

# Children's Connection 2010

By Noah Davidson,  
1st grade,  
Terraset Elementary

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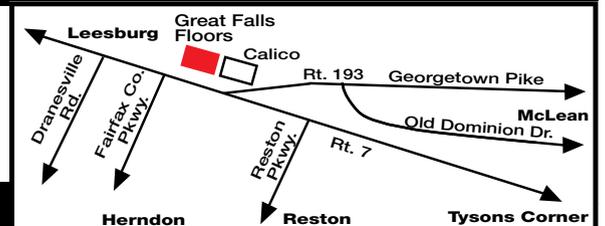
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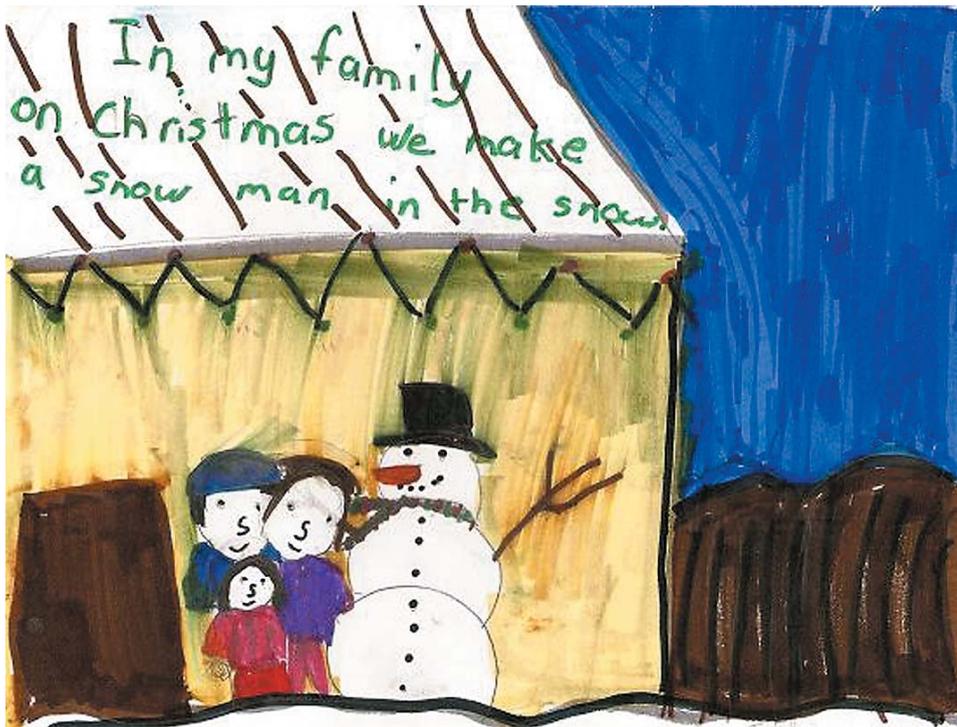
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RESTON CONNECTION EDITOR  
KEMAL KURSPAHC  
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**My Family's Snowman,**  
by Dragana Koceva, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Armstrong Elementary



By Amia Mchale, 1st grade, Terraset Elementary

## Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Reston 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.

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 2011 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 weekly schools pages.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@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 KURSPAHC



**Contour Drawing,**  
by Clara Kim,  
Hunters Woods Elementary



By Karen Song, Sunrise Valley Elementary

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)



By Brianna Jacob, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Dogwood Elementary

# TERRASET ELEMENTARY

## My Wish

My wish for my family is to get together. I want to go to the zoo. I want to show my brother the animals. I want to get popcorn at the zoo. I think my little brother will like the animals. He will like the birds at the zoo. I know we will have a good time.

—ALEJANDRO/3RD GRADE

home. I saw a real chicken and then after they killed it we bought some chicken. There was a lot of fish in the store and I saw the people kill the fish. We bought some fish and took it home to cook. It was great. I went back to Virginia. I missed my family and my family missed me.

—HASSAN/4TH GRADE

## The Blizzard of 2010

The blizzard of 2010 was the big blizzard that buried everything in snow like cars, trucks, buses, vans and other vehicles. We didn't go to school during the blizzard. We only stayed home. My mom loves making everything out of snow, like snow forts. My mom loves sledding down the hill that is really long. You might go very fast! My mom and I went down the hill using a fiery sled. My dad and my brother went down the hill using an icy sled. The slide was super perfect. I hope we get to do it again this year.

—CARLO/3RD GRADE

## A Big Wish

My big wish is that schools would get more money to get more things that they need. The people in the schools need more laptops so they can go on the computers to good programs that can teach them. We need more books and good books to learn from. We need more teachers so more people can come to school and learn. We need smaller classes so we can learn more and have individual attention. We could use more food so we would not get hungry in school. We need more supplies for us to learn. We need smart boards in all classes so that the students can be interacting with their learning. This is my big wish.

—JAMAL/4TH GRADE

## Video Games

Video games cost a lot of dollars. Kids need to save their money. They could baby-sit to earn money. Kids should play the games and have fun. Kids are not allowed to play games rated 'T' for teen and 'M' for mature. Adults and teens need to know that kids are not allowed to play those games. Kids need to play games rated 'E' for everyone and 'E10+' for ages ten years and up games. These games are appropriate for kids. Kids can play the right games and have some fun.

—CHADDWICK/5TH GRADE

## When I Grow Up

When I grow up I want to be a conductor on a train. I want to explore the country. I want to get people from station to station. When it is nighttime I stay up all night to drive the people to their stations. I want to get people safely to where they want to go like Texas and Canada. There are double-decker trains so there are seats on the top and on the bottom. There is food on the trains. On Friday and Saturday I would get off. I hope to be a train conductor because I want to help people.

