The Lexington School
Pinpoints

THE SCIENCE OF GIVING

The Anatomy of Creating Better Chemistry

Dr. Aoife Lyons '88, **Dr. Mark Lyons '92**, and their parents, Deirdre and Dr. Pearse Lyons, consider education a cornerstone of life. All four cherish the days when Aoife and Mark were students at The Lexington School, as Mrs. Lyons admits, "One of the saddest days of my life was the last day Mark was there." She continues, "Wonderful teachers and excellent classes during the formative years of a child's life will stay with them always." Giving back to the school that nurtured and educated their children, Dr. and Mrs. Lyons have given the gift of continuing education to a new generation of Lexington School learners. At Alltech, their family business with operations in 128 countries, Dr. and Mrs. Lyons continue their mission, "to improve the health and performance of people, animals, and plants through natural nutrition and scientific innovation."

Dr. Pearse Lyons asks hypothetically, "Why is science so important? Why is education so important?" Answering his own questions, he advises, "It is interesting that around the world, when economies are not doing well, there are two areas which attract students: science and agriculture. These two areas are, and always will be, the mainstay of a great economy. Alltech's involvement in science and agriculture stems from the fact that by educating in these areas it leads to innovation and the ability to create new solutions to feed the world." Reminiscing, Dr. Lyons emphasizes, "The Lexington School was a great training ground for Aoife and Mark, both of whom went on to achieve PhDs in their respective disciplines. They left The Lexington School with such a solid foundation that their options were unlimited. Our involvement with the new laboratories is, in one small way, a way to say thanks."



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Hiba Malik, sixth grade, presents her cell model.

Mrs. Lyons, with her extensive background with corporate image and project management for Alltech, designed both the chemistry room and the anatomy and physiology room, from subfloor to ceiling, with new air conditioning and lighting.

Middle school science teacher Jason Hurst explains, "Mrs. Lyons came to look at the space and we talked about the chemistry curriculum; she wanted the space to fit the curriculum. Now the lab is, in fact, designed to do labs. I know where everything is in here now. The cabinet space is designed to be efficient and functional." With 50-minute classes, it had been difficult to finish complex labs in the allotted time. With the new design, the stations and three work islands have individual cupboards where students keep complete sets of equipment. Mr. Hurst points out, "The space expands what we are able to do in chemistry." He appreciates the clean, sleek lines that contribute to the calmness of the clutter-free room. "It has good feng shui," he says.

Unsurprisingly, the response is overwhelming from students, parents, grandparents, alumni, former teachers, and friends, and, as Mr. Hurst proclaims, "I am the envy of every teacher." He continues, "Our new science classrooms are commercial grade. Comparatively, they are some of the best labs in the city, if not the state." Impressed with Mrs. Lyons's design expertise and her practicality, Mr. Hurst enjoyed collaborating with her to discuss the classroom's revitalization, saying, "It was her smart idea to include a dishwasher; it saves ten minutes of every lab period." Though Mr. Hurst has no plans to compete with Chef Ryan in the kitchen, included, too, are refrigerated drawers, an ice machine, convection oven, microwave, and six lab sinks. Each island features Bunsen burners and two gas nozzles, and there is a chemical fume hood for lab experiments. Giving a recent tour of his new digs, Mr. Hurst exclaims, "This is fantastic. My office is a spaceship."

In reflecting on the transformative gift, Head of School Chuck Baldecchi says, "Deirdre and Pearse Lyons know the importance of developing a passion for science in students early on. It is evident in the remarkable growth and success of Alltech, and it is evident in their generous support of science education in the Bluegrass. The Lexington School benefits greatly from their vision and generosity every year not only from two state-of-the-art labs built this summer, but also from invitations for our students and faculty to visit their facilities and see their scientists in action. The Lexington School has been enriched by its relationship with the entire Lyons family, Deirdre, Pearse, Aoife, and Mark, and for that we are very grateful."

Around the eighth grade lunch table, conversation turns to the new-and-improved chemistry room. Victor Allison is impressed with the new lab tables, shelves for beakers, roomy cabinets, and gas taps to make bubbles. He notes, "We have more space now. In the old room, our desks were close together." Olin Gentry reflects, "Things are more organized now and everything is in its own place." Emma Draper says she loves the new lab, with the "incredibly

On the Cover Eighth graders Ruby Kate Gray, Kedrick Cobo, and Andres Mitchell prep a lab using a copper chloride solution − the cloudy, green liquid − and aluminum foil to demonstrate properties of metals.

Right Victor Allison, eighth grade, uses a flame test, an experimental technique, to help identify a metal or ionic salt based on its emission spectrum when it is heated in a gas flame. Different elements and binary compounds have unique chemical light signature. Astronomers use the chemical light signatures of stars to determine their composition. This is how we know the sun is mostly hydrogen and helium with trace amounts of other elements like oxygen, carbon, neon, nitrogen, magnesium, iron and silicon.

Pages 1-3 photos by Melanie Mauer Photography

cool oven and the dishwasher set up like a kitchen. It looks and feels so clean. We can do more interesting labs because we have the resources now." Emma Baker observes, "Mr. Hurst is more energetic in his new classroom. He likes to walk around while he talks to us, and I like that." Marshall Nielsen sums it up well, "Mr. Hurst is having a lot of fun this year."

Between classes, eighth grader Alex Simpson recalls,

> The science rooms are awesome. Every parent who has come by, stops in the hallway, backs up, and says "Wow!"
>
> *Todd Morrison*

"Last year I had math in that classroom, and the transformation to the way it is now is amazing. Because Alltech has so generously provided us with this new space, we can do more advanced experiments now that we have the tools. We can do projects that involve a flame. We turned a flame on and produced a giant fireball. We had never done that before. We are allowed to use more chemicals since we have a safer place to keep them. We have two eye washers and two fire extinguishers."

Seventh grader Michael Duzyk, one of Mr. Hurst's pre-algebra students, adds, "Ohhh, I love our new room. If we're good during class, or when we get our homework done and are quiet, Mr. Hurst will treat us to a little experiment, maybe something with a Tesla coil. It's very cool. He has a neat pet tortoise named Tesla that he keeps in the room. There is always some kind of excitement going on in that room."

Across the hall, there is some kind of excitement going on in Tomi Lounsbury's room, too.

Sixth grade anatomy and physiology classes are revitalized this year, again thanks to Mrs. Lyons's expert design knowledge. Inspired by the generous support of Dr. and Mrs. Lyons for the chemistry room, CELEBRATION 2013 attendees



Building cell models helps students choose and manipulate different materials, including food, office supplies, and other crafts, to create the exact shape of each organelle.

enthusiastically "Raised the Paddle" in the middle of Live Auction for the complete renovation of Ms. Lounsbury's room.

Todd Morrison, building and grounds superintendent who met with Mrs. Lyons as she designed both science rooms, emphasizes the clean, professional look: classic blue and gray with brushed stainless steel hardware. He is quick to say, "It was a great pleasure to work with Mrs. Lyons. The science rooms are awesome. Every parent who has come by, stops in the hallway, backs up, and says, 'Wow!'"

Ms. Lounsbury loves every inch of her new space. With classroom dog Gixxie, given to her by six of her advisees who graduated from TLS in May, lying quietly at her feet, Ms. Lounsbury says the gift of the new classroom "was overwhelming. To feel that outpouring of support and love was like opening a huge, huge present. I came in frequently all summer to watch the progress, and the kids who are here now make it feel like home to me."



Sixth graders August Brooks, Sims Fister, and Lucy Oldham share their cell models with each other, comparing what materials they use to represent different organelles.



Above Sixth graders Paul Kamer, Mac Jett, and Sims Fister listen to lab directions for completion of their Shrinky Dink cells. *Right* Ms. Lounsbury's dog, Gixxie, welcomes visitors to the world of science.

Complete access to materials is a gift, Ms. Lounsbury explains, with computers and microscopes always set up and ready to use. Dissected models and student projects are now displayed, no longer tucked away in the storage closet. The tremendously enhanced facilities allow students more opportunity to accomplish than ever before. The aquarium is calming to students, who point out the fish that is transparent and the one that swims upside down. Ms. Lounsbury proudly notes the room is fully equipped with two work islands, four lab sinks, dishwasher, refrigerator, microwave, and a convection oven.

