Congratulations Class of 2013

As a college preparatory school, equipping young people with the skills to succeed at Stratford, in college and beyond is one of the most important roles we play in the lives of our students. Stratford students are well-trained to move each step of the way from preschoolers learning to read and write to upper school students crafting their own creative college entrance essays. Congratulations to the Class of 2013 for being accepted by more than 60 colleges and universities across the country and for being offered over $3 million in merit scholarships, not including HOPE.

CLASS FACTS
76 students
50% of class has been together for 12 years, 42% of those students were honor graduates
49% of class received approximately $3 million in merit scholarships, not including HOPE
7 students signed letters of intent to play collegiate-level athletics
59% of seniors were enrolled in AP level courses
22 seniors received AP scholar designations after their junior year

CLASS HIGHLIGHTS
Shruti Gupta – Valedictorian, Emory University Liberal Arts Scholarship
Sarah Dennis – Salutatorian, Georgia Tech President’s Scholar
Jordan Gaton – UNC, Chapel Hill Colonel Robinson Scholarship
Andrew Jones – Emory University Woodruff Scholarship, David P. Baker Cup recipient for Top Debate Team in nation, will debate at Emory
National Merit Finalists – Shruti Gupta, Hall Neel
National Merit Commended Scholars – Benjamin Ford, Andrew Jones, John Robert McKemie
Stratford & Bibb County STAR Student-Teacher – Shruti Gupta, Mike Kelley
The Telegraph Golden Eagle Winner in Science – Shruti Gupta
Letter of intent to play softball – Lexi Rouse
Letter of intent to play soccer – Allie Hale, Katie Hale
Letter of intent to play baseball – Trey Burton, Tyler Payne, Austin Simmons
Letter of intent to play golf – Jim Henderson

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES AND ENROLLMENTS

University of Alabama*
Andrew College
Appalachian State University
Armstrong Atlantic State University
Auburn University*
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Berry College*
Binghamton University*
University of Canberra, Australia
Clemson University
College of Charleston*
University of Colorado, Boulder
Davidson College*
Duke University
East Georgia College*
Emory University*
Florida State University
Furman University*
Georgetown University
Georgia College and State University
Georgia Institute of Technology*
Georgia Military College
Georgia Perimeter College*
Georgia Southern University*
University of Georgia*
Gordon College
College of the Holy Cross
James Madison University*
Kennesaw State University
Lincoln Memorial University
Louisiana State University
University of Louisiana, Lafayette*
Macon State College
University of Michigan*
Middlebury College
University of Mississippi*
Michigan State University*
University of North Carolina*
University of North Georgia, Dahlonega
University of North Georgia, Gainesville
Northwestern University
Pepperdine University*
Pratt Institute*
Presbyterian College*
Queens University
Reinhardt University*
Rhodes College*
University of Richmond
University of Mississippi*
Samford University*
Savannah College of Art and Design*
University of the South*
University of South Carolina*
Southern Methodist University*
Texas Christian University
Valdosta State University*
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia
Wake Forest University*
Washington University
Williams College
Young Harris College*

* Student scholarship offers, not including HOPE

STRATFORD ACADEMY
6010 Peake Rd., Macon, GA 31220 • (478) 477-8073 • www.stratford.org
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### On the cover:
In the early 1900s, British mathematician Henry Ernest Dudeney became well-known for creating logical puzzles and mathematical games, including the famous brainteaser called “The Puzzle of Nine Dots,” which involves interconnecting nine dots in a three-by-three grid by using four straight lines drawn without the pencil leaving the paper. In order to be successful, the puzzle solver has to realize that the boundaries of the dot array are psychological and that the only way to solve it is to extend the lines beyond the artificial boundary created by the nine dots.

The expression “out of the box” is derived from this piece of Dudeney’s work and is used to describe non-conformal, creative thinking. The term is used as an adverb to describe the thinking or as an adjective to describe the ideas. In today’s fast-paced world, organizations look for individuals who “think outside the box” and can become visionary leaders and producers.

At Stratford, being able to think critically and non-traditionally is a skill that is learned and honed. This issue of Stratford Magazine is dedicated to those individuals who have dared to think and live “out of the box.”

Source: Margaret Rouse, SearchCIO.com, TechTarget

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### Extra Information:
- **Creative Thinking:** The term is used as an adverb to describe the thinking or as an adjective to describe the ideas. In today’s fast-paced world, organizations look for individuals who “think outside the box” and can become visionary leaders and producers.
- **Special Thanks To:** ASP Franchising Inc., Bubber Adams, Elizabeth Avant, Ross Bridges, Margaret Brogdon, Pat Castle, Kelly Causey, Marsha Creter, Michelle Fleming, John Paul Gaddy, Patsy Hayslip, Karen McCue, Lori Palmer, Martha Eubanks, Jaime Kaplan, Redonda Mann, Steve Moaley, Andrew Myler, John Pitt (Professional Advisory Group), Abby Schmier, Grady Smith, Sue Stephenson, Jennifer Sweat, Terry Sowell, Molly Treadway, Bob Veto
- **Contact Us At:** kathleen.medlin@stratford.org • 478-477-8073 ext. 289 and 6010 Peake Road, Macon, GA 31220
  - www.stratford.org
- **Stratford Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion or national origin in the administration of its educational programs, admissions policies, financial aid policies, employment practices or other school-administered programs.**
- **Stratford Academy uses environmentally responsible paper and inks in the production of Stratford Magazine.**
At a college preparatory school, it is sometimes easy to focus on the major lynchpins of college preparation: academic classes, SAT scores, college admissions, and scholarship opportunities, both academic and athletic.

But at Stratford Academy, we are able to think, and act, “outside the box” as we prepare all of our students, in a wide variety of ways, for all of the challenges connected with college success: not just getting into the college of one’s choice but also staying there, thriving, and excelling. Last school year, our students demonstrated over and over again that they are building this sort of real-world college preparation.

An excellent case in point can be found in the year’s student government groups in upper School, Middle School and Lower School. 2012-2013 was an exceptional year in terms of student leadership and school spirit, and it fills me with optimism that we are going to be sending a number of well-qualified leaders out of our gates and on to college campuses in the years to come.

Our Upper School student group was led by a remarkable young man, Bryan Horn, who stretched the boundaries of what student government can mean to a school in ways that were as exciting as they were unexpected. Bryan was chosen by his peers to lead precisely because of his free-spirited, imaginative personality. However, in my career in education I have often seen this type of student leader come to grief due to lack of organization or lack of follow through. Sometimes a free-spirited, popular president will fall back on his/her cleverness and charm as if that were enough. Bryan Horn and his student leadership team managed to bring to bear creativity and imagination plus hard work, meticulous planning, and cooperative organization. The results were astounding, and gratifying. Every Monday in our Upper School begins with an assembly presided over by the student body President. These have historically always been warm and friendly but routine affairs where a variety of announcements are made and students were sent out to begin the new week. Under Bryan Horn, we never knew what to expect each Monday morning. The assembly might begin with an original five-minute film which parodied some aspect of school life. Or there might be a well-rehearsed skit in which half-dozen student council members promoted some upcoming game, dance or activity. Sometimes Bryan invited audience participation. We were always surprised and amused, and school spirit this year was at an all-time high. And the Upper School student government also accomplished more than ever before, all the while doing so with originality and zest.

This pattern was true in the Middle School as well, where our sixth through eighth graders also managed, although in different ways, to take student government to new heights. This was most keenly felt toward the end of the year, when the group looked for a culminating project. Rather than fall back on predictable precedents such as one additional dance, or a class picnic, or even donating their funds to charity, this group, led by Middle School Council President Crawford Edwards, took on a thoughtful and caring project. They decided to donate a beautiful (and comfortable!) bench in memory of long-time Maintenance Director Jerome Scott, who died two years ago and whose loss is still deeply felt among our students. “Jerome’s bench” sits in a grassy area right outside my office, and the dedication ceremony was a moving event, attended by Middle and Upper School students and members of Jerome Scott’s family.

Finally, not to be outdone, our Fifth Grade Council, which is the student government group in Lower School, also had a great year. They set records with two major community service projects: a coat drive in the winter, and an end-of-year backpack project in which they collected backpacks to be filled with supplies for impoverished children in the Macon/Bibb County area.

I was extremely proud of our student leadership groups last school year, and I’m proud of the faculty members who guide and inspire them. It’s always great to be a Stratford Eagle; never more so than now!

View from Overlook

Out of the Box

Student Leadership at Stratford

(Left) Dr. Bob Veto welcomed special guests at the Ann Martin Bowen Library Wing dedication. (Right) Veto spoke to students prior to the unveiling of the bench in memory of Jerome Scott.
Martha and Bob Veto spent 15 days in Europe during the summer. Included in the trip was an 80-mile hike in Scotland. (Top) Bob sits atop Calton Hill in Edinburgh, Scotland. (bottom left and right) Along “Speyside Way” in Northern Scotland on day one of the hike.
SEVENTY-FIVE STUDENTS received their diplomas and 28 graduated with honors at Stratford Academy’s 2013 graduation exercises which were held on Saturday, May 25, at the Macon City Auditorium. Senior class president Celia Hinson opened the ceremony with the invocation followed by the addresses to the graduates by class-elected speaker Floyd Buford, Salutatorian Sarah Dennis and Valedictorian Shruti Gupta. The Class of 2013 also selected Liz Bevill and Bryan Horn to perform the musical selection “For Good” from the musical Wicked.

Head of School Dr. Robert Veto, along with Chairman of the Board of Trustees Jeff Avant ’84, presented the 2013 graduates with their diplomas. Bryan Horn also led the faculty, students, parents and alumni in the singing of the Alma Mater and Honor Council Chair Jordi Gaton gave the closing benediction. Included in the graduation ceremony was the presentation of the Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Alumni Service Award, both established in 1986.
BEFORE AWARDING graduates their diplomas, Dr. Veto addressed the class one last time:

Class of 2013, you are a remarkably cohesive and caring group, and it has been a pleasure to work with you — a sincere pleasure. And yet I cannot resist this one final opportunity to share with you our most important message — Reverend (C. Welton) Gaddy spoke to this message quite eloquently a week ago at Baccalaureate, when he challenged you to reach outside your comfort zones in terms of recognizing all the differences in the people with whom you interact, and valuing those differences even as you hold fast to your own values, virtues, goals and beliefs. He challenged you to meet your own goals, but also to empathize with others, and to appreciate that they may be coming from a different frame of reference than your own. I’ve always put it more simply, since you first met me in the eighth grade: “Work hard, and be good to each other.”
### Class of 2013 College Choices

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<td>Henry Persons</td>
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### College Acceptances and Enrollments

#### Members of the Class of 2013 were accepted to the following colleges and universities († = multiple students will enroll)

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### Twelve Years Together

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<td>Caitlyn Williams</td>
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* Honor Graduates
Alumni Awards

INCLUDED IN THE GRADUATION ceremony was the presentation of the Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Alumni Service Award, both established in 1986. The Distinguished Alumnus Award for Outstanding Career Achievement has been presented to alumni in the fields of law, medicine, education, business, ministry and the arts, recognizing them for their career achievements — excelling in their chosen fields and making a difference in the world around them. The Alumni Service Award recognizes service to Stratford Academy by its alumni. Volunteer service to the school has always been an important part of our growth and success here at Stratford, and our alumni have always been a critical source of this kind of volunteer service.

Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey B. Henderson ’76
Distinguished Alumnus Award for Outstanding Career Achievement

The 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey Henderson, Stratford Class of 1976. Lt. Col. Henderson has provided superb service to our nation during his thirty year military career as a combat helicopter pilot and a trainer of other pilots. From the start, Jeff exceeded the standard for professional expertise and inspired those around him to do the same. A dynamic leader, he skillfully guided formations to excel in combat operations. A skilled trainer, Jeff flawlessly honed the tactical and technical flight skills of hundreds of Army Aviators. A combat-proven warrior, Lt. Col. Henderson served with distinction in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

After Head of School Dr. Robert Veto read a brief career biography, graduation guests rose for a standing ovation as Lt. Col. Henderson approached the podium to receive his award. He humbly began, “This award means more to me than you will ever know.” Then he jokingly looked to the faculty seating section with the comment, “Griff (Ethridge), I bet you never dreamed I’d be winning an award like this.”

Then Henderson shared a personal story of how his Stratford connections had literally come to his rescue. During one of his tours in Iraq, Jeff was wounded in action when the convoy he was leading was ambushed. Despite having his kneecap shattered by enemy shrapnel and sustaining serious wounds to his neck, he continued to lead the mission and fight off the attack. With life-threatening injuries, Jeffrey was airlifted to Landstuhl, Germany, for care. There he placed a call to the only person he knew he could trust for neurological care, classmate Dr. Trip Smisson ’76. Smisson had all x-rays and reports sent to him and consulted with the Army physicians on the right course of treatment. As Jeff said, “If I am being treated, I want a doctor who knows me and has a dog in the fight.” Even half a world away, Jeff’s Stratford family was caring for him.

Jeff has received numerous awards and medals for his military service, including two Bronze Star Medals, a Combat Action Badge, five Meritorious Award Medals, and the prestigious Order of St. Michael Medal, for contributing significantly to the promotion of Army Aviation over a distinguished career. He retired from the U.S. Army in March and recently took a position as the AAR Airlift Country Director for Afghanistan and will be managing all of AAR’s aviation assets and personnel.

