



Logo by Alexis C.

Renaissance Rally

By Raj S. and Tej P.

You've probably been hearing all of the chatter about something called the Renaissance Rally. If you don't know what the Renaissance Rally is, it's merely a day where all of WMS runs a half day schedule, but on a full day. For the rest of the school day, students go down to the gym to do fun activities such as the Drop and Pop, Scooter Race, Bucket Heads, Clothes Pin Pick, Bouncy Ball Relay, Hula Hoop, Egg Race, Potato Sack Race, Math Quiz, and the Chicken Drop. If you wanted to be included in an activity, your teacher discusses it during Activity Period or Advisory Period. When they are talk about it, the teacher asks who wants to be in an activity, and then the students will vote who is in which activity.

The first of 2017's four Renaissance Rallies was on September 29, 2017. The winners were the Green Team. The Green Team has been winning the Renaissance Rallies for a very long time. Also, during the Renaissance Rally, different people from the school explained the different

cards you can earn and how you can earn them. They also announced the Gold Card winners and the Student of the Month. To get a Gold Card, you have to get caught doing something nice by any staff member. If you get lucky, you can be the special gold card winner, and have breakfast with the principal. The winner of the special Gold Card was Liam M. Another card that you can earn is the Green Card. In order to claim a Green Card, you must have averages over 90%, and you must participate in at least two activities. With a Green Card, you can get two locker passes and two homework passes. The final card that you can get is a White Card. In order to claim a White Card, you must have at least an 80% in all of your classes and you must participate in at least one activity. With a White Card, you can get one locker pass and one homework pass. So, if you didn't participate in the Renaissance Rally this time because you didn't know how to, you can participate next time there is a Renaissance Rally.

Family Fun Run 2017

By Gabriella W.

Have you run a marathon in the past? Or maybe you want to see how much endurance you have? Then the Family Fun Run in Mount Holly is for you! This is a 3.1 mile run that is great exercise., sponsored by the Westampton PTO. After you have completed your run, you can help yourself to donuts, water, pretzels and more! The event starts and ends at Holly Hills Elementary School, which is located

at 500 Ogden Dr in

Westampton. If you are interested in going, the race starts at 9:30 am. Other information will be on the flyer.

I interviewed Jake W, who has been doing the fun run for two years now. He will be participating this year - making it his third year!

Q: So Jake, Why did you decide to do the run in the first place?

A: I thought it was cool that you're able to do it with your family and I really like running.

Q: You must feel great after you have completed your run, right?

A: Yeah, I feel awesome, but also very tired.

Q: I would too! That is really amazing Jake! Well I am sure we all want to know this. Do you have to prepare a lot for this run?

A: No, not really. You could bring a hat and a sweatshirt if you would like because it is cold in the morning.

Wow! This walk is definitely a refresher to your normal routine!

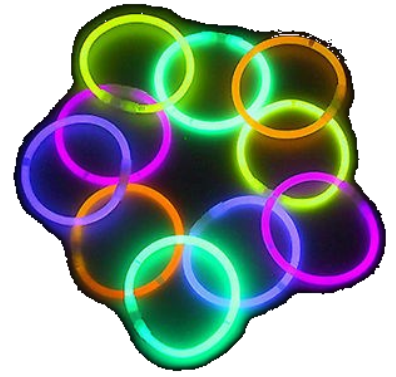


Glow in the Dark Dance

By Willarose T.

The Glow In The Dark Dance was the first dance of the year. Like the other WMS dances, it cost \$5 to get in. It was held in the cafeteria on October 20th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. There was a DJ, too. A lot of attendees wore white. There were loads of snacks, including pretzels, chips, soda, candy, water, and freshly baked cookies. There were a couple tables for sitting, (in case one wanted to take a break), and all different kinds of music at the dance. Not only that, but there were also

Glow in the Dark supplies; bracelets and necklaces cost \$1, and the glow in the dark glasses cost \$2. There were all different colors. Finally, there were a plethora of dance moves, song requests, and friends among friends. The dance was truly an amazing night at WMS.



Canned Food Drive

By Jady J.

Canned Food. A tasty treat in a can. Canned goods can range from fruit to tuna, and anywhere in between! You may have some canned food in your cabinet, but do ever really eat them all, or do you wind up forgetting about them until they expire? According to *The Guardian*, "About 60 tons of produce worth about \$160 is wasted by retailers and consumers every year - one third of all foodstuffs."

