

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes



Children's & Teens' Connection 2018

By Zineb Elhayani, Grade 6,
Greenbriar East Elementary

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CHANTILLY HIGH SCHOOL

Submissions from Betty Simmons, chair of the visual arts department.



“Pain” by Marium Farukh, Grade 11



**“Bigger On The Inside”
by Megan Sweeney, Grade 11**



“Portfolio” by Lauren Young, Grade 12

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CHILDREN'S & TEENS' CONNECTION



By Bella Le, Grade 2, Brookfield Elementary



By Rohan Palle, Grade 11, Chantilly High School



“Memorable City Paper Collage” by Julie Kim, Grade 5, Greenbriar West Elementary



By Vivian Thompson, Grade 5, Greenbriar East Elementary

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Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Chantilly Connection turns over its pages to the youth and students.

We asked principals and teachers from area schools to encourage students to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's Issue.

The response, as always, was enormous. While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a fair sampling of the submitted stories, poems, drawings, paintings, photographs and other works of art. Because of the re-

sponse, we will continue to publish more artwork and writings in January.

We appreciate the extra effort made by school staff to gather the materials during their busy time leading up to the holidays. We'd also like to encourage both schools and parents to mark their 2019 calendars for early December, the deadline for submissions for next year's Children's Connection. Please keep us in mind as your children continue to create spectacular works of art and inspiring pieces of writing in the coming year.

The children's issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education

and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our schools pages.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com, but you can reach us by mail at 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314 or call 703-778-9415 with any questions.

— EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN

BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY

Submissions from Rachel Samsky, art teacher.

By Natalie Mowry, Grade 5



By Eli Wilson, Grade 2



By Aylin Argueta, Grade 5



By Vireshma Rampersad, Grade 6



By Fiorella Soto, Grade 6



By Ian Fisher, Grade 6



By Kathy Tran, Grade 6

GREENBRIAR EAST ELEMENTARY



By Grayson Macaspac, Grade 4



By Jada AlQudwa Al Hussieni, Grade 4



By Olivia Fernandes, Grade 6



By Kieran Athauda, Grade 6



By Laya Abou Alkir, Grade 3



By Nora Li, Grade 2



"Zoo" by Willis Stanley, 7, Grade 2 at Greenbriar East Elementary, teacher Mrs. Ashforth.

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GREENBRIAR EAST ELEMENTARY

Submitted by art teacher Christie Miller-Spadaccini.



By Connor Wallwork, Grade 3



By Kara Calmbacher, Grade 4



By London Walker, Grade 3



By Luana Goff, Grade 2



By Melanie Lee, Grade 3



By Mia Morochnick, Grade 3



By Mollie Owen-Cobb, Grade 4



"Life of Little Joy" by Zoe Sun, 7, Grade 2 at Greenbriar East Elementary School, teacher Kerrin Martin.

Submitted by art teacher Hillary Lucynski.



By Charlize Nguyen, Grade 5



By Halle Burciaga, Grade 5

GREENBRIAR EAST ELEMENTARY

Submitted by art teacher Hillary Lucynski.



By Mattilyn Dawson, Grade 5



By Esra Aydin, Grade 5



By Maria Ivanova, Grade 3



By Nathan Crowley, Grade 3



By Joy Kim, Grade 1



By Samantha Wallace, Grade 4



By Emily Tien, Grade 2



By Brogan Collins, Grade 6



By Lily Chang, Grade 2

GREENBRIAR WEST ELEMENTARY

Artwork submitted by art teacher Seung-Ae Kwak.



Aaron Newberry, Grade 2 – Duck Architecture: Pet Store, Paper Collage, 12"X18"



Erin Green, Grade 4 – Self-Portrait; Secret Message, Drawing (Crayon), 12"X18"



Abigail Solomon, Grade 2 – Duck Architecture: Lemonade Shop, Paper Collage, 12"X18"



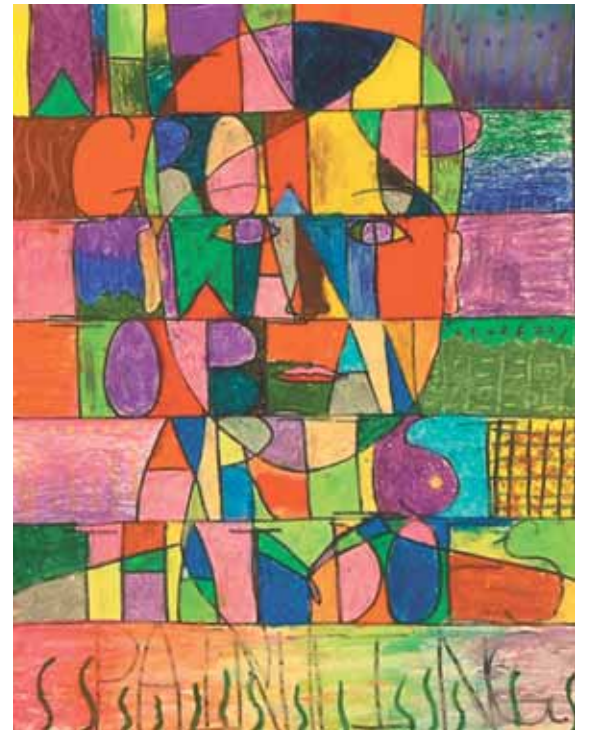
Marisa Bell, Grade 3 – My Cultural Identity Self-Portrait, Drawing (Crayon), 12"X18"



