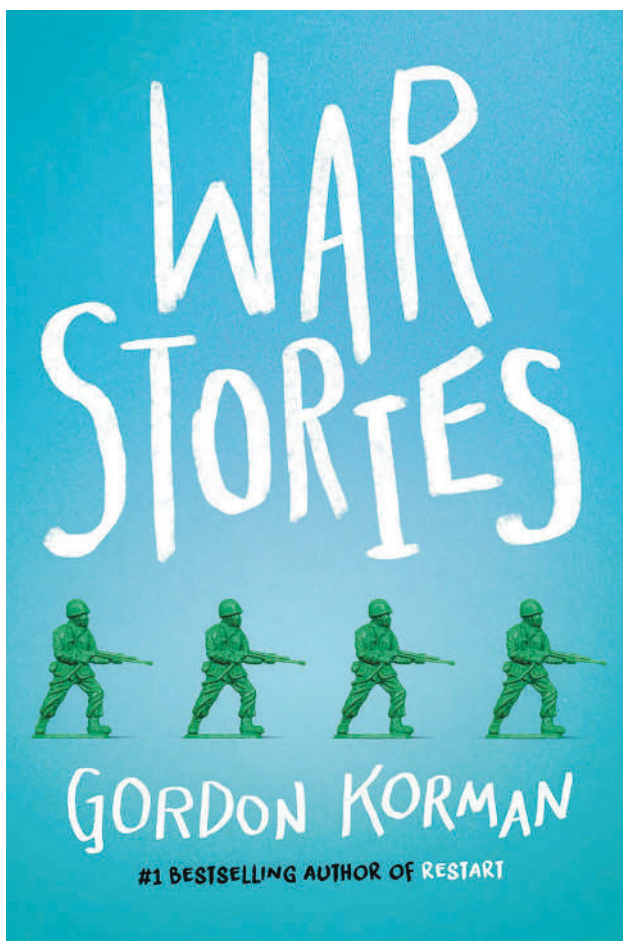
Publisher: Miramax Books, 2005

Annabeth Chase who must "take care of" Percy.

I like this book series because it is centered around Greek mythology. Even someone knowledgeable in Greek mythology can still learn something new from this book. As the story goes on, more and more secrets are revealed, and twists expand the plot.

I would rate this book a 5/5 star rating because of the plot and storytelling. I would recommend this book to anyone that enjoys learning about Greek mythology and loves adventure books.

War Stories



Publisher: Scholastic Inc., 2020

By Carson Powers (Age 12)

War Stories by Gordon Korman is about a family trip across Europe for their grandpa to receive a medal for his military service during World War II. Trevor Firestone is the great-grandson of military hero Jacob Firestone. Trevor idolizes his "G.G." and all his experiences, but his father disapproves of Trevor glamorizing war.

I liked the book *War Stories* because it switches between Jacob's adventure in the war and the family's story as a secret is slowly uncovered. The book accurately describes what being a soldier in World War II was really like. I liked how the mystery unfolded and is revealed at the end of the book, but I did not like how Trevor glamorizes war at the beginning and how he only cared about war.

I would give this book a 4/5 star rating. I gave it this rating because in the beginning it can be hard to get into the story and enjoy the characters.

Fantastic Art



By Lincoln & Luke Hawkins (ages 7 & 5)

Once upon a time, there were two brothers who had a magical unicorn named Mia. But, they really wanted a dog. They begged their mommy over and over until she said yes. Their new doggy was named Coco and he was black with blue eyes. Mia the unicorn did NOT like Coco the dog. Coco kept trying to eat Mia's food! One time, when Mia wasn't looking, Coco ate some of Mia's magical unicorn food pebbles. Then Coco turned into a unicorn dog - a unidog! And then he started to fly. He couldn't stop! Coco the unidog kept flying all the way out of the Milky Way. He didn't even need a helmet to breathe in outer space! Mia the unicorn was so surprised that she got sick and threw up glitter. Coco got worried and used his magic to teleport back down to earth to check on Mia. Mia and Coco became friends after that and shared their food pebbles every day. The end!

The Mystery of the Missing Hares, Part 2

*In Lakeview Ledger #1, part one of the immensely popular *The Mystery of the Missing Hares*, our Canadian Lynx named Arashitsuki, discovers her cache of hares has been raided by a mysterious thief! Arashitsuki crosses paths with various animals as she sets out to solve the mystery of the missing hares! - Editor

By Katie Kamasaki

(Age withheld by request)

Discouraged by her unsuccessful sleuthing, Arashitsuki decided to hold a stakeout. She slinked to a bush and dug a hole in the snow to hide in. It was a very difficult endeavor, but eventually she was covered.

