

Special Mention

There were 61 excellent entries this year that made it especially hard to pick the top three winners in each grade and category. According to the judges, they were all winners. So we would like to recognize and congratulate all of those who entered but did not place as follows: Fourth Grade – Devin Handley, Krynn Prater, Jonathan Sailors and Paige Shiley. Sixth Grade – Bailey Jones, Travis Jorn, Neshay Nichols, Tasha Petersen, and Logan Vice.

Third Grade

Poetry

COOL WATER

By Ryan McMann(1st)

Cool running water
Splashing against the rocks,
Refreshing to drink.

WILD PONIES

By Taylor O'Brien(2nd)

The wild ponies
Gallop across the prairie,
The wind howling.

Short Story

THE HAPPY PRINCESS

By Taylor O'Brien(1st)

Once upon a time there lived a King. The king had four daughters. The oldest daughter's name was Victoria. Then there were the twins Annabel and Aeryell. Then there was Isabell. Isabell was the nicest. She didn't think of herself as a greedy princess but Victoria did (only she never admitted it.) Victoria treated Annabel and Aeryell like her children but she treated Isabell like a servant. No matter how hard the king tried to help Isabell, Victoria always fought back. The king knew why the girls treated her this way. It was because Isabell was the prettiest. Although nobody got to see her because Victoria would not allow her to go out in public. And there was one part of the year when the princesses got to pick their husbands. Men from all over the land would wait to be picked by a princess. If they did not get picked they would have to go away and never come back. That was the time of the year when Victoria especially didn't let Isabell go out. The night of the choosing, Victoria, Annabel and Aeryell got money from their dad and went to get a gown while Isabell made her dress. And since she had made her dress, she lost time and didn't get on the carriage. She had to walk. She was late. Her sisters had already chosen. They chose the handsome men and left the ugly ones. But Isabell didn't care about looks, she cared about the inside. So she picked the ugliest one. That was because she found him very, very nice and sweet. So the next day they all got married and Isabell found out that the guy she picked was already a prince. And they lived happily ever after.

THE BOY AND HORSE

By Ryan McMann(2nd)

Once there was a boy who loved riding horses. He never really had a horse of his own. His friend had a horse so he went over to his house and rode. One day it was his birthday. He just knew that when he went down stairs they would surprise him. But when he got down stairs he saw that his dad was watching T.V. and his mom was making breakfast. He ate breakfast and went to school. When he got home they had set up for his birthday. They ate same cake. Then it was time to open presents. They told him his first present was in the horse pen but they did not have a horse. Then he saw it, a horse and a saddle and everything, even a suit. He rode every day with his friend and went to the river to fish and so they could give their horses a drink.

Fourth Grade

Poetry

SOFTBALL

By Libbey Anderson (1st)

I've gone out for softball twice,
I think it's really nice,
I love to hit and run,
But pitching's really fun.
I like to hear the crowd scream and shout,
When I throw my third out.
You should also go out
To see what I'm talking about.

DRAGONFLY

By Carmen Alexander (2nd)

Something's soaring in the sky,
I think it was a dragonfly just passing by

Before you start off for the sea,
come down and I'll take you home with me

It's not too far away,
just down there by that hay

So dragonfly, dragonfly stop soaring toward the sea,
Come down and I'll take you home with me.

SPRING BREEZE

By Rachel Herr (3rd)

A bird sits chirping
While I smell the fresh cut grass
And feel the spring breeze.

Short Story

THE DAY OF THE HORSE RIDE

By Dalton Huey (1st)

It was a warm sunny day and Little Feather asked his father if he could go for a horse ride. His father said yes but to stay close to home and be back before the sun sets. Little Feather was excited to go on his ride. His mother packed a lunch for him to take along. He got on his horse, Lightning, and set out toward the river.

When Little Feather reached the river he was hot and thirsty. He decided to take a swim in the river to cool off. He tied his horse to a tree branch near the river so he could eat and drink. Little Feather then took off his moccasins and jumped into the river. When he came up from under the water he was surprised to see an Indian he did not know standing on the other side of the river.

The Indian boy that was standing near the water was surprised to see Little Feather pop up out of the water. He was not sure if he should run or not. He decided to stay and see what Little Feather would do.

Little Feather got out of the water fast and grabbed his horse and rode fast toward home. The other Indian boy, Soaring Eagle, did the same thing. When they got home they told their fathers what they had seen.

Both of the fathers gathered all of the warriors in the tribe together and headed for the river. They both got to the river about the same time. Both of the fathers started to walk into a shallow part of the water. They met in the middle of the river.

They greeted each other, introduced their two tribes, the Shawnee and the Iowa, and agreed to sit on the bank and talk. The warriors all joined them. They sat and talked about hunting, fishing, their tribes and the two boys who had brought them together. The two tribe fathers decided to bring all of both tribes to the river for a day of fishing, eating and getting to know each other. The two fathers and the warriors then went home.

The next morning all of both of the tribes got together at the river. They fished and ate what they caught. They played games they taught to each other. They talked about family and their two tribes. They found out they were very different in many ways. The

tribes agreed to meet at the river at the same time next year. Then they all went back to their homes.