The oven is popular in making Shrinky Dinks, cell drawings on special paper, zipped into the new oven, and shrunk to the size of a credit card. Ms. Lounsbury shares her interest in exploring new ways to offer students a wide variety of science experiences. She relays, "The brain needs seven to nine hits of information to retain it. I try to have students manipulate information in many different ways to move that information from short-term to long-term memory. With Shrinky Dinks, students become familiar with all parts of the cell and make color-coded keys of different organelle structures, culminating in the giant shrinking machine."

Sixth grader Mac Jett, in his first year at TLS, remembers when he visited the school last year. "Ms. Lounsbury's room is way cooler and more prepared this year. Everything has a place. It is more sophisticated. The windows give a lot of natural light and the area seems more open with all new lighting in the ceiling. It's neat the lights turn on and off automatically when you enter and leave the room."

Sixth graders Kali Thomas and Ariyana Rhodes especially like the vast amount of storage with cabinets, drawers, and cubbies for supplies and in-progress homework. The long counters they enjoy for projects. Seventh graders Caroline Hager and Audra Ferrier agree the modern features enhance organization and efficiency, as there is more room now for dissecting a worm, frog, pig, cow's eye, or kidney.

With grand inspiration from Dr. and Mrs. Lyons, The Lexington School deeply appreciates the enthusiastic generosity of the Lyons family and the CELEBRATION 2013 families for the complete renovation of the two middle school science rooms. As Dr. Lyons said in reference to Aoife and Mark, "They left The Lexington School with such a solid foundation that their options were unlimited." Those same words now apply to the next generation of Lexington School students.



From Trebuchets to Drosophilas

The de Castros, **Leo '10** and **Clara '12**, appreciate the rigor and the fascination of the TLS science classes that gave them their solid science foundation beyond school.

Take Leo – As a senior at Henry Clay High School, he began an early lab career doing biology research with a University of Kentucky neurophysiologist. Leo quickly advanced to command his own project: studying the neuromuscular structure of crayfish. In fact, he won the animal sciences category at the 2013 Kentucky Science and Engineering Fair in Louisville, by showing how crayfish adapt to cold or warm environments.



The Lexington School has a lot to do with Leo's success: "The most significant lesson that TLS taught me is a general work ethic. Ms. Lounsbury's biology class is still the hardest class I've ever had. Her class is the one that has pushed me the most. I loved Mr. Johnson's physics class, and it was clear that he loved it too. I am in AP physics now. I enjoyed Ms. Zimmerman's and Mr. Mohan's classes too."

Not one to rest on his laurels, Leo's current passion is building a trebuchet – that's a catapult – from the ground up. Harking back to Greek and Roman times, Leo hones his 21st century skills, arranging for the purchase of steel, and cutting and welding it according to strict plans. The final product is capable of slinging over 3,000 pounds. (Of course Leo is not the first by that name to design a trebuchet: Leonardo da Vinci, too, was fascinated by the raw power and the majestic construction of the catapult, as he drew sketches to improve earlier methods of construction.)

Pointing toward a major in computer science in college, Leo had a paid internship last summer as a software engineer at Triton Container International. At Henry Clay, he currently works with the school computer network supervisors to develop a student resource app for his fellow students to use on their phones.

Not to be outdone by her brother, Clara, too, works in the same neurophysiology lab at UK, though she has chosen *Drosophila*, also known as the fruit fly, for her research, rather than crayfish. With her first paper soon to be published in the *American Journal of Comparative Physiology*, she says: "I didn't expect to be given my own project; I thought I would be an assistant. When [the neurophysiologist] saw how well qualified I was, though, he said I could have the freedom to run it."



Immediately after her TLS graduation (where she was the only one wearing red cowboy boots), Clara began her work at the UK lab, devising a new saline for the *Drosophila* heart. While the *Drosophila* is a leading candidate for genetic research, she saw that the scientists did not have usable saline. A sophomore at Sayre, Clara has devised new saline so neurophysiologists can now do long-term studies. Building on her earlier lab work, she is excited about her 2013 project, researching diabetes in the *Drosophila*.

Like her brother, Clara gives enormous credit to her TLS science teachers: "Ms. Lounsbury, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Hurst, Ms. Zimmerman, Mr. Ski, and Mr. Mohan all taught me different but important things. They each gave me tools to build on when I left TLS."

On a recent visit back to TLS, Clara gave a glowing review of the school's new science labs: "Mr. Hurst showed me the welded floors so no chemicals can get through; they are much safer and cleaner than before. He also showed me the burners." In fact, she noted, "The TLS labs are much, much nicer than the lab I work in now."

Let's not let that get back to the boss, Clara. Now – back to the lab, both of you! *Science awaits!*

Thank You

Supporters of the Science Room Renovation

Drs. Dale and Kimberly Absher
Alltech Biotechnology Center
Dr. and Mrs. Keith T. Applegate
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher L. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Baldecchi
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Bandoroff
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The Lexington School Class of 2010
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Trimble
Dr. Stephen Umansky and Dr. Barbara Umansky
Dr. and Mrs. J. Sloan Warner, Jr.
Mr. Woodford Webb and Dr. Kelli Webb
Dr. and Mrs. A. David Westerfield IV
Robert and Pennye Willcutt
Mr. and Mrs. Brian C. Wood '87
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher H. Young '90
Dr. Thomas Young and Dr. Fiona M. Doherty
Dr. Matthew J. Zimmerman and Dr. Falguni Amin-Zimmerman

COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2009

Taylor Acree ..... Centre College
Haddon Alford ..... University of South Carolina
Ashton Aurland ..... Online College Program, Works Full Time
Ally Bailey ..... University of Kentucky
Emma Beck ..... Transylvania University
Andrew Betts ..... University of Kentucky
Kelsey Bonanno ..... Spokane Falls Community College
Ali Boone ..... Vanderbilt University
Cameron Boone ..... Denison University
Cavitt Bradley ..... Miami University
Olivia Breeding ..... University of Tennessee
Danny Caudill ..... Centre College
Duncan Courtney ..... Wofford College
Ben Davis ..... Centre College
Braxton DeCamp ..... Wake Forest University
Emily Deller ..... Western Kentucky University
Maggie Duzyk ..... Dickinson College
Ellee English ..... Campbellsville University
Adam Falluji ..... Centre College
Sammy Farish ..... University of Kentucky
Vanessa Fu ..... Emory University
Logan Gardner ..... University of Pennsylvania
Morgan Garrett ..... University of Kentucky
Jonathan George ..... Middlebury College
Russie Hunter ..... Butler University
Connor Lakofka ..... Georgia Institute of Technology
Jake Linton ..... Vanderbilt University
Erin MacLeod ..... Centre College
Jacob Mannino ..... University of Kentucky
Tara Marshall ..... Ohio State University
Meghan McGinty ..... Centre College
Travis McLaughlin ..... University of Kentucky
Anya Molyviatis-deKwiatkowski ..... Gap Year
Will Oldham ..... Case Western Reserve University
Maria Ortiz ..... University of Kentucky
Nicolas Pearson ..... Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Sanders Platt ..... University of Kentucky
Jacob Rackmil ..... Syracuse University
Samantha Scheib ..... School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Candace Smith ..... University of Kentucky
Francesca Spirito ..... College of Charleston
Wyatt Stonebreaker ..... University of Kentucky
Palmer Thomas ..... University of South Carolina
Jack Totty ..... University of Virginia
Cooper Van Tatenhove ..... Sewanee, The University of the South
Lizzie Walsh ..... Alfred University
Zea Wang ..... University of California, Berkeley
Antonio Woods ..... University of Illinois
Tadhg Young ..... Oberlin College
Yesmina Zakharia ..... University of Kentucky

Head *Lines*

NOTES FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

I WAS TOLD AHEAD OF TIME THAT THERE WAS GOING TO BE AN EXPLOSION. Chemistry teacher Jason Hurst wanted to make sure his class was a memorable one for Grandparents Day. But I have to admit, I was not expecting chucks of pumpkin to fly across the room and land near my feet. Let's just say, I should have been standing farther back. It was awesome! Our grandparents loved it too.

