

Bringing back the dead

BY JENNI DEERING
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

Yesterday I was fine, but today I feel funny. I woke up this morning and felt like today was going to go wrong. I turned on my light and looked at my mom's picture and she started to talk to me. I went downstairs and told my aunt and she said I was thinking too much about when my mom died and so I was starting to see things.

I went back upstairs and picked up the picture of my mom and then she was standing in my room. I was freaked out. My mom has been dead for 10 years. I thought my mind was playing tricks on me. I picked up the picture of my dog that we put down two years ago, the day after Christmas. Next thing I knew he was standing next to my mom. I picked up other pictures of people and pets that have died and they all came to life in my bedroom.

I had figured it out. I could bring the dead back to life with one touch. But then, after 30 minutes, they would all go back to being dead and I could not bring them back again.

Now I will travel around the world, helping people to see their loved ones once more.

Time

BY BRENDEN BLAIR
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

It happened in the middle of the school day, after I had shut my locker. I turned around to see a fist coming toward me fast. I tensed up to get ready for the impact. At mid-flight, halfway between me and its owner, it stopped. It just stopped. Everything went dead silent, absolutely nothing but the sound of breathing.

I slowly opened my eyes and could not believe what I saw. Somehow I had just stopped time. I moved out of the way of the fist and experimented with my new power.

I managed to start time again and the fist crashed into the metal locker. While the attacker was screaming in pain, I delivered a quick upper jab to his jaw. He would never try that again. I could hardly believe what had just happened. I had obtained the power to mess with time.

I could have a lot of fun with this.

My magical power

BY MELISSA WOOD
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

If I could have any magical power in the whole wide world it would be the power to get food. I love food very much. I wish I could have the power anywhere I was, whenever I wanted, to think of the food I want and have it magically appear. Maybe it wouldn't appear if I was walking down the street and just thinking about food; I would have to say it, feel it and think about it in order for it to come.

I would use this power every day. I would never have to pay money for broken, open or even gross food. I would never have to push a grocery cart again. My worries would be over.

Having this power would make my life a little easier. No more kitchen in my house. It would appear magically whenever I wanted it to.

I would use this power for good, not evil. Maybe once or twice I would prank someone with a pie on the chair or in the face, but I really wish it would come true because sometimes I can't really eat what I want and I don't like that. I am strong, healthy and a good eater. If I really had this power I would never pick up a pan or cooking utensil again.



YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT
building a generation of better writers

Welcome to the twelfth weekly installment of great writing by area students as part of a partnership between the *St. Albans Messenger*, the Young Writers Project, area schools and the many talented young writers in our communities. Each week the *Messenger* features work from students in Franklin and Grand Isle counties.

Young Writers Project is a Vermont nonprofit dedicated to helping students improve their writing. Students submit work each week — responses to YWP prompts or general writing — and YWP selects the best for publication. YWP maintains a safe, civil Web site for students at youngwritersproject.org (where all work is submitted). And it creates Digital Writing Classrooms for schools to use as part of their curriculum. Thanks to support from **FairPoint Communications**, Digital Writing Classrooms are operating at Milton High School, Enosburg Falls Middle School, St. Albans Town Educational Center and Grand Isle School. Swanton School and St. Albans City Schools are also participating.

TODAY: Response to the prompt: **"Superpowers"**

MORNING FLIGHT



Anne Levy, Essex High School

Sprouting wings

BY MELLIE HOLZSCHEITER
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

If I were granted super powers I would like to be able to sprout wings and fly. The wings would poke through my side with a slight tickle. I would be able to control when my wings popped out with my other super power: lightning fast speed. Whenever I reached 100 m.p.h. my wings would burst out, making me laugh because they tickle.

I could use my wings to fly with the birds. I could also run errands for my mom, and mostly just for fun. I could fly around my yard. I would never have to worry about the dangers of being in a plane because I could land wherever I wanted. I wouldn't have to worry about a bird getting stuck in me, causing me to crash, because there would be nowhere for the bird to get stuck. This is good because I love birds.