—JORDAN 3RD GRADE

## Most Memorable in 2010

My most memorable event in 2010 was going to Morocco. When I saw my family I was happy. I saw my mom's sister, my grandma and also I saw my mom's brother. I went to a party. It was fun. In Morocco I went to a carnival. The first thing I did was to go to the bumper cars. The second thing I did was to go to the train ride, but my little brother and sister could only go because they are little. The third thing we did was to go to the bouncy house, and then I went

## My Wish for 2011

My wish for the world for 2011 is to clean up the beaches and our neighborhoods because the oceans and the world are getting polluted and the beaches are dirty. I think we need to pick up our garbage and recycle cans and plastic. A lot of fish are dying from the pollution. We should

SEE MY WISH, PAGE 5



By Ayla Higgins, 2nd grade, Terraset Elementary



By Carter Berg, 2nd grade, Terraset Elementary



By Noah Davidson, 1st grade, Terraset Elementary



By Sophia Jenson, Kindergarten, Terraset Elementary

# TERRASET ELEMENTARY

## My Wish for 2011

FROM PAGE 4

clean up the oil spill. There could be organizations that children can join to help clean up the beaches. If you don't live near the beach they can clean up their neighborhoods. We can put trash bins on the beaches so the people can put their garbage there. Everyone can help by cleaning up your garbage and recycling. That would really help the oceans, sea animals and the world. This is my wish for 2011.

—LESLY/6TH GRADE

## My Wish

My wish for me in 2011 is to get an American Girl doll because the American Girl is my favorite toy. I can change the clothes of my American Girl. The American Girl has books that I can read and learn from. My friend has one of the dolls and we could play together. I can go to the computer to play

the American Girl game. I hope I get this doll for Christmas.

—MELANIE/4TH GRADE

## When I Grow Up

I am going to be a fireman when I grow up. I am going to help people put out the fires so their places won't get burned. I will save people's lives from the fires. I will make sure that I know what to do. Firemen drive to the building or house in their truck and they use the hose that is on their truck. They rescue people who might be in the building from the dangers of fires. They put the fire out in the building and they go back to the fire station where they came from.

Firemen can also get cats out of trees. You just need to get close enough to them. Be careful so you don't get scratched in the face.

I wonder what else the firefighters would do besides all of these things. I want to know so much about firefighters. I think I will find out myself.

—SAMUEL/5TH GRADE

By Sydney Porter,  
1st grade,  
Terraset Elementary



By Logan Minto  
2nd grade,  
Terraset Elementary



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# SUNRISE VALLEY ELEMENTARY



By Michael Flammang, Sunrise Valley Elementary



By Griffin Van Hilst, Sunrise Valley Elementary



By Eric Link, Sunrise Valley Elementary



By Klara Vertes, Sunrise Valley Elementary



By Sophia Dietz, Sunrise Valley Elementary



By Justin Vogel, Sunrise Valley Elementary



## Untitled

By Dorothy O'Boyl, Grade 11, Suth Lakes High School

## Giving a Hug

One thing that I would give to my family that does not cost anything is: A hug. A wonderful, sweet, nice hug.

— DELIA ALCORN, 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE, ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY

## Remembering 2010

The Most Memorable things about 2010 are:

1. A snowstorm: The snowstorm was so big!
2. Learning to spell words correctly. It is so easy now that I learn how to spell words correctly.
3. Cleaning my closet. It was so clean when I was done, it was pretty easy when I started.

— LEAH BROWN, 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE, ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY

# Where Did All the Super-rocks Go?

BY BRIAN STEPHAN  
HUNTERS WOODS ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & SCIENCES

Once upon a time, there was a gargoyle that lived on the very top of the tallest tower. It was world famous and people came from the other side of the world to see it. One night there was a terrible storm and bolt of lightning sliced it clean off its mount, which came hurling towards the earth. Its intense speed allowed it to smash through the ground right into the

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The next morning on Veterans Day a man came to honor the Unknown Soldier. He walked up to it and in a flash of green light he was nothing more than a pile of ash. Later other people came but nothing was there. All the major cities around the world began talking about the strange disappearance when all of the sudden every TV screen in the world showed the gargoyle with a huge evil grin on its face. It said, "I have come to take this world as my own! It is perfect for life. I will create clones

of myself to take over this universe but first I must exterminate current life on the planet!" People were terrified. There was panic and pandemonium all over the world.

At that moment, a rover from Mars was arriving back to earth. It brought rocks from Mars. A few people were carrying the rocks across the air base. Meanwhile, the gargoyle was flying around the world shooting powerful lasers from its eyes. He flew over the airbase and shot a loser at one of the jagged rocks from Mars.

Strangely when they hit, the lasers spread everywhere. This gave the people an idea.

They ground one of the Mars rocks so that it looked like a shield. When another laser came, the people made the laser hit the rock. As they expected, it bounced right off. "No!!!" cried the gargoyle as he exploded into a pile of ashes. The people became heroes. They cried "How did the rocks become so powerful!"

On Mars the aliens were saying "Where did all of our super-rocks go?!"

