

DAD Denis Asselin CLAIM TO VIRAL FAME Walking from Philadelphia to Boston to raise awareness for BDD

Last summer, Denis Asselin walked 525 miles in memory of his son, Nathaniel, who suffered from a severe form of a mental illness called body dysmorphic disorder. The disease ultimately led Nathaniel to take his life, leaving his father

THE ROUTE



PROVIDENCE,

grief-stricken.
Asselin's epic walk and the ensuing media coverage (CNN, The Boston Globe, ABC News, Los Angeles Times) helped raise awareness for Nathaniel's brand of obsessive-compulsive disorder and \$30,000 for the International OCD Foundation.

BOSTON



DAD David Laferriere CLAIM TO VIRAL FAME Illustrating his sons' lunch bags Since 2008, Massachusetts graphic designer David Laferriere has been doodling on his sons'

sandwiches. He's sketched approximately 2,000 pictures: monsters, mermaids, even Mr. Potato Head. His boys, Evan and Kenny, were in second and fourth grade when he started the project; now they're in eighth and tenth grade. Lucky for us, Laferriere snaps a picture right after he's done drawing and posts them to his Flickr page, which has 860,000 views and comments from around the globe. When will it end? "I guess at the end of high school," says Laferriere. "I'm not going to be making their lunches when they go to college."

The director of Argo let his daughter write his name on his hands "for luck" before going to the Critics' Choice Movie Awards in January. That night, he won the award for

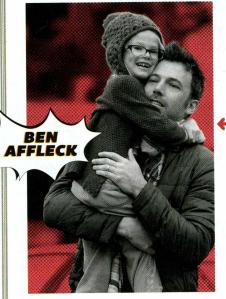
 ACCEPTED AWARDS TATTOOED IN HIS DAUGHTER'S SCRIBBLINGS

Best Director. The next morning, the news cycle was littered with close-up shots of Affleck's hand. A month later, "Papa Good Luck" was on Affleck's hand when he accepted another prize at the DGA Awards.



Toronto techtrepreneur Mike Hoye was frustrated by the lack of compelling female protagonists in the gaming world. So he gave daughter Maya's favorite game gender-reassignment surgery: He hacked their copy of The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker. and recoded the hero as a girl. "Forty years ago, fathers weren't expected to be around. We're trying to be more engaged." Clearly, Zelda isn't the only game Hoye is rewiring.

ILLUSTRATION BY TIM EGGERT BEN AFFLECK: HEADLINE PHOTO/SPLASH NEWS PRESIDENT OBAMA: PETE SOUZA/THE WHITE HOUSE/GETTY IMAGES



CLAIM TO VIRAL FAME Battle with pint-size superhero One would assume that the headline "President fights Spider-Man" exists only in a comic book. Props to 44 for making it a reality, with some help from a White House staffer's son. ©

Compiled by Brian Braiker, Scott Neumyer, Matt Villano, and Shawn Bean.

june 2013 / 84 / parenting.com