The Lexington School is loving its two new science labs built by the vision and leadership of Deirdre and Pearse Lyons and the support and generosity of our parents. Since last CELEBRATION, what was a dream has turned into a reality for TLS. After thirty years of serving its purpose and providing The Lexington School with adequate lab space, The Lexington School gutted its chemistry and anatomy labs for a much-needed overhaul – the results are truly state of the art. Ever since I first arrived at TLS ten years ago, I have always recognized the school's excellent commitment to science as unique and unparalleled by other elementary schools. Starting in Kindergarten, students spend significant time each week in science. In fourth and fifth grade almost a full two years before other elementary schools, science is a core subject. Most importantly, the teaching is exceptional – hands on, experiment-based projects that teach science though understanding. This fall we were able to give our excellent teachers and curriculum the facilities to match TLS's commitment to excellence. For that, we are deeply grateful to the generosity of the Lyons family in particular and all our families who contributed last May to this incredible effort.

This fall marked another first for The Lexington School – our first of the 50th year reunions. The classes of 1963 and 1964 returned to campus this fall to reconnect and reminisce about their pioneering days as TLS's first graduating classes. The turnout was incredible. Graduates from New York to California flew in to see old teachers and friends alike. One of the most touching moments of the evening was raising our glasses for a class toast to The Lexington School. With Ms. Abercrombie present, we thanked her and The Lexington School for giving us so much – great friends, great teachers, an incredible foundation, and lifelong memories.



Erin and Chuck Baldecchi at Boo Sing with Cade, first grade.

When you pick up this *Pinpoints*, I hope you are gathered around friends and family at Thanksgiving. We all have so much to be grateful for. I would be surprised if one of the things you weren't most grateful for was the great education you received at TLS and the lifelong friends you made while growing up in its halls of learning.

By the way, if you are in town the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 29, 2013, my wife Erin and I invite you to join us at Scarlet Gate between the hours of 5:30 and 7:00 to reminisce with old Lexington School friends at our annual Holiday Homecoming.

With gratitude for a job I love,

Charles D. Baldecchi
Head of School

NEW TEACHERS



Mona Azeem

Mona Azeem, born of deaf parents, was also born to teach; because of this, her TLS third graders are also becoming proficient in American Sign Language. With her dual certification from EKU in elementary education and deaf and hard of hearing, she holds her master's from Georgetown College in elementary education with an emphasis on reading and writing.

Because TLS Instructional Specialist Kelly Telech is her best friend, Mrs. Azeem had heard for a full year the excellence that is The Lexington School. She is quick to say, "Kelly would tell me about her wonderful students and the atmosphere of learning here at TLS. I got to hear firsthand how truly special this place is, and I was climbing the walls to get here."

In her 12th year of teaching, Mrs. Azeem has enjoyed seeing how her students love to learn. She explains, "They are the ones who determine what we dive into and learn next. We had a wide-ranging conversation about Jackie Robinson, and I emailed the librarians to get us more books on him. I appreciate that beautiful flexibility."

Mrs. Azeem's son, David, is a KinderKlasse student, who enjoys his classroom as much as his mother enjoys hers.

Jami Ervin

Enthusiasm for The Lexington School comes naturally to admission associate **Jami Ervin**. With sons **Aaron '13** and **Caleb '23**, Mrs. Ervin has already spent so much time within these halls of learning that people thought she began working here years ago. In fact, she has been a substitute teacher from Preschool through eighth grade, the assistant track coach, and is currently the Parents Association first vice-president.

With her strong professional background in sales, outreach, and marketing, Mrs. Ervin's focus in the Admission Office is creating and maintaining relationships locally, statewide, and beyond. She assists, too, with new family and TLS community events.



Following the board's strategic plan to attain student enrollment of 20% diversity, Mrs. Ervin says she looks forward to "enhancing our existing, very strong brand." In order to augment each TLS student's learning experience, it is the school's goal to reflect America's culture, to be a microcosm of the national demographics.

Yanqing Niu



Yanqing Niu, Mandarin instructor from Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China, says she felt welcome at The Lexington School on her first day, "when a Kindergartner greeted me in Chinese." In any language, she noticed immediately that TLS students "are friendly, active and social, smart, polite, and very creative in their art projects."

She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Education from Yan'an University in Yan'an, China, and her master's in comparative education from Guangxi Normal University, Guilin, China. With 16 students from Kindergarten through fourth grade, Mrs. Niu holds classes for beginning, intermediate, and advanced lessons. Children enjoy her sense of fun that creates a natural atmosphere for learning. She sees singing, playing games, painting Peking Opera masks, watching Chinese movie clips, exploring outdoors, and cooking traditional Chinese food as opportunities for her students to learn the new language and culture.

Mrs. Niu's instruction is influenced by the teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori, whose book *The Secret of Childhood* is a favorite. She draws inspiration, as well, from the 1916 book *Democracy and Education* by American philosopher, psychologist, and educational reformer John Dewey.

Courtney Stefanick

"When my family and I moved here, I researched Orton-Gillingham and the only names that popped up were Jane Childers, The Learning Center, and The Lexington School." That is when **Courtney Stefanick**, Instructional Specialist at The Learning Center, knew she had come to the right place.

Growing up in Baltimore, she played "every sport you can name." From the beginning, she wanted to major in elementary education, K-8. Her dreams and her work combined at Tennessee's Tusculum College, where she earned her Bachelor's degree and was inducted into the Women's Soccer Hall of Fame. She taught eight years, was director of admission, and director of summer camp at Greenville, South Carolina's Camperdown Academy, an independent first-through-eighth grade school for students with language-based learning differences.

Mrs. Stefanick enjoyed accompanying the sixth grade to Green River Preserve, where she was impressed to learn the Green River staff looks forward to TLS's visit each year. "Their staff said TLS brings the most polite and most enthusiastic students year after year. They endorsed what I already knew … I am part of something wonderful here."





Andrea Thomas

Andrea Thomas, Instructional Specialist at The Learning Center, knows dyslexia well, she says, because, "My son, niece, and both nephews are dyslexic. Early on, I learned to look at what their gifts were and to unlock their full potential. When my son was diagnosed in fifth grade, it was my job to gain the knowledge of how he learned and what his strengths were." She is a natural fit for The Learning Center.

With her degree in speech communication from Texas A & M University, she holds a master's of education at Southern Methodist University in learning therapy, specifically for students with learning differences and dyslexia. "My love is the language," she emphasizes, "both in and out of school." As a sales person before she began teaching, she gave computer training presentations. "I used to say, 'I sell language to people who would otherwise not buy it. If you don't know the homophone, Spell Check won't help.'" As adjunct professor at Lourdes University in Ohio, Mrs. Thomas taught educational psychology to teachers, while maintaining a private practice tutoring Orton-Gillingham-based methods.

Mrs. Thomas knows her background dovetails solidly with The Learning Center's vision.

Pin Prints



Their sign says it – at the Scarlet Gate picnic are Ellie Dunlap, KinderKlasse, and first graders Nadiya Washington, Sophia Haddad, Cailyn Rogers, Amelia Ryan, Audrey Mauer, and Prekindergartner Ainsley Metze. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Student Board members, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, pull morning carline duty on the first day of school. From left to right are: Cate Cunningham, Ashley Westerfield, Sarah Belin, Sam Perez, Jackson Leach, Henry Beck, Hanae Yoshida, Angie Willcutt, and Caitlin Flemm.



On the first day of school, Mrs. Foster gets a firm handshake from first grader Graham Harris.



Eighth graders Halle Cline, Ellie Webb, and Morgan McDonald take a break in the library from yearbook committee. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Lessons from Miss Cowling's class stretch across the world – Wick and Hart Hallos visited Alex Mills in Greece this summer, and, from the ancient city of Philippi where the boys knew all about the important battle that took place there, the seventh graders made a poster for their history teacher.



