

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN

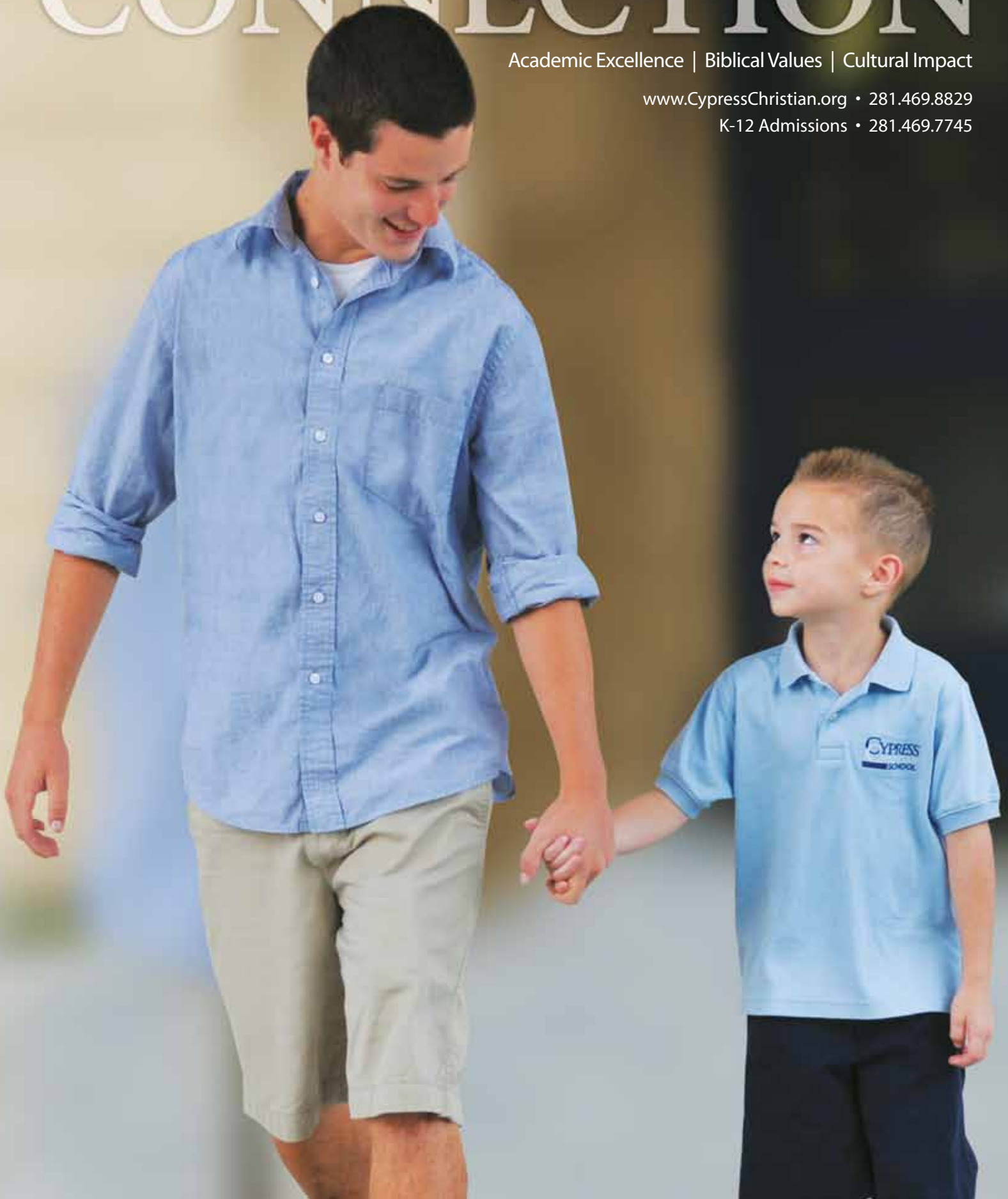
ISSUE 17 / 2011-2012

CONNECTION

Academic Excellence | Biblical Values | Cultural Impact

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G. Michael Photography, Jack Potts Photography

Paving The WAY



Vaison-la-Romaine Bridge in France

Bridges built centuries ago by the ancient Romans are still found throughout Europe today. The Vaison-la-Romaine Bridge in France, the Alcántara Bridge in Spain, and the Römerbrücke Bridge in Trier, Germany, are among the many wonderful examples of Roman architecture and engineering that can be studied today. In fact, many of the ancient bridges are still used for vehicular and foot traffic now, in modern times.

BY MR. STEPHEN NOVOTNY, HEAD OF SCHOOL



Remembering the words
the Lord Jesus himself
said: "It is more blessed
to give than to receive."
Acts 20:35 (NIV)

Those men who built these structures, in a time when chariots were the most advanced and fastest means of transportation, could not have imagined a VW Bug or a Mercedes sedan motoring across their bridge of stone. Even so, I cannot help but think that many of these builders knew that they were building something of great usefulness for years to follow. They knew that their work would outlast their natural life. They knew that they were laboring for something far greater than merely the means to serve their own immediate interests and needs. Indeed, by the quality of work that has stood the test of time, they had to have known they were paving the way for generations to come.

Today, when I see children playing on the elementary playground, students receiving instruction in a classroom, and young athletes competing on our track and field, I am reminded that all of these wonderful facilities were built by those who have come before. Indeed, those of us at Cypress Christian School today are the happy beneficiaries of the work, investment, and sacrifice of families that came before us. For over three decades, people with great vision and generous hearts built the Cypress Christian School campus into what it is today. By doing so, they literally paved the way for others to benefit from a comprehensive academic program, and a full range of competitive sports, in a school environment centered on biblical values. Those of us who are on campus today deeply appreciate those who came before us and built this school.

While it is a wonderful thing to receive and enjoy a gift, to walk upon a path paved by others who came before, Jesus affirmed the truth that there is something even better. Greater blessings are reserved for those who are able to give a gift and provide for the benefit of others. (See Acts 20:35) In life, all of us will have opportunities to invest in others, in the future, and in things that serve a purpose far greater than meeting our own immediate needs. Such opportunities will be different for each person, just as each person has been given different talents, and might take the form of investing one's time, financial resources, professional work, or personal efforts. (See Matt. 25:14-30) Accordingly, it is quite a foolish thing, if not altogether a wicked thing, to presumptively tell another person what we think they should give, overly influence how they invest their life, or even wonder what God might direct for the stewardship of their life. (See John 21:22) Just as each stone set in a bridge works to support the entire structure that benefits generations of travelers, it is encouraging to know that the smallest gift or investment that we give to help others can be used to pave the way for countless others that come after us.



Paving **The WAY**

2011 ANNUAL BANQUET

PAVING THE WAY WAS THE THEME FOR THE 2011 ANNUAL BANQUET. It was a tremendous celebration of the work God has been doing at CCS and an inspiration to support the work that is ahead. Thirty-four years ago, a group of Christian men and women paved the way for us today by starting a small school with just a few students. Today, that school has increased to serve hundreds of students and is still thriving and growing.



**Ryan Moon,
Class of '07**

Banquet speaker Ryan Moon is a senior at Texas

A&M University majoring in Computer Science. He spent this past summer interning with Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Colorado, where he worked on the flight software for WorldView-3, an imaging satellite. WorldView-3 will become the fourth satellite in use by DigitalGlobe, a primary supplier of images for Google Earth. *Special note:* Ryan told guests he would soon present one of his projects to a team at Nasa Space Center.



Dr. John Bisagno & Stephen Novotny



"What a wonderful evening we all had at this year's Annual Banquet. Everyone that came really enjoyed listening to some great musical selections from our choirs, laughing with Dennis Lee, hearing from alumnus Ryan Moon, and being inspired by Dr. John Bisagno's keynote address. The generosity of those giving toward the Annual Fund at the banquet was very strong. In fact, the school now anticipates being able to move forward earlier than normal this year on infrastructure improvement projects that allow us to grow in our capacity to serve children. In short, we thank God for a wonderful banquet this fall."

Stephen Novotny
Head of School

"Thank you to so many of you that gave and continue to give to pave the way for Cypress Christian School to provide students an education of academic excellence and biblical values so that they can impact their culture for Christ. We are rapidly closing in on this year's Annual Fund goal of \$200,000. If you have not yet had the opportunity to be part of this great story, there is still time. As we continue to grow in our capacity and ability to serve students, there will always be needs and ways that you can help. You can give online or learn more about Cypress Christian by attending a Warrior Welcome, an inspiring one hour tour of the mission of Cypress Christian School."

"Thanks to our Banquet Underwriter and Banquet Sponsors!"

Jacob Spenn
Director of Institutional Advancement

To learn more:
www.CypressChristian.org/Support

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Dr. John Bisagno
and Rachael
Lechman,
Class of '99

In April 1989, Rachael Lechman, CCS Alumnus, Class of '99, and current CCS Middle School Teacher, heard Brother John Bisagno who was then pastor of Houston's First Baptist Church, speak in his trademark booming voice. For the first time, she heard about salvation and accepted Christ into her life. Because of Brother John's faithful evangelist heart, today she is teaching middle school girls about Jesus!

Cypress Christian School 2012 – 2013 Admissions Events

5th Grade Coffee & Conversation for Future 6th Grade Parents & Students

Monday : Future sixth grade parents and students are invited to meet with the
January 9, 2012 : Admissions Director, Middle School Principal, Athletic Director, and Dean
7:00-8:30 p.m. : of Students to hear about the academic and co-curricular opportunities
: for sixth grade students at CCS. Parents and students will be given the
: opportunity to tour the sixth grade classrooms.



Kindergarten Preview

Tuesday : Prospective parents will be given important kindergarten information and
January 24, 2012 : hear testimonies from teachers, administrators, students, and parents about
7:00-8:30 p.m. : the CCS kindergarten program.
: ***Kindergarten parents may begin submitting applications on this date.**



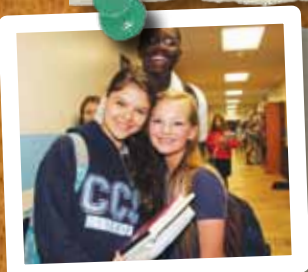
Prospective K-12 Family Night Open House

Thursday : Prospective K-12 families will be given the opportunity to visit our
February 16, 2012 : campus and gather information. The evening will include private
7:00-8:30 p.m. : tours of the campus and a general assembly in the gym.
: ***New student applications will be accepted on this date.**



K-12 Parent Open House

Thursday : Parents considering enrolling their child for the 2012-2013 school
March 22, 2012 : year will have the opportunity to visit classes and gather information.
9-11 a.m. :



Student Visitor Days

Tuesday : Students considering attending CCS for the 2012-2013 school year may
Feb. 28, 2012 : attend all or part of the day with us. Parents must sign their child in for
9 a.m.-2 p.m. : the day. Kindergarten and first grade parents and students are invited
: to visit a classroom for 30 minutes each day.
Tuesday :
April 24, 2012 :
9 a.m.-2 p.m. :



K-12 Spring Preview

Tuesday : Prospective families will be given the opportunity to visit our campus
April 17, 2012 : and gather information about the school. The evening will include
7:00-8:30 p.m. : private tours of the campus and a general assembly in the gym.
:



Admissions Contact and Tour Information

Admissions Director Mrs. Angie Ramirez – 281-469-7745 or Admissions@CypressChristian.org
or click on Admissions tab from the homepage of our website: www.CypressChristian.org

Admissions



Ambassador Council Supports Admissions Office

Ambassador Council members are nominated by teachers and selected by the Admissions Office. This year, there were 140 nominations and 125 applications submitted. 60 students were selected from grades 5-12. The Ambassador Council provides leadership opportunities for students. They support the Admissions Office through serving at various events including Open Houses and Visitor Days as well as performing administrative duties for the Admissions Director. Leadership workshops are held throughout the school year and over the summer. "Our focus is on the greatest servant leader of all time, Jesus Christ, and I am very excited to work alongside these students and mentor their leadership abilities," commented Admissions Director Angie Ramirez.

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."

— 1 Timothy 4:12

Admissions Contact and Tour Information

Admissions Office

Please contact Mrs. Angie Ramirez, Admissions Director, at 281-469-7745 or Admissions@CypressChristian.org.

Online

Please click on the Admissions tab from the homepage of our website: www.CypressChristian.org.

Campus Tours

Please contact us to schedule a tour of our K-12 campus in addition to viewing campus photos via the homepage of our website: CypressChristian.org.

New Applications and Re-enrollment for 2012-2013

New CCS Families

- Kindergarten applications for 2012-2013 will be accepted beginning January 24, 2012.
- 1st-12th grade applications from new families may be submitted to the Admissions Director beginning Thursday, February 16, 2012.

Current CCS Families

- Re-enroll early! Save money! Secure your child's spot at CCS for the 2012-2013 school year. From February 1, 2012, to February 15, 2012, current CCS families may re-enroll students before new student applications are accepted. Re-enrollment will once again be accepted online during this special discounted period and throughout the re-enrollment season.

Special note:

No tuition is due in February.

- Admissions for Siblings New to CCS: CCS families can take advantage of the opportunity to submit an application for an additional child to be admitted to CCS during the special two week re-enrollment period.



Each year, our Annual Fund is used to offset tuition dollars and make improvements throughout the school. This past year, we used a portion of our Annual Fund dollars to begin the process of looking at the long term plan for Cypress Christian School. Our Christ-centered K-12 community is what makes us special, and we do not want to lose that; but we do want to be prepared for the growth that God may supply. A portion of this year's Annual Fund dollars will be used to continue our master planning efforts and prepare for the next steps in that process. We are very close to reaching our \$200,000 goal for the 2011-2012 school year and so thankful for God's continuous blessing.

Current Annual Fund Projects

- Installing a new lighted sign on Jones Road
- Updating the Multi-Use Facility Sound System for chapels and other CCS activities
- Improving outdoor and security lighting for the Warrior Way parking area
- Upgrading the fencing and gating for the athletic fields
- Commissioning master planning for future physical plant expansion needs
- Constructing covered area for elementary recess and after school athletic use
- Providing finances needed for benevolence assistance programs
- Raising funds for professional development opportunities for teachers



For more information, please visit: www.CypressChristian.org/Support/Annual-Fund.cfm.

Past Annual Fund Donations Provided

- Academic Program Advancements
- Computer/Technology Upgrades
- Faculty and Staff Professional Development
- Facility and Building Improvements
- Campus Security Enhancements
- Benevolence Fund and Tuition Assistance



Amazing things happen every day at Cypress Christian. You can experience a snap shot of all that is happening by attending a Warrior Welcome. Twice a month, we take individuals on an inspiring one hour tour of the mission of Cypress Christian School. Whether you have been involved with CCS for years or just heard about us, you will want to attend a Warrior Welcome. In just one hour, you will be encouraged and blessed through the stories of changed lives that are just a small sample of what happens every day at Cypress Christian. The only thing we will ask in return is your valuable feedback, and that you consider inviting others to attend.

To learn more and sign up for the next tour, please visit: www.CypressChristian.org/Support/Warrior-Welcome.cfm.



Academic Excellence • Biblical Values • Cultural Impact

God has done a great work and we have received so much confirmation that our four children are exactly where God wants them to be! Each one was warmly welcomed by students and teachers as a "new kid" and they quickly felt accepted, loved, and part of the CCS community. Each one has already made good friends, too. Our four students have a deep respect for their teachers and are challenged academically and spiritually. We are so pleased with their work, the great communication between school and home, and the excellence these fine educators bring to the classroom!

We have seen the mission statement of CCS come to life and that is a sincere encouragement to our children and to us as we partner with CCS in the education and nurture of our children. What a delight to be a part of this faith community where Christ truly is the center of everything! We are blessed. Thank you to all the CCS faculty and staff for honoring Christ and serving families with excellence — for raising the next generation to be Christ-exalting thinkers committed to cultural impact!

I cannot put into words how much we love CCS! When your child comes home daily quoting scripture, opens doors for people, reminds us that it's time to pray, mimics her teacher (in a good way), and can't wait for the next morning so she can go back to school, you know you've found your home!

Today, the best thing happened. Our daughter prayed at dinner and it was her own prayer. It was an obvious transition from singing a prayer to praying for what her heart led her to pray about. I almost cried it was so beautiful and authentic. And, I know that it was a direct result from what she's learning at CCS. We continue to be BIG fans of CCS!

Our son has adjusted well to CCS. He loves his school, his teacher, and his classmates. We are very pleased with the program and Christian environment. We see evidence every week of how much he is growing academically and spiritually. The change from public school to CCS has helped him in so many ways. He has a renewed desire for learning and is becoming a great reader. He has more self-confidence, and takes more pride in his work along with getting assignments/homework done and in on time. We're very pleased and look forward to a great future with CCS.

I searched out for a great school that I could have peace knowing that my son would be in good hands during the day. I have truly been blessed with every aspect of Cypress Christian School.

Our daughter loves school. She has learned so much academically and spiritually, and absolutely adores her teacher. She says how sweet and kind she is and comments about how much she misses her teacher every weekend. I truly believe God sent her straight from Heaven. I can't imagine our daughter being anywhere else.

Everything is going great! Lots of work, much harder than public school, but nothing our daughter can't handle. The teachers are so wonderful and have shown that they really care.

Our son is so HAPPY at CCS. He wants to go to school, hang out with his friends, and work in his classes. The Honors Spanish and AP English classes are a bit challenging, but he really likes them.

It has been a great experience! Our son loves the environment and is being challenged academically for the first time.

My son is loving CCS! He is so excited to go to school every day and learn. I do believe this was the school that God wanted him to attend.

Homecoming 2011





Homecoming week was an exciting week filled with great costumes, lots of school spirit, alumni visits, a newly crowned king and queen, and a Warrior victory! For more photos of homecoming week festivities, see the Homecoming 2011 photo gallery on the school website.

cypresschristian.org

"...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable ...dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8

T H E

Path

Mr. Robert White
Elementary School Principal



O F L I F E

By Mr. Robert White

IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST LIES MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK. WITHIN THIS NATIONAL PARK, VISITORS ENJOY SOME OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SCENERY IN THE WORLD! The park is filled with spectacular waterfalls, old growth fir trees, and vistas that allow one to see for miles. I grew up in the Pacific Northwest, and I have hiked and backpacked for miles on its beautiful trails. A particular favorite of mine is the Wonderland Trail which allows the hiker to completely circle the mountain. When the hiker stays on the trail he arrives at beautiful destinations. However, if he wanders from the trail, he can quickly get into much trouble. There are thousands of hikers like me that appreciate those great explorers who, in years past, fought the elements in order to carve the path, allowing us to enjoy the treasures of that paradise.

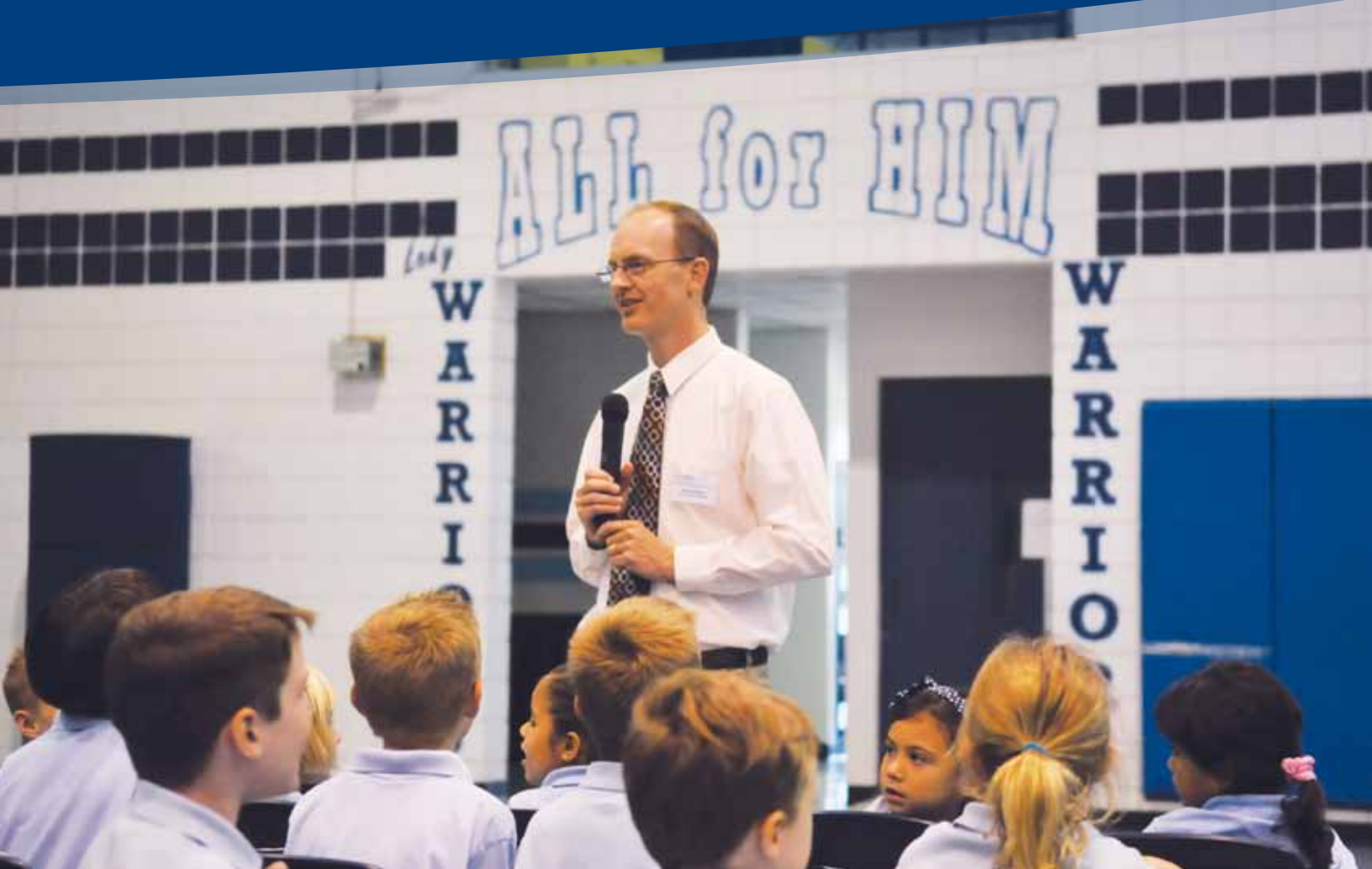
As we consider education, we realize that elementary children are at a crucial stage of development in their lives. They are in need of direction as they begin their walk down the path of life. A series of steps down the wrong path can lead to severe consequences. We want to provide a clear path to help ensure their success during their formative years.

Young people today are bombarded with a myriad of messages urging them to travel down a destructive path. Jesus said that "broad is the way that leads to destruction." We note that the road most traveled is not necessarily the one that is most beneficial. The young person who attempts to navigate his way through life depending solely upon his own intellect apart from God's truth will find himself on a path filled with harmful stinging nettles.

Thank God He has given us hope that leads to eternal life! Because the human race is born with a nature that is fallen and corrupted by sin, it is imperative that we receive a new nature transformed by our Creator. At Cypress Christian School, we pave the way for our students to begin their journey on the path of eternal life by presenting to them the wonderful message of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is a delight to hear our teachers in elementary school introducing the students to the path of Christianity, paving the way for a lifelong relationship with God! Statistics demonstrate that a large percentage of those who embrace Christianity do so by their teenage years, and we realize our students' hearts are extremely receptive to the truth of God during elementary school.

Not only do we present our students with the path of salvation, but we also pave the way for them to walk in the way of righteousness. God's Word challenges us to "train up a child in the way that he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Therefore, we instruct students in the way that is good and right in the sight of God. While this path is not necessarily the easiest or most popular, it leads to true joy and happiness. Jesus has promised to His children the abundant life. I am forever grateful to my parents and others who, during my childhood years, introduced me to the Christian way of living. I have avoided a great deal of heartache and trouble due to those who diligently blazed a trail for me to walk in the ways of God.

It is in this great work that we are engaged on a daily basis. I was so blessed by a recent chapel speaker who challenged our students to view themselves as specially designed by God, and for the students to understand that each gift and talent should be used for His glory both now and for the rest of their lives. Our elementary hallways were



filled with student work displaying heartfelt prayers to our God. We teach our students that it is imperative to turn to God on a daily basis for wisdom and direction.

It is interesting to note that the movement that we call Christianity was first called "the Way" in the book of Acts. I believe this was the first name given to Christianity because it was evident to all those observing them that Christians lived in a manner that was distinctive, and they were following a path, a road, that was guided by God's Word.

Thank you for joining us in paving the way for our young people. There is great satisfaction in knowing our efforts are counting for eternity. Your prayer and support allows us to make an impact not only in the lives of our current CCS students, but also upon the lives of CCS students for years to come.

Our elementary hallways were filled with student work displaying heartfelt prayers to our God!



Elementary News



LIBRARY NEWS

Elementary students are enjoying reading and using the elementary library resources. This fall, students read books and added the title to the autumn reading tree. Students in kindergarten through second grades worked on their reading incentive pages, while third graders geared up for a Lewis and Clark Reading Expedition. Fourth and fifth graders are reading and taking AR (Accelerated Reader) tests as well as reading books from the Crown Reading Award lists. Special visits by authors and talented parents are on the schedule of special library events throughout the school year.



Did you know?

- Parents may visit the library at any time and check out books.
- Librarian Jeanine Carthey is a member of the Houston Area Independent School Librarians Network. Through meeting with other area librarians, she is able to bring new ideas to her students at CCS. The HAISLN also has a recommended reading list which can be found at www.haisln.org.
- Our school subscribes to an internet research data base called Gale Infotrac. Students and parents may use this site from their home computers. www.galeinfotrac.com. Please email Mrs. Carthey at Jeanine.Carthey@CypressChristian.org for our school's password.
- We welcome parents to bring their talents to our library students. In previous years, we have had visits from nurses, opera singers, storytellers, and guitar players. Please share your gifts and talents with us by contacting Mrs. Carthey. The library is a place for books and much more!
- Birthday Book Program: Parents and students may stop by the library to select a book from the Birthday Book shelf. For a donation of \$10.00 the child's name and birth date will be on a nameplate in the front of the book. This is a special way to support our library. Students enjoy seeing their name in a book – especially years later when they open a book and see that they had donated it to the library.



GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS

of elementary students are invited for enjoyable K-5 activities.

AMERICAN FESTIVAL

CCS welcomed friends and parents to the annual American Festival. This event provided the opportunity for each of our fifth grade students to perform an originally and independently written dramatic monologue based on the life of a Civil War character chosen by the student. Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and many other important personalities were remembered in this festival. Fifth graders have taken this opportunity to learn how in the midst of the sadness and destruction of the Civil War our Lord was working to make America a better and stronger nation. After the students performed, they enjoyed a sweet time of fellowship with the words of Romans 5:3-4 in mind, "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."

SUPER HEROES ON CAMPUS

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Superman! Actually, it's super men and women serving our community and nation who recently visited with Cypress Christian School elementary students. Staff Sergeant Jonathan Bolding, U.S. Army Special Forces, visited the second graders and answered their questions about his job as a communications specialist, about parachuting out of an airplane, and about his deployment experience. A few days later, kindergarten students enjoyed a "show and tell" visit from Houston police officers who brought a police dog, motorcycle, patrol car, horses, and as a very special treat, provided a police helicopter "fly by." It was an exciting week on the CCS campus as students learned more about those who serve us so faithfully and met some of the "super heroes" that they pray for throughout the year.





MUSIC

Elementary music students have been blessed with new curriculum this year which features new music, activities, and enhancements to teach the basic elements of music. Kindergarten through third grade are working on steady beat, pitch, dynamics, and reading the music staff. Fourth and fifth graders have been working on their Christmas musical entitled *The Christmas Family Tree*, which highlights some of the biblical characters in Jesus' family tree, and how God used them even though they were not perfect people. The musical will be held on December 13, 2011.

DRAMA

Elementary students enjoyed several fun drama performances during the first semester. Classes were treated to visits from Bible characters as part of the high school drama costumed Bible character monologue project. Second grade students attended the play, *Treasure Island*, performed by the A.D. Players at St Luke's United Methodist. Fourth grade students enjoyed presentations from the middle school drama, *A Funny Thing Happened to Me on My Way through the Bible*, including visits from the zebras from Noah's Ark, the crew building the Tower of Babel, and "Moses."

ART

Kindergarten is learning to draw and color several different animals, using simple shapes to complete a mixed

media piece showing Noah's Ark and using those animals to fill it. First grade is working on a watercolor and crayon landscape. The landscape will contain a pasture, trees and horses. Through this, the student is being introduced to depth and shading. Second grade is working on a landscape with a sunrise and with simple 3-D buildings to continue the study of how to achieve depth in artwork. Third through fifth grades are working on their Houston Livestock and Rodeo Art Show project using photographs for reference and using grids for their preliminary drawing. Some of the pieces produced by the students, not chosen for the rodeo competition, may be entered in the ACSI Art Festival. Pieces from kindergarten, first, and second grades will also be considered for the ACSI Art Festival.

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Elementary students at Cypress Christian School once again chose to share the "good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10) with children around the world through the Operation Christmas Child project sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. This year, millions of children will experience Christmas joy when they receive gift-filled shoe boxes and hear the Gospel message through Christian literature and follow-up discipleship programs. "This is a wonderful way for our students to bless other children with material gifts and a wonderful

SOCCER



The CCS K-6 soccer teams took to the fields this fall to play their hearts out in both victory and defeat! There were 140 Kindergarten – 6th grade students participating in the elementary soccer program through the West Houston Christian Sports Association, a league designed for private/parochial schools. Cypress Christian School had eleven teams with over forty volunteer parents acting as coaches, assistant coaches, and team parents. These volunteers dedicated endless hours of time to inspire, impact, and positively influence our students by mentoring them and building hearts of champions.

Each Saturday, players stood hand-in-hand with their coaches and teammates, along with the opposing teams (coaches and players), with bowed heads asking for God's protection and guidance during the game. The same was true for the end of the games when all came together to praise God for his blessings during their time of fellowship.

way to share the Gospel message with a child in another country," said Elementary Principal Robert White. "Please join us as we pray for the children who will be receiving these gifts and for their families," he added.



Solid Foundations

FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

By Mrs. Iva Nell Rhea



Dr. James Dobson notes three critical tasks that usually take place during the young teen years: the pressure to conform to a larger social group, the struggle to accept or reject instruction and values, and the formation of personal identity.

To grapple with these issues is a God-ordained function of growing up, yet there may be moments of challenge at school and home regarding these elements. In order to successfully take on the demands of adulthood, a student must begin to deal with these important developmental milestones. How can parents and teachers pave the way for



Mrs. Iva Nell Rhea
Middle School Principal



our young adolescents as they struggle with new aspects of life? How can we help them emerge from the turmoil of their youth with a solid faith, meaningful self-awareness, and strong biblical values? I would like to suggest two ways that parents and teachers can provide a solid foundation for the road ahead.

First, we must be men and women of integrity. The dictionary defines integrity as “firm adherence to a code of moral values” and “the quality of being complete or undivided.” It is easy to compromise and cut corners in our personal “closets” where we think no one will ever see; however, our teenagers’ watchful eyes see more than we know or imagine. Sadly many of our children have learned their parents’ generation’s habit of compromise and compartmentalization. Frequently there is no attempt to hide the duplicity. Mark 12:30 tells believers to love the Lord your God with all you are, have, do, and ever will be. That is consistency, wholeness, completeness... integrity. An integrated life is one where words, thoughts, and actions call out in one accord that Jesus is Lord.

Another way that we can pave the way for the next generation is to prepare them for wise decision-making. Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller in their book *Home Improvement* point out that “children outgrow rules, but they don’t outgrow values.” The ability to make good decisions is strongly tied to values. Too often students hear about rules, but don’t understand the biblical principles behind the rules. Proverbs 3:3 instructs:

“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.”

Taking time to talk about the value behind the rule provides children the wisdom they will need when they have the freedom to make their own decisions. It is crucial that our children know “the WHY” behind the rules we have created either at home or in the school environment. Biblical values formed in childhood will guide young adults to wise decision-making. Talking openly about the reasons for the rules takes practice, but it makes an impact that will outlive the rules themselves.

I am honored to work each day with men and women who demonstrate a life of integrity, a life sold-out to the Lordship of Jesus. They reflect their faith as they deal with student discipline, subjects in their classrooms, and relationships with colleagues and parents. They emphasize the WHY as they speak to students about dress code, lunch room behavior, keeping a neat backpack, thoughtless remarks to a classmate, or being a good steward of the talents given from God. The middle school years are a unique challenge, but together we can see an emerging generation of warriors being honed by God.

THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW WAY

By Dr. Glenn Holzman



The roads of ancient Rome were an essential part of the development of the Roman Empire.

The Roman road network, nearly 50,000 miles of paved road, more than today's U.S. interstate highway system, was important both in maintaining the stability of the empire and for its expansion.

The Romans became skilled at constructing roads which they called viae. The viae differed from most other smaller or rougher roads, bridle-paths, drifts, and tracks of the time. New engineering techniques were developed that ensured the roads would need limited maintenance over a long period of time. Many of the roads still exist today. The essential component of the road construction was the paving stones: a course of heavy polygonal or square paving stones called the summa crusta. The careful placing of these stones ensured the stability of the road and its capability to accommodate heavy loads over hundreds of years of use.



Dr. Glenn Holzman
High School Principal



In a sense Cypress Christian School is laying out for its students, in partnership with its parents, a road built with the essential “summa crusta” of academic excellence and biblical values. We are paving the way for a life of godliness and righteousness. Academic excellence lays down the strong foundation of seeing God in all His creation through literature, mathematics, social studies, and science. Unlike government schools or secular private schools that teach for the acquisition of knowledge alone, Cypress Christian teaches for the acquisition of knowledge of who God is, what He has done, and what He will do. It is essentially the same knowledge that government schools teach but considered through the lens of a biblical worldview versus man’s view. This biblical foundation will provide stability to accommodate the “heavy loads” that students will face throughout their lives.

Roman road construction took a directional straightness. Romans preferred to engineer solutions over obstacles rather than circumvent them. In other words, the Romans knew where they were going and took the most direct route there. They did not let anything stand in their way. They did not compromise. As a Christian school, CCS maintains a “directional straightness” as well. We know where we are going and the course that is laid out to get there. It is our “directional straightness,” or steadfast adherence to biblical values, that keeps us on course, battling the influences of secular humanism and the secular culture that is constantly trying to change our course and the course of our students.

It is by laying down this course early for our students, based on academic excellence and biblical values that we hope they will, with biblical wisdom, be prepared to make the right choices when they reach the proverbial “forks in the road” throughout their lives. As it is with everyone, “small” decisions often determine the course of one’s entire life. Most people don’t realize that the outcome of their choices can be very great, but the consequences come all the same. They may not see it that way at the time, but looking back years later, it becomes evident that taking the wrong fork, or the godly fork, in the road has made all the difference.

As the poet Robert Frost said:

*I shall be telling of this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.*

(Robert Frost, “The Road Not Taken,” in
Robert Frost’s Poems, New York:
Washington Square Press, 1971, p. 223)

In this day and age, it certainly appears that the Christian road of righteousness is the road less traveled. It is not a viae, or path, easily chosen or easily traveled, especially by our students, with all the opposing messages they get from the worldly culture surrounding them. Even so, it is our hope and mission at CCS, in partnership with its parents, to pave a way for our students, who with the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ, choose with courage and wisdom the life of righteousness described in Proverbs 4: (NASB)

12 *When you walk, your steps
will not be impeded;
And if you run, you will
not stumble.*

25 *Let your eyes look directly ahead
And let your gaze be fixed straight
in front of you.*

26 *Watch the path of your feet
And all your ways will
be established.*

Secondary News



COMPUTER SCIENCE COMPETITION

Saturday October 8, was the beginning of the CCS computer science competition season. CCS sent two teams to the competition – the Novice Division Team (Freshmen Joel Rawson and Todd Akin, Sophomore Mark Slattery) and the Advanced Team (Seniors Andrew Neyland and Evan McClintock). At competitions, the teams begin the day taking a written test, and then spend the next two hours writing Java code. Both teams had a great start to the season and gained valuable knowledge and experience. Mr. Kooiman, computer science teacher, commented, "I anticipate a great showing at future competitions from our CCS programmers."

EDIBLE CELLS

Mrs. Hinn's seventh grade life science classes built Edible Cells! Utilizing a large sugar cookie as the base, pairs of students showed their creativity and knowledge of the parts of a cell by adding items such as frosting, jello, gummie worms, bubble gum, Hershey Kisses, and other confections to make either a plant or animal cell from the cookie. Mrs. Hinn evaluated each cell on the inclusion of the required cell's organelles (the tiny cell parts), the relative placement of the cell parts, their understanding of each organelle's function in the cell, and the creativity shown by the students. Of course, the best part was getting to sample the candy as they worked and then enjoying the finished product!

EIGHTH GRADERS INTRODUCED TO CHEMISTRY LAB

Eighth grade physical science students were introduced to the science lab experience through a lesson entitled "It's Just a Phase." The purpose of the lab was to investigate the solid-liquid phase changes for an "unknown" organic solid. Students measured temperature versus time as the liquefied substance cooled into a solid and then measured again as the solid was reheated into a liquid.

ASL – AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

"Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. If, then, I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and he is a foreigner to me." 1 Corinthians 14:10-11

Language is more than words in ASL. ASL uses every part of the body and mind to communicate emotions and feelings. It is not heard, it is seen. At Cypress, ASL students are learning to see the world through deaf eyes. Our role as Christians is to spread the Word to everyone, which includes the deaf world. We are to reach the unreached nations, and according to the International Mission Board, the deaf communities around the world are some of the most unreached.

As ASL students strive to learn this new language, so also will they encounter a new way of looking at life. As Christians, this class is designed to help them understand, love, and communicate with people more effectively. Most importantly, their ultimate goal is to gain another tool to reach people with the message of Jesus Christ.

LADYBUGS

Ladybugs is a CCS organization that was started to encourage senior girls to disciple and mentor high school girls in lower grades – based on Titus 2 where the older is to encourage the younger. Each senior enjoys Christian fellowship during the year with an assigned underclass girl – spending time with her, writing her notes, providing treats, and praying for her. Every girl in high school may join the organization by simply attending events initiated by the group leader. Up-to-date information and upcoming events are posted on the Lady Bugs bulletin board located in the Multi-Use Facility near high school classrooms.

On Monday mornings, senior girls meet before school for prayer and encouragement. They participate in service projects during the year. On Saturday, October 22, the Ladybugs hosted a Dinner and Style Show for all CCS high school girls. As part of their fall service project, girls brought extra clothes to donate to Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM) or the Salvation Army. Also during the fall, the girls worked in the concession stand at a Warrior football game to raise money for those affected by the fires in Texas. Teachers Michele Bennett and Rachael Lechman are the Ladybug sponsors.



COLLEGE CORNER

DUKE UNIVERSITY TALENT QUALIFIERS

Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) recognizes outstanding performance in at least one specified area on standardized test such as the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT), which is administered in the spring at Cypress Christian School. Out of 46 sixth grade students, 20 met the rigorous requirements of the Duke TIP. The following students qualified to participate in this highly-selective seventh grade honors program. We are thrilled by the opportunity that has been presented to these students based on academic ability. Our prayer is that God will be glorified through their endeavors as a Talent Search participant and in the future. Congratulations to: Abby Baldwin, Emily Boyd, Davis Carver, Brent Ciftja, Aaron Clark, Sydney Crofton, Julia Davis, Mira Fereg, Matthew Hawkins, Hannah Hurst, Greyson Landrum, Will LeForce, Caitlyn McCreary, Heather Murrill, Spencer Sager, Chris Shadle, Kailey Shanks, Spencer Shumate, Matthew Whitlock, and Shelby Zerwas.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

The 2011 Induction Ceremony for the Cypress Christian School chapters of the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society was held on Sunday, October 2, 2011. The formal candle-lighting ceremony and induction was followed by a reception for new inductees and their families.

Current NHS officers Allie Aimone (President), Evan McClintock (Vice President), Elena Ray (Secretary), Lizzie Hilton (Treasurer), Nikki Vance (Historian), Lauren Slater (Parliamentarian), and **NHS seniors** John Mock, Kit Rhea, David Hurst, and Barnabus Odeyomi planned and conducted the ceremony.

National Honor Society Inductees for 2011 are: Blessing Ajibero, Matthew Bancroft, Bradley Barrow, Alyssa Beach, Michael Boyd, Daniel Crozier, Kayla Dornbusch, Lauren Echols, Victoria England, Joshua Gamble, Jacob Hicks, Sarah Kooiman, Shannen Longridge, Troy Mason, Robert Miller, Ashley Milstead, Katherine Moore, Andrew Neyland, Stephanie Nguyen, Calvin Novotny, Olivia Roberts, Megan Schubert, Amanda Swanton, Amelia Tidwell, Rachel Vance, Hunter Vick, Travis Wilhite.

National Junior Honor Society Inductees for 2011 are: Hannah Braun, Soibiffa Briggs, Jolie Carr, Elliott Cloninger, Jordon Coates, John Crozier, Jacob Cyr, Amber Dingman, Coltin Everitt, Emily Fredrickson, Nolan Galbreath, Jadon Gaudin, Christopher Geyer, Elizabeth Gwyn, Justin Hicks, Samantha Longridge, Emily Mahan, Kylie Miller, Clayton Novotny, Daniel Overton, Karolina Parodi, Anna Priesmeyer, Alyssa Ramsey, Elyssa Ray, Kallie Rhea, Adam Thompson, Elizabeth Usry, Abigail Wynans.



COLLEGE VISITS. Throughout the year, high school students have the opportunity to visit with admissions counselors from top colleges around the nation. Academic Advisor Shannon Strange keeps students informed about upcoming college fairs to be held in the Houston area and visits by admissions counselors to the CCS campus. For upcoming college events available to CCS high school students, please visit the College Corner of the school website: www.CypressChristian.org/Secondary/College-Fairs-and-Events.cfm

CLASS OF 2012 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS.

Seniors have gotten an early start this year when it comes to receiving acceptance letters from colleges and universities. In addition, as of October 2011, seniors have already been offered over \$220,000 in scholarships. Last year, seniors received \$2 million+ in offers.

SENIORS RECEIVE NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP® RECOGNITION.

The National Merit Scholarship® Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of Cypress Christian students being recognized for their outstanding academic promise.

SENIOR DAVID HURST was recognized as one of the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 57th annual National Merit Scholarship®



Program. David has an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,300 National Merit Scholarships® worth more than \$34 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition.

SENIOR LAUREN SLATER was recognized as a Commended Student. She was among about 34,000 of the approximately 50,000 high scorers



on the PSAT/NMSQT® that received a Letter of Commendation in recognition of her outstanding academic promise. Although Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit® Scholarships, some of these students do become candidates for Special Scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

CCS has a history of producing National Merit® award recipients. For a list of these students, visit the College Corner of the CCS website.

Fine Arts



DRAMA

SIXTH GRADE MUSICAL THEATRE. Mr. Horn and Mrs. Moore will co-teach two sections of this nine week elective during the second semester. Each class will present a musical at the end of each of the two quarters. Watch for dates and details to be announced.

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE DRAMA. Actors presented scenes from *A Funny Thing Happened to Me on My Way through the Bible* to elementary students in our "theater" (the drama room). The audience enjoyed performances from "Moses," the "zebras" from Noah's Ark, and the "crew" building the Tower of Babel. Middle school drama will present their fall production in early December. Additional performances are planned for the spring semester.

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA. Students have been busy entertaining students, families, and friends. In September, Zacchaeus, Goliath, Moses, and other familiar Bible characters were spotted in the elementary school hallways when high school drama students presented Bible Character Monologues to their younger schoolmates. Costumed actors were accompanied by a host, who introduced the character and reinforced the lesson taught, as well as a prayer team, who remained outside the classroom to pray for the actor and for each elementary student hearing the lesson. In October, Warrior fans enjoyed the group's homecoming pep rally skit about a damsel in distress and a brave Warrior who fought off the Eagle enemy! In November, drama students performed the one-act play, *Impromptu*, by Tad Mosel in preparation for the TAPPS Regional One-Act Play Contest.

DRAMA ROOM RENOVATIONS. The stage has been moved and walls have been painted to create a theater setting. Drama staff and students are making plans and raising funds to transform the theater with the addition of trusses to hang lights.

ART

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART. Students are enjoying developing their drawing skills through various projects including activities to practice lines, shapes, and forms with pencil and pastels; and cartooning – creating characters using pencils and markers.

HIGH SCHOOL ART. In an effort to help students become more culturally minded and to help them develop their Christian worldview in the arts, high school art students are engaging in cultural art studies. Areas of emphasis include: 1) Art Nouveau – a term used to describe a decorative style of drawing that flourished throughout most of Europe during the late 1800's. Many Nouveau illustrations developed from flowers and plants became designs for wall paper, fabrics, and textiles. 2) Wycinanki (pronounced vee-chee-non-kee) from Poland – a paper cut design project in which students cut out symmetrical designs from paper to create a decorative composition. This type of folk art was used to decorate their homes, and in some cases, the designs became a seasonal tradition. 3) American Art – students gather pictures of Texas to create compositions unique to the west. Some of these works will be selected to enter the annual Rodeo Art competition held each year in Houston.



GRAPHIC DESIGN. Students are learning how to use Adobe InDesign, a professional design program. In the future, students will learn how to lay out a full page of the Houston Chronicle, make full color brochures, and design a music CD cover.

MUSIC

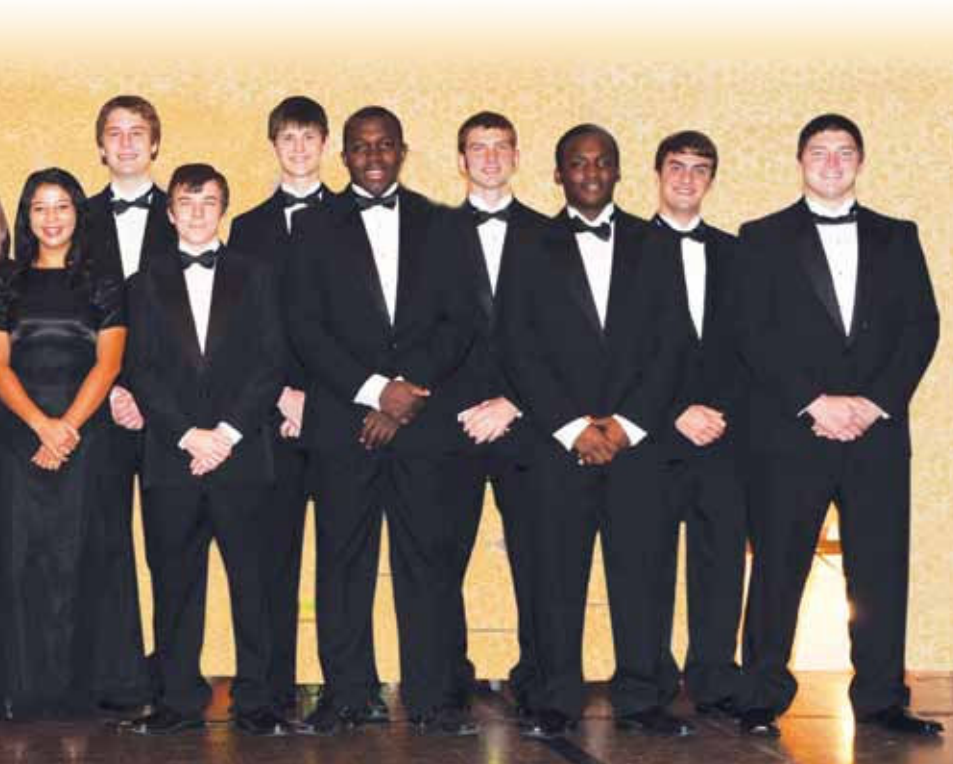
BAND. The Audition Band rehearses daily, and is made up of percussion, brass, woodwind, guitar, and piano. They started the year with scale studies and other exercises to help their general musicianship, and have been rehearsing easy jazz music and marching style music. The group enjoyed playing for Homecoming Festivities.

CHOIR. What an exciting year for choir! CCS's new Choir Director, Mr. Horn, is excited about this year's projects and performances:

- Fall Banquet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Houston
- Veteran's Day Program with Patriotic Hymns and Anthems to salute America's Heroes
- Singing to the residents of Ainsley Courte during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season
- Singing to the staff of St. Luke's Hospital in Vintage Park for the Christmas season
- Two fundraisers – a Bake Sale and Car Wash
- CCS Annual Christmas Concert
- Live Radio Performances
- Spring competitions and performances for families and friends

CCS Choir has a long-standing tradition of competing in the TAPPS (Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools) competition and the Heritage Festival. Now, they are adding TPSMEA (Texas Private School Music Educators Association) to that list with the first contestant. TPSMEA provides exciting choral opportunities for those who compete, including college scholarship opportunities.

Prayers and Support needed: Please pray for successful fundraisers this year, and that choir students use these ventures, not only as an opportunity to raise funds for the choir, but also to minister to the public in their service. They hope to accomplish the following goals this year: 1) Raise \$2,000, which would completely cover the cost for the Heritage Festival in March 2012; 2) Purchase a new computer projector, which would reduce the paper and transparency files as we move our Praise and Worship Music to a more digital format; 3) Purchase additional music for upcoming programs and purchase a proper filing system for our current choral library; 4) Upgrade the sound system in the Multi-Use Facility. Plans are to purchase a better speaker arrangement that supplies enough power to adequately project the sound in the facility, drop-down projector screens and projectors, new microphones for the Praise and Worship Team, and a drum screen to balance the sound during worship. These changes would transform the Multi-Use Facility into a powerful environment for CCS activities.



Athletics



CHEERLEADING WARRIOR MASCOT

We are so blessed to have such a great mascot here at Cypress. David joined our team two years ago and has been a big hit! The question is, "Who is David?" Can you figure it out?!? Check the cheer web page to find out clues throughout the year!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHEER

The middle school squad is having an exciting year. Since UCA cheer camp, these girls have worked hard and the school has taken notice. The cheer program here at Cypress is growing. This year, the middle school girls have gotten elite stunts by perfecting their extensions. These types of stunts usually take the middle school team months to perfect. However, this team has worked so hard that they put up their first extension one month after the beginning of school.

VARSITY CHEER

Homecoming was a hit! The cheerleaders showcased some of their stunting skills at the game and at the pep rally. Squad members stepped up to show how they are striving to be all-around athletes learning every cheer position, even if it is unfamiliar or difficult. This lesson is easily applied to us as Christians as there are times in our walk with Christ that He wants us to serve Him outside of our comfort zone, not to harm us, but to stretch our faith walk with Him. Each week, God is molding and stretching team members to grow them in both skills and attitude. What a great God we cheer for!

VOLLEYBALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle schoolers had another great season as the MS A team took home District Runner-up honors both in the regular season and the District Tournament. The girls played as a unit all season long, came home with tournament trophies in pre-season, and then finished even stronger. The B team did an incredible job of learning the competitive side of the game and polishing their skills as they finished out as a much improved team and ready for next summer.



VOLLEYBALL HIGH SCHOOL

The JV had a young, inexperienced team, but that did not stop them as they learned together and grew in every match. They finished their season with strong victories in several district matches. The Varsity had the tough job of filling four starting positions with new players to the varsity level, and even though that sounds tough, that did not deter them. The Varsity fought through injuries, illness, and inexperience to earn third place honors in district and a place in the post-season. Congratulations to our tremendous Lady Warrior volleyball teams for a job well done. Each week, God is molding and stretching team members to grow them in both skills and attitude.

FOOTBALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

The middle school football team had a great season. It was the biggest team in school history with 39 players including 18 eighth graders. The large numbers allowed us to play a full A and B schedule for the first time. The A team finished the season 6-2 and third in their district. The B team, which is made up of sixth and seventh graders finished the season 4-3, after winning their last two games. Both teams showed tremendous improvement under Head Coach John Warren. On and off the field they closed the gap between their potential and their performance in all walks of life.

FOOTBALL HIGH SCHOOL

The high school football program at Cypress Christian is a different kind of program. It is designed to be a transformational force that God can use to impact players, the school, and our community for eternity. The program is focused on true success which is measured in what kind of men the players become. Winning is a by-product of true success and is worth little, if teammates and coaches are not growing in their relationship with Christ and others. As a result, the team does some crazy things from using water balloon launchers and playing games to putting on football camps during practice for those that may never have the same opportunities. The huddle at the end of the game (everyone is invited to attend) and post-practice talks are more often focused on spiritual issues and not x's and o's. However, the Warriors have also had a lot of on-field success. They won their third straight district title and returned to playoffs for the fourth straight year. For more information about the football program, including photo and video highlights of games, please visit www.CypressChristian.org/Football.





Homecoming 2011

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1. HOMECOMING Graduates enjoyed "coming home" to CCS in October. Each alumnus received gift certificates for free Sonic drinks and several grads won food and coffee gift certificates via the annual Alumni Drawing. Former choir students enjoyed singing the national anthem with the Chamber Choir and gathering on the field for the annual alumni homecoming picture. "We love visiting with our grads. It's great to hear about their college and career adventures, and how God is working in their lives," said Alumni Liaison Lynnette Anderson.

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2. MICHAEL ANDERSON, CLASS OF '04 Michael recently accepted a full-tuition scholarship and research fellowship at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN, to pursue his PhD in Computer Science. Michael's education and research at Vanderbilt is funded in part by the Department of Defense, and (DARPA) Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. **CCS Trivia:** Michael was a student in the first computer programming class at CCS during his eighth grade year.

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3. PAUL HOLZMAN, CLASS OF '04 Paul, a graduate of the University of Arkansas with a degree in Spanish and Latin American Studies, is a high school teacher at the Buenos Aires International Christian Academy teaching social studies and Spanish as a second language. In addition, he is teaching English for E-Living Consultancy and enjoying his role as a worship leader for his church, Iglesia La Misi3n. Photo not available.

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4a. BEAU ADAM, CLASS OF '06 AND (4b) LINDSAY ADAM, CLASS OF '08 Beau graduated from Texas Tech University on August 6, 2011, with a psychology degree. Beau plans to attend graduate school to earn his masters degree in Marriage and Family Therapy. Beau is engaged to Jamie Smith. Their wedding is planned for August 4, 2012. Lindsay is engaged to Ricardo Santos. They met at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor and will be married May 19, 2012. They plan to live in Temple, Texas, while Lindsay finishes her last semester of nursing school to graduate in December 2012.

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5. MICHELLE ANDERSON COWAN, CLASS OF '06 Michelle and husband, Jesse, recently moved to Denver, CO. Michelle, a graduate of UT Arlington with a social work degree, accepted a position as a Case Worker for the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. She also plans to pursue a master's degree in Christian Counseling at Denver Seminary.

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6. DANIEL AMBROSE, CLASS OF '06 Daniel married Lindsay Church in July 2011. They met at Baylor University where Daniel graduated with a Real Estate/Financial Planning degree. Other former CCS students and alumni who participated in the ceremony were **STEVE TCHIENGANG, KYLE AMBROSE, MICHAEL AMBROSE, AMY AMBROSE (CLASS OF '07), MATTHEW SCHROEDER (CLASS OF '07), KARA SCHROEDER (CLASS OF '06), LOUIE LEE (CLASS OF '06), AND MELISSA JURNERY (CLASS OF '07).**

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7. WESLEY BUHLER, CLASS OF '06 Wes earned a bachelor's degree in English at the University of Houston and graduated in 2010 with honors. He is currently employed by the University of Houston as a Writing Program Coordinator. Photo not available.

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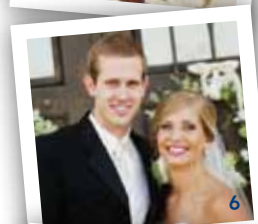
8. RANDY DEPUTY, CLASS OF '06 After graduating from the University of Houston with a Political Science degree earlier this year, Randy moved to Miami, Florida, and is attending the University of Miami School of Law to earn a JD/LLM Law degree. He is a member of the Christian Legal Society. Photo not available.

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9. BECKA JASPER MCCAW, CLASS OF '06 Becka married fellow UT grad, Cody McCaw, in July 2011. Alumni in the wedding party were bridesmaids **RACHEL JASPER HELLER (CLASS OF '02), MEGAN JASPER (CLASS OF '04), AND MICHELLE ANDERSON COWAN (CLASS OF '06),** and worship leader **MICHAEL ANDERSON (CLASS OF '04).** Becka is the Director of Child Nutrition at Royal School District in Pattison, TX.

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10. CCS ALUMNI FAMILY LOSES LOVED ONE Christopher Bhai (shown in photo) was a former CCS student and brother to Alumnus **NICK BHAI (CLASS OF '03).** He went home to be with his Lord and Savior at the age of twenty-five. He lived his life as a servant, bringing laughter and joy to everyone he knew. "Topher" loved to dance and was always there to cheer up anyone that was having a hard time. Even people that only met him once were deeply impacted by his positive personality. He was dearly loved and will be missed. Due to the health issues he had struggled with since 2004, Christopher developed a desire to contribute to the well-being of the world around him. Christopher believed that one's health cannot be separated from the health of the family, the community and the world. Donations can be placed at www.patchadams.org. **From the Bhai Family: "A special thanks for the love, support, and prayers of the Cypress Christian School Family."**



11. ASHLIE PARKER PEREIRAS, CLASS OF '02

Ashlie and husband, Andrew, welcomed daughter Catherine Jyl Pereiras on July 22, 2011.

12. CALEB FLEMING, CLASS OF '03

Caleb and wife, Krystel, are the proud parents of new son Levi Wesley Fleming born on July 12, 2011.

13. KYLE STEWART, CLASS OF '05

Kyle recently married Tabitha Thompson. He received a BS in Applied Mathematics from Baylor University and has been a math teacher at Episcopal High School since August 2010. He is also the defensive coordinator for the freshman football team. Alumni **MATT TURNER (CLASS OF '05)** served as an usher at the couple's wedding.

14. RACHEL WROBLESKE, CLASS OF '08

Rachel spent the summer in Los Angeles working in television development for *A Very Good Production*, which is Ellen DeGeneres' production company. The internship was through the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (producers of the Emmy Awards). Rachel will graduate from Baylor University in May 2012 with a BFA in Theatre Performance. She attends Antioch Community Church in Waco, Texas.

15. GENESIS DEVINE, CLASS OF '08

Genesis graduated from Baylor University in August 2011 earning a B.A. in International Studies, Intensive. During her two years on campus at Baylor, she was part of the International Student Dinner Ministry Leaders, and attended the University Baptist Church of Waco. Her final year at Baylor was spent studying abroad – one semester in Caen, France, one semester in Madrid, Spain (plus visiting all the places in between), and finishing off with a summer archaeological excavation in Israel. She is now the

Technical Producer for the nationally syndicated *The What's Up Radio Program*. Genesis said, "The opportunities and adventures I have experienced these past three years have all been blessings from God. I can't wait to see what is still to come! Sic 'em!"

16. SALLY GRIMES, CLASS OF '08

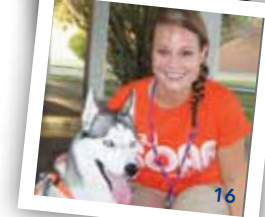
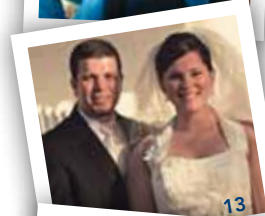
Sally is senior at HBU (Houston Baptist University) studying English and Biblical Languages, and will graduate in May 2012. "I can't believe that I'm a senior! The last three years have been some of the best of my life." After her first year at HBU, she studied Hebrew at Cambridge. Sally has worked for Dunham Bible Museum and is a student blogger for HBU. In addition, she is a member of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, President of Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society; a SOAR leader (freshman orientation and registration group), and a Welcome Days Pack Leader. She says she chose HBU because of "the atmosphere of Christian community; the Biblical Languages program; and the opportunity to be in the first class of the HBU Honors College." Sally's complete profile and blog page are available on the HBU website under the Admissions tab.

17. CHRISTINE GAMBLE, CLASS OF '09

Christie was recently accepted to Pharmacy School at Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy after just two years of studying Pre-Pharmacy at Texas A&M University in College Station. She is scheduled to graduate in 2015. Photo not available.

18. USMAN MOHAMMED, CLASS OF '11

Usman is currently attending Texas Tech University working toward a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He attends First Baptist Church. Photo not available.



Celebrating Homecoming 2011



236 MICHAEL PATTERSON (CLASS OF '99), WIFE, TIFFANY, AND MICHAEL'S CHILDREN, JACOB AND BRITTANY, WHO ATTEND CCS



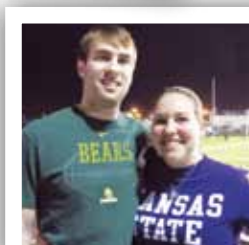
LESLIE FOLLMAR CREATH (CLASS OF '99) AND HUSBAND, MATTHEW



ALYSSA BOYD (CLASS OF '11), KYLE FRANCIS (CLASS OF '11), GARRETT HIGGINBOTHAM (CLASS OF '11) AND KRISTIN FRANCIS (CLASS OF '08)



BROTHERS LUKE JONES (CLASS OF '06) AND NICK HANSON (CLASS OF '11)



SIBLINGS JOSH GRABER (CLASS OF '06) AND MONIKA GRABER (CLASS OF '03)

**SAVE
THE DATE
CYPRESS
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

2011 – 2012

**4th & 5th Grade
Christmas Musical**

- December 13

All School Christmas Program

- December 15

Christmas Break

- December 16 – January 2

**5th Grade Coffee &
Conversation for Future 6th
Grade Students & Parents**

- January 9

Martin Luther King Holiday

- January 16

Junior Parent Meeting

- January 23

Kindergarten Preview

- January 24

**ACSI Convention/Student
Holidays**

- February 2 – 3

**Grandparents' and Special
Friends' Day for Elementary
Students**

- February 8

**Prospective K-12
Family Night
Open House**

- February 16

**Prospective Student
Visitor Day**

- February 28

Run-4-Fun

- March 9

Project Prom

- March 10

Spring Break

- March 12 – 16

Dual Credit Meeting

- March 20

K-12 Parent Open House

- March 22

Achievement Testing

- March 26 – April 2

The Next Step Breakfast

- April 3

Easter Holiday

- April 6

Tribal Competition

- April 13

K-12 Spring Preview

- April 17

**Prospective Student
Visitor Day**

- April 24

**8th Grade
Washington D.C. Trip**

- April 30 – May 4

Welcome to 7th Grade

- May 3

Future Freshman Meeting

- May 7

Senior Trip to Costa Rica

- May 13-19

Kindergarten Graduation

- May 22

**High School
Commencement**

- May 25

**End of 2011-2012
School Year**

- May 25

For more information on these events, please see the calendar
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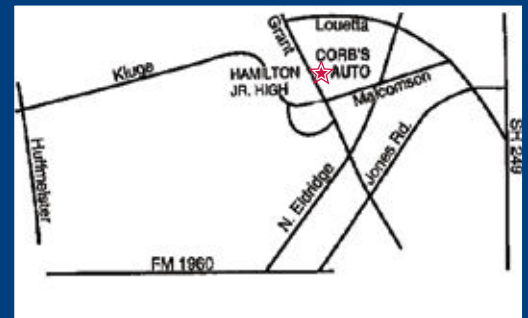
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