

smiles

What is a cat wrapped in a pillow?

A caterpillar.

— Julianna Vasile-Cozzo

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Canoe.

Canoe who?

Canoe help me with my homework?

— Luke Beirne

Why did the chicken cross the road?

To cockadoodledoo something.

— Luke Beirne

Why did the skunk cross the road?

To get to the "odor" side.

— Giovanni Mazzurco

What do you call a sleeping bull?

A bulldozer.

— Giovanni Mazzurco

Do you know insects these days?

Well, that's sure to bug me!

— Joseph Hess

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Game-show host and actress Daniella Monet

BY CHELSEA KOELLING, ALEXIS LAURENCE,
MELANIE PORTANOVA
AND JACK SCHNEIDER
Kidsday Reporters

We met actress and game show host Daniella

Monet when she was visiting Manhattan recently. She hosts Nickelodeon's "Paradise Run" and stars as Sam on "Baby Daddy," but we have liked her a long time — ever since she was on "Victorious" as Trina!

On "Paradise Run," do you follow a script or read cue cards?

No cue cards. They give me a script, but I don't follow it very well. I kind of go off of it and use it as a guideline, and I make sure I get the very important stuff out like the rules of the game and things like that. After that, it is my own little deal.

Who did you hang out with the most on "Victorious," and do you still get together?

On the show, my dressing room was closest to Victoria's [Justice] and Avan's [Joglia], so we hung out the most during the show. But now Liz [Elizabeth Gillies], the one who played Jade, and Arianna [Grande] and I don't live that far from one another, and Vic and I live close to one another. We all keep in touch.

What was your favorite TV show to watch as a kid?

I loved "Hey Arnold!," "Rugrats." I loved other reality competition shows like "Double Dare."

One of our favorite obstacles on the show is the rope swing. What is your favorite?

I would say anything that is a waterslide. The waterslides on this show are so cool. I have been on them, and they are fast and so much fun.

Are you a dreamer or a realist?

A dreamer — 100 percent. I need to work on my realism. Sometimes it is fun just to think so big. Sometimes it works.

If you could have lunch with anyone, who would it be?

I would like to have lunch with Cher from "Clueless" [Alicia Silverstone], but I would want to go with her as her character.

Do you have siblings, and do you think your birth order has affected your personality?

I think so. I am a big sister, so I take that wherever I go. When I was on "Victorious," I was the big sister, and I was actually older than the rest of the cast . . . I have always felt like I had to be a role model.

Would you rather go back to the past or into the future?

That is a good question. I think the future because it is all unknown. When you think about

the past, you have so many great memories and are so grateful for all that I have been able to do. I don't need to do them again!

As one of the few female game show hosts, how do you think you have influenced young people?

I have never thought about that. I like to think that I might be able to influence people to be confident and strong. That is kind of what I have to do with the contestants in this fun game as I steer them through.

What is the scariest thing about auditioning for any of the roles you have tried out for?

When I really want something, I get really nervous. And sometimes when I am not really sure that it is the right role for me, I still get nervous. . . . You just have to know how to calm yourself down.

What advice would you give to

middle school kids?

Middle school was really fun for me because I was really trying on who I wanted to be. I am so different [than back] then. I would skateboard all day long, I would wear funky clothes and cut my hair really short. I say have fun, and play all day!

Do you have a favorite children's book?

"Fancy Nancy"!

Were you into sports growing up?

I was into sports, but I wasn't very good. My favorite activity was martial arts. It was so much fun, and it is good for self-defense, and I think it gave me a lot of confidence.

Do you fight with your brother, and what about?

Yes, I am a normal human. My brother is younger than me, and I am always on his booty about doing the right thing.

Daniella Monet with Kidsday reporters Melanie Portanova, left, Jack Schneider, Chelsea Koelling and Alexis Laurence.





JULIAN MURPHY

Kidsday reporter Logan Murphy with his granddad and archery mentor Ed Erickson.

I enjoy archery with my granddad

BY LOGAN MURPHY
Kidsday Reporter

The sport of field and target archery was introduced to me by my grandfather Ed Erickson. He's been doing it for many years and has a lot of experience. I became very interested in archery when he took me to Suffolk Archers in Huntington, which is a 20-acre wooded park. This is where my love of archery began.

For my birthday, my grandfather gave me a compound bow. This bow makes it easy to pull the bowstring back. Many people use compound bows for hunting, because you can act quickly. He also gave me a quiver, which I use to hold my arrows when we are walking the trails at Suffolk Archers.