Jeff has been married to his wife, Tavia, for 29 years and they have three grown sons.
Angela Maddox Hicks ’76
Alumni Service Award

For 2013, the Alumni Service Award was presented to a person who epitomizes the term “Eagle Pride.” Angela Maddox Hicks, Stratford Class of 1976, has always seemed to be at everything connected with Stratford.

“She is a person of indefatigable energy, having served at Stratford as team mom for B-team basketball, varsity tennis and varsity volleyball, as a host for a number of alumni reunions and receptions, as a volunteer fundraiser for the Loyalty Fund, as a room mom, a substitute teacher, a field trip driver, a SIP officer, Book Fair treasurer, and a volunteer member of the Long Range Planning Committee for our most recent Strategic Plan,” shared Head of School Dr. Robert Veto as he announced Angela’s award.

As generous as Angela has been with her time and talents at Stratford, she has displayed even more generosity of time, and of spirit, in having kept, over a number of years, 28 infants in foster care in her home between birth and adoption. This is in addition to taking a leadership role with the Medcen Foundation and helping establish a hospice facility in middle Georgia.

The young Angela Maddox came to Stratford as a student in her 10th grade year. She and her brother, Jimmy ’78, commuted daily from Jeffersonville with a nurse who worked the 7 a.m. shift at Coliseum Park Hospital. In the afternoon, they would walk from Coleman Hill to the Greyhound Bus station to ride back to Jeffersonville on the 5:25 p.m. eastbound bus. Although the Maddox children did not know any other students when the first arrived, Angela quickly developed her “Eagle Pride” as a majorette, Beta Club President, Homecoming Queen, and Salutatorian of her class. Following graduation from Stratford, she attended the University of Georgia where she graduated summa cum laude from the Honors Program with a degree in Risk Management. She then earned an MBA from Georgia College.

For 15 years, Angela worked in various sales and management positions with Johnson and Johnson before “retiring” when her twins were born in 1994. When her children entered preschool, she began working part-time for Integrated Medical Systems out of Birmingham, Ala. While employed there, she earned their top sales award, Circle of Excellence, two years in a row, competing with their full-time representatives.

“There is nothing really special or award-worthy in my résumé — it is just the Stratford Spirit, the Stratford Way and Eagle Pride in action as so many parents give so generously of their time and resources,” said Angela humbly. “If there is a story line, it is that my kids and Stratford thought I was a full-time volunteer mom, while my customers thought I was a full-time employee. Balancing both roles with any sense of excellence meant at times I ‘never rested.’”

In 2006, Angela opened Stuff It Macon Mobile Storage. She is married to Ricky Hicks ’73 and her twins, Bailey and Harbor, are two of the school’s most recent graduates.
“Christian Yoga, isn’t that an oxymoron?” some ask. For India Kern, who has been practicing yoga for more than 15 years, creating this non-traditional program became more than just thinking outside the box. Many of her yoga classes incorporated chanting and talk of the universe, which was a little too “out there” for her taste, so she found herself substituting her prayers and beliefs into her yoga practice. India wanted to speak to God, not the “universe.” Along this path, she realized she probably was not the only person who felt this way.

India Lawrence Kern ’90
Founder, FaithfulWarrior.com, A Christian Yoga Program
Stretching Boundaries of Traditional Yoga

What is your educational background?
I graduated from Mercer University with a Bachelor of Liberal Arts in 1994 with a major in art and minor in photography.

What were your interests while you were at Stratford?
At Stratford, I spent many a hot summer day playing basketball and scrimmaging with “the older kids.” I played basketball until I graduated, and also I played softball and ran track. Thanks to my sports career at Stratford, I have a solid athletic background that I still draw from today. When I discovered yoga in 1995, it was just icing on the cake. I could still have my intense workouts and then use yoga to balance me out.

How did your current endeavor evolve?
I also was an art student at Stratford. Dot Brown was a huge influence in my creative career. I went on to study art in college, sculpt marble in Italy, and then had a career in television doing graphic art and video editing. When I look back, it makes perfect sense how the creation of Faithful Warrior evolved. Making yoga videos fulfills my creative side and draws from my background in art and television. The art program at Stratford launched my interest in the creative field.

How can developing an “out of the box” program, like Faithful Warrior, be a growing experience?
Christian yoga was a seed I planted about five years ago. At that time, I was married, and, honestly, I did not have the confidence to start this endeavor. I knew Christian yoga would be highly controversial. Quite frankly, I did not have it in me to fight for my belief. Then 2011 happened. I went through an incredibly painful divorce. If I were not a woman of faith, I don’t know how I would have survived. My relationship with God has blossomed since, and I know in my heart I am meant to launch this company. In no way am I trying to push my belief system on anyone. However, for me, yoga transcends a method of exercise and is a spiritual experience. So why not make it a spiritual practice with Christian values and beliefs?
What have you found to be the benefits of thinking “out of the box”?

The launch of this company has been therapy for my soul. People are interested because it is such a new concept to “traditional” yoga. Don’t get me wrong — traditional yoga can be very spiritual, but I wanted to take it to the next level and personalize it with Christian values. After all, there is a huge Christian population on this earth. Why not personalize the yoga experience?

Are there any lessons learned at Stratford that you still carry with you today?

Stratford Academy gave me a solid background. I remember writing many papers for Mrs. (Ann) Tift and Mrs. (Margaret) Ledbetter (Brogdon). At the time, I did not enjoy the writing. Now, I eagerly create newsletters for FaithfulWarrior.com. The structure Mr. (Andy) Lawson provided established a discipline that I still draw from today and the rigorous athletic routines made me a strong athlete.
Even as a teen in Macon, Stewart was a businessman. His first venture started as a 15 year old detailing cars, and before long he employed three friends to work with him. During college, he operated a rickshaw service in Charleston for two years and then returned to his car detailing business.

As a college student, he won a $500 award for the Business School “Entrepreneur of the Year” and used that money to start his pool business, ASP, when he returned to Macon following graduation. Stewart expanded ASP by taking ownership from a retiring businessman, buying out a competitor, building a storefront and taking control of a lifeguard staffing/pool maintenance business (which he later sold). In 2005, his first franchise was opened with a second ASP location in Charleston.

ASP now stands for America’s Swimming Pool Company, which is owned by the parent company ASP Franchising Inc. Currently, ASP has more than 50 franchise owners with 124 locations in 15 states. His business model has not only seen growth during challenging times, but Stewart and his company have been recognized nationally as one of the top 500 businesses by Entrepreneur Magazine and one of the top 100 businesses for veterans by Franchise Business Review.

Stewart Vernon ’98
Founder and CEO, ASP Franchising, Inc.
What Drives an Entrepreneur’s Mind

What was your post-Stratford education?
I graduated from the College of Charleston in South Carolina with a bachelor’s degree in corporate communications and a minor in business.

Are there any experiences from your Stratford days that you feel impacted your entrepreneurial drive?
Spending 14 years at Stratford, a tremendous number of experiences impacted me as a person and as a future business owner. One of the earliest came during middle school, when I discovered a “demand” for a new, hard sour candy called “Cry-Babies.” I bought the candy wholesale and resold them for 25 cents each out of my bookbag. I didn’t quite understand it at the time, but that’s when I first learned what a profit margin was.

You teach at College of Charleston Business School. If you had a room full of Stratford students, what advice would you give them about business?
I learned in the very first days of entering the “real world” in business that one door shutting in your face can be the starting point for great things to come. So, keep your eyes open and look around every corner – you never know what may be waiting.

Also, the business world is hard, but it teaches you more about life, resources, finances, psychology and human nature than anything else. Embrace that fact. Do not be intimidated by others before you, because hard work can outperform just about anything.

Introspectively speaking, what do you think drives an entrepreneurial mind?
The very definition of the word comes from a French verb, “to undertake,” which speaks to the drive that most business owners possess. That drive is to create or do something better than the next guy. Constantly searching and looking for ways to improve things, no matter the task at hand, is how opportunities present themselves.

ASP Franchising continued to grow and succeed during a very difficult time in our country’s economy. What was your approach to dealing with a challenge such as this?
The recent turbulent economic environment has driven a new type of entrepreneur into the world one “lay-off” or “corporate down-sizing” at a time. Our business model before, during and after this difficult time in our economy remains the same. We provide a road-map to aspiring business owners allowing them to create their own business by using our name, brand and model. Our corporate philosophy, and what my office works every day to achieve, is that together we are better than we would be on our own.

As the parent of two young children, what skills do you think it is important to cultivate in students that will equip them to be future business owners?
Work ethic.
During high school Russell Henley not only made a name for himself on the golf course, he was also a formidable competitor on the basketball courts for the Eagles. He was named twice as The Telegraph’s All-Middle Georgia Outstanding Golf Player of the year in 2005 and 2006 and four-time All-State Golf Team while the Eagles won three state titles. In addition, he played on the 2007 region championship basketball team and earned All-State basketball honors in 2006 and 2007.

After graduation, he headed to the University of Georgia where he found continued success as a member of the golf team. Some of his collegiate honors included: Golfweek’s National Player of the Year, Fred Haskins Award recipient, SEC Player of the Year, first team All-American and All-SEC, Student-Athlete of the Year and finalist for Ben Hogan Award. During this time, Russell also led the Bulldogs to the SEC title, won Georgia Amateur title two times, tied for the 2010 U.S. Open low amateur and played on the Porter Cup, Walker Cup and Junior World Cup National teams.

Russell graduated from UGA with a degree in housing and consumer economics and turned pro in September 2011. He spent one year on the Web.com tour posting three wins, including his first professional at the Chiquita Classic. Russell’s success on the Web.com tour earned him his PGA Tour Card, and he promptly made PGA history by becoming one of only a handful to win an inaugural tour event when he wowed audiences by posting a -24 at the 2013 Sony Open held in Hawaii. Since that time, he has played in 23 events with three top 10 and five top 25 finishes. Russell is ranked 33rd in the FedEx Cup standing and No. 67 in the official world golf ranking.

Russell Henley ’07
Professional Golfer

From High School to Pro, What it Takes to Go

At what point did you realize that playing golf professionally was a viable career option?
I didn’t know for sure that I wanted to play professionally until I started playing in college, that was the first time that I really started thinking about it.

NCAA studies show that only two percent of high school athletes play sports at the college level. Then further studies show that only one in 16,000 high school athletes attain a professional career in sports. What do you think it takes to be able to make that jump from high school to college to pro sports?
For me, the difference between playing in high school and college was the amount of time that I put into my game. Obviously you have to have some game to make the jump, but I spent so much more time practicing in college. Plus, you’re getting so many more reps and playing in tournaments all the time. Then, once you become a pro, playing the game becomes so much more mental. With all the travel and new courses, experience becomes a huge factor.

There’s a lot of talk in the press that you are part of a “new breed” of PGA golfers. What is your take on your personal differences from maybe what a “traditional” pro was?
I think the majority of new golfers are probably so much more athletic than what a lot of golfers used to be. You’ve always had great golfers that hit the ball straight, but now the game is so much more physical than it used to be. Now you have to be able to hit the ball so far just to keep up. You better be strong and athletic to compete.

Are there experiences or people from your Stratford days that you feel like equipped you with skills/lessons that you’ve used to make the transition to professional athlete?
There are a lot of teachers and coaches at Stratford that helped me get where I am today, but I think I pull from playing basketball at Stratford all the time. In college, I had such a huge advantage because I had been part of a team sport. When I think back to high school I look back on playing basketball and my teammates the most.

If there was a Stratford student who held the same aspirations as you, what advice would you give him/her?
If you want to play sports in college, pick a school where you’re comfortable and a place you enjoy being. There will be ups and downs in your sport, so you better be someplace you enjoy. If you’re uncomfortable at all, you’re not going to be able to get out of it (athletically) what you want. Most importantly, enjoy every minute of it, enjoy the ride. In many ways, I still feel like I’m just starting college and now I’ve been out two years, so make the most of every minute.
In December 2012, Lou Leskosky was named the Houston County Gifted Education Teacher of the Year, but education was not always his calling. In 2007, Lou took a leap of faith by resigning from a successful career path as an attorney to follow his dream of teaching. When interviewed about Lou’s award, one co-worker replied, “How does Lou create magic in the classroom? By being everything a gifted student wants and admires in a teacher. He is smart, savvy, talented, witty, demanding, supportive and caring. He gets gifted students and understands that they need and crave compelling, challenging academic content. They get it every day in his classroom.”

Lou Leskosky ’99
Gifted Education Teacher,
Houston County Board of Education

From the Courtroom to the Classroom

What is your educational background?
I attended Duke University and received my B.A. in Political Science with a minor in history in 2003. In 2006, I earned my J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law. During law school, I was the campaign manager for Edward Lindsey’s successful state house campaign for the 54th district in Buckhead and he is now running for U.S. Congress. I was in private practice in 2006 and 2007 at Sell and Melton LLP in Macon. In 2007, I resigned to join an education cohort at GCSu and graduated in May 2008 with a Masters of Arts in Teaching focusing on Secondary Education, History concentration. In summer 2008, I began my involvement with the Duke TIP program and in August 2008 I started my career at Warner Robins High School.

