

TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL

Magazine

FALL 2019



Inside:

Twin Rivers Challenge
raises record amount for
student scholarships

2018-19 donor recognition

GISA North Conference

TFS sports fitness center

Rep. Collins visit

Alumni profile

2019 FIELD DAY F·U·N

Field Day will always be one of the most enjoyable days of the academic calendar at the TFS middle school. This year Oct. 10 was the magic date as the “four houses,” the Green Hornets, Black Ravens, White Owls and Grey Wolves joined together in the spirit of community, competition and collaboration.

The teams competed in events such as relays at the field, an obstacle course, gym events and even an escape room which required coordinated collaboration to achieve success.

Field Day 2019 culminates with teachers and students competing in the challenging caterpillar crawl and rope pull.

When the dust settled the champions for for Field Day 2019 - the Green Hornets!

photos by Brandi Wood



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TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL

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ON THE COVER:



Fifth graders Laurel Blake Kafsky of Clarkesville and Nolan Dalton of Baldwin are pictured expressing their appreciation for the generous gifts made to Tallulah Falls School over the last year. Donor names appear on pages 30-33.

Tallulah Falls School Magazine is published by the TFS Advancement Department.

Tallulah Falls School is an equal opportunity school and does not discriminate based on race, color or national or ethnic origin.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR. LARRY A. PEEVY

Lessons in leadership



The academic year is off to an excellent start with examples of strong leadership evident in every area of our academic community.

First, allow me to share the highlights of our most recent high-profile community event. Hosting the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) North Conference in early November provided a focal point for faculty and staff to showcase the school and to serve our professional association.

The message from the speakers at the GISA conference echoes what we do every day with our mission's emphasis on character development. Keynote speakers shared that the independent schools in the forefront are those that couple character development with intellectual pursuit.

Everyone on campus put 100% effort into hosting the conference. The feedback from our visitors was overwhelmingly positive – everyone they encountered during their visit extended a friendly and professional TFS welcome.

I am undoubtedly proud we were selected to host this professional development event. But I am even more proud of our faculty, staff and students who made it the best experience for our guests. TFS is a whole team, all working together to make this the best place for students.

Through the pages of this publication, you will discover how TFS students model positive character traits and practice lessons in leadership. These real-world skills will translate into future success.

Two of our seniors spent 10 days in Washington, D.C., as delegates for the Habersham EMC Washington Youth Tour. Chris Geiger and Sarah Edwards, influential

leaders already, now have another experience that deepens their awareness of our nation's history and the governmental process.

Other exciting news came from our athletic department:

Varsity cross country teams qualified for state competition for the first time in school history.

Varsity volleyball team qualified for the state tournament for the fifth year in a row.

Three middle school teams – cross country, boys' soccer and tennis – earned conference titles.

These talented student-athletes have expressed strong leadership through a record-breaking fall season.

An idea sparked by junior Brinson Hall brought Congressman Doug Collins on campus. As a summer intern for Collins, Hall wanted to share his inspiring words on determining a purposeful life.

And it is not just our students who exhibit a strong commitment to character and leadership.

Ron Cantrell Construction, Inc. continues its long-standing financial commitment to the Twin Rivers Challenge and our school. This presenting sponsorship makes it possible for all other financial support to go directly to student scholarships. More than \$80,000 now goes toward motivated scholars. We are grateful for the steadfast partnership we share with RCCI, meal sponsor Springer Mountain Farms and the other 130-plus corporate, organizational and individual sponsors.

I am excited to see what the remainder of the academic year will bring – thank you for sharing my enthusiasm for the TFS experience.

Warmest regards,

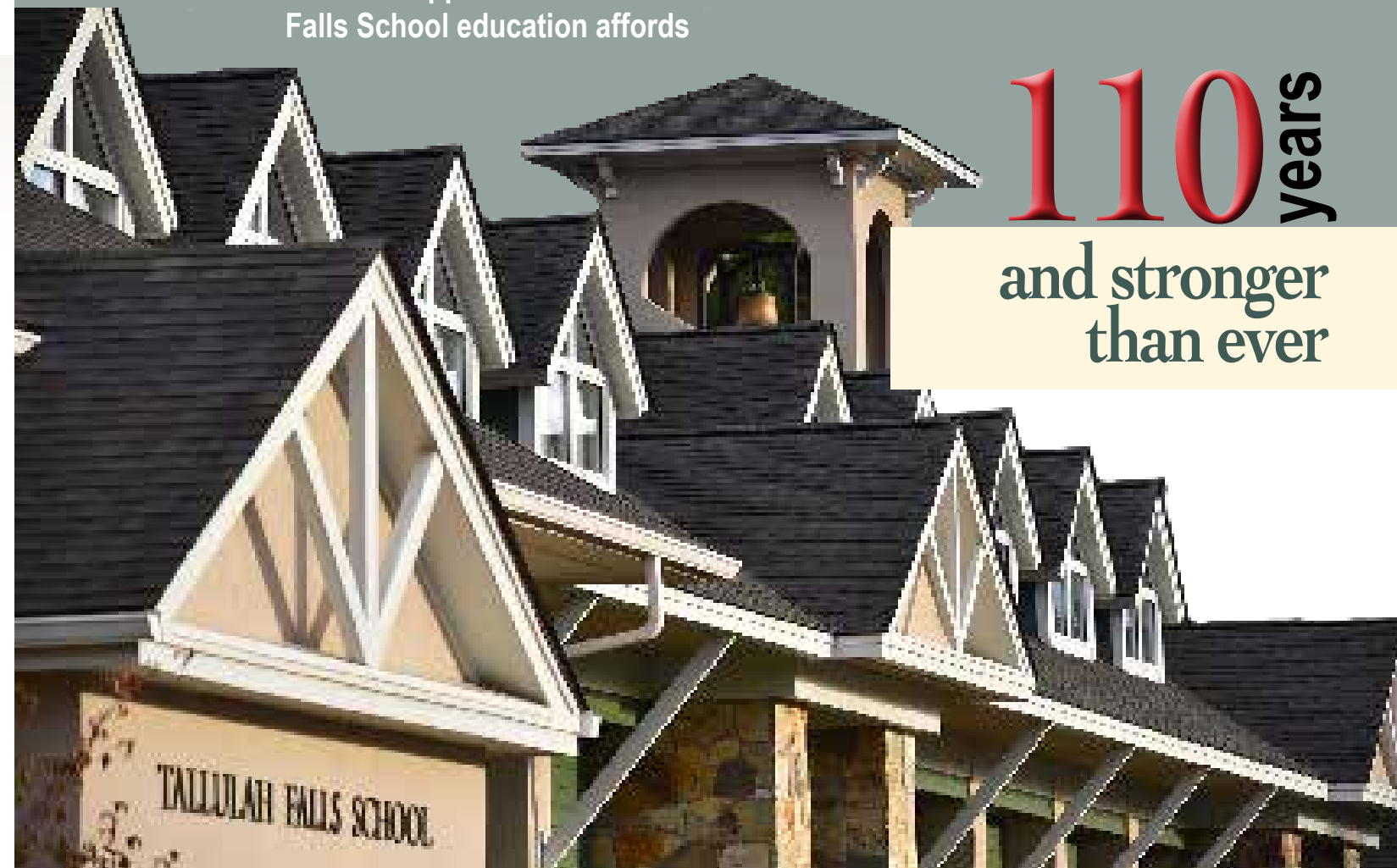
Larry A. Peevy
President and Head of School

the state of the school

A record number of students are benefiting from the tremendous opportunities that a Tallulah Falls School education affords

110 years

and stronger than ever



upper school **316**
middle school students **231**

547
total enrollment

415 day students
132 boarding students
20 countries represented



2019-20 Board of Trustees

Front row, from left: Karen Thomson, Ph.D., Ellen Alderman, Carolyn Friedlander, Gewene Womack, Gail Cantrell (TFS Board Chair), Amy Atkinson, Peggy Pruett, Donna Foland, Cookie Noel, Lucy Willard. Back row, from left: Dale Reddick, Larry A. Peevy (TFS President), Jim Weidner (Vice Chair), Greg Brown (Treasurer), Judy Forbes, Ed.D., Judy Taylor, Ph.D., Matt McClurg, Elizabeth Chadwick (Secretary), Elizabeth Wells, Mark Rasmussen. Not pictured: Doris Alexander, Becky Bolden, Tina Daniel, Kathy Hanna, Terry Rogers, Rick Story, Rev. James Turpen.

