

STUDENT VOICE

A Publication for and by Students of The READ Center

Summer 2020

Helping Others

By Lauren P.

I've been working at Morningside Assistance Living for the past five years as a server. I enjoy my job because I prepare the dishes of ice cream for the people that lives there. When I give the ice cream to them I ask them how they are doing. It gives me great joy to work there because I'm helping others.



Equality

By Bernard M.

The death of George Floyd and all the other countless men and women who have died at the hands of police officers and prejudiced individuals have charged a world movement to end racism of Black Americans and all people of color. Our world is divided and we need equality. As an African American, I want to see a world that can come together as one United Nation. A world that can live and love peacefully with each other regardless of the color of our skin.

Holding the Police Responsible for Their Actions

By A Voice Speaking Out

I think protesting is a good thing because it gives the people a chance to hold the police accountable for that they have been doing to our young black men and women for so many year. I have had several encounters with the way they handled the situations in which some have ended in death. Because the police think they are above the law, they treat black people any way they see it. It is time for the police to be held accountable for their actions towards our black young men and women. If they start prosecuting some of the prejudiced and mentally disturbed police, the killing and wrongful arrests will stop!



COVID-19 In Summary

By Thing 1

Critical illness
 Organs effected
 Rough recovery
 On going battle
 Now world crisis
 Acute ICU
 Vicious attacker
 Incurable right now
 Relapses
 Unknown carriers
 Silent endings

My Feelings about Being in Class

By Reginald G.

I am feeling happy that I will be in class tonight. I will read the book and answer all of the questions, too. I will read the newspaper, and also I will work on the computer. I am doing good while I am working on the worksheet. I feel happy that I get all of the right answers on the worksheet.





My Family During the COVID-19 Pandemic

By Marcia R.

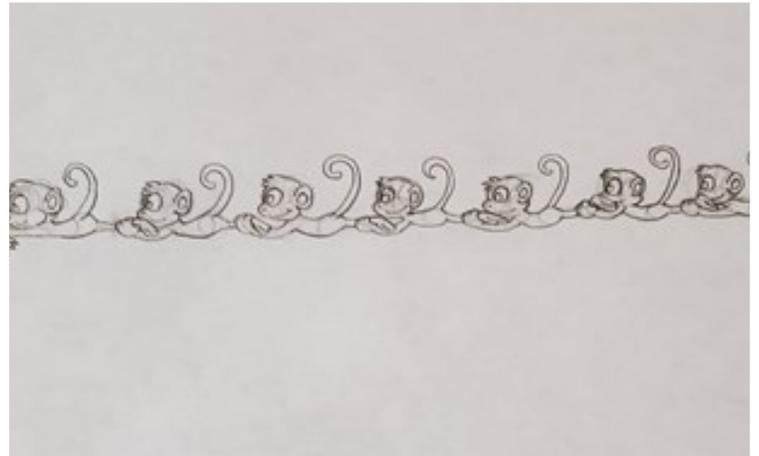
My husband hasn't been impacted at his job in New York because he works with the federal government. Also the education for my daughters and me during the Covid-19 was difficult in the beginning and complicated. We never thought the Covid-19 pandemic would take a long time. We continue to do

our school education using Chromebooks, videoconferencing and emails during quarantine. Also we don't know when Covid-19 will end.

Mr. Dolittle and the Bridges of Apes

By Stephen S.

This story is about a doctor named Dolittle, who can talk to the animal. But Dr. Dolittle has no money. What would his animal friends do now? Dolittle's animal friends helped clean inside his house. Dr. Dolittle and his animal friends are going to the ship. And Dolittle and his friends are sailing to Africa to help the sick monkeys in Africa. The flying fish gave Dr. Dolittle wild onions. Dr. Dolittle and his animal friends escaped from Jolliginki. In Chapter 7 we read "The Bridges of Apes" I drew a picture of how the Bridge of Apes looked. The Apes made a bridge for Dr. Dolittle and his animals to cross. They needed to get across to the Land of the Monkeys because they were being chased by the King's men.



New Technology

By Andretta L.

I love the class via video conferences. It has allowed us to learn how to use today's technology. It's also great for the student who cannot make it in the classroom. Also if we have bad weather and the school building is closed, we can still have class. I love how we are using Google Docs.



This Disease Called COVID-19

By Kasheeda S.