During the day the two boys spent a lot of time getting to know each other. They decided on their own to meet at the river as often as possible to fish and talk. They were friends for many, many years. Little Feather and Soaring Eagle grew up to be very important men in their tribes. When they married and had families of their own they still got together at the river to talk and fish.

This just goes to show that even if you are different you can still be friends

THE BLIZZARD DISASTER

By Carmen Alexander (2nd)

Janis Huff was fearful to go to school. Usually, she liked it. She would get away from doing the chores and her little sister Ellie. At the crack of dawn she wanted to stay in the barn with her horse Pansy because Papa might shoot him. Papa was going to do it because Pansy became sightless. Janis tried to tell him not to. He used to be a farm horse, but since he turned blind, he couldn't do it anymore.

When it was time for the school kids to go to school, Mrs. Fritz told Janis to stay inside. "What's wrong?" asked Mrs. Fritz. "It seems like something's wrong, with you." After Janis told her story, Mrs. Fritz was shocked "It's always hard when you lose a horse," Mrs. Fritz reminded Janis. "I want you to take this," as she handed Janis a camera. "Take a picture of Pansy, you'll have him in your heart forever." Janis's classmates came inside early. One shouted, "It started to snow!" Then Mr. Tucker, the principal, ran through the door and yelled, "Blizzard,, everyone run home!" Janis wished she had a heavier coat instead of the sweater she wore. As the kids scrambled out of the school, so did Janis. She was about a mile away from the school when she dropped the camera in the snow. She scurried around like a squirrel finding nuts, but she couldn't locate the camera. She would have to leave it.

Mrs. Huff worried about Janis. Maybe she's staying at school. Mr. Huff decided he would go look for her, he tied a rope on the doorknob to the barn. Once he hitched up Jupiter and Pansy, the horses, he hoped they could find her. When Mr. Huff got to the road they got trapped. He had to unhook Pansy and Jupiter. Mr. Huff rode Jupiter home. He thought, "If Pansy dies I won't have to shoot her."

Janis stopped, she was too weak to walk any longer so she fell asleep in the snow. Something nudged her face. It was Pansy. Janis hopped on him, letting him lead the way. She didn't care where they were going as long as she didn't lose Pansy. But surprisingly, they reached home.

After the snowstorm Janis found Mrs. Fritz's camera. Papa found the wagon. Everyone said that Mrs. Fritz survived by sleeping with pigs in a hog shed. Everyone thought it was hilarious. And Papa didn't shoot Pansy.

THE MOST HORRIFYING CAMPING TRIP

By Libbey Anderson (3rd)

Everything was quiet in the dark, scary woods. Carmen just stood there looking around. Then suddenly the bushes started to shake.

She held her breath, scared, then she said, "Who goes there?" They started shaking even more. Then she heard a roar. She picked up some sticks on the ground and started to throw them at the bushes. Then she heard an "ouch". She stopped and just stood there with two sticks in her hands. The bushes started to shake some more. Carmen thought she should start throwing some sticks but she did not yet. Then there was a foot coming out. That's when Carmen started throwing the sticks again. The person revealed himself and Carmen was surprised at what she saw. Her little brother, Devin, was the monster. He started laughing at her, then he stopped laughing because he heard a scream.

"That sounds like Mom," said Carmen.

"Let's go see what happened," said Devin. When they got there, they saw their mom in the water crying.

"What is wrong Mom," asked Carmen.

"Storm was chasing a bird and was not looking where he was going and ran right into my ankle, I think it is twisted," said Rachel.

"Are you all right?" asks their dad, Dalton. He helped Rachel out of the water.

"Gross, look at her ankle. It is all black and blue," said Devin.

"Devin be quiet and come help Dad and me get Mom back to the camper," said Carmen.

"No, I want to stay here," shouted Devin.

"Well, so do I but Dad can't carry her the whole way," said Carmen very mad.

"You kids stay here and I will go to the camper and then drive your mother to the hospital," said Dalton. So Dalton went to the camper while Carmen and Devin jumped into the warm water. They played water games for a while then it started to get dark so they started their long walk back to the camper. Then after they walked about 2 or 3 miles the ground started to shake.

"What's happening," asked Devin in a scared voice.

"I don't know," said Carmen in a loud voice.

"I think it is an earthquake," screamed Carmen. "Grab onto the tree." They both ran over to the tree and held on as tightly as they could. The ground started to shake even harder, the tree they were holding onto fell over. Here Devin grabbed my hand and screamed, "Carmen."

"Here let's climb up this big tree," said Carmen.

After they got up Carmen said, "The camper is right over there." When they got to the other side they heard crying and they all saw a yellow tarp under the tree. It was their 5 year old twin sisters Krynne and Rebecca on the ground. Carmen asked what had happened.

“The ground started shaking so we got out of the house, then a big tree fell on it. We both forgot our teddy bears. We tried to get in but we couldn’t,” said Krynn crying.

“We tried to pick up your bat to break the window but it was too heavy.”

“Where is Aunt Taylor,” asked Devin.

“She went with Mommy and Daddy, there was no room for us because Mommy had to lie down because her ankle is hurt,” said Rebecca.

“Where is my bat?” asked Carmen.

