

Political Science 101

With politics in high gear as we close in on Super Tuesday, we invited two prominent local politicians - incumbent East Baton Rouge Mayor-President Kip Holden, who is running for his third term of office, and mayoral candidate Mike Walker, the District 8 Councilman and President Pro Tempore of the Metro Council -- to speak with our students about local politics and the mechanics of running for office.

On Oct. 17, Mr. Walker made a stop on our high school campus to visit with the seniors in Steve Hunt's Civics and U.S. Government AP classes. (Mayor Holden is scheduled to call on social studies students in elementary and junior high in November.)

Mr. Walker, who has been on the Metro Council for 11 years, spent close to two hours with the seniors who had gathered in Room 153 of Novak Hall for his presentation. He offered an insider's look at the nuts and bolts of launching and running a political campaign.

"So many intricate things go into a campaign (See *Political*, pg. 3)



With guest speaker District 8 Councilman and mayoral candidate Mike Walker (far right) are (from left) seniors and U.S. Government AP students Taylor Morris, Isaac Phillips, Vaki Nikitopoulos, Civics and U.S. Government teacher Steve Hunt, Madalyn Arboneaux, Isabelle Rountree, Bryce Fromenthal, Madison Davis, Kat Niedbalski, and Rachael Shockley.



Junior Jake Johnson (far left), and seniors Andrew Brouillette and Vaki Nikitopoulos are among the front runners in the Oct. 14 race.

XC Team Sponsors Race for Charity

Nearly 75 runners lined up to compete in the Cross Country Team's fourth annual "Run, Raiders, Run," a two-mile walking/running race across our Harrell's Ferry Road campus and through the "Trail of Dreams." Held on Oct. 14, the event raised \$1,000, which will benefit the Foundation Fighting Blindness, an international charity that funds research in the U.S. and around the world on degenerative eye diseases, and help support the Cross Country Team.

This year, we had a five-way tie for first place. Junior Jake Johnson, seniors Vaki Nikitopoulos, Andrew Brouillette, and Matthew Brouillette, and alumnus Chris Alexander all crossed the finish line together.

The next four finishers in the boys' division were freshmen Will Lurker and Grant Fink, 8th grader Henry Forgey, and 7th grader Sam Matthews. In the girls' division, junior Madelinn Fink finished first with her sister, Annie, 5c, just behind her. The next three across the finish line in the girls' division were Janelle MacKay (adult finisher), Micah Roper', 6a, and junior Noelle Morris.

George Forgey, 1a, won the half-mile children's race, with J.C. Stephens, 3b, taking second place. The Girls on the Run took first-place honors in the girls' costume contest, (See *Fun Run*, pg. 3)

Get Ready for "School House Rock, Jr."

Rehearsals for the elementary musical, *School House Rock, Jr.*, based on the 1970s Saturday morning Emmy Award winning cartoon series, are in full swing. Get ready to rock 'n' roll, with our grade 1-6 performers as they take their songs and dances about math, grammar, science, and social studies to the stage of the Runnels Theater for two performances Nov. 2 at 7 pm and Nov. 4 at 2 pm.

Since the musical takes the place of our traditional "6th-Grade Senior Play," the 6th graders are performing many of the leading roles, said K-12 Theater Program Chair and show director Neena Kelfstrom. Sixth graders in the cast include: Hannah Cassano, Hannah Page, Fain Buete, Emma Toorean, Spencer Spivak, Chandler Middlebrook, Steven Spivak, Lee Curry, Grace Asevedo, Amelia Jennings, Tyler Robbins, Rachel Wehbe, Caroline Henning, Kameron Sargent, Saylor Ourso, Alyssa Stevison, Kalyee Freiberger, Kayla Evans, Alexis Rogers, Alex Morgan, Ian Duke, Sydney Markham, and Hannah Barback. (Tickets are available in the High School Office, 225-751-2192, for \$10.00 if purchased in advance. At the door, tickets are \$12.00.)



Rachel Middlebrook (left) and Sophie Edwards, both 4th graders, practice the "School House Rock, Jr.," dance number, "Elbow Room," after school on Oct. 18 in the Drama Room as stage manager Cristin Ponjuan and elementary teacher Caroline Hader look on.

A Legacy of Learning and Teaching

One of the toughest aspects of working in a school, especially one like Runnels with its family-like atmosphere, is that the students keep leaving. You see them every day for years and then all of a sudden they're seniors, and off they go. But, fortunately, they sometimes come back -- to visit, to enroll their own children as students, and occasionally even as teachers. This year, we're fortunate to have 13 former Runnels students as members of our faculty.

Charlotte Lockhart - Jr./Sr. High

Librarian (graduated from 6th grade in '79, before we had a high school)
Sam Coates, '90, History, World History, Boys' P.E., Jr. High Basketball Coach (Mr. Coates is one of the first three students ever to have completed preschool through 12th grade at Runnels.)

Kylie Shafer Harbin '96, English 8, English 8 Honors

Michelle Majoue 'Middlebrook, '96, Computer Applications, Girls' P.E., Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach

Janna Bridges Morgan, '99, Preschool

Adam Guedry, '98, IT Director
Warren Kahao, '02, Advanced Math II, Conceptual Physics, Honors Physics

Michelle Richardson, '04, World Geography, Human Geography AP, Jr./Sr. High Academic Resources
Maggie Wrenn, '04, Latin I, Latin III Honors, Greek

Lauren Young Downing, '04, Preschool

Rachel Anderson Klein, '05, HS Art, PR Graphic Arts Assistant

Ben Young, '06, Algebra II, Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach

Meagan Morris, '08, Biology AP, Biology Honors, Biology Lab

Several of our faculty/alums shared their feelings about sitting on the "other side of the desk" at Runnels. Many considered



Charlotte Lockhart

teaching in familiar territory a plus.

"The main advantage of teaching at the school I attended," said Mrs. Lockhart, who has been on the faculty since 2005, "was that it felt like coming home."