Tallulah Falls School hosts GISA North Conference

Tallulah Falls School rolled out the red carpet as it hosted the GISA 2019 North Conference on Nov. 4. Several hundred attendees representing a cross-section of educational professionals attended the daylong event which featured a varied selection of breakout sessions. Exhibitors were also on hand to showcase the latest in education-related products and services.



GISA recognized three educators as 2019 GISA Teachers of the Year: Luciana Trevino, Erika Lambert and Dr. Jeffrey Rumiano. Pictured from left: Lucina Trevino, Pinecrest Academy; GISA President Dr. Jeff Jackson; Erika Lambert, Loganville Christian Academy; Dr. Jeffrey Rumiano, St. Benedicts Episcopal School; Dr. Stan Whitlock, GISA Vice President.



TFS President and Head of School Larry A. Peevy welcomes north conference attendees to TFS.



GISA President Dr. Jeff Jackson greets 2019 conference attendees during the opening session.



Members of the TFS Ambassadors group served as hosts for the several hundred conference guests on campus. Pictured, from left: Mia Kwarteng, Sydney Coffee, Barrett Whitener, Abby Carlan.



Autumn's palette was on full display across the TFS campus for GISA North Conference attendees. Photo by E. Lane Gresham.



Legendary TFS hospitality was in full force as the host school provided goodies such as homemade sweet rolls.



TFS faculty and staff joined other experts from the education field as they led breakout sessions throughout the day. Here TFS Director of Security Dustin Rogers presents "Student Safety in a Changing World."



SAIS President Debra P. Wilson was the keynote speaker for the opening general session. Wilson previously served as general counsel for NAIS for 19 years and is a nationally recognized expert on legal and governance issues concerning independent schools. She spoke on "The Student Life Experience."

An impressive contingent of accomplished educators were recognized with plaques signifying the designation of Master Teacher.



TFS upper school music and theater teacher Jill Hunter (left) confers with representatives of the Savannah College of Art and Design in the conference exhibitor hall.

TFS middle school science teacher Doug Vermilya is shown visiting the Nantahala Outdoor Center exhibitor table to explore outdoor educational opportunities.



THE RIDE AT

5

2019 Twin Rivers Challenge
shatters fundraising record

by E. Lane Gresham



Course conquered! Community co-chair Joey Brown (left) crosses the finish line with cycling companion Tim Borsetti of Seneca, SC.

"I do many events similar to the Twin Rivers Challenge in the Southeast and this event continues to impress. The ride is one of the best supported, best organized, most scenic rides in the South. And the after-party music and food are second to none!"

- Clint Williams
five year TRC participant



Photo courtesy of Karen Clark/NGTC

Dedicated cyclists from across the region showed up for the fifth annual Twin Rivers Challenge, a fundraiser for student scholarships at Tallulah Falls School. Held on Oct. 26, the event proved once again to be a highlight for local and visiting riders, adding more than \$80,000 to the school's scholarship fund.

The growing reputation of the event attracted more than 130 sponsors for this year's event. Ron Cantrell Construction, Inc. covered all expenses, returning as the presenting sponsor, and Springer Mountain Farms sponsored the post-ride meal.

"Having these corporate partners allows all other sponsorships and rider registration fees to directly benefit our students," Peevy said. "Our volunteer scholarship committee shared the TFS story with the community – these passionate ambassadors coordinated the fundraising effort. This makes possible a top-quality, college-preparatory education for area students."

Community co-chairs for the event, Judy Forbes and Joey Brown provide expertise in key areas. Forbes, a TFS board member, coordinates fundraising efforts on behalf of the board and cultivates community relations on behalf of the school.

"Despite the rain, this year's ride was a complete success – especially for our students and the broadened opportunity for scholarships. We talked to riders who had traveled near and far and some who had overcome obstacles as they traveled," Forbes said. "All of them experienced the beautiful TFS campus and our remarkable students. I am already excited about what next year's ride may bring."

Brown said he continues to hear compliments about the experience from the cycling community.

"Mission accomplished!" Brown said. "I've heard so many positive comments from riders."

"We are delighted to hear that our guests continue to have an outstanding experience," said President and Head of School Larry Peevy. "We appreciate the riders who joined us to savor the scenic beauty along the route."

Behind the scenes of a successful ride

Securing a record number of event sponsors requires a great deal of hard work long before race day, a challenge met by the TRC volunteer scholarship committee. Pictured, from left: Dr. Judy Forbes, Kevin Church, Tracy Foor, Joey Brown, Sonya Smith, Allison Beck, Chuck Edwards, Kristy Thomson, Ken Johnson, Lane Gresham, Harriett Worrell, Jimmy Franklin, Maggie Rickman, Aimee Whittle, Michele Shirley. Not shown: Trey Crumley, Hallie Edenfield, Kimberly Farmer, Jen Kafsky, Michael Rogers.



Record-breaking scholarship support



RON CANTRELL CONSTRUCTION, INC.
DESIGN BUILDER • CLEVELAND, GEORGIA
presenting sponsor

THANK YOU to our sponsors for making the 2019 Twin Rivers Challenge a record ride!



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Stacy & Ivy Hall • Hammock Realty North Georgia • Hillside Memorial Chapel and Gardens • Impact Concrete • IOA • Darrin Johnston • KenClay, LLC
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A life with PURPOSE

U.S. Congressman Doug Collins asks TFS students to consider making a difference in life



story and photos by E. Lane Gresham

What will you do with your life? A big question posed by an elected official sparked the imaginations of Tallulah Falls School students during an Oct. 3 assembly.

District 9 U.S. Congressman Doug Collins of Gainesville delivered an upbeat message focusing on life purpose and the importance of working collaboratively to impact positive change to both middle and upper school students.

TFS junior Brinson Hall of Mt. Airy invited Collins to visit the school after working this summer in his Gainesville office. Hall introduced Collins, sharing observations and lessons learned

from her time as an intern.

Collins engaged with the audience, moving through the crowd with ease and energy. He asked if students had ever visited a cemetery and noticed the dates on a tombstone, pointing out birth and death dates don't matter but instead to consider the value of one's life story.

"Maybe you never thought about it," Collins said. "In every cemetery, there is either space or a dash in the middle...that is what equals your life. What are you doing right now to say that I want to make a difference?"

He told students they had the advantage of people who cared about them – classmates, parents, administrators and everyone could lead

in ways that will change the world.

"...Changing the world starts with changing you," he said.

He said it was essential to develop the ability to collaborate for a higher purpose.

"The question is not what we agree or disagree on but how do we conduct ourselves to make our country that we've been given better than we found it," he said.

President and Head of School Larry A. Peevy commended Collins for his service to his community and country.

"We were delighted to welcome Rep. Collins back to campus today," Peevy said. "Our students benefit greatly from his lessons in leadership."

Collins is a Northeast Georgia native and graduate of the University of North Georgia. He has served as a pastor, attorney and a representative for Georgia's 27th State House District. Collins previously served as a U.S. military chaplain and completed a 2008-09 deployment to Iraq. Collins is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and has represented Georgia's Ninth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2013. In the 116th Congress, Collins serves as a ranking member of the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary.

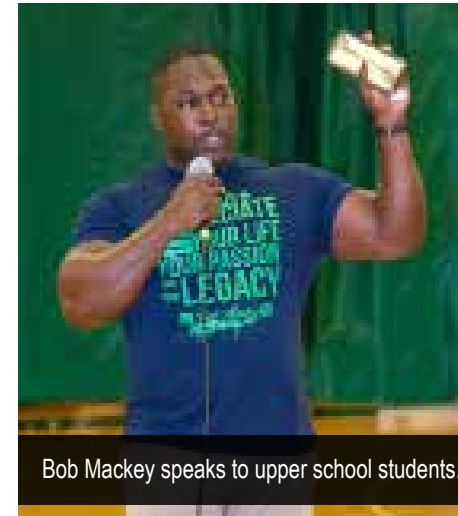
"I liked that Rep. Collins was concerned about creating legislation that is best for the American people rather than just benefiting his political party."

- Senior Sarah Edwards of Sautee Nacoochee



"Rep. Collins' insistence that life's achievements are not based on a place of origin, but rather, a means of living purposefully, shows that success is truly available to anyone with the inclination to strive for it."

- Senior Alia Bly of Clayton



Bob Mackey speaks to upper school students.