“It’s by the tree,” said Rebecca. Carmen walked over to her bat then walked over to the camper window, broke it and then went inside. She got the bears, put them into a bag with some clothes, food and water. When she got outside, every tree around her was down.

“What happened?” asked Carmen. “Was there another earthquake?”

“Yes, there was. Didn’t you feel it?” said Devin surprised.

“No, I didn’t feel it,” said Carmen. They started on their way to the town where their mother was. It took forever because they had to climb over trees and they had to help their sisters. When they got to the main bridge, it was gone. They saw it in the river with a tree on top of it.

“What happened to the road?” asked Krynn.

“A tree knocked it over,” said Devin. “We will have to swim over it.”

“We don’t know how to swim,” said Rebecca. “Can we all hold hands?” They all started out and swam for along time. They finally got to the other side. The children then started walking into town, they were getting very tired. Carmen then saw a log cabin.

“Let’s go and ask where the hospital is,” said Carmen. They all walked over and Carmen knocked on the door. An old man that had a long, brown beard answered.

“Could you tell me where the hospital is please?” asked Carmen.

“It is about 20 miles north of here but you cannot walk that far, I will drive you.” Soon they were in the old man’s truck and on their way to the hospital.

When they got to the hospital they went to the front desk and Carmen asked, “Is there anyone here named Rachel Anderson?”

Yes, there is, I will take you there myself” said Paige. When they got there they saw Dalton and Aunt Taylor sitting in the room, Mom was in the bed with her foot wrapped.

“Daddy, Mommy, Aunt Taylor,” said Krynn and Rebecca together. They all looked up.

“My babies,” they all said together. “We never thought we would ever see you again. We were so worried,” gasped Dalton. The family was now all back together. They all hugged each other and promised never to go camping in the woods again.

Plays

BANK ROBBERY By Carmen Alexander (1st)

Zoey: A good detective

Melissa: Zoey’s cousin and best friend

Jake: Zoey’s dog

Zack: A new kid

Setting : Zoey’s house by the bank. Zoey and her friends were sleeping at her house.

Scene I: The Noise

Beep! Beep! Beep’

Jake: Woof! Woof!

Melissa: Listen! What’s that sound?

Zoey: That’s a bank robbery sound.

Zack: Let’s go figure out who it was?

Scene 2: In the bank

Zoey: Look! There’s footprints of mud.

Melissa: And there’s money leading to the banks safe

Zoey: It’s open!

Jake: Woof!

Zoey: The moneys all out!

Zach: Zoey, lets go back and tell your parents.

Melissa: Lets also call the police.

So they went to Zoey's house. They told her parents and called the police.

The cops came in a half an hour.

All: We heard the bank robbery sound.

Police: What time was it?

Zoey: It was a hour ago.

Melissa: We saw mud tracks and money leading to the bank safe.

Jake: Woof!

Zach: What's that in the bushes. It just shook.

They walked over to the bushes. All they saw was a man running but luckily he forgot his bag with money.

Melissa: He's after that car!

The police took a short cut and made it there first. They took all of the air out of the tires and caught him by hiding in the car and hand-cuffing him.

IN THE DARK AT THE WOOD

By Rebecca Scarberry (2nd)

Characters:

Mike – 20

Sam – 4

Lily – the dog

Jennifer – 19

Lizzy -9

Act One: At The House

Jennifer: Lizzy (she yells), hurry up! If we don't hurry we can't go to the woods.

Sam: Jennifer, I want a cookie.

Jennifer: Ask Mike if he knows where they are.

Mike: Everyone ready to go?

Lizzy: No!

Sam: No because I would like a cookie.

Mike: I gave you one.

Sam: Lily ate it.

Jennifer: Lizzy, get in the car! Sam, can you get into the car?

Sam: OK

Mike: I'll get the two of them settled in.

Jennifer: I will be out after I make the sandwiches.

Act Two: In The Car

Lizzy: Can you turn the radio on?

Sam: How about the CD with Old MacDonald's?

Mike: OK

Jennifer: Lily, get in the back!

Sam: Old MacDonald had a farm

Lizzy: Be quiet please!

Jennifer: Stop yelling!

Mike: How about we look out the window?

Sam: Are we there yet?

Jennifer: No!

Mike: In ten more minutes.

Sam: All I see out my window are trees.

Mike: Look, we are here.

Act Three: In The Woods

Sam: My legs hurt!

Lizzy: We just started walking.

Jennifer: Pick some flowers for the house.

Mike: Don't go in poison ivy.
Jennifer: Don't go far, we don't want to get lost.
Lizzy: What is that?
Sam: It is ugly.
Mike: Get away from there! RUN!
Sam: I'm scared.
Jennifer: It's OK.
Lizzy: What was that?
Mike: It was a snake.
Sam: I hate snakes.
Lizzy: Me too!
Mike: Where are we?
Jennifer: I think we are lost.
Sam: It is getting dark out.
Lizzy: How do we get out of here? Something touched me!
Sam: It was Lily.
Lizzy: Oh.
Jennifer: Mike, what do we do?
Mike: I think I have a flashlight in the bag.
Sam: I will get it. I can't find it.
Mike: It is in the pocket on the side.
Sam: I don't see it.
Mike: Lizzy, go help her.
Lizzy: OK. It is right here.
Jennifer: Give it to me. Follow me.
Sam: I am scared.
Mike: It's OK.
Jennifer: There's the car.