Snow Cones are a big hit with third graders Reed Applegate and Wills Milward at Fall Festival. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Seventh graders make the most of their South Carolina outdoor classroom at Barrier Island.



In the preschool sandbox, John Camden Clay, Montessori, deftly wields a shovel.



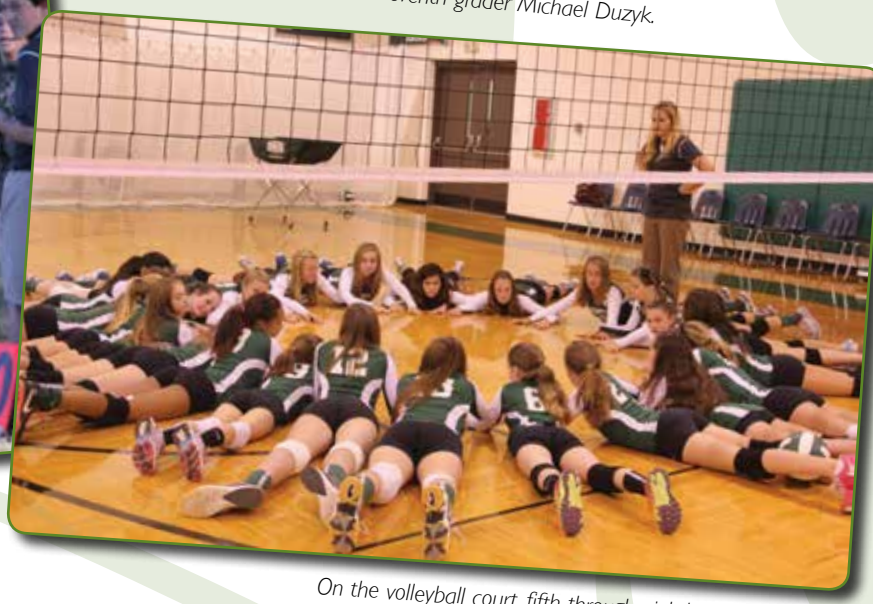
With polished social skills, Acorns Peyton Moore and Huttson Gudeman play peek-a-boo at the beginning of school.



Sharing a hug between cousins on Founders Day are Connor Duzyk, eighth grade, and seventh grader Michael Duzyk.



Eighth grader Andres Mitchell eludes the defender on the way to a well earned touchdown.



On the volleyball court, fifth through eighth graders share some pre-game bonding and strategizing time.

Pin Prints



Will Croce, fifth grade, leads the Colts to victory at The Lexington School Invitational Cross Country meet.



Seamus Walsh proudly presents his second grade Halloween diorama.



Tending the cucumber bed in TLS's Community Garden are seventh and eighth graders, Angie Willcutt, Sahar Mohammadzadeh, Sam Vaughan, and Sean Givens.



Ryan Sullivan, sixth grade, is pointed in the right direction by Coach Chad Pennington.



Learning Center pals, third grader George Freeman and fourth grader Aden Ausbrook, take a fresh view of things on the playground.



Alexan Sparks, fifth grade, masters the famous Lexington School overhand serve to get the point.



TLS cheerleaders enhance school spirit. Front: Hampton Rouse, Ellie Webb, Sam Perez, Anabeth Psimer, and Tia Jackson. Back: Megan Goldthorpe, Emerson White, and Olivia Baker.



Alexis Pickett, Maria Sharp, Kendall Sturgill, and Alice Rodgerson, all seventh graders, embrace their time at the High School Fair.



Fourth graders Cassius Clay and Dant Bowling, with Emmett Coons in the background, fill their clipboards with answers to The Learning Center's scavenger hunt throughout the school grounds.



After the huddle, TLS LAX players rehydrate before heading out on the field for the third quarter of their home game.



Lucy Oldham, sixth grade, ran away with the honors on The Lexington School Invitational Cross Country course, which traversed the entire campus and finished at Scarlet Gate.



Eva Quinn, first grade, gets some fancy face work at Fall Festival. (Melanie Mauer Photography)



Acorns Caroline Broadbent and Hadley McCoy display fine motor skills as they carefully place cotton pompoms inside their containers.

Pin *Notes*

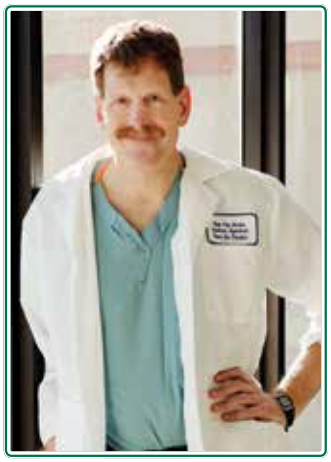
CLASS OF 1973

Trackside at Santa Anita Park, in Arcadia, CA, **Finn Green** reports he is still in the horse business, managing thoroughbreds and facilitating people and specialists in the thoroughbred industry. He says, "By grace, my work is soothing to my soul even while it's seven long days each week and away from my home most of each year. I love my life." Also? His equine star, Mucho Macho Man, WON the Breeders' Cup Classic on November 2! Thinking back to his school days, Finn recalls, "One of the beneficial contributions to my life from TLS is the ability to organize relevant factors in order to engage successfully in a planned process."



Greg Moosnick '75 reports that his brother, **Jeffrey Moosnick**, has lived since 1978 in the desert area of the very southern end of Israel. He has two daughters, Yubal and Sivan, both currently on active duty in the Israeli army. A longtime dairy farmer, Jeffrey has now retired.

Living in San Mateo, CA, with his wife, Karen, **Dr. Paul Preston** is an anesthesiologist and a patient safety executive for managed health care consortium Kaiser Permanente. Organizing people so that patients get better care, he works on reliable surgical care using clinical pathways to ensure each step in an operation is covered. Paul was fascinated to learn his mentor in patient safety, Dr. David Lawrence, former chairman and CEO of Kaiser Permanente, is the son of founding Lexington School history teacher, Amos M. Lawrence.



"I remember my TLS teachers well," Paul says. "Many times in my daughter Rebecca's schooling, I wished we were back in Lexington so she could have the same strong academic background I had. Mrs. Wallace, my Latin teacher, taught me to work." He remembers Mrs. Orme's science, Mr. Hawley's math, and Mr. Rollins's English, and, outside the classroom, vividly recalls a trip to Maine with Win Schaeffer. Paul's mother, Ann Preston, who taught social studies and journalism at TLS from 1973 to 1978, now lives near him, in San Francisco.

For the last eight years, **Zip Robertson** has served as a U.S. administrative law judge, assigned to the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals in Miami. At a marina in Coconut Grove, he lives on a 42-foot sailboat with his black Lab experiment Major Tom ("experiment" because Major Tom is not purebred; his dam was mostly Lab, but nobody saw the sire). Zip bicycles downtown to work and plays tennis every weekend. His band, The Solar Dogs, has a loyal local following. His first CD, "Bone to Pick," is available online through Amazon and CDbaby. A second collection of songs is in the planning stage.



In hearing about the Class of '73 reunion, Zip tells the gripping story of Oscar Hawley's using a chapter from Edgar Allen Poe's *The Gold Bug* to teach geometry. Those class parties at Shakey's Pizza also hold a special place in Zip's TLS memory trove.



On the grounds of Scarlet Gate when she gave the 2011 commencement address, **Anna Shine** is shown with **Rod Bussey (H'03)** and her parents, Deborah and Dr. Ian Shine. In Boston in 1990, Anna founded The New England School of English, named one of the top five English schools in the world. Anna, her husband Vilson Bellim, and their children Alexandre and Emily, divide their time between Brazil and the United States.