This disease has not been seen before in humans. Scientists are still learning about it. COVID-19 is a very dangerous disease. Doctors don't have a vaccine to treat the virus. COVID-19 spread all over the world. People all over the world are dying with this virus. Countries all over the world had to close their borders, but it was already spreading. Countries had to tell the people to stay at home and shut down the country in order for the virus to stop spreading. In a few days people's lives drastically changed from going to work and kids going to school. Only essential workers like health care workers, emergency, police officers, firefighters, grocery stores, pharmacies, food trucks, warehouse workers and farmers etc. If all of us stand together six feet apart, wear a mask, and wash our hands or use sanitizer we can fight this virus COVID-19.

By Rashad Walker

I would like to speak Spanish. I did not learn to speak it in school. I can speak a little bit. Some kids learn to speak Spanish in school.



By Rashad Walker



I read the story about diving with sharks. I would not go diving because I don't want to be eaten by sharks. I would like to swim in a pool instead. Sharks live in beach water. I like to go to the beach to sit in the sand and have a picnic. Some people have their chairs and listen to music. I like to play volleyball at the beach. I don't swim in the ocean.

By Hiram

Hiram is a tutor who helps younger people behind bars when people get into trouble, they can get locked behind bars. Many of those who are locked up are young people. Every day some older people go behind bars too. But they're not in trouble they go into the jails to help the young people. These older people teach the younger ones to read and write. While also teach them that people can be nice. Everyone hopes that this learning will give the younger people skills to live life better.



By Tim Walker

I'm going to the planet Venus to visit my friend Pluto. He is the biggest friend Venus has in planet Jupiter. We are going shopping for jellyfish jackets and shark pants. Once we get back to Venus's house, we are going to try on our new clothes we bought from Earth store. And then we are going to a party to show off our new clothes we bought from Earth store on planet Mars. Everyone started to stare at us once we walked through the door and gathered around us. They thought that we were lunch. They started to swim around us. I got away from them. They were swimming around us just like lots of big fish. Pluto did not survive. He was caught in the net.



By Jammarr Evans

Supergirl wears a blue suit with a red skirt and red boots. Also she has a red S on her chest. She tries to save her neighbors from the water. Poison Ivy, a woman in a green suit, prevents her from saving the neighbors. Supergirl is able to save her neighbors from the water by using her super power of freezing Poison Ivy. The neighbors thanked Supergirl for saving them.



Working with a Disability

By Kim

I always wanted to work but I have a learning disability that always gets in my way. It will stop me from getting certain jobs like if I have to read something I will not get that job. People like me have a very hard time getting a good job. But we don't give up so easily. I will keep going, never give up. I will keep trying. I am not saying I never had a job before. I did have a job. I worked long hour and hard. The job was not a good job. I was not making enough money to take care of my family. So I quit. Later on I found another job. I was working at TJMAX. I really liked that job. I met some good people there. They became my friends. I worked there for two years. But they had to let me go because of my disability. I am not mad at them. I understand. My family is all grown up now so I started to focus on myself. I signed up with the READ center and I am studying and learning to read and write better. In the future I want bring this awareness to others who don't understand people like me.



What is Something you have Learned Lately?

By Shawna L.

I have learned that I can be brilliant at something. At other times, I just do not know if I'm coming or going and life is really tough. Everything is a learning process. I am willing to learn new things.



Two Short Stories Using Spelling Words (underlined words)

Lets Uncover the Mystery

By Janine B.

It was a Saturday night and Lisa decided to have a get together. So she invited a few friends over. Before the night was over Lisa realized that some of her money was missing and she said to herself I know these girls did not take my money. Money just doesn't disappear. I know Kim is dishonest. I know how Pam would react. I'm unable to ask Jackie because she's drunk and I know how that would end up. I just have to replay tonight until I know for sure. I feel so uncomfortable to ask these ladies. I need to ask them. So I started with some unknown stuff that I dislike that's going on. My money is missing. Have any of you seen it? They looked at each other and at me with dislike in their eyes. Tina said you know you dropped your money in the car. You should go and look. So then I apologized to the ladies. I'm so glad I found my money, thanks to Tina.



Today Is Going To Be A Busy Day

By Janine B.



It's 7am in the morning and my alarm clock is going off too early for me. I know I have a busy day. I need to get up and get ready for the day. First thing I need to do is water the garden and then get the babies bags ready for daycare. When they get up I will turn the TV on so they can watch cartoons. The kid's father and I got into a big argument about him leaving the glasses on the carpet knowing I really don't like cleaning up behind him. Ok, enough about him. I am supposed to be receiving an award at work today. I am running late. I have a crush on the security guard at work. So I need to look cute. He is such a charm. I am so glad I'm receiving a reward today.