Schools and communities everywhere are helping to provide food to the hungry. Westampton Middle School has accepted the challenge to donate canned goods again this year. Last year, Student Council raised more than 3,000 canned goods. Helping those in need is a simple act of kindness which inspires other people to give instead of wasting food. Canned food is still food, and it shouldn't be wasted. Student Council asks that you give a can to someone in need by donating to the Canned Food Drive! I interviewed Ms. Crass, a Student Council advisor.

Jady: "Why do you think it's important to give canned goods to those who need it?"

Ms. Crass: "There are many families who are less fortunate and unable to purchase food for themselves and their families. Our Canned Food Drive is a wonderful way to donate food to those in need! The Canned Food Drive takes place in November so that the food collected can be delivered to families in time for Thanksgiving! In fact, our school donates cans we collect to a local Westampton Food Bank so our donations help feed people right in town!"

J: "Did Student Council participate? If so how many?"

Ms. C: "A lot of staff members, including the Student Council Advisors, donate cans to the canned food drive"

J: "Did you bring in any cans, if so how many?"

Ms. C: "Last year I went home and cleaned out my food pantry looking for cans to donate! This year I plan to do the same!"

The time has come to help others. I believe confidence comes from helping others and what better way to achieve success than betting yourself! No matter which charity you choose this holiday season, be the person that makes a difference!

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." — John Bunyan



Stuffed Animal Drive

By Max B. and Alexis C.

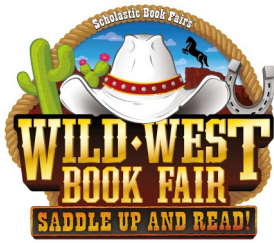
For the second year in a row, NJHS ran The Glad Dogs Stuffed Animal Drive. The Glad Dogs Nation is a donation-based organization that converts old stuffed animals into safe, new dog toys, which are then sold for a profit. 100% of the proceeds are donated to charities concerned with the welfare of pets and the stemming of pet overpopulation. Mrs. Giveans hopes to collect over 200 stuffed animals during the stuffed animal drive. Students can



earn Renaissance points for donating any type of stuffed animal (big, small, soft, etc.) as long as it does not have mechanical parts inside. The donations will be sent to Glad Dogs Nation. A volunteer from Glad Dog's Nation collects the donated stuffed animals to recycle them into safe dog toys! Once there, they wash them, make them safe for animals and then sell them in stores. The profits benefit pets in need.

NJHS hosts many charity events and supports multiple organizations throughout the year including the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and Toys for Tots.

Fall Book Fair



By Makayla M.

For all those bookworms out there, you've probably heard of the upcoming fall book fair. The first question to come to mind is probably "When is the book fair?" You can go to the book fair during Language Arts and parent teacher conferences. The special theme this fair is Wild West. So all you cowgirls and cowboys, saddle on down to your school book fair! If you are on a budget, don't worry, because book prices start at \$1.49 and school supplies at 50 cents. The student crew will be sharing book talks of featured titles on the morning announcements. For example, if you like a little chill in your spine try the *Shadow House*, it's to die for. For the people out there who like a lot of adventure, try *Refugee*. Also, for those who love science, check out *Star Talk*; it's totally out of this world! Can't forget about those who like a little romance; *Lucky in Love* is sure to win your heart.

And for the gamers, you might want to read *Game On*, about the best games around. If you are up for a challenge to figure out a mystery, try *Disappeared*. What will you read from the book fair?



Community Events: Johnsons' Farm

By Aniya W.

Nothing says fall without going to a farm, right? Well, I've got just the farm for you: Johnson's Corner Farm.

When you think about fall, you think about Halloween right? So why not go pumpkin picking? While you're at it, you can even go apple picking, if you want. The best part is that it's all at one place: Johnson's Corner Farm! Want to ride in style, or don't feel like walking back with a pumpkin and some apples? You can take a hayride there and back, too.

After all that picking, you'll probably be hungry, so you can go to the food shack. Whether you're looking for a sweet or savory treat, Johnson's has you covered. For example, they have sweet candy apples, warm apple pies, hot apple cider and hot cocoa. The sweet aroma of chicken pot pie, and other delicious foods will make your mouth water; don't forget Johnson's sweet corn, too. Are you hungry yet?