John Talbott is proud to have a degree from Duke University, but it might not have happened, were it not for Mrs. Tipton, his TLS English teacher. After ninth grade, John matriculated to Tabor Academy in MA, seemingly a world away from the gentle comforts of home and The Lexington School. Though well prepared, John found his tenth grade AP English class difficult and asked the Tabor dean of students to transfer him. The dean filed through a stack of index cards until he found Mrs. Tipton's summary of her Lexington School student, John S. Talbott III. He read aloud what she had hand written: "John can do good work if he is made to do it." Her sentence was a turning point; each of his three years at Tabor, John enjoyed and excelled in his AP English class. Because of Mrs. Tipton, he was poised for success when he arrived on the Duke campus … to major in English. *(Pictured above: The Talbott family – **Chloe '10**, Deidre, **Dara '12**, **Emily '07**, and **John '73**)*

Class of 2003

Ten Years in the Bat of an Eye



Heidi Zimmerman organized a magnificent Class of 2003 reunion on August 3 and 11 students returned from around the country — to reconnect, unearth their time capsule, and enjoy a tasty repast together in the dining hall. The only disappointment was the absence of Miles Hopgood, stranded in a distant airport as he attempted to travel from overseas.



Left Heidi and Mrs. Young. ***Below*** The group delights in archival photos. ***Bottom*** Erica Ashley, Sarah Mikell, Mariam Hanna, Sunny Mok, Brooke Baker, Meg Grossman, Sarah Fishback, Heidi Zimmerman, Chris Paulick, Will Parell, and Martha Prewitt unearth their 2003 time capsule from the front yard.





Pin *Notes*

CLASS OF 1983

Paul Apple is the town manager of North Hampton, New Hampshire, and has more than a few fond memories of TLS: "I remember those first weeks when I came to The Lexington School very clearly. I had been a student in a local public school in Georgetown, and going to a private school in the big city was a big deal. Even worse was that I had not the slightest idea how to tie a tie. We got to school early because my mom (Judy Apple, art teacher, Fine Arts Department Head) had to be there before students arrived. On that first Friday, I was afforded the rare privilege of entry into the faculty lounge before the bell so that Assistant Headmaster Donald Bortz could give me a quick lesson on the half-Windsor knot. In the end, he tied it the first day and I practiced ... *a lot*. I'm not sure I got it completely right until after law school!"

Paul has also enshrined a less-than-favorable report he once received from Dr. Fox in the eighth grade: "I hadn't focused too much, and I got a C, along with the admonition: *'It's time to get to work!'* I have that phrase in my office today, but I half-think Dr. Fox is lurking somewhere in New England with the next interim report at the ready."

It wasn't the only time Paul tested the ropes at TLS: "In ninth grade, I decided to play *Chicken* with the hair length policy. My mother was mortified, but I persisted. Finally, I was walking from one class to another and Mr. Brost came up behind me and grabbed that portion of my locks over the collar and said: *'Mr. Apple, see to it!'* I don't know if my mom put him up to it, but I was above the collar again by the next day."



Right: *The Apple family atop Seattle's Space Needle this summer:* ***Lisa '84****, her daughter, Gabrielle, Elizabeth, Andrew, Brian, and* ***Paul '83****.*

Joe Bernard is a neurosurgeon in Charlotte, NC, with Carolina Neurosurgery and Spine Associates. He specializes in catheter-based treatment of brain aneurysms and other diseases of the blood vessels in the head and neck. He and his wife Tracey, who is also from Lexington, have five children, Kate 17, Drew 15, Callie 13, Matthew 10, and Marcie 10. They have been in Charlotte since 2000. He has many, many fond memories of his TLS friends and teachers and enjoys hearing news of the school.

In this photo from several years ago, **Thomas Gaines** is shown with his wife Kim, daughter **Olivia '20**, now a second grader, and son **John '23**, in Prekindergarten.



Thomas is continuing his family's legacy in the world of thoroughbred breeding and racing as well as maintaining a hand in additional civic, family, and business interests.

Gerard Lynn lives in New York City, working with Penguin Random House's web group. He has lots of delightful and funny memories of TLS, but he thinks his teachers might be pleased to know that many of those recollections actually concern … his education. Or so he claims: "While I will never forget, for instance, the utter aplomb Mr. Brost displayed when he somehow managed to lose his shoes in Williamsburg, it's really his account of Jefferson's administration or Margaret Cowling's explanation of the contributions of the Delian League to Athenian life and her analysis of Shakespearean rhetoric, or Betty Cox's approach to problem solving that not only set up the basis for the rest of my education, but continue to be part of how I think. Of no one is this more true, for me, than Barbara Bale, and this may be why it is so hard to put into words what she did. The one very insufficient word I can come up with is her ***engagement***. This, unfortunately, is one of those qualities in any craft that, since they cannot be simulated, quantified, or explained, fall into a category that



might as well be called *magic* as anything else. I won't deny being sentimental, but terms like *enchantment*, *charisma*, and *charm* really are the only ones we have to try to capture the effect of certain artists and performers, particularly, I think, ones who do most of their best work for tiny audiences of small children. I can think of dozens of examples, but here's just one: When we were learning to write sentences, I asked Miss Bale how I would know when a sentence was finished. 'Oh, you'll just know,' she said. Now almost any adult might say exactly the same thing to a child on the topic of complete sentences, but the way she said it made me feel not put off, but immediately as curious to see if she was right as I remain."

From Alameda, in the San Francisco Bay Area where she has lived for about 20 years, **Lee Patterson Maguire** says she and her husband, Richard, celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary in October. Their nine-year-old daughter, Grace, is in fourth grade and has joined her school's volleyball team. Richard, who grew up sailing and has lived on boats most of his life, is the manager of a shipyard. Lee's job allows her to work from home, which she appreciates. They have adopted a dog, two cats, and a guinea pig, and, as she says, "Thankfully, we have no plans for more!" The three of them (sans pets) love to travel and have been fortunate to enjoy visits to New Zealand, England, Italy, Australia, British Virgin Islands, and Hawaii (in the summer photo above).



Lee has a couple of enduring memories of TLS: "I can still smell the tobacco of Mr. Pritchett's pipe. You always knew he was around. I also remember Madame Charron lining us up outside the classroom and making us answer a question in French before we entered."



Micki Woodward McDaniel practices law and lives on a small horse farm in Danville with her husband, Tim, a CPA and CPF, and children Grace, 13, and Will, 11. Micki loves seeing how the school has grown throughout the years: "I wish we lived closer so my kids could experience The Lexington School, but we do love living in Danville. I have lots of fond memories of the school, and am lucky to keep up with several classmates from our days there."

After ten years in New York City, **Katherine Blaydes Mittelbusher** moved to Boston in 2000. She and her husband, David, along with their daughter, Elsa, now live on the North Shore and love it there. "Elsa attends a school that reminds me of TLS," Katherine shares, "both in its philosophy and in the dedication of the teachers. I have many fond memories of my 12 years spent at TLS, from Montessori days with Mrs. Wolfe and Mrs. Edwards, to ninth grade with Mrs. Nichols and Mr. Brost. How lucky I was to spend those years in such a caring environment!"



What does **James Scully** think about when he thinks about TLS? "Asparagus always comes to mind," he quips, "because Mr. Gaines talked about asparagus when he gave our commencement address." James also remembers when he and his sisters, **Karen Scully '86** and **Lisa Scully Stein '88**, and their parents had Miss Bale over to their house for dinner. James, who works in Lexington at Brisnet, the internet's largest horse racing information service, confesses that he's overdue for a visit to TLS, especially in light of the many new facilities since his days in school. "I bet a lot has changed since my last visit in the late '80s. I remember playing basketball in the old gymnasium (aka auditorium, lunchroom, etc.) and I remember when they built the new gym."

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When **Margaret LaMonica Tierney '83**, who keeps a busy calender of modeling jobs in New York City, thinks back to her very special days at The Lexington School, she has no problem sharing "a few of my millions of memories of my favorite years of growing up." Here's a sampling:

Terese Jornlan asking us to fast for a day in honor of all the people in the world with no food (pretty cool back then to be that progressive).

Mrs. Nichols, underneath that very formidable exterior, showing us great love and always lending a listening ear, awesome.

Mrs. Lastinger, the sweetest person on the planet, telling us that we were all winners.

Watching the Upper Schoolers get ready for the Spring Play and the trip to Pine Mountain – we all couldn't wait until it was our turn.

Mr. Kemper making us read the classics, knowing that a good vocabulary would really make a difference in our lives – and he was right.

Mr. Brost, making historians of all of us.