As a Runnels junior in 2007, Meagan Morris (right) prepares for her role in the female version of "The Odd Couple." With her is Lindsey Duga ('08).

of my hand."

She also wanted to be a teacher at Runnels because of its nurturing environment. "I wanted to be back in a family-like atmosphere where the school functions more as a family than an institution."



Kylie Harbin

graduated in 1996. "Novak Hall didn't exist, there were only a couple of classrooms above the gym, there was no theater, and most of the high school classes were in Koenig Hall."

Preschool teacher Janna Morgan points out another positive side of teaching where you went to school: Sometimes you already know the parents of your students because you went to school together. Quite a few Runnels students are enrolling their children at Runnels. Ms. Morgan said that she was "pretty comfortable" when she started teaching here because she already knew some of the moms or dads. "It makes it easier to connect," she explained.

When her newborn daughter is old enough, Ms. Morgan also plans to send her to Runnels. It's kind of a family thing. Her own mother, Penny Bridges, has been on the Runnels faculty since Mrs. Morgan was a preschooler. "I want my children to go to Runnels, too," she explained. "I want to be there with them the same

First year Runnels teacher Meagan Morris, who was a student here from 3rd through 12th grades concurs, but admits that it's "a little strange being on the other side of the fence." One advantage to being 'back home,' she said, is knowing where everything is. "I teach in room 149 and when I got my room assignment I knew exactly where to go since I know Runnels like the back

way my mom was there with me."

Ms. Harbin's two preschoolers are already part of that "second generation" of Runnels students. She said that when her twin boys were born in 2008, she "immediately knew they would be attending Runnels. There was no better option. I also knew that I wanted to teach at the same school my boys (Andrew, PS4, and Ethan, PS4) were attending." Luckily, there was an opening for an 8th



Michelle Middlebrook

grade teacher. She said she was excited when Dr. Runnels offered her a job. Other faculty/alums with children at Runnels include: Ms. Lockhart (Elizabeth, '12, and Michael, grade 9), Mr. Coates (Gracie, K, Cooper, 1c, and Collin, 3b), Ms. Middlebrook (Nicolas, 1a, Rachel, 4a, and Chandler, 6d), Mr. Guedry (stepchildren Emory Monett, grade 9, and Carolyn Monett, grade 7), and Ms. Downing (Lily, PS2, and Reese, PS2).

One touchy subject several of the faculty/alums mentioned was how to address their former teachers now that they are colleagues.

"It took a week or two for me to swallow the 'calling them by their first name pill,'" said Mr. Kahao, "but I am fine with it now."

Mrs. Middlebrook had a little trouble with that, too. "I was Mr. Landry's first calculus student," she said. "I can call him 'Mark' now, but it still feels weird even though I have been working with him for three years."

Some, however, just can't manage to make the leap.

"I cannot call Mr. Hunt 'Steve' or Coach Landry 'Mark' any more than I could remove my head from my shoulders," said Ms. Morris.

"My former teachers will always deserve the respect of being called by their titles since they had to deal with me when I was a teenager," she added.

High school art teacher and



Warren Kahao



Rachel Anderson Klein displays her award-winning work at the Spring Art Show in 2005 when she was a senior at Runnels.

P.R. graphic artist Ms. Klein understands those feelings. "It's so hard to look at my former teachers as colleagues. I still look up to them and respect them so much.

Mrs. Lockhart admitted that she can't call Assistant Head of School and Preschool and Elementary Principal Gladys Runnels by her first name. "She was my teacher and the mother of my best friend," she explained.

"I also feel some apprehension when Dr. Runnels wants to talk to me," she continued.

Political Science 101 with Councilman Mike Walker, cont'd. from p. 1

that you don't think about or even know about," he told the students.

How do you choose the people for your campaign team? What issues do you include in campaign fact sheets? Are you wearing the correct clothes for the campaign function you're attending? Is it a "cuff link" occasion or do you need "lively semi-power tie for a young audience"? Which picture of yourself do you use for the campaign? What issues should you include in campaign fact sheets? Is that Emory board with your name on the back of it a good campaign trinket to hand out to voters?

It turns out that research done by pollsters and technology also play a crucial part in campaigning today.

"Political campaigns will be won scientifically from now on," Mr. Walker said. Political polling, though expensive, can tell you -- "down to the household" -- exactly which issues people care about most, he explained. These issues can be targeted for best results in the campaign.

At the start of his run for mayor, Mr.

Fun Run, cont'd. from page 1

and Grant Fink and sophomore Joey Fairley won for the boys.

We extend our thanks to Cross Country Head Coach Julie Fink, Assistant Coach Linn Fink, and Junior High Cross Country

"I feel like I am being called to the principal's office (not that it ever happened)."

Some funny moments also crop up for these faculty/alums when students discover they are Runnels returnees.

"Some of the faculty and current students found some pictures of me when I was in high school," said Mr. Kahao. "I think they found some humor



Janna Morgan

in this!"

Then again, once in a while, a special artifact turns up, stirring up cherished memories of the past.

"Cleaning out the preschool library last year, they (the teachers) came across three books with my name printed in them from when I was a preschooler," Ms. Morgan said. "I am saving them for my daughter."

Walker said he was handed an iPhone and told to "learn how to use it." He did, and now has Apps, which he said he easily mastered, to keep up with events. "The media is not just reading the paper anymore," he said, adding that his campaign has a presence on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.

A native of Louisiana, Mr. Walker began his political career at the age of 23 as a member of Mayor-President "Woody" Dumas' administration.

Over the years, he has stayed active in the community and in local government. In 2000, he made his first bid for political office by running for councilman in District 8 in Baton Rouge. He won and has held the office for the last 11 years, securing his fourth and final term in 2008 by a margin of 70 percent.