Infectious Energy

by Kimberly Brown
reprinted with permission of *The Northeast Georgian*

Special guest Bob Mackey excites TFS students with his infectious motivational message

"ENERGTIC" WAS THE FEELING ON FRIDAY, AUG. 23 WHEN TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS ENJOYED A MOTIVATIONAL TALK FROM SPECIAL GUEST BOB MACKEY.

Mackey's talk was part of the school's 'All In' initiative. Each month, the school has a different theme in the initiative, including August's theme of energy, and upcoming themes of attitude, resilience, patriotism, generosity, service, community, empathy, creativity and determination.

Upper school Assistant Academic Dean Jim Van Hooser said the 'All In' initiative has two purposes: to get students to pull together in fundraising "to support something bigger than ourselves" and to have functions where the students and staff can interact with fun activities.

According to a Boys & Girls Club of North Central Georgia (BGCNCG) press release, Mackey was named CEO in 2017. He has also served as senior executive director for the Pete Nance Club of Greene County. His service to youth began from 2005-10 when he worked as a juvenile probation officer for the state of Georgia. He joined BGCNCG to prevent kids from going into the juvenile justice system, the release states.

Mackey told the assembled crowd of TFS upper school stu-

dents and staff that he is a high school dropout. "You're going to be able to do something that Mr. Bob will never be able to do in his life," he said. "That is walk across the stage to get a high school diploma, and that's going to be huge."

Mackey said he focuses on "TNT," things that "take no talent." Those include respect, excitement, enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

"Excitement scares people," he said. "You can be so excited people will tell you to calm down. But I don't need to calm down. What I have in me will change the world."

Mackey told the students that he didn't have a lot growing up, "But the one thing I had was a positive attitude."

He also encouraged the students to be aware of their friends' attitudes.

"Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future," he said. "If your friends don't encourage you, find new ones. If your friends aren't the first ones telling you, 'Good job,' find new friends."

Mackey encouraged the students to focus on service in their high school years and their future careers.

"People will tell you there

are more important things in life than money," he said. "But make all the money you can while you're young, then find a good cause that's close to your heart and do things to help that good cause. I want you all to be built on service. When you're built on service, you never go out of business. Service first."

Mackey said TFS students have opportunities that students in most schools he visits don't have.

"Your environment is helping you to get where you're going," he said. "There is no excuse for not getting there."

After the presentation, Mackey told *The Northeast Georgian* that TFS is a different venue than schools he usually visits, and that he was impressed at the students' "attention and attentive listening."

"These kids here (at TFS) are amazing...This was strictly a motivational message, so I didn't have to focus on the negative to get to the positive."

"Excitement scares people. You can be so excited people will tell you to calm down. But I don't need to calm down. What I have in me will change the world."

-Bob Mackey



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB



Having a ball: Physical education students Reid Kafsky, Macy Murdock and Brinson Hall doing core work with a medicine ball in the new TFS Fitness Center. Photo by E. Lane Gresham.

SPORTS FITNESS CENTER

TFS athletics, phys. ed. classes to greatly benefit from new state-of-the-art fitness center

The Tallulah Falls School community recently celebrated the opening of a comprehensive Sports Fitness Center designed to enhance the physical fitness and athletic performance of students, faculty and staff.

The previous weight room in the downstairs portion of the Lettie Pate Evans Student Center was completely gutted as old equipment, flooring and lighting were removed. The facility was then renovated from the ground up with the addition of new flooring, ultra-high definition video monitors, a blue-tooth sound system, whiteboards, mirrors, new and improved lighting and professional TFS athletic graphics.

The premier facility has been outfitted with specialized exercise equipment including four double-sided combo racks for squatting and bench pressing, an impressive collection of Matrix selectorized machines, a multi-use monkey bar rig for functional training and other modalities to help with fitness routines.

The new fitness center also has a wide variety of new cardio equipment such as treadmills, bikes, rowing machines, SkiErgs and an elliptical/stair climber.

Athletic Director Scott Neal spent time this summer planning and coordinating the improvements.

“We are thrilled with the GREAT opportunities this will provide

regarding fitness, performance and overall quality of life,” Neal said. “Everyone who has seen it has been impressed at the selection, range and functionality of the equipment. People are excited about the enhanced availability to improve fitness and performance that user numbers have instantly increased. We are so blessed at TFS!”

Dianna Neal coordinates with athletes, students, faculty and staff to meet fitness goals. Neal is a fitness center manager and former collegiate strength and conditioning coach at the University of South Carolina, University of Notre Dame, University of Minnesota (Head Women’s Strength & Conditioning Coach) and the University of New Mexico.



“THE PAIN YOU FEEL TODAY WILL BE THE STRENGTH YOU FEEL TOMORROW”
- ANONYMOUS

“EVERYONE WHO HAS SEEN IT HAS BEEN IMPRESSED AT THE SELECTION, RANGE AND FUNCTIONALITY OF THE EQUIPMENT. PEOPLE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE ENHANCED AVAILABILITY TO IMPROVE FITNESS AND PERFORMANCE...”

- SCOTT NEAL, TFS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Two Matrix Aura Functional Trainers feature 10 standard grips, bars, attachments and several pull-up options.





students enjoy a Capital experience



Sautee Nacoochee residents Sarah Edwards and Chris Geiger are pictured with Habersham EMC CEO Brad Hicks at the tour kickoff in Atlanta. Photo credit: Nicole Dover, GEMC

TFS seniors Sarah Edwards and Chris Geiger, both of Sautee Nacoochee, participated in the week-long 2019 Washington Youth Tour this June. The Youth Tour is an all-expenses-paid trip to the nation's capital sponsored by electric membership cooperatives throughout Georgia designed to develop promising student leaders into

exceptional young adults. Edwards and Geiger were selected by virtue of earning top combined scores on a written test and in a personal interview by a panel of judges.

The Youth Tour was established to inspire the next generation of leaders by providing an opportunity for students to meet policy makers, participate in leadership experiences

and tour local historic monuments while making new acquaintances from across Georgia and the nation.

Since 1965 more than 3,000 students from Georgia and more than 50,000 students nationwide have participated in this valuable experience.

SMOKIN' the competition



Pictured from left: Ty Tilley, Darren Fortner, Abigail Hunter, Garrett Hunter, AJ Hayes, Teryk Tilley, club sponsor Tom Tilley.

TFS students shine in Youth Leadership Habersham

The Habersham Chamber of Commerce recently announced the expansion of the successful Leadership Habersham program to include youth, and Tallulah Falls School is well represented in the new initiative.



Front row, from left: Abby Peacock, Rebekah Jennings, Maggie Jackson, Anna Paige Barrett, A.J. Hayes, Camden Hughes, Brinson Hall. Back row, from left: Samuel Dunlap, Reeves Cody, Whit Fordham, Hayden Johnson, Hunter Weyrich, John Nichols, Collin Kelley. Not pictured: Simeon Respress, Samantha Stamey.

“The aim of the program is to encourage and equip the younger generation for leadership roles in the future,” said Habersham Chamber President Mary Beth Horton. “Youth Leadership Habersham is a way to introduce students to various aspects of the county through leadership training, touring businesses and meeting with community and state leaders.”

Participants will join other students from other Habersham schools at a leadership development conference at UGA, tour businesses throughout the county, learn more about Chamber functions and the history of Habersham County and meet with the Chamber's adult Leadership Habersham program for mentoring opportunities.

Youth Leadership Habersham

participants will also be eligible for a Chamber scholarship at the end of the academic year. Seniors who attend all the sessions will receive an honor cord to be worn at commencement.

Horton hopes that once youth are exposed to opportunities in their own county they may decide to stay or return home to Habersham County after college graduation to pursue their careers.

It was quite the summer for Tallulah Falls School's industrious barbecue club, The Pit Vipers. Over the course of three competitions the club rose dramatically in the state rankings from among 59 backyard competition barbecue teams in Georgia. After successive third-place finishes in the Smokin' Bike Fest (May 31-June 1) and the Hawgin' on Lanier competition (Aug 2-3) the team earned its first Grand Championship at the Pigs and Peaches BBQ Festival Aug 23-24 in Kennesaw.

The Pit Vipers are led by senior Darren Fortner of Demorest, senior AJ Hayes of Cornelia, senior Garrett Hunter of Tallulah Falls and junior Ty Tilley of Tallulah Falls. Other team members include freshman Abigail Hunter and seventh-grader Teryk Tilley both of Tallulah Falls. The team is under the direction of

BBQ aficionado and TFS middle school history teacher Tom Tilley.