Mrs. Apple, for her love of art and finding the beautiful talent in everyone – even some of us talent-challenged.

Making quiche Lorraine et mousse au chocolat avec Madam Charron for the French Festival.

The many friends and memories are with all of us to this day.

Heather Tierney '83 sees lots of TLS friends on Romany Road, where she works at Wheeler's Custom Compounding. She still uses her UK marketing degree every day, but with a different twist, as she has been a certified pharmacy technician for 25 years. Her two sons, 19-year-old Will and Matthew, 16, have often heard her say, "Miss Cowling taught me to take wonderful notes. She would write on the board while she was talking. When she ran out of space, she would erase it. We had to listen and take notes at the same time." Heather also remembers Mr. Pritchett lifting her up each December to make her selection from the famed candy wreath.

Dr. John Young '83 and his wife, Dr. Alexandra Bradner, are the parents of fourth grader Vivian and Kindergartner Miranda. John says, "It's been wonderful to be back in Lexington now as a TLS parent. The school has certainly changed in the last 30 years … all for the better! Our girls are both having a great time in their classes."



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50 Years of Memories

A celebration marking the occasion of the first 50th reunion of a Lexington School class was held on the stormy, early fall evening of October 5, 2013, in the warm and welcoming environs of Scarlet Gate, the on-campus home of Head of School Chuck Baldecchi and his wife, Erin.

Members of the **Classes of 1963** and **1964** combined forces along with their former teachers. Students and faculty alike came both from across the United States and from around the corner.

They gathered to rekindle old friendships, to celebrate, to share stories, and to laugh together.

With a tremendous turnout, in grand tribute to The Lexington School, the passage of years dissolved in an instant, as everyone shared long-ago memories of classrooms, the gym, playing fields, assemblies, dances, and carpools. It was a family reunion at its very best.

Founder **Josephine Abercrombie (H'00)** was an integral part of the gathering and mused, "Can it possibly be the 50th? Time flies!" She graciously accepted the thanks of many for her long-range vision and her steadfast love of the school.

Hillyer Rudisill III, from Charleston, SC, taught Latin, English, and history to the upper grades from 1960 to 1964. Along with his wife, Martha, he arrived in Lexington chauffeured by Mary, their 12th generation Charlestonian daughter. The 1932, 1937, and 1948 Packards he drove when he was at TLS have now been replaced with a 2000 mini stretch, Cartier L-style Lincoln Town Car shipped from Oregon. Befitting his carriage, Mr. Rudisill was as dapper as memory recalled, sporting his seersucker jacket and Chaucer's Canterbury Tales necktie. It seemed appropriate he held court in the 1795 Scarlet Gate living room that had once been the bedroom of noted Kentucky author, James Lane Allen. As Mr. Rudisill remarked, at age 78, he taught five collegiate philosophy courses last spring, three this past summer, four this fall, and plans four, again, next spring when he shall be 79. Much larger than his TLS classes, his current classes average more than 35 students each.

Claire Clay, the science, art, PE, and fifth grade teacher from 1959 to 1961, traveled from her home in Santa Fe, NM. Enjoying Chuck Baldecchi's tour of the school immediately before the reunion, Ms. Clay effused, "This



Hillyer Rudisill III and Philip Howard



Chuck Baldecchi and John Palumbo



Louis and Hendy Davis Seelbach and Marian Bean



Matthew Krogdahl and Hillyer Rudisill III



Margaret Cowling and Matthew Krogdahl





Darby Turner, Jane Eiseman Scribner, Jessica Bell Nicholson, and Mike Bell. *(Inset)* 50 years ago, the same suspects.

is a happy school. You can see that everywhere – in the spectacular new chemistry lab and here in beautiful Scarlet Gate with all my dear former students."

The athletic department was solidly represented by **Vernon Hatton (H'81)**, who was the boys basketball coach from 1962 to 1980; his wife **Suzanne Hatton**, girls PE coach; and **Susan Bradley-Cox**, girls PE coach from 1961 to 1964.

Philip Howard '63 and his wife, Alexandra, flew from NY, **Jane Eiseman Scribner '63** from CA, **Em Parrish Green '64** from VA, and **Matthew Krogdahl '64** motored from NJ.

In the first graduating class, alumni from Kentucky included **Marian Bean '63**, now living in Nicholasville; **Sara Clay Branch '63** from Paris; and **Mike Bell '63** with his wife, Bill, from Versailles. From Lexington were Audrey and **Don Robinson '63**, Louis and **Hendy Davis Seelbach '63**, Charlotte and **Darby Turner '63**, and Barbara and **Bill Young '63**.

Former students from the Bluegrass in the second graduating class were Hank and **Todd Trimble Graddy '64** from Midway; **Clint Bush '64** and Teresa and **John Willmott '64** from Richmond; and **Margaret Cowling '64**, Mary Mc and **Charlie Lisle '64**, Joe Browne and **Jessica Bell Nicholson '64**, **John Palumbo '64**, **Laura Parrish '64**, Katherine and **Berry Potter '64**, and Mary and **Reid Thompson '64** from Lexington.

With the group gathered, Mr. Baldecchi proposed a champagne toast to Ms. Abercrombie and to the past, present, and future of The Lexington School. Alumni asked throughout the evening, "Where are we today?" and "How can I help?" To these questions, Mr. Baldecchi responded with an informative, thorough, but concise "State of the School" address.

They are precious gifts, a Lexington School education and a Lexington School friendship. Each member of the TLS family is the richer for those gifts.



Don Robinson, Sara Clay Branch, and Jane Eiseman Scribner



Clint Bush



Bill Young

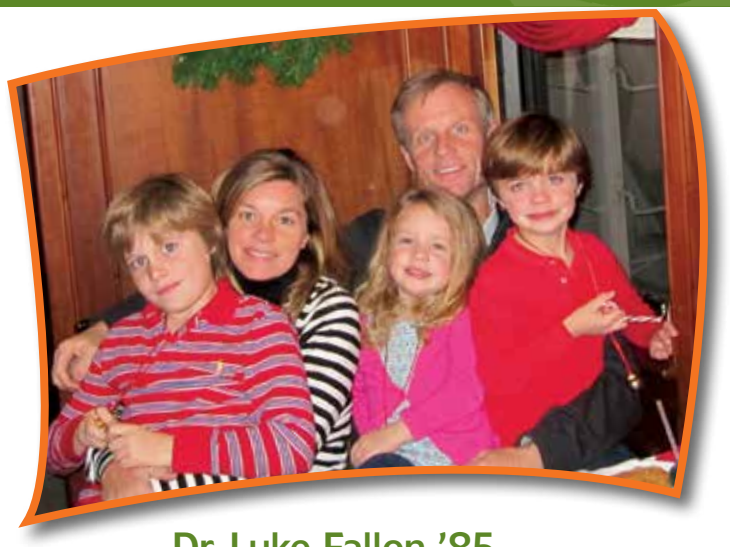


Laura Parrish, Em Parrish Green, Todd Trimble Graddy, Jessica Bell Nicholson



Hillyer Rudisill III and Charlie Lisle

New Trustees



Dr. Luke Fallon '85

Fifth generation equine veterinarian with Hagyard Equine Medical Institute **Dr. Luke Fallon '85**, father of **Liam '18**, **Ben '21**, and Ava, four years old, knows The Lexington School from, literally, the ground up. His grandfather Mr. Harold Fallon was the manager of Mr. Hal Price Headley's Beaumont Farm, where part of The Lexington School now stands. Luke's father, Dr. Edward H. Fallon, rode his pony over the great expanse of what are now the TLS athletic fields. Coming full circle, it's only natural that Luke serves today on the Building and Grounds Committee; the committees on trustees and on finance also are the stronger for his presence.

Remembering when he and his sisters **Lillian '74**, **Esther '77**, and **Alma '78** were students, Luke says, "Education was vitally important in our family." Taking the thought further, he continues, "It's one thing to attend the school where your parents send you, but from our Class of 1985, many of us have elected to send our own children here. The school has continued, and even improved upon, the excellence that we benefitted from in '85. We feel a real loyalty to our alma mater."