# Visiting Tai Shan in China

BY ALYSSA MERSKI

Perhaps like most teenagers, I am usually content to spend my summer vacation reading at the beach or touring those famous museums in Paris or Rome. But this past summer, I wanted to experience more adventure than a usual summer would offer before returning to the gauntlet of standardized tests and college applications. So I opted to spend my last summer as a Holton student visiting China and helping create a documentary on Tai Shan, the adorable U.S.-born panda who now resides at the Bifengxia Panda Breeding Base in Ya'an near Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province. With the help of China's national television service, CCTV, the plan was for my brother and me to film a day with Tai Shan, working alongside his trainers to prepare his meals and feed him his nearly exclusive diet of bamboo. But, as fate would have it, our children's documentary took an unexpectedly harrowing turn.

My summer adventure took shape with the first news reports that it was time for Tai Shan to leave his D.C. home. To the dismay of his many smitten American fans, after nearly five years at the Washington National Zoo, Tai Shan, the Chinese name for "peaceful mountain," left his original home on Feb. 4, 2010 to join over eighty other pandas participating in the Base's panda breeding program. After all the news coverage surrounding the event, I thought it would be fun to document for China's television viewers how much American children appreciated China's generosity in sharing its pandas with us. Never having been in close contact with a panda, I also looked forward to caring for Tai Shan in his new

home. The producers at CCTV also welcomed the opportunity to show Tai Shan enjoying a visit with his American friends in a documentary for their billion-plus audience of panda lovers.

After spending hours researching the habits and habitats of giant pandas and paying a visit to Tai Shan's parents, Mei Xiang and Tian Tian, who still reside at the National Zoo, I felt that my brother and I were fully prepared to become at least temporary panda trainers. So when we arrived early on the morning of August 2nd to greet Tai Shan, who like most pandas rises at dawn to begin consuming bundles of bamboo, we were anxious to practice our feeding techniques. Excited to finally be in Ya'an, which hosts the largest captive panda population in the world, my brother and I relished the chance to see all the baby pandas and then feed Tai Shan his special arrow bamboo shoots while greeting him in both Chinese and English.

But this tranquil tableau was apparently not meant to last. Before I knew what was drawing my arm toward Tai Shan's cage, I was stunned by the sharp pain that shot through my right bicep. Amazingly, Tai Shan, perhaps in a playful gesture, used his paw to reach several feet outside the cage, grabbing hold of my sleeve and pulling me close enough to permit him to bite through the overalls, leaving a puncture wound, bloody scratch and seven inch long bruise. Shocked, I screamed and writhed in pain, as the CCTV crew and trainers pleaded with Tai Shan to release his vise-like grip. Almost instantly, Tai Shan retreated back into his cage, ending the "pandamonium."

Alyssa Merski, 17, of Vienna, is a senior at the Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Md.

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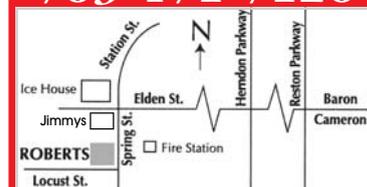
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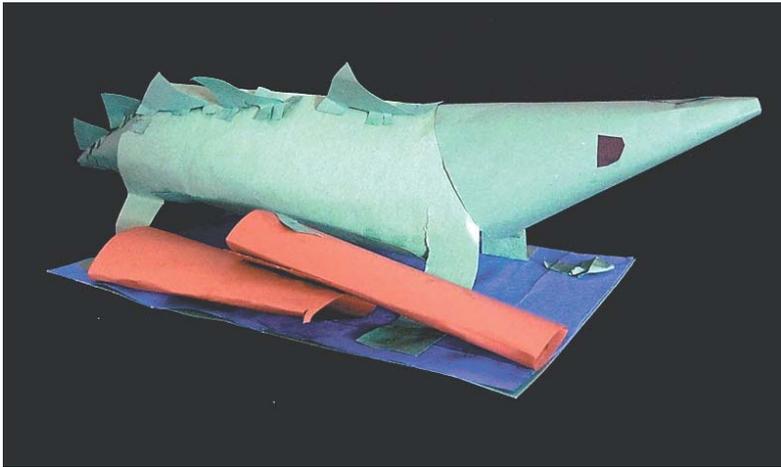
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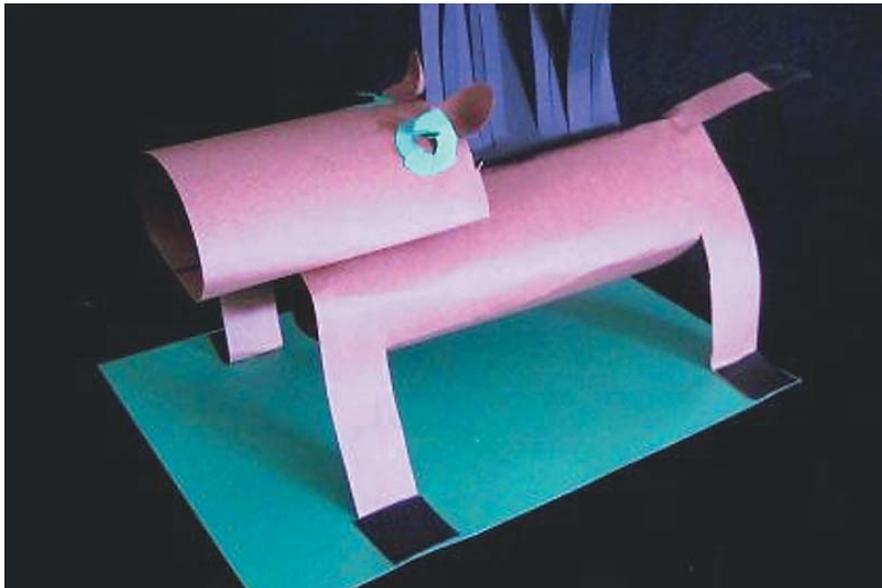
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# DOGWOOD ELEMENTARY