Act Four: Back In The Car

Sam: I am glad we found our car.
Lizzy: I am tired.

Act Five: At The House

Mike: Lizzy, wake up.
Lizzy: When we get to write in our journals, I am going to write about this day.
Jennifer: First you go to your room and go to bed.
Sam: I had fun today.
Mike: You have to go to bed too.

Fifth Grade

Poetry

CANDY

By Chelsi Shubert (1st)

Candy.
The word that makes my brain go,
BONKERS!
Fruity, tangy, crunchy,
Sour, chewy, gummy,
Sticky, chocolatey,
And most of all, SWEET!
Words clutter my mind.
My mouth puckers.
My heart pumps faster.
I have the craving for,
CANDY!

KURT
By J. C. McMann (2nd)

Kurt
Is my brother.
He's really short.
So short
My head
Touches his chin.
He may be grouchy
At times.
Even though he's mad
When I'm hurt
He always
Cheer me up.
Now
He's always in his truck.
If he's not in his truck
He's playing a game
On driving monster trucks
On his
Play Station 2.
He's the best brother
EVER!

MONKEYS
By Hayley Huey (3rd)

Monkeys are one of my favorite animals
Sometimes
They love to swing
From tree to tree
All so eating
Things like
Bananas
Mangos
Even bugs
These primates are unique
From their curly tails
To the long nails
Even the easy set off tempers

Short Story

MISSING DOG
By J. C. McMann (1st)

My dog, Zak, is my dearest friend, but one day he vanished. It all started on a Saturday last month . I let him out to get some air. Our backyard is fenced in, so I let him out without a leash. A few minutes later I came to get him and he was gone! I looked around and saw claw marks around a hole in the fence . Later I hung posters around town. They said:

MISSING!
Black and white Cardigan Welsh Corgi
His name is Zak
Reward if found!

I waited three days but nobody had seen Zak. The next day I went to look for him. Still no luck. It had been one week but nobody called. A week later someone called saying he'd found Zak. My heart was jumping for joy. Later he came over without a dog and asked for the reward. I said, "Where's my dog? No dog no money." He said Zak was at his house, but I didn't believe him. So the search went on. I began to lose hope. Then my best friend Curtis found Zak roaming around his yard and came right over. I tried to give him the money but he said he didn't need it. He was just glad to help. Then Zak came bursting through the door. I was finally reunited with my best pal.

MY SURPRISE
By Paige Watkins (2nd)

One day I wanted to ride a horse. I asked my mom if she would take me to a ranch so I could ride a horse.

She said, "No"! I got mad and went to my room. After a few minutes went by, I stomped madly out of my room and went outside. While I was outside, I rode my bike in front of my house. After 20 minutes had gone by my mom came and told me it was time to eat. When I was done, Mom told me to go get some blue jeans and a pair of cowboy boots on. I said "Why, are we going somewhere?"

She said, "Just go do it!" When I was done putting my pants and boots on I went to get in the car. Mom and I went for a drive. While we were driving I fell asleep. It felt like an hour before Mom woke me up. When she woke me up I asked her, "Where are we?"

She said, "I surprised you, we are at a ranch." "Do I get to ride a horse?"

She said, "Yes!" I asked her, "How long do I get to stay here?"

She said, "You can stay here for one day." Then she asked me, "Do you want me to stay with you or do you want me to go home?"

"I want you to go home".

"Ok," she said. When I went to rent a horse so I could ride, there weren't any there. So I had to wait an hour before I could ride one. So when I got one to ride, I went out on some trails in the forest. I was just riding along when all of a sudden the trail ended. "Oh no," I said. I was trying to find some way out. Then after about 20 minutes, I found a way out. Then I went over to my mom and told her the story. She asked me "Do you want to keep riding or go home?"

I said, "I want to go home." She said, "Ok." So then I took my horse back and somebody else took it. On our way home I told my mom, "Thank You."

She said, "You're welcome." I told her, "It was fun but I don't want to do that again." So after all I got my fright and got to ride a horse.

THE HORSE RACE
By Daron Hovious (3rd)

Brian and Greg are best friends. Brian is riding his horse, Bullet, to Greg's house.

Greg tells Brian that in three months there's going to be a horse race. Brian and Bullet. start walking home to ask if he can enter in the horse race and they say yes!

For three months Brian and Bullet have been training for the horse race. Greg tells Brian the race that there is going to be intense. The next day they were getting ready for the race.

The race starts and Brian and Bullet are in fifth place! Greg and his horse are in sixth place. Brian and Greg begin moving in on the front runner. Brian and Greg are both in first, shouldering it out.

Brian is speeding up. Brian and Bullet win the race!!! Brian just got a kiss from a beautifully lady! He just won a lot of money! The reporters are asking for a comment! He answers, "All that training paid off!!!"

Plays

THE MYSTICAL LIBRARY BOOK
By Chelsi Shubert (1st)

Cafeteria
Part 1

Hey are you going to eat that?" Josie asked Chelsi.