Continuing the Fallon family connection to the land and to the school for the next generation, both Luke and his wife, Nancy, are comforted by, and respectful of, the vision of today's TLS leadership.

Celeste Neuman

A grandmother's wisdom is invaluable.

Celeste Neuman, proud grandmother of the Neumans – **McGuire '18** and **Lauren '21** – and the Bucharts – **Miles '20** and **Clay '22**, brings an invaluable sense of perspective to the board. She's not easily rattled; she keeps things in context; she knows the history. Having served on the board during the 1980s, when her children, **Alex Neuman '86**, **Clay Neuman '89**, and **Whitney Neuman Ward '91**, were students, Celeste has the broad overview. She is also a tireless worker for the school she loves deeply. Heavily but happily involved in her three board committees – development, trustees, and human resources – she laughs with her husband, Dr. Emler Neuman, that sometimes she finds herself driving back and forth to the school almost as much as she did back in the day.

Recalling her trusteeship those decades ago, she says with warm feeling, "Having been on the board before, I 'get' the school. I embrace how it is and I celebrate how it is." She states emphatically, "The current system is perfect. The academics have always been strong and, of course, they continue to be. The addition of Scarlet Gate is a huge plus for the school."

Tomi Anne Pulliam



Tomi Anne Pulliam cannot believe she has had one daughter, **Mia '13,** already graduate from TLS and is excited she still has another daughter, **Maggie '19,** at TLS for six more years.

Currently on the finance, building and grounds, and school life committees, Tomi Anne has been an active member, too, of the most recent Strategic Plan Committee and of the Nutrition Committee. Throughout the years she has been a steadfast, all-across-the-board volunteer, from Fall Festival and the book fair to school pictures and home room. Whatever the need, whatever the opportunity, Tomi Anne is here.

She speaks with tremendous devotion to the school and with great enthusiasm, as she says, "I enjoy serving the school in any way I can, and I am honored to be on the board. Being on a variety of board committees allows me to continue learning about the school in different ways, and I like what I see at every turn."

Tomi Anne reports that husband, Royce, says, "TLS is a very special place that we appreciate more and more every year, especially when we see our eighth grader graduate and know the genuine love she has for this school." Tomi Anne is quick to add, "I, too, love this place and want to do anything I can to further its great tradition. I am here to help the school continue its strong reputation."



Bill Shively

Bill Shively, father of **Cade '23** and **Brielle '24**, brings great energy and business acumen to The Lexington School's board. Founder and CEO of Tower Hill Insurance Group, Inc., third largest residential property insurer in Florida, Bill has thoroughly embraced living in central Kentucky. In 2004, he purchased Lexington's historic Dixiana Farm. Ever the thinker and the planner, he was then immediately interested in acquiring Domino Stud, the adjacent farm that had been split from the original Dixiana property in 1947. True to Bill's persevering nature, in 2009, he was able to purchase Domino Stud, thus, happily and beneficially for the countryside, rejoining the storied Bluegrass farm to its original acreage.

One always to give back to his community, in addition to his committee work for The Lexington School, Bill also serves on the board of directors at Keeneland and is a trustee of the Markey Cancer Foundation.

With his wife, Donna, Bill points out, "I'm impressed with The Lexington School and particularly the way the teachers teach that it's okay to fail. My career has been built on many small failures along the way that have helped me learn and grow. I believe you should never be afraid of failing. Just keep trying."

Grandparents Day 2013!

Halloween turnout was monstrous for this year's Grandparents Day, as ghosts, goblins, and more gathered in the gym for packed-house performances. Preschool through third grade students performed Boo Sing, an annual highlight directed by music teacher Martha Anderson. David Cooper led fourth graders in a preview of Kentucky Heritage Day selections, and the fifth graders, who presented a stirring Salute to the Armed Forces. Grandparents Day also offered the chance for intergenerational learning in the classrooms of each division of the school. Finally, reports of students getting their elders to do their homework for them in class may have added a new dimension to "Trick or Treat." But which?













CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP Who has a *Clue*? Harking back to their days of playing the board game, Jason Hurst, Sara Hinds, Becky Johnson, Joe Griggs, Annie Hogate, Kelly Telech, and Chris Johnson all have a *Clue*; Sixth grader Brutus Clay with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clay; Fourth grader J. Owens with his grandmother, Ms. Long; Sixth grader Mac Jett with his godfather, Mr. Buckley; and Fifth grader Hampton Rouse with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Strother.

Celebrating the Arts







Speaking recently about the Board-appointed Fine Arts Task Force, committee member Leslie McDonald emphasizes the group's intent to make the arts more accessible to students as part of the curriculum and in after-school programs as well. Mrs. McDonald, mother of **Morgan '13**, earned her Arts Education degree, to teach Kindergarten through 12th grade art, from UK. Chair of the CELEBRATION classroom arts projects, Mrs. McDonald began the popular tradition of having *all* classes represented each year – the preschool hand-or-thumb-prints coordinating with the CELEBRATION theme; the second grade, Andy Warhol-style self-portraits; and the seventh graders' decoupaged surf board, representing their Barrier Island, SC, trip.

She stresses the importance of offering a wide variety of the arts to TLS students, pointing out, "We want to include all the arts – visual, vocal, theater, media, production, filming, and instrumental. The Task Force makes art available to students who have that desire. Ideas that have come from the Task Force will give students more after-school choices than just athletic activities."

Sallye Staley, middle school art teacher, agrees: "The Task Force calls for more enhancement of our already solid program. This will make it even stronger. Students need an avenue to excel in the arts like they excel in sports." Mrs. Staley reports that Task Force members spoke with representatives throughout the community from the visual and performing arts in a concerted effort to offer more intense instruction. She adds, "It was a real meeting of the minds in the fine arts. The University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington Children's Theater, dance companies, resident artists were all included in the conversations. We discussed reinstituting the school band and offering violin lessons, trying different ways to incorporate a wide variety of opportunities throughout the school year."

Echoing that, David Cooper, lower and middle school music teacher, is quick to say he wants to make sure students are aware of the many arts organizations within the Lexington community. He wants them to know about audition schedules so they can perform throughout the city. Dr. Cooper noted the idea to have an after-school play, organized and produced by a local theatrical company within a time span of six weeks, which would be open to all age groups of Lexington School students. He is especially supportive of adding a ballet-dance component to the fine arts curriculum. In summation, Dr. Cooper observes, "It is wonderful to have interested parents discuss the arts and how we can enhance the offerings of the fine arts."

Henri Matisse said, "Creativity takes courage." At The Lexington School, we teach creativity and We Teach Courage.

Above from Left First graders Olivia Watson and Donovan Stone create haunted houses; Eighth graders Olivia Baker and Emerson White spell it out; In front of the art room motor speedway, first graders Graham Harris and Eva Quinn present their artwork.
Photos by Melanie Mauer Photography