Could someone be lying? Could there be other suspects? The questions she had asked hadn't been that extensive. She just hoped she wouldn't have to catch squirrels or lemmings - there aren't many Canada lynxes who would like that.

An hour passed. Arashitsuiki fell asleep.

When she woke, she stretched and yawned, muscles quivery from cold. Then she remembered her purpose and ran to the snowshoe hares. Four were gone! Only two left! Arashitsuki growled. But she also noticed...

Tracks! More fox-sized tracks like before, leading in the same direction! The sky was threateningly gray and the air smelled heavily of coming snow, so Arashitsuki hurried to follow them. They led her through the forest to the Great Opens, and then to the Great Bear Den, a bustling market that bears visited from miles around. But once the tracks were here, they were covered up partially by bear tracks. It was worth a try to find them, she guessed. She had gotten a few feet when -

"Why is there a Canada lynx in the Great Bear Den?" It was a polar bear. The chase began.

Luckily, Arashitsuki was very maneuverable from chasing snowshoe hares, and the polar bear was less so. Arashitsuki used this to her advantage, avoiding polar bear tracks and running through market stalls and bear legs. Bears were shouting everywhere, but it was almost hard to hear over her panicked breathing and racing heart. What would happen if she was caught? Would she never find the fox?

"Leave the Canada lynx alone!" a familiar voice called. "I invited her."

The bears let off her and someone asked, "Have you caught the thief yet?" Memke!

"Thank you for saving m...me! A-a-and no." Arashitsuki chuffed.

She looked up. "I'm holding a s-stakeout again. And this time I won't fail."

When she arrived home, she donned the same snowy disguise as last time. This time she closed her eyes and



Arashitsuki drawn by Katie Kamasaki (Age withheld)

pretended to be asleep, but was really tuned into every detail of the forest. She heard a twig fall in the near silence. It had been a long, hard, cold hour when she heard a footstep break the snow.

Arashitsuki opened her eyes, squinted so they wouldn't shine in the aurora borealis. A violet light flashed through the sky as a fox stole the last rabbit and began to run. The chase was on.

In the excitement of the events, Arashitsuki felt strangely calm. Cats were not long distance runners; they were sprinters, and Arashitsuki didn't want to use up much energy.

Despite this, the fox was getting further away. Arashitsuki kept going. Then she paused. She knew where there was a shortcut, but she didn't know if it would buy her enough time. If she was correct, the fox was heading to the Great Bear Den. She raced through the trees.

The forest got thinner. She was getting close, but also tired. *Soon, I'll be there soon...* But would she ever really?

The trees stopped. She saw the Great Bear Den.

Arashitsuki ran to the opening. Had she missed the fox? She panted.

Then the fox ran straight through the entrance. Arashitsuki planted herself in front of him. She took a deep breath.

"W-why did y...ou take m-my hares?"

Arashitsuki lay in her den, reading a book she had gotten from the library. The red fox had taken her to Melandes Mart in the Great Bear Den, where he had been

selling the stolen hares. She had explained the situation to Melandes, the owner. It turned out the fox hadn't had enough food and had to steal. Arashitsuki couldn't blame him - better to steal than to starve. She was glad that the owner had taken the fox in, though.

Arashitsuki was given 9 hares in compensation and ate one that night. It tasted like hare with an aftertaste of mystery. *Solved* mystery. Arashitsuki had finally solved the mystery of the missing hares.

The Mooseian

By Mitchell (Age 12)

(Last name withheld by request)

This is a mooseian.
The mooseian mocks mad mops.
The mooseian lives in Mooseville Mini Mad.
The mooseian eats mops, moats and Mitchells.
The mooseian likes monopoly, miniature golf and Moms.
The mooseian mopped my majestic floor.

Fall

By Jude Hill (Age 10)

Listen, I like fall
I like the lonely call
The night moon poured down the hill
among the noises of the oceans roar
I watch the fog come and the sun rises
and then it's time to go to school

More Fantastic Art



Created by Katie Kamasaki
(Age withheld by request.)

Birdsong

By Katie Kamasaki

(Age withheld by request.)
 The birds sing songs of woe and cheer
 Few comprehend but many can hear
 Some sing of heartbreak, some sing of love
 Some sing of woes, making life so tough
 Some curse their enemies, wish their demise
 Some sing of wisdom, some give advice.
 Some sing, "There's bird seed over there,"
 Others, "All my chicks survived this year!"
 Oh if only if only I only just knew
 The language of birds, but who'd teach it to you?



Drawn by Katie Kamasaki
(Age withheld by request.)



Comic by Clay Hill (Age 12)