"Ya!" I picked up my carrot and started to munch on it. All of a sudden an intercom came on. "No library will be taken place this week. That is all."

"Creepy but sort of cool." said Hayley as she was finishing her milk. DING DA DING! The school bell rang.

"Well I'll see you guys later."

The Bus
Part 2

"I wonder why we do not have library this week? Is there a gorilla in there or did a window break?" USSSK! The bus brakes went. It was my turn to get off bus.

Home
Part 3

I swung open the door. "How was school?" Mom startled me.

“Oh Uh Fine.”

“Ah!” Mom did not look surprised That’s what I always said fine.

“Well I have to finish my English sooo Bye!” I rushed down the hall and went right. I zipped open my book bag and flopped on my bed. I looked at my last problem then I wrote in cursive “*FALSE*.”

Mom hollered,” Get your chores done!”

“All right!” I rushed up to the back porch sliding the door and headed outside. I watered

Tanner and Rosco with a gardening hose. Then I petted Tanner and then Rosco. Then Emma opened the porch door. “Chelsi dinner is ready!”

“All right!” I slid open the door. I ran to the kitchen to my plate. My chicken looked O.K. but my rice looked a little bland. I ate it anyways because I couldn’t get anything else. After that I put on my jammies and brushed my teeth. I picked up my phone and dialed Josie’s number. RING RING CLICK. “Hello?” Josie asked.

“Hey it’s me, Chelsi, you wanna go to school and go in the library and see what the hubbub is all about?!” I said sort of freakishly. I was surprised. I heard nothing

“Well, I’ll ask Hayley. Hold on.” Five minutes had just passed.

“Hey are you there? O.K. she said ya. She wanted to meet at the Park at well ... Now!” BUZZZZZZZ! She hung up.’ Guess I have to get all my old clothes on.’

“Bye, Mom, I’m going to the Park.” I jogged outside to the garage to get my bike. Then I peddled down to the Park. It was 9: 30 p.m. I spotted Josie and Hayley, SO I went over where they were. We walked to the school, then we opened the door. Right then we saw the library door, It was covered in yellow tape that said, “CAUTION!” We looked at one another. I opened the door. Creeeek! We stepped around Josie had spooked eyes.” Wow, check out that glowing book on that shelf!” Josie had exclaimed. Hayley went over where the book was . Greenish, lime-ish fog came from it. But the weird thing was, every time Hayley got closer the book made a low pitch hummm.

Hayley picked it up. ZAPPPP! Hayley dropped the glowing book. We all screamed ourselves out the school. We ran to the Park.

“We can’t tell anyone!” I said. I rode my bike home, opened the door.

Mom asked,” How was it?”

“You woudn’t believe me if I told you.” I said with a grin.

RAT MAN AND THE SOCCER FIELD

By Josie Howard-Morehead (2nd)

Us. By us I mean Tasha, Nick, Jamie, and Hayley were playing on an old, abandoned, weedy, soccer field. We were all passing the ball back and forth. Jamie gave a wild kick and it rolled down the hill. “I guess I got it,” she yelled and ran down the hill to get it.

Ah! We all heard a scream. And then it was silent. Down the hill we ran to see what was wrong with Jamie. When we got there we saw nothing except a trail of footprints.

“I bet it’s the rat man,” said Hayley as she held her breath.

“Guys this is kind of scary I think I’ll go,” whispered Nick as he was shaking.

“Let’s go find Jamie and hurry its getting dark I don’t want to be with the rat man in the dark,” said Tasha almost crying. And we took off down the path of footprints.

“I think it’s a dead end or a trap.” said Hayley with a fright in her voice.

“Gur gur,” is what we heard from the trees, “I’ve got you now,” said what sounded like the rat man.

“Leave us alone we just want our friend, please give us her,” said Tasha

Then from out of nowhere a faint voice came. It sounded like a motorcycle. We could all guess it was Nick. By this time we could hear Jamie saying help me please in a terrified voice vroom vroom a motorcycle was crumbling. then the rat man turned towards the sound whoosh said the wind as we ran past the rat man.

“Jamie we’re coming,” we all yelled. “Where are you?”

“Over here in the woods,” yelled Jamie’s faint voice. Now the rat man was coming after us. We found Jamie as she was wrapped around in chains.

“You have to have keys,” cried Jamie. “There, over there on that branch.” Hayley grabbed the keys and unlocked the chains that were wrapped around her. The motorcycle had gotten closer and came around the bush. It was Nick, we knew he would be here to save Jamie.

“Hop on we don’t have much time.” Nick said

“We new you would come back for Jamie,” said Hayley.

“Now I have all of you all.” said the rat man.

We got on the motorcycle He stood in the way and we zoomed out the back way.

“Nice try rat man but you’ll never get us,” screamed Jamie

Let’s not tell our parents but something has to be done about that rat man said Nick.

GIRL, I SAID NOT TO!

By Hayley Huey (3rd)

“We’ll never make our goal in time,” Neicey said trying to hold on to the \$26 they had keeping it from the wind.

“So I’ll ask for my allowance early,” Alana said.

