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Grade Level Currently Enrolled: 10

Student's Age as of 03-15-2016: 16

Hubbard Glacier

One of the Alaska Marine Highway System's ferries should be named after the Hubbard Glacier. This glacier surpasses all others in its beauty and magnificence. A ferry named after it would surely do the same.

The Hubbard Glacier is near Yakutat City and Borough, Alaska. It is about seventy-six miles long and is underwater at its terminus in Disenchantment Bay. In contrast to many of the world's glaciers, Hubbard Glacier has been thickening. This unusual behavior has baffled scientists. It has also been advancing into Disenchantment Bay for over a century. This glorious slab of ice has defied its predisposition and proved to be a true wonder. An Alaskan ferry should be just as incredible.

The Hubbard Glacier was named after Gardiner Greene Hubbard in 1980. He was an amazing man who accomplished great things in his lifetime such as co-founding the National Geographic society and helping found Clarke School for the Deaf. This man was so outstanding

that he had many places and geographical figures named after him as a sign of honor. Since it seems as though Hubbard Glacier took on some traits of its namesake, I can't help but assume that a ferry would be afforded some of the same magic.

Glaciers have been a part of Alaska since before it was even a state. The Hubbard Glacier has not only existed since before 1959, it has also been moving and shedding icebergs. It has affected the lives of many Alaskans along its path. Now, people like to visit the glacier so they can hear the thunderous sound it makes as it moves, and to see it calve chunks of ice. The Hubbard Glacier is even important to Alaska's precious wildlife. Since Orca whales do not visit Disenchantment Bay, seals are able to give birth to their babies on the icebergs shed by the glacier. The Hubbard Glacier serves as a place of love and adventure for families of both the human and non-human variety. It would be wonderful for a ferry of the Alaska Marine Highway System to serve as the same type of happy place for everyone to come together.

The Hubbard Glacier is one of Mother Nature's most fantastic works of art. It is big, beautiful, and majestic. If an Alaskan ferry were to be named after it, then the ferry would certainly match the glacier's charm. A ride on the MV Hubbard would be one you could never forget.