What sparked your interest in changing from a law career to a teaching career?
In the end, it came down to content. While the law offered a multitude of options, and I could not have asked for a better firm with which to practice, I ultimately found leases and contracts to be too dry. Can an addendum to contract compete with the legions of Caesar marching across history? My passions lay with history, literature and politics and I realized that I would not be happy until I was engaging with it every day.

Were there any of your former Stratford teachers who inspired you to be in the classroom?
Stratford has so many first rate teachers; I know that I will leave some out. I began my long time interest in academics with Andy Lawson, whose sixth grade ancient history introduced me to majesty of Rome and the mysteries of Egypt. This interest in social studies was solidified by Carol O’Brien (Lanier) who I took at every opportunity — four classes all told. She could make history come alive, and a more caring, compassionate, easy-going teacher than she is hard to find. She ultimately did many of my recommendations for going into teaching and we remain in contact to this day.

Any classroom experiences from Stratford that you emulate in your own classroom?
The rigor and structure of two teachers in particular stands out. Now that I teach gifted ninth grade English, my mantra is often WWMBGD … or What Would Mary Beth Gumbart Do. She is still who I cite as the primary shaper of my writing style today and I attempt to apply her techniques and rigor to provide my students with the same benefits she granted me. Also, the multi-disciplinary approach of Clyde Austin’s Latin classes, including culture, mythology, history, sociology and language, is something I try to do in my classroom as often as I can. Rarely does a single subject stand alone, but rather is a web of material touching on multiple disciplines, a teaching style at which she excelled.

Any parallels from teaching gifted children to your own experiences in a college prep environment?
The gifted curriculum I teach is very comparable with Stratford’s college prep curriculum both on pacing and content. In both cases, the students are exposed to advanced content and increased pacing in the interest of preparing the students to perform well in the academic rigors of college and beyond. In both gifted classes and Stratford college prep ones, you find eager, willing students ready to achieve and excel.
For the last several years, Stratford Head of School Dr. Robert Veto has remarked to colleagues during his opening faculty meeting address that “good teaching for special needs equals just plain good teaching.” He explains that when educators marry content to meaningful skills on a regular basis, every student benefits. Whether the skill is reading, writing, note-taking, speaking, typing, separating fact from opinion, critical thinking, use of technology or proper citation of sources, each one can be learned; therefore, it can be taught, and is important to any student.

While this may seem like strange advice from an educator who has spent most of his career in college prep environments, it is really based on two experiences. First, as a young history teacher Veto’s department chair required each staff member to intentionally teach academic skills alongside the history content that was expected of his curriculum. Then as a doctoral student at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), he was mentored by Professor Ted Fenton, who was well-known in the 1960s and 1970s as a guru of the “new social studies” movement which emphasized skill development in teaching.

“I found it exciting and rewarding to run into Ted Fenton as one of my advisors at CMU,” remembers Veto. “He modeled all the principles he believed in and taught — he was, quite simply, the best teacher I ever had.”

In the world of education, recognizing that teaching the skills is as important as the content for a course takes innovation and purpose. Particularly when one takes into consideration that students are meshed together in one class, but they may have a wide range of talents, abilities and interests. Acknowledging and appreciating these student individualities, coupled with the fact that a teacher has his/her own strengths and weaknesses, bring many teachers to utilize a differentiated instruction approach in their classrooms.

Carol Ann Tomlinson, a leader in the area of differentiated instruction, describes the differentiated classroom as one in which “the teacher proactively plans and carries out varied approaches to content, process and product in anticipation of and response to student differences in readiness, interest and learning needs.” (2001) Students learn the same content, but the process in which they learn and the product they produce to demonstrate their understanding of the topic differs according to the student’s depth of understanding of the subject, learning style and interests. The goal in the differentiated classroom is for each student to take ownership for learning and make maximum progress.

Since each student’s best learning style or modality may differ, in a typical classroom of 20 children, a teacher may have students whose strengths may be auditory, visual or even kinesthetic learning. So how does a teacher effectively teach to each child’s strength? Simple: use all three methods for relaying information and communicating. Sound complicated, it is not.
“Teaching to varying learning styles is beneficial to everyone,” says Patsy Hayslip, Stratford Learning Support Center Director. “When a teacher plans instruction using different modalities, the concept can be more readily acquired by all students.”

For example, second-grade teacher Sue Stephenson wants to tell her classroom that they have a test coming up at the end of the week. In a differentiated learning approach, she will verbally give the assignment, write the information on her white board/smart board (probably using a different marker color than other items) and then ask the class to read and repeat out loud what she has written.

“Students in our classrooms represent an array of backgrounds, academic readiness, abilities, interests and learning styles. If we teach well, we attend to all of the gifts, talents and challenges our students bring to the classroom,” says Stephenson. “We provide students successful learning experiences and tools to help them become self-motivated, independent, life-long learners.”

Hayslip, a 40-year teaching veteran with the last 15 years as director of Stratford’s Learning Support Center, says that one of the strengths of Stratford’s faculty is their adept ability to understand students’ learning styles. She sees teachers using varying modalities as often as possible and that approach benefits all the students. “Repetition is the key to so many components of learning. Using different modalities to teach to different students’ strengths does not detract from learning, it only enhances it,” she believes.

Stratford’s Learning Support Center was founded in 1998 and was originally modeled after a program at the Lovett School in Atlanta. Over the last 15 years, it has come into its own and now many schools pay site visits to Stratford to see what is offered to students. So what role does a learning support center have in a rigorous, college-preparatory environment? It is just that — support. Hayslip and the four other staff members are there to add an additional layer of teaching for students and then be a resource center for fellow faculty members.

“Ninety percent of learning comes from the classroom. We are here to reinforce or maybe even re-present the same information in a different way to a student who needs assistance,” she explains.

Students, particularly those who experience learning challenges, have a unique ability to draw on their strengths to compensate for a weaker area. “I think students with learning challenges may sometimes be better ‘out of the box’ learners than the rest of us,” says Hayslip. “Early on they learn to come at things from a non-traditional direction and in the end that pays dividends because they have strong problem solving skills.”

Hayslip has observed that coaches and band directors are also particularly proficient at helping students absorb or learn information. They give out small pieces of information or instruction, and then the students execute that order and return for critique. This is followed by a circling back to the original instruction with any adaptations or corrections.

Stratford upper school science teacher and coach, Ross Bridges ’01, does just that in his classroom. His success as a teacher and a coach are defined by enthusiasm and positivity, and that energy becomes contagious. “Students are very perceptive. If you are not excited about what you are teaching, then they will pick up on that and do the same.”

He admits that his area of science does lend itself to differentiated instruction as a process-based subject. “I will do whatever it takes to get my students to understand the information they need to know,” says Bridges. “I learn in many different ways, so I teach in different ways. My tactile learners get it through experiments, the auditory learners get it through lectures using analogies and comparisons and the visual learners through models and hands-on materials.”

In the world of public education, special needs and gifted education often fall together in programming due to the fact that these categories are designed for children whose educational needs are not met in regular classrooms. Regardless of whether students are considered academically challenged or gifted, if their needs are not being met, then they cannot reach their potential. Meeting a child’s potential is what Stratford does deliberately and intentionally on a daily basis. The school’s
purpose statement reinforces that charge, “Stratford challenges our students to achieve their full potential.”

Potential is just what upper school teacher and English department chair, Michelle Fleming, sees in each student. One of the gems of the Stratford curriculum is the school’s writing program. Students leave for college with above average skills as compared to their fellow freshmen. Repeatedly, Stratford teachers hear from students in college saying that they were called out by their professors for the meticulous detail they pay to their writing.

Much of this is due to the attention to detail that the English department pays to developing a student’s individual skills. It is the goal of the department to push students to be 21st century learners — that is more than sitting in a desk while an instructor lectures — it requires a sophisticated level of critical thinking skills.

“In today’s work environment, even more than 10 or 15 years ago, a person must be able to find information on his or her own, ask good questions and figure out how to answer the questions all the while interacting with a broader spectrum of people who exist locally to globally,” says Fleming.

No one instructional style is able to meet the needs of all 21st century students. They must be able to decipher, sort and multi-task responsibilities in varying modalities. As an example in Fleming’s ninth grade classroom, her students embark on a “Writers in Training” program which requires each student to write often, write creatively and write analytically.

“Our young writers receive material visually when they read passages, then audibly when I read them aloud followed by kinesthetically when they must put themselves in someone else’s place to analyze the material,” says Fleming.

This concept is taken one step further with her juniors during her annual 1979 trial re-enactment. The assignment is to bring to trial before a board of education the controversial novel, The Things They Carried, by Tim O’Brien. After reading the novel, each student must create a character relevant to that time period and write a research paper in support of that character’s stand on the argument. Together, the class dramatizes the trial and each student becomes the character he or she created and participates in the trial.

“Stratford students learn how to write research papers before they even enter high school. Any seventh grader can write a five paragraph paper with ease. So to enter high school expecting nothing but research papers in English, the trial was a refreshing and unique spin on the subject,” says upper school student, Stacey Dorogy. “It added to the individuality of the teachers and the class. To take on the role of a character and play it all the way through, adds a layer of learning beyond the typical classroom setting.”

This trial re-enactment exercise is just what Dr. Joseph Renzulli, well-known leader in the field of gifted education, advocates in his Schoolwide Enrichment Model (1977). His work demonstrates that experiences constructed around a student's interest, learning styles and preferred modes of expression provide ways for improved learning for all students through high levels of engagement and the use of enjoyable and challenging learning experiences.

So what’s the value to a lower, middle or upper school student to find his or her preferred learning style and to strengthen his or her weaknesses? It all revolves around Stratford’s approach to preparing each student for the next level at every level. This means lower school students are getting ready for middle school, middle for upper, upper for college and beyond.

This type of educational approach was modeled in 1986 by University of Alabama education professor, Dr. Carol Schlichter, in her Talents Unlimited Model. Schlichter built upon the prior work of educators Howard Gardner and Calvin Taylor to design a model for the corporate world involving the field of secondary education. Talents Unlimited is a critical and creative thinking skills model in which Schlichter identified five talents: productive thinking, forecasting, planning, decision making and communication. Through practice of each talent, Stratford students become aware of the thought patterns and use the talents to master integrated content. All students usually have one or two of these “smarts” when they enter school, but through meaningful, real-world experiences they continue to strengthen their talents in all of the five talents; thereby, equipping the child with skills for success later in their academic and professional careers.

One-size-fits-all instruction does not apply to the classroom of the 21st century. Stratford Academy leadership and faculty acknowledge that the needs of each child must be met in order for him or her to have the tools needed to become active, independent and a lifelong learner.
Andrew and Hemanth are the 2013 recipients of the David P. Baker Award given by the National Debate Coaches Association (NDCA). The Baker is an award presented to the team who has had the highest level of success and demonstrates season-long excellence in a rigorous debate schedule. Basically, a team who wins the Baker is considered to be the “best” team in the country because they have the strongest season-long record.

Stratford’s debate program has a 30-year history of success, but this is the first time in the school’s history that it has received this prestigious award. Along with debate teammates, Asa Marshall, Jaedyn Ellis, Harper James, Tolu Sogade, Dylan Ogle and Robert Clark, they amassed eight bids to the Tournament of Champions, two tournament wins (Montgomery Bell Academy, Harvard University), three round robin titles including Harvard Round Robin, Greenhill School and Pace Academy, 15 top and second-speaker awards and a GISA state title.

Debate coach Abby Schirmer came to Stratford in 2010 and inherited the heralded debate program from long-time debate coach, Mike Kelley. Her plan for success became to create a small, but finely-developed team of students who know their craft and have honed their skills, not to mention continuing the tradition of national success of her predecessors.

Debate is one of the most demanding extra-curricular activities offered at Stratford. Each season a topic is selected by the NDCA and teams must train and research both the affirmative and negative positions. For 2012-2013, teams debated the topic “should the United States federal government repair and rebuild the country’s transportation infrastructure.” Even prior to the season beginning, debaters had accumulated conservatively over 350 hours in their seven weeks of pre-season topic research.

Andrew Jones explains that a typical daily schedule for a debater includes an 8:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. school day followed by practice nearly every day from 3:30 to 6 p.m. for writing speeches, practice debates and research time. Many nights, students also go home and do additional research and do speeches/speaking drills on their own.

“Keeping up with debate and school was difficult, but worthwhile, because it forced me to acquire time management skills and learn to work efficiently. With practice, research, and a heavy travel schedule, it can seem daunting, but I found that it was manageable if I set realistic goals with my teachers in advance,” says Andrew. “In truth I deserve very little of the credit. More than anything I was incredibly fortunate that Stratford provided me with the resources and support to pursue my passion.”

On weekends of debate tournaments, which are usually out-of-state, the team will leave on a Friday and debate for the next three days. Typically, a tournament schedule includes approximately four debates per day with each round lasting two hours. During the Harvard Tournament weekend alone, Hemanth and Andrew participated in 19 debates in five days—each debate lasting approximately two hours for nearly 40 hours of debating over the course of the weekend. After this demanding schedule, it was quite rewarding that they walked away with

At first glance, Andrew Jones and Hemanth Sanjeev seem like two unassuming students. Dressed in navy and khaki uniforms, like hundreds of others, with glasses and carrying laden backpacks; but, few students in the nation have accomplished what this duo has.
two tournament wins and each had been named top speaker once and second speaker once.