“Thanks but I don’t think \$50 will get us \$ 1,000.” Alise added.

“But it will get us somewhere.” Alana said, “And I can talk to my mom about people who need help with things.”

“Sorry babe but ... NO! Your mom always chooses weird people who need help,” Alise said not meaning to offend anybody.

“Well, I’m gonna anyway!”

“Alana why?” Neicey said.

“Fine I won’t only because Neicey wants me to.”

“Mom, do you know anyone that needs a job done?” Alana asked her mom later that night.

“Sure, Lana. I’ll call some of our elderly neighbors,” Her mother said, “and I’ll call Neicey and Alise’s parents to see if they know some people too. So what do you want for super?”

“Don’t call their moms and pops! Please! And for dinner, I want mac ‘n’ cheese,” Alana said almost begging.” Well, I’m going to do my Homework.”

“Wash up before dinner at about seven.”

“Ok Mom,” Alana said not really paying attention.

“My, I mean, I found an old person who is willing to pay \$1,000 if we clean her attic by Friday,” Alana told her focused friends.

“Who? And you had better be better than your mom at choosing people who need help,” Alise threatened.

“Well, I, what do you call ‘weird’ ?”

“Alana!” Alise practically screamed.

“Who is it Alana?” Neicey asked calmly.

“It is Mrs. Haslington, who lives on 16th and Maple,” Alana said trembling.

“You mean the old creepy hag on our street?” Alise inquired.

“Ya, k k kinda.”

“Mrs. Haslington! Mrs. Haslington!Mrs.Haslinton?”

“She’s not here lets go,” Alise said.

“No wait! She’s here, she never leaves.”

“She’d better hurry.”

“Here let’s just go inside

“Hello girls I thought you’d be arriving soon. Come this way.”

“Weird.” Alise whispered to Alana.

“This place is so dusty,” Neicey complained.

“And filled with ancient junk,!” Alise said.

Well, they aren’t junk to Mrs. Haslington,” Alana said.

“Like I care!?”

“Hey guys look at this old photo album!” Neicey said calming down Alise.

“Wow, look at the date! This stuff is way old,” Alana said.

“1896! Let’s look inside.” Alise said. “Oh, wait, Miss P. wouldn’t approve of it.”

“No, I don’t care. It’s not like it’s my diary!”

“Oh by the way, I’ll give you your diary back to you later,” Alise said.

“ Wha....” Alana started to say right when Neicey interrupted with a “Hey look!”

“Is that the hag’s baby picture above 1897?”

“Yes it is.”

“So girl what did you find?”

“Some of your baby pics”

“What?”

“You heard me!”

“Oh dears I haven’t had any of my baby photos since I was 2 when and my house burnt down.”

“W ell then who was the baby named Opal?”

“I don’t know, but it wasn’t me.”

“Okay, we’re leaving now.”

“Bye girls”

“Ya they’re totally freaked out, Mrs. Hoover.”

“Ok good that will teach them not to steal money from my purse.

“Well, bye.”

Sixth Grade

Poetry

MY BIG BROTHER
By Tanner Petersen (1st)

He is good at all kinds
of things.

He skate boards
and
rides four wheelers
really well.

I will tell you one thing,
he dresses
really nice.

He always pays
too much for shoes
kind of like I do.

He is tall
has brown curly hair
and pierced ears.

All of the girls think he is
HOT!

The reason
I love my brother
is not because
he dresses nice or
because all the ladies
think he is hot,
It is because he is always
there for me.

SHADOW
By Carlee Alexander (2nd)

*My adorable
Baby cousin
Shadow is very playful.*

*She is only
Six months old and
is the loudest thing I
Have ever heard.*

*She may cry sometimes,
But usually makes faces,
And is
very well behaved.*

*Shadow
is always playing
Laughing,
And is,
Always trying to hide
From you.*

*Shadow is really a
Curious person.
She can also bug
Her big sister Desi.
My
Baby cousin is
Very lovable.*

EASTER

By Victoria Williams (3rd)

Today is a new
and special day.
It's Easter!!!
I look out my bedroom window
and see the beautiful lilies
that are
unique and original.
I go outside to feel the nice weather
and
start on my Easter egg hunt.
About an hour
has gone past
and I am eating candy
from my eggs!!!
I give all my family an egg
that I decorated.
What a fun, and special day!!!

Short Story

THE EASTER BUNNY

By Devin Anderson (1st)

One sunny, April day in East Philadelphia sat two children by the names of Lulu and Johnny. Lulu was ten and Johnny was six years old. They wanted to go outside, but they couldn't until they cleaned their rooms. They both hated cleaning their rooms, but it had to be done. So they started. Lulu picked up clothes, dusted and vacuumed her room so it looked very nice. Johnny just shoved his clothes, board games and Game Cube under his bed. Now they got to go outside. They rode their bikes to the YMCA. There they played tennis. They played three games and got tired so they rode back home. When they got there they were thinking about Easter. The next day was Easter and they wanted to see the Easter bunny. Neither of them thought he was real. That night while the children were in bed they were thinking about the bunny. How would he look? How would he smell? Would he be scary? They made a plan that they would set their alarm clock to 1:00 a.m. to see the bunny. It went as planned and they woke up at 1:00 a.m. without their parents hearing the buzz of the alarm. Lulu and Johnny sat under their coffee table in their living room, and waited two hours for the bunny. Then he came down the chimney with a bang. He was big, hairy, and pink. He smelled like cotton candy. Lulu thought he was cute. Johnny thought he was horrifying, but he still liked it. The bunny laid eggs all around the house. Then he left in his blue with black flames Lamborghini. So he was real! They were so happy. Now they went to bed. In the morning they hunted the eggs of all colors and had an Easter dinner. They were very, very happy and thrilled they had seen the bunny and couldn't wait until he came back next Easter.

