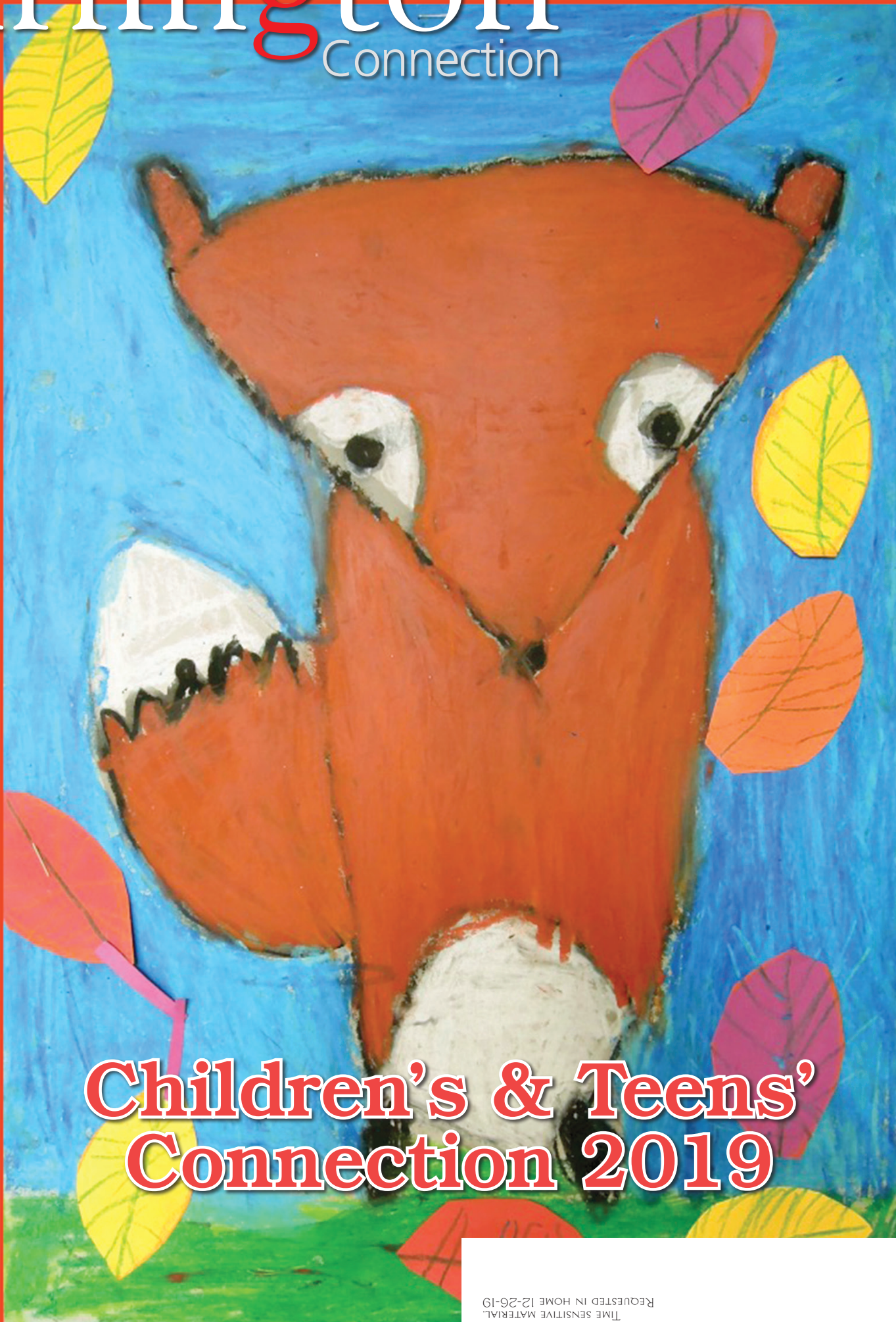


The Arlington Connection



Children's & Teens' Connection 2019

Fox by Felicity Chubb
Sarah Zoller, Art Teacher
Arlington Public Schools
Nottingham Elementary

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CHILDREN'S

Q. & A. with Lucy Katharine Dull, 12, 6th grade, homeschool, Arlington, VA.

Q: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be?