To celebrate these decorated debaters, Stratford administrators planned a secret debate pep rally as a sendoff to the season-culminating Tournament of Champions (TOC). Since debate is not a spectator sport, the day began with debate demonstrations for the Lower, Middle and Upper School students to educate them on the format for a typical debate round. The fast talking point versus counter point approach impressed both faculty and students. Then Hemanth and Andrew were honored as teachers and fellow students playfully “roasted” their accomplishments in an all-school assembly. Unbeknownst to the debaters, the rest of the student body was setting up to send them off with a run-through of a typical sporting event “spirit tunnel” while the Pep Band played band chants.

With debate not a spectator sport and throes of cheering fans not a typical part of debate fanfare, Hemanth admits, “Andrew and I felt a little out of place at the sendoff, but it reminded us of how lucky we are to go to a school with such a strong emphasis on academics. The TOC was really important to us, and we were really excited that the school was so supportive of the debate team.”

Andrew graduated in May and headed to Emory University in the fall where he will continue his debate career in college. Hemanth is returning to Stratford for his senior year as debate team captain. Coach Schirmer foresees future success in the Stratford debate program.

“The future is bright for the Stratford debate team — we have several talented returning members and many new faces joining the team,” says Schirmer. “Hemanth will still be ranked as one of the top debaters in the nation (if not the best) and he and his partner will excel. I couldn’t be more proud of the accomplishments of Andrew and Hemanth over the course of these last few years, and I’m excited to see where the next few years take us.”
On April 3, 2013, the students of Stratford Academy made history. The Stratford family gathered silently in the gym and, using an amateur radio telebridge contact through Santa Rosa Junior College in California, called and spoke to Commander Chris Hadfield aboard the International Space Station. While the transmission back to Stratford was difficult to understand, what was very clear to all was that Commander Hadfield could hear the students and responded to them, all while traveling at 17,500 miles per hour 200 miles above the earth on a spacecraft that is longer than a soccer field and weighs more than 450 tons.

The planning for this "out of this world" experience began in the spring of 2012 when third-grade teacher Sara Walcott proposed that Stratford submit an application for an ArISS contact. ArISS is the acronym that NASA uses for an amateur radio contact with the International Space Station. Walcott and lower school science teacher, Jil Pinkston, had attended Space Camp in the summer of 2011, and had heard about this program from the NASA Education Office.

"I returned from space camp fascinated about space and inspired to teach science, technology, engineering and math and their importance to our students," said Walcott. "I knew that talking to an astronaut would really make those subject areas come alive for our students."

After a lengthy application process, Stratford was invited by the NASA Teaching from Space Education Office in the fall of 2012 to host an ArISS contact. The Teaching From Space Office promotes learning opportunities and builds partnerships with the education community using the unique environment of human spaceflight. This event was made possible through amateur radio on the International Space Station, which is a cooperative venture among NASA and other international space agencies that coordinate scheduled, radio contacts between astronauts aboard the ISS and schools. One of the first orders of business was to form a relationship with amateur radio experts, and in stepped the Macon Amateur Radio Club (MARC).

As MARC advised Stratford on all technical preparations, under the guidance of Dr. Kelly Nagle Causey ’88, Stratford’s curriculum and technology instructor, a team of teachers began implementing an all-school, interdisciplinary, cross-divisional plan for educating students of every age about space and the space program. Taking cues from the current STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) educational initiatives, Stratford adapted to STEAM and also incorporated the fine arts. In preparation for this once in a lifetime event, students in all four divisions participated in a variety of activities throughout the year to help them learn about space exploration.

Preschool students studied the solar system, created rockets and likenesses of themselves as astronauts. Lower school students studied the planets, wrote biographies about astronauts, visited the Mark Smith Planetarium at the Museum of Arts and Sciences, created art about space, explored the online NASA resources, visited the Museum of Aviation at Robins AFB Logistics Center, and assisted in the creation of a giant timeline in the science building that chronicled the history of the space program. Preschool and lower school students, with the support of the middle and upper school bands, also presented a Grandparents’ Day space-themed musical program.

Local professor and space enthusiast, Dr. Rob Sumowski, loaned Stratford a large portion of his extensive collection of NASA photographs, models, and memorabilia, which was displayed in the Buzzell Gallery in conjunction with Grandparents’ Day.

Middle school and upper school students studied inventions and scientific developments pertaining to the space program, conducted experiments mirroring those conducted on the International Space Station, and also assisted in the creation of the space timeline. The Symphonic Band’s spring concert incorporated with the performance of Gustav Holst’s Planet Suite, was set to a space-themed presentation by the upper school video production class. The middle school Beta Club hosted a space-themed art show, and upper school art students studied various artists who created space-themed work and did a special study of pixilation in art.

One of the year’s highlights was Stratford’s first-ever Amateur Radio Days with volunteers from MARC. MARC prepared informative demonstrations for students about electromagnetism and radio, including...
permanent magnets, batteries, electrical induction, measurement of sound waves and electromagnetic waves on an oscilloscope, the electromagnetic spectrum, and the characteristics of waves. They demonstrated Morse Code, shared examples of radio tubes, transistors, and microprocessors, and demonstrated the difference between line-of-sight and over-the-horizon communication using the ionosphere. Volunteers also exhibited the use of radio by calling other amateur radio operators and allowing students to talk with them via amateur radio. By the end of the day, Stratford students had contacted five other amateur radio stations and ham radio operators in Delaware, Illinois, Texas, Washington and Missouri.

As the actual contact date approached, students in grades 3-12 were invited to submit questions in order to be chosen as one of the students to speak directly to the astronauts via radio during the contact event. As advised by a NASA mentor assigned to Stratford, the anticipated contact would last approximately 12 minutes potentially allowing about two dozen students to speak directly with an astronaut aboard the ISS.

Once the date was finalized for April 3, Stratford received word that “our” astronaut would be Commander Chris Hadfield. Hadfield, a Canadian member of the ISS team, is a national hero and quite the Renaissance man. He is one of the most active astronauts on social media and posts daily to his blogs, You Tube and Twitter feeds. His You Tube version of David Bowie’s “Space Oddity” has received nearly 16 million hits and he was the first astronaut to compose a musical score in space.

On the morning of April 3, the Stratford students in grades 2-12, faculty, family members and local media and guests gathered together in the gym. Twenty minutes of silence was required as the amateur radio contact was established with the command center in Houston, Texas, via a college radio station in Santa Rosa, Calif. Finally through the static, came Commander Hadfield’s voice.

Immediately, students began their questions. First up to the microphone, ninth grader Ally Raymond asked, “What inspired your love of space and desire to be an astronaut? Over.” Hadfield’s answers came through with static and some answers were more understandable than others, but students’ faces would light up when they heard their names spoken and references made to their questions.

By nine o’clock, the radio contact was over. About halfway through the 26 students, the amateur radio station lost connection. But with all the preparation that occurred, the remaining students were allowed to continue sharing their questions with the audience. Local media reporters interviewed students who had the opportunity to speak with Commander Hadfield and as well as those who had not. Regardless, all of the students echoed that just the experience itself had been “out of this world.”

Third grader Walker Bethune told his parents later in the day, “If anyone ever asks, this was the best day of my life.” That same enthusiasm had captivated the entire Stratford community, with local and national media attention on the event.

“We never know what will be the spark that ignites a passion in a child. Chris Hadfield’s entry in Wikipedia states that he decided to be an astronaut when he was nine years old and watched the Apollo moon landing on TV,” said project coordinator, Dr. Causey. “How amazing it would be if one day Stratford has an alumnus(a) whose Wikipedia entry states, ‘I decided to be an astronaut when I was in the Nth grade at Stratford Academy. Our whole school was crowded silently in our gym and we talked to an astronaut on the radio.’”
Alumni Basketball 2012
THE 2012 ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAMES took place on Dec. 19, 2012, in the Stratford gym. Eagles and Eaglettes from five decades participated in this annual holiday event. It was a great night of hoops as the alumni players participated in alum v. alum games. In addition, the Eagle alums took on the Varsity Eagles. A few sore muscles were reported on the following day.

Save the Date – Nov. 27 – Alumni Basketball Games

1962
Buster Black is a magistrate judge for Fayette County, appointed by Chief Superior Court Judge Christopher Edwards. Barbara Brubaker Nightower writes, “Enjoying living in Tyronne with my retired husband, Jimmy. We live next to our two grandgirls.” Catharine Burns Liles is preparing for her Retrospective Art Show to be held at Wesleyan College January-February 2014.

1963
Col. Frank Willingham addressed the Class of 2013 at their Senior Breakfast while he was in Macon for his 50th class reunion. He and wife Patricia live in Laytonsville, Md.

1964
Gus Kaufman is a practicing psychologist and social activist in Decatur. He volunteers with social justice groups, hikes, bird watches, reads, plays soccer and enjoys friends and family.

1965
Camilla Smith Dawson is retired from a 30-year private psychotherapy practice. She has been married to George Dawson for 22 years and is a proud grandmother to three grandchildren.

1966
Robert Reichert was re-elected Mayor of Macon in 2012 and is running for Mayor of Macon-Bibb County in September.

1967
Don Brewer spent 26 years with the U.S. Secret Service, retiring as the Special Agent-In-Charge of the Counterfeit Division in Washington, D.C. He just published his latest book, Worthy of Trust and Confidence. Learn more at www.donbrewer.com. Debby Daniel Schwartz and her husband, Don, live in Colorado, where they ride horses and play music in a Western group called The Saddle Strings. In the winter, they move to Arizona, take their horses, and play music at a variety of resorts in the Apache Junction/Mesa area.

1968
Sam Raffield writes, “My wife, Judy, and I live in Monroe County and have three children and four grandchildren. I work in my family’s tire business, Raffield Tire Master, which was founded by my parents 50 years ago.”

1969
Alice Jackson Causey and husband Charley celebrated their 40th anniversary this year. She works in accounting at the law firm James, Bates, Brannan and Groover. The Causeys have three adult children and four grandchildren.

1970
Fran Amsler Hail and husband Numsen live in Crockett, Texas, and are busy with Vacation Bible School, Texas travels, compiling family pictures for all the cousins and grandparenting. (Photo above)

1971
Allen Huckabee writes, “The last few summers I’ve worked for the National Park Service at Ocmulgee National Monument removing invasive species from the park. I also worked the BP oil spill escorting beach groomers through the Fort Pickens and Santa Rosa Beach, protecting the fragile areas. Patti and I have been married 35 years and have three daughters.”

1972
Bill Elder was inducted into the Georgia Radio Hall of Fame last year. He does voiceover work and recently finished narrating seven seasons of a sports show on the Outdoor Channel. Locally, Bill is the voice on 13WMAZ.

1973
Charles Cork III was selected by Georgia Trend as one of their “Legal Elite” attorneys for 2012.

— Continue on page 24
Lauren’s Relief

CLASS OF 2003 ALUMNA Lauren Hollman Fried finds her relief from the pressures of medical school with good old-fashioned hard work. Not the back breaking kind, but the humanitarian relief effort kind.

In May she graduated from the Mercer University School of Medicine and shortly after made a fourth trip to Cambray outside of Les Cayes in southwest Haiti. Her work this time was to provide medical physicals to the approximately 300 orphans, staff an eye clinic and distribute prescription glasses to residents, and provide new shoes for the orphans. In addition, the 20 volunteers ran a Vacation Bible School program with arts and crafts, Bible readings in the native Creole language and prayer time.

While helping the orphanage in Haiti has been Lauren’s passion for the last few years, she also spends much of her "down" time serving locally in the middle Georgia community. Projects like the Masonic Home Field Day, Halloween at The Children’s Hospital, a handicap picnic and horseback ride for T.D. Tinsley Elementary School, a career fair at Springdale Elementary, Operation Christmas Child and numerous March of Dimes drives, marry her love for children and her passion for volunteerism.

Even though Lauren’s personal drive is to help others, it has not gone unnoticed. During her medical school graduation exercises, she received the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Leonard Tow 2013 Humanism in Medicine Award which is awarded to the student who has demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with their patients as well as clinical excellence. This award is voted on by both students and faculty. In addition, she also received the T.J. Lin Award for Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology and was a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society, which recognizes medical students for “demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service.”

Lauren graduated pre-med from the University of Georgia in 2007 with dual degrees in Spanish and biology. She began her obstetrics and gynecology residency at the Medical Center of Central Georgia this summer.

(Left) On her recent trip to Haiti, Lauren found a young boy wearing one of the Stratford t-shirts she had brought on an earlier mission. (Above) In May, Lauren received her medical doctorate and was awarded the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award at Mercer University’s graduation.
Alumni Soccer Game 2013

Stratford soccer alumni gathered for a much anticipated game on March 16. Alumni representing every state championship team were present for the evening. Many of the veteran alumni chose to be encouragers from the sidelines, while some of the more recent alumni hit the pitch with determination to relive their glory days. The Varsity Eagles defeated the alumni 8-3. Following the game, a covered dish meal was enjoyed by alumni, players and their families.

Save the Date – March 15, 2014 – Alumni Soccer Game

Alums Hit the Field at the Alumni Baseball Games

On March 9 Former Eagle Baseball players, coaches and managers returned to Bobby Hendley Field at the Bubber Adams Baseball Complex for the annual alumni baseball game. The Homerun Derby started the day with Coach Bobby Hendley on the mound. Three Eagles — Brett Hendley ’86, Jay Cranford ’89 and Harrison Parker ’09 — made it to the final round with one homerun each. Harrison Parker pulled through as the Homerun Derby Champ with two for the day. Then, more than 20 Eagles took the field for our navy vs. white nine inning competition. Greg Parker ’83 called the game as players from the ’70s through 2012 took the plate. A family-style cookout for alums, coaches, managers and their families followed the game.