As a side note, Mr. Walker told the students that his son Michael attended school at Runnels on the Jefferson Highway campus. He said he also remembered coaching a summer basketball team at Runnels with

former Runnels basketball Coach and High School Athletic Director Kevin Sivils.

A question-and-answer period followed his presentation. Topics included term limits for the office of mayor (he's in favor), media bias (it's liberal), factors that influenced his decision to run for mayor-president (he sees things differently from the present administration), how to deal with negative media (stay on message and never take politics personally), how political parties influence local politics (enormously at the national level; not so much locally), the cost of running a campaign (about half-a-million dollars), and ways for the Metro Council to prevent long delays in roadwork in the future (change the contract process).

He also reminded the students to make every effort to register to vote when the time came. "The world is in your hands," he said. "Voters sway the future."

Our thanks to Mr. Walker, Founding Headmaster Dr. L.K. Runnels, and seniors Matthew and Andrew Brouillette for their assistance in arranging this valuable visit.

Coach Rebecca Penniman and their teams for organizing the event. We also thank the Cross Country Team parents, Dr. Runnels, who served as the race starter, and Junior High Athletic Director and Athletic Trainer

Marcella Babcock for their help and support. A big thank you also goes to all of the members of the school community who supported the event by coming out and participating in the race.



Runners take off as Founding Headmaster Dr. L.K. Runnels sounds the air horn to signal the start of the fourth annual "Run, Raiders Run" competition on our Harrell's Ferry Rd. campus Oct. 14. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Foundation Fighting Blindness and the Cross Country Team.

Senior Named National Merit Commended Student

Evangelos Nikitopoulos, a Runnels senior, has been recognized as a Commended Student in the 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from Dr. Runnels and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, will be presented to him.



Evangelos Nikitopoulos

Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic

promise. Although they will not continue in the 2013 competition for National Merit Scholarship Awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2013 competition by taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

He is the son of Dimitris and Alison Nikitopoulos.

Honor Bands, Orchestra and All-State Bands Choose Recruit Runnels Musicians

Thirty-one musicians from Runnels recently were selected to play in the prestigious All-Parish Honor Bands and Orchestra and the High School All-State Bands. The students were chosen during rigorous auditions held this fall.

Middle School Honor Band:

CC Monett, flute; Erina Buchholz, clarinet; Ashley Stansbury, first chair - alto saxophone; Ben Wahnschaffe, alto saxophone; John Wiese, first chair - tenor saxophone; Michael Martinez, first chair - trumpet; Henry Forgey, trumpet; Austin Stansbury, trumpet; Sam Matthews, first chair - french horn; Sam Day, trombone; and Alex Matthews, trombone.



John Wiese plays his tenor sax at last year's Barnes & Noble Showcase.

Middle School Honor Orchestra:

Cello - Luc Kharey - first chair, Theodore Todaro, Sean Parker, Ani Dixit, and

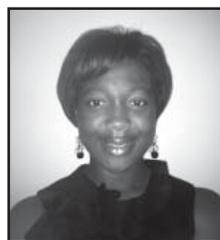
Peyton Collett; Viola - Harrison Bonaventure - first chair, Justin Reeves, Hannah Barback, and Saylor Ourso; Violin - Erina Buchholz - first chair, Mark Postlethwait, Alex Acosta, Stephen Watson, Zoe Patton, Anna Claire Pousson, Amelia Jennings, and Micah Roper'. The Middle School All-Parish Honor concerts will be held at McKinley Middle Magnet on Nov. 9.

High School All-State Bands: Amelie Kharey, clarinet, all-State Symphonic Band; Connor Matthews, first chair - oboe, All-State Concert Band; and Remy McConnell, alto saxophone, All-State Concert Band.

Congratulations to these students, their parents, 6th-12th Grade Band Director Jill Swetnam, Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Orchestra Director Jennifer Cassin, and cello instructor Dan Cassin.

Junior Receives Honor

Rahliat C. Animashaun, a Runnels junior, has been selected for membership in the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHS).



Rahliat Animashaun

The organization, founded by Claes Nobel, a member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes, invites students who have achieved academic excellence to become members.

Joining NSHS entitles students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, online forums and more.

Rahliat is the daughter of Tunde and Sharon Animashaun.

2012 Graduate Wins Art Scholarship

Runnels 2012 graduate Savanna LaBauve has been named the 2012 recipient of the Julia Dufour Richardson and Paul A. Dufour Scholarship Fund.

The award was established by Baton Rouge artist Sam J. Corso in the names of Professor Dufour and his daughter, Julia. It is awarded each spring to art students who have shown exceptional ability.

Savanna, who currently attends LSU, is the daughter of Pam LaBauve and Gary LaBauve.



Open for Business: With the launching of her new shop, Nothing Bundt Cakes, on Corporate Blvd., K-12 Math Department Head Elizabeth Novak can add "specialty cake store owner" to her growing list of accomplishments.

Runnels Day Nov. 10 at Nothing Bundt Cakes

Although Elizabeth Novak is on sabbatical from her job as a math instructor at Runnels, she continues to serve as Math Department Head for Preschool through 12th grade. During this partial sabbatical, however, she's not on vacation! Mrs. Novak has been hard at work getting her new business, "Nothing Bundt Cakes," ready to open.

The store, which sells specialty bundt cakes in several sizes, flavors, and decorative styles (including wedding cakes), is located at 7620 Corporate Blvd., right next to Maxwell's Market. The official Grand Opening is Saturday, Nov. 3, at 10 am. The first 50 people in the door that day will get free bundtlets (small, two-serving cakes) for a year, Mrs. Novak said.

Nothing Bundt Cakes is also sponsoring a special "Runnels Day" on Saturday, Nov. 10, from 10 am - 6 pm. The company will donate \$5.00 to Runnels School for every 8" or 10" bundt cake purchased in the Baton Rouge store that day.

Mrs. Novak's shop is the first Nothing Bundt Cakes franchise established in Louisiana. Her brother, Craig Moore, owns six shops in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area and is president of the franchise. He is also part owner of the Cici's Pizza chain, headquartered in Dallas.

