The Lexington School
Pinpoints

Our Old Kentucky Home

Home and heritage. A Sense of Place. A Sense of belonging. Kentucky Heritage Day at The Lexington School celebrates these most important values. As fourth graders research family history, they learn about their home and their heritage. They see more clearly where both they and their classmates fit within the larger community.

One of the grand traditions of The Lexington School, Kentucky Heritage Day is a favorite of all generations. Students, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, staff members – everybody gets in on the act, but the fourth graders are undeniably, and triumphantly, stars of the show. *And it is a show.*

The program begins in the gym, bleachers full and music booming, with skilled guidance from Anna Merritt and Tom Parlanti, PE teachers, who direct full-costumed Kentucky folk dancers. Weeks of practice prove beneficial as the day's scene is set for celebration of rich cultural heritage.

Moving upstairs to the theater, filled to capacity, students take their places on stage while audience members find the best seat they can. In planning, David Cooper, middle and lower school music teacher, works closely with the longtime fourth grade team of Ann Haynes, John Platt, Mark Scarr, and Leanne Zimmerman to ensure each student is assigned the role that benefits him best. Every fourth grader is an active participant, with a specific and substantial speaking part in the I 1/2-hour program. Dr. Cooper divides the play into four acts, one for each advisor group. He and the teachers take their parts seriously, devoting several days to casting the musical.

Practice begins weeks before show time, as students receive their scripts, "ten lines minimum, and they are *long* lines," adds Dr. Cooper. Accompanying



Seth Rubin, portraying Dominic Mongiardo, reflects on his good fortune to emigrate from Italy to Kentucky as a stonemason.

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TELLING THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF KENTUCKY *Clockwise from the top:* Thomas Wood and Everest Afshari, Cata Shen, Matthew Donnelly, and Bella Baldecchi. *Bottom right:* Smith Brewer and Reid Noonan.

assignments are specific instructions for memorizing, voice projecting, and acting, with suggestions from Dr. Cooper to, "Say your part in front of a mirror and then go out in the back yard and *scream* your part." He gets his point across; every line in the performance is audible, even on the back row. Some back yards have been especially noisy, as several students have quite a few lines – two pages, single-spaced. Parents laugh and roll their eyes sometimes, confessing they know the parts as well as their children do.

Alumni remember learning Kentucky history from Mr. Platt and Mr. Scarr, and, as Head of Lower School Marijo Foster says, "Kentucky Heritage Day is designed purposefully to correlate with our study of Kentucky." Continuing, she says, "As far as big productions go, this augments our curriculum in the most meaningful way."

Though everyone has a hand in the day's success, Dr. Cooper gives background, explaining, "Mark, Cissy [Hamilton, lower school art teacher], and I went to a summer workshop on immigration at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort. It was fabulous. It set me on fire. From that workshop, I went straight to the Lexington Public Library's Kentucky Room for three weeks, hardly ever coming up for air. There was a unifying theme in all that I read. People were coming to a place where they had been accepted. They came to Ellis Island first; then some of them came down to Kentucky. Some came here with nothing, and they started a life using whatever talents they had. They built a place to live and to work. Our kids need to understand the importance of this coming together and working together. American culture is a melting pot; it involves real people."

> "People were coming to a place where they had been accepted … and they started a life using whatever talents they had. Our kids need to understand the importance of this coming together and working together. American culture is a melting pot; it involves real people." – Dr. David Cooper

These "real people" are represented on stage by the 49 real people who are learning, as Mrs. Foster says, "an unforgettable lesson in unity, thankfulness, patriotism, and honor to be part of our country." It is a lesson, as well, in being inclusive and accepting to all. As Mrs. Foster explains, "David's genius created Kentucky Heritage Day. He changes the text to suit each class, but the theme remains constant." Dr. Cooper exclaims, "I am so proud of each one of our fourth graders. TLS kids learn courage; that's for sure. They start the process back in the first, second, and third grades being on stage in Mrs. Anderson's productions, Boo Sing and Spring Sing. They



Our Old Kentucky Home
(continued)

build on what she has taught them. By fourth grade, they have a strong foundation in presenting themselves and in musical knowledge, following the conductor, and knowing how to produce a beautiful sound."

It is important to Dr. Cooper that the spoken word and music blend seamlessly, as history and song combine gloriously. The presentation is evenly divided with script and a variety of folk and patriotic songs. "Funiculì, Funiculà," the "Volga Boat Song," "Danny Boy," and Schubert's "The Trout" made some older audience members feel a bit wistful. Dr. Cooper includes the spiritual, "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child," since many immigrants' stories belonged to children whose parents, for whatever reason, had to remain in the old country or died on the trip to America.

Speaking specifically about production staging, Mrs. Foster emphasizes, "The children all face the audience and have been trained to speak loudly and clearly. They do not use microphones, but everyone in the room can hear them." With trademark exuberance, Dr. Cooper reminds, "Each one of you is an actor. Each one of you is an immigrant, coming to your new home in Kentucky." He maintains that TLS performances enrich students' lives, giving them confidence in public speaking that will stay with them the rest of their lives. "Heritage Day teaches many lessons, not the least of which is leadership."

Under Mrs. Hamilton's indefatigable guidance in the art room, students assemble the state of Kentucky backdrop. At the same time, they continue lessons in face drawing and portraits, creating pictures of faces, not necessarily their own. Mrs. Hamilton instructs on basic facial features and the wide variety of skin colors, as the faces are affixed onto the Kentucky map, centerpiece of the backdrop. Large panels on either side include drawings of the Statue of Liberty and a ship, representing the immigration. Words on each panel illustrate what the fledgling Americans had left behind and what they anticipated in their new homeland.

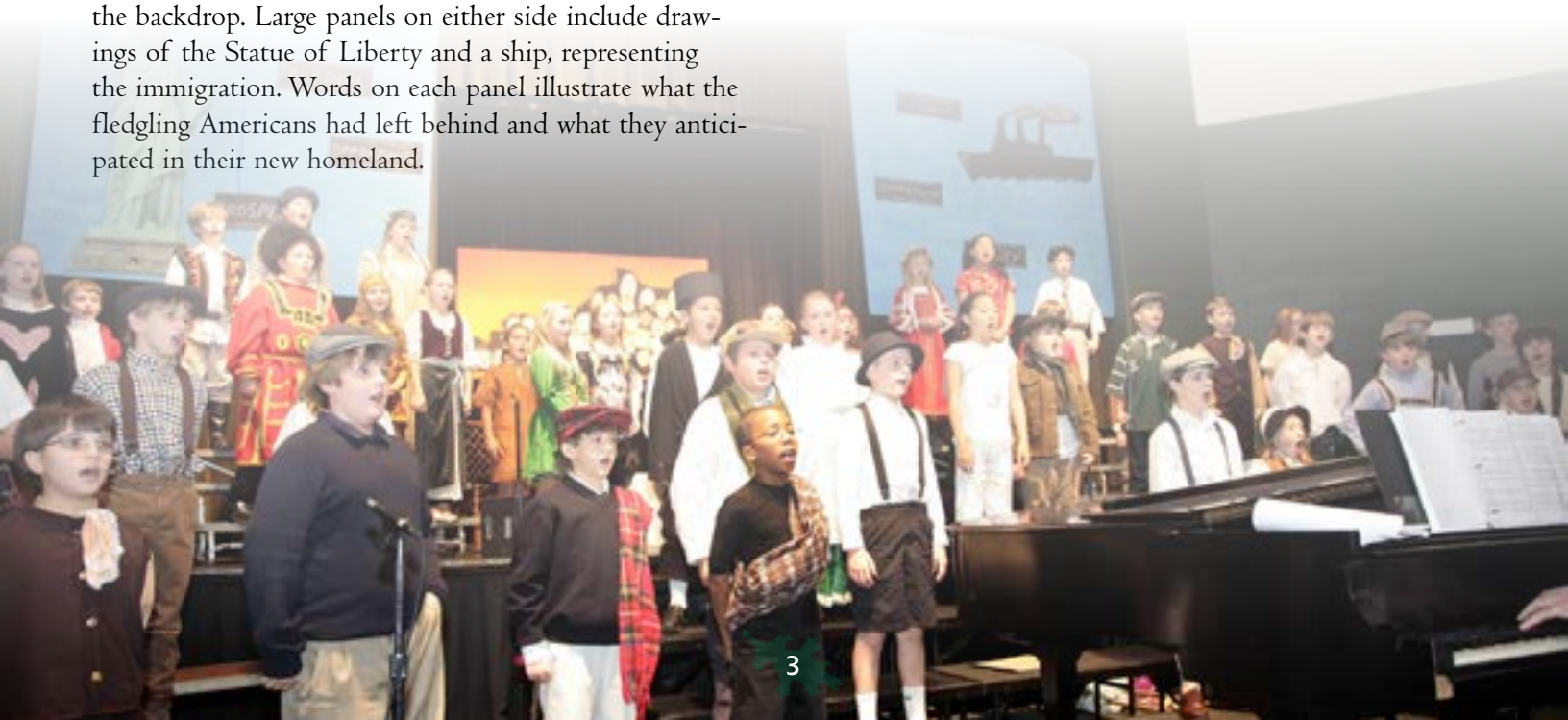


Self-portraits in native costumes comprise the exceptional art exhibit that lines the hallway walls. Students learn to draw proportions of the body and various shapes of clothing, as they "wear their heritage," in Mrs. Foster's words. It is a mixed-media exercise, some artists choosing paints, others preferring colored pencil or crayon.

Library research goes hand-in-hand with drawing while students complete an informational packet on the background, people, customs and courtesies, lifestyle, and flag of their ancestors' homeland. A favorite question asks the student to share a recipe from her particular country.

Those international recipes – and the homemade dishes themselves – are an overwhelmingly popular part of Kentucky Heritage Day. Mrs. Hamilton affirms, "Parental involvement in the entire day is incredible," and there is ample, edible evidence, post-production, throughout the arts wing hallway. Table after table of family favorite foods from around the globe ensures that students, teachers, and visitors enjoy an impressive and palate-pleasing, gustatory course to accompany their history lesson.

Enjoying the production in her mind and in her heart again and again, recalling the grand finale – the thunderous rendition of "God Bless America," joined by all singers in the theater – Mrs. Foster declares, "Every member of our audience had a history lesson that day. It stays with you for a long time."





I'd Like to Start a Preschool Will You Help Me?

When Tara Loyd heard a calling to improve education opportunities in rural Malawi, she knew who'd help.

