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HAYFIELD SECONDARY

Drawings by Tony (Anthony) Diaz, a senior at Hayfield Secondary, submitted by Math Teacher Danette Short.









CHILDREN'S & TEENS'



By Caitlin Cugley, Grade 4, Orange Hunt Elementary

Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Springfield 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 & Teens' 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.

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 & Teens'

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 weekly schools pages.

Our preferred method for material is email, which should be sent to springhill@connectionnewspapers.com, but you can reach us by mail at 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or call 703-778-9414 with any questions.

— EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC



My Thanksgiving by Josephine Bronson, Art Classes in Burke with Instructor Carol Zeitlin.



By Jaylen Hansley, Grade 1, Newington Forest Elementary



By Dania Miller, Grade 6, Orange Hunt Elementary



By Raquel Chacon Pena, Grade 1, Annandale Terrace Elementary

Orange Hunt Elementary

Submissions from Mrs. Kieffer and Mrs. Rozycki's students



By Molly Thorne, Grade 2



By Elia Mazerolle, Grade 2



By Athena Giannetti, Grade 3



By Sorami Nguyen, Grade 3



By Alexandra MacDonald, Grade 6



By Andrea Dinh, Grade 3



By Audrey Smith, Grade 1



By Ruby Laden, Grade 5



By So phia Orozco, Grade 5

CHILDREN'S & TEENS'

POETRY CORNER

Short poems by Maya Tirado of Springfield.

A Tree

I love different colors my hair changes each season. It changes each time when the sun is high and wind is breezin'.

Earth

The earth is green, the earth is blue. The land, sea and everything around you. The tides, the waves come from the moon! The grass, the green comes from the clouds. The rain, the sun, everything on earth, helps each other for you!

Thanksgiving

Delicious food brings gratitude. For family and friends they bring love to the heart and gratefulness to the mind. Enjoy and relax for your heart to say HOORAY.

Clouds of Wonder

Clouds are mysteries What do they do? Where do they come from? They help the environment and I hope you do too!

Newington Forest Elementary



By Stanley Liang, Grade 1

Wind

The wind is magical the wind is cool the wind dances with the big blue sea, it dances with the little happy you.

Storm

A storm is mean, a storm is powerful. A storm is as stable as a house, as mean as a fire-breathing dragon and a slithering snake, and as powerful as a viper bite sting.



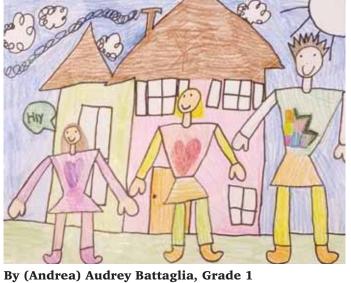
You can read any of this week's 15 papers digital editions here:

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs



Newington Forest **ELEMENTARY**





By Emma Makedonska, Grade 2

Self-portraits, submitted by Denise Corcoran, Art Teacher.



By Alison Cashman, Grade 3



By Erin Gardiner, Grade 3



By (Jai) Christopher Harris, Grade 3



By Elly Williams, Grade 1



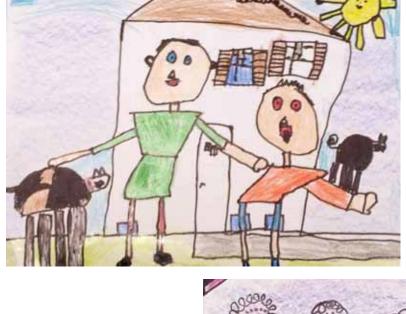
By Gavin Keith, Grade 1



By Khoi Ho, Grade 3



By Lillian Hezel, Grade 1



By Lydia Samson, Grade 1



6 Springfield Connection & Children's & Teens' Connection 2018-2019

Orange Hunt ES

Submissions from Mrs. Suetterlein's Grade 6 students

My Favorite Stuffed Toy

My favorite toy is my stuffed cat, Water. Before I got a cat, Water was my cat. We would go on adventures and I would dress her up. When I played family, she was the Nanny and best friend. Water was always with me when I was scared, and she still is. I sleep with her every night and bring her with me on every trip. Six years ago, I got Water at a friend's birthday°party. Water has a calico coat and is a bit flattened. I have received other stuffed animals, but Water is my favorite.

- TAYA WELLS, 11

My Best Thing

"Meg don't you know that you're the best thing that over happened in a long time?" That is a quote by Calvin O'Keefe. And to me, my best thing was when I became friends with my friends. No, my friends' names are not Meg.

I had moved from Colorado to Virginia and I had no friends. I had walked down to the bus stop and had shouted, well: "Is this the bus stop?!" "That was when I became friend with my friend. And my other friend. And my friend's older sister. Two years later, another.

That was my essay on my best thing.

—HANNAH ROSENBERRY, II

If I could give my parent one gift

If I could give my parents one gift that didn't cost money, I would give them my love. I would do that because they are the ones who give me everything I have. Plus, they brought me into the world. If I give them my love then I would do extra little things that help them out like emptying the dishwasher, cleaning the bathroom, doing laundry and, sweeping and cleaning the rest of the house. Sometimes it's the little things that matter.

—Hannah Warschaw, II

What I Want to Be When I Grow Up

What do I want to be when I grow up? I want to be three things. First, I want to be a pilot in the Air Force. Then I will retire and become an airline pilot. Then finally I retire and become a car designer for a lot of car companies.

—Gregory Worley, 12

What would you change about school

If I was ever asked, "What would you change about school?"

I would scratch my chin as if they're was a beard and say with a shrug, "I really don't know."

But they would probably say, "But you have to choose!"