MIDNIGHT FRIGHT

By Victoria Williams (2nd)

“Why do you always have to embarrass me? Everywhere I go you always stand out like a purple flamingo or something,” said Jamie. “You don't talk to us like that. We're your parents.” “But.” “No buts, go to your room now.” Jamie slammed the door with all her might. She decided to pack some clothes and a couple of her gold and silver medals she won at some softball games. “I'm running away,” she said silently, to Waffles her cat. “And you're going with me. If nobody cares for me here, then maybe I should... should just go live somewhere else.”

It was 3:00 in the morning when Jamie jumped out of her window and down the dirt path into the Pine Forest. Something broke the silence. Crack. “Wh ... wh..who’s there?” Nobody answered. “Maybe it was just a cute little bunny or something,” Jamie said to Waffles. Crack. “I’m warning you, I got a stick and I’m not afraid to use it.” But still nobody answered.

Jamie was so frightened that she walked unexpectedly forward towards a cemetery. She opened the gate and peeked around. “Ok Waffles, maybe we should leave, this is kind of spooky.” She turned around and there was a man right in front of her. He was so scratched up, bloody, skinny, dirty and there were even ribs sticking out of him. Jamie then knew that she needed to sprint.

Jamie screamed as loud as she could and ran through the cemetery to the far side. She opened the gate and dashed through the forest. Jamie came upon a tiny lake, and figured that maybe the man couldn’t swim or was afraid of water. So Jamie picked up Waffles and jumped in the lake. She searched around to where the man was. “Maybe he’s gone,” said Jamie. “Let’s go.” But he wasn’t, he was right under her. The man yanked her down under the water and tried drowning her, but Jamie backfired a kick right in his head. He let go and Jamie swam thriftily to the bay of the lake.

She caught her breath and wiped off the blood from Waffles scratching her. The man crawled out of the water and laid down. Waffles jumped on top of his stomach. “Waffles get off now.” But before Waffles did the man booted him 9 yards away. “Waffles,” Jamie cried. “Please don’t hurt me.” Before she knew it, she was cornered.

“Help, somebody, help me, please help.” Jamie was huddled up against the wall shaking. The man hovered over her and was getting ready to grab her. Then suddenly Waffles leaped on the man and started scratching him. Jamie was finally free. She got up and grabbed Waffles off of the man, and started sprinting to the opposite side of the woods that she came from. Jamie knew there was a farm nearby because it was Old Man Jinkens farm. It was only 1 mile away, so if she tried hard enough she could get there in a short amount of time.

And she did but by the time she got there, there was a figure far out in the field. Jamie didn’t know what it was, so she ran out there as fast as she could. And when she got there the man was melting. Right at that moment Jamie knew she was safe. So she pranced on home, taking the long way and not through the woods. She finally got home, climbed in her window and went to bed. It was like she hadn’t even gone.

WHERE IS BACON?

By Shaun Herr (3rd)

Billy Bob, Big Dean, Skinny Shaun, and Bacon the pig are best friends. (Bacon is Billy Bob’s pig, he got him for his first birthday.) Billy Bob, Big Dean, Skinny Shaun, and Bacon go camping in the Great Forest of South America. They get there and set up for dinner because it was almost time for dinner. Billy Bob, and Bacon go to get some firewood and ten minutes pass. “HELP ME, HELP ME,” Billy Bob came back yelling, because there was no Bacon. Billy Bob tells them what happened to Bacon. Skinny Shaun, Big Dean, and Billy Bob went out to look for Bacon in the middle of cold dark nighttime. Then Big Dean just vanished in to thin air. Now there were just two, Skinny Shaun and Billy Bob. They are looking for Bacon and Big Dean. Billy Bob thinks he hears a pig squeal so Billy Bob ran away. Skinny Shaun heard a spooky sound so he ran. He ran so fast that he tripped over his feet. A little animal and two ghosts appeared. Then they yelled happy birthday. It was Skinny Shaun’s birthday so they partied all night long. That was the day they would never forget for the rest of their lives. Now they go there every year. They never forgot to be there because they would have a big birthday party.

Plays

THE BOY’S LESSON

By Dean Lewis (1st)

Characters: Allen, Terry, Mark, Jack. All are 6th graders

Place: Allen’s backyard.

Time: Saturday afternoon; early October.

Act 1

All boys are on stage. One boy is holding a football.

Terry: That was a close game.

Allen: Yes, it was. Mark and I kept up with you guys pretty good.

Jack: Well, after we get rested up, we can go another round.