A: I like to sew small pillows. You can give them a scent by putting a small piece of fabric with an essential oil on it inside the pillow with the stuffing. This is a super beginner project that takes approximately ten minutes to sew.

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up?

A: I want to be a zoologist when I grow up. I want to help save endangered animals and educate the public on how they can be a part in protecting endangered animals.

Q: What is your favorite animal?

A: My favorite animals are cats and kittens. I love them because they are very furry and soft. I also love hearing them purr, which no other animal but a cat can do. I have two cats for pets, and they are the best animals ever. Cats are adorable, too.



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CHILDREN'S & TEENS' CONNECTION

Yorktown High School Ceramics

Christine Bolon. Art Teacher, Art Department Chair



Alexandra Provasnik, Yorktown Grade 11, Ceramics 3



Daisy Pomponio, Yorktown, Grade 11, Ceramics 3



Olivia Case, Yorktown, Grade 11, Yorktown, Ceramics 3



Sasha Fedorchak, Yorktown, Grade 10, Yorktown, Ceramics 2



John Louis, Yorktown, Grade 12, Ceramics 2



Matthew Green, Grade 11, Ceramics 3



Wyatt Jones, Yorktown, Grade 10, Yorktown, Ceramics 2

About This

Dear Readers:

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

We asked children and teens from the area to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's & Teens' Issue.

While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a 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 2020 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.

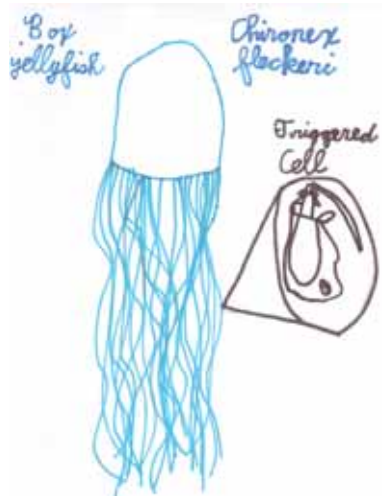
This student issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our weekly news pages.

Our next print edition will come out on Jan. 8, 2020. Happy New Year!

Reach us at editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

Mary Kimm

Arlington Connection
Editor and Publisher



Mason Choi, Alexandria. Age 9.
3rd grade, St. Thomas More school in Arlington, teacher Ms. Veronica Fernandez.
-Drawing: Box Jellyfish

Julia Choi, Alexandria. Age 10.
5th grade, St. Thomas More school in Arlington, teacher Ms. Stephanie Pacheco.
-Drawing: The Season of Friendship



TWENTY-FOUR DAYS

Twenty-four days, twenty-four days!
Counting the days are making a maze!

Christmas is coming, this I know,
but maybe this year it will come and then go?

Days and nights, skies and snow,
Christmas will come, but eventually go.

Time is ticking,
clocks are clicking,
time is racing by.
And then finally! Christmas is nigh.

It seems like I had some patience,
but maybe I let it go.
Perhaps I'll remember it and then I'll never know.

Christmas will come some other time,
but for now I feel like the world is mine.

Poem:

**24 Days
(Advent)**

**By Mason
Choi,
Alexandria.
Age 9**

CHILDREN'S & TEENS' CONNECTION



Margaret Flannery-Goodman
Age 12 7th Grade

Swanson Middle School, Arlington
Teacher: Cecily Corcoran



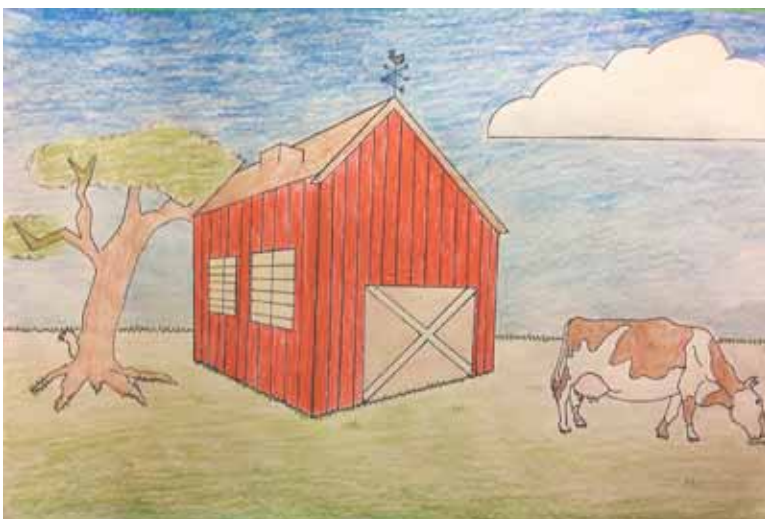
Eva Janes
Age 13 8th Grade



Alex Goff
Age 13 7th Grade



Lexi Miller
Age 12 7th Grade



Marjan McNulty
Age 12 7th Grade



Victoria Winter
Age 14 8th Grade



Brinley Hyatt
Age 13 8th Grade



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-Werner Heisenberg

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CHILDREN'S & TEENS' CONNECTION

Nottingham Elementary,
ARLINGTON
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Sarah Zoller, Art Teacher

Jack Every,
Fall Landscape



Eve Rosenthal,
Pumpkin Still-life



Cate Lawler,
Flower Still-Life



Kiraz Terzi, Rowe Winter Landscape

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Lina Berkinshaw, Fox



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Now We Wait



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The doctor told me that I'll probably receive results from today's biopsy in five to seven days. The pathologist will send the results to my oncologist who presumably will email them to me. Now whether that new information will cause a change in my treatment, I certainly don't know. However, I would imagine that knowing the genetic mutation/biomarker would cause an immediate change. We're not exactly waiting for Godot here. And neither is the process rocket science. It's medicine. It's research. It's years of clinical trials. All of which has led to the FDA's approval of more drugs for the treatment of lung cancer in the last three years than in the previous three decades, according to LUNGevity. Lung cancer research, after years of comparative neglect is finally getting the respect - and dollars, it deserves. After all, lung cancer is by far the leading cause of cancer deaths annually with up to 200,000 new cases diagnosed every year.

"Targeted Therapy" is what I'm talking about. And it's as simple as it sounds. A specific medicine is more effective when given to a patient with a specific biomarker (type of tumor; they're not all the same). Eleven years ago when I was first diagnosed, mutations were not yet a part of the oncologist's playbook. Now, they're on page one. After years of receiving treatment based on old-ish/conventional methods, I am about to move to the head of the class. Maybe even become the teacher's pet (I'm already my oncologist's prize cow.) This is not experimental stuff, this is state of the art, so to speak. And soon, if I'm lucky, I will join the ranks.

At this juncture, I know very little specifically about what might happen next. I have learned during my years of treatment and meetings with my oncologist that future scenarios are rarely discussed. Sure, we've occasionally mapped out, generally speaking, a course of action/reaction, but my oncologist prefers not to get too far ahead of where we are at present. One new symptom and/or unexpected result from a CT scan or a brain MRI and once again, it will be "Katie, bar the door." Accordingly, I have become a patient patient. That's not double talk, that's years of experience. I'd like to think it's part of the reason I'm still alive.

Another reason I'm still alive is the Team Lourie philosophy: hoping Kenny can stay alive until research catches up - or even passes you by which then enables you to take advantage of the next big thing/new drug. Over the last 11 years, I've been the beneficiary of research that has provided drugs which allowed me to live years beyond my original "13 month to two year" prognosis (in quotes because that's what my oncologist said). Now I hope to be the beneficiary once again of the latest and greatest treatment: "Targeted Therapy." If so, another 11 years would suit me just fine.

To say I'm excited would not exactly describe my state of mind. Hopeful, of course. Anxious, for sure, because I think my oncologist, per our last meeting, was anticipating my future a bit and switching from my present opdivo immunotherapy to something brand new (or a new combination of medicines) seemed timely to him. Ergo, my needle biopsy today at the Interventional radiologist. I guess you could say "I'm pleased as punch," though, to quote Hubert Horatio Humphrey Jr., the 38th Vice President of the United States, that I had this procedure. It opens up/creates new treatment possibilities which for a nearly 11-year cancer survivor is likely way more important than I realize. After all, my oncologist did characterize my non small-cell lung cancer, stage IV diagnosis as "terminal." A disease for which my oncologist also said that he "could treat, but that he couldn't cure." Well, I don't suppose he can cure me now with whatever targeted therapy matches my tumor's biomarker so I'm counting on these new drugs being able to treat me some more. I could live with that.

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

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