Save the Date – March 8, 2014 – Alumni Baseball Game
**Class Notes**

Winberley McCook Rader’s ‘82 daughters, Gabrielle ‘21 and Mimi ‘21, along with Shorter McCook ‘22 and Lila McCord ‘21 (Susan Marie Mincey McCord ‘88), were featured in Macon Magazine for their “lemonade stand for charity.”

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**1981**

Jorie Lawrence writes, “I am still running, biking and swimming. My sons, Rollie and Nicholas Squier, are chefs and musicians. I am active in the American Legion and Disabled American Veterans Organizations. I miss flying Chinook helicopters like I did for the Army — maybe one day I will fly again.”

**1982**

Katrina Norris Cowger and husband David just celebrated 29 years of marriage. They have three daughters, two sons-in-law and one “amazing” grandson (age 1). She writes, “I really enjoyed the Class of 1982 reunion. I am now living in Hampton, Va., as my husband works for International Cooperating Ministries.”

**1983**

Carol Williams Babcock writes, “My son married last year and my daughter is currently at SCAD. I am a manager at The Medical Center of Central Georgia.”

Robin Fernandez McCown is the executive director of Georgia PHP Inc., a non-profit organization operating the physician health program for Georgia. She lives in Atlanta with her husband, Chad, and their children, Charles (11) and Lisa (6).

Meredith Bishop Stiff lives in Augusta, having retired from 17 years with Goodwill Industries as their executive director. Meredith writes, “My 15-year-old daughter, Valerie Rose, just finished her freshman year. God sent Jim and me a surprise baby, Mary Margaret, who is two years old. I enjoy volunteering for Goodwill Industries, Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia and Augusta Ballet.”

**1984**

Anita Menendez writes, “I moved back to Georgia after 17 years and enjoy being closer to my family. I have two amazing daughters, Amelia (17) and Kasha (13). We enjoy traveling, being outdoors, concerts and hiking.”

**1985**

Bill Abercrombie is Senior Vice President of Partnership Development and Activation for the Tampa Bay Lightning. He and wife Dr. Cameron Smith Abercrombie ‘91 live in Tampa, Fla., with their children, Sara Beth and William. In March, Steve Deal and his family participated in a fundraising walk for juvenile diabetes in honor of his son, who was diagnosed eight years ago.

**1986**

Lisa Katz received her Ph.D. at The Royal Veterinary College, University of London. She has been a lecturer at University College Dublin, Ireland, School of Veterinary Medicine since 2003 where she lives with her husband, Barry Keogh, and son Nathan.

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**Benjamin Hawkins Remembered**

ON FEB. 2, BETWEEN the girls’ and boys’ varsity basketball games, family, friends and former teachers of Benjamin Hawkins gathered in a place that held fond memories — the Stratford gym. Benjamin, class of 2000 alumnus, had spent 14 years as a Stratford student where he had played basketball for the Eagles.

The occasion centered around the dedication of an Eagle portrait given to the school in Benjamin’s memory by family friends, Kristin and Brandon Oren. The portrait called “True Patriot — Bald Eagle” is one of many works by famed wildlife photographer, Thomas Mangelsen, of the Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery. The life-like photograph of Stratford’s eagle mascot hangs outside the entrance to the school’s gym.

When the Orens moved to Macon, their neighbors were Kathy and Jay Hawkins and their sons, Jason and Benjamin. “We knew that if Stratford could challenge and keep happy such a bright, quick-witted boy like Benjamin, that Stratford would be the right school for our children as well,” recalls Kristin Oren.

Benjamin was tragically killed in an automobile accident shortly after his graduation from the University of Georgia in 2004. Friends and former classmates have remained in touch through benefits held in his memory.

Lifelong friend Reg Buzzell spoke at the dedication and remembered Benjamin for his intellect, faith and wit. Reg was one of about 30 former classmates and parents of classmates who attended the event in Benjamin’s memory.

“These boys had a special friendship,” remembers Dawn Liipfert, mother of classmate Rich Liipfert. “They spent every minute together, but I never heard them argue or act cross at each other.”

Friend Chase Stribling remembers one of Benjamin’s strongest qualities was his ability to make people laugh. “He had a talent that few have in putting a smile on someone’s face or making a classroom fill with laughter — sometimes landing him in a little trouble with the teacher,” he recalls. “It’s amazing to listen to old stories from all the friends and family who love to tell about Ben’s jokes or antics — no matter how many times we have heard them.”

The tremendous turnout at the portrait dedication was a true testament to Benjamin and his impact on those who knew him. He was a dedicated friend who will not be forgotten.
Athletic Hall of Fame
Class of 2013 Announced

THE STRATFORD ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME Selection Committee is proud to announce Coach Bobby Hendley, Carter Kelly Monroe '96, Kyle Johnston '02, Robbie Sovie '02, Henry Tift (deceased) and the 1994 Baseball Team have been selected for induction into the Hall of Fame with the Class of 2013. The induction ceremony will take place on October 4 at 10:00 a.m. at Stratford Academy in the main gymnasium. The Hall of Fame Class of 2013 will also be recognized during halftime of the Homecoming football game that evening.

The Hall of Fame was organized as a way of maintaining the rich heritage and tradition of the successful athletic programs at Stratford Academy. In addition, it serves as a means of recognizing, preserving and honoring the athletes, coaches, teams and individuals who have made significant contributions to the athletic programs. The Hall of Fame honors the contributions and accomplishments of these individuals and teams who are worthy of recognition and serve as examples for others to emulate. Questions, please contact Athletic Director Grady Smith or visit www.stratford.org/halloffame.

New Alumni Event in 2013

IN MEMORY OF CLASSMATE SAM ANDERSON, the Class of 1988 will host the first Sam Anderson Memorial Alumni Flag Football Game on Friday, Oct. 4, at 5 p.m., during Alumni Weekend. The game will be a 7-on-7 flag football format and any interested alumni are welcome to play. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Andy Anderson Institute, an organization established to assist families coping with addiction. For information, contact Alumni Director Jaime.kaplan@stratford.org or Event Chair Blair Cleveland at bkcleveland@martinsnow.com. Honorary Chair is Billy Anderson III '78.

1987
Brian Thomson’s company, L.H. Thomson Co., was featured in The Telegraph in October. The article focused on how the company had managed to increase product lines and hire more workers in spite of the “great recession.”

Amy Ivey Watson and husband Keith recently adopted sons Johnathon (8) and Colton David (10) through foster care. They just celebrated the high school graduation of daughter Ivey, who will attend Middle Georgia State College. Son Robby is a sophomore and son Elijah is a fifth grader.

1988
Claudia Sessions Garrard and husband Gunby live in Columbus and have four children, Gunby (12), Brandt (11), Ford (7) and Nora (3).

1989
Charles Briscoe, CEO of Coliseum Health System in Macon, received the American College of Healthcare Executives Regent’s Award at the Georgia Hospital Association’s annual meeting.

Kate Dodson Strain was selected by Georgia Trend as one of their “Legal Elite” attorneys for 2012.

1990
Jason Cannon works in Brand Development for Chick-fil-a. He and his wife have four children. Ryan Hendley is Director of Delivery Services for Advanced Technology Group in Denver, Colo. He is a Certified Project Management Professional and Six Sigma Black Belt.

Frank Kern is a marketing consultant and entrepreneur living in La Jolla, Calif., with his wife, Natalia, and three children.

1991
Johnny Ahn is a seventh degree Black Belt Master Instructor and head of the Hae San Martial Arts Association in Macon.

Matthew Katz and wife Melissa have two children, Jacob (6) and Ann (3). He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urology, Division of Urologic Oncology, at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.
AS STRATFORD ENTERED ITS SECOND half-century of existence, another school milestone occurred. Grey Grinstead ‘13 became the school’s first third-generation graduate. His grandmother, Jane Terry Grinstead, graduated in 1968 when the school was in its beginning days on Coleman Hill. His father, Charlie Grinstead ’87, saw the school’s silver anniversary during the 1985 25th-year celebration.

When Jane became a student in 1965, it was a much different atmosphere. Her family moved to Macon a few years prior and she was in shear disbelief that a school could be housed in a home as beautiful and historic as Overlook. She attended Western Civilization class in the mansion’s front parlor and English class in what was an upstairs bedroom. The school’s administration and instructors were all devoted to teaching the students and giving personal attention to each and every one.

“You never knew when you would see Dr. Joe B. Hill or Mr. Marvin Davis, the Headmaster and Assistant Headmaster, carrying a paint brush or a hammer, or standing on a ladder,” remembers Jane. “Some of these very devoted staff became good friends and business associates later in my life.”

Today she reflects on what it has been like for her family to have seen all five decades of Stratford’s existence. Jane feels her own experience as a student was definitely a factor in her family’s decision to send their son, Charlie, to Stratford from kindergarten through 12th grade.

“We wanted to offer to him the best education and opportunities that were available,” she recalls. “His teachers, as were mine, were devoted and knowledgeable in their field, and took a great interest in each child’s needs.”

Today Charlie echoes the same sentiment as his mother when he thinks back on the decision he and his wife, Georganna, made about educating their children, Grey and Valentine. “I knew before my children were even born that Stratford would be the only school in Macon I would send them. There is no question in my mind that Stratford provides the best education in Macon and probably one of the best educations in the state,” said Charlie. “I was never the most dedicated student, but I did receive a very well-rounded education.”

He is thrilled that some of his favorite teachers are still teaching at the school and have now taught his own children. Most of all, Charlie wanted his children to have an opportunity to form long-term relationships. “I made some wonderful friendships at Stratford and many of us keep in touch to this day,” he says. “In fact, four of my five closest friends were in my graduating class. I wanted my children to develop those same bonds that I developed at Stratford and build lifelong friendships.”

Of course as an 18-year-old headed to Georgia College and State University in the fall, Grey may not be quite as nostalgic as his grandmother and father. Nonetheless, he is pleased with his family’s legacy. “I’m really proud that this is the way my family will be remembered at Stratford.”

Currently, almost 30 percent of the student body is a second-generation Stratford family, and approximately 35 students are third-generation families. Like her brother, Valentine Grinstead will graduate in a few years with the Class of 2017, and like all grandmothers, that makes Jane Grinstead very proud.
Alumni Gatherings and Reunions

Class of 1963 50th Reunion

Members of Stratford’s second graduating class gathered the weekend of May 17-18 for their 50th high school reunion. Coordinated with the Miller-Lanier High School 50th reunion festivities, the class held a party at the home of Ginny Sowell Popper on Friday night. On Saturday, they toured Stratford’s Peake Road campus followed by a nostalgic visit to “Old Stratford” on Bond Street. Twelve of the class’s 15 members and former faculty member Ann Park returned for this event.

The Ladies of 1963 — One unique characteristic of the ladies from the Stratford Class of 1963 is the number of postgraduate degrees they hold. All nine women who graduated in that class earned bachelor-level education, and collectively they earned 10 bachelor’s degrees, 11 master’s degrees and four doctoral degrees. Uncharacteristic for the era, this is an excellent example of the caliber of students whose families were willing to take a risk and send their children to Macon’s new and unprecedented, private, college-prep school.

“We are from an era when women rarely chose to apply to graduate schools and had a hard time being admitted because graduate programs felt they were wasting spots on women who would just get married and never use the degrees,” remarked Dr. Ginny Sowell Popper, who pursued a career in education.

Women from the Class of 1963 attended colleges across the country, from Wesleyan locally to the University of Utah to Johnson State College in Vermont. They each have been career-path-driven women who have made their marks in the fields of psychology, education, law, dance arts and nursing.


1977 — The Class of 1977’s 35th reunion party was held at Fickling Farms on Oct. 13, 2012. Pictured below.

Cason writes, “I am excited to start a new job teaching Biology at Stratford!”

1997


Lauren Hartman Whitehead and her husband, Keith, live in Prattville, Ala., with daughter Ava Elizabeth. Lauren is a critical care nurse at Baptist South in Montgomery.

1998

Kyle Mann won the Jack Hurton Humanitarian Gold Medal Award. While on crutches, Kyle stopped a man from mugging a woman. His award was featured in the January issue of Inside Edison, a publication of his employer, Edison International.

Reeves Minton, Vice President of Minton Lawn and Garden Center in Macon, was recently featured in The Telegraph’s Business 1-on-1.

1999

Nirvana Patel lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, works with Proctor and Gamble and has a two-year-old daughter. She writes, “As I think about schools for my daughter, I really wish I could ship her to Georgia so she could go to Stratford.”

2000

Bo Walker and his wife, Caitlin, are excited that son Liam is attending Stratford this year. Liam is the third generation to attend Stratford. Proud grandmother is Janet Butler Walker ’75.

2001

Le Kevin Smith started his own construction company, LJ Smith Construction, this summer.

Allison Gaudet Yarrow is a contributing writer at Time and author of the forthcoming Amazon Kindle eBook, The Devil of Williamsburg. Recently, she defended the television series, “Here Comes Honey Boo Boo,” in The Atlantic.