We wish Mrs. Novak, her husband, Ken, and assistant manager, Runnels alumna Allison Ward ('04) much luck with this sweet venture.

Elementary Library Used Book Sale Successful

Elementary Librarian Joni Orgeron reports that the Fall Used Book Sale raised \$1,276.52, which has already been put to work for the purchase of 106 new books for our voracious young readers.

Some of the new titles are picture books, including *Green, Uncle Vova's Tree*, and *Vegetables We Eat*. Others are chapter books for all ages, including the latest releases in the Ivy and Bean and Mallory series, as well as the newest installments of the Kane Chronicles, Maximum Ride, Kingdom Keepers, and Spartan Quest. Non-fiction titles run the gamut from books about dogs, such as *Shih Tzu* and *Toy Fox Terrier*, to holiday books about St. Patrick's Day and Valentine's Day. Other new acquisitions are books about the Titanic, wars, and zoos.

The children's books that were not sold were donated to Faith Academy in Gonzales. This Pre-K through 7th grade school lost its roof in Hurricane Isaac, rendering the library a total loss. We were able to pass along 18 boxes of picture books, chapter books, fiction, and non-fiction.

Club Day Draws a Crowd

Students eager to join one or more of our 21 junior and senior high clubs lined up at tables on the green in front of Novak Hall at lunchtime Sept. 11. The sign-up event followed an assembly in the Theater where club officers and sponsors "pitched" their organizations to students, outlining the year's activities and goals.



This year, students can choose to join several new clubs, including the American Harp Society, Experimental Music Club, and the Yearbook Club. Other active organizations are: the Art Club, Jr. High Book Club ("Bookies"), Chess Club, Drama Club, Debate Club, English Honor Society, Environmental Science Club (also called the Naturalism Club), Fellowship of Christian Students, French Club and French Honor Society, High School Beta, Jr. Beta, Invisible Children Club, Junior Classical League, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Spelling Bee Club, and the Spanish Club. Our thanks to Dana Schlotterer, Assistant Principal for Jr./Sr. High Student Services, for organizing Club Sign-up Day.

Continuing a Holiday Tradition...

The 2012 Runnels Ornament is now available for purchase.

Don't miss this opportunity to own and give this festive keepsake, featuring the Runnels crest in silver on a background of royal blue.

All proceeds will go to the Runnels Elementary Library and the Jr./Sr. High School Library.



Your Name _____

Student's Name _____

Student's Grade and Section _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Delivery Instructions:

- Please deliver my ornament(s) to student indicated above.
- Please call me to pick up my ornament(s) at school.

I would like to order _____ ornament(s) at \$10.00 each.

I would like to order _____ set(s) of 4 ornaments at \$35 per set.

Total payment included is \$ _____.

(Please make checks payable to Runnels.)

THE LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26.
DELIVERY WILL BE THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10.
Thank you for supporting the Runnels Libraries.

Student Poets Published in Spring Anthology

Congratulations to the following student poets who, as 9th graders last year, had poems published in the Spring 2012 edition of *A Celebration of Poets* published by Creative Communication: Hana Derzi, Dillon Dodgen, Morgan Evans, Rio Gauthier, Maddy Inzenga, Vivian Ji, Emily Mack, Andrew Mackay, Kara Peneguy, Katie Pousson, David Segalla, and Alex Stansbury.

Their poems were submitted by their 9th grade English teacher, Michelle Stanfield.

Two Ways to Shop Smart & Support RPO

by RPO President Nicole Duet Latiolais

It's as easy as 1, 2, ... well let's just say it's that easy. With all of the holiday shopping ahead, you'll have two opportunities to shop and support the RPO.

Through the generosity of Louisiana Nursery and Cardraising.com, you can show your support and take care of some of your holiday shopping needs.

No. 1. Louisiana Nursery's "Holiday cent-sation Fundraising Event" Friday, Nov. 16, and Saturday, Nov. 17, 9 am – 6 pm.

Runnels friends and family can shop at any of the four Louisiana Nursery locations and the company will donate 20% of the purchases made in the name of the RPO back to us. During the past two years, Louisiana Nursery has donated thousands of dollars to hundreds of organizations in and around the Baton Rouge area. Be sure to designate the Runnels RPO as your organization at checkout.

No. 2. RPO Greeting Card Fundraiser, www.cardraising.com Nov. 1–Dec 15.

Place an order online at www.cardraising.com for your custom Greeting Cards from Nov. 1 until Dec. 15 and 30% of the order's proceeds will be donated back to the RPO. Select "Runnels RPO" from the menu and place your order for a holiday, invitation, or announcement card.



Class Officers Elected

Several classes have announced the election of officers for the 2012-13 school year. Congratulations to: *Grade 8* - Kristina Khalid-Abasi, president; Regan Dean and Dean Campbell, co-vice presidents; Micah Danos, secretary; and Emily Britt, treasurer; *Grade 9* - Kim Lam, president; Rebekah Burns, vice president; Robbye March, secretary; and Waleed Shammout, treasurer; *Grade 10* - Olivia Arboneaux, president; Taz Shah, vice president; Kara Peneguy, secretary; and Katie Pousson, treasurer; *Grade 11* - Carson Szot and Caroline Bonaventure, co-presidents; Alexandra Hedrick and Grey Carruth, co-vice presidents; Jordan Tiras, secretary; Erin Dean, treasurer; and Rahliat Ani-

mashaun, sergeant-at-arms.

Their sponsors are: M.C. Stewart, 8th grade, Johnice Thoms and Rhonda Tucker, 9th grade; Vicki LeBleu, Lisa Haller, and Christine Pousson, 10th grade; Trina Carruth, 11th grade; and Kristen Manning and Yvette Wiltgen, 12th grade.