Now that you've grabbed a bite to eat, the fun stuff's just begun!

Food and hayrides are one thing, but there's even more. The one thing that every farm needs is animals! If you are an animal lover, you can feed the animals, but you can't touch them. For those who like a challenge, there is a corn maze, too. You should try it, but go in with an adult so you don't get lost!

Information:

To get in is FREE

Food is about \$14 to \$19

A hayride is \$4.50 (Per Person)

Pumpkin Picking is about \$1.89/lb

Apple Picking is about \$1.89/lb

Other activities cost other amounts.

The address is 133 Church Rd Medford NJ

For more information go to johnsonsfarm.com

Community Events

By Maddie K.

There is a horse mentoring program I went to at 573 Eayrestown Rd, Lumberton, NJ. It helped me learn how to open up and be more positive. The farm is called Glenayre Farms. It is also run by the Sheriff's Department. Over 10 weeks, we worked in groups and learned to work together and to communicate better.

Every Thursday from 6-8, there would be a word on the board: respect, alertness, choices, punctuality, etc. When the word was on the board, we had to find the meaning of the word. Once, when we went outside into the arena, we had to do an activity with the horses and obstacles and find a way around them. Also, we had to do obstacles which had to do with the cowboys. One of the obstacles we did was about the Pony Express; they had to bring mail and bring it back with the horse within a short time. So, to incorporate it into the arena, we did the obstacles that the cowboys did.

From being in this program, I have improved and tried harder to get back on track. This is a very helpful and successful place

to go if you have anxiety, stress, or depression. I truly recommend it. If you did decide to join, you would have to call and they will let you know when there is another session.



Quirky Holidays

By Krysten W.

Deviled Egg Day is celebrated on November 2nd. It's a day to celebrate the existence of deviled eggs. It's a special day to consume deviled eggs. You can create your deviled eggs or order them at a restaurant. According to 2017-2018 Bizarre, Wacky and Unique Holidays, "The originator of this day was quite devious. The little devil failed to provide any documentation on this day, or to take credit." When you make deviled eggs you can add colorful relishes, spicy peppers, pimentos or savory herbs. When you construct them, you can even make them fancy for special occasions. National Day states, "From the traditional paprika garnish to crunchy bacon, or a little caviar, anchovy or herring, there is some devilish experimenting that can be done." Please find below recipe on how to create deviled eggs.

Recipe: <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/classic-deviled-eggs-recipe-1911032>

By Zaya M.

Have a Party with Your Bear Day is a very idiosyncratic holiday which is celebrated on November 16th. There are many more bear-related holidays, such as National Teddy Bear Day, Take Your Teddy Bear to Work Day, and Teddy Bear Picnic Day. According to www.daysoftheyear.com, to celebrate this holiday, many people take their teddy bears to parks, museums, eat cake, and take photos with them. Many people do not know where this unusual holiday originated from, or when it was created. Have a Party with Your Bear Day is a little known holiday that will get a laugh out of people.



Star Students: Aaliyah T.

By Matt K.

Since 2011, WMS hasn't had an Environmental Club. However, a few students kept an interest in reviving the club. Aaliyah T. is one of them. I interviewed her to inquire why she was inspired to kickstart the club. She explained, "I went to the 2017 Tech Trek STEM Camp for seventh grade girls over the summer, and the class I took for the week was the environmental studies course. At the end of the week, my teacher asked my classmates and me to bring what we learned back to to our homes through a community service project. She will continue to monitor me until I finish in the spring."

Q: What, if anything, do you wish to improve/accomplish with the club?

A: I love what we are doing with the club, but I wish we had

more time. We are taking a hiatus for the winter because it is too cold to be outside. This is the first environmental club our school has had since 2011.

Q: How has your year gone thus far?

A: The year has been great. We will soon be finishing our first project. I am so proud and excited for students to see it.

Look for many great things from the Environmental Club, including their "Trashy water kills an otter" project.

Students of the Months

Students of the Month (September)

5th – Avery A. and Alex L.
6th – Carly Seal and Dontrell R.
7th – Carmen G. and Malik A.
8th – Elsa K. and Gary G.
Musician of the Month – Ashley M.
Grand Gold Card Winner – Liam M.