Tanya Munhenga, Grade 3 – My Cultural Identity Self-Portrait, Drawing (Crayon), 12"X18"



Shane Miller, Grade 3 – My Cultural Identity Self-Portrait, Drawing (Crayon), 12"X18"



Suan (Zesuan) Gao, Grade 4 – Self-Portrait; Secret Message, Drawing (Crayon), 12"X18"



Alisha Khan, Burji Khalifa – Grade 5, Paper Collage, 12"X18"



Eric Kim, Grade 5 – Washington Monument, Paper Collage, 12"X18"



Harry Xiao, Grade 6 – Positive Identity: Contour Line Drawing, 12"X18"



Ryan George, Grade 6 – Positive Identity: Contour Line Drawing, 12"X18"

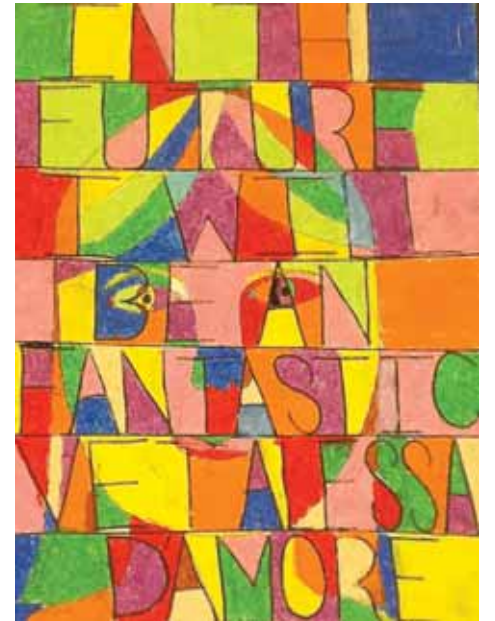
GREENBRIAR WEST ELEMENTARY



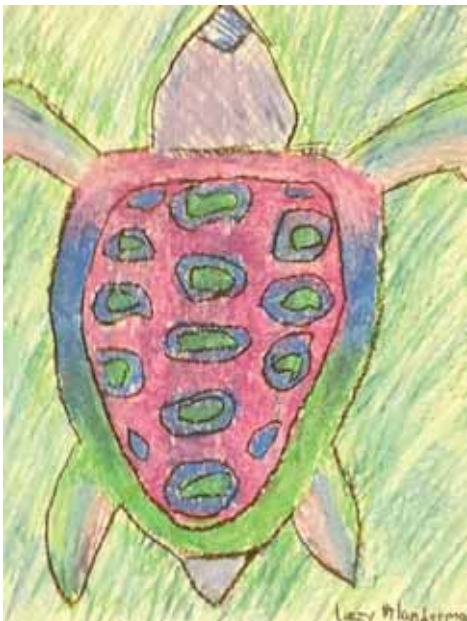
“Abstract Analogous Animals Oil Pastels” by TJ Anderson, Grade 6



“Set the Table Paper Collage” by Sravya Karri, Grade 3



“My Future Self Portrait Oil Pastels” by Alessa D’Amore, Grade 4



“Abstract Aanalogueous Animals Oil Pastels” by Elizabeth Klanderman, Grade 6



“My Future Self Portrait Oil Pastels” by Justin Chong, Grade 4



“Pen and Ink Identity Micrography” by Mason Waterfield, Grade 6



“Painted Primary Color Robots” by Nicholas Nguyen, Kindergarten



“My Family Pet Paper Collage” by Aidan Zacahariah, Grade 1



“Summer” by Alexander Yu, 10, Centreville, teacher Mrs. Scott

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GALLERY



**"A Girl" – sketch by Ananya
Bhattacharjee, 8, Fairfax**

Submitted by their art teacher Anita R Mohan.