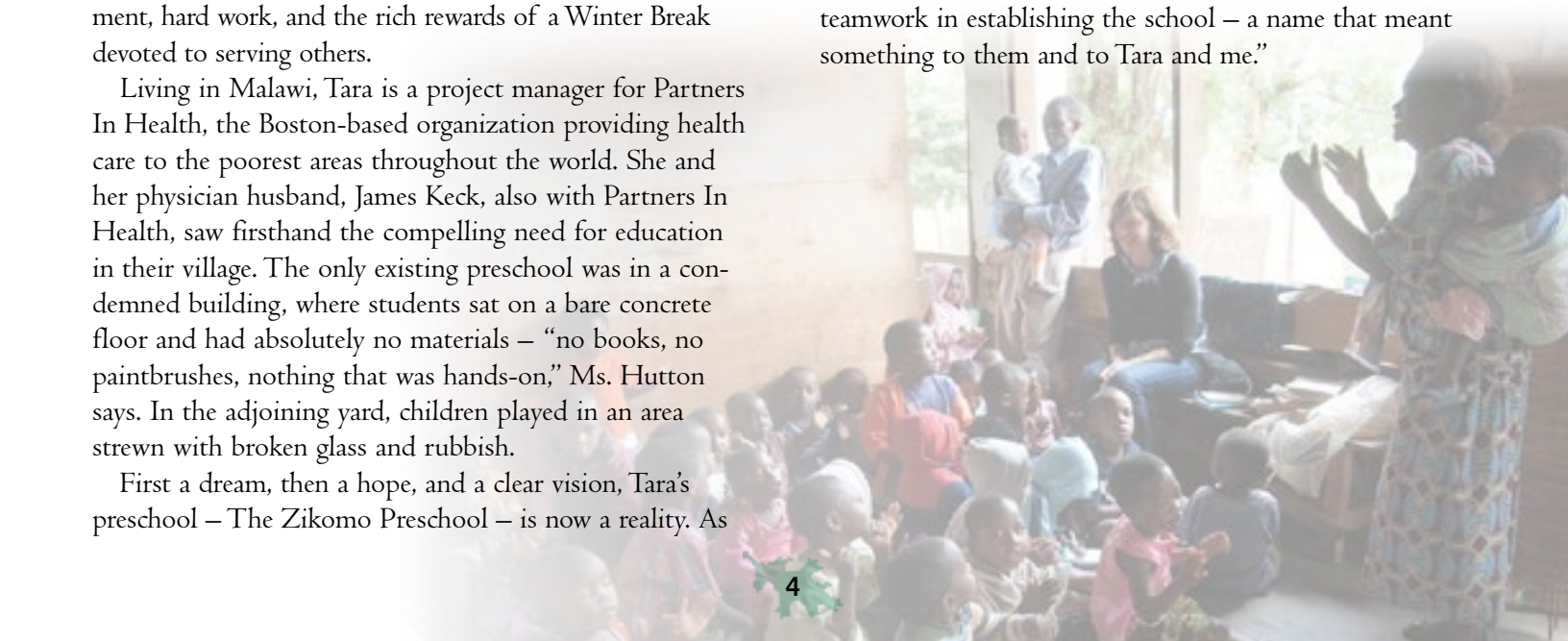
Director of Preschool Donna Hutton takes her commitments seriously, and so does her daughter, Tara Loyd. As combined forces, they also take The Lexington School's Mission Statement to heart: *"...to provide an education of the highest quality to students in preschool..."*

Pinpoints readers may remember Fall 2000 and Winter 2007 articles recounting TLS's gifts of books to begin a library in Tara's Peace Corps village of Teyateyaneng in southern Africa.

An hour after Ms. Hutton's return from Neno, in southeast Africa's Republic of Malawi, she recounts the excitement, hard work, and the rich rewards of a Winter Break devoted to serving others.

Living in Malawi, Tara is a project manager for Partners In Health, the Boston-based organization providing health care to the poorest areas throughout the world. She and her physician husband, James Keck, also with Partners In Health, saw firsthand the compelling need for education in their village. The only existing preschool was in a condemned building, where students sat on a bare concrete floor and had absolutely no materials – "no books, no paintbrushes, nothing that was hands-on," Ms. Hutton says. In the adjoining yard, children played in an area strewn with broken glass and rubbish.

First a dream, then a hope, and a clear vision, Tara's preschool – The Zikomo Preschool – is now a reality. As Tara said in mid-March, "We already have more people interested than spots in the school!" With the door triumphantly open on April 2, the new school is safe and clean, vibrant and welcoming. James and her toddler son, Zeke, is a student, as is George, the son of their nanny, Miriam. Further, it is Tara's plan that Miriam will run the school after Tara, James, and Zeke leave Malawi in September. In a lovely show of respect, Miriam invited Ms. Hutton to name the school. *Zikomo* is *gratitude* in the Chewa language of Malawi, and it is also Zeke's given name. As Ms. Hutton explains, "I wanted a name that represented our teamwork in establishing the school – a name that meant something to them and to Tara and me."



THE ZIKOMO PRESCHOOL

Miriam and her husband, George Sr., made each brick for the school building with their own hands; the concrete floor has been poured; and the tin roof is complete. Walls were plastered during Ms. Hutton's visit, and George made shelves to line the room. Tara painted a cheerful wall mural similar to the magical tree she created in the corner of Ms. Hutton's TLS office. The Neno hospital pediatric ward also boasts three 20-foot long, Tara Loyd-original murals entitled, *Guess How Much I Love You?*, from Sam McBratney's book by the same name.

From across the world, Donna Hutton has reached out to help. Within the TLS family, Ms. Hutton is known for her hands-on approach with children, explaining, "It is very important to me that I connect with every student, and one of the ways I do this is to visit the classrooms." She is a regular in TLS preschool classrooms, and she has already visited Neno's other preschool. Undeterred by the lack of school supplies there, Ms. Hutton knew she could connect with her new African friends through song. "Where is Thumbkin?" and "Five Little Ducks" need nothing more than a smile and a tune and a gentle hand to translate into any language. She relays that the barefoot children in tattered clothes were "well behaved and completely engaged in our activity."

For The Zikomo Preschool, Ms. Hutton packed wisely and enthusiastically, bringing two suitcases crammed with supplies for the children. She chose easy-to-transport, non-consumable items that spanned the preschool ages, one through five – musical instruments, scarves to dance with, a battery-operated CD player and batteries. Prekindergarten teacher Kelly Mitchell burned four CDs, sharing 100 favorite songs that TLS students enjoy. Blocks of all kinds, rhyming cards, and a parachute were also squeezed into the suitcases, along with collapsible containers to go on the freshly painted shelves that George made.

Ms. Hutton packed wisely and enthusiastically, bringing two suitcases crammed with supplies for the children... non-consumable items that spanned the preschool ages....

To accompany Ms. Hutton's containers and to accentuate African artisanship, Tara bought an array of woven baskets, made by local women. One of the favorite science components is sure to be Ms. Hutton's bug magnifying viewer, as she says, "There are definitely plenty of bugs, but I'll bet the children have never seen them magnified before."



I STARTED a Preschool!







Several years ago when she served on the task force to explore the possibility of opening The Learning Center, Ms. Hutton became interested in the Orton-Gillingham teaching method, not only for children with learning differences, but for all children. In the summer of 2010, with assistance from TLS's Professional Development funds, she attended the Key Center training in Asheville, NC. Following that training, she completed a year-long internship and earned her certificate in Multisensory Structured Language Training. She then trained TLS preschool teachers in the Orton-Gillingham techniques that she felt were applicable in their classrooms. With this strong background, Ms. Hutton also included in her suitcases alphabet letters with a tactile mat, for a multisensory approach to learning.

Drawing on The Lexington School's Mission Statement once again, Tara Loyd and Ms. Hutton seek to ensure that the preschoolers of Neno, in the Republic of Malawi, are given the gift of "a lifelong enthusiasm for learning."







Partners In Health

was co-founded by Todd McCormack, former Lexington School English and social studies teacher, after he left TLS to get his Master of Education degree in Boston. The friendship between Todd and another PIH co-founder, Paul Farmer, began while they were students at Duke University. Dr. Farmer's story has been documented in Tracy Kidder's bestselling book *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. Todd and his wife, Anne Thomas McCormack, former TLS French, English, and social studies teacher, met at The Lexington School. The McCormacks continue to serve proudly on the Board of Trustees for Partners In Health.

Head *Lines*

NOTES FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

"Never, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, give up. Never give up. Never give up. Never give up."
—Winston Churchill

Resilience is sometimes more noticeable in the negative. We can sometimes see it more in those who don't have it than in those who do: One who folds under pressure or who picks up his toys and runs home when things don't go his way. Resilience is difficult to teach, and parents often don't want their children to pay the price to earn it.

As parents, we can't bear watching our children fail. We want to fix their lives, but failure is the key to success. Resilience is built from picking yourself up and figuring out another way.

Winston Churchill is a great example. You may know Churchill was dyslexic. He had a horrible time in school. He was bright, but couldn't read and write well. Like many dyslexic students, he overcame this with hard work and resilience. He was an optimist because he had to be. Every day Churchill met challenges head on though he was embarrassed daily. He was asked to read out loud and couldn't. He was asked to spell and got it wrong. He could give up or he could "never give up." His resilience not only served him well; it served mankind. In history's darkest hour, he saw hope. He saw solutions to challenges.

How do we teach resilience?

That was the driving purpose behind The Lexington School's Philosophy Statement.

Because we are a nurturing environment, children feel confident.
When children are confident, they will take risks.
Because risk taking is inherent in learning, the possibility of failure exists.
When a nurturing community exists, challenges lead to growth.
Our success is defined when our students have the life skills to make wise choices and overcome obstacles.

Resilience is developed during rehearsal for Kentucky Heritage Day. Knowing lines in the comfort of home and rehearsing with Mom and Dad is very different from speaking in front of classmates. Forgetting the critical last line in a monologue again and having to do it an embarrassing "one more time" might make retreat desirable, but something inside you keeps your feet planted.

As Dr. Cooper knows, if remembering your lines was ten times harder when you left your comfortable room for rehearsal, remembering those lines will be one hundred times more difficult in a packed theater where proud parents and grandparents hang on your every line and blinking red lights emanate from iPhones filming your performance. Resilience is taught in these experiences, and accomplishment is achieved when the line is nailed. Better yet, when the line is missed, but composure is maintained and the show carries on, everyone learns and grows.



Celebrating her birthday at Scarlet Gate, **Ms. Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)** enjoys a giant card given to her by Head of School Chuck Baldecchi. The card was embellished by the entire TLS community to say "thank you" again and again to the woman whose vision has touched and bettered countless lives.

Some important questions to ask as a parent: Would I have asked Dr. Cooper to give my child a less demanding role? Does our school really teach resilience? Do teachers give students opportunities to risk and fail? Learning is a messy process. Is our school OK with that?

Our alumni tell me "yes" when they come back to visit:
"I learned how to work at TLS."
"TLS is sooo much more difficult than high school."
"TLS prepared me well."

With gratitude for a job I love,

Charles D. Baldecchi
Head of School

COLT CAIRNS: TLS'S LASTING FIRST IMPRESSION MAKERS

Lexington School students have been standouts since September 14, 1959, the morning the school opened. Along with rigorous academics, from that first day there has been a continued focus on speaking in front of a group. From youngest to oldest, TLS students learn to stand up front, look their audience in the eye, and speak their piece. It's not easy.

Colt Cairns – TLS student tour guides – know this in spades. They embrace the opportunity to speak for their school, to speak for themselves, and they are the stronger for it. They are more self-confident, and they are more prepared for their next step when they leave TLS.

Those familiar with hiking and mountain climbing know cairns, piles of stones used as landmarks, identify the way, keeping climbers on the trail. Frank Hardesty, former and favorite science teacher, legendary for his treks on the Southwest trip, coined the Gaelic name, and Beth Pride, director of admission, has taken it from there. Knowing that students speak most authentically for their school, Mrs. Pride takes tremendous pride in describing her tour guides: "They are a walking, talking showcase for us. Often they are the first Lexington School students the family has met. They make an excellent first impression. Because they are natural, candid, and welcoming, prospective parents get a good idea of what TLS students are truly like." In reviewing the list of the 26 current Cairns, Mrs. Pride continues, "They are the 'product' of what we do. When we show them off, it's a win-win. It plays into our own philosophy of teaching: *'because we are a nurturing environment, children feel confident. . . .'*"

Members of the group are recommended by their teachers, tapped by Mrs. Pride, or, in some instances – and this is warmly applauded – have volunteered on their own. They know it is an honor and a privilege to give tours. As representatives of the school, they receive a detailed instruction manual filled with specific pointers on becoming an effective tour guide. It is a comprehensive lesson in communication and presentation, skills that every person needs to master. Encouraged to tell their own stories about their own positive TLS experiences, the students work hard to personalize and polish, as they emphasize what they hold dear about the school.