By Oscar Perez,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Dog-  
wood Elementary



By Catherine  
Vicheck, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Grade, Dog-  
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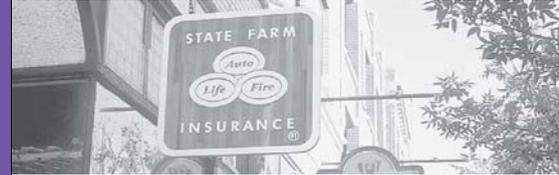
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# HUNTERS WOODS ELEMENTARY



Peace Dove, by Izabella B., 6th Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



Contour Shoe Drawing, by Aaron D., 5th Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



By Yukorah Bass, 2nd Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



Cultural Coat of Arms Collage, by Marieli Urbina-Silva, 3rd Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



Culture Coat of Arms Collage, by Amelia F., 3rd Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



Torn Paper Collage Landscape, by Mena D., 4th Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



By Farrah Greeves, 2nd Grade, Hunters Woods Elementary



Abstract Flower, By MelanieEscobar, Hunters Woods Elementary

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# ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY



Ice Skating,  
by Ana  
DelaCruz,  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade,  
Armstrong  
Elementary



Boy with a  
Pet, by Ben  
Murdock,  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade,  
Armstrong  
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Cardinal in a Winter, by Morgan Bentley, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Armstrong Elementary

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## Turned to Stone

BY ALYSSA L.  
HUNTERS WOODS ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & SCIENCES

Hi. My name is Maddy M. Gargoyles, and this is the story of how I made gargoyles.

It was Monday, October 13th, my 13th birthday. I went to school like I usually do, but something really weird happened. I was at recess when Charlie Galone—the school bully—came up to me. He called me a weirdo, so I just ignored him. Then he laughed and said, “You’re a fraidy cat! You’re just too afraid to talk to me!”

“Go away, Charlie,” I muttered. “Oh, so the little baby wants me to go away? Wahh, wahhh!”

Then I got mad. “I am not a baby, Charlie!”

“Oh, so the little baby wants to argue? Wahh!”

Then came the freaky part. I looked him straight in the eye and yelled, “Go away, Charlie!”

But he didn’t. Instead, he just, well, turned to stone.

“Charlie?” I asked. I slowly walked over to him. He still had a mean grin on his face.

“Charlie? Are you there?” I knocked on his arm, which fell right off. Suddenly he flew to the corner of the nearest building and stayed there, still as hard as a rock.

The rest of the week went on like that, me turning to stone anyone who I looked in the eye when I was mad at them. One day I even turned my math teacher, Mr. Azillo, into stone because I was mad at him for giving us so much homework. But the funny part was that nobody seemed to notice. They just went on their regular business like nothing had happened, and I had a bad feeling that it had something to do with my mom. I had never actually met my mom. I’ve always lived with my dad. Now that I think about it, I never knew anything about my mom. So I decided to go look for her. I would find out who she was.

Finding her was pretty easy. I just looked her up on the computer and found out where she lived. So

## George the Gargoyle

BY GRACE Q.  
HUNTERS WOODS ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & SCIENCES

One day, a girl decided to make a gargoyle. She was excited. The girl names the gargoyle George. George lived in the girl’s bedroom. George protects the girl from evil spirits every night. George protects her from the spirits by slicing them into half with his sword and biting with his teeth.

The gargoyle was made of part beaver, part yak, and part monster.

I went to her house (which actually wasn’t too far away) and knocked on the door. An odd lady wearing big green sunglasses and a big green hat answered, and welcomed me in. I thought that was weird because she didn’t even ask me who I was or why I was there. As soon as I closed the door, she took off her hat. I gasped.

Where her hair should have been were dozens of long, green snakes. But before I could run out of her house as fast as I could, she blocked the door and took off her glasses. She had green glowing eyes that hurt me when I looked at them, but nothing happened. After a few minutes of looking me in the eye, she started to look confused. Suddenly I figured it out. My mother was Medusa.

After she figured out that I was her daughter, we sat down and talked. I figured that since I was her daughter, I didn’t turn to stone. I told her about the incidents at school, and she nodded. She told me that the statues always flew to the corners of the building because that way they protected the building from evil spirits. Then I asked her why she had left me with my dad when I was a baby. She was quiet for a minute, then hesitated and told me it was because she didn’t know if I’d turn to stone or not when I saw her. We talked for a while, then said goodbye and I left.

When I got old enough to have a job, I became a police officer. I traveled all over the world with my partner, Officer Shadow. And whenever we caught the bad guy, I’d look him in the eye and he’d turn to stone, fly to the corner of the nearest building, and protect it from evil spirits. After a few months I realized that I didn’t make a name for my statues, so I decided to call them gargoyles, after my last name.

And when I grew old and it was time for me to pass, I turned into a lump of clay and got sent to a Hunters Woods ES art class, where—I myself—got turned into a fantastic gargoyle.

But one day the most evil monster came to the girl’s bedroom and George had to fight him off. Even though George looks confused, he’s a fast thinker. He is very protective and friendly.

George has no fear. So he was not afraid to fight the evil spirit. He grabbed the sword and stabbed it. George bit the spirit so hard it ran away.

“Nooo!” said the spirit “You have no fear! That’s your specialty! Noo! I’m dying.”

And the girl was so happy that she was safe.