On the trails, we practice shooting the 3-D animal targets. We also shoot knock-a-blocks, which I like best. Knock-a-blocks are different shapes and sizes of foam blocks. We compete to see who can knock them down first.

If it wasn't for my grandfather, I would never have tried the sport. I love it and love spending the time with him.

In Girl Scouts, we pay it forward

BY CHELSEA KOELLING
Kidsday Reporter

I am a Girl Scout. We believe in paying it forward — doing good deeds with no expectation of having it paid back. Instead, we hope the people we help will be inspired to do good deeds for someone else.

One way we help is by collecting nonperishable food. We sit outside King Kullen to get donations from shoppers for food pantries. We do it during holiday seasons because it can get so cold. However, we feel warmer when we have so many people helping.

We raise money for soldiers while we sell Girl Scout cookies. Most of the time I am really quiet, but I will yell to make sure the people hear we are collecting. It is important to



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support our soldiers who are helping to keep our country secure.

Once or twice a year, the troop goes to a church and makes peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. The sandwiches are donated to homeless people and to people who come to the food pantry. Girl Scouting has been a time of service and fun for me.



KATHLEEN CAREY

Kidsday reporter Maeve Carey and her dad, Jerry, are active in the Knights of Columbus.

Serving with the Knights of Columbus

BY MAEVE CAREY
Kidsday Reporter

My dad belongs to a Catholic organization called The Knights of Columbus. He has been a Knight since he was 18. The Knights raise money for all different charities, not just Catholic ones.

What I like about it is our whole family gets to participate. The Knights support the Life Center of Long Island and organized their first Walk-a-Thon. My sister Maggie and I were a part of the Walk-a-Thon. The Knights also held a baby shower for the Life Center. My mom helped organize this, and the whole family participated. There were many donations of baby clothes, diapers and car seats.

In December, the Knights of Columbus and their families go Christmas caroling at local nursing homes. I have been doing this since I was 5, and it's fun to see how happy this makes many people.

My sister and I also help out at food drives at supermarkets. We help collect food for our parish and surrounding churches.

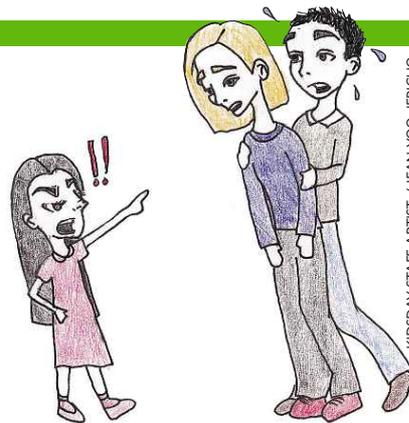
It's fun to be able to help at these events. We meet lots of people and donate food for the community at the same time.

Is it OK to yell at your parents?

BY MELANIE PORTANOVA
Kidsday Reporter

Do your parents ever yell at you for no reason? Mine do, all the time. Do you ever want to yell back at them? Here are a few reasons when I think you can actually get away with yelling at your parents:

- When they blame you for losing something, and it's right there.
- When they take something that's yours without asking and they use it.
- When they "borrow" your money without asking.
- When they break something that



KIDSDAY STAFF ARTIST / JEAN YOO, JERICHO

is yours and say it's not a big deal.

Now, you may want to feel them out about this topic before just unleashing your fury. But if you're cleared to do it, happy yelling!



HEATHER MASON

Kidsday reporters and Hess truck collectors, from left, Hazim Khan, Ava Thomson, Christina Ayres and Chelsea Koelling.

We love to collect Hess trucks

BY CHRISTINA AYRES, HAZIM KHAN, CHELSEA KOELLING AND AVA THOMSON
Kidsday Reporters

We love Hess trucks! Chelsea started her collection in 2005, when her mom gave her the first truck. Her mom was getting her brother a Hess truck from Santa. Chelsea liked them so much that she started collecting with him.

Hazim remembers his uncle giving him trucks for the holidays. He thought it was amazing that the trucks

came in all sizes and configurations. He has three or four very special Hess trucks that he keeps safe in his room.

Ava has eight trucks. Like Hazim, she really likes the different types of trucks and what they do. The trucks have been given to her by her uncle, mom and Santa.

Christina has collected Hess trucks for six years. Her parents always give her a new truck at Christmas. Her favorite is the 50th anniversary Hess truck. It is an oil tanker with a window to see the mini oil tanker inside.