Aside from regular classes, those selected seventh and eighth graders get a full course in public relations, marketing, sales, and etiquette. It is no light commitment. Geriann Blevins, assistant director of admission, works closely with the group as well, helping to ensure that each Colt Cairn is well informed, well trained, and thoroughly enjoys the experience.

In their comprehensive instruction on representing and "selling" their school, early on, the Cairns learn that the definition of marketing is listening. The tour guide listens closely to what the prospective family is interested in, gleaning what the parents and the student want. It is the Cairn's responsibility, then, to customize the visitors' experience, by showing them particular classrooms or athletic/extracurricular opportunities they want to learn more about. As Mrs. Pride points out, "They listen first, learn about the family, then cater to their interests." A Cairn learns psychology of sales at an early age.



FRONT ROW Mrs. Blevins, Ellie Webb, Sahar Mohammadzadeh, and Mrs. Pride; *BACK ROW* Andres Mitchell, Walker Montgomery, and Jack Farrell.

COLT CAIRNS *(continued)*





Above Left Mrs. Pride reviews talking points and tour facts of the school on the at-a-glance handouts with Ellie Webb, seated, and Sahar Mohammadzadeh, Jack Farrell, and Walker Montgomery.
Above Right Prekindergarten teacher Kelly Mitchell gives Ellie Webb and Andres Mitchell a glimpse into circle time activities.

Two practice sessions and mock tours provide unique training that most middle schools do not have. On Prospective Family Day and Middle School Information Night, each Cairn has one family for a half-hour, individualized tour. As the TLS classroom offers differentiated instruction, TLS Cairns offer differentiated tours. With encouraging advice from Mrs. Pride and Mrs. Blevins to be yourself and "Build upon your own story," the tour guides radiate wholesome enthusiasm and genuine appreciation for their school. They speak respectfully, even reverentially sometimes, of their teachers who know them and celebrate them in the classroom. The Cairns relay the emphasis teachers place on organizational skills, note taking, writing skills, and time management. They share with visitors the emotional impact their great school has had on them. Mrs. Pride says it again, "They are a walking, talking showcase for us. These 12- and 13-year-olds are the stars of the show. After meeting them, who *wouldn't* want to come here?"

In reviewing the two years of his Cairn experience, eighth grader Jack Farrell immediately points out, "It is really interesting that I get to see how the admission process works. A whole lot goes into that process. It is really fun to show what TLS home is, to show what it's like here. Last year I was excited when 'my family' enrolled at TLS after I toured them. I felt like my tour helped them make their decision. After being a Cairn, I have a newfound confidence that I will take with me when I leave TLS."

Eighth grader Lucy Jefferson has enjoyed the responsibility of her Cairn experience as well, saying, "One of the things I like most about it is that you can be really independent on the tours. I like to talk to people I didn't know before. Mrs. Pride and Mrs. Blevins give us an information sheet that helps us a lot. I'm glad I did this."

Cairns, well prepared and enthusiastic about their important role as part of the TLS admission team, know this responsibility is a strong addition to their high school application. Speaking powerfully for the Colt Cairns themselves, as well as for the excellent training the program provides, an overwhelming number of Lexington area high school tour guides are, in fact, Cairn alumni.

Ciera Proctor '11 reflects eloquently on her Cairn experience, recalling, "When I was chosen by Mrs. Pride to be part of the program, I was honored. It is a wonderful privilege to be given the opportunity to talk to parents and potential new students about how great TLS is. At first, I was very nervous. Mrs. Pride had given us a lot of points to remember, we did mock tours with our peers, but nothing was close to giving the actual tour.

"For my first tour, I was so scared. I was running through everything in my head that I knew I needed to cover. But as soon as I said, 'Are you ready to hear all the wonderful things this school has to offer?' I knew I was ready. My first tour was amazing. As we walked through the school, I remembered everything I was supposed to tell them, and when they asked questions, I knew the answer. And to me, there truly is no better feeling than knowing you have helped someone. That day, I helped a

Sahar Mohammadzadeh welcomes a prospective student and her mom to The Lexington School.



2012-2013 Colt Cairns

Shaun Anderson • MacCarthy Baker • Andrew Beck
Kate Christensen • Aaron Ervin • Jack Farrell
Christian Flemm • Lucy Jefferson • Katie Kostelic
Jackson Leach • Ridge McCauley • Elise Merchak
Sahar Mohammadzadeh • Andres Mitchell
Walker Montgomery • Ireland Morton
Spencer Parsons • Sam Perez
Ellie Phillips • Tom Polites • Kennedy Sabharwal
Catherine Van Tatenhove • Brent Vennes
Colton Warner • Ellie Webb • Sydney Young



Mrs. Blevins instructs Sahar Mohammadzadeh and Jack Farrell on the finer points of preschool artwork.

family. That one tour could have changed their child's life, because they had just added one tremendous school to consider for their education.

"Once my first tour was over, I was set. It just got easier from there. I remember when Mrs. Pride would tell me I would be giving a tour the following day, I would get excited and go over the points I needed to talk about again in my head just to make sure I didn't leave one fact out. I wanted to make sure I gave each and every family a great experience; after all, that could be a deciding factor. Did they feel comfortable at TLS? Did it have a good learning environment for all types of students? When you walked by someone, did they smile and say 'Hello'? I was determined to make sure the answer was 'Yes' to all of those questions. I grew more confident with each tour. I started asking them questions, and making sure I was really getting to know them. When you understand someone, you can talk to them about the aspects of the school they are interested in.

"Because Mrs. Pride taught me so well, when I began Lexington Catholic High School, as a freshman I was asked to become a student ambassador. This was a true privilege because most freshmen do not get that honor. It was wonderful because they had heard I was a part of the similar program at TLS. TLS was the best building block anyone could ask for. I love being a part of these programs, meeting new people, and being able to tell them all about the wonderful experiences the schools hold for everyone."

TLS Colt Cairns – landmarks that show the way.

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Capitol TLS

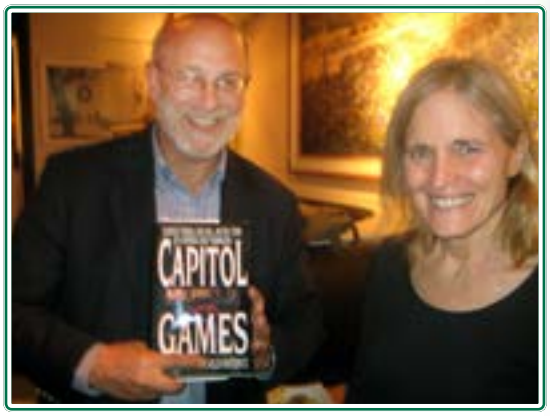
Director of Development Amanda Hale spoke at the CASE/NAIS Independent Schools Conference in Washington, DC, and The Lexington School seized that opportunity to reconnect with former students. On January 14, alumni showed a strong Bluegrass presence at Hill Country Barbeque, where **Rachel Carney '96** is events manager. The upbeat atmosphere and the section of the restaurant devoted especially to TLS set the scene for a warm and festive reunion. The evening was especially significant for several former students who had not seen each other since the mid-'60s, but who picked up where they'd left off decades ago. As with other "reunions on the road," some folks were surprised to learn that the sibling of a classmate now lives in the same city, or that a younger alum is in the same profession as one who graduated quite a few years before. Emails and cell numbers were shared, and TLS connections were strengthened. As DC-area alumni unable to attend the reunion share news along with those at Hill Country, it is evident there is a dazzling tendency of TLS former students to embrace leadership roles.

Heretofore elusive but never forgotten **Helen Winternitz '66** summed it up after January's Washington, DC, reunion, "I could write a book about what I've done since graduating from The Lexington School. In fact, I've written a couple of books since then, one about the Congo and another about the Palestinians. *East Along the Equator* is based on a 2,000-mile trip I took up the Congo watershed as a journalist; it combines the narrative of that trip with the history of Central Africa and the American role in supporting the Mobutu dictatorship there. *A Season of Stones* is the story of a village on the West Bank, where I lived for three years, to record the reality of average Palestinians living with Israeli settlements expanding onto their farmland and with the violent Israeli military occupation of their territory. I also co-authored a book about the complexities and controversies of Clarence Thomas's nomination to the Supreme Court.

"As I look back, I can see that I have combined my love of words (I actually loved grammar classes at TLS) with a self-made mission to raise awareness of injustices. Before taking on the longer genre of books, I worked as a daily journalist after graduating from Harvard University. I've written as a staffer or a freelancer for *The Baltimore Sun*, the *Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Times of London* as well as other publications about topics ranging from Appalachian coal miners to Washington politics, from the war in Argentina to famine in Somalia.

"I settled down in Washington, DC, at the age of 41, got married and gave birth to a son a year later. I'm glad I came back in from the far reaches of the world so as not to miss the joys and vulnerabilities of being a mother. I wouldn't have understood unconditional love so well.

"I might write a memoir some day but not right here, so I'll stop with a bit of praise for TLS. My four years at the school provided me academic rigor for the first time in my life, lighting up my mind in a new way."



At the reunion, **Jay Adelstein '67**, also long absent from TLS gatherings, and Helen Winternitz went toe to toe comparing memories of the school's early years. Jay and his wife, Patricia, have reared two daughters, Rose and Lily, in Washington, where he is a civil rights attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. He regaled the crowd with fond and detailed memories of educators Oscar Hawley (and his old Mercedes), Sandy Gilchrist (recalling his days at the Citadel), William Floyd (pontificating on history and lore), and headmaster Bud Pritchett. He also reminisced about his younger days, exploring the James Lane Allen farm house and stables (Scarlet Gate, now owned by The Lexington School).



John Marshall '76 and wife, Liza, enjoyed the reunion camaraderie at Hill Country Barbeque, trading TLS stories by the decade. At Georgetown University's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Dr. Marshall is Chief of Hematology and Oncology, Professor of Medicine and Oncology, Associate Director of Clinical Research, and Director of the Otto J. Ruesch Center for the Cure of Gastrointestinal Cancers. As he established the Ruesch Center, the organization focuses solely on improving the lives of GI cancer patients through innovative research, personalized medicine, and focused advocacy. An internationally recognized expert in new drug development for GI cancer with an interest in many areas of cancer research, he focuses primarily on the development of vaccines to treat cancer. Dr. Marshall is an outspoken advocate for GI cancer patients and the importance of clinical research participation.