Students of the Month (October)

5th – Avery A. and Jake W.
6th – Tatiana M. and Andrew M.
7th – Emily R. and Austin R.
8th – Maya F. and Jason B.
Musician of the Month – Alek K.
Grand Gold Card Winner – Shadiera T.
Star Student – Josh O.
Star Student – Leia G.



Sports: One Giant Soccer Team

By Jake W., Jake V., and Aaron B.

The Westampton Giants soccer team, as of October 11th 2017, has 5 wins, 0 losses and 2 ties. At the time of the interview, they still had six games left in the season. There were a lot of people who tried out, but only a few people made it. This proves you have to have determination and hard work to make this team. We interviewed Mr. Yoerke, the coach of the Westampton Middle School soccer team, and here are the results:

Q: "How would you describe the qualities of teamwork displayed by your team?" "How does this affect the performance on the field?"

A: "A few qualities that come to mind when thinking of the team are: Unselfishness and (supportive). Being able to support each other through communication and position on the field helps the team move the ball and generate scoring opportunities. Unselfish plays set teammates up for better scoring chances and cause the opposing team to focus on all our players."

Q: "Are there any needs for improvement?"

A: "There is always room for improvement. Not just for this team, but for any team on any level. Student athletes should strive to improve."

Q: "Who do you think is giving 100% of their ability?"

A: "I think all of our players give 100% and to show that they never quit you can look at our second game of the season. We were losing by two goals late in a game and came back to tie. Then went down by one goal only to come back and tie again with only a few minutes left to play. I think that shows a "Never quit attitude."

We believe the "never quit" attitude applies to all Giants, on and off the field. Great job to our soccer team for a successful season!

Book Review: The Testing

The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau

By Steve A.

The Testing is the first book in a trilogy by the same name. The setting is in the United Commonwealth. The United Commonwealth is a fictional world meant to represent the remains of the United States of America after a massive World War. The University is a school for the brightest young minds who are deemed ideal and capable for the rebuilding effort, including the main character, Cia Vale. But first she has to go through "The Testing". The Testing is a

program which determines who will be accepted to the University... or who dies! When chosen, she is given a dire (and strange) warning by her father. "Trust no one", not even Tomas, her love interest and the only person she thinks she can trust. When she leaves for the capital, Tosu City, these questions and more plague her. If you are a fan of The Hunger Games, this is a highly recommended book.

Tech Review

Apple Overview

By Nick M.

On September 22, 2017, Apple released their newest iPhone, the iPhone 8. Now they will be releasing the iPhone X. The question is, is it their biggest iPhone to date?

Many fans have been raving to find out the newest iPhone, after abandoning the 'S' series, such as the iPhone 4S, iPhone 5S, and iPhone 6S. The price of the iPhone has ranged from \$699.00 to \$949.00, according to www.apple.com. Fans have also been excited on the iPhone X, the phone with which apple.com is taking a risk by eliminating the home button, and making a face recognition to

get onto your phone. Some middle school and high school kids would probably be interested in this feature for how much they are on their phones every day. Apple is also trying to create a cordless charger, which is also seen with Samsung Galaxy phones.

The iPhone X will be released by Apple on November 3, 2017. All and all, the iPhone 8 seems to be living up to all the hype; but now the question is, will the iPhone X live up to all the hype?



September Staff of the Month: Ms Crass

By: Miranda C.

Congratulations to Ms. Crass for earning another honorary award! Ms. Crass is a sixth grade teacher here at WMS. She teaches math and honors math. Last year she was selected as WMS Teacher of the Year; now she has been chosen as Staff Member of the Month for October. Ms. Crass has been teaching for eight years. She started teaching in Baltimore, Maryland and, believe it or not, when she started she was teaching first graders. The 2017-2018 school year is her fourth year teaching here at WMS. When Ms. Crass was younger she wanted to become a lawyer. "I thought it would be a good profession for me because I like to talk loudly and debate." she stated. After several visits to mom's

classroom she said, "I loved to watch her teach and it inspired me to become a teacher myself!" In her spare time Ms. Crass loves to paint, do artsy projects, ride her bike, play dodgeball, read, go to Broadway shows and of course, do math problems. Her experience here at WMS has been an overall amazing experience. "My experience here has made me a much better teacher!" she answered. She thinks the most challenging part of her profession is the small amount of time in relation to how much there is to teach and learn. Ms. Crass also serves as an advisor to Student Council. In my opinion, Ms. Crass is a teacher who definitely deserves to have earned this award.