"Popsicle Friday" Profits To Aid Animal Rescue



Sixth grade president Micah Roper' (middle) and vice president Anna Claire Pousson present the proceeds from the 6th grade's September "Popsicle Friday" to Elementary Librarian Joni Orgeron for Friends of the Animals.

"Popsicle Fridays" are back! Sponsored by the 6th grade class, these special culinary events for upper elementary students will occur during lunch recess on the last Friday of most months. Proceeds will benefit Friends of the Animals (FOTA) in association with the Elementary Library's "Year of the Animal."

After September's "Popsicle Friday," the 6th grade was able to donate \$36.85 to FOTA. Mark your calendar so you won't miss a single "Popsicle Friday": Nov. 30, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, Mar. 22, and April 26. Popsicles cost 25 cents.

Submit your Design for our "Grease" T-Shirt

The high school drama department is now accepting T-Shirt design submissions for *Grease*, our winter musical. (Think: high school in the 1950s, Greasers, T-Birds, Pink Ladies, "Greased Lightning [a super-duper hot rod]," etc.) There will be one contest for elementary students and another for Jr./Sr. High.

Designs should be for a colored T-shirt with up to three colors for the design printed on the shirt. (See Miss Ann or any

of the art teachers for specifics.)

The deadline for entries is Nov. 19. The grand prize winner will have his or her design on the T-shirt, which will be sold at performances. Jr./Sr. drama department head and *Grease* director Ann Dalrymple wants to remind students that this accomplishment "looks great on college applications." Each winner will receive a free T-shirt and two free tickets to *Grease*.

Show dates are Feb. 22 and 23 at 7 pm and Feb. 24 at 2 pm and Mar. 1 and 2 at 7 pm and Mar. 3 at 2 pm. Tickets are on sale in the High School Office now.

Kindergartners and 6th Graders Team Up

Although the fanfare surrounding this summer's London Games was not in evidence, the excitement of competition was in full force as the 6th graders teamed up with their kindergarten buddies for the 9th annual Metric Olympics Oct. 19.

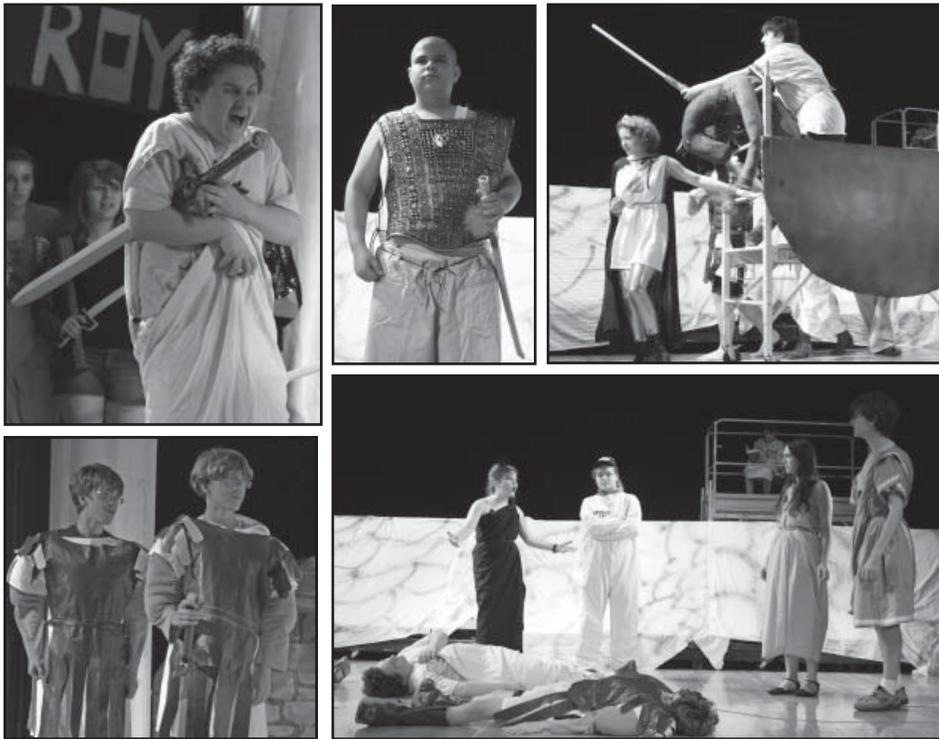
The students rotated among six measuring events: Paper Plate Discus, Paper Straw Javelin, Cotton Ball Shot Put, Right Handed Marble Grab, Left-Handed Sponge Squeeze, and the Big Foot Contest. The kindergartners jumped, tossed, and squeezed while the 6th graders did all of the measuring using scientific tools such as the triple beam balance, meter stick, and graduated cylinders. After measuring, the 6th graders converted their numbers into metric measurements.

"It's a great way to wrap up our studies on the Metric System," said 6th grade science teacher and Metric Olympics founder Julie Fink. She added that the measuring concepts will be used and reinforced throughout the year as the 6th graders tackle other scientific topics.



Cortlyn Taylor (left), 6a, Bailey St. Romaine, K, (center) and Olivia Letelier-Lieteau, 6a, measure the mass of marbles in a container, with a triple-beam balance.

Trojan Triumph ... Congratulations to the junior high and high school cast and crew of *The Hysterical History of Troy*, which ran for two performances in the Runnels Theater Oct. 19 and 21. Directing the show was Jr./Sr. High Drama Department Head Ann Dalrymple.



Clockwise from top left: John Wiese, grade 8, portrays Hector, a prince of Troy. With him are senior Maegan Daquano as Athena and 8th grade Homerette Abigail Matthews. Playing the hero, Ajax, is freshman Brock Dardar. Junior Amelie Kharey as Hera, the queen of the gods, and 8th grader Anthony Nikitopoulos as Agamemnon. Sam Matthews, grade 7, plays Patroclus, and his brother Alex Matthews, also in grade 7, portrays Achilles. From left are Madison Page as Cassandra, Allie Nicholson as Apollo, Emily Mack as Helen of Troy, and Connor Matthews as Paris. On the floor are John Wiese and Sam Matthews, as fallen heroes.