I could communicate with other birds and have a breakthrough in science. I could visit my grandparents when they go to Florida for the winter because I would be migrating down there too. Life would be perfect if I had wings.

The powers I need

BY CHEYENNE HUGHES | BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

If I was granted powers I would want to freeze time, go back in time to fix my mistake, and be invisible. If I could freeze time I would use it to be able to have more time to work on something. Freezing time would help me in life so I could understand what is happening around me.

If I could go back in time to fix my mis-

My magic power

BY SAM DONAHUE
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

One morning I awoke to the birds chirping in my window. I thought, *Oh, I should go feed them.* Right then, just as I imagined the bird seed, Boom! It was in my hand. I was like, "What the heck?" So I went downstairs and said, "I wonder if my 'power' works?" I thought of bacon. Bang! There was bacon on my plate. At this point I was freaking out.

"Mom!" I yelled.

She came crashing down the stairs. "What?" she exclaimed.

"Look what I can do."

I told her to pick anything she wanted. She picked \$10,000. Bang! There it was in the palm of my hand. I was ecstatic. I said, "Mom, we can use this power for good."

My mom's reply was, "Can you make me a Thanksgiving dinner?"

"Yes," I replied.

Bang! There was a Thanksgiving dinner on the table. It was the best Thanksgiving dinner anyone could ever have.

Super strength

BY ASHLEY WILLIAMS
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

One morning I woke up to the sound of my alarm clock. I reached over to turn it off but it broke into tiny pieces.

"Cheap alarm clock," I muttered, and got out of bed to start my day. Once I got dressed I went to my dresser to get some socks. When I pulled on the dresser knob it came off, and my dresser drawer flew across the room. I stared at the place where my drawer had exploded into four pieces. I ran out of my room to look for my mom.

"Mom!" I yelled, looking frantically through the house.

"I'm in here," my mom responded. I grabbed the door handle and the door came off its hinges. I quickly propped the door against the wall before my mom came out of her room.

"Yes?" she asked.

"Uh, nothing. I was just wondering where you were," I replied. I must have super power, I thought. How strange . . . I must be very careful to not break anything. I went into the kitchen and slowly reached for the cabinet. To my surprise it opened normally, nothing breaking. OK, I can do this, I thought. A couple minutes later I arrived at school, trying very hard to not touch anything. It takes a lot of concentration is all.

While I was walking from the bus to the school I saw my friend being bullied. I rushed over to help. I pulled the bully away from my friend. The bully was a big kid, much taller than me, so I was shocked to see that I lifted him right off the ground. I set him down quickly so I wouldn't make a scene. After I set him down he ran off, and from that point on I knew what I could do with my super strength, and it wouldn't involve me breaking anything.

NBA super stars

BY THOMAS HAKEY
BFA Fairfax, Grade 8

If I could be granted a super power I would want the power to have NBA players' skills. I liked the movie "Space Jam" a lot, which is why I would want this power. The difference between the Monstars in "Space Jam" and me would be that when I took the skills of the NBA players, they would still have them.

I would want Wilt Chamberlain's rebounding and height, Kobe's turn-around jumpshot and 3-point shot, LeBron James' Dunking, Ray Allen's free-throw shot, Dirk's mid-range shot, and Kevin Garnett's intensity. I would want these powers because it would be amazing to even be as good as one of these people.

UPCOMING PROMPTS

Franklin and Grand Isle county students: Send us your best writing!

We are looking for more great general writing or reponses to YWP prompts. Here are the next prompts:

Stuck. Describe a time when you found yourself in a tight spot. Tell us how you got there and what you did to get out of it. Or write a story about someone who is in a difficult situation. **Alternate: India.** What images come to mind? Write them down and tell us where those images come from? Do you think they are accurate? **Due Friday.**

Submit work
at our Web site:

youngwritersproject.org