With only one competition left to go in the current season, the GBC Throwdown in Cedartown in November, the TFS squad is now rated fourth in the state, quite an accomplishment for this group of dedicated students.

In the Smokin' Bike Fest competition more than 3,000 people sampled offerings from the states top pro and amateur KCBS and Georgia Barbecue Championship (GBC) teams.

“The competition was strong; almost every team in the amateur division had previously won a KCBS/ GBC Grand Championship,” team coach Tom Tilley said. “The Vipers have only been smoking for a little more than a year. I am so proud of these kids.”

“The Pigs and Peaches BBQ Festival was a very strong performance by the Pit Vipers,”

TFS placed in every category, including winning cash prizes in three of the five competitions. The Pit Vipers earned third place in chicken, first place in ribs and first place in pork. TFS also competed in chef's choice division and the peach dessert division. The Pit Vipers took eighth place in chef's choice ground beef and sixth place in the peach dessert category.

“The ovation at the awards ceremony in front of hundreds of people created a lot of excitement for the students,” coach Tilley added.

The team has been steadily building its credentials in the cutthroat field of competitive barbecue and the professionals are really starting to take notice.

“The TFS Pit Vipers are the future of Georgia barbecue,” Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS) representative John Hale said.



NHS membership soars with addition of 35 new members

Thirty-five new members were inducted into the TFS chapter of the National Honor Society in September. This group of new inductees is the largest class of new members in TFS chapter history.

The NHS is the nation's premier organization recognizing outstanding high school students who demonstrate excellence in four key areas, known as pillars: scholarship, leadership, service and character. The TFS chapter is sponsored by faculty members Terri Bogan and Kelli Bly.

2019 NHS inductees, alphabetically: Colton Augustine, Caroline Ball, Riley Barron, Trevor Bramlett, Allie Kate Campbell, Charlie Cody, Sydney Coffey, Caden Griffis, Gabriel Iluma, Fendi Jean-Louis, Lilly Johnson, Grace Kim, Mia Kwarteng, Yishu (Betty) Lu, Nathan Moseley, Chaz Mullis, Sydney Murdock, Maggie Peacock, Jingan (Jerry) Sang, Jing Yi (Jason) Sang, Minxing Si, Eli Sims, Emily Smith, Junho So, Tomiwa Sofela, Yuze Sui, Pengyue Wang, Ava Wehrstein, Charlie Wei, Gigi Welch, Maria Whitson, Erika Wiese, Emily Wolfe, David Woods, Cainan Yaskiewicz.

SCHOLARSHIP, LEADERSHIP, SERVICE & CHARACTER



A growing school family

tallulah falls school

New faculty and staff bring mix of experience and enthusiasm

New faculty and staff members gathered for a photograph during pre-planning meetings on Aug. 6. Shown, from left, are Bill Goatcher (security), Ron Bergstrom (plant services), Jennifer Kennedy (upper school English/broadcasting), Stuart Delugach (security), Tara Broome (food services), Jill Hunter (upper school fine arts), Lynda Jenkins (upper school science), Yibo Dong (upper school Chinese), Brianna Webb (upper school academic assistant), Rachel Nichols (middle school English 5), Jennifer Ayers (middle school academic assistant), Rachel LeGrand (middle school fine arts), Hannah Wall (middle school science 6), Brandi Wood (middle school mass communications), Sonya Chesser (middle school math 8), Jeremy Stille (upper school history), Deborah Morrison (upper school math), Matthew Crotta (upper school Spanish).

A simple gift that changed a life

Never underestimate the power of a simple act of generosity. That was just one of the messages presented by Yuri Lopez, a native of Honduras as she spoke to more than 500 Tallulah Falls School middle and upper school students during a school-wide assembly on Sept. 25.

Lopez visited TFS to promote Operation Christmas Child (OCC), a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Each fall OCC volunteers collect shoe boxes filled with small gifts and useful items for children. The shoe boxes are then distributed across the globe during the Christmas season. Since it began in 1993, more than 135 million children in 150 countries have received an OCC gift box.

Lopez spent nearly all of her youth in more than a dozen orphanages in Honduras. She told TFS students that at age six a helicopter landed outside their school and she and her classmates each received an Operation Christmas Child shoe box that literally changed her life.

"Among the items were a pack of 10 lead pencils and a toothbrush," Lopez said. "Before I had been forced to make a single pencil last the entire school year and I had to share my toothbrush with 25 other girls at the orphanage. These were really my first Christmas presents and the first things I had ever had that were my own. There was also a note in the shoe box that said, 'Jesus loves you, and I love you too.'"

She encouraged the TFS students to participate in the Operation Christmas Child project. "A shoe box doesn't just impact one person, it can impact an entire community," she said.



Yuri Lopez with Middle School Academic Dean David Chester.



Lopez passionately explains to the TFS student body how a gift box from Operation Christmas Child saved her life.

TFS supports hurricane victims



The TFS Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) led a group of faculty and students in prayer in support of the families and victims of Hurricane Dorian prior to the academic day in Sept. Dozens of TFS students and faculty members assembled in front of the upper school academic building for the volunteer event. TFS has a large contingent of students from the Bahamas enrolled for the 2019-20 academic year. The northern Bahamas has been devastated as the category 5 storm moved over the island the first several days of September.

ALL IN for disaster relief

TFS students have rallied behind their Bahamian classmates and made Hurricane Dorian relief the focus of their ALL IN student initiative this year. Be sure to read the follow-up article in the next edition of the TFS Magazine for more details.

2019



Getting back INTO the-box

In these modern days of educational innovation we hear a great deal about 'getting out of the box' when it comes to teaching and learning. At Tallulah Falls School, middle school broadcasting/journalism teacher Brandi Wood found that in some instances getting INTO the box can sometimes work just as well.

"On the last week of my Term Photography class, I had a large box in the back of my room that I had lit up for a photography assignment," Wood said. "Little did they (the students) know, the assignment was mine."

"I wanted to remember my first photography class at the TFS middle school. I tried to think of creative ways to say it but ended up saying, 'Ok, everyone in the box, one at a time.'"

"I ended up turning a single box image into a magic photoshopped box tower - each one representing their individual personality so well."

PHOTOGRAPHY

Learning VALUES can be FUN

A newly created poster touting the Tallulah 12 character development program is on display at the TFS middle school. The poster's intent is to creatively express each of the 12 character tenets in a fun, visual manner making it easier for students to internalize each value.

TALLULAH 12 CORE VALUES
*** HAZARDUS • RESPECT • COMMON COURTESY ***

- NO. 1 EYE CONTACT**: It conveys that YOU CARE
- NO. 2 RESPECT**: RESPECT & ACKNOWLEDGE OTHERS' COMMENTS, OPINIONS & IDEAS. Respond to all questions with a COMPLETE THOUGHT.
- III. demonstrate GRATITUDE AND STEWARDSHIP**: say "thank you" - take only what you need.
- 4 WIN & LOSE GRACIOUSLY**: CELEBRATE wins and MOURN defeats APPROPRIATELY.
- NO. 5 FOLLOW ALONG AND CONTRIBUTE**: BE INVOLVED.
- NUMBER SIX • LEARN EVERYONE'S NAME**: and GREET them. Look for opportunities to introduce yourself and welcome visitors to our school.
- VII. BE AWARE of our SURROUNDINGS**: Be COURTEOUS to EACH OTHER and OUR ENVIRONMENT.
- NUMERO OCHO OBSERVE safety PROCEDURES**: Be appreciative of the thought and planning that has gone into providing a safe environment for students.
- NO. 9 MODEL PATIENCE**: We don't always have to be FIRST. Be aware of this when getting into lines, walking through a door, or getting into your locker.
- NO. 10 BUILD COMMUNITY**: Share concerns with appropriate people. Cultivate an environment of TRUST.
- # 11 BE A RESPONSIBLE MANAGER**: MANAGE TIME and PROPERTY responsibly while being considerate of others time and property.
- XII. OWN your mistakes**: • FAILURE • is success in progress.



TFS yearbook ranked 'superior' by Chaz Mullis, TFS junior

Tallulah Falls' yearbook staff received grand recognition from the Georgia Scholastic Press Association for their 2018-19 publication, *Legend*, and its theme "All Who Wander."

The yearbook received the ranking of Superior, the highest award a yearbook can achieve in the state of Georgia. A rating of Superior indicates the staff clearly demonstrated excellence in all areas of scholastic journalism in their 2018-19 publication.