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## My Answer to Cancer



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Oddly enough — or not, since receiving my original stage IV lung cancer terminal-type diagnosis/prognosis on Feb. 27, 2009, I have not felt compelled or motivated in the least, beyond my immediate circle of family and friends, to seek out other lung cancer patients/survivors for support, for reassurance, for advice or for any kind of group and/or individual therapy. Perhaps I will live to regret it (wouldn't that be the ultimate irony), but I haven't really felt the urge to purge myself of whatever mental toxins I was/am internalizing. I was — and am, still managing. In addition, I've not been interested in joining or attending any kind of lung cancer awareness group or participating in any type of lung cancer out-reach activity.

My thinking has been — and still is, that I don't want to immerse myself in the cancer culture. Maybe I'm pretending that I'm not a member of this group (whose membership is not the least bit desirable)? Maybe I'm afraid of what relationships I may start or what relationships I may see end badly? Perhaps I'm worried that a connection and commitment to similarly diagnosed people will somehow weigh on me and adversely affect my own relative/comparative good health? Seeing sicker, weaker people might make me feel sicker, weaker; that scares me. I want (need, probably) to be surrounded by positivity. I don't want (need presumably) to expend any energy overcoming negative people, places and things that might challenge the positive mental attitude that is key to fighting this insidious disease. Nor do I think that my presence will energize anybody to do anything. I'm not so self-absorbed or educated to believe that something I say or do — with respect to this whole lung cancer trip, is going to help another individual rise to some previously unattainable height. I have to help myself, first and foremost, don't I? I'm having enough trouble fighting my own battles.

The longer I'm a cancer survivor — outliving my original prognosis (13 months to two years), the more difficult it becomes to care about others as much as I care about myself; every day could be my last. As such, I need to protect myself from the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune that has befallen so many others. It's difficult enough to mentally maintain my own disposition that when I have considered joining/participating in some cancer-type activity (5K walk, parade, seminar, support-type group, etc.), I've balked at doing so, fearful of the risk to my own psyche — meaning the weakening of the mental resolve which has enabled me to live the life I have over the past 22 months. I don't trust myself to hold up under the collective catharsis of so much pain and suffering.

At the end of the day (heck, at the beginning of the day, too; and every minute in between), this whole cancer battle is about self-preservation — or perceived self-preservation. I'm not embarrassed to admit that I'm afraid of being around other cancer patients who are terminal. I'm extremely sensitive and aware of my surroundings; I can't presume there won't be an emotional toll on me. Moreover, all I have going for me is my sense of good humor, positive attitude and belief in what I'm doing: diet changes, vitamins, alkaline water, apple cider vinegar, baking soda, pureed asparagus, probiotics, exercise, etc. I can't risk immersion, or even exposure to a cancer culture that might threaten — or question my pursuits and the reasons for them. I have to consider the consequences of my actions, especially now, and mind my own business — in my opinion.

I'm probably wrong living in this sort of semi isolation, but it's my life and I'm trying to live it the best way I can — most things considered.