New Officers for Jr./Sr. High Art, Chess and Spanish Clubs

Art Club officers for 2012-13 are: Suzannah Burke, president; Julia McConnell, vice president; Sarah Garrett, secretary; Isaac Phillips, treasurer; and Abi Moussa, mascot.

Officers for the Spanish Club this year will be Josh Manning, president; Erin Dean and Caroline Bonaventure, vice presidents; Quint Forgey, secretary; Samantha Sieberth, treasurer; Leila Shamout, sergeant-at-arms; and Taylor Morris and Taft Faust, mascots.

The Chess Club officers are Avery Enete, president; Jesse Thames, vice president; Mary Katherine Koch, secretary; Heather Edwards, recorder/historian; and Nick deCastro, Joseph Armony, Jordan Morris, and John Wiese, event organizers.

Congratulations to all.



Sr. Beta & Preschool Holding Thanksgiving Food Drives...

As the holiday season gets underway, please show your support for those in need by donating packaged or canned foods to the Sr. Beta Club's Annual Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive and the Preschool's Thanksgiving Food Drive (organized by preschool teacher Michael Bordelon) for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Just place your food items in the donation barrels located in all four school offices by Friday, Nov. 16. The Food Bank is especially in need of peanut butter, canned fruits, canned tuna, pasta, rice, flour, sugar, and oil.

This year's Sr. Beta officers are Taylor Morris, president; Alex Stansbury, vice president; Caroline Bonaventure and Suzannah Burke, secretaries; Vaki Nikitopoulos, treasurer; and Jasmin Pizer and Kat Neidbalski, historians. The club sponsor is Michele Stanfield.



Elementary, and Jr./Sr. High Book Fairs Set for November

Come one, come all to the Elementary Library's 20th annual Scholastic Book Fair, Nov. 7 - 16, in the Drama Room, and the Jr./Sr. High School Library's 2nd annual Scholastic Book Fair in the Andy Mack Library on the same dates. Both book fairs will be jam packed with age appropriate books, gift items, and surprises of all sorts.

The theme this year is "All-Star Book Fair! Every Reader Is a Star!"

Special events at the Elementary Library's Book Fair include "Preview Day" Nov. 8, "Grandparents Day" on Nov. 9 (All grandparents attending receive a free Runnels mug.), "Donuts with Dad" Nov. 13, from 7 - 8 am, and "Muffins with Mom" Nov. 14, also from 7 - 8 am. The Elementary Library's Book Fair closes at 12:30 pm on Friday, Nov. 16.

For those of you who prefer to shop online, you can access Scholastic's Online Bookstore via the Andy Mack Library's microsite at www.runnels.org.



Getting Ready for Raider Rally... Environmental Science Club secretary Heather Edwards, grade 9, (right) teaches club member Alex Haun, grade 10, how to knit a "maiden's veil" scarf as sponsor Meagan Morris supervises another knitter in the background. (The interesting name, according to club president Amelie Kharey, grade 11, comes from the Maiden Veil mushroom, or *Dictyophora Indusiata*, which the yarn is said to resemble.) Members are hard at work knitting scarves to sell, at Raider Rally. The club will also sell herbal tea.

We Sincerely Thank...



During "Red Ribbon Week" 6th grade teacher Rhonda Tucker leads her science students in an activity to help them understand the harmful effects of tobacco use. The students breathed through their mouths through a tiny straw for 30 seconds in an effort to understand how difficult it is for a person with emphysema, a progressive lung disease often caused by smoking tobacco, to draw breath.

Randy Aguillard. In science classes, the 6th graders watched a video about the harmful effects of tobacco use and participated in discussions about the tobacco industry and its efforts to target the younger generation in its advertising campaigns. All students in the elementary grades were given red pencils donated by I CARE to commemorate the week.

...Members of the Jr. Beta Club and co-sponsor M.C. Stewart, mother of Reed, 5a, and Riley, grade 8, for organizing a school supply drive, in connection with other Beta Clubs in Louisiana, on behalf of schools impacted by Hurricane Isaac. The Runnels club was able to donate four plastic containers of school supplies and a check for \$60. The items went to Belle Chasse Middle School, which sustained heavy damage in the hurricane.

... Dr. Timothy Muffitt, Music Director and Conductor of the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra, for visiting our Band Room Oct. 19 to share his expertise with our Advanced Orchestra students in Jennifer and Dan Cassin's strings classes. He guided the young musicians through a rehearsal of "Turkish March" from the Piano Sonata in A Major, K. 331, by Mozart and "Ruslan and Lyudmila" by Mikhail Ivanovich Glinka, which the students will be performing as part of their Winter Concert on stage in the Runnels Theater. Observing the master class were members of the Advanced Band and their Director Jill Swetnam. Our thanks to Dr. Runnels, String Orchestra Director Jennifer Cassin and cello instructor Dan Cassin for helping to arrange the visit.



...The elementary teachers who planned special lessons to help our students observe "Red Ribbon Week," Oct. 22-26, one of the oldest drug prevention campaigns in the nation. In connection with "Red Ribbon Week," the 3rd graders during their P.E. classes and the 4th graders in social studies worked on lessons and activities about "Electing to be Drug Free." Our 5th grade students continued with the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program under the guidance of Officer

...The members our school community who donated blood when the Our Lady of the Lake Bloodmobile made a stop on our campus Oct. 4.

Elementary nurse Natalie McGee reports that Runnels was able to provide 22 units of blood to the Blood Bank. Thanks very much to Ms. McGee, mother of Sean, 1b, Dylan, grade 10, Garrett Deshotels, grade 10, and Jadan Deshotels, grade 11, for communicating with the O.L.O.L. Blood Bank personnel and making the arrangements for this drive.