2002

Kate Appleton has published her first medical journal article, along with several fellow Ph.D. students, in the Cambridge Journals Online about a method they created to analyze microscopic images.

Will Argo joined Tidwell and Hilburn Insurance as a sales associate in February.

Lee Dickey lives in East Atlanta Village with wife Stacy. He is an associate in the Acquisition Finance Department of SunTrust Robinson Humphrey.

J.P. Haynie is “now officially a card-carrying member of SAG-AFTRA, the Screen Actors Guild.”

John Jones was responsible for the planning and logistics of the national “Carry The Load” event. Founded by Navy Seals, the event is a 28-day, 2,000-mile walking and biking relay honoring fallen soldiers, policemen and fire fighters. The Manhattan portion of the
Alumni Gatherings and Reunions

1982 — During Alumni Weekend, the Class of 1982 hosted a party celebrating their 30th class reunion at the home of Robbo Hatcher. Pictured are former teachers Andy Lawson, Genie McMillan, Babber Adams and Jane Vogt Calkins with members of the Class of 1982.

1987 — The Class of 1987 gathered at The Big House (Allman Brothers Museum) during Alumni Weekend to celebrate their 25th reunion. Pictured are Per Linde, Kelly Squires Haynes, Sylvia Boykin Neff and Bill Reynolds.


1997 — The Class of 1997 celebrated their 15th class reunion during Alumni Weekend with a picnic at the school.


Stratford on the Road

Tomahawk Choppin’ at Braves Stadium

Second to middle Georgia, the Atlanta area has the largest concentration of Stratford alumni. Every other year, Stratford on the Road takes that short trip up I-75 to connect with those alumni who may not make it south very often. On Sept. 30, 2012, Alumni Director Jaime Kaplan, Head of School Bob Veto and Advancement Director Kathleen Medlin visited the alumni from all five decades of the school’s graduates and wished retiring Atlanta Brave Chipper Jones farewell at his final home game.

Pictured left to right are Mary Catherine Boone Council ’82, Tom Nolan ’83, Ida Becker Centner ’84, Jim Nolan ’82, Tripp Moore ’83, Jeff Moore ’84, Mandy Horton ’02, Dr. Larry Clements ’71. Not pictured: Will Kelly ’94, Robin Fernandez McCown ’83, Mitchell Westbury ’05, Diane Moffett Kellum ’69 and Laster ’80, Jennifer Marshall ’04, Bragg ’79, Jaime Kaplan ’79, Jeff ’70, Stephen Sigal ’76, Kyra Lee Pictured are Fran Amsler Hail members attended the events.

Ten alumni and their family lunch at Pappasito’s Cantina.

On Jan. 18-19, Alumni Director Jaime Kaplan headed west to catch up with alumni in the “Big D.” A dinner was hosted Friday evening in Grapevine, Texas, at Farina’s Winery and Café followed by a Saturday morning tour of Cowboy Stadium and lunch at Pappasito’s Cantina. Ten alumni and their family members attended the events.

Pictured are Fran Amsler Hail ’70, Stephen Sigal ’76, Kyra Lee Bragg ’79, Jaime Kaplan ’79, Jeff Laster ’80, Jennifer Marshall ’04, Elizabeth Jackson McGee ’04 and Benton Persons ’06 at Cowboy Stadium. Not pictured, but attended other events: Jeff Russell ’98 and Emily Schoffner Henry ’99.

Stratford Does Dallas

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Want “Stratford on the Road” to come to your city?
Contact Jaime.Kaplan@stratford.org.

In Memoriam

Alumni
Bill Terry ’71
Tim Jones ’75
Holly Palmer Rhodes ’78

Former Faculty
Blossom Burgarny
Don Brunel

Former Trustees
Neva Fickling
Eleanor Homeyer

Present Parents
Mark Cotton
Rodney Williams

2009
Merry Hunter Hipp was selected by Georgia Tech to be the 2013 Student Reflection Speaker at the commencement ceremony. She majored in Public Policy and graduated with Highest Honors.

2010
Caroline Harrell is a live programming intern with The Weather Channel in Atlanta and assists the producer with “Wake Up With Al” and “Weather Center Live.” She is also the station manager of Eagle Eye TV at Auburn University, where she created and now produces “Wake Up, Auburn!”

2011
Josh Cohen has made the Dean’s List four out of six quarters at Northwestern University. He is a history and legal studies major, a member of Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity and a Greek Emerging Leader.

2012
Lindsay Hill, UGA sophomore, and Jackie Lineberger, Clen- son sophomore, worked at The Cloister on Sea Island in the Junior Staff program this summer.

Merritt Jones and Juliana Dean were inducted into the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society at Georgia Southern.

Jay Moss received the Professor of Military Science Distinguis- hed Cadet Award which is presented to the top freshmen cadet at the University of Geor- gia and he also made Dean’s List both semesters.

Becker O’Shaughnessy had a phenomenal freshmen tennis season at the University of Alabama, where he was named to the All-SEC Freshmen Team. He led the Tide in singles and doubles victories and was nationally ranked in both.

Kyle Smith is playing on Mercer University’s new football team. The Bears’ first game was Aug. 31. Kyle “hopes his Stratford family will support the team.”
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction
Stratford Gym - 10:00 a.m.
The Athletic Hall of Fame honors individuals and teams who have made significant contributions to the school's athletic programs. The Class of 2013 inductees are: Coach Bobby Hendley, Carter Kelly Monroe '96, Kyle Johnston '02, Robbie Sovie '02, Henry Tift and 1994 Baseball Team.

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction CEREMONY - 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Carter Kelly Monroe '96, Kyle Johnston '02, Robbie Sovie '02, Henry Tift and 1994 Baseball Team.

NEW LOCATION! All alumni and their families are guests at our annual Alumni Weekend Picnic at the Maurice Barnett Golf Pavilion. Enjoy games, music and children's activities. Parking available at Bubber Adams Baseball Complex.

NEW EVENT! Sam Anderson Memorial Alumni Flag Football Game - 5:00-6:00 p.m.
In memory of classmate Sam Anderson, the Class of 1988 will host the first Sam Anderson Memorial Flag Football Game on the Stratford football field. The game will be a 7-on-7 flag football format with two 20-minute, running clock halves. Any interested alumnus is welcome to play. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Andy Anderson Institute, an organization established to assist families coping with addiction. For more information contact event chair Blair Cleveland '88 at bkcleveland@martinsnow.com.

Alumni BBQ Picnic - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Campus Tour - 10:30 a.m.
Meet your fellow Eagles at the front lobby of the school for a tour of the campus.

Alumni, Homecoming and Hall of Fame Recognitions - 8:30 a.m.
During halftime, join us for the crowning of the 2013 Homecoming Queen and recognition of alumni and the Stratford Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2013.

Stratford v. Edmund Burke - 7:30 p.m.
All alumni and their families receive complimentary admission to the Homecoming football game.

For more information about Alumni Weekend 2013, contact Jaime Kaplan, Alumni Director, at Jaime.Kaplan@stratford.org or (478) 477-8073 ext. 286.
2009

Colleen Beringer graduated with a B.A. from Georgia Tech (GT) and is working as a consultant for Alvarez and Marsal in Atlanta.

Cody Browning graduated from the University of Georgia (UGA) and is attending the Medical University of South Carolina.

Marjie Dickey received a degree in Food Marketing and Administration from UGA, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. She is working in a fellowship program at the Capitol in Atlanta.

Hannah Driver graduated cum laude from Emory University with a B.S. in Nursing. She is a registered nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at The Children’s Hospital in Macon.

Corinne Easterlin graduated with a degree in Education from University of South Carolina and is attending Georgia State University for a Master’s in Education.

Anna Hathaway graduated with a degree in Advertising and English from UGA and is attending the Charleston School of Law.

Culby Hinson graduated with a degree in Risk Management from UGA and is working with MetLife as an account executive of employee benefits trainee in Atlanta.

Merry Hunter Hipp graduated with a degree in Public Policy from GT and is working as a consultant for Capgemini America in Atlanta.

Mary Del Holleman graduated with a degree in Special Education from University of Alabama and is teaching special education at Lanier Middle School in Atlanta.

Thomas Holmes graduated with a degree in Chemistry from Mercer University and is attending the Medical College of Georgia (MCG).

Paige Hopkins graduated from UGA, College of Education. She will continue her studies at Georgia State University working toward a doctorate of Physical Therapy.

Howell Jarrard graduated with a B.A. from GT and is attending the MCG.

Abby Meadors graduated with a degree in Advertising from UGA and is working for Senator Saxby Chambliss in Washington, D.C.

David O’Shaughnessey graduated magna cum laude from Mercer University with a B.B.A. in Accounting. He is attending UGA for his Masters in Accountancy and will join Grant Thornton in Atlanta as an audit associate in the fall.

Mary Rabun graduated with a degree in Art/Graphic Design from UGA and is working as a design intern for BirchBox in New York City, N.Y.

Cater Thompson graduated with a degree in Chemistry from Sewanee University and is attending the MCG.

Kate Wise graduated with a degree in Education from Flagler University.
2008

Meagan Johnson Cook graduated from UGA with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education.

Hayes Hofstadter graduated with a Bachelor’s in Civil Engineering from GT.

Madi McNeal graduated from UGA with a B.B.A. in Management and is pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Nursing at Georgia Regents University.

Natalie Oliner graduates in December from the University of Michigan with a Master’s in Higher Education. In May 2012, she completed her B.A. at Indiana University where she double majored in Sociology and Religious Studies and minored in philosophy.

Cassidy Roland graduated from GT with a B.S. in Biology and is attending Mercer University in Atlanta for Physician Assistant training.

Natalie Slocumb graduated from Auburn University with a degree in Kinesiology Exercise Science and is pursuing a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at Mercer University.

2007

Mary Priestly Jarrard graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance from Butler University.

Caroline Kellum graduated with a Masters of Speech Communication Disorders from Valdosta State University.

Kate Reynolds graduated with a B.A. in English in 2011 and in 2013 with a Master’s degree in English Education from UGA. She attends Mercer School of Law.

Cole Yarbrough graduated from GT with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

2005

Chase Hopkins graduated from the College of Dental Medicine at Georgia Regents University in Augusta. He began his oral surgery internship in June.

Stephen Peterson graduated from Southern Polytechnic State University School of Architecture with a Bachelor of Architecture. He also attended architecture school near Berlin, Germany, for credit hours toward his graduation.

2003

Dr. Audrey Meyer Carson received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisc. She completed her clinical internship at Texas Children’s Hospital/Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, where she is now working on her fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology.

2002

John Jones graduated with an M.B.A. from UGA.

1996

John Daniel Reeves received his Doctorate in Systems Engineering from George Washington University on the lawn of the National Mall in Washington, D.C.
1 – Caroline Elizabeth Nelson (born Nov. 6, 2012) to Stewart and Julie Brown Nelson ’95 and big brother, Carson, of Macon.
2 – Ronan Patrick Rhicard (born March 17) to Andy and Laura Kellum Rhicard ’01 of Athens.
5 – Addison Cinclaire Lee (born May 23) to Loston and Victoria Chambless Lee ’09 of Macon.
6 – Aliana Parr Tatman and William Mark Tatman (born Nov. 5, 2012) to Mark and Roxana Dehnad Tatman ’92 of Atlanta.
7 – Jacklyn Kate Brooks and Lucy Claire Brooks (born July 2, 2012) to Kevin and Bonnie Haygood Brooks ’93 of St. Simons.
8 – Moyer Decatur Fountain Jr. (born June 26, 2012) to Moyer and Mary Elizabeth “Betsy” Rivers Fountain ’92 of Charleston, S.C.
10 – Maria Ann DellaDonna (born June 12) to Jody and Liz Thomas DellaDonna ’02 of Macon.
11 – Finn Thomas Walker (born March 19) to Bo ’00 and Caitlin Walker and big brother, Liam, of Macon. Grandson of Billy and Janet Butler Walker ’75.
13 – Ayers and Mercer Schuessler (born Nov. 16, 2012) to Todd ’94 and Laura Neill Schuessler of Marietta.


17 – Laura Bennett Dickey (born Jan. 2, 2013) to Jamie and Laura Beth Cantrell Dickey ’04 of Macon.

18 – Genevieve “Gigi” Rose Griset (born July 13, 2012) to Jason and Holley Purcel Griset ’93 and big brothers, Jackson and Benny. Granddaughter of Morris ’66 and Sharon Purcel.

19 – Causey Anne Berg (born April 16, 2013) to James ’00 and Valli Berg and big sister Molly and big brother, angel Bo, of Macon. Granddaughter of Harold ’70 and Susan Floyd Causey ’73 and Jimbo and Martha Williams Berg ’70.

20 – Avery Banks Griffith (born March 26, 2012) to Travis ’01 and Jordan Griffith of Forsyth. Granddaughter of Benjy ’71 and Teresa McEachern Griffith ’73.

21 – Benjamin Hudson Hawkins (born June 27, 2013) to Jason ’98 and Allison Hawkins of Macon.

22 – Emerson Rae Dudley (born June 14, 2013) to Bennett and Mary Rae Phelps Dudley ’98 of Augusta.