Adviser Shelby Day led the project with editor Sophie Alexander of Sautee

ENCORE PERFORMANCE



Pictured, from left: Collin Kelly, Nafis Rahman, Evette Corwin, Madi Perdue, Flannery Hogan, Camden Hughes, Sophie Alexander, Ava Wehrstein, adviser Shelby Day, Chaz Mullis.

Nacoochee, the sole returning staff member from the previous school year. Nine other members contributed to the book, including current editors Camden Hughes of Demorest, Collin Kelly of Demorest and Chaz Mullis of Sautee Nacoochee.

According to Day, an award-winning book created by such a new staff is a phenomenal feat.

Our theme for this book came together quickly. The staff wanted an outdoor theme that tied in with our unique geographic location and also focused on the outdoor recreation and education movement sweeping our area. I couldn't be more proud of the teamwork of the staff and the beautiful book they created," Day said.

TFS junior's Eagle Scout Project gives back to the TFS community

TFS junior Collin Kelly of Demorest recently completed five benches at the TFS cross country course as a component of his Eagle Scout project requirement. The project completion brings his Eagle Scout to-do list almost to a close, Kelly said, with two additional badges left to earn.

Kelly, a multi-year harrier with the TFS cross country team, was assisted by other TFS students and scouts from Troop No. 5. Together they constructed five benches to add seating for student-athletes, family and friends. The benches are located at the course start, near the restroom area and at the two mile-marker on the course.

Part of the planning was to seek official approval from school leadership. President and Head of School Larry A. Peevy, eager to help facilitate the process, signed off on the project with enthusiasm.

"Leadership training is woven into many experiences at school and through extracurricular activities of our students," Peevy said. "Collin's drive and follow through on this project is admirable; we appreciate his contribution to the TFS community."

He was motivated to give back to his school and his sport.

"I finally was able to leave my own legacy," he said. "I appreciate the guys who came out to help me leave this mark. I definitely couldn't have done it myself."



Equestrian program kicks up a notch

Growing program garners accolades in area competitions

story by Nate Roys, TFS Advancement Intern

The Tallulah Falls School equestrian program began competing in several events last spring – jumping, showmanship and driving.

Led by Dinah Peevy, an award-winning horsewoman, the student-equestrians are following in her footsteps, garnering awards and accolades. Despite being new to competition, the team has done well in the shows they have competed in thus far.

“We started competing last spring,” Peevy said. “The girls have placed in every event they have been in, which has been extremely exciting for me to see. For these girls to have just started driving and showing horses in the spring, it has been incredible to watch them. The girls themselves are smart and have motivation.”

Four middle school students are competing, Peevy said. As the group gains experience, Peevy hopes the program will expand.

This year’s team consists of eighth-grader Brooke Hayes of Cornelia, eighth-grader Lucy Ladd of Cornelia, seventh-grader Kylie Loudermilk of Eastanollee and sixth-grader Isabella McClain of Toccoa.

“We limit our team to four girls in the program,” Peevy said. “We have to keep the group small, just like the golf team does. We want to keep it small so we can do more and work more. Right now we are limited to jumping, showmanship and driving. I hope next year that we can expand to some halter classes and obstacle classes.”

The girls work with various horses to deepen their experience by learning how to control horses with different personalities and temperaments. This allows each student to grow and develop in the sport, Peevy said.

“No one is assigned to one particular horse,” Peevy said. “Some of the ponies have more talent in one class than another. By swapping and working with each of the ponies, they have a larger scope of experience.”

While showing the horses is important, Peevy hopes other facets of the equestrian program have a positive impact on the young competitors.

“Each child is responsible for helping prep a pony,” Peevy said. “They are responsible for bathing, cleaning harnesses, equipment and carts, and when we are finished they help load the ponies. We all work together. The girls work together and learn teamwork. They work together and develop greater responsibility. We have parents and grandparents who help us as well. The girls are willing to go the extra step because they want to show.”

As these girls continue to compete and grow within the sport, Peevy believes the experience will remain with them for the rest of their lives.

“It can hopefully develop into a lifetime sport,” Peevy said. “I was given my first pony when I was 6 years old, and I am still enjoying the sport.”



Pictured from left: Isabella McClain of Toccoa, Brooke Hayes of Toccoa, Lucy Ladd of Cornelia and Kylie Loudermilk of Eastanollee display ribbons won in recent competitions.



Lucy Ladd is pictured practicing her driving skills.



Dinah Peevy’s equestrian success extends far beyond Tallulah Falls School and into the national spotlight. Larry and Dinah Peevy’s pony, Majestic Farm’s Singing the Blues, was named the 2019 Classic Driving Pony of the Year.

UNIVERSAL ROBOTICS

Robotics team moves into high gear with strong showing at first competition

story by Nate Roys, TFS Advancement Intern

Universal Robotics is a recent addition at Tallulah Falls School having been formed just two years ago. Under the direction of coach/sponsor Scott Davis, the club is enjoying great success as they recently competed in two meets in one day at the first-ever Skystone-themed meet held at Alliance Academy in Cumming. Skystone is this year’s theme in the Georgia FIRST Tech Challenge.

By virtue of the cumulative scores from the first and second meets, TFS earned first place overall in the North Georgia Innovation League, which is part of the FIRST Tech Challenge. According to coach Davis, the team was very excited to compete at such a high level and win the Skystone-themed meet.

While there are 18 students on the Universal Robotics team, only six represent the school as members of the traveling team: junior Yuze Sui of China, junior Zhiyuan “Jerry” Zhou of China, junior Junho So of South Korea, sophomore Ming Tang of China, sophomore Nafis Rahman of Mt. Airy and senior Samuel Dunlap of Lakemont.

Meets are scheduled throughout the fall culminating with the league tournament in January.



A successful first meet. From left: Nafis Rahman, Yuze Sui, Junho So, Samuel Dunlap, Zhiyuan Zhou, Ming Tang, club sponsor Scott Davis.



Hungry for more TFS? Visit www.tallulahfalls.org

There is always something good going on at TFS. So much in fact that only a fraction of noteworthy and newsworthy events can fit into the TFS Magazine. If you’re interested in learning about the full TFS experience, head on over to the TFS website and visit the **News and Announcements** section under the **About** drop down bar. You can also get TFS news on a variety of social media networks. You’ll find stories and photo galleries detailing trips to the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Charleston, Chattanooga, local radio shows, drama and musicals and many other events that take place in our school community.



marjorie mae cleveland a generational IMPACT

by Nate Roys
TFS Advancement Intern

Tallulah Falls School has a rich history of helping those in need. Whether it be a student who needs an extra boost to get them where they strive to be, guidance and direction in life or a helping hand in a time of need, TFS has helped countless students over the years to meet and exceed their goals.



Marjorie Mae Cleveland, who attended TFS from 1921-30, is an example of how the school has changed lives across generations.

Cleveland's mother died when she was only two years old. Her father remarried and the new stepmother was less than welcoming to the little girl. Cleveland left home at a young age and lived on her own simply trying to survive.

During this time, Cleveland helped out on the series of dams under construction by Georgia Power. She carted trash, carried lumber and handed the workers their tools in exchange for food. Cleveland learned about TFS from these laborers, and with their encouragement, she gathered the courage to see if the school could help her.

"With time, encouragement from the workers and knowledge of what the school offered, at nine years old, my grandmother walked into Tallulah Falls School," Cleveland's granddaughter Rita Stuck said. "She went with nothing but the clothes she wore, her desire to improve her situation and hope."

Cleveland was taken in by the school in 1921. Sponsored by a doctor's wife in Atlanta, she excelled at TFS.

"She thrived at Tallulah Falls because she knew the hard, real-world at such a young age and she wanted better," Stuck said. "She was identified as a 'Bright Mind' by Miss Nannie C. Davis in 1924 and was noted in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. She studied and worked diligently to stay at Tallulah Falls School – the first real home she had known."

Cleveland attended TFS for nine years, staying and working at the school during breaks because she did not have a home to go to.

"She really enjoyed being at the school, because it was like family to her," Cleveland's son, Charles Lowe said.

Cleveland was able to learn many practical skills while at TFS, including canning and sewing. While at TFS, Cleveland did not hear from her father or stepmother. TFS was the only family she had.

"Her father never acknowledged her being at the school and never visited

her," Stuck said. "She had been abandoned and forgotten by him and his wife."

In 1930, at age 18, Cleveland first met her husband, Joe Lowe, at TFS. He was riding in the back of a truck with some coworkers when Cleveland noticed him because of his "beautiful red hair."