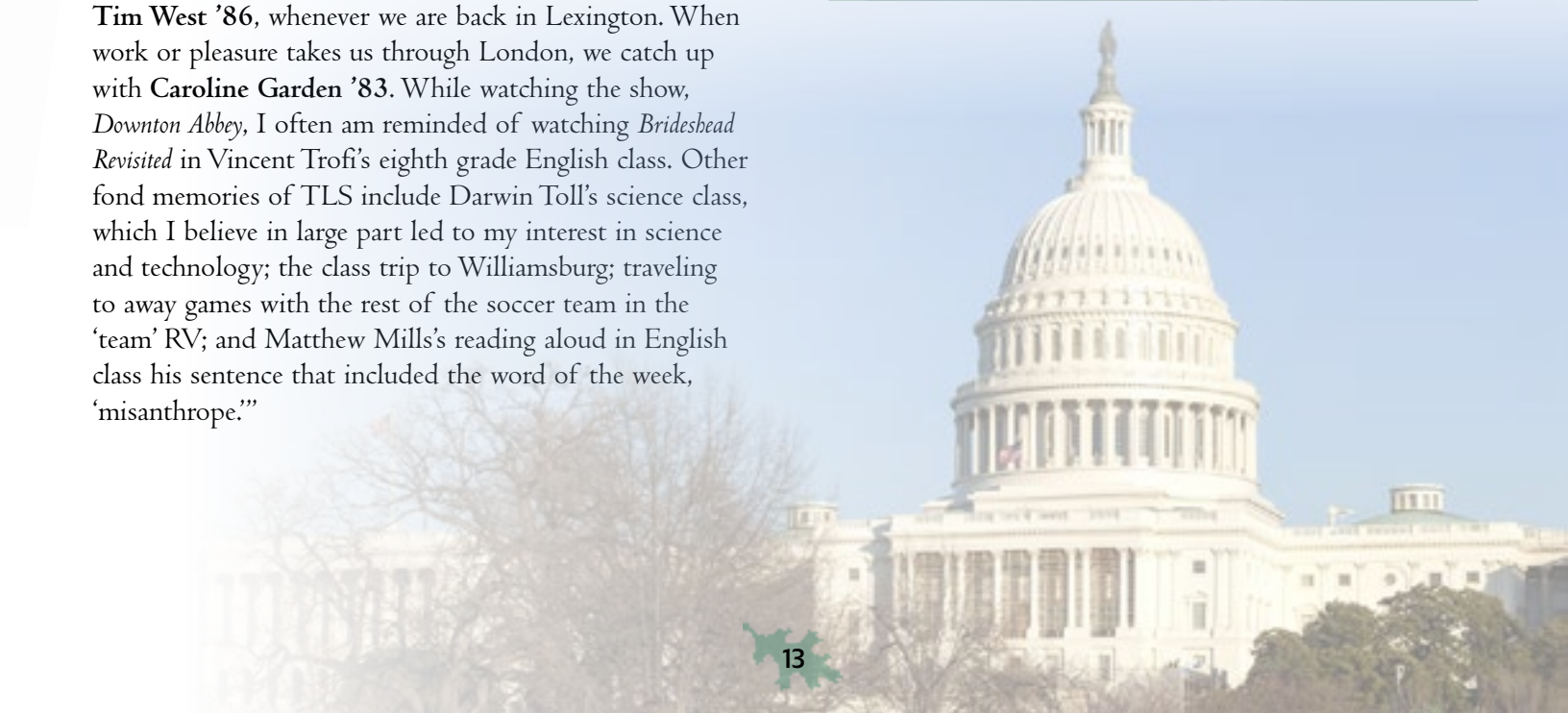


Ensuring a strong TLS presence on The Hill, **David Host '82** is Director of Communications for Congressman **Andy Barr '89**. Despite days filled to the brim in the office, David pauses to think back to his Lexington School years, saying, "I do want to share that Mr. Brost had much to do with why I'm here. American history was always my first love; my interest in politics grew out of that affinity." Proud uncle of **Clark Dupree '11** and **James Dupree '13**, David continues his longtime interest in the strength and stability of his alma mater.

Unable to attend the reunion, **Jeremy Wolsk '83** says, "This is my alternative to the all-too-tempting Sam Lipsyte-esque submission: I live in Washington, DC, with my wife, Becky, daughter, Claire, and our rather morose but lovable 14-year-old lab, Copernica. I am a partner in the corporate department at Latham and Watkins's DC office. When not practicing law or napping, I enjoy racing cars, bicycling, skiing, and watching my daughter develop her equestrian skills. We often make it back to Lexington to visit my mom over Christmas, and this year we caught up with **Karen Playforth '83**, **Thomas Gaines '83**, and **Gerard Lynn '83**. We also make a point of seeing my brother **Alex/Zee's** [**Wolsk '87**] best friend from TLS, **Tim West '86**, whenever we are back in Lexington. When work or pleasure takes us through London, we catch up with **Caroline Garden '83**. While watching the show, *Downton Abbey*, I often am reminded of watching *Brideshead Revisited* in Vincent Trofi's eighth grade English class. Other fond memories of TLS include Darwin Toll's science class, which I believe in large part led to my interest in science and technology; the class trip to Williamsburg; traveling to away games with the rest of the soccer team in the 'team' RV; and Matthew Mills's reading aloud in English class his sentence that included the word of the week, 'misanthrope.'"

Amy Turnbull Clymer '84 submits, "Who knew my interest in Washington, DC, would be so piqued by the TLS ninth grade trip, that I would end up living here for 25-some-odd years, but that's exactly what's happened! I moved here for Mount Vernon College and have remained in the Washington area off and on since graduating, only leaving for a few years to work as a newspaper reporter in Chattanooga, TN, and Wilmington, NC. I have actually made a career as a professional writer, moving among the news, political, advertising, and public relations industries. My husband, Christian, is in public affairs for the pharmaceutical industry. But our daughter, Mary Ashley, is the true operator in the family, outmaneuvering us at most every turn. We live in Alexandria, VA, with our beloved Shar Pei, Roosevelt (named for Theodore). I recently started a Facebook page for the TLS **Class of '84**, and while we have almost everyone accounted for, we would love to hear from those we're missing! That includes friends who started late or left before '84 – not just lifers! – please be in touch!"







Kim Badenhop '85 lived in DC for 15 years, moved to ND in August 2012, but finds she is in Washington again almost full time. Chosen by ND Congressman Kevin Cramer to be his Chief of Staff, Kim continues to be in her element in the political world. Kim worked for Senator Mitch McConnell from 1997 to 2002, in his legislative office at the Senate Rules and Administration Committee. Work for the Committee involved daily interaction with Senators and coordinating activities at the U.S. Capitol for the 2001 Inaugural of George W. Bush. Kim also enjoyed working for President George W. Bush at the White House from 2002 to 2005.

Kim recalls, "I came to TLS as a ninth grader, was there for just one year, but it made a huge impact on my life." **Josh Hopkins '86** was assigned to the same lunch table, and made lunchtimes especially entertaining. Showing strong TLS ties, last November at the freshman Congressional orientation, Kim introduced herself to Congressman **Andy Barr '89** as a TLS alum. He was pleasantly surprised and another TLS friendship began.

Monica Noe Filyaw '85 has lived in the Washington, DC, area since 1992, and has enjoyed a variety of positions in both the private and public sector. For eight years she was an appointee in the George W. Bush administration, serving as Senior Policy Advisor and Chief of Staff for Policy, Management, and Budget and Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Department of the Interior. In 2004, she served as a civilian in Iraq supporting the country's largest law enforcement, intelligence, and security portfolio. In 2005, she was detailed to the Mississippi Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as a press information officer for FEMA. She has also been an Operations and Acquisition Consultant for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. In May 2009, she married Olin O. Filyaw Jr. in Maui, HI. These days, Monica enjoys being the mother of their daughter, Violet Ellison "Ellis" Filyaw.



After moving to Washington, DC, in 1996, **Aaron Bird '89** has focused the last 16 years on founding and building software, service, and e-commerce technology companies. After the successful growth and sale of two such companies, he spent four years as an executive within Adobe Systems Inc. He has recently founded a technology holding company and incubator where his focus is on the development, funding, and overall growth of seven current portfolio companies. Aaron has been married to Diana Fischetti of Reston, VA, for four years and they welcomed their first child, Gianna, into the world on January 26, 2012.

Cute Kid Alert!
Hal Black '89 and wife Jen's children, Hadley, Brigston, and Trey.



Chad Massie '89 works in product management for Hobsons, a Cincinnati-based education software company. Living in the DC area since 2000, Chad has helped build a variety of technologies to help students and universities accomplish their educational goals, and to this day Chad sees the important role TLS has played in his endeavors: "The Lexington School instills in its students a belief in and love for education and the learning process. As I've made my way in life in the 20+ years since, the lessons I learned in those TLS days have served as the foundation for my personal and professional growth. It is no coincidence that today, my work is directly tied to the broader dreams of students navigating their way through their own educational journeys and to the institutions of higher education that are helping them along that path. I hope through my professional contributions – in much the same manner the TLS community encouraged in me and the thousands of other students who have walked its halls – I am promoting greater awareness, exploration, and understanding in others."



Jennifer Smith '92 has lived in Arlington, VA, since graduating from the University of Virginia in '99, working in finance and enjoying everything that DC has to offer *(when I'm not stuck in Beltway traffic)*. And she's got big news: "I'm getting married this spring with my sister **Lisa '89** serving as maid of honor, and family friends, the Grays – as in first grade teacher Mrs. Gumm-Gray – also coming to DC to celebrate with us. While at TLS, I remember having fun on all of our class trips — including Tremont, Bradford Woods, DC, and skiing in Breckenridge. I also loved playing on the basketball team and, of course, all of the great teachers, from Mrs. Meekins in first grade up through Mrs. Eames in ninth grade. I credit TLS in a way with meeting my future husband: I met him playing on a co-ed rec floor hockey team, only joining the team because of the fun I had playing floor hockey during PE at TLS. We always wanted to play boys against girls with the boys beating us in pretty much all the sports ... except floor hockey."



Robert Karem '93 is the National Security Advisor to U.S. House of Representatives Majority Leader Eric Cantor. He previously served as an advisor to former Vice President Dick Cheney and assisted the former Vice President in researching and editing his memoirs. From February 2005 through January 2009, Robert was on Vice President Cheney's National Security staff, focusing on Middle East policy. Prior to moving to the White House, he was a legislative assistant to Senator Mitch McConnell. Robert has lived in Washington, DC, since graduating from Columbia University in 2000.



After working five years on Capitol Hill and six years as a lobbyist, **Lesley Elliott '94** branched out on her own in the summer of 2012 to establish District City Consulting, a political fundraising and event firm based in DC. Lesley remains active in the community, volunteering with the Junior League of Washington, where she recently co-chaired, Fête, a black-tie gala to commemorate the League's centennial year with an emphasis on raising money to put books in the hands of DC's neediest students. She also serves as a chief organizer of the Congressional Hockey Challenge, an ice hockey game that pits members of Congress and staff against registered lobbyists in an effort to raise money for a new four-year academic scholarship, created in a partnership between the NHL and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. Lesley and her longtime boyfriend Billy O'Brien recently moved into a new house and have a seven-month-old Bernese Mountain Dog named Alice.



Malou Rodgers Huth '95 relays her husband Brian, daughter Madeleine, who turned three in November, and she live in downtown Washington. Last August Malou changed jobs and now works as an attorney in the office of chief in the division of trading and markets at the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Elizabeth Alford Rice '95 reports in: "Evans and I have lived in Falls Church, VA, for nearly 11 years. He practices law in DC, while I arbitrate among our offspring. I teach our four children (ages nine, seven, five, and three) at home. I teach a weekly Classical Conversations class at our local homeschool co-op as well. Life is full, fun, and frenzied, and we love our trips back to Lexington, wishing they were more frequent. We do have a guest room though, and we welcome visitors!"

Holly Burns Smith '95 reports that Lucy Thompson Smith was born September 25, 2012 in DC, and "Trent and I are loving every minute with her. Lucy spent her first Thanksgiving with her grandparents, Charlie and **Caroline Thompson Burns '66**, her uncle, **Beau Burns '00**, and her great-grandmother, Sara Thompson (for whom she is in part named), in Lexington. I am back at work and am vice president of the Large Bank Group at the American Bankers Association; I manage ABA's relationships with our largest member banks. My husband, Trent, is director of real estate investments at Insight Property Group LLC. We love living in the historic U Street area of Northwest DC, but try to make it back to see friends and family in Lexington, Charleston, and Florida as often as we can." Holly adds one more thing: "We can't wait to get Lucy her first big wheel. I have such great memories of the Little Kentucky Derby at TLS!"