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

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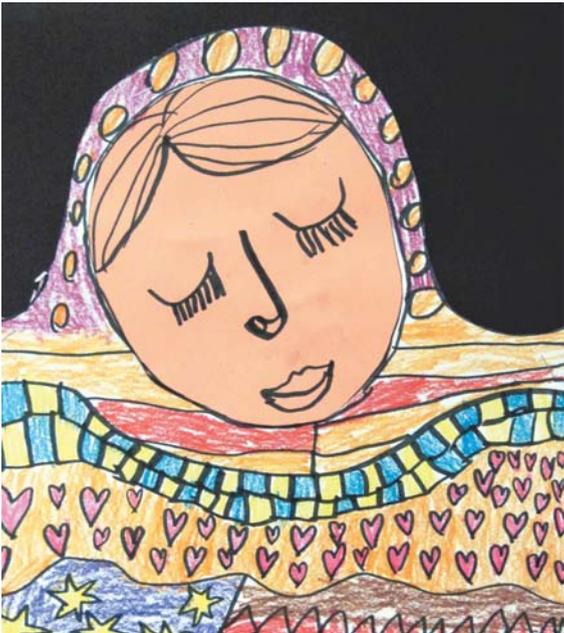
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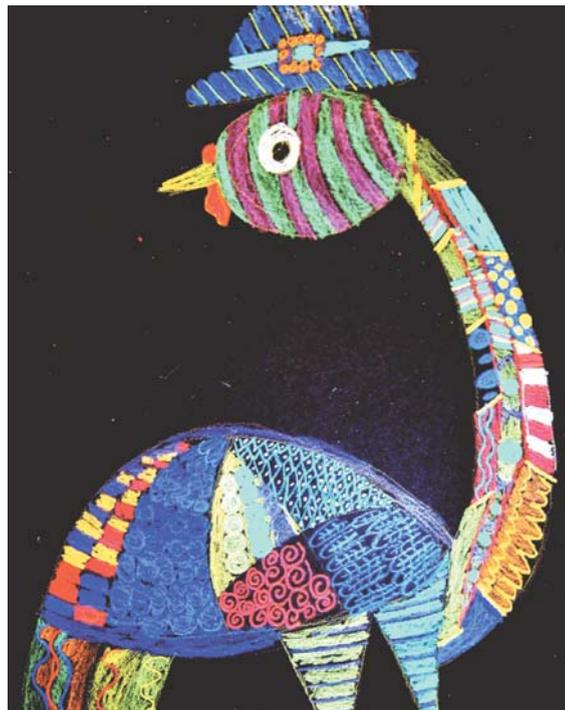
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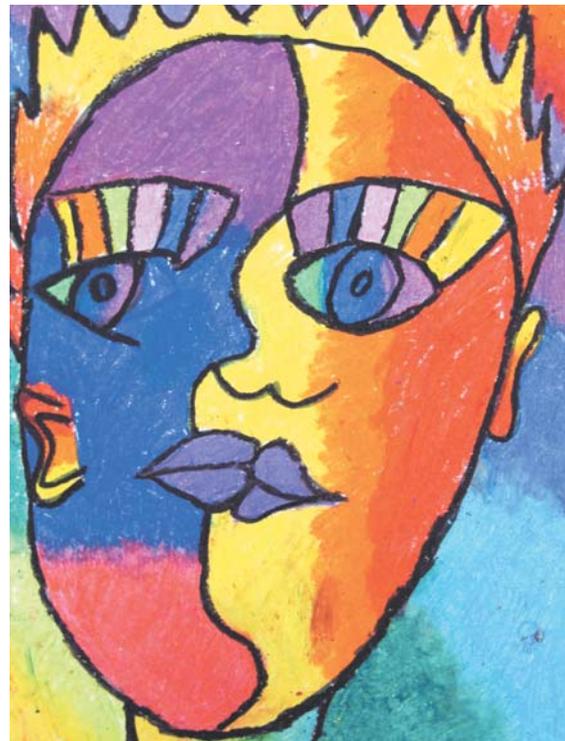
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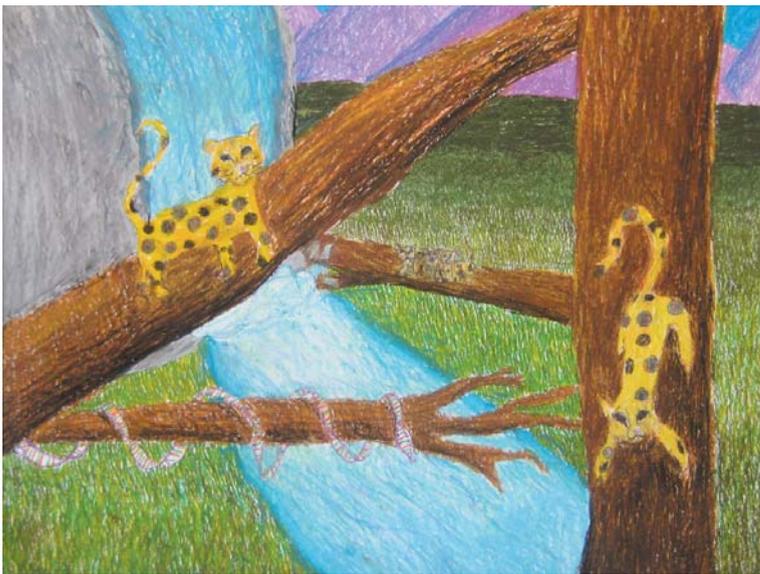
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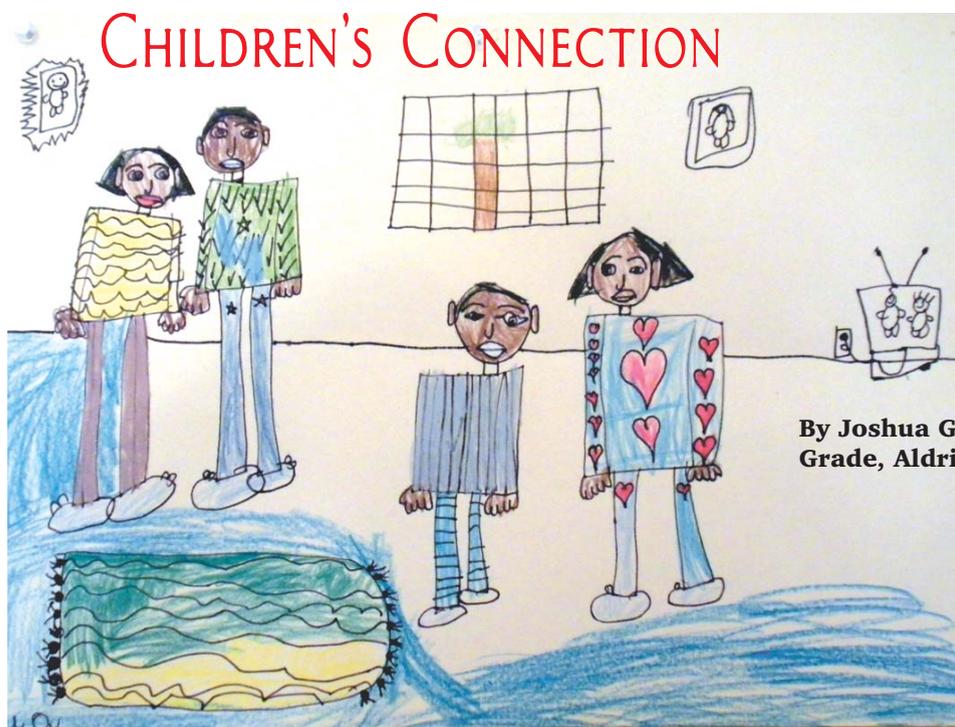
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## CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



By Joshua Gregory, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Aldrin Elementary

## Shenandoah Park

BY JOSHUA GREGORY  
ALDRIN ELEMENTARY/1ST GRADE

The most beautiful place I have ever seen is Shenandoah National Park.