"My grandmother made it a point to meet this 'red-haired young man' and, as they say, the rest is history," Stuck said. "When his work was completed in the area, he proposed marriage. She accepted and they were married on Aug. 25, 1930."

Marjorie Cleveland became Marjorie Lowe, and her time at the Light in the Mountains had come to an end. TFS had been all she had known for nine years and prepared her for a very successful life.

"She left with an excellent education, fond memories and a grateful heart. TFS had been her family for nine years, had taught her how to capitalize on her innate intelligence and prepared her to go

forth in life with her head held high," Stuck said. "She had a rough young life, but the school had taken her in and given her a chance at a life she would have otherwise never had. She was tremendously thankful for the opportunities she was given."

Cleveland was extremely appreciative of everything she learned while at TFS.

"She was grateful to the people who told her about TFS, the school for being there in the area and the admission into the school itself," Stuck said. "Her life was transformed with that opportunity and she knew it. She went on in life to be a successful businesswoman, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and member of the community."

Lowe and Stuck came to TFS last year to visit the place that shaped their mother and grandmother. They came to campus for the Alumni Homecoming Luncheon on April 27, 2019. Visiting the museum, Lowe and Stuck were able to learn a great deal about their mother and grandmother.

"When Rita and I visited Tallulah Falls School last year, we really enjoyed the experience," Lowe said. "Part of the reason we came to the school was to learn some history about my mother. It was a very enlightening experience."



Son Charles Lowe and granddaughter Rita Stuck (pictured above) visited Tallulah Falls School over Alumni weekend in April. Six months later, Robert Stuck and daughter Amelie Stuck from the Czech Republic toured the school. Both pairs of descendants proudly display photos of Marjorie Mae.



Photos by E. Lane Gresham

Stuck was also very fond of her experience at TFS, as she learned about her grandmother.

"We left Tallulah Falls School that afternoon full of pride for my grandmother. She had made a huge decision at such a young age to seek help," Stuck said. "Tallulah Falls School had opened its arms and brought her in off the streets where she was given the tools and opportunity to excel in life."

After nine years of providing such wonderful guidance, shelter, safety and friends, Tallulah Falls School had given her what she needed to venture into the world."

Stuck is grateful that TFS gave her grandmother a chance, and says the school will always be special to her and her father.

"She was blessed with intelligence, the will to succeed, ambition, dedication and love for her family," Stuck said. "The opportunities at Tallulah Falls School gave her the security and tools to succeed in life. She lived up to those standards and more."

"We, the descendants and recipients of her success are indeed grateful. Tallulah Falls School will always hold a special place in our lives." ■

Attention TFS Alumni:

Here's YOUR chance

Help us shape our alumni program and update our contact information by telling us about your interests and what you would most like to see at Tallulah Falls School for alumni. Please take just a few moments and complete our alumni survey found at the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/TFSAlumniSurvey>

We greatly appreciate your time and feedback.

- TFS Alumni Committee



esports

arrives at TFS

photos and story by Nate Roys
TFS Advancement Intern

Competitive gaming is one of the fastest growing activities in high schools across the nation



Competitive gaming in the form of electronic sports has arrived at Tallulah Falls School as an official Georgia High School Association activity. Known as esports, TFS is starting with 25 student-players, meeting after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, playing League of Legends and Rocket League.

League of Legends teams consists of five players while Rocket League teams consist of three players. Each school can have multiple teams compete.

According to IT Director Bryan Freeman, department personnel will support the new program, with IT Specialist Casey Barron serving as head coach for the team. Rosters are now formed and the first competition was held on Oct. 29.

So far this year, there are more than 50 schools signed up to compete in GHSA esports, with more to come. Last year, Lambert High School won the League of Legends championship, and Pickens County High School took home the Rocket League Championship. The closest school to TFS that competes in GHSA esports is Commerce High School.

According to the GHSA website, college scholarships are available to skilled players. Currently, more than 200 colleges and universities offer scholarships for esports, totaling over \$10 million.

"Starting an esports team at TFS provides opportunities for students to compete in one of the fastest-growing activities in high school," Athletic Direc-

tor Scott Neal said. "It may also open doors to enhanced further education through college scholarships. Esports is now one of those areas for our students to excel, develop life skills and be GREAT!"

Not only has esports' popularity skyrocketed over the last few years, but it has done so in a fashion that rivals the biggest sporting event in the United States.

"The sport is exploding in popularity, with viewership of the world championships rivaling the Super Bowl," Freeman said.

GHSA officially sanctioned esports last fall. Schools currently compete in League of Legends, SMITE and Rocket League.



Pictured from left: Riley Barron, David Woods, Ben Fisher, Zhiyang Shu and Maik Murenzi compete as a team playing League of Legends for TFS esports.

Rocket League team - TFS Drifters

Joe Griswold, Eli Higbie, Baylee MacBeth

Rocket League team - TFS Lockdown

Grant Barron, Cain Chitwood, Seth Justice

League of Legends team - TFS Mushrooms

David Cheng, Rick He, Daniel Shin, Justin Yu, Jason Zhou

League of Legends team - TILT

Nana Amankwah, Riley Barron, Ben Fisher, Maik Murenzi, Zhiyang Shu
substitutes: Zi Wang, Ziyu Han

Managers: Hanwu Fang, Trent Toler, Wyatt York

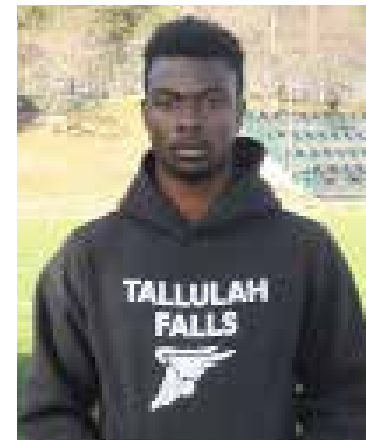
The esports teams are off to a strong start in early competition. Be sure to check the TFS website and social media for updates.



Three TFS athletic legends inducted into Blitz Sports GA 2019 Hall of Fame class



Three former TFS athletes were among the 66 new inductees into the Blitz Sports GA 2019 Hall of Fame class. According to the blitzsportsga.com website, a record 50,175 votes were cast by the public to determine inductees for the 2019 class.



ZATRACK PEARCE
TFS CLASS OF 2017

Zatrack Pearce enjoyed an incredibly successful track & field career for TFS. Pearce has a state championship and is a two-time state runner-up. As a sprinter/jumper Pearce placed in the top 10 at state on six occasions, including a pair of region championships. Pearce also had nine region/area top-10 finishes. His personal records for each event: 100M (10.94), 200M (21.85), 400M (48.14), and long jump (21'-7"). Pearce was a BLITZ Athlete of the Year and currently competes at Augusta University.



ZATRACK PEARCE



NYAH WILLIAMS
TFS CLASS OF 2019

Nyah Williams concluded her playing days as the career scoring leader for TFS hoops. Williams scored 1,852 points, averaging 19 points, six rebounds, two assists and one steal per game. She also shot 43% overall. Williams led the Lady Indians to more than 50 career wins, including a Sweet Sixteen appearance and #10 state ranking. She is a previous BLITZ Athlete of the Year winner and received a full academic scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania.



NYAH WILLIAMS



MICHAEL VAN HOOSER
TFS CLASS OF 2017

A 1,000-point career scorer for TFS, Michael Van Hooser was a key component of the 2016-17 Indians team that won 24 games, earned a #2 ranking in the state and made it all the way into the Sweet Sixteen. His career stats included 14 points, six rebounds and two assists per game. After graduation, Van Hooser attended Middle Tennessee State University and is currently enrolled at the University of Georgia as a men's basketball program manager.