Mark: I like touch football, but not that much. I’m tired.

Terry: What else can we do? It is still early afternoon.

Jack: You guys ever been to the old Smith house?

(Each one is thinking.)

Jack: You know the one the Legion always fixes up for the Halloween haunted I Louse?

Allen: Naw! My dad said it was very spooky. He figures I should be older, so I haven’t been out to see it.

Mark: I know where it is, It is a mile or so north of the ball field, I haven’t seen the haunted house.

Terry: I always have my Halloween fun here in town. My dad said there will be time to go out there when I get older. I don’t think a mile sounds all that far,

Allen: Well, I'm bored just setting around like this. We should do something.

Jack: We could head out to the old Smith house. A mile don't sound so bad, What do you say?

Mark: Gee! I have been wondering just what they do with the inside of that house. do you think we could see anything?

Terry: Maybe we could just peek through the windows. See if they have started to fix it up.

Allen: My parents have these rules: I can't go running all about town without telling them first. We are talking about the country here. I am supposed to be playing football now.

Jack: Man! It is early afternoon. We can make it out there and back before dinner. Our parents won't know the difference.

Mark: Yah! They are all busy working. How would they know?

Terry: Gee! We could get an idea what it is like. Would that be trespassing?

Allen: My dad hasn't left yet. Maybe I could get him to call Mr. Smith and ask if we could just look a little. Dad might even take us out since all of us would be together. I'll run and ask him. (Allen exits.)

Jack: Fat chance of that happening!! I bet Allen's dad will say NO right off!

Mark: You know we could all ride our bikes out there. We could do it.

Allen: (Allen enters.) I am sorry guys. My dad has a meeting this afternoon, He will call Mr. Smith sometime this week. You can talk to your parents about it. Then dad will drive us out next Saturday if everyone agrees.

All Together: Oh gosh!

Mark: Next Saturday! What do you mean next Saturday? We want to do something right now! It's boring just setting here.

Jack: We can do it. Allen's dad is just leaving. We can get going now.

Terry: We can ride our bikes out there and back in just a little while.

Allen: I don't think this is a good idea. Really, I think we should wait.

Mark to Allen: You coming or not?

Jack: Come on, Allen. Don't be chicken. You get your bike. We are out of here.
(All exit.)

Act 2

Mark is injured on the ground. He groans as he holds his rib cage, sore elbow and his face is bloody. Boys are standing around Mark.

Terry: (to Mark) You went flying when your bike hit that rut in the road. You hurt badly

Mark: Groans

Jack: What was your hurry anyway?

Allen: You were peddling so fast, I couldn't keep up with you.

Terry: Next thing I saw you lying on the ground in that ditch!

Allen: I said this wasn't a good idea. Now your bike is up there on the road with a bent front wheel.

Jack: You ripped your shirt where your elbow is bleeding.

Terry: How can we help you? Can you get up? Here, let me help!

Mark tries to stand. He groans and holds elbow and rib cage. He limps.

Allen: This wasn't a good idea.

Terry: We should get Mark some help. We better turn back for town.

Jack: Mark, you won't be riding your bike anywhere. That front wheel is badly bent.

Terry: We will leave Mark's bike here. We can push Mark on one of our bikes.
(They all exit. They are helping Mark limp off.)

Act 3

All boys are on stage. Mark is bandaged up. Patch on face and elbow and is on crutches.

Allen: Good thing my dad missed us when he got home from his meeting. He didn't see us playing football, and he guessed what we were doing.

Terry: He found us along the road and brought us home.

Jack: We should have waited until next week end. A week isn't such a long wait.

Terry: I don't even know what Dad did with my bike. I may never see it again.

Jack: I can't ride my bike for a year. I can't even celebrate Halloween or watch any television.

Terry: Now, I have to do extra math problems and read instead of watching TV.

Mark: You think that is bad. I will have to earn money to fix up my bike. I even have to help Dad pay for my doctor bill.

Allen: I said it wasn't a good idea. Now we are all grounded forever. We didn't even get out to that Halloween house.

Jack: I think next time we better listen to our parents.

Terry: There is a reason why our parents say what they say.

Allen: Yes, we had to learn that the hard way.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU EAT?

By Shaun Herr (2nd)

Characters-Shaun, Dean, Tanner and Judge Bob

Tanner: Do you want to go to an eating contest?

Dean: Oh yah, let's go.

Shaun: I bet that I will beat you pigs.

Tanner: Funny, Shaun, you will never beat me.

Dean: Don't you mean you will not beat me?

Shaun: I will win, now let's just go to the contest.

They got to the contest and it was almost time to begin.

Judge Bob: Ready, Set, Snow! Just joking. Go!

Shaun: Come on, try to beat me.

Tanner: I will beat you till you cry.

Judge Bob: Time is almost up, five, four, three, two, one, stop. Time is up. Shaun got 18 hotdogs, Dean got 17 hotdogs and Tanner got 13 hotdogs. Shaun is our winner!

Shaun: You got schooled, Pigs.

Dean: Good try, Tanner.

Tanner: You too.

Judge Bob: Shaun, you win a big tray full of money, \$100 to be precise. That is this year's eating contest, see you next year.