Ashley Bromagen '97 married Evan Schmitt in October, 2011 and continues working on The Hill for Congressman John Yarmuth. At Hill Country Barbeque, in discussing fortes of TLS, Ashley states, "I'm really impressed by everything TLS offers now, especially Ms. Bonzo's college counseling."

Johanna Thomas '97 is an attorney advisor in the media bureau of the Federal Communications Commission. In the industry analysis division, she analyzes and writes reports concerning competition in the video marketplace. Prior to joining the FCC, she was an associate at Arnold & Porter LLP in the telecommunications, internet, and media practice group. Johanna graduated from Dartmouth College in 2004 and the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 2007. Outside of work she supports Streetwise Partners, a DC nonprofit working with low-income individuals to help break the cycle of poverty, obtain better jobs, and achieve short-term as well as long-term economic self-sufficiency. In addition, she is an avid tennis player and runner. In thinking back to her first through eighth grades at TLS, she remembers well her "classes with Mrs. Robin Jones, Mr. Frank Hardesty and Senor Jacobo Aragon. But I loved so many of my teachers at TLS! I'm also friends via Facebook with many of my former TLS classmates, but I see Ashley Bromagen on a regular basis because we're old friends and we both live in DC. TLS will always hold a special place in my heart and my experiences there certainly helped shape the person I am today."

Reed Grimes '98 and his wife, Radhika Ramenaden, live in Alexandria, VA, and have been in the DC area for eight years. He is a physician for the U.S. Navy and Radhika is completing her residency in ophthalmology at George Washington University.



John Playforth '99 has been an associate at Covington and Burling for two years, focusing primarily on private antitrust litigation. His days are varied – taking discovery, drafting motions, and working with economic experts – and he enjoys it thoroughly. His wife, Krupa, is in her final year of pediatrics residency at Georgetown and is beginning her search for post-residency jobs in the area.



After finishing her undergraduate degree at UNC Asheville, **Luiza deCamargo '01** came to Washington for the Smithsonian's master's program in History of Decorative Arts, which she enjoyed tremendously, graduating in May 2012. She now works at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a fundraiser in the marketing department. Luiza says, "It's incredibly rewarding work. I love the museums in DC, riding my bike around town, and taking weekend trips when I can."

Unable to join the reunion because of his strong work ethic honed at TLS, **John Brooks '02** reported, even during his busiest time in accounting at Deloitte, that, "The school has defined me as a person and I think often of how my truest friends are those I met in the halls of The Lexington School."



Photo: US Gov't Domain

Carl Gray '02 serves as an Obama administration Presidential Appointee in the Office of the Chief of Protocol at the U.S. Department of State. As a Protocol Officer, he coordinates and manages the logistics of visiting heads of state and chiefs of government during their state, official, and working visits with the President, as well as meetings with the Vice President and Secretary of State. This behind-the-scenes job demands full and microscopic attention to detail and charges him with flawlessly implementing a dignitary's visit and positive experience in Washington. *(Spot Carl on the left in the photo above, attending discretely to a visit by His Excellency Boyko Borisov, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria.)*

Doug Romaine '02 moved to DC in 2009 and works for Pace Global, a Siemens business, providing oversight for electric utilities, as well as providing power supply management for large commercial and industrial consumers. In addition to work, he is in his first year of business school at George Washington University, where he continues his interests of energy financing and business development. Doug says, "Maintaining the work/life/school balance is difficult at times, but outside the office or classroom, I try to spend as much time as possible outdoors. I particularly enjoy duck hunting on the Eastern Shore, fly fishing on the Potomac, and running in Rock Creek Park."

Since graduating in May from Duke University, where she studied public policy and political science, **Nancy McKinstry '04** has enjoyed living in Washington and putting her coursework to use. Nancy works on the foreign affairs portfolio for Senate Republican Leader, Mitch McConnell. A perk of Nancy's job is meeting individuals from across Kentucky. She especially enjoys seeing TLS friends who venture to the nation's Capitol.





Nancy McKinstry '04 & Ashley Bromagen '97



John Marshall '76, Jay Adelstein '67, & Eliza Marshall

Rachel Carney '96 happily hosted fellow alums by way of her gig at Hill Country Barbeque. "After eight years in health-care finance, I decided to make the most logical career move – to become a catering and event planner, of course!" she joked. Luckily, DC seems to have a hankering for Texas barbecue served by a Kentuckian. It seems that you can take the girl out of Kentucky, but can't take the Kentucky out of the girl: "I might be the only person in DC with a foxhound, a horse, and a Cats game on TV whenever they play! Come visit if you're in town — the brisket is on me!"



Rachel Carney '96 and Johanna Thomas '97



Pamela Brown '99 & Carl Gray '02

The Lexington School CELEBRATION 2013

THIS IS OUR BACKYARD

At Scarlet Gate

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH

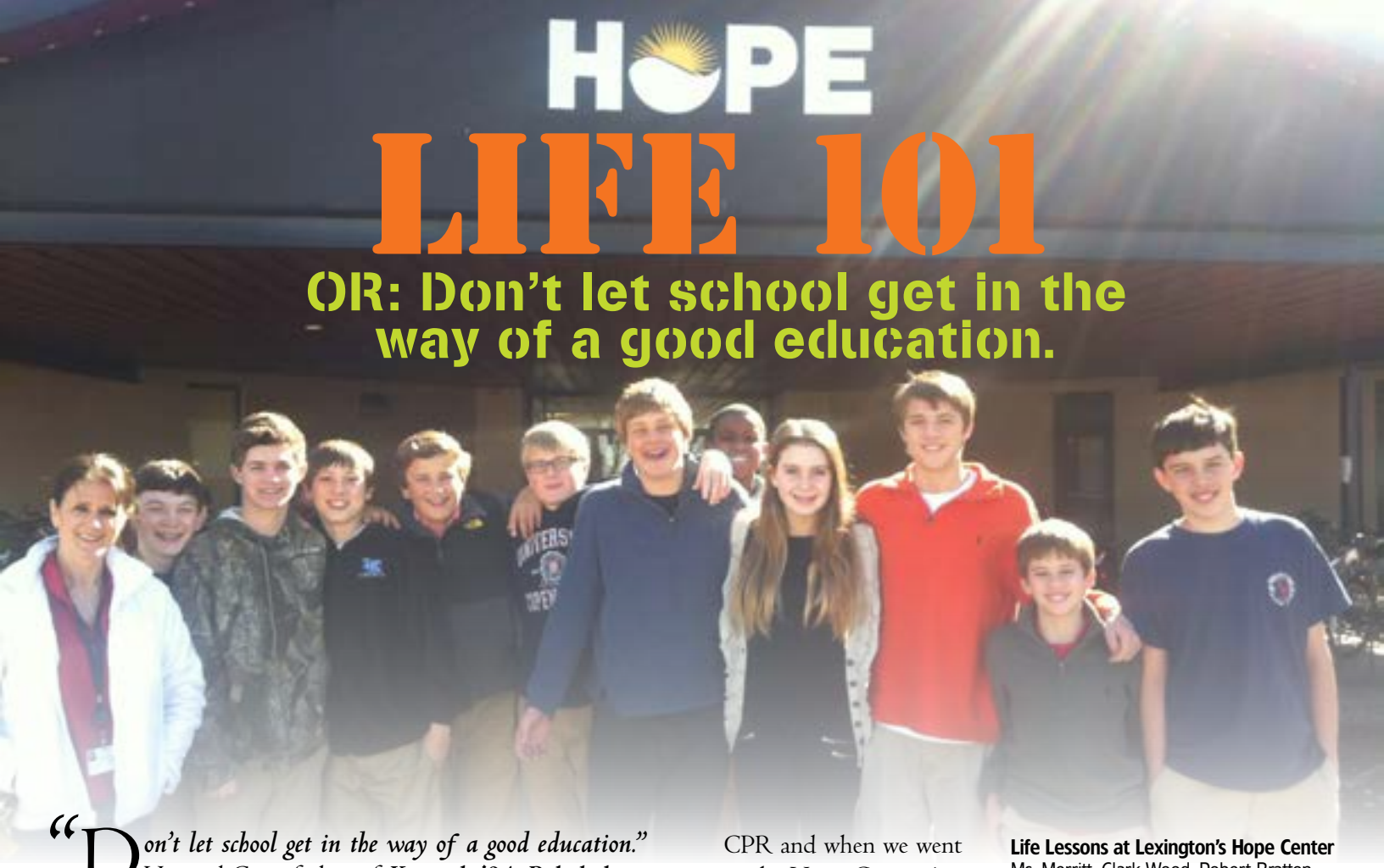
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HOPE

LIFE 101

OR: Don't let school get in the way of a good education.



Life Lessons at Lexington's Hope Center Ms. Merritt, Clark Wood, Robert Bratton, Ridge McCauley, Tyler Levy, Lucas Lillelund, Andrew Beck, Shaun Anderson, Sarah Jewell Noonan, Walker Montgomery, Max Young, and Sam Vaughan.

"*Don't let school get in the way of a good education.*" Howard Gray, father of **Keturah '94**, **Rebekah '96**, **Mary Bruce '99**, and **Carl '02**, and former Lexington School board member, gives this sage advice from time to time. In Life 101, Joe Conley, middle school Spanish teacher, and Anna Merritt, middle school PE teacher, take Mr. Gray's admonition and run with it. They begin their lessons at school before leading their class into the outside world. The popular winter term elective broadens students' horizons and teaches lessons that must be mastered for success in day-to-day life after the school day ends.

From an idea that Mr. Conley had when he began teaching at TLS in 2009, the class structure has evolved from wide-ranging conversations about what young people need to know in today's challenging world. As he says, "There's a LOT I didn't learn in school, basic things you need to know to get along in life. They just don't teach it in school. I want to change that. I want my students to learn those fundamental things." He gives full credit to Ms. Merritt, saying, "I had some ideas, we talked about it with lots of other people, getting their thoughts and input, and then she got it done. It was a joint effort, but she's definitely the organizer." Eighth grader Sarah Jewell Noonan is quick to offer, "Life 101 is different from all the other electives I've ever had. There are more things we can use on a day-to-day basis. I especially liked learning CPR and when we went to the Hope Center, it was eye opening and a very humbling experience."

Mr. Conley continues, "We walked to the bank so everybody could learn firsthand about the banking process, about savings and checking accounts, writing a check, money management. They need to have an understanding and an appreciation for budgeting to prepare for the future." Back in the classroom on the chalkboard, Mr. Conley had detailed explanations of a home mortgage and car payments, knowing "these are some of the issues they will face when they get older."

As well, the auto shop offered hands-on opportunity to learn important intricacies of changing a tire and checking the oil, fluids, and tire pressure. A bonus was the handy tutorial on jump-starting a car. Eighth grader Andrew Beck reports, "In changing the tire, I became familiar with using a jack. I can do that now. Mr. Conley is preparing us for life, for everyday situations that we will face. This is not like a typical class; these things will definitely happen to us."

Ms. Merritt focuses on wellness, total fitness, and health-based issues in the broad-based curriculum, saying, "I want these kids to be prepared when they are faced with difficult circumstances – academic stress, peer pres-

LIFE 101 *(continued)*

sure, and other challenges that come with growing up. I want to help them know a little bit about everything. I want to help them stay healthy in body and soul." She emphasizes, "Life 101 incorporates the six character strengths of the Mission Skills Assessment – teamwork, creativity, ethics, resilience, curiosity, and time management." Weaving these 21st century skills seamlessly into the curriculum, week in and week out Ms. Merritt sees specific instances of students embodying each of these valuable traits. "Although this is a practical class, I see kindness, generosity, creativity, and teamwork-leadership skills played out every time we meet." It is a distinct pleasure for her to be a leader of this innovative class.