It is fun. It is in Virginia. It feels good and I like it because we meet

our friends there and we go hiking. We picked up leaves. They are different colors like orange, yellow, red, green and brown. We collect the leaves and bring them home. Sometimes we sort them so we can see how many there are of each colors. We saw huge rocks on the sides of the trail. We saw a tree

branch that was hanging down and we swung on it. After the hike we had a picnic and ate sandwiches. After that we played football and soccer. Between the picnic area and the parking lot I saw a small black bear but he was far away and I couldn't see him very well. After the picnic we left to go home.

## My Most Beautiful Place

BY LIZY GREGORY  
BUZZ ALDRIN ELEMENTARY/3RD GRADE

The most beautiful place I have ever seen is Shenandoah National Park, in Virginia. It is a two hour drive from Reston. It is a peaceful area mostly in October, when I go on a nature walk. The leaves fall twirling round and round in circles. They fall in colors like red, yellow, some even in green, brown and peach! Red looks like pink. Yellow looks like white. All falling at the same time. The reason why I like it is because it is so peaceful I can hear and smell the leaves. Something cool when we went to Shenandoah Park was that there was a strong vine that we swung on for a few minutes but...

then it broke. We also found some walking sticks. (Big tree branches.) There are different trails, but that one was the best. You could really sense the nature in it. At the end we had a cookout. To me it seemed like a treat though. After the cookout we decided to pick up some nice leaves as a memory. We do not have the leaves anymore but we plan to go to Shenandoah National Park soon. If you haven't gone then I suggest you go there some time, especially if you like nature! But if you have gone I suggest you go again! It is nice to keep going because you can try to remember all the great things you did the last time, and compare to the recent trip! You can also see how Shenandoah National Park has changed!

## Christmas Tree

BY STEPHEN PERSIL  
FOX MILL ES/6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Christmas tree all green and smelly,  
Round and tall,  
It's never covered in jelly,  
Santa's favorite tree.  
All lit up from lights,  
and decorated by ornaments.  
People gather to sing.  
A seed falls off from a big mama tree,  
Starts to grow needles.  
How was it planted in the summer, by a squirrel or bee?  
That's how nature grows the perfect tree

## My Mom

BY LUKE McCLOREY,  
4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, SCHOOL

My mom is great,  
she's never late.  
She's always fine,  
and always kind.  
My mom is great,  
she's never late.  
I like her style,  
she's like the Nile.  
She always flows,  
and always goes.  
She saves us all,  
won't let us fall.  
I love you mom,  
I love you!

# DOGWOOD ELEMENTARY

By Brianna Jacob, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Dogwood Elementary



By Hamza Tahir, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Dogwood Elementary



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Off-Season Pricing  
Free Landscape & Hardscape Estimates  
Patios, Walls, Walkways, Paver Driveways & So Much More

Spring is in the Greenhouse  
Citrus, Cyclamen & Amaryllis

**Japanese Maples**  
**30%-50% Off**  
Over 100 Varieties  
6"-12"

**Cravens Nursery & Pottery**  
9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia  
2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.  
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)  
**703-573-5025**  
www.cravensnursery.com  
8:00-5:30 7 Days a Week

**GREAT FALLS UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL**

**OPEN HOUSE DATES:**  
January 21<sup>th</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup>

- Classes for 2's, 3's, 4's, Pre K
- Morning half-day sessions beginning at 9:15
- Highly experienced and qualified teachers
- Low student-teacher ratio
- Children's chapel
- Music
- Lunch-bunch option
- Summer camp

**Call for an Appointment**  
**(703) 759-2432**

New Student Applications for Enrollment for Fall 2011  
Due by Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>  
Visit our web page: [www.gfump.org](http://www.gfump.org)

**Find a Friend**

Friends of Homeless Animals is a non-profit, no-kill shelter that focuses on the rescue and placement of homeless dogs and cats.

Please think of us when you are looking to adopt and in your charitable giving.

**Donate • Adopt • Volunteer**

**Friends of Homeless Animals**  
[www.foha.org](http://www.foha.org)

**She'll use the same sense of rhythm to dribble through the defense.**

Research proves that early integration of music into your child's daily routine means improving her ability to think, reason, create, and express. With Kindermusik, the world's most respected name in musical learning for newborns to age 7, you and your child will participate together in every step of the learning process. Music skills to academic skills to life skills.

**Classes Filling Fast. Enroll Today**  
**703-956-6563**  
[www.TheMusicLoftOnline.com](http://www.TheMusicLoftOnline.com)  
Classes begin January 10, 2011

**THE MUSIC LOFT** Kindermusik  
1141 Elden Street, Suite 212 • Herndon, VA 20170

**Give Together**

**A Family Volunteer Day**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service  
Monday, January 17, 2011  
Shift 1: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Shift 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
GMU - Fairfax Campus

Spaces are limited and pre-registration is required at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).

Special thanks to the Connection for its support of volunteerism.

Join us for live tweets at [VolunteerFFX](http://VolunteerFFX).

**Volunteer Fairfax**

**OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS**  
Will Return after the Holidays

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call 703-821-5050



Elizabeth DiGilio



Michelle Chauvin



Lisa Carlisle



Carole Burnett



Aquina Buehrig



Karen Blackson



Diane Bird



Terry Atherton



Marjaneh Adell



Brian Pawsat  
Prosperity Mortgage



Anita Lasansky  
Managing Broker



Connie Drobeck  
Admin. Asst.