Coronavirus

By Samuel P.

My life has changed because I have to stay in the house all the time. Wegmans ships the groceries to our house. I do not go to the gym because it is closed. I do not go to the READ Center. It is closed.



By Dewin T.

It changed everything and made people stay home for months. Some lose their jobs. The coronavirus nobody knows where it's coming from but it kills people. We need to get together and pray because it is a terrible disease.



By Hung Q.

I never expected a pandemic to occur in my life time. The first occurrence of the coronavirus was in Wuhan, but I don't have any relatives living in Wuhan. I have relatives living in Hong Kong, and they are affected too. In February, I sent them some masks. Now, the whole world has the coronavirus. The coronavirus put a lot of pressure on life and made everyone nervous. Millions of people got sick from it, and hundreds of thousands have died. Millions lost their jobs, businesses have suffered, and so have schools. I pray things get better soon.

By Alice

Coronavirus means to me staying in the house and not going to class. I miss all my friends and family. I hope to get back to class very soon. I like reading and writing over the phone but I would like to be in class doing it. I wish it would go away. I don't like being in the house and it makes people sick.

Coronavirus

By Harry T.

I am writing about the coronavirus. The virus have everything and everyone locked down in their home right now. I am so tired of sitting around the house doing nothing. Tho I miss being in class and I miss my classmates, I love doing homework. But I don't like doing it through the mail. I have books and the News for You newspaper that I do read, but I am still going stir crazy. Seem like everyone, everywhere is getting tired of the virus. The virus is taking control of peoples lives, mentally and physically.

By Marie G.

I wake up everyday, I think of people who are affected by the coronavirus. This pandemic has entered the world and it has changed everyone's life. People are losing their jobs, and getting sick and dying from this virus and not knowing when things are going to get better. To me, from the looks of things, it doesn't seem like there is going to be an end in sight soon. This COVID 19 virus is a killer, and it is not here to choose race or gender, rich or poor. Life is a life and it is precious to God!! On a personal note, this year 2020 has been a challenge for me. First off, I was struggling to take care of my mother who was battling pancreatic cancer. We lost the fight. For me I was not able to go to the funeral. I don't know if I will be able to recover from the pain and the heart ache that I feel...but the love and memories of my mother will always be with me as long as I live. The virus hit and we stopped attending class, which means we've stopped gathering together - which is social distancing. Thanks to the READ Centers staff and teachers, I am kept busy with school work at home. So if you are reading the Student Voice, it means that we have survived the pandemic and maybe, jus maybe we are now back together. Please love and care for each other and pray for one another, this way we will live peacefully as a nation.



How Sugar is Made

By A.C.B

We get sugar from a sugar plant. First, the laborer plants a piece of sugar cane in the field. After they plant the young plant in the ground, the plant starts to grow. The laborers keep the plants clear from weeds. From June to December is the rainy season. The plant turns into a cane. When it gets heavy, it starts to lay down and then it is time to harvest it. The canes are cut from the field. It is very hard work. The sun is beating down on



the laborers. They work from morning to night. Other laborers bundle the canes and load them on a tractor with a trailer. This goes to the factory. The factory workers unload the trailer into the mill at the factory. Steel blades chop the canes up and crush and squeeze it until juice comes out. While the juice comes out, they add water to it. After some other steps it becomes a syrupy, dark color. It is processed to become crystals. The crystals have to be processed more to become a household product.



A Day in the Life of a Truck Driver

By Rodney

Truck driving can be a lot of fun and travel. It is also lonely. When a truck driver starts his day off, he or she has to do a truck inspection. They have to make sure all tires have air and that the windshield wipers are good. Also the lights. These aren't all you

have to inspect, but they are a few of the things. When you get a load, they give you a time and date of arrival. The responsibility is yours to get the load to the customer on time. There could be a lot of obstacles to doing that. A couple of these are weather, traffic and time.

Although it is a lot of responsibility, you do get to see a lot of the countryside. The pay is good, the hours are long but the job of driving a truck is great. And these are a few things about truck driving.

