Children’s & Teens’ Connection 2018

Self-Portrait by Jackie
Furches, Grade 4,
Nottingham Elementary
What If I Had Animal Eyes?

I wish I had night owl eyes.
I think having night owl eyes would be great because if they can see in the dark. And they are the smartest bird. They live in all different habitats on every continent except Antarctica. Owls are most active at night.

— Lily Porter, Grade 2

What If I Had Animal Eyes?

I wish I had osprey eyes.
I think having osprey eyes would be great because if I was fishing I could cut down the glare of the sun and spot a fish and lure it in with a rod.

— Joshua Friend, Grade 2

The artwork/writing for the assignment was inspired by reading the non-fiction book “What if You Had Animal Eyes?” by Sandra Markle.
Welcome

Dear Readers:
This week, the Arlington 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 response, 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 arlington@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
Glebe Elementary

Submitted by students of Christine Williams, 2nd grade Science, Social Studies and Writing Teacher.

The Witch who was Afraid of Ghosts
Screams! Boooo! and Eeeeks! Have you heard of the witch who was afraid of ghosts? She saw something crawling around, but she didn’t know what it was. At first, she thought it was a bat. It looked like a bat when it flapped its wings. It looked like it was on its side. It flew off the ceiling landing in a basket. The witch turned on the light and saw a ghost! She screamed!
— Aaliyah Harrod, 8, Creative Writing

The Pizza Place
Do you love pizza? I love going to the Pizza Place with my dad. It is fun to eat pepperoni and cheese pizza and wings. Yum! It smells like brownies there. I ate ten pieces! My stomach was not full. I went to the park next door. I played tag with my Dad. I love pizza!
— Zorayah Ford, 7, Opinion

What’s a WereWolf Scared of?
One foggy night, a werewolf was walking down the street during Halloween. Everyone was scared and they all ran off to their homes. One house had the werewolf’s nightmare spider web. The werewolf was scared away and everyone got to go trick or treating.
— Everett Grindall, 7, Creative Writing

Scaring My Sister
I hid in my house. I jumped out of the closet. Boo! I scared my sister! It was fun. Hours later we went to a party. At the party, I scared my sister again! Boo!
— Ryan Donahue, 7, Personal Narrative

Creepy Halloween
On a spooky Halloween Night, we walked to houses. We got chocolate candy. I smelled Halloween Night. I saw a creature. It was a skeleton. I heard the howl of a werewolf. A ghost ran into me. It was a spooky Halloween Night. Boo! That was a great Halloween!
— Jake Collins, 8, Personal Narrative

Halloween Party!
Last Halloween was amazing! I went to my friend’s house. We had cookies. It was epic! Then, we went trick or treating. I saw a scary costume. I ran to my dad. Afterwards, we got candy. I can’t wait until the next time.
— Greyson Bowlin, 8, Personal Narrative

The Spooky Halloween
On Halloween night, there was a guy trick or treating in a scary outfit! He was stomping down the road. He was a ghost! “Boo!” He scared the people who gave him delicious candy. He had so much candy that nobody had any more. He took all of the candy!
— Jack Mohler, 8, Creative Writing

The Vampire Bat
One night, I heard a strange sound on the window sill. It was a screechy bat. I opened the window. The bat was a vampire! I ran to the light switch. I turned on the lights. Oh! It was just my toy bat.
— Kellan Reddan, 7, Personal Narrative

My Friends
I went to the playground with my friends. It was sunny outside. We ran races and played games.

Halloween
One night, on Halloween a fog path appeared! A creature said, “You are doomed!” King Vampier said, “The Queen has been captured! Save her!” A good froggy voice, which belonged to Edmund the Evil Sorcerer, croaked “I have your wife!” Give her back! “No! We need you both!” The king traveled to the Sover and The king took out his wand casting a spell! He saved his queen. They lived happily ever after.
— Valerie Wisniewski, 8, Creative Writing

Disney World
When I went to Disney World, I liked my shoes and my hair. Then, I saw Queen Elsa. She was amazing!
— Lila McLean, 7, Personal Narrative

Bubbles
Guess what? Last year, I got my guinea pig! Her name is Bubbles. She’s white with brown spots. I adopted her from a family that couldn’t take care of her anymore. She is the best pet ever!
— Sadie Barish, 7, Personal Narrative

My Best Halloween
One Halloween, I went to a house and boy! She didn’t have candy! She didn’t have cake. She had toys. I got a light up bracelet and vampire teeth. Lila got vampire teeth, too. I had a Happy Halloween!
— Adelena Warner, 7, Personal Narrative

Langston Halloween
This Halloween, I can’t wait until I go to Langston! I’m spending Halloween there! All night! I’m going to walk and get so much yummy, yummy candy. I’ll get the most gigantic candy bar ever!
— Elias Reddy, 7, Personal Narrative

The Football Game
I saw Kellan and Jack at a football game. Guess who won the game? The Cowboys did. How did they win? They played as a team. It wasn’t a close game. They won by 28 points. It was awesome to watch!
— Jeremiah Ramos, 7, Personal Narrative

Happy Birthday Party
It was my Birthday Party! We ate pepperoni pizza. Then, we had dessert. The cupcakes were purple and blue. The cake was vanilla. I opened some presents and clothes. The stuffed dog was my favorite. She was soft and grey. Her collar was pink. I named her Bella. Dogs are my favorite animal. Chhay Ear’s favorite animal is a fish. What is your favorite animal?
— Adriana Gonzalez-Castro, 7, Personal Narrative
Nottingham Elementary

Self-Portrait by Luc Penella, Grade 4

Self-Portrait by Cate Lawler, Grade 4

Self-Portrait by Ethan Lin, Grade 4

Still-life by Jossie Faraon, Grade 4

Cloudscape by Alex Randisi, Grade 4
Kenmore Middle School  Submitted by students of Art Teacher Jeff Wilson.