MICHAEL VAN HOOSER

Consistently GREAT

TFS volleyball program advances to state tournament for fifth consecutive year

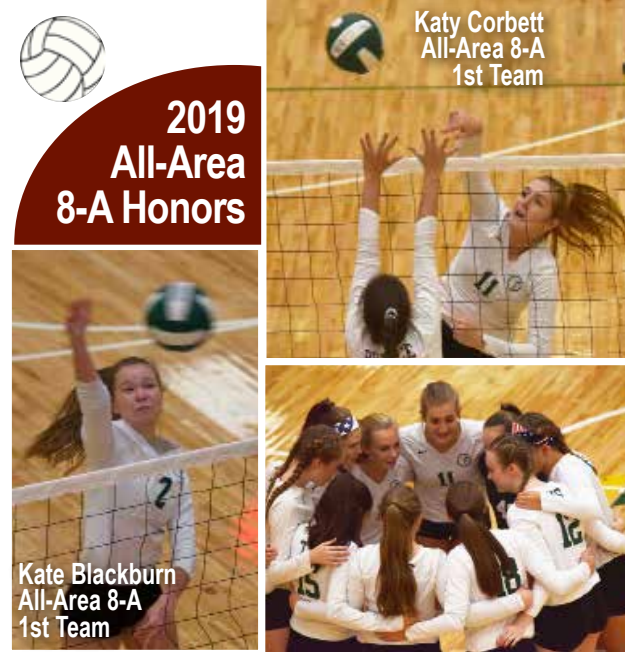
The TFS varsity girls volleyball team enjoyed a stellar campaign in coach Matt Heyl's second year at the helm, advancing into the state tournament for the fifth consecutive year. Heyl's squad displayed consistently strong play throughout the season as they played their way to a #2 seed in Area 8-A private.



Varsity volleyball, from left: Jihee Han (manager), Mariama Bah (manager), Emily Church, Evette Corwin, Rebekah Jennings, Lillie Free, Katy Corbett, Vjera Radovic, Nancy Fisher, Barrett Whitener, Abby Carlan, Kate Blackburn, Allie Dalton, Sarah Jennings, head coach Matt Heyl, Jade Ye (manager).



2019 seniors
Lillie Free Vjera Radovic Kate Blackburn



2019 All-Area 8-A Honors

Kate Blackburn All-Area 8-A 1st Team

Katy Corbett All-Area 8-A 1st Team

Lillie Free All-Area 8-A 2nd Team

Rebekah Jennings All-Area 8-A Honorable Mention

Lillie Free All-Area 8-A 2nd Team



2019 Junior varsity volleyball

VOLLEYBALL

VARSITY AWARDS



Most Improved Abby Carlan
Most Valuable Katy Corbett
Indian Award Kate Blackburn
Indian Award Lillie Free



JV AWARDS

JV volleyball, from left: Karis Tatum, Sammeka Hepburn, Keelie Parks, Tanisha Seymour, Hannah Hunt, Chloe Kahwach, Layne Kafsky, Emma Barrett, Veronaye Charlton, Andrea Caudell. Not pictured: head coach Matt Crotta, Shelby Brightwell (manager), Tilshon Leary (manager).

Coach's Award Andrea Caudell
Most Valuable Hannah Hunt



PRECISION RIFLE

Precision rifle competes in local, state, regional and national matches with USA Shooting Junior Olympics and the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

Kneeling, from left: Assistant coach Kerry Stamey, Madi Perdue, Sam Stamey, Avery Hulsey, coach Tim Stamey. Standing, from left: Andrew Erwin, Trent Toler, Aiden Gragg, Jackson Whittle, Peyton Gunn, Zion Parnes, Tyler Farmer.

Look for updates on these exciting teams in the next edition of the TFS Magazine.



BASS FISHING

Members of the Bass Fishing team are scheduled to compete in up to 10 events on lakes across the region in a season that runs from September to June. More information about the sport is available on the TFS website.

Pictured from left: Captain Darrin Harrelson, Austin Zigler, Matt Cochran, George Ketch, Luke Ferguson, Thomas Harris, Marshall Williams, Captain Russell Williams, Haygen James, Breeilyn Wood, Captain Chris James.

The essence of TEAM

This image of a group of TFS middle school volleyball teammates celebrating a successful point speaks volumes about what makes sports so very special. There are so many aspects to consider - teamwork, practice, competition, execution, devotion to one's teammates and, perhaps above all, the love of the game.



History-making season culminates with trip to state meet for both squads

An historic varsity cross country campaign came to a close on Nov. 2 as both the varsity boys and girls competed in the GHSA A-Private state meet in Carrollton. The boys' team placed ninth among 16 teams, while the Lady Indians harriers finished 12th.

Both squads qualified for the state meet by virtue of finishing fourth in the regional meet held on Oct. 24. The state meet qualification was especially significant as it was the first time ever that the girls' team has qualified for state and it was the first time the boys' team had qualified for the state meet since 1990.

The boys were led by sophomore Evan Prince of Demorest who placed fifth of 117 harriers, followed by senior Chris Geiger of Sautee Nacoochee who came in 14th. With his fifth place finish, Prince earned All-State honors and his time placed 51st of 1463 runners across all classifications.

The girls were led in their historic first-ever state appearance by sophomore Lucy Alexander of Sautee Nacoochee who placed 36th and senior captain Sophie Alexander who was only two spots back at 38th. Sophie Alexander concluded her high school career as the No. 3 runner on the TFS cross country legacy list.

"Overall, this cross country season was one for the history books at TFS," said head coach Scott Neal. "The odds have been overcome by a GREAT group of runners whose significance will be legendary."

"Each of the TFS girls etched their names into the history books as the first team to qualify for state and had a memorable finish for future generations of TFS runners to emulate and strive to surpass."



Last home meet for TFS XC seniors

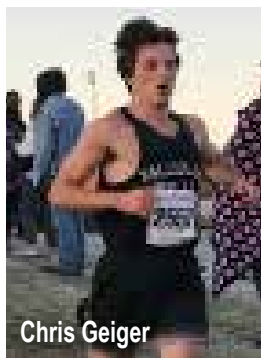
Pictured from left: Haokun David Cheng of China, Sarah Edwards of Sautee Nacoochee, Sophie Alexander of Cornelia, Maria Whitson of Alto, Laurel Smith of Clayton and Chris Geiger of Sautee Nacoochee.



Evan Prince



Sophie Alexander



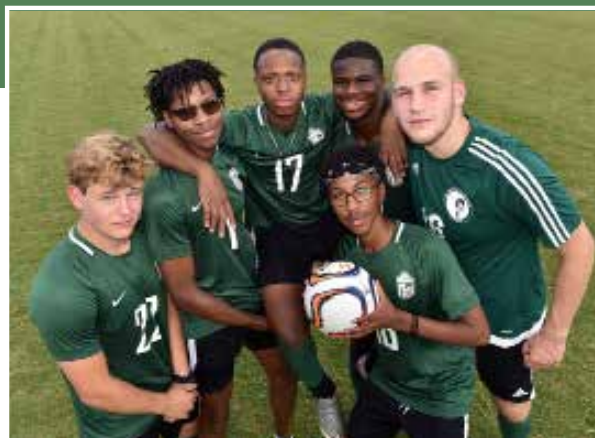
Chris Geiger

Varsity cross country team

Pictured, front row, from left: Zhiyuan Zhou, Clarence Zheng, Emery Sims, Maria Whitson, Laurel Smith, Maggie Peacock, Macy Murdock, Sophie Alexander, Lucy Alexander, Emma Jackson, Sophie Herrera, Sarah Edwards, Kate Trotter, Avery Hulsey, Colton Augustine, Junyi Rick He, Zhigao Henry Xiong, Pengyue Peter Wang. Back row, standing from left: assistant coach Scott Augustine, Haokun David Cheng, Ethan Wanner, Chaz Mullis, Chris Geiger, Zi Shrek Wang, Walker Bailey, Collin Kelly, Evan Prince, Eli Sims, Grey Bourlet, Chathan Clouatre, Jingan Jerry Sang, Jingyi Jason Sang, Kale Corbett, Canon Brooks, head coach Scott Neal. Not pictured: coaches Jennifer Walker and Tim Corbett.

2019 boys soccer - a season of growth

"The 2019 soccer season was one of tremendous growth," said assistant coach Jeremy Stille. "Throughout the season, our team demonstrated a tremendous work ethic, led by a core group of strong seniors. Like all teams, we had our share of obstacles and hardships to overcome, but our practices and hard work helped attain a team cohesion and identity that will set the tone for seasons to come."



Soccer seniors

Clockwise from left: Samuel Dunlap of Lakemont, David Woods of Miami, FL, Tomiwa Sofela of Nigeria, Mohamed Kanu of Decatur, Daniel Kasas of Serbia and Maik Murenzi of Rwanda.