As Mr. Conley and Ms. Merritt began to define Life 101 topics, basic CPR and first aid skills also seemed a good fit. Nurse Kristin Beers points out, "The American Heart Association Friends and Family Program works well with the pre-teen-to-adult age group. This school year, I've used the video series to teach teachers, parents, and now these students. I love to teach everyone CPR, but middle school students are extra special. It's been almost 30 years since a special nurse-teacher taught my first CPR class in school. The rest, as they say, is history." Eighth grader Ridge McCauley endorses Nurse Kristin's expertise, saying, "In CPR, I knew she would teach us to do it the right way."

An Eagle Scout, Mr. Conley makes sure to include survival skills, especially popular with Ridge and his classmate, Walker Montgomery. Some of the students were part of the well-received Camp Curiosity Survivor 2012 class, gaining a comprehensive overview on how to search for food, construct a shelter, and stay warm, hydrated, and safe in the wilderness. As Mr. Conley, Ms. Merritt, and Nurse Kristin each attest, middle schoolers are a natural audience for learning survival skills, not just for the great outdoors, but for the greater world itself. Walker adds, "I like how Mr. Conley and Ms. Merritt are honest with us. They remember they've made some mistakes along the way, and they are trying to help us not make those same mistakes."

These middle school students work strongly and closely together, both on and off campus. As in the classroom, manners, discipline, and focus are still expected, and are still delivered. Mr. Conley affirms, "There's no goofing off at all. When we are off campus, we go by the rules of the school. The students pay strict attention and they make me proud of every one of them." Walker speaks honestly as he says, "This class really helps you for the future. We all need to know how to change a tire and cash a check. I really like Mr. Conley as a teacher and I knew it'd be a fun and beneficial class."

At TLS, school doesn't get in the way of a good education. It furthers it.









TOP Walker Montgomery, left, and Lucas Lillelund practice Nurse Kristin's proper technique of CPR.

MIDDLE School doesn't get in the way of a good education when it comes to tire changing.

BOTTOM Banking on new financial knowledge are Clark Wood, Sid Sharp, Lucas Lillelund, Ridge McCauley, Taylor Johnson, Tyler Levy, and Andrew Beck.

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Bundles of Babies!



Rebecca Karem Hughes '97, husband Scott, and daughter Hannah, born May, 2011, welcomed Sally Grace Hughes on October 23, 2012. Rebecca is a stay-at-home mom and is the junior board president for the nonprofit organization, Triumph Services, where she formerly served as an employment specialist assisting adults with developmental disabilities. Scott is a real estate developer.



Lucy Hinkle Lloyd '97 lives in Portland, OR, with her husband, Jonathan, and daughter Mary Reynolds, born December 20, 2012. Lucy recently completed her residency in psychiatry and is currently completing a fellowship in psychosomatic medicine at Oregon Health and Sciences University.



Emily Milward Magevney '97 and her husband William were delighted to welcome Jane Reese Magevney on September 23, 2012. The Magevneys live in William's home town of Jacksonville, FL. Emily enjoys working in development at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, and William is assistant vice president, corporate development at EverBank Financial Corp.



Janie Romaine Jones '98 and husband Jemison keep happily busy with daughter Mason, born October 23, 2012. Janie is director of development at The Exceptional Foundation, a Birmingham nonprofit organization serving mentally and physically challenged individuals. Jemison works at O'Neal Steel.

Cradle(s) of Acorns!

Years after becoming close at TLS, ***Rebecca Karem Hughes '97*** *and* ***Janie Romaine Jones '98*** *continued that friendship as transplants to Birmingham, AL. They shared the excitement of expecting babies at the same time and – upon learning their due dates were several weeks apart – they joked about delivering on the same day.* **Which they did.** *Checking into the same hospital within a half-hour of one another, they later delivered less than an hour apart, yielding two precious baby girls, Sally Grace Hughes and Virginia Mason Jones . . . and a most unusual TLS reunion! (Pictured below, Sally and Mason already enjoy frequent play dates together, just as their mothers did, growing up in Lexington.)*



Alison Michel Wrenne '98 and husband Daniel are the proud parents of Noah Michel Wrenne, born January 7, 2013. An agent with Turf Town Properties, Alison enjoys the challenges of balancing motherhood with helping her clients through the process of buying or selling a house. She graduated in 2005 from Transylvania University, where she majored in business administration. Thinking back to her TLS days, she remembers, "Switching from public school to TLS in sixth grade was quite a transition; I had a lot of catching up to do. All of my teachers were dedicated in helping me succeed. Miss Cowling really made a difference with the extra time she spent helping me develop my note-taking skills and study habits."





WEDDING BELLS!

Ben Reynolds '93 and Aurora Sack were married on August 25, 2012, on the grounds of the Highlands Ranch Mansion in Highlands Ranch, CO. With his master's degree in business administration from the Stern School of Business at New York University, Ben is an equity analyst at Fred Alger Management, a New York-based mutual fund company. Aurora is a registered nurse at Midtown Surgery Center, New York City. They live in Greenwich Village.



The bride and groom with Ben's parents, Kathy and Bruce Reynolds

Trading Apples for Acorns

***Emmy Hartley '93** Reflects on Coming Home to Stay*

After TLS graduation (classmates – get ready for our 20th reunion!), I headed to Miss Porter's School in Farmington, CT, and to Sewanee: The University of the South. I then moved to Atlanta and, after working three years at a media buying agency there, was offered a position with a Manhattan agency. I enthusiastically accepted, and for the past six years, lived and worked in New York at the global media agency, Zenith, overseeing national out-of-home media buying and planning for Verizon Wireless and Delta Air Lines.

In early 2012, I began to think about moving back to Lexington and contacted Kip Cornett, (father of **Charlotte '05**), president of Cornett-IMS, who was strengthening their media department. After learning about the great work the agency does and seeing what a special place it is, I joined the team last July as Chief Media Officer. The opportunity to work with Cornett-IMS's creative team (which, incidentally, includes **Lacy Reinhold '02**) was a chance I couldn't refuse. Another bonus? The office's location – *downtown!* With so much growth and change happening in and around downtown – in large part due to several TLS alums – it's an exciting time to be a Lexingtonian.

Throughout my years away from Lexington, one constant has been strong friendships made during my 11 TLS years. **Ben Reynolds '93**, **Jimmy Booth '93**, **Quin Bell '95**, **David Ravvin '98**, and I represented TLS in New York, gathering regularly to cheer the Wildcats. Over the years I've been fortunate to attend many weddings of classmates and friends. Since relocating to Lexington, I've reconnected with **Sybil Dawahare Montero '93**, **Allie Collier Barringer '93**, **Sara Dean '93**, and **Erica Cohen Mash '93**. And as a member of TLS's Alumni Council, I am impressed by Chuck Baldecchi's strong leadership and vision for the school. One particular treat has been the chance to see my cousin, **Kendall Sturgill '15**, and her basketball teammates in action – GO COLTS! I must admit, seeing the girls having fun and hearing the gym buzzer immediately brought back fantastic memories of my days on the Colts teams.



A Hartley family Fourth of July reunion in South Carolina includes **Stuart '00**, **Emmy '93**, parents Mary and Cooper, **Matthew '95**, and his wife Julia.

While the move back to Lexington has certainly been a change of pace from my Manhattan days, it's been a welcome one. It's true what they say: *"There's no place like home!"*

TLS vs. Sayre!



Back in full force for the varsity TLS–Sayre basketball game on January 30, members of the Class of 2012 sample Chef Ryan's taco bar before tipoff. Left to right: Eli Mitchell; Will Farish; Strohmann Breeding; Christian Courtney; Sloan Warner; Mark O'Brien, speaking to Ms. Martine Head, mother of Charles Tari-Head; Jack Phillips; Clay Brewer; Dara Talbott; Jaylen Jones; and Caroline Totty.

Rosie Halpin and Clara de Castro catch up with Mr. Johnson in the cafeteria before the game. To ensure a strong presence from their class, Rosie and Clara, along with Strohmann Breeding and Sloan Warner, came back to the development office to Facebook, tweet, and call their classmates.

Taking time out during the game are 2011 classmates Clark Dupree, Jordan Turley, Logan Mitchell, Will Webb, Spencer Sabharwal, and Alex Webb, with Sayre friend Quin Pergande in the background.

IN MEMORIAM Terry Bailey (H'79)



A strong presence at the school throughout the '60s and '70s, Terry Bailey *(pictured, right, with dear friend and colleague* ***Lorine Trosper*** *[**H'79**])* sparked the love of grammar in a generation of TLS students as homeroom teacher of second through fifth grades. She also taught English and served as Middle School Head. Middle school teacher **Sheila Owen McIntosh '79** remembers her fondly: "Because of the strong foundation I received in her class, writing grants, proofreading, and editing have been easy for me."

Former Headmaster **Bud Pritchett (H'81)** recalls Terry as "one of the longtime joys to The Lexington School," and **Gerald Ward '79** never ends a sentence in a preposition, still reciting:

I you he she it we you and they
Me you him her it us you and them
In order to group your pronouns

Vernon Hatton (H'81) harkened back to traveling on one of Mrs. Bailey's popular summertime European trips – a seven-week, six-country tour: "We had 100 students, 25 teachers, class in the mornings and tours in the afternoons. Whatever she said, ***you did***. I called her the lady coach Adolf Rupp," recalled the former UK All-American and NBA player.

The Lexington School extends its sympathy to Mrs. Bailey's family.

THIS IS OUR BACKYARD

Megan Winfield and Brady Barlow, parents of **Sadie '18** and **Phoebe '22**, have a vision for the city of Lexington as well as for May 10's CELEBRATION '13. Enthusiastic Celebration-goers even before officially joining the TLS family, Megan and Brady jumped at the chance to chair this year's event because, as they say, "We love a party." As an owner of West Sixth Brewery Company, Brady confesses, "It comes naturally."

CELEBRATION '13: **This Is Our Backyard** will feature local foods, highlight local products, and promote local businesses and all the things that make Lexington a wonderful place to live, work, do business, and, of course, go to school. Uniquely qualified to bring the backyard of Lexington into the backyard of The Lexington School, Megan and Brady stand tall among entrepreneurial leaders who are changing the face of our city in a most vibrant way. They know firsthand the positive energy flowing in this area of the Bluegrass. As a key renovator of The Bread Box — downtown's former Rainbo Bread factory — Brady's group has transformed the backyard of Lexington's historic Northside Neighborhood.

From Colorado, Megan brings her strong career background, including years of work with Dell, and she has begun her own business here this year. Global travelers, she and Brady, Sadie and Phoebe are at home in other cultures and continue their learning from Thailand to France. Although she and Brady could live anywhere in the world, they have chosen Lexington, and have brought things they love to this region.



Working closely with Megan and Brady, Mandy Helton, Assistant Director of Development, points out: "Brady and Megan are world travelers, but are also locavores in the best sense of the word. They shop locally, give locally, and have invested locally by opening their businesses right here in Lexington. They love our local community just as they love The Lexington School. Our students' backyard includes not only our playgrounds, athletic fields and Scarlet Gate, but also our bustling downtown, our horse farms, and Kentucky's unrivaled natural beauty around us. When Brady and Megan announced the theme, it was definitely an 'of course' moment. **This Is Our Backyard** is the perfect reflection of who they are as people, what they appreciate about TLS, and what they hope to achieve at CELEBRATION 2013: The entire city of Lexington, with its enterprising spirit, its visionary leaders, its supportive businesses, its generous and involved citizens, converging here on Lane Allen Road at the biggest, warmest family gathering you can imagine."



