

# ARBOR DAY

April 26 2013

**Arbor Day** was celebrated on Friday, April 26, 2013 sponsored by the Shade Tree Commission of Demarest.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Demarest Middle School competed in a poetry contest highlighting a species of tree and or focusing their poetry on the status of our trees after Super Storm Sandy.

All the students did a wonderful job on their poetry. We thank the students Language Arts teachers for their guidance; Mr. Sorge, Ms. Vitelli, Ms. Calegari, and Ms. Weingarden.

The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade received gift certificates to Barnes & Noble and books on trees.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place——Sarah Geller

2<sup>nd</sup> place——Nick Liew

3<sup>rd</sup> place——Alex Martinez

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade winners:

1<sup>st</sup> place——Katherine Wang

2<sup>nd</sup> place——Brenda Cho

3<sup>rd</sup> place——Jimin Park

## Congratulations to ALL!!

All students in CRS, DMS and LLE received tube seedlings of either Norway Spruce or Northern Red Oak which is the New Jersey State tree. Instructions for the seedling tree care were given to all. The students were encouraged to nurture the seedlings as these 700 hundred trees will add to beautiful Demarest's tree canopy in time.

maple

by Katherine Wang

*(a beginning initiates with the fall of a maple pod;  
spiraling down, remotely like a helicopter and allowing this movement  
are the wing-like blades slicing the air with each rotation.)*

when the leaves flourish and the trunk toughens,  
the air is warm with June and July:  
the tree is decorated from the lowest branch to the uppermost  
in verdant leaves so jaggedy, that they may have been  
cut out by a child with no dotted line to follow

a sign of cold:  
fire now embraces the branches,  
each leaf flaunting its own shade of autumn.  
but as the month turns double-digit, they dangle on frail stems,  
deprived of rain and shriveled to a dusty tint

in the fullness of time, the leaves are dead  
but the core is very much alive;  
no longer adorned by leaves but powdered by snow  
the maple tree is kept sanguine  
with the lights threaded around its limbs

*(the end is an epilogue, one hundred years from this day  
but the tree always knew it had come from a spindly seed  
and grew nowhere but from that notion.)*

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Life of the Rose of Sharon

It is the month of August and summer has arrived

The Rose of Sharon tree has thrived

The tree is too bare with no color other than green

However the light green leaves make the Rose of Sharon ideally attractive

Time passes by and the tree will soon become decorative

The flowers have blossomed and revealed their beauty

The tree has now shown its true identity

White and some hints of pink on the petals of the flower

opens up wide to catch the sunlight

And later closes its petals and awaits for the light

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Fall staggers in, right on schedule, with its baggage of chilly nights

The Rose of Sharon begins to weaken

The tree will lose its strength and no one would question

The leaves are falling and the flowers are wilting.

The leaves soon start cringing on the tree

"Fall is the time when leaves fall from the trees, just as spring is when flowers spring up", author Diane Ackerman has stated

Although the Rose of Sharon has lost its green life until the spring season,

it will blossom again as it has always been

By Brenda Cho

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Beautiful Cherry tree

Jimin Park

I sat there watching the cherry tree  
The vibrant dark green leaves  
I planted the tree with a lot of energy  
I shoveled with all my strength to place the tree  
Beautiful Cherry Tree

Sandy takes my tree  
Happiness..  
Joyful..  
Delight..  
Heart..

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No sunlight  
No water  
No soil  
In my mind  
Without Beautiful Cherry Tree

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Sitting solemnly a weeping giant,  
Looking out and being defiant.  
Branches covering and looking down,  
Wearing the leaves like a fancy gown.  
May be light and pale as snow,  
Or dark as night and aglow.

The weeping willow is a beauty on earth,  
Nobody knows how much it is truly worth.  
Curling over and into the light,  
The weeping tree is such a sight.  
Always being alone,  
Little then and now has grown.

It's branches reaching out,  
Going to sprout.  
The seeds burrowing down in the dirt,  
Soon they will begin to spurt.  
Down pour the leaves,  
Representing some one who grieves.

As the leaves come down and shade you,  
You realize the beauty inside of all nature too.  
And as the light begins to dawn,  
The weeping willow will keep going on.  
While the shimmering blue sky turns a misting gray,  
You slowly turn and walk away.

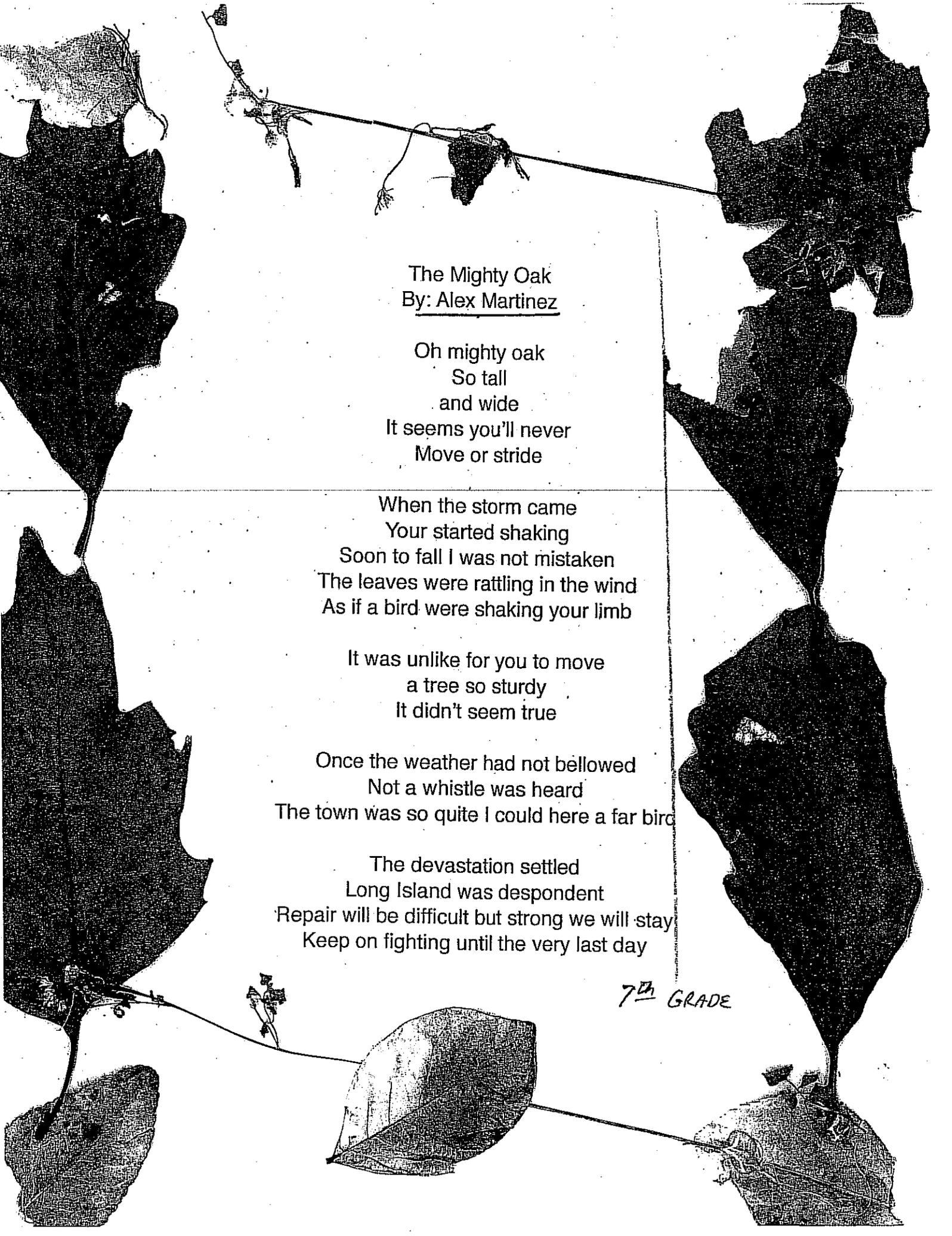
By Sarah Gellen  
7th Grade

# Oak

From an acorn to tree it's beautiful to see  
Alluring in its form collected in my thoughts  
Wonderful Oak fine in its design.  
Has been with us throughout time.  
It's Lumber used far and wide.  
Across the ocean and other lands a far.  
Wondrous tree with varying use.  
From meds to sheds to be consumed.  
Quercus genus of the wood.  
Revered in mythology and embedded in history.  
Symbol of strength for an eternity  
Oak unique and forever living

By  
Nick Y. Liew

7<sup>th</sup> GRADE



The Mighty Oak  
By: Alex Martinez

Oh mighty oak  
So tall  
and wide  
It seems you'll never  
Move or stride

When the storm came  
Your started shaking  
Soon to fall I was not mistaken  
The leaves were rattling in the wind  
As if a bird were shaking your limb

It was unlike for you to move  
a tree so sturdy  
It didn't seem true

Once the weather had not bellowed  
Not a whistle was heard  
The town was so quite I could here a far bird

The devastation settled  
Long Island was despondent  
Repair will be difficult but strong we will stay  
Keep on fighting until the very last day

7<sup>th</sup> GRADE