TLS ALUMS:
TELLING AND SELLING KENTUCKY'S STORY

by Mandy Helton

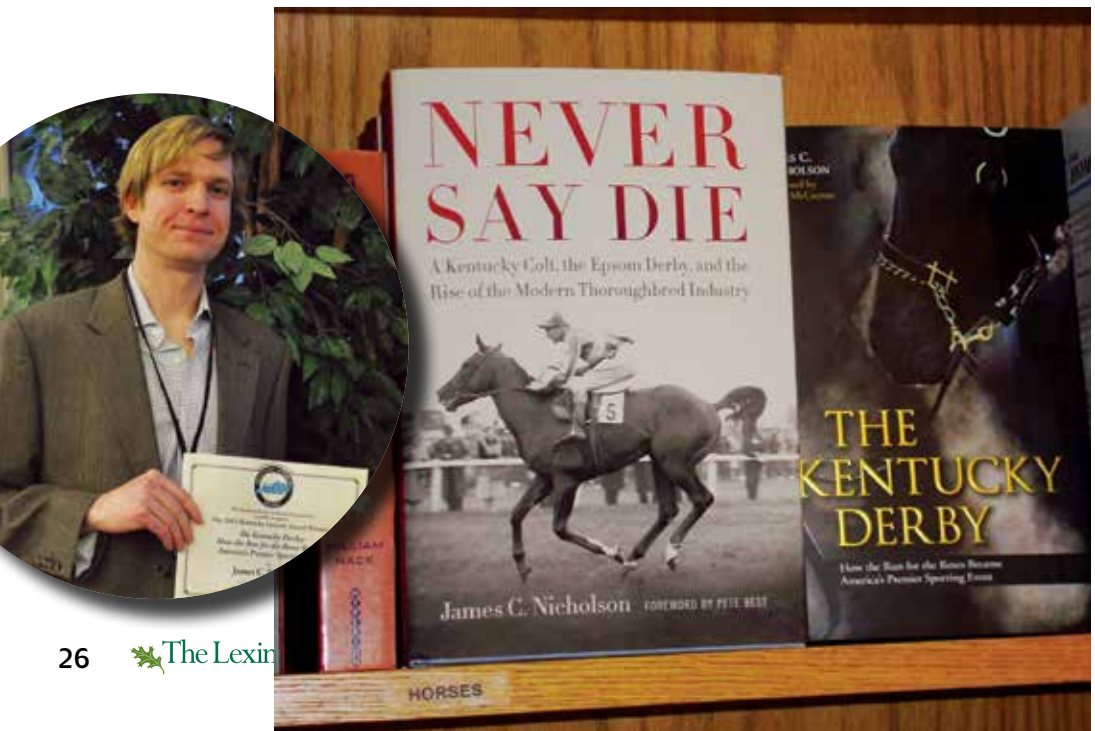
AS OUR SUMMER FEATURE "Lexington for Lexington" detailed, Kentucky Proud is no longer just a marketing tagline but a new mindset in the Bluegrass. With this resurgence of state pride comes a renewed interest in the timeless art of storytelling, and Lexington School alumni are some of the prominent voices telling and selling the stories about our great state.

Visitors and natives alike can get a marvelous idea of all this state has to offer if they pick up a copy of *STORY* magazine, cofounded by **Laurel Johnston Cassidy '88**. Laurel is the perfect person to explore and celebrate Kentucky, to tell Kentucky's "story," if you will. Following her graduation from TLS, Laurel's adventures took her to live in Australia and the Northeast before she returned to Lexington and had the chance to become reacquainted with fellow TLS alum **Peter Cassidy '89**, who became her husband. After working for the International Spa Association's magazine and a joint-business venture with none other than former classmate **Melanie Smith Leach '88**, Laurel demonstrated her extensive marketing and advertising skills with an immediately successful launch for *STORY* in Spring, 2012. Laurel's experiences elsewhere allow her to view Kentucky with both a native's pride and an outsider's appreciation for what makes Kentucky distinct. Her goal with *STORY* is to explore "Kentucky's authentic people; there is much more to us than what meets the eye. I wanted to bring our whole mix of people together to celebrate our differences, our art, our music, and engage everyone in the state and the story we are telling. Another goal of *STORY* is to dispel the myths. Because people don't usually think of Kentucky as having a lot to offer, there is basically an entire state of 'untapped coolness just waiting to explode.'" Since its first issue, *STORY* has featured contributions from familiar Lexington School names such as former *Pinpoints* editor **Whitney Martin Collins '88** and the musical Willie Eames, son of legendary English teacher Ann Eames and husband of **Blake Snyder Eames '86,** who lent her color and design skills to the *STORY* office. Through its stories and photographs, *STORY* has showcased some of Kentucky's other hidden gems and engaged its readers in a whole new love affair with Kentucky and the beautiful and unique destinations they can reach simply by "hopping in the car." *STORY*'s lucky subscribers receive *STORY*'s beautiful photographs and features in their mailboxes, but it is also available for purchase all over the Commonwealth.





You'll find *STORY* on prominent display the moment you walk into the Morris book shop, where most days you'll also find **Wyn Morris '78** behind the counter at the independent bookstore that bears his name. Wyn is a lifelong Lexingtonian who has been shaping the local scene as a community tastemaker since his days on the radio at WRFL. Wyn gained his expertise in the publishing and bookselling industry with both Joseph-Beth Booksellers and the University Press of Kentucky, and he speaks fondly of both for generating a "city of readers" that he proudly notes makes Lexington the "24th most literate city in the United States." Regardless, Wyn says he one day had the epiphany that what Lexington lacked was "a neighborhood bookstore" that could really cater to "local interest." "MoBoSho" has become exactly the neighborhood shop Wyn envisioned, complete with a cool nickname, since it opened on Southland Drive in 2008. Business has nearly doubled in the past years since Wyn made the decision to move our beloved neighborhood bookshop to the most central neighborhood possible – downtown, with a beautiful storefront on East High Street. Beyond book sales, Wyn sees the bookshop as a way to support the community by "doing little things to make Lexington even better." The Morris book shop has become more than a bookstore, supporting local literacy efforts via the Carnegie Center, hosting community gatherings, and actively promoting local writers such as The Lexington School's own **Jamie Nicholson '94**, who, last spring, signed copies of his two meticulously-researched books on our state's signature industry: *The Kentucky Derby: How the Run for the Roses Became America's Premier Sporting Event* (recent recipient of the Kentucky Historical Society's Kentucky History Award) and *Never Say Die: A Kentucky Colt, the Epsom Derby, and the Rise of the Modern Thoroughbred Industry*.



Jamie's books are prominently displayed in the very first section when one walks into the Morris book shop, aptly named the "Kentucky" section, where customers can peruse tomes from local writers. Some of these natives are

familiar names who honed their skills in English classes on Lane Allen Road and write with affection and expertise on the Bluegrass state as only Kentuckians can. Fiction lovers might consider **Heather Clay 86's** *Losing Charlotte*, a tale of two very different sisters and their return home to the Kentucky horse farm where they were raised.



Readers of romance might pick up a print edition of the popular e-books in *The Bluegrass Series*, or its companion series, *Bluegrass Brothers*, penned by five-time *USA Today* Bestselling author "Kathleen Brooks" — pen name of former Alumni Council President **Brooke Folley Counts '96**. (Further kudos to Brooke: she recently cracked the *New York Times* Bestsellers List!)

Brooke's former career as an attorney in Versailles, Kentucky, her time growing up and living in small towns, and her lifelong love of popular fiction inspired her to write a series about a fictional town called Keeneston, Kentucky, which will seem mighty familiar to any in the Lexington School family. The books themselves are a bit of a family affair – Brooke's husband Chris is her formatting and publishing guru, and when she began writing a few years ago and needed an editor, she turned to her TLS English teacher, Jenny Davis O'Neill. Brooke's characters are neither backwoods nor barefoot, but loving and loyal, family-oriented characters, along with transplants from New York City and the Middle East who become enamored by Kentucky's beauty and unique charms and decide to stay for awhile. Readers from all over the world responded to this new Southern voice in romance, eagerly gobbling up these Bluegrass stories of mystery, romance, and adventure. Brooke believes her books are so popular because readers everywhere appreciate the Bluegrass setting that she has rendered so faithfully. "I wanted to capture this atmosphere where city and country are literally seconds apart, and the small towns that are really special about our area. You always run into someone you know and you know everyone is looking out for each other. It's something readers elsewhere really like to read about and still long for themselves."

Aren't readers fortunate to have TLS alumni telling (and selling) the story?

This is part of a continuing series of articles about TLS alumni making a difference in the city of Lexington and in Kentucky. If you have a story to share, please contact Mandy Helton at alumni@thelexingtonschool.org.

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From *The Archives*



TLS's first science teacher Claire Clay captivates the Class of 1963 with the help of beakers and test tubes. *From Left* Richie Miller, Billy Cox, Don Robinson, Peter Gierlach, Jimmy Mitchell, Johnny Keyes, Rita Dumford, Mike Bell, Phyllis Wedding, Martha Anne Hobbs, M'Lou Hosford, and Marian Bean. During the recent 1963 - 1964 reunion, Ms. Clay visited TLS's newly refurbished science labs — great progress considering there was *no science department* during her tenure: "I am thrilled that The Lexington School has advanced so far," she shared. "We now have such grand facilities for our fortunate students!"