Children's & Teens’ Connection 2018

By Jacob T., Grade 1 at Union Mill Elementary. Submitted by art teacher Anne Hollis.
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Photography, ‘Sunflowers,’ by Dylan Sablone, 6, Lorton, Grade 1, Silverbrook Elementary.

By Tessa Chandler, Kindergarten at Burgundy Farm Country Day School.

By Carter Lin, 11, Fairfax Station, Grade 5 at Sangster Elementary in Springfield.
Dear Readers:

This week, the Fairfax Station / Clifton / Lorton 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 south@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

Welcome
Fairview Elementary

Ella Brown, Grade 5 – “Fruit In Basket” Watercolor painting.

Andrew Erbrecht, Grade 5 – “Fruit In Basket” Watercolor painting.

Sara Lyons, Grade 5 – “Fruit In Basket” Watercolor painting.

Submitted by Vered Grossman, Art Teacher.

Benjamin Fulwiler, Grade 4 – “Moment in Action” Construction paper crayon drawing.

Emily Morosco, Grade 5 – “Animal, Mithila Style” Colored pencil.

Kathryn Wood, Grade 2 – “Me and a Friend” Crayon drawing.

Kaleo Okouchi, Grade 3 – “Stand Up Head” Collage.

Abigail Sheehan, Grade 2 – “Favorite Landscape” Crayon drawing.
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Fairfax County Parkway Widening

Fairfax County
Public Information Meeting
Monday, January 7, 2019
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Presentation starts at 7 p.m
Inclement Weather Date: Monday, January 14, 2019
Robinson Secondary School
5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

Find out about plans to widen Fairfax County Parkway (Route 286) from four to six lanes between Route 29 (Lee Highway) and Route 123 (Ox Road). The proposed project design also includes an interchange at Popes Head Road and the future Shirley Gate Road extension, improvements to the existing trail in the Fairfax County Parkway right of way and construction of a new shared-use path to make the trail continuous within the project limits.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project and its preliminary design, including Popes Head Road interchange options under consideration. VDOT will hold a presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at the VDOT project website (www.virginiadot.org/projects), at the information meeting, or at Clinton/Davis House at VDOT’s Northern Virginia District Office at 4075 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-691-6710 or TTY/TEDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by January 22, 2019 to Mr. Sitaram Kodali, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference “Fairfax County Parkway Widening” in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Mr. Sitaram Kodali at 703-691-6710 or TTY/TEDD 711.

Union Mill Elementary
Submitted by art teachers Anne Hollis and Jennifer Martinelli.

By Matt M., 10, Clifton, Grade 5

By Bella G., 7, Clifton, Grade 2

By Alan C., 6, Clifton, Kindergarten

By Hayley G., Grade 2

By Ann-Sophie P., Grade 6

By Sophie L., 8, Centreville, Grade 3

By Masha Z., Grade 6

By Darian P., Grade 3

By Shloka E., Grade 1

By Bella G., 7, Clifton, Grade 2

Submitted by art teachers Anne Hollis and Jennifer Martinelli.
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Union Mill Elementary
Submitted by art teachers Anne Hollis and Jennifer Martinelli.

By Jonathan G., Kindergarten

By Emma S., 7, Clifton, Grade 1

By Parker H., Grade 1

By Dylan C., Grade 5

By Gwyneth C., 12, Centreville, Grade 6

By Max B., 11, Clifton, Grade 5

By Jaime O., Grade 5

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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

My Thanksgiving by Josephine Bronson

Drawing by Calvin Ashley

Animal Collage, Color Pencil Drawing by Audrey Reese

Drawing by Leah Brinkley
Favorite Season

My favorite season is summer because it is when my birthday is and we always get to celebrate in Miami.

Some more reasons I like summer is because I have a lot of fun and I do not have to do any schoolwork. I like summer because I get to wear shorts every day and have lots of fun at the pool. One last reason I like summer is because I get to travel to a lot of places for vacation and sometimes I can see my family in different parts of the world.

And this is why I like summer.

— Andrew Desir, 9, Lorton Halley Elementary, Grade 4

Favorite Animal

My favorite animal is the Maltese dog because they don't shed. They are cute, cuddly, loving, and also friendly. Because Maltese are small they don't have to go in the cargo of the plane. My family and the dog could go to many places like Miami, New York, Boston, and other places. I think that one day if I got my dream Maltese dog I would be happier than ever. My dog name would be Lavender, because it's my favorite flower. Each day when I come home at 2:30 she would run to the door or just sit there wagging her tail waiting for me to come home. Also, when I get home, I would take Lavender to my friend's house, I think she would love it.

After my friends house, I would take her on a walk at the dog park. Once we got back home from our walk I would feed her and play with her some more because she's my dog and I love her!

— Madison Desir, 12, Lorton South County Middle School, Teacher Mrs. Wilson

By Madison Desir, 12, from Lorton, South County Middle School, Teacher Mrs. Wilson.
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