October SOM: Mrs. Yoerke

By Lucy A.

For October, the students voted for Mrs. Yoerke. Mrs. Yoerke is a gym teacher who works really hard. Mrs. Yoerke is a gym teacher who coaches field hockey and softball. Mrs. Yoerke's favorite show is *Survivor*. Mrs. Yoerke loves to watch football, baseball, and ice hockey. Mrs. Yoerke loves to see people work hard and try their best. Mrs. Yoerke's favorite thing about WMS is the amount of school spirit the students bring to every Renaissance Rally, donation competition, Spirit Week, and sporting event she helps. Mrs. Yoerke helps out in the Renaissance Rally. Mrs. Yoerke described her experience at WMS as "rewarding, exciting, and family." Mrs. Yoerke is living the dream!

November SOM: Mrs. Pruss

By Katherine M.

For this November, the students voted for Staff Member of The Month and they decided to shine a light on Mrs. Pruss! Mrs. Pruss started working in the office in January 2016. She also makes sure the needs of teachers and parents are taken care of, as well helping maintain a safe learning environment for all of the students at WMS. From the time she was little, Mrs. Pruss knew she wanted to work with children in some way; she was always the one that organized games for the younger kids in her neighborhood and often used to play "school" with her younger sister. She says the most challenging parts to her job tend to be the most

rewarding; she finds it very difficult when a student comes in visibly upset. However, she finds it equally rewarding to watch the same kid walking out noticeably happier. Also, Mrs. Pruss' favorite thing about WMS is working in the Main Office because it gives her an opportunity to work with the amazing supportive staff at WMS. It gives her a unique insight on the teachers, aides and administrative staff. She also enjoys getting to know the students and watching them grow throughout their years at WMS. I asked Mrs. Pruss to describe her experience here at WMS. She responded with "rewarding and enlightening." Congratulations, Mrs. Pruss!

Kids Cook

Polish Cream Cheese Coffee Cake by: Phoenix I.

Ingredients

1. 1 cup of white sugar
2. ½ butter
3. 3 cups of all purpose flour
4. 1 cup of sour cream
5. 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
6. 1 teaspoon baking soda
7. 1 teaspoon baking powder

To make the filling...

1. 2 (8 ounce) packages of softened
2. ½ cup sugar
3. ½ cup brown sugar
4. ½ cup chopped pecans
5. Pie crust
6. ⅓ all purpose flour
7. ⅓ cup of butter

Preheat the oven 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Next, beat one cup of white sugar, ½ cup of butter and an egg in a bowl until smooth. Add sour cream and vanilla extract; mix well. Stir in 3 cups flour, baking soda, and baking powder until mixture comes together into a sticky dough. Spread half the dough evenly into a prepared baking dish.

Beat cream cheese, ½ cup of white sugar, and one egg in another bowl until it reaches a smooth texture. Spoon the mixture into baking dish over dough. Drop remaining half of by the spoonful over cream cheese mixture.

Mix pecans, brown sugar, ⅓ cup flour, and ⅓ cup butter in a bowl until mixture resembles a coarse crumble; sprinkle over dough. After this, insert a toothpick into the center of the unbaked cake.

Bake in the oven until toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, or for about 45 minutes. Then enjoy!

Kids Cook

Peanut Butter Graham Cracker Balls

By Lucy A.

Makes 20-24 balls

Ingredients:

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 ½ cups Graham cracker crumbs
- ¾ cup mini chocolate chips or Heath bits
- 1- 1 ¼ cup milk chocolate

Directions:

1. Take your graham crackers and blend to crumbs in a food processor until you get 1 ½ cups. Add graham cracker crumbs to the 1 cup of peanut butter. Mix it in a large bowl. You want the mixture to be dry enough to be

able to form balls. Add a little bit more peanut butter or cracker crumbs to achieve this consistency, if need be.
2. Form 24 even sized balls with your hands and place on a wax paper covered plate, cutting board or baking sheet. Freeze for 30-60 min.