Then I would groan so loud that even people on the International Space Station would hear me.

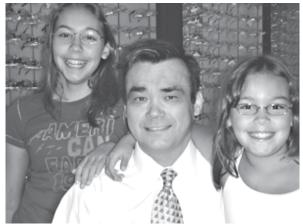
"Fine, I wish there would be an actual Soccer field installed on the field." After that, he would say, "That's lame." Then they would walk off.

And now that I just thought of that, I don't want to be asked that.

—Rhys Fonville, 11

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Annandale Terrace Elementary

Submitted by art specialist Leigha Pehlivan.

By Mia Gutierrez Zeballos, Grade 1





By Dennise Garcia Argueta, Kindergarten



By Daniel Hendricks, Grade 4







By Diana Clavijo, Grade 5



By Anyeli Soto Contreras, Grade 1



By Yazzemine Abdul-Hagg, Grade 1



By Aimee Wijesinghe, Grade 5



Grade 4



By Mia Salazar, Grade 3

CHILDREN'S & TEENS'

CHERRY RUN ELEMENTARY

Writing with prefixes, submitted by Mary Ellen Zavaleta, Sixth Grade Teacher.

The anti-happy underground tritoothed hippo and his cohippo disagreed about forecasting the underground weather so instead they got into their underground submarine and drove it in a semicircle. As the duo drove their underground submarine the aqua dog, a famous underground superstar, transported the anti-happy underground tritoothed hippo and his cohippo to the land above the underground.

— Elizabeth So

My multicolored pinkish-blue pet has duobows on each of her ears. She was happily eating multichipped cookies. She made a mistake and spilled the milk. So then she repoured the milk into the polyspotted cup. Then she semi-dipped her chocolate chip cookies and started to eat them nonstop. She was midway in her "eating the cookies the fastest" challenge when her friend came in and said those were her cookies! My pet said it was a misunderstanding and that the whole class got cookies. After that her friend and she ate the cookies together. The end.

— CHRISTIE BAE

The prehistoric, multiheaded, polyeyed purple octopus repaired his irreplaceable calendar. He uses his calendar to predate the past apocalyptic resurgence of man. Do you think he'll finish before his pregame warmup? And if he can will our octopus be able to replace

the calendar's indescribable quality?

— Lucan Cohen

My grandmother said she had a pet worth multi-million dollars. I told her that was impossible so she invited me over to her house. I knew my grandma was a former biology student and loved animals, but what I saw when I walked in was insane! It was a hexahorned, trilegged, deca-eyed dog looking right at me. The prehistoric-looking thing was looking right at me. The prehistoric-looking dog marched back to his bed - which could be misjudged to be a throne - and started to drink water out of his semi-filled wine glass.

— Grace Heberer

My pet is a pre-human animal. He is a uni-headed, quad-eyed, octo-legged, tri-armed cat. He is writing a report on why the Cat Council should intercept midway a group of enemy submarines transporting unfriendlies undersea. He is thinking about the injustice and how it was impossible that the Council had overlooked his first report. When they read it they disagreed, dismissing it as nonsense. He is writing another report about anti-Cat beings, saying that they will use the atmosphere to send encoded messages to each other and also saying that they will use a mind-controlled singing superstar to defrost the tension between the beings and

Christian Yoon

Glasses

I have lost my glasses, I need them to see I cannot think of what will become of me, For I am nearsighted And not so delighted Yes, my pair of glasses ARE LOST!

Sarah Chaykin, 9, of Burke
 Grade 4, Keene Mill Elementary



lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.2. not appreciated or understood.3. no longer owned or known

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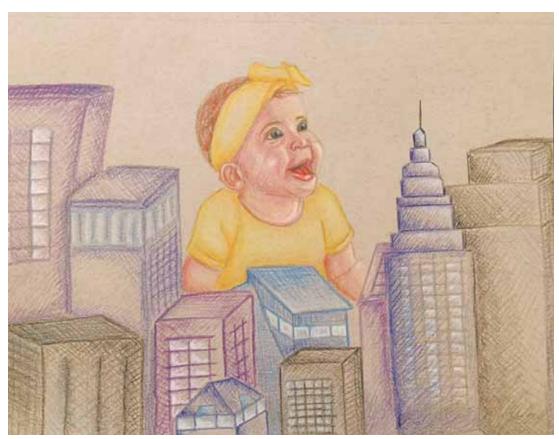
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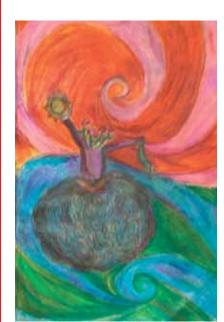


ART CLASSES IN BURKE

Artwork submitted by Art Classes in Burke with Instructor Carol Zeitlin.



Color Pencil Drawing by Amanda Bohn



Drawing by Calvin Ashley





My Thanksgiving by Josephine Bronson



Animal Collage, Color Pencil Drawing by Audrey Reese

Drawing by Leah Brinkley

CHILDREN'S

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Native

If the valleys and seas would answer our pleas

All would be withheld and withdrawn

The echoes in the hills of the bird's sweet, short song

Guiding us all slowly along

My children They laugh They sing They dance

Praying along with no second glance

If the civilized ones knew how peaceful we can be

They'd leave us alone and answer our plea

> Sarah Ewell, 12, WEST SPRINGFIELD

Grade 7 at Washington Irving MIDDLE SCHOOL English teacher **EMILY ROSS**

The Springfield Children's Connection

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CONNECTION

Abnormal

Back to



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 or 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

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 been 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 Mc-Graw, "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

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

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.

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