HOME COURT ADVANTAGE

ALUMS RETURN TO TLS AS COACHES

Tom Parlanti, longtime athletics director at The Lexington School, speaks with particular pride when he relays that three of his former players have returned as coaches. **Jeff Milward '99**, **Greg Ladd '01**, and Greg's sister, **Leslie Ladd '04**, each an ardent competitor on the court more than a decade ago, smile at the mere mention that they *ever* thought they'd be back as coach. Old green and white tunics stuffed in the back of the closet have given way to successful business attire, as these adults feel renewed enthusiasm for the once-familiar scoreboard and shot clock.

Head coach of the fifth and sixth grade boys basketball team since October, and undefeated through late January, Greg knows the routine and feels completely comfortable "back home again." Mr. Parlanti agrees: "Greg sees the other side of the coin now. He's immersed in what the boys get out of the experience because athletics has been so important to him his whole life. He played everything while he was here. He did it all. He's a strict disciplinarian and sees the value of that. There is no waste of time in practice at all. The boys are learning; they're moving forward. When they do something great, he celebrates with them. When they do something not commensurate with his hopes and expectations, he lets them know that too."

Mr. Parlanti recalls Greg's considerable post-TLS athletic accomplishments at Culver Academies, where he made a name for himself on the ice hockey rink as well as on the lacrosse field. For Lexington School spring sports, Greg, now in his third year at UK Law School, plans to transition into lacrosse as assistant coach with head LAX coach Jason Hurst.

Greg, with the trademark twinkle in his eye that his coaches and teachers still remember, brings the Ladd enthusiasm back to the gym, as he says, "Coaching this season has been an absolute blast. Our defense is stifling and our intensity is unparalleled. My wife [Kelsey] isn't sure who is enjoying this undefeated season more, the boys or me. Coaching at TLS takes me back – some of my oldest friends played with me on the fifth and sixth grade team coached by **Rob Brewer '85**. My teammate and groomsman **David Priest '01** is a doctor in California and is perhaps our most enthusiastic supporter. Not much has changed, however. I have great kids, which is exactly why I wanted to coach at TLS. The boys are sharp, work incredibly hard, and are always looking to improve. I can also tell they have great parents, a realization that makes me feel old because I'm equally as proud of my boys' manners, how they listen, how polite they are, and, most importantly, how they treat one another. Their behavior is certainly indicative of fine, off-the-court training."



Coach Ladd explains the intricacies of ball handling and on-court strategy to his team.

HOME COURT ADVANTAGE CONTINUED

SHIFTING FOCUS from one Ladd to the other, Mr. Parlanti says, "Leslie hasn't changed a bit. She was a lucky hire for us," filling the role of assistant basketball coach for seventh and eighth grade girls. Mr. Parlanti notes she is "strong on skill and motivation. Those are her strengths. Like Greg, she keeps everybody moving and learning, which is a tremendous asset on a developmental team."



Coach Ladd leaves her UK football office in the afternoons for the TLS basketball court.

Leslie, formerly on Joker Phillips's recruiting staff at UK, has continued in the same position for current head football coach Mark Stoops. She began her football work as an undergrad at the University of Georgia, then going, post-grad, with the Houston Texans pro team. Similar to her brother, Leslie was a Culver standout athlete, making her mark in lacrosse, soccer, tennis, and basketball. In the spring, Leslie looks forward to assisting Jason Hurst as they build the girls' LAX program.

WHEN AN OPENING BECAME AVAILABLE for the seventh and eighth grade boys' assistant coach, Jeff Milward was the perfect man to step in. With his Naval Intelligence work in Afghanistan behind him (details in Summer 2010 *Pinpoints*), Jeff lives in Lexington with wife Amanda, and he admits to holding a warm place in his heart for TLS for decades. In the fall of 2009, returning to his alma mater as Lieutenant J. G. Jeff Milward, he reminisced about the benefits – as well as the burdens – of running the mile for Coach Parlanti.

Breaking away from his team for a moment, Jeff emphasizes, "Coaching at TLS has always been something I have wanted to do, because so many of my coaches here over the years have had such a dramatic impact on my life. During my middle school years most of my free time was spent playing sports, and it meant a lot to me to have such positive role models here to help mold me into a better player and person. One of those coaches, Rob Brewer, and I have remained close over the years, and Rob never shied away from letting me know how rewarding his years of coaching at TLS were. So, with the organic desire to give back to The Lexington School, coupled with Rob's endorsement of getting involved, fate met opportunity, and I couldn't be happier with my decision to take on a coaching role. In my inaugural game, our seventh and eighth grade boys Black Team won on a last-second shot, which further solidified that decision, but also set the bar extremely high for the remainder of my coaching career. The pinnacle of most coaches' careers doesn't usually come in their first week on the job, but I will have to work extremely hard to surpass the pride and joy I felt that day. It is an honor and a privilege to coach at The Lexington School, and I hope I can make the type of impact that Rob and so many others did throughout their years on the sidelines."

Coach Parlanti points out that his former basketball player and mile-runner is already an impressive role model, as Jeff comes straight from Powell-Walton-Milward, still in his suit and tie, looking very Calipari-esque, dressed for success.

All three TLS former-athletes-turned-coaches take tremendous pride in giving back to The Lexington School, the place where they received so very much.



Coach Milward emphasizes technique and timing as important tools for basketball success.

TLS Teachers Share Knowledge at ISACS Annual Conference



Continuing the longtime practice of Lexington School faculty members taking a lead role in the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS), in early November five teachers commanded their audiences in Louisville. The two-day conference included more than 1,500 teachers from 13 states, with ISACS representing 230 independent schools in the Midwest region.

TLS's Director of Professional Development Jaci Sloan, on ISACS's professional services committee, coordinated the presence of 85 TLS teachers, and with "Innovation" as the conference theme, David Cooper, Susan Hawkridge, Jason Hurst, Laurie Vennes, and Tracy Young each gave strong presentations.

Speaking on gender diversity, with the movie ***Straightlaced*** to accompany his words, music teacher Dr. David Cooper shared specific ideas regarding, "what needs to be done to incorporate everybody into the school family." His delivery ignited deep post-film discussion among his 100-member audience of middle school and elementary school teachers, who found it difficult to end their conversations afterwards.

Fifth grade language arts and social studies teacher Susan Hawkridge and third grade teacher Tracy Young combined forces on "Individualizing Your Language Arts Block." As Mrs. Hawkridge says, "We spoke on our journey here at TLS using The Daily 5 as our management system. We concentrated on how we are able to increase reading comprehension." Grounded in research and generating much interest, the national program encourages students to work on their own level and at their own pace. The Daily 5 teaches specific reading comprehension strategies: Reading to Self; Reading to Partner; Writing to Self; Word Work; and Listening. She continues, "We shared what we knew was successful." Mrs. Young adds, "We take The Daily 5 one step further, showing how to implement it in the classroom, using various resources – technology, iPads, apps, etc. We also show how to confer with students to get the most out of the time together."

Inspiration for collaboration of middle school science teacher Jason Hurst with Jaime Lassman, Director of Technology Integration and Curriculum, began on the seventh grade trip to South Carolina. Their goal, which they achieved, was to make the time meaningful for "Chemistry in Context" and to impart specific skills students will use in the classroom – creating Excel charts, using flip cameras and Prezi for Presentations. Following the Innovation theme, presentations depart from the traditional, written lab reports. Rather, students collaborate and design multi-media electronic lab reports that can be shared globally with pictures, videos, and graphs. As Mr. Hurst relays, "Our students create multi-media lab reports that have all the components of a traditional lab report, but are presented in a 21st Century way."



SHARING TLS KNOWLEDGE Laurie Vennes, David Cooper, Susan Hawkridge and Tracy Young, and Jason Hurst

For "21st Century in the Lower School Classroom," third grade teacher Laurie Vennes relayed what she uses on a daily routine, focusing on students using technology and encouraging students' creativity at every turn. Weaving the six Mission Skills Assessment character strengths – teamwork, creativity, ethics, resilience, curiosity, and time management – into her curriculum, Mrs. Vennes drew comments that her clear-cut presentation "filled the room with magnificent 21st Century ideas that were relatable and non-threatening." Discussing the rubrics from preschool through third grade, she demonstrated the value of these six vitally important traits.

The Lexington School was impressively represented by each of the five teachers who gave presentations.

In discussion afterward, TLS teachers agreed with the ISACS statement that explains the group gathers, "to see old truths in new ways, to extend our individual and collective vision."

Betsy's Good Earth

By ***Betsy Wilson '04***

It's windy, rainy and 45 degrees. I am knee deep in compost preparing a 90-foot bed to transplant lettuce, and I am happy.

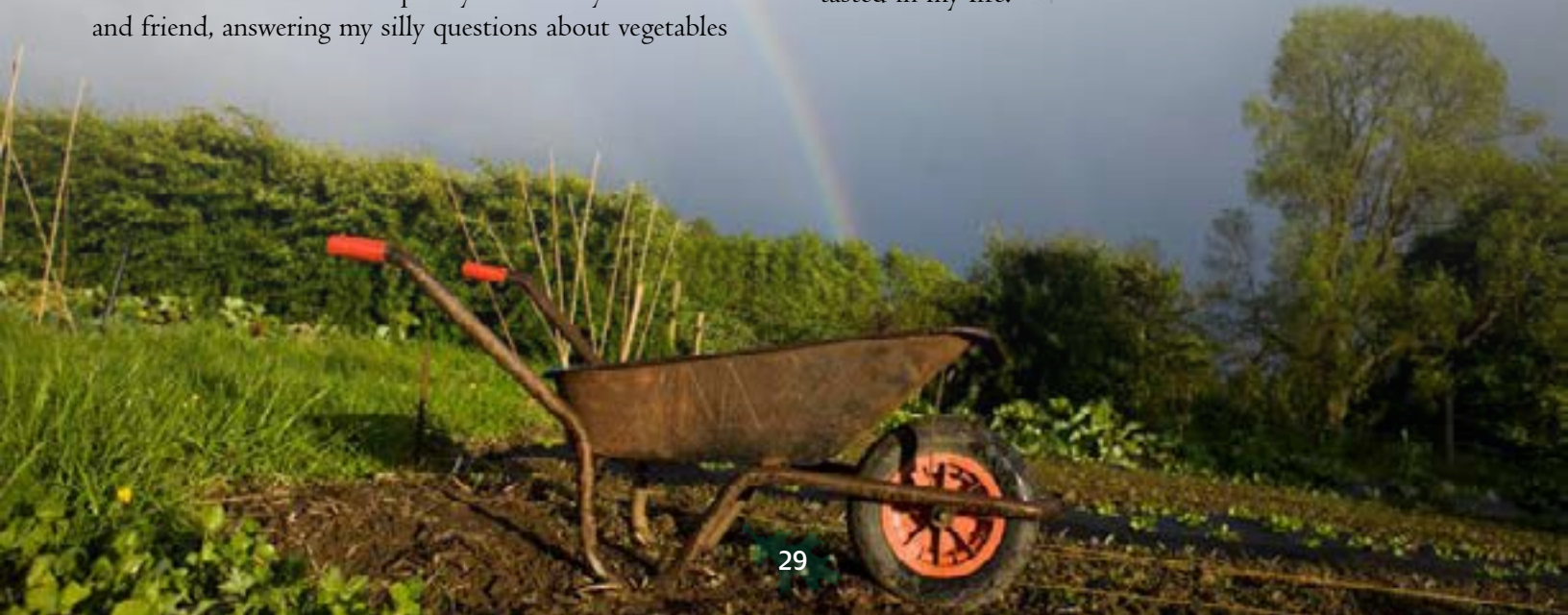
Three years into my college career at Western Kentucky University, I was studying photojournalism, and my love for it had dimmed, while my love for organic vegetable farming had grown. I decided to take a break and travel to Ireland to work on two organic farms through the WWOOF program (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms). As a WWOOF-er I participated in an international program that connects interested volunteers with farmers across the globe. After I arrived in Ireland, I worked 30 hours a week in exchange for room, board, and rides to the bus station on weekends. I chose to work on two farms on opposite sides of the country. The first farm was called Dunany, an organic grain farm situated right by the beautiful Irish Sea.