**"Fall Transitions" – watercolor by Aditi Bhattacharjee, 11,
Fairfax**



ROCKY RUN MIDDLE

Frost

Early in the dawn
frost covers my lawn
The magnificent luster
shines in clusters
These frozen blades
will surely fade
as dawn turns to day.

— JIMIN YIO, 13, FAIRFAX
GRADE 8 AT ROCKY RUN
MIDDLE SCHOOL,
TEACHER JEANNINE MAGWIRE

OAK HILL ELEMENTARY

**Wild Hair Day by Sophia
Wang, 9, Chantilly,
Grade 3 at Oak Hill
Elementary school, art
teacher Yanshun Sui.**

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That can make you laugh
With some villains
And some heroes
It always has ups and downs

Life is like a book
Every chapter ends
That leads to a new start
That invites tears and smiles
No matter how fun it is
And how much you love it
It must always end

— KEVIN SON, 15, CHANTILLY
GRADE 10 AT THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL
FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, TEACHER MRS. CHANG

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LONDON TOWNE

Submissions by teacher Joseph G. Fischhaber



By Katherine, Grade 4



By Christian, Grade 3



By Adam, Grade 4



By Danelia, Grade 3

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Back to Abnormal



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Now that the drama of the last five weeks – and the last three columns – is mostly over, life can return to its previous/usual ebb and flow of cancer highs and lows.

For the moment, what I don't know: the effect on my "Adam's Apple" tumor (as I will call it) of the aggressive, every-three-week-infusion-schedule I've been on since early October, is definitely not hurting. Though I am under no delusions about what my next CT scan might show, I also have no confusion as to the road ahead: stay positive and remain engaged and live life with the least amount of focus and conversation on the dominating fact that I was diagnosed with an incurable form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, almost 10 years ago. A diagnosis which came with a "13 month to two year" prognosis.

By most accounts, I shouldn't be writing this column – or doing anything else for that matter. I should be somewhere else – doing absolutely nothing, so far as we know, anyway. And I don't mean lying on a chaise lounge somewhere soaking in the local culture as I try not to sunburn in the midday sun. I mean... well, I presume you know what I mean.

But here I am, alive and reasonably well; not boasting, just saying.

Because, as amazingly fortunate as I am to still be anywhere nearly 10 years post diagnosis, there's a part of me that believes not so much in what I've done to support my chemotherapy/conventional treatment (non-Western alternatives) as in thinking I've fallen through some crack somewhere and have been forgotten by whatever reaper is sowing these things.

Granted, he/she/it has a lot of work to do and an incredibly long list to get through; still, as the centuries have confirmed, eventually, everyone's die is cast.

Having survived so long when so few of the thousands of similarly diagnosed cancer patients have not, certainly gives this one pause. But the pause passes quickly and is taken over by positivity; as in I must remain positive about the negative and not allow any semblance of "woeing" about me or moaning and groaning about what I'm able to do or disabled and unable to do. Never!

I have been given the gift of life and I see no point in looking that gift-horse in its mouth. It is my job, if it could even be characterized as such, to keep my head down and keep moving forward, figuratively speaking. There is no point in thinking backwards or wondering who, what, where, when and how. The point is the future, not the past.

Unlike the country music song by Tim McGraw, "Live Like You Were Dying," I don't want to live like I'm dying. I want to live like I'm living. A living which takes into account the good, bad and the indifferent.

If I stray from what I perceive to be my usual path, I will know that I'm doing so for a reason: cancer.

And since I never want to reinforce a negative, let alone give it room to roam, I will continue to try and take it all in stride and be grateful along the way for the life I've been granted and try not to weaken in my resolve to not let others be adversely affected or diminished by my situation.

I pretty much do whatever I want to do anyway. Though there are many things I can't do (particularly, bending), there are still many activities I am able to enjoy.

To quote Spock from Star Trek: "The good of the many outweigh the good of the few." A bit of a stretch I know, but I hope you get the association.

For me to survive the ordeal of cancer requires taking the emotion out of it. The highs and lows must become evens. And the levels and test results which occasionally have become odds, merely moments in time and subject to change.

If I am to finish this race, time cannot be of the essence, time must be what I make of it.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

CHANTILLY HIGH SCHOOL

Submissions from Betty Simmons, chair of the visual arts department.



“Lost Privacy” by Kendall Smith, Grade 12



“34th Street” by Mia Curry, Grade 12



“Take 2” by Zoe Tury, Grade 12



“Identity Diptych” by Vivian Tran, Grade 10



“Scanner Face” by Noor Haddad, Grade 10



“Get A Head” by Harrison Roderick, Grade 11



By Julia Yoon, Grade 11



By Hennry Escalante Henriquez, Grade 10



“Scannerhands” by Terry Overholt, Grade 10



“Identity Diptych” by Campbell Ferland, Grade 11