Melt the chocolate in the microwave until just melted, or use a double boiler and stir chocolate until melted.
Placed mini chips/crushed Heath bits in a small bowl.
4. Using a toothpick or fork, dip the peanut butter balls in the melted chocolate, one at a time; after this, toss them into the topping until covered. Refrigerate or freeze until firm.

5. That's it! Enjoy!

Mad Libs

By RJ O.

Mad Libs

When Jason was on the bus, a _____ flew past his window. After
noun
the bus ride, Jason got lost and was late for class. When Jason entered
the _____, there was a kid _____ on the computer. There was a
noun verb ending in -ing
kid _____ a _____ snack. Jason went to his seat because he was
verb ending in -ing adjective
worried he had stood up for too long. When he sat down, Jason started to
work at his seat. Jason day dreamed of how he was going to the zoo
this weekend. He thought about seeing his favorite animal, the _____.
noun
The rest of the day was _____, and Jason went home happy and smiling.
adjective

Inspirational Quotes

Picture Search

By Alex P.

By Ian M.

Can you find all of the hidden pictures in the scene below? Remember — you can make your own copy of the newspaper on which to write via our school website.

“Problems can become opportunities when the right people come together.”

-Robert Redford

“If toxic and negative people are renting space in your mind, raise the rent and kick them out.”

-Unknown

“If opportunity isn’t knocking, build a door.”

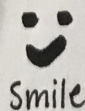
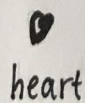
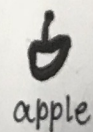
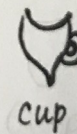
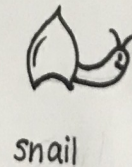
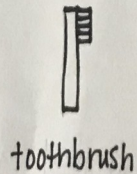
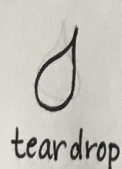
-Milton Berle

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”

-Maya Angelou

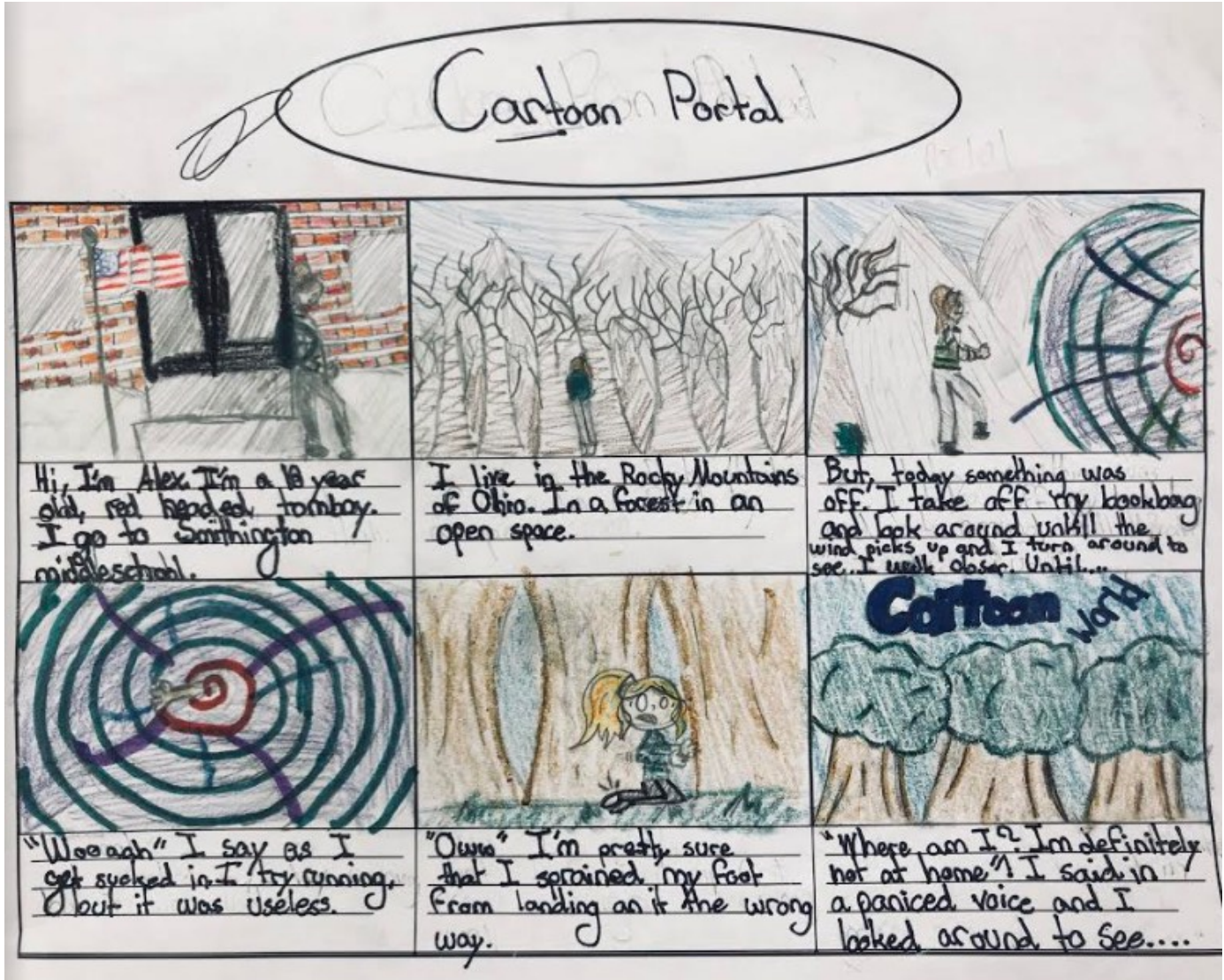
“Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it’s something you design for the present.”