Assistant Head of School and Pre-school and Elementary Principal Gladys Runnels makes a donation aboard the O.L.O.L. Bloodmobile.

...Blake Stevenson, mother of Paul, 1a, and Cameron, Pre-K, for providing the Runnels faculty and staff courtesy "Teacher Appreciation" reduced price ticket order forms for "Hollydays." The event is a major fund-raising project of the Junior League of Baton Rouge.



...Jackie Worthy (far right), mother of elementary teacher Tana Cramp and grandmother of Louise Cramp, grade 9, for bundling and delivering bedding materials for the Elementary Library's Friends of the Animals (FOTA) drive. The items were donated by



members of the United Methodist Women's group at the Williamsburg United Methodist Church. With Ms. Worthy are devoted FOTA volunteers Ben Golden, 5b, and Jack Kahn, 5a.

...Runnels 2012 alumna Savanna Cox and Majdal Ismail, who attend LSU, for sharing experiments they learned in their honors chemistry class with our 6th grade science classes. They demonstrated experi-

ments involving the four main gasses that make up our atmosphere. At right are Claire Alfonso (left), 6a, and Elise Cox, 6c, helping Savanna (second from right) and Majdal (right) with an experiment that calls for liquid nitrogen. When molecules of a gas are exposed to cold (the liquid nitrogen), they contract and the balloons will shrink.



Runnels Community Scrapbook



1. Our 1st graders lit up the stage of the Little Theater Oct. 10 with their magical production of *The Three Piggy Opera*. Congratulations to the talented cast and directors Kristen Manning and Shara Luman. Gladys Runnels was the piano accompanist for this musical.

2. It was standing room only in the Dance Studio recently when the 4-6 grade ballet students demonstrated steps they have been learning in class for their parents. We thank our little dancers and ballet instructor Mary Camille Maddox.



3. The 3rd graders added a brand new play to our elementary repertoire when they presented *The Court of King Arithmetic* in the Little Theater Oct. 12. Kudos to the talented actors and director Mrs. Manning.



4. It must be fall if the 1st graders are on a field trip to Miss Heather's Pumpkin Patch. Many thanks to the teachers and parent chaperones for assisting with the visit.



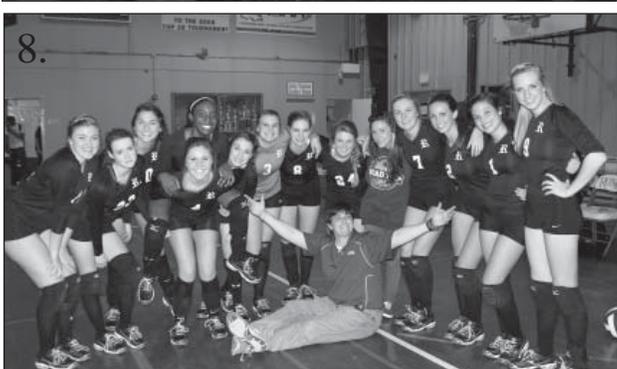
5. Just "For the Fun of It," the members of the Upper Elementary Chorus performed a concert of finger snapping tunes in the Runnels Theater Oct. 10. The 1950s hit "Splish Splash" featured a "chorus line" of dancers (from left, Hannah Page, Kayleigh Nicholson, Kalyee Freiberger, and Alyssa Steverson) appropriately dressed in brightly colored bathrobes. Congratulations to the members of the chorus and director Johnice Thoms.



6. Second graders Quinn Dukarik and Allie Linton work on painting their paper mache masks in Danna Wiese's elementary art class. The students created a wide variety of masks showing influences from diverse cultures.



7. Screening dirt under the direction of a site archeologist (far right) during the 6th grade's all-day excursion to Poverty Point are (from left) Fain Buete, Grace Asevedo, and Caroline Henning. The students enjoyed many hands-on activities, including flint napping and atalatal throwing, while learning about the history of the area and the science of archeology. Our thanks go to elementary teacher Rhonda Tucker for organizing the trip, the parent chaperones, and 6th grade teachers Lisa Haller, Julie Fink, and Colleen LeBlanc for their assistance.



8. Congratulations to the Lady Raider Volleyball Team and Head Coach Jean Martinez for an outstanding season. By besting St. Thomas Aquinas in a match played in our gym Oct. 23, the team became 2A District Champions, a title they will share with U-High. The varsity players include seniors Sydney Bass, Danielle Coniglio, Elizabeth Forgey, Ashley Kumler, Callie Tucker, and Lainey Whitworth, and juniors Katelyn Bryant, Zoe Craig, Rebecca Fennell, Alexandra Hedrick, Kourtney Khalid-Abasi, Amanda Sehring, and Madeline Winnett. The assistant coach is Lana Harris.

Autumn Activities in Focus at Preschool



Dru Hairford, Pre-K, as Rapunzel at the preschool's "Story Book Character Parade" This year the event included book making and a picnic.

Our preschool students have been enjoying a full agenda of fun-filled learning activities this fall.

On Oct. 12, the pre-kindergarten class held its annual "Story Book Character Parade." Dressed as characters from their favorite books, the children held a

parade for an audience of parents, teachers, classmates, and friends and then announced the names of their characters and the titles of their books. Afterward, the students enjoyed creating two of their own little picture books entitled "The Pet I Wish for" and "Pumpkin, Pumpkin What's My Pumpkin" with their families. We thank preschool teachers Millie Johnson, Tara Armstrong, Susan Hedrick, Dianne Daquano, Andi Holliday, Laurin Fairley, and Laura Russell for organizing and assisting with these activities.

At right we offer a glimpse of the many fall activities at the preschool.

1. During Community Helper Week, fire fighters from Engine Company No. 7 visited the preschool. Touring a fire truck with fireman Emmanuel Raby are (from left) 3-year old Coen Holloway, Noel Dixon, Tyler Felton, (in back row) and Alex Guidry, with teacher Christy Lawrence.