Hunter Street

By Carlos

One day, a new kid named Max moved into a new house called The Hunters with four other kids. There was Tess, Daniel, Sal, Anika and Jake. Max asked, "What do ya'll do for fun?" The father, Eric Hunter, told Max what each of them liked to do. Tess reads books. Daniel just likes to work out. Sal is into science. Jake loves to draw. And Anika is a fashion decorator. They all called themselves the Hunters because they loved being with each other and, even though they were all from different places, they come together as one big happy family.



Lance and Carol's Story

By Lance

I worked for Sussex County in New Jersey where I met Carol and asked her for a music tape. On October 8, 1999, we went out on our first date. After six weeks, we knew we would get married. We got married on May 13, 2000. We took a nice honeymoon to New Hampshire and Maine. We lived in Newton, New Jersey with our two cats Princess and Petey. In November 2016, we moved to Richmond, Virginia.



Halloween

By LaQuinda

I always go to Kings Dominion on Halloween with my best friend, Megan. I don't know if I'm going to make it this year in October because of the virus going on right now. Halloween is one of my favorite things I like to do. I love seeing all the Kings Dominion co-workers dressed up in Halloween costumes. Even though it's a little scary, but I also love watch scary movies. Me and my best friend take a lot of pics because it's fun. Leaving the park I always think of all the fun I had.

Bullying Questions

By D.W.



Why are people still bullying other people?
What do you get out of bullying other people?
What are the symptoms of being bullied?
How do you come back from being bullied?
If you see other people being bullied, how can you help them?
How can you STOP the bullying?
To the bully: Would you want to be bullied?

Note: These are my question after the passing of my niece, Maliyah, who was bullied.

The Hajj

By S.R.

This time I will introduce you to the fifth and last Pillar of Islam. It's called Hajj which is an annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, the holiest city for Muslims. It is in the month of Zul-Hijja which is the last month of the Muslim lunar calendar. If a person has reached puberty and is physically and finically able to, they must do the Hajj one time in their lifetime. It is the largest annual gathering of Muslims in the world. Ihram is the name given to the special spiritual state. The men pilgrims wear two white sheets of seamless fabric. Men and women abstain from certain actions during the period of Ihram. The ritual of pilgrimage to Mecca has been done by Muslims since over thousands of years ago to the time of Prophet Ibraheim. During Hajj, pilgrims join processions of millions of people, who gathered in Mecca for the week of the Hajj, and perform a series of rituals: each person walks counter-clockwise seven times (Tawaf) around the Kaaba (the cube-shaped building and the direction of prayer for the Muslims). I will tell you about the Kaaba never, ever the birds fly over the Kaaba. When you ask why, it is because it's a power from Allah (God). Each person trots (walking very fast) back and forth between the hills of Safa and Marwah seven times. Then they drink from the Zamzam Well. After that, everyone gathers to go to the plains of Mount Arafat to pray. They then spend a night on the plain of Muzdalifa and collect small stones. The next morning, they throw the stones at three pillars that represent the devil. After the sacrifice of a lamb or goat, the men are required to shave or cut their hair. Women cut a few hairs. Then they celebrate the four-day global festival of Eid al-Adha (The Sacrifice Holiday) We did our Hajj in 2008. It was an amazing trip which I would love to do again and again.

My Whole Hearts

By Kenyatta

As a child, I wasn't always the best, but my mom, grandmother, and my aunts Michelle Gray and Tajuana Jeffries always made a way for us to have a good life. When they say "It takes a village to raise a child", it really does. These women made me the woman I am today, and I want to say "thank you" for being in my life. To my two aunts, you both helped me get over the loss of my mom and grandmother, thank you and I love you for that.



My Favorite Game to Play

By Joshua

My favorite game to play is football. I love playing the game. Because when I was a little boy my father gave me a football for my birthday and I fell in love that day. I played with it all the time all day long. I played football in the rain and the snow. I played football when and wherever I could. I played football in the summer, winter and fall. I played recreation football for Calhoun Center in Jackson Ward. I played football in middle school and High school. When I played high school ball I messed up my knee so I couldn't play anymore. But I still love the game. I go to High School games on Friday nights. I look at college games Saturday and the N.F.L. on Sunday. My Grandson plays for Calhoun now. Football is the best. I just love it.



Black Lives Matter

By Ava Entzminger

Most people say that they can't wait for things to get back to normal. As for me, I don't want some things to go back to normal. If some people think police brutality and killing Black men and woman is normal, then something is wrong with that normal. If you think normal is killing LGBTQ people and we hear on the news that a gay man or transgender person is found dead because of who they are, is normal, then something is wrong with that normal. If you think good healthcare is not for all, then something is wrong with that normal.