Light Box Sculpture, Grades 7 and 8

By Alina Bao, Grade 7

By Samantha Spence, Grade 8

By Reynaldo Maradiaga, Grade 8

By Lillia Tabassum, Grade 7

By Caroline Aramendia, Grade 8
Kenmore Middle School

GLEBE ELEMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

Pretending the ground is hot lava is my favorite! I play with Asher, Grey, Mack and Jesse. It was fun! When I am with my friends, I feel super. They are good to me.
— Cihay Eur Heng, 7, Short Answer

Jimmy’s Spooktacular Halloween!

Once upon a boo, there was a Ghost Family. The family loved Halloween. Their names were Jimmy, Emily and little brother. Little brother was a pumpkin for Halloween and Emily was a princess, but not Jimmy. At G.H.O.S.T school Jimmy said, “I’ll have a haunted house at my party!” but what costume? Jimmy thought and then he realized he’s a Ghost! So, he went home and said nothing. He decided to dress as a ghost. At the party, he put up a sign that said “This is a Ghost Party”
— Sebastian Rosada, 7, Creative Writing

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2. not appreciated or understood.
3. no longer owned or known

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By Kyle Medina, 7, Grade 2, Arlington

By Maya Orlova, Grade 1, from Falls Church

By Adleyn Barry, 6, Kindergarten, Arlington

By John Fortuna, 5, Kindergarten, Falls Church

By Cara Fisherow, Kindergarten, Arlington

By Antoinette Katsas, 8, Grade 3, Falls Church

By Ben Kamins, 10, Grade 4, Annandale

By Ethan Prince, 5, Kindergarten, Arlington

By McCrae Swank, 9, Grade 3, Alexandria
CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS ON YOUR IMPRESSIVE WORK!

BISHOP IRETON HIGH SCHOOL

By Catherine Hiyama, Class of '19

By Reyna Osborne, Class of '19

Re: Dr. Kathryn Sowerwine
Dermatology & Allergy Specialists of Virginia
1200 Town Center Dr. Suite 415, Reston VA 20190
1719 N. George Mason Dr. Suite 108, Arlington VA 22205

Dear Patient,

For professional reasons, I have decided to close my Allergy & Immunology portion of practice at Dermatology & Allergy Specialists of Virginia. Thus, I will no longer be able to provide your medical care. This last day I will see patients is January 31, 2019. I will be available for emergency care and scheduled appointments until the closing date.

We are happy to notify you that Dr. Dano is taking over the Allergy portion of the practice at his offices. Dr. Dano is board certified in Allergy, Asthma and Immunology as well as Internal Medicine. He is the president of the Allergy and Asthma Care Center and has been in practice for more than 20 years. We are glad to offer our loyal allergy, asthma and immunology patients a provider who is highly respected in the medical community.

Dr. Dano isAllergy & Asthma Care Center provides exemplary care to both pediatrics and adult populations suffering with immunology, asthma and allergy concerns. Dr. Dano is continuing care initiated by this office and looks forward to this opportunity to continue in your care and well-being. He has office locations in Reston, Leesburg and Alexandria is accepting new patients at this time. His website and telephone number can be found below.

Your health and well-being are of utmost importance to me and my staff at Dermatology & Allergy Specialists of Virginia. I encourage you to choose this provider as soon as possible to ensure uninterrupted care. For your convenience, I am including contact information for the Virginia Hospital Center, Reston Hospital patient referral line and websites as well as the American College and the American Academy of Asthma, Allergies and Immunology website and telephone numbers.

Please check your insurance company for providers covered within your network and region.

If you have a medical emergency, please dial 911 or go to the nearest emergency department.

As a reminder, your health records are confidential. A copy of your records can be released to you or your new provider with your written permission. To obtain an electronic copy of your medical records at no charge, please access your patient portal at www.dermatologyvirgini.com.

Thank you for trusting me with your healthcare needs. It has been a pleasure to provide your care, and I wish you the best in the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathryn Sowerwine

Dr. Dano isAllergy & Asthma Care Center: Reston; 703-796-7738 Alexandria; 703-831-2164

Leesburg; 703-771-1411

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American College of Asthma, Allergy & Immunology (847) 427-1200
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www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Alexandria Country Day School

By Reeves Versaggi, Grade 7

By Astrid Ellehuus, Grade 5

By Josie Jones, Grade 6

By Andrew Talay, Grade 4

By Marshall Rhodes, Grade 1

By Payton Rizzieri, Grade 2

By Brooke Dunton, Grade 7

By Lauren Oehler, Grade 8
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/visual ebb and flow of cancer highs and lows.

For the moment, what I don’t know: the effect on my “Adrian’s Apple” tumor (as I will call it) of the aggressive, every-three-week-injection 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, in its metastatic positive about the prognosis which came with a “13 month to two year” prognosis.

By the 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 succumb in the middle sun. I mean...well, I presume you know what I mean.

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

Because, as amazingly fortunate as I am to still be anywhere nearby 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 reaping 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 and not allow any semblance of “woeing” about me or meaning and grasping 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 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.

I stay 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 lot 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 tests 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 it of.

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