2. Three-year-old Eloise Jones pets 21-year-old "Rota," who works with the Baton Rouge Mounted Patrol Unit. The horses and police officers visited the preschool on Oct. 5.

3. Gavin Antoine, Pre-K, tries on a line-man uniform provided by the Demco workers who brought their cherry picker to the preschool for Community Helpers Week.

4. On "Global Hand Washing Day," pre-kindergarten students Annabelle Calcote and Ian Douglas Chapoten fill buckets for a "Hand Washing Race Relay."

5. Emergency Room physician and Runnels dad Dr. Chris Ferguson demonstrates how to put on a cast, with his son, Maddon Ferguson, Pre-K, as the "patient."

6. Runnels dad Chad Roper brought his bobcat to school for the pre-kindergarteners to inspect during Community Helper Week.

7. Pre-kindergarteners Graceyn Nadeau, Liam Oliver, Maeve Dolan, Ryder Wells,



Annabelle Calcote and Ian Douglas Chapoton run a "Baton Relay" at the "Preschool Olympics."

8. Making friends with "Bob," a 17-year-old horse in the Baton Rouge Mounted Patrol Unit, are 3-year-olds Landry Holden, Coen Holloway, and Jackson Linton. Our thanks to the many people who shared their experience and knowledge about Community Helpers with our students.

Kudos To...

❑ Seniors *Haley Evans, Alden Cartwright, and Joshua Morris*, the winners of the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament held in September during lunch recess in the Runnels Gym.

❑ Sophomore *Emily Mack* for her recent acting role as Aerial in Playmakers of Baton Rouge's production of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. Emily, who has been doing community theater since she was 9 years old, said that this is one of her favorite roles. She added that the rights to the show have recently been released and that Playmakers is the first company to put it on stage.

❑ Junior *Mackenzie Byrd*, for helping with the choreography and performing the role of Scuttle, a principle dancer, in the Central Community Theatre's Nov. 9 and 11 productions of *The Little Mermaid*. Mackenzie has been dancing for five years and studying ballet for two. She performed the Scottish sword dance in this summer's production of *Brigadoon* at Runnels.

❑ The *kindergarten students* who picked up the awful mess left in their classroom after the "Teddy Bear Sleepover" Oct. 12. The teddy bears wrote on the boards, had a toilet paper fight, left loud music blaring, and caused general upheaval in the room. Like responsible parents, the kindergarteners explained to the stuffed animals the niceties of slumber party etiquette, emphasizing that you should always clean up your own mess. Who knew teddy bears could be so mischievous?



Kindergartner Lilah Wartelle's stuffed animal had way too much fun with the toilet paper at the "Teddy Bear Sleepover."

❑ *The Lady Raider Volleyball Team and everyone who supported its September 18 game on behalf of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF)*. The event raised more than \$1,000 for the charity. Our thanks to JDRF representative Lois Rector, who attended the game, and the evening's emcee, elementary teacher and volleyball team mom Rhonda Tucker, and everybody who donated door prizes and assisted with the event.



Emily Mack as Aerial in Playmakers' "The Little Mermaid."

"Raider Star" Start Up

The Jr. High Cheer Squad entertained the crowds and assisted on stage at the first "Raider Star Drawings" of the year held in the Drama Room Oct. 19. The "Raider Star Drawings" are part of our grades 1-6 "Raider Star" program, which recognizes and rewards acts of generosity, kindness, courtesy, and other positive behaviors we encourage in our school community. Our thanks to cheerleading sponsor and coach Holly Wilder, "Raider Star" emcee John Baird, program coordinator Elementary Assistant Principal and Guidance Counselor Marcia Mackay, and her production assistants Lisa Harris and Kristen Manning.



Ashley Belcher, 3a, and Jr. High Cheerleader Kristen Haller, grade 8 getting ready for a game at the afternoon "Raider Star Drawing."

2012-2013 Runnels Yearbook Order Form

It's time to place your order for the 2012-2013 Runnels Yearbook. Order early and receive a discount. For the biggest discount, order by Friday, Nov. 16, when the cost is \$55.00. From Monday, Nov. 19, through Friday, Jan. 25, the price is \$60.00. Thereafter, the cost of the yearbook is \$65.00. The last date to order is Tuesday, April 30. Below, please list the name and current grade/section of each student to receive a yearbook. Include your check, payable to Runnels School. Add \$8.00 and print the mailing address if books are to be sent to you. Turn in your order at any school office.

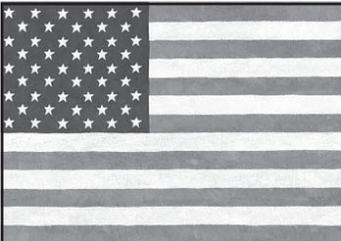
Student name _____ Grade/Section _____

Student name _____ Grade/Section _____

Mailing address (if books are to be sent) _____

Total amount enclosed _____ Date order received _____

Check number _____



HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

Veterans Day Observances: Friday, Nov. 9

On Friday, Nov. 9, Runnels School will follow its tradition of honoring veterans with two special ceremonies in the Runnels Theater. All elementary students will attend a Musical Tribute to Veterans at 9 am featuring the 6th- and 7th-Grade Bands, the Upper Elementary Chorus, and the Elementary Harp Choir. All members of your family, especially veterans or those currently serving in the military, are cordially invited to attend. Veterans and those in uniform will receive special recognition during the program. Please call the elementary school office at 751-5712 or 751-5748 by Monday, Nov. 5, to reserve seats for veterans planning to attend. Although veterans will be seated, due to the number of students attending the assemblies, general seating will be limited.

Junior and senior high students will observe Veterans Day with a patriotic assembly at 12:45 pm. Performing will be the 8th-12th Grade Band, the Jr./Sr. High Chorus, and the Advanced Harp Choir. Your family is invited to attend this program also, with veterans or those currently in the military as our honored guests. Veterans will receive special recognition during the program.