Jim Rohn



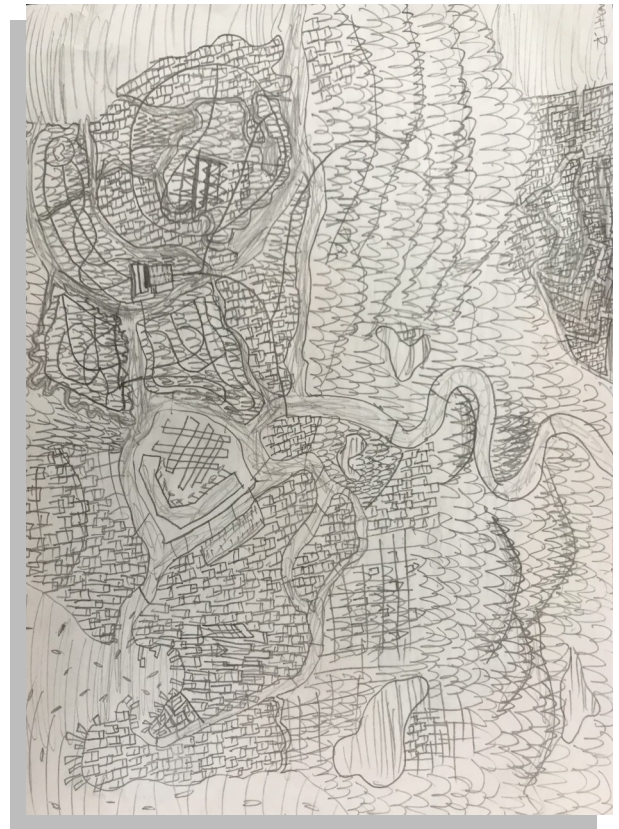
COMICS

By Riley S. and Julia W.



Want to find out what happens next?
Stay tuned ... the adventure continues
in our next issue!

Creativity Showcase



By Matthew R.



By Daniel D.



Have a drawing or short creative writing piece you would like to share? Drop it off in the box in the library. New submissions are selected every issue.

Word Search

Fall Word Search

A K T M L Y O H Y U M N A
T R H P U M P K I N T S T
H G A G P O H M A H C F O
L R N O R C Y D N A C B H
E I K Q I H W A R W M E A
A N S U K B R E X Q D A L
V O G J V J C K L I C W L
E H I N W R H A R B A I O
S T V K O E T Y J C P U W
D U I W U R A O I B P T E
H E N O M H U P L A L A E
I A G H I T B F H P E Y N
F O O T B A L L O N S K I

APPLES

HALLOWEEN

PUMPKIN

CANDY CORN

HAYRIDE

SCARECROW

FOOTBALL

LEAVES

THANKSGIVING

By Erin C. and Alex P.