The first week was, well, pretty terrible. Rainy and 45 degrees doesn't sound too bad, but when you're building fences and stringing barbed wire it can be challenging. After that first week and a teary Skype call with my parents, I knew I had to stick it out and that I was up for any challenge that could come my way. At the first farm I learned how to weld, pour concrete, drive tractors and front loaders, mill flour, and brew a proper cup of Irish tea. I felt strong, both emotionally and physically, and proud of myself for getting out of my comfort zone. Looking back, I laugh about my first week on the farm and how much I struggled to get my feet under me.

I really flourished and found out how rewarding farm work can be at the second farm, Sunny Meadow Farm in County Galway. I lived in a small cottage beside the small home of farmer Dermot O'Mara and his two girls, Emer and Laoise. Dermot quickly became my mentor and friend, answering my silly questions about vegetables and reminding me to keep an open mind and positive attitude when work was tough. Quickly I discovered which jobs I liked and which ones I would put off until the last minute – I enjoyed pruning tomatoes and the daily care of the 60 or so chickens, but I didn't like picking gooseberries or weeding stinging nettle.



While working on the farm, I was reminded of a challenging hike on The Lexington School's legendary Southwest trip that I took as a ninth grader. Mr. Hardesty led us up what felt like a mile of switchbacks to the top of Angels Landing in Zion National Park. The hike up was tough, almost unbearable at times, but when we reached the top I felt powerful and proud of myself for doing something that was challenging and unexpected. There were times on the farm when I physically felt like I couldn't take it anymore, my back hurt and my knuckles cracked from working in the soil. I did finish though, and I am better for it. My WWOOF experience was the most important and changing experience I've ever had in my life. I hope to go back to Ireland to visit my friends and to continue producing the best vegetables I've ever tasted in my life.





BIG WHEEL RIDERS

Maddie Schacht '09, Sumer Means '09, McKenzie Maxson '09, Lily Wolken '08, Ellie Fogg '08, Irene Alcaraz-Perez '08

TRAINERS

Jennafer Charter '01, Jen Boone '01, Lucy Hollingsworth '01, Isabel deCamargo '00, Fielden Willmott '00

Little Kentucky Derby

Students preparing for this year's 34th annual Little Kentucky Derby: Take heed of the impressive starting gate lineup from the May 2000 running of the Flamingo Stakes, pictured above.

Begun in 1979 by PE teachers Roberta Owen and Terry Brewer, the first Little Kentucky Derby was held with the help of Connie Freeman's fourth graders as "trainers." Montessori and kindergarten students as "jockeys" rode their Big Wheels in the first "Run for the TLS Roses."

Mrs. Owen remembers "The racecourse was marked with cones around the outside of three tennis courts, where the current lower school wing is located. As Mrs. Freeman's fourth graders matured, they continued to help with the Derby. When they graduated, eighth and ninth grade students became the designated trainers with additional help from seventh graders."

Through the generations, this favorite tradition has provided a rich opportunity for the oldest and youngest TLS students to bond in a very special way.



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For the Fiber and Wool Intramural, third graders Tori Trimble and Carmen Applegate stick weave napkin rings for their Christmas table. The multi-step process involved carding, dying with Kool-Aid, and needle felting a poinsettia from alpaca wool, donated by the Brightside Bend Farm of **Ashley Flamm '07**.

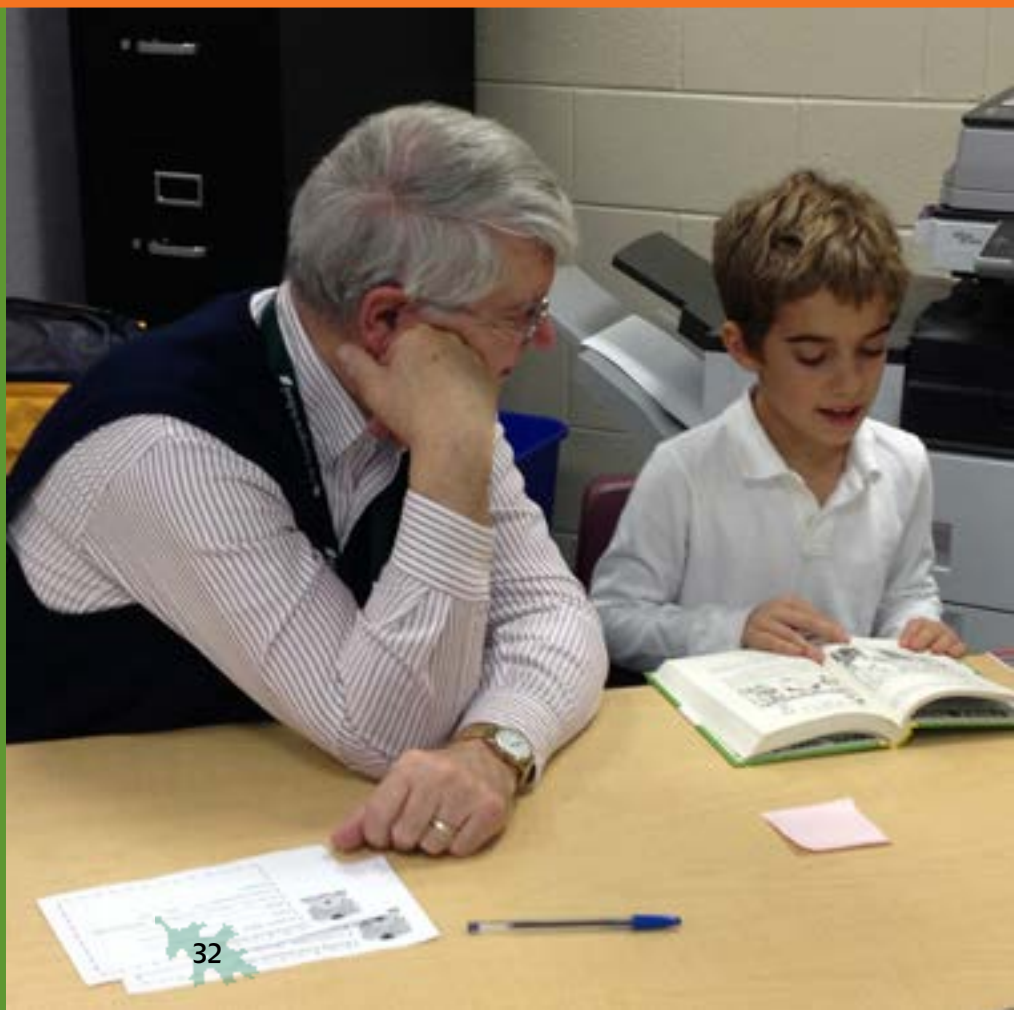
Feel the Physics – Wade Johnson takes a break from Montessori and gets a preview of the seventh grade pulley systems in the simple machines unit.





For the first time in a decade the speech team attends the Danville Anchor Invitational Speech tournament; every student "finals" in his or her event. ***Back row:*** Chase Vickery, Isabeau Camp, Liza Platt. ***Front row:*** Sahar Mohammadzadeh, Sam Perez, Coach Laura Bowling, Emma Draper.

On the first day of The Learning Center's new reading buddy program, third grader Cassius Clay shares a book with Mr. Larry Neuzel, grandfather of Joey and Jake.





Lower school service learning includes a Halloween visit to Lexington Country Place, where residents choose selections from the caldron, tended by Mrs. Gumm-Gray, for the first graders to sing, with Mrs. Anderson's piano accompaniment.

In their study of Colonial days, third graders sample jonnycakes and learn from Chef Ryan that settlers used cornmeal, because of its longevity, instead of flour; cornmeal contains sugar, whereas flour has protein.





Eighth grade gridiron – Running back Jack Farrell fights hard for extra yardage as Tyler Levy blocks for him with Walker Montgomery as strong backup.

At the Holiday Concert, Ridge McCauley, Jack Farrell, Cole Terrill, and Emilie Dhir put extra gusto in the eighth grade musical tribute to each of their teachers.





Sixth graders Sean Givens, Hart and Wick Hallos, and Luke de Castro take part in the Martin Luther King Day parade. Third grader Vivian Bradner-Young and her sister, Miranda in Prekindergarten, designed and made the signs.



At Scarlet Gate's Holiday Homecoming, the Platt women – Flora, **Hannah '11**, and seventh grader Eliza – enjoy being together again while Hannah is home from Middlesex School in Concord, MA.



With assistance from Coach Wald, fourth grader Ryne Williams works on perfecting his form, getting his elbow down and his bow up, to shoot accurately at the target.

Clay hands get into the mix. As part of fifth grade's math lesson about area, height, and length, Quin Clay helps his first grade sister/buddy Caroline Anne build her candy house. Hands-on, Dad **Brutus '85** is in the middle of it all.





Sixth grader Madalyn Given presents learning tools she designed and created for the skeletal and muscular system.

Geography Bee Excellers

Front row: Will Medley, Ford Webb, Jackson Cornett

Back row: Taylor Johnson, Jack Cline, Sam Vaughan, Ben Schaeffer, Elizabeth Nielsen, Gaby Hawkridge *(Absent: Paul Kamer)*

Seventh graders Ben Schaeffer and Jack Cline finished the championship round with two correct questions each, which led to a single elimination tie-breaker. The final question, which Ben answered correctly: "The former capital city of Almaty is located south of Lake Balkhash in which Asian country?" The answer: *Kazakhstan.*





Fourth grader Timia Higgins shares her writing with her classmates, whose hands are raised as they give feedback on her content.



On Election Day, seventh graders Jackson Leach, Olin Gentry, and Jack Cline prepare to cast their ballots at the TLS polling precinct in the library, where students from Kindergarten through eighth grade voted.



Getting to the heart of the matter – Studying the circulatory system, sixth graders Jake Falcone and Luke Thomas dissect a pig heart to examine the aorta and four chambers and valves.

Seventh grader Spencer Kriss shoots a free throw with Jack Farrell, Robert Bratton, Daniel Grigsby, and Shaun Anderson ready to grab the rebound.





In Mr. Novitsky's room, fifth graders Sarah Belin, Cate Cunningham, and Ann Kathryn Shashy explore surface tension of bubbles using different concentrations of dish soap.

Sitting side by side, Acorns Rhys Fraser and John Camden Clay learn the value of teamwork and cooperation.





In November, second grader Witt Wood prepares to put the top on his wigwam for the Native American project.

Davis Ashmun flexes his muscles as the strong man in the prekindergarten circus.





Second grader Katherine Truitt and sixth grader Audra Ferrier work together on a getting-to-know-you Buddy Program questionnaire, as they look forward to meeting once a month throughout the year.

In the long-held tradition of the fourth grade trip to Fort Boonesborough, Tia Jackson, Hampton Rouse, Caitlin Hinds, Grace Umansky (second row), and Ashley McLaughlin observe the men who built a kiln to make charcoal, which was used by blacksmiths since it burns at a much higher temperature than firewood.





Fifth graders tour the LFUCG Recycling Center and learn the thousands of pounds of crushed aluminum cans help pay for the entire recycling program.

Third graders learn about classrooms, daily activities, and students their age in Vietnam from their teacher, Mrs. Calkins, who traveled there as part of TLS faculty's global awareness program.