By Janine

LIFE..

It's about 12 am in the morning and I just can't go to sleep. There is so much going on in my mind, how crazy things have gotten. I am just tired of hearing about people dying. The Coronavirus have taken 106,202 people away and we still have people fighting for their life right now. And now we have people protesting and rioting. I understand that people are mad but why are they out here breaking into people's stores. Now they have people sitting in jail side by side. So how many more are we going to lose? Besides that I'm feeling sorry for some of the police officers. Not all are bad, we do have some good ones. What about them? They have families that they have to go home to. Are they going to make it home? They said black lives matter, but in my eyes all lives matter. I'm so glad I had a grandmother that taught me a lot when I was growing up about racism. But I have my own theory, racism started from home or an unhappy experience that has happened in life I believe, but everybody has their own beliefs. But if you sit back and really think about it racism is taught. Babies are not afraid and they love everybody. People should teach their children how to love and not hate.



Black Lives Matter

By Anna

I might not be someone who's a threat, but when you affect lives of people, you are hurting the nation. I shall fight for the rights of those people because everyone is family to me. You can arrest me, torture me, and even sentence me to jail. You're welcome to think you've defeated me but I am still standing tall. My beliefs for this nation will never die, but only to become stronger. With my beliefs I shall fight for justice and equality for Black Lives Matter. Black lives always have and always will matter. You can try to erase the fact, but the evidence is all around us. It's time for a change and get the facts right. For our history may be negative but now we can change it. With the history of this nation, we will not lose our spirits for what's right.

By Larry

It was wrong to kill George Floyd. He didn't do anything wrong. Just because he's black they shouldn't have killed him. Martin Luther King said everyone should get along.... black, white, brown. I love everyone.... black, white, brown. I don't care what anyone's skin color is. I love everyone. God made us this way. I'm glad the cop is in jail. You shouldn't kill someone because of their race. We are all the same. We bleed the same. It's not right.

By A.C.B

Protesting and standing up for black people I understand. You need to come out big. These people that come into town and destroy things shouldn't happen. Things have to change but not by destroying poor people's things.

By S.R

It's not right to kill someone. The police should help us and protect us. This action makes me sad.



By L.W

What happened to George was wrong and I stand up for him. I hope they get justice for him. He said he couldn't breathe and they didn't do anything. It hurts me to the core. Now he won't be able to see his daughter graduate.

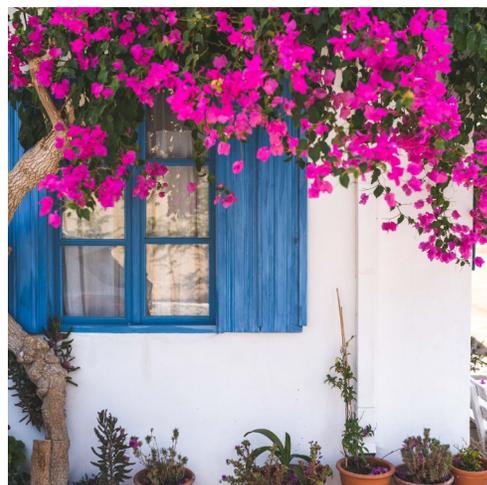
By Lance

It is very sad for both parties, sad that a person died, sad for his family, and sad that there is lots of hatred and no love.

My Goals in Life

By Beth

I would like to live to see my grandchildren reach their goals in life and my girls get married to Godly men. I have been working about 53 years and my body is tired. I hope that one day soon I won't have to work and can just do some volunteer work. Another goal of mine is to make my front yard beautiful with green grass and flowers and get my driveway paved or put some gravel down. Last, I want to live past 100 with a sound mind and good health. I want to be able to drive and take care of myself.



This is Something I Never Dreamed Would Happen!

By P.H.

Covid is something I did not think would happen. It came out unexpectedly and something you would dream that would never happen in real life. It affected many people and it killed many people too. People had to stay inside for a long period of time and still is because no one really knows when Covid will go away. Businesses had to shut down and people have to wear masks. Scientists are working and trying to find the cause and the right vaccine to get rid of it.



Changing lives through adult literacy is The READ Center's mission.

We believe that everyone needs and deserves a literate life.

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