Samuel Dunlap



Maik Murenzi



Tomiwa Sofela



Front row, kneeling, from left: Almaz Latypov, Trevor Bramlett, Jack Zhong, Samuel Dunlap, Tomiwa Sofela, Dan Griswold, Justin Yu, Hanwu Fang, Yuya Mizuno, Nana Amankwah. Back row, from left: Henry Bowman, Cainan Yaskiewicz, Maik Murenzi, Junho So, Henrik Wiberg, Mohamed Kanu, Daniel Kasas, David Woods, David Rodriguez, Joe Griswold, assistant coach Tyler Standridge, assistant coach Jeremy Stille, head coach Brett Adams.

SOCCER AWARDS



Best Offensive
Samuel Dunlap

Top Performer
Maik Murenzi

Best Defensive
Tomiwa Sofela

Adwards photo by Chaz Mullis TFS yearbook

ALUMNI NIGHT

- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Alumni reception at upper school with TFS faculty
- 4:30 p.m. JV boys game vs. Highlands
- 5:00 p.m. TFS Legends/ Hall of Honor induction
- 6:00 p.m. Hospitality room opens
- 6:00 p.m. Varsity girls vs. Highlands
- 7:30 p.m. Varsity boys vs. Highlands

A hospitality suite on the upper floor of the gym will be open to all alumni from 6 - 8 p.m. featuring all types of hors d'oeuvres and treats prepared by TFS culinary arts students.

TFS ALUMNI NIGHT

Friday, December 13, 2019

Welcome back!

FREE ADMISSION for all TFS alumni

CROSS COUNTRY AWARDS



- JV Indian Walker Bailey
- Inspiration Chris Geiger
- GREAT Significance Sarah Edwards
- Top Performer Sophie Alexander
- Top Performer Evan Prince
- Best Improvement Collin Kelly
- GREAT Teammate Lucy Alexander
- JV Indian Canon Brooks

Adwards photo by Chaz Mullis TFS yearbook





Middle school tennis teams earn first annual Mountain League championships

Congratulations to the middle school boys and girls teams as both teams earned the Mountain League championship trophy. Under the direction of head coach Lisa Wilcox and assistant coach Mark Wilcox both teams enjoyed dominating seasons in the first year of Mountain League competition.



11-2 season record

Boys champions, alphabetically: Tyler Brown, Tanner Davis, T.J. Cox, Justin Graham, Jake Owensby, Aiden VanOrman, Everett VanOrman celebrate with coaches Mark and Lisa Wilcox.

Girls champions, alphabetically: Landry Carnes, Lizzy Huebner, Annabelle Jackson, Madeline Martin, Jordan St. Germaine, Suzie Sun, Kiera Webb, with coaches Mark and Lisa Wilcox.

Celebration photos courtesy of Missy Carnes.



12-1 season record



Front row, kneeling, from left: Tate Turpin, Koen Eller, Austin Ball, Clay Kafsky, Jacob Mitchell, David Plaisted, Emmet Sims, Jackson Pollock, Jared Mullis, Tatum Myers, Cole Borchers, Talon Adams, Josiah Turney, Reilly Chatman. Back row, from left: Head coach Travis Mullis, Jackson Cording, Nick Edenfield, Xiaoyang Wu, Chase Pollock, Eli Damron, Xingzhi Gong, Jackson Savage, Jake Wehrstein, KC Respress, Zhaohe Guo, Walker Wright, Jackson Carlan, Brit Shaw, assistant coach Chris Kafsky.

9-1-0 regular season, Tri State championship highlight 2019 middle school boys soccer campaign

The TFS middle school boys' soccer team enjoyed a stellar season which culminated in a first-ever Tri State Conference championship. Head coach Travis Mullis' squad won a thrilling 3-2 decision over conference rival Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School in a game played in Highlands, NC. The championship game was a rematch from last year's title contest.



Girls cross country team runs away with Tri State championship trophy

The TFS middle school girls cross country team captured the Tri State cross country championship as they took the title in an Oct. 1 competition at Summit Charter School in Cashiers, NC. Every girl on the team ran a personal best including race champion eighth grader Jenna Chesser of Cleveland. Other notable finishes included seventh graders Josie Chesser (4th place) and Maggie Shelton (6th place).



Title run - Assistant coach Susan Nichols (left) and head coach Scott Neal with the girls' team and their Tri State championship banner.

Leading the way for the boys' team was eighth grader Blair Moore of Demorest who finished in eighth place while setting a personal record (PR). Other PRs were turned in by seventh grader QianFeng (William) Xu (11th place), eighth grader Henry Rickman (17th place) and sixth grader Dalton Geltz (18th place).

Pictured, front row, from left: Dalton Geltz, Jasmyn Marshall, Maggie Shelton, Haygen James, Josie Chesser, Dani Prince, Mallory Higgins, Jenna Chesser, Carsyn Griffis, Charlie Harris. Back row, from left: assistant coach Susan Nichols, assistant coach Tim Corbett, QianFeng (William) Xu, Blair Moore, Henry Rickman, Timothy Beck, head coach Scott Neal.



Next generation netters working hard

Under the direction of head coach Whitney LaHayne and assistant coach Hannah Wall, the Lady Indians volleyball team finished the 2019 season fourth in the region. According to LaHayne, the girls showed mental toughness and a real desire to win. "It has been an amazing season watching these young players grow."



Kneeling, from left: Rebecca Heyl, Emma Barron, Lily Gaglio, Caroline Smith, Chichi Nwachukwu, Anna Reese Akers, Kaylin Pickett, Karagan Branson, Allie Phasavang, Sarah Lundy. Standing, from left: Chesney Tanksley, Jaylan Garrison, Morgan Mullins, Claire Kelly, Reese Wilson, Addy McCoy, Julianne Shirley, Josie Garrison, Mia Hamon.

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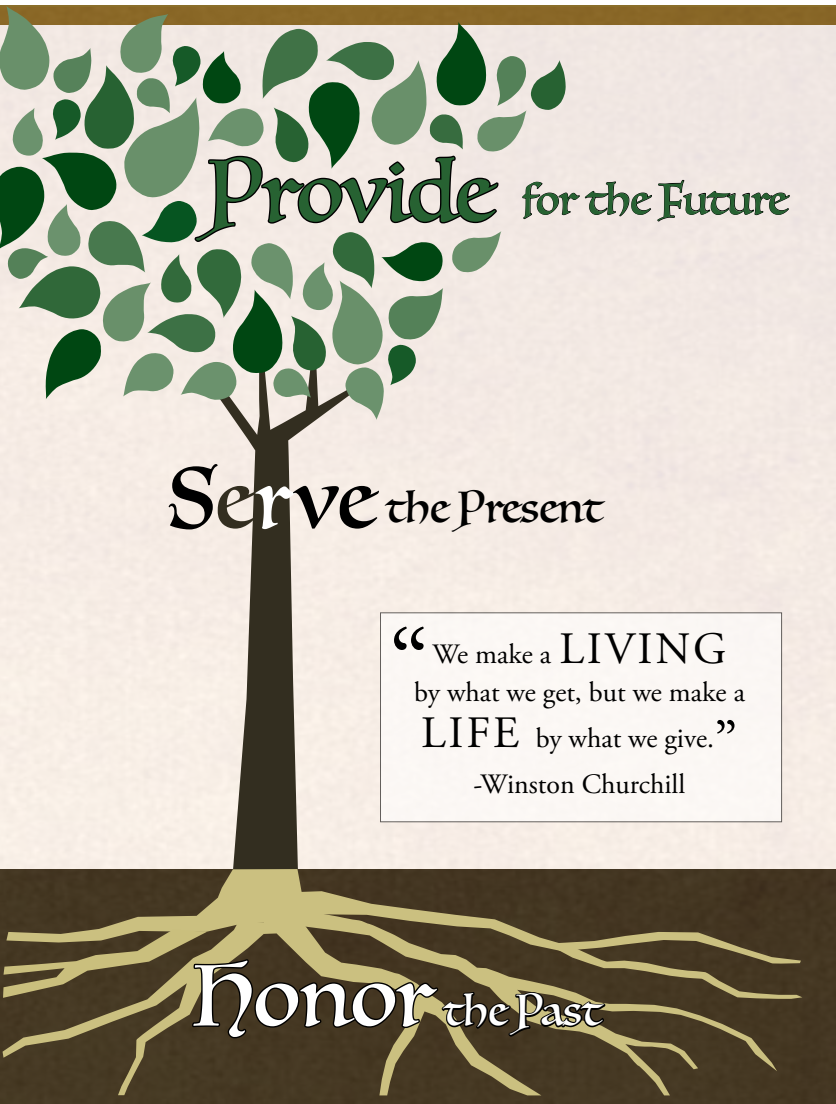


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