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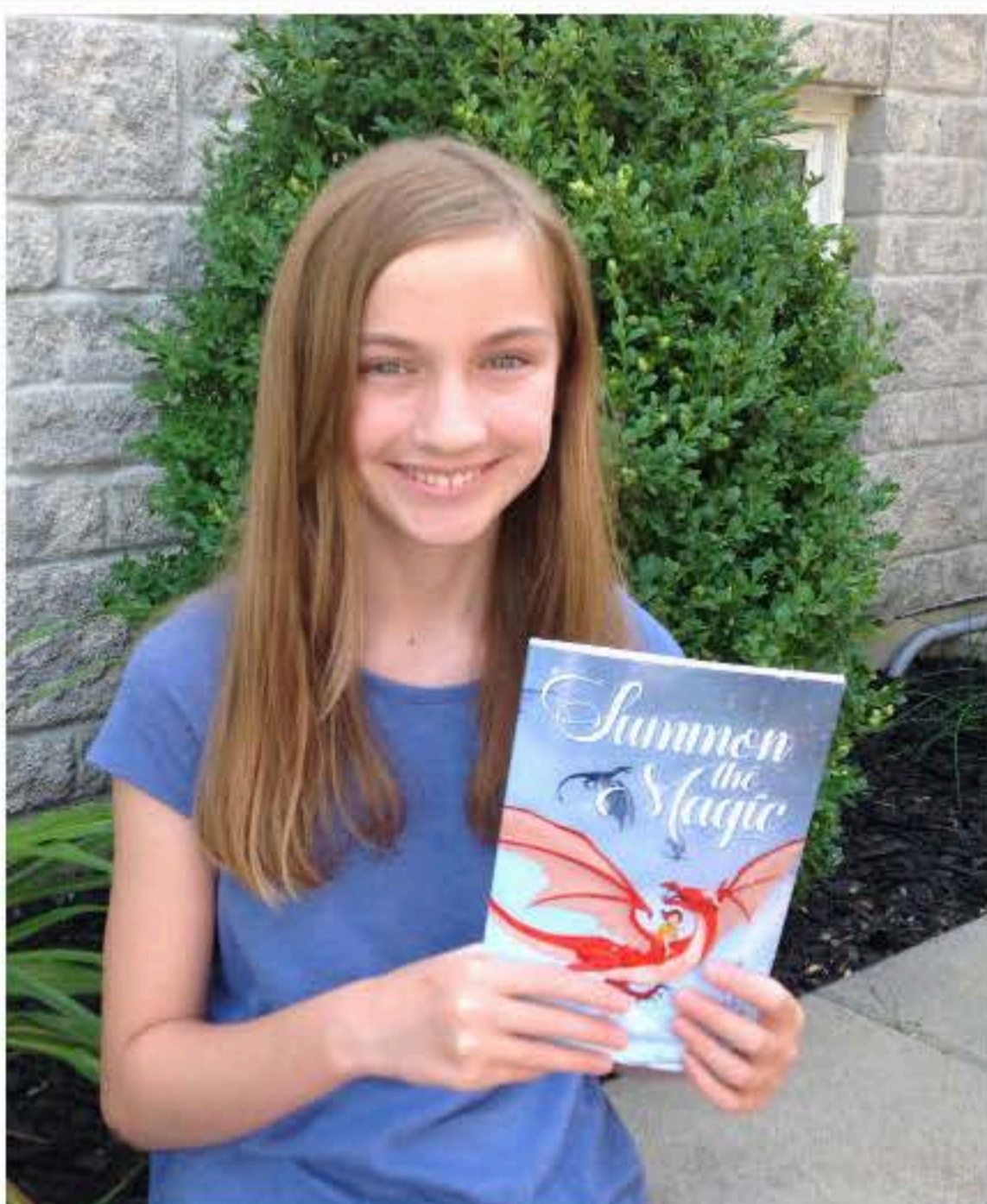
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NEWS LOCAL

Port Elgin pre-teen now a published author

By Frances Leament Thursday, August 3, 2017 1:51:32 EDT PM



"Summon the Magic", a book written by Emily Little, 12, of Port Elgin, is available in eBook format online and in hard copy as one of two winning entries in the 2016-17 Kids Write 4 Kids creative challenge, staged by the non-profit Ripple Foundation. Submitted photo

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PORT ELGIN - "Summon the Magic" a fantasy and adventure book written by Port Elgin pre-teen Emily Little is now available in eBook format and hard copy after being selected as one of two national winners in the annual Ripple Foundation's Kids Write 4 Kids (KW4K) contest that celebrates the best creative stories written by students in Grades 4 - 8.

The 45-page book features a young girl with special powers who sets out to save the world, accompanied by dragons, a wizard and magic. It went on sale August 1, and proceeds from the sales will benefit her school, Port Elgin's Northport Elementary, where she enters Grade 7 next month.

Little was "excited, surprised, proud and overwhelmed" to learn in June that she was the KW4K winner and that her book would be published.

"I jumped up and down and was so excited - there are a lot of good writers and I was lucky to win," Little said in an August 1 telephone interview.

Little said the idea for her book germinated three years ago when she made a craft, using glitter instead of sand, in a small bottle.

"That inspired me to make the bottle become the dragon and all my loves of fantasy and dragons and magic just went into the book, and then I developed the plot and the character of Amber, a girl with special powers and friends who want to save the world in a battle with Dark Prince Zane," Little said.

She said the beginning of her book evolved five or six times and there were many changes until she was satisfied with the story and character development.

"The beginning really changed a lot - I had an idea for a completely different beginning, but I finally stuck with this idea," Little said, adding with encouragement from her dad, she entered the Ripple Foundation contest.

While she used to write Pokemon adventures, Little said "Summon the Magic" is the first long work - 16 chapters and a prologue, and is part of an eight-book series.

"I'm working on book two - 'Rise of the Shadows' - and I'm working on the prologue now and starting to get ideas for the plot line," Little said.

Copies of "Summon the Dragon" will be available at the local library and Little will hold a book signing at her school when school begins. She is also working on a Ripple Foundation winners video that will be posted on the Ripple website.

Ivy Wong, founder of the Ripple Foundation and Ripple Digital Publishing Ltd., said the contest submissions are judged by a panel of 12 - including past winners and accomplished authors - who can recognize originality and what's considered a good story.

To date, the Ripple Foundation has published ten titles including murder mysteries, humour, fantasies, fables, and a collection of poetry.

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