Nadya Efremov



Karen Fabris



Karen Fowler



Debbie Gill



Randi Halavazis



Joanne Hunt



Jessica Johnson



Julie Kesteloot



Dave King



Cathy Lanni



Mary Miceli



Lily Moslehi

# LONG & FOSTER

Reston North Hills Office

1700 Bracknell Drive • Reston, VA 20194 • 703-435-4900



**Middleburg \$1,800,000**

**Best of Both Worlds!**

Incredible custom stone colonial w/6BR, 7.5BA inc separate apt/office. Nestled on nearly 6 acres of wooded privacy, yet minutes to Greenway, airports, shopping. Leesburg side of Middleburg.



**Reston \$525,000**  
**Beautifully Updated!**

West Market, light filled end TH w/3BR, 2.5.5 BA, 1 car garage. Hand-scraped Brazilian teak flooring, gleaming granite counters. Updated HVAC, light fixtures, custom molding. Walk to shopping, restaurants, recreation facilities, commuter bus.

Call Terry Atherton 703-861-0538 • terry.atherton@longandfoster.com



**Ashburn \$269,900**

**Terrific Value!**

Adorable 2 level TH/condo w/3BR, 2BA vaulted ceilings, 2 story foyer, main level BR & FR. Front-load W&D, updated flooring, paint, light fixtures. BBQ on private brick patio! Short sale in excellent condition, great location.



**Reston \$279,000**

**Recently Renovated**

Naturally bright 2BR, 1.5BA North Reston condo. Ideally situated looking out to trees w/covered deck. Second BR could be office w/French doors.

Call Debbie Gill 703-346-1373 • www.DebbieGill.com or e-mail Debbie.Gill@longandfoster.com



**Reston \$5750/month**  
**Penthouse Condo!**

Incredible views w/east, north and south exposures for brilliant sunrises, town center excitement, Tysons Corner &

Blue Ridge Mountain views! Distinctive design takes advantage of sunlight and plenty of space. 3BR, 3.5 BA w/bamboo floors, mirrored walls, library/media room, gourmet kitchen & family room, gas FP in living room and enormous balcony.



**Ashburn \$1400/month**  
**Updated & Gorgeous**

2BR condo across from Reston Town Center. New carpet, fresh paint, crown moulding, ceramic tile, stainless steel appliances, granite

counters, separate dining area, FP, balcony. Enjoy pool, workout facility & media ctr. Immaculate condition. Public transportation. Full size washer & dryer, secure storage closet off balcony. Available immediately.

Call Mary Wright 703-405-4211  
www.marywright.net



**Reston \$425,000**  
**Amazing Space**

New kitchen w/higher grade cabinets, granite counters, new appliances and ceramic floor. Recently renovated

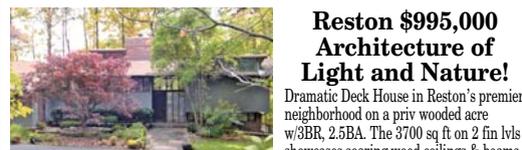
baths w/ceramic floors. Refinished hardwoods on 2 levels. Large master BR w/dressing area. Walkout lower level w/new Berber carpet. Professionally landscaped. Backs to common ground w/stream restoration in progress. Storage galore.

Call Pat Orend 703-407-3300 • pat.orend@lnf.com



**Reston \$379,950**  
**Glorian Goodman Contemporary**

3BR, 1.5BA, Mid-century modern at its best. Walls of windows, gleaming hardwoods, fireplace, skylights, carport, balconies, patio.



**Reston \$995,000**  
**Architecture of Light and Nature!**

Dramatic Deck House in Reston's premier neighborhood on a priv wooded acre w/3BR, 2.5BA. The 3700 sq ft on 2 fin lvls showcases soaring wood ceilings & beams, clerestory windows, walls of glass, custom designer lighting, hrdwds. Enjoy the spring on the spacious deck, screened porch & stone patio. Delight in low energy costs w/passive solar heating & cooling. The breathtaking 2-level solarium w/spa, brick walls & slate tile floor is the perfect place for relaxation. The interior floor to ceiling brick FP wall separates the inviting DR & spectacular, sun-filled LR. The sky lit gour kit w/center island, contemp Italian cabinets, SS appl, featuring a DACOR range is a chef's dream. The lwr lvl has a FR w/wood stove for cozy evenings & a spacious library/study. The heated 2-car garage is currently being used as an office & art studio & the dual-entry driveway has tons of parking for company. Seconds to lakes, pool, tennis, shops. Don't miss this special gem!

Call Marcy Thomas • 703-927-2190  
mathomas8@aol.com



**Reston \$534,000**  
**Light Filled and Move-in Ready!**

4BR, 3.5BA new everything including kitchen w/ granite island and countertops, appliances, refinished hardwoods, lighting. Walk out to deck and gorgeous backyard. Two story foyer, 1st floor library, bay window in DR, FR w/vaulted ceiling and FP. Great storage and finished basement.

Call Gail Romansky 703-980-5300  
gpromansky@aol.com  
or Marcy Thomas 703-927-2190  
mathomas8@aol.com



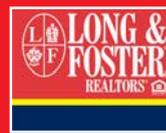
Wishing a  
**Happy New Year to All  
Friends and Clients of  
Long and Foster Reston  
North Hills Office**

**"I work hard for my agents so  
they can work hard for you!"**

—Anita Lasansky, Managing Broker

**1-800-296-2593**

**703-435-4900**



Kathy Mackenzie



Christina Kliner



Trudy Severa



Chris Stevens



Karen Swanson



Debbie Tenca



Tony Tenca



Marjorie Thomas



Marcy Thomas



Mark Wilson



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Marnie Schaar



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Stephanie Randall



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Esin Reinhardt



Missy Edmondson



Dale Repshas



Venus Roman



Gail Romansky