

## Central Valley Elementary Student Has Historical Family Story Selected for Publication

by Lisa Fischer

St. Louis, Mo., March 19, 2018—Piper Shepard, a sixth grader at Central Valley Elementary School, has had an historical family story selected for publication in *Grannie Annie, Vol. 13*, to be released in May by The Grannie Annie Family Story Celebration. *Volume 13* will be published as a paperback book, an eBook, and a PDF book. In addition, the stories in *Volume 13* will be posted on The Grannie Annie's website and shared in social media throughout the year.



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in St. Louis, The Grannie Annie invites students in U.S. grades 4 through 8, and homeschooled and international students of comparable ages, to write about something interesting they discover from their family's history based on their interviews with older relatives.

Piper's story, titled "Help," tells about the night her great-grandmother, then a young mother, was shot, and her great-aunt, then a child, had to go through the alfalfa field to obtain help.

The thirty-six stories in *Grannie Annie, Vol. 13*, represent the 528 submissions received this year from young authors in eight states. The published stories, which took place in eleven countries on four continents over a span of 136 years, include personal accounts of historic events as well as vivid recollections of everyday activities.

"Wonderful as these published stories are," said Fran Hamilton, Associate Director of The Grannie Annie, "the essence of The Grannie Annie does not require publication. As thousands of stories have been discovered and preserved over the years, countless family bonds have been strengthened. The value of those benefits cannot be measured."

All students who submitted stories or illustrations for *Grannie Annie, Vol. 13*, will be honored at The Grannie Annie's Family Stories Festival at the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 3. In addition to published authors reading their stories, and published artists reading an artist's statement about their illustrations, the festival will include a book signing, an art exhibit, a display of special class projects, and more. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Complete details about The Grannie Annie, as well as all of the stories published throughout the years, can be found at [www.TheGrannieAnnie.org](http://www.TheGrannieAnnie.org). Stories to be considered for publication in *Grannie Annie, Vol. 14*, must be submitted by February 1, 2019.