25 – Annie Beyer Hoye (born June 19, 2013) to Patrick and Ashley Cantrell Hoye ’03 of Macon.
1 – Ashley Dunwody ’00 married Charles Ladson ’93 on April 27 at the home of her parents, Beth and Elliott Dunwody, in Macon. Ashley’s sister, Mary Katherine Dunwody ’05, was maid of honor and Charles’s brother, Bill Ladson ’88, was best man. The Ladsons currently reside in Macon.

2 – Stacy Brown married Lee Dickey ’02 on Feb. 16 at the Chapel at Big Canoe. Michael Chanin ’02 was one of the groomsmen. The Dickeys currently reside in Atlanta.


4 – Ashley Slocumb ’02 married Justin Pyron on April 27 at Rustix Manor in Woodstock, Ga. Ashley’s sisters, Shannon Slocumb ’04 and Natalie Slocumb ’07, were maids of honor. The Pyrons currently reside in Macon.

5 – Sylvia Boykin ’87 married Robbie Neff on Nov. 12, 2011, at Park Memorial United Methodist Church in Macon. The Neffs currently reside in Nicholasville, Ky.


8 – Laura Persons ’06 married Chandler Penn on April 27 at Vineville United Methodist Church in Macon. Wedding attendants included maid of honor Jessica Bowden ’06, Fraser Rovell ’06, Jencie McDavid ’06, Rachael Ackerman ’06, B.B. Richardson ’06, Maggie Easterlin ’06 and Lawson Penn ’07. The Penns currently reside in Macon.

9 – Lauren Hoffman ’03 married Joseph Fried on April 6 at Vineville United Methodist Church in Macon. The wedding party included Annie Katz ’03, matron of honor Rachel Walker Lewis ’03, maid of honor Caroline Lumley ’08, Lindsey Pharr Moriarty ’03, Ashley Cantrell Hoye ’03 and Franklin Smisson ’03. The Frieds currently reside in Macon. (Jenny Evelyn Photography)

10 – Audrey Meyer ’06 married Cody Carson on June 8, 2012, at the One&Only Palmilla in Los Cabos, Mexico. Wedding attendants included her brothers, John Meyer ’06 and Michael Meyer ’07. The Carsons currently reside in Houston, Texas. (Jenny Evelyn Photography)

11 – Natalie Ford ’06 married Jared Cozart on May 11 at Vineville Methodist Church in Macon. The wedding party included Lacey Gibbons ’06, Catherine Harmon ’06, Morgan Sullivan ’06, flower girl Mary Leland Cozart ’25, and Natalie’s brother, Bradshaw Ford ’03.

12 – Marnie Dayan married Steven Vogel ’99 on Nov. 10, 2012, at Temple Beth Israel in Macon. Steven’s brother, Ross Vogel ’06, was best man. The Vogels currently reside in Atlanta.


14 – Chris Home married Baxter James ’08 on May 3 at the home Baxter’s grandparents, Susan and Bill McDuffie. The Jameses currently reside in Macon.

15 – Caroline Kellum ’06 married Taylor Boggus on May 19, 2012, at The Brickyard in Macon. The Kellums currently reside in McDonough.

16 – Meagan Johnson ’08 married Adam Cook on June 1 at Beachview Club on Jekyll Island. Madi McNeil ’08 was in the wedding party. The Cooks currently reside in Smyrna.

17 – Anna Kate Orr married Charles Thomas Hopkins III ’09 on April 27 at the Morris Chapel at Darlington School in Rome, Ga. The wedding party included Benjamin Smisson ’05, Taylor McLendon ’05, Thomas Reichert ’05, Jack Hall ’06, Wesley Walthall ’06 and Josh Hoffman ’07. The Hopkins currently reside in Augusta.
18 – Kirsten Olsen married Kunal MacDonald ’07 on May 18 at the Reid Barn in Cumming. The MacDonalds currently reside in Atlanta.

19 – Merry Burton Liipfert ’04 married Jesse Adams on June 1 under “Merry Burton’s tree” at the home of her parents, Dawn and Richard Liipfert. The wedding party included LaWahna Dawn Liipfert Pyles ’01, Summer Sterling Liipfert Grisamore ’03, Laura Beth Cantrell Dickey ’04, Lindsey Tiller ’04, Summer Dawn Neel ’14, Sanford Caroline Neel ’18, Rich Liipfert ’00 and flower girl future Eagle Lila Dawn Pyles flower girl. The Adamses currently reside in Spring Hill, Fla.


21 – Summer Sterling Liipfert ’03 married Grant Grisamore on March 23 at Vineville United Methodist Church in Macon. The wedding party included LaWahna Dawn Liipfert Pyles ’01, Merry Burton Liipfert Adams ’04, Elizabeth Solomon Schorr ’02, Lindsey Pharr Moriarty ’03, Lana Childs ’03, Summer Dawn Neel ’14, Sanford Caroline Neel ’18, Rich Liipfert ’00, Jack Hall ’06 and future Eagle Lila Dawn Pyles flower girl. The Grisamores currently reside in Macon.

22 – Lindsey Pharr ’03 married Bradley Moriarty on May 18 at The Ritz Carlton Half Moon Bay, Calif. Bridesmaids included Summer Sterling Liipfert Grisamore ’03 and Lauren Hollman Fried ’03. The Moriartys currently reside in Macon.

23 – Cameron Beasley ’03 married Tim Gilliland on April 5 at the Blacksmith Shop in Macon. The Gilliards currently reside in Macon. (Doug Nurnberger Photography)

24 – Amanda Jones married Tyler Brown ’07 on June 29 at First United Methodist Church in Elberton. The wedding party included Carson Schilling ’07 and Franky Davis ’07. The Browns currently reside in Macon.


27 – Georgia Brogdon ’04 married Scott Shirley on July 6 at the Cloister at Sea Island. Laura Beth Cantrell Dickey ’04 was a bridesmaid. The Shirleys currently reside in Baton Rouge, La. (Jenny Evelyn Photography)


29 – Anna Aguero married Franky Davis ’07 on May 11 at Gin Creek in Moultrie. The Davises currently reside in Augusta.

30 – Brandilyn Cook married Zack Stroup ’07 on Dec. 29, 2012, at the First Baptist Church in Macon. The Stroups currently reside in Martinez.

31 – Molly Meadors ’05 married Chad Deweese on May 18 in Hilton Head, S.C. Wedding attendants included Abby Meadors ’09, Claire Meadors ’07 and Alex Meadors ’02. The Deweeses currently reside in Chapel Hill, N.C. (A.K. Vogel Photography)
Honors and Awards 2013
Lower School Honors and Awards 2013

Virginia Parker Buzzell Memorial Scholarship ............................... Ishaan Narsinghani
Given annually to a second grader, the recipient exemplifies the qualities of the wonderful Parker Buzzell, a bright and shining Stratford student in the 1980s. Fellow students and teachers knew Parker for her intellectual curiosity and the genuine kindness she showed to everyone. Wise beyond her years, Parker’s brave and courageous spirit brought joy to her family and friends. Parker’s family and friends provide the scholarship through the Parker Buzzell Foundation.

Howard Ingley Award ............................................................... Muddle Fackler
Given each year in honor of former music teacher and Lower School Principal Howard Ingley, this award is given to an outstanding third grader who has an interest in fine arts.

Lois Irby Award ....................................................................... Charles Brooks, James Michael Reeves
Given annually to two fourth grade students who excel academically, this gift was endowed from an anonymous friend to honor Mrs. Lois Irby, a long time and greatly loved first grade teacher at Stratford.

Elaine P. Massey Award ............................................................ Abby Ellison, J.B. James
Given yearly in honor of Elaine Massey, who was a member of Stratford’s founding faculty in 1960 and was named first Lower School Principal in 1977 and served in that capacity until her retirement. The award goes to an outstanding fifth grader who has been at Stratford since the first grade.

Fine Arts Award ...................................................................... Grey Faulkner, Matt Newberry
Stratford Academy is fortunate to have such a strong fine arts program. Lower school students participate in art classes, music classes and band. Each year lower school students may audition for the spring drama production. An award is presented each year to a student with strong participation in the area of Fine Arts.

Fifth Grade Council
Ellen Adams, Jenny Belle Butler, John Thomas Carter, Arya Datta, Grey Faulkner, J.B. James, Mary Elaine Mitchell, Jayan Patel, Dell Sikes, Tomi Sogade, Taylor Swan

Sixth Grade Math League Awards
1st Place ............................ Charles Brooks, Rohan Patel, Harrison Tuck
2nd Place ............................ Jack Bolitga, Ellie Sim
3rd Place ............................ James Michael Reeves

Fifth Grade Math League Awards
1st Place ............................ Sean Malhotra
2nd Place ............................ Matt Newberry
3rd Place ............................ Kieran MacKinnon

Math 24 Online Challenge
Eagle Ambassador ................. Rosim Poku
Award to the top eighth grader who possesses the qualities of a good citizen in addition to his/her outstanding academic performance, this student is a young person Stratford would be proud to send out into the world as an ambassador.

Eagles of Distinction .................. Lizzi Clayton, Ruth Samuel, Robert Stone, Haiz Webb
Selected by the eighth-grade faculty, the Eagles of Distinction are selected on the basis of academic achievement and overall positive contributions to the life of the school.

Middle School Honors and Awards 2013

Outstanding Student Awards
Helen B. Comer Memorial Award .................................................. Holland Schell
Named in memory of Helen Comer, a former Stratford student, this award is given annually to the outstanding sixth grader.

Seventh-Grade Outstanding Student ....................................... Tejas Athni
Charles Kendall Ross Memorial Scholarship .......................... Carly Wanna
Given in memory of Charlie Ross, wonderful, courageous young man who was Stratford’s top eighth-grade student for the 1986-87 school year.

Citizenship Awards
Sixth Grade ................................................................. Griffin Matson
Seventh Grade ................................................................. Sydie Rouleau, Jadyn Stephens
Eighth Grade .................................................................. Maggie Greer, Luke Slappey

Scholar Awards
Sixth Grade ................................................................. John Morgan Manley
Seventh Grade ................................................................. Ellie Minette
Eighth Grade .................................................................. Jon Barron

DAR Awards
DAR American History Award .................................................. Morgan Mathis
DAR Citizenship Award for Sixth Grade ...................................... McKay Powers
DAR Citizenship Award for Seventh Grade ................................ Carson Greene
DAR Citizenship Award for Eighth Grade .................................... Jane Hatcher

Eagle Ambassador .................. Rosim Poku
Award to the top eighth grader who possesses the qualities of a good citizen in addition to his/her outstanding academic performance, this student is a young person Stratford would be proud to send out into the world as an ambassador.

Sixth-Grade Content Awards for Outstanding Achievement in a Subject
Accelerated Foundations Math ...................................................... Sai Pagadala
Math .................................................................................. Uswa Khan
History ............................................................................ Sam Clark
Science .............................................................................. Rushabbi Patel
Reading .................................................................................. Preston Brewer
English .................................................................................. Alexandra Stefanis

Seventh-Grade Content Awards for Outstanding Achievement in a Subject
Math ...................................................................................... Stephen Durso, Murray McCormack
History .................................................................................. Abby Hrick
Science .............................................................................. Nischal Bandi, Logan Thomas
English .................................................................................. Tripp Vaughn
Spanish .................................................................................. Ellie Peterson
French ...................................................................................... Katherine Hall
Latin ......................................................................................... Carlin Weinberg
Visual Arts .............................................................................. Amy Kathryn Heard
Drama ....................................................................................... Amelia Bunker, Jake Jamison

Eighth-Grade Content Awards for Outstanding Achievement in a Subject
Jackie C. Poole Algebra Award .................................................. Tarah Ajan
Geometry .................................................................................. Carly Wanna
Foundations Math ..................................................................... Alyssa Whipple
History .................................................................................. Kevin McGeen
Civics ....................................................................................... Sarah Kate Sellers
Science ...................................................................................... Thomas Thwaite
Faye Holliday English Award ...................................................... Gracie Childers
Spanish ...................................................................................... Walker Gibbons
French ....................................................................................... Zainab Siddiqui
Latin ......................................................................................... Anna Katherine Boswell
Performing Arts ........................................................................ Haiz Webb

Eighth-Grade Spirit Award ......................................................... Grace Adams
Upper School Honors and Awards 2013

Citizenship Awards
Best Citizen ............................................. Stacy Garrett, Jordi Gaton
DAR Best Citizen ......................................... Stacy Garrett
American Legion Award for Citizenship .............. Tommy Lind
U.S. Attorney Ambassador for Justice Award .......... Tommy Lind

Scholarship Awards
Thomas Whitley Harper Memorial Scholarship .......... Stacey Dorogy
William M. Brake Memorial Scholarship .................. Matthew Beringer
Josephine Barker Lamb Memorial Scholarship ............. Val Sheridan
Joel Plant Hatcher Memorial Scholarship .................. Hunter Quintal, Hannah Sanjeev
Arthur and Jane Brook Scholarship ......................... John Clark, Margaret Anne Rowe
Otis Walton Gunn Memorial Scholarship .................. Morgan Sovell
Henry Harding Tift IV Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship .... Holly Bean
Ann B. Tift Scholarship .................................. Nayah Hill
Tommy Robinson Memorial Scholarship .................... William Staton
Andy Anderson Memorial Scholarship ..................... William Hicks

Departmental Awards
Joe B. Hill History Award ................................ Jordi Gaton
DAR American History Award ............................. Saqib Qadir
William M. Brake Mathematics Award ..................... Hall Neel
Faye R. Holiday English Award ......................... Benjamin Ford
Technology Group Award ................................ Sam Jenkins

Excellence in Spanish ....................................... Sarah Dennis
Excellence in French ....................................... Margaret Anne Rowe
Excellence in Latin ......................................... Abbie Nash
Excellence in Science ....................................... Shruti Gupta
Mary Eva Harper Chemistry Award ......................... Abbie Nash
Excellence in Art ............................................ Lauren Reynolds
Excellence in Band .......................................... Liz Bevill
Excellence in Theatre ....................................... Bryan Horn
Overall Excellence in Fine Arts ............................. Bryan Horn
Rising Star .................................................. Haley Griffin
Socrates Award ............................................. Caitlyn Williams

National Honor Societies Senior Members
Mu Alpha Theta Math Honorary ................................. Sarah Dennis, Eric Evans, Elizabeth Fuller, Jordi Gaton, Shruti Gupta
Spanish Honor Society ..................................... Blaire Burton, Palmer Dawes, Sarah Dennis, Alexis Gautier, Shruti Gupta, Lauren Reynolds
Latin Honor Society ........................................ Benjamin Ford
French Honor Society ....................................... Elizabeth Fuller, John Robert McKennie, Eleanor Traynham
National Beta Club ............................................ Caroline Avant, Suzanne Avant, Blaire Burton, Palmer Dawes, Sarah Dennis, Eric Evans, Benjamin Ford, Elizabeth Fuller, Stacy Garrett, Jordi Gaton, Alexis Gautier, Haleyh Griffin, Shruti Gupta, Noble Harris, Bailey Hicks, Harbor Hicks, Palmer Hipp, Andrew Jones, Hedley Jones, Suria Khurana, Tommy Lind, John Robert McKennie, Hall Neel, Julia Nelson, Lauren Reynolds, Malone Slappey, Greer Smith, Mishana Smith, James Thwaite, Eleanor Traynham, Maiben Watkins

Community Service Awards
Senior with the most career hours ......................... Suzanne Avant
Student earning the most hours this year ................... Claudia Monfort
Seniors earning 100+ hours .................................. Caroline Avant, Suzanne Avant, Jennifer Barron, Lane Bowden, Dylan Cole, Palmer Dawes, Sarah Dennis, Eric Evans, Elizabeth Fuller, Stacy Garrett, Jordi Gaton, Alexis Gautier, Hall Neel, Haley Griffin, Marshall Grubb, Shruti Gupta, Allie Hale, Katie Hale, Bailey Hicks, Harbor Hicks, Meredith Hightower, Celia Hinson, Palmer Hipp, Bryan Horn, Mary Beth Jarrard, Hedley Jones, Tommy Keene, Tommy Lind, Madeline Miller, Julia Nelson, William Raines, Lauren Reynolds, Helen Catherine Rozier, Garrett Scarborough, Dallas Ray Sherwood, Malone Slappey, Eleanor Traynham, Adrianna Vander Ven, Maiben Watkins, Juliana White

Achievement Awards
Student Leadership Award .................................. Bryan Horn
Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Award ..................... Ansley Edwards
United States Senate Youth Program ...................... Sarah Dennis
American Legion Boys’ State ................................ Noble Harris
American Legion Girls’ State ................................ Eleanor Traynham

Rotary Youth Leadership Summer 2012 ....................... Stacy Garrett

Stratford Scholarships

Andy Anderson Memorial Scholarship
William Hicks
Haileed Furdal “Andy” Anderson II was an outstanding athlete and student leader in the Stratford Class of 1984. As president of his senior class and a significant presence on the 1982 state championship football team, Andy was a prominent figure on campus during his high school years. After attending the University of Georgia and graduating from Mercer University, he became a successful businessman and active community volunteer in Macon. After his death in 2003, family, friends, classmates and business associates endowed a full scholarship in his name. Each year the scholarship goes to an Upper School student or students who have demonstrated leadership and athleticism as members of the football team and personal qualities of integrity, character and school spirit.

William M. Brake Memorial Scholarship
Matthew Beringer
William M. Brake was already a legend in Macon when he came to Stratford in the late years of a long career as school administrator and teacher of mathematics before teaching geometry at Stratford from 1973 to 1986. His blunt manner and rumpled style could not disguise his affection and concern for the young people in his care. Students smiled at his eccentric ways and high-pitched voice, but they admired him extravagantly and learned enthusiastically under his leadership. This scholarship goes each year to a rising senior who has demonstrated by exceptional mathematical ability, intellectual curiosity and superior achievement, a commitment to meeting the challenges and complexities of higher mathematics.

Arthur and Jane Brook Scholarship
John Clark, Margaret Anne Rowe
June and Arthur Brook educated their five children at Stratford. With five children as graduates of Stratford, they invested much of their lives and family time at the school for more than two decades. Following the graduation of their youngest son, Freeman, in 1987, they began a plan to provide a scholarship for future Stratford students. The scholarship is given in honor of the five Brook children: Steve ’72, Debbie ’74, Dean ’77, Laurie ’80 and Freeman ’87. Following graduation from Stratford, four of the five Brook children graduated from Furman University. Thus the Brook family has chosen to honor and link their children’s experience with a university well-known and loved by the family. This scholarship is awarded to a rising senior who is a Furman Scholar.

Virginia Parker Buzzell Memorial Scholarship
Ishaan Narsinghani
Virginia Parker Buzzell was a bright and shining Stratford student in the 1980s. Fellow students and teachers knew Parker for her intellectual curiosity and the genuine kindness she showed to everyone. Wise beyond her years, Parker’s brave and courageous spirit brought joy to her family and friends. The Virginia Parker Buzzell Memorial Scholarship goes annually to a second grader who exemplifies the qualities of the wonderful Parker Buzzell. Parker’s family and friends provide the scholarship through the Parker Buzzell Foundation.

Otis Walton Gunn Memorial Scholarship
Morgan Sovell
The Otis Walton Gunn Memorial Scholarship is given by the family of Otis Walton Gunn. Mr. Gunn graduated from Stratford in 1968 and is remembered for his passion for life and the energy he brought to all of his interests and activities. This scholarship is awarded to a student who has excelled at Stratford, exhibited leadership ability and contributed to several areas of school life—academic, athletic and extracurricular.

Thomas Whitley Harper Memorial Scholarship
Stacey Dorogy
Thomas Whitley Harper ’68 was an outstanding student, leader and athlete whose positive energy, diverse abilities and exemplary character contributed significantly to the early establishment of Stratford as a strong college-preparatory school in the state of Georgia. Outgoing and affable, Tommy counted all students and teachers his friends, even as he cut a forbidding figure on the basketball court and golf course. He went from Stratford to the University of Georgia for undergraduate study and to the University of Virginia School of Medicine, where he led his class academically. He died in his late twenties before he could complete his training in orthopedic surgery. Each year, in his honor, the school awards this scholarship to a rising senior whose exceptional intellect, leadership and character set an inspiring standard for the members of the Stratford community.

Joel Plant Hatcher Memorial Scholarship
Hunter Quintal, Hemanth Sanjeev
Joel Plant Hatcher ’84 brought joy to the members of his school community with his love of life, bright smile and warm personality. A capable student, good citizen and engaging performer in dance and theater, he was the quintes-
Upper School Honors and Awards 2013

STAR Student-Teacher .................................................. Shruti Gupta - Mike Kelley
Bibb County STAR Student-Teacher ................................ Shruti Gupta - Mike Kelley
National Merit Scholars ................................................ Shruiti Gupta, Hall Neel
National Merit Commended Students ................. Benjamin Ford, Andrew Jones, John Robert McKemie
UVA Jefferson Scholars Program Nominee ................. Jordi Gaton
UNC Morehead Cain Scholarship Nominee ................. Sarah Dennis
Georgia Certificate of Merit ........................................... Matthew Beringer, Abbie Nash, Taylor Mathis, Hemanth Sanjeev
Furman Scholars .......................................................... Matthew Beringer, Stacey Durgy, John Clark, Mitchell Freyermuth,
William Ham, Jimmy Hernandez, Nathan Lischer, Taylor Mathis,
Abbie Nash, Alexandria Power, Asafia Rehan, Margaret Anne Rowe,
Hemanth Sanjeev, Morgan Sowell, Andrew Hanna
Wofford Scholars .......................................................... Matthew Beringer, Abbie Nash, Taylor Mathis,
Margaret Anne Rowe, Hemanth Sanjeev, Morgan Sowell
Presbyterian College Fellows ........................................... Matthew Beringer, William Ham, Taylor Mathis, Abbie Nash,
Margaret Anne Rowe, Hemanth Sanjeev, Morgan Sowell
Governors Honors Program Nominees ....................... Haleigh Griffin (Latin),
Shruti Gupta (science), Julia Nelson (Latin)
Governors Honors Program Participant ....................... Benjamin Ford (Latin)
The Telegraph Golden Eagle Nominees ................. Liz Bevill (theatre), Dylan Cole (music),
Sarah Dennis (citizenship), Eric Evans (math), Benjamin Ford (foreign language),
Jordi Gaton (English), Celia Hinson (journalism), Bryan Horn (art)
The Telegraph Golden Eagle Winner ............................... Shruti Gupta (science)
Harvard Book Award .................................................. Abbie Nash
Jefferson Book Award ............................................... William Ham
Sewanee Book Award ............................................... Taylor Mathis
Varsity Debate Awards ................................................ Robert Clark, Andrew Jones, Dylan Ogle,
Hemanth Sanjeev, Tolu Sagada

Academic Achievement Awards

Ninth Grade .......................................................... Shishir Bandi
Tenth Grade ........................................................ Dori Kacsoh
Eleventh Grade ...................................................... Abbie Nash
Salutatorian ........................................................... Sarah Dennis
Valedictorian ........................................................ Shruti Gupta

John William Herin Jr. Commitment Awards
Ninth Grade ........................................................ Michelle Tang
Tenth Grade ........................................................ Mary Kate Brown
Eleventh Grade ..................................................... Hunter Quintal
Twelfth Grade ....................................................... Tommy Lind

Bee Dinner Spirit Award ................................................ Maiben Watkins

Scholar/Athlete Awards

Band .......................................................... Haleigh Griffin, Julia Nelson
Volleyball .......................................................... Allie Hale
Softball .......................................................... Caroline Avant
Football ........................................................ Jordi Gaton

Girls’ Cross Country ................................................. Malone Slappey
Boys’ Cross Country ................................................ Eric Evans

Cheerleading ........................................................... Sarah Dennis

Boys’ Swimming ...................................................... Jordi Gaton
Girls’ Swimming ..................................................... James Thwaite
Girls’ Tennis .......................................................... Harbor Hicks

Boys’ Tennis .......................................................... Bailey Hicks
Boys’ Soccer .......................................................... Tommy Lind
Girls’ Soccer .......................................................... Elizabeth Fuller
Baseball .............................................................. Nathan Lischer
Golf ................................................................. Matthew Beringer

Lois Iby Memorial Scholarship

Charles Brooks, James Michael Reeves

The Lois Iby Memorial Scholarships were endowed by a gift from an anonymous friend to honor Mrs. Lois Iby, a longtime and greatly loved first-grade teacher at Stratford Academy. The award goes annually to two outstanding rising fifth graders.

Josephine Barker Lamb Memorial Scholarship

Val Sheridan

Josephine Barker Lamb ’46 was a beloved Stratford alumna, who devoted her time and talents to the school for many years. Warm and welcoming, she served as Alumni Director from 1984 to 1990. Unfailingly, she lent her considerable organizational skills, personal charm and positive energy to causes across the spectrum of school life from the time she entered Stratford as a student until her untimely death. Never too busy to take on a project or too tired to turn a cheerful smile on a visitor, Josephine was a person of great civility and decency. Each year this scholarship is awarded to a rising senior who is the child of an alumna or alumnus and who exhibits the qualities Stratford seeks to foster in students: character, integrity, academic achievement and active leadership in several areas of school life.

Tommy Robinson Memorial Band Scholarship

William Staton

Tommy Robinson was a delightful and kind young man who exhibited a zest for life and for the Stratford Band Program. His gifts, teachers and band director knew him for his loyalty to others, enthusiasm for learning and music, and ability to find humor and the positive side of any situation. He expressed exuberance for life and school in the band room and in the classroom as he explored his creativity and shared his upbeat nature and sense of humor with his friends. The Tommy Robinson Memorial Band Scholarship goes annually to a rising senior band student who exemplifies the qualities of Tommy Robinson. The award is given by the family of Tommy Robinson.

Charles Kendall Ross Memorial Scholarship

Carly Wanna

The Charles Kendall Ross Memorial Scholarship is given in honor and memory of Charlie Ross (May 20, 1973 – Nov. 20, 1987), a wonderful, courageous young man who was Stratford Academy’s top eighth-grade academic student for the 1986-87 school year. The scholarship goes annually to the top eighth-grade student and is provided by the family and friends of Charlie Ross.

Ann Brown Tift Scholarship

Nayah Hill

Ann Brown Tift wore many hats in her long, rich tenure at Stratford Academy. A Stratford parent, wife of former headmaster Henry Tift, Spanish teacher, English teacher, chair of the English department, sponsor of myriad clubs and organizations, and college counselor, Ann’s gifts to Stratford were innumerable. From the time she began working at Stratford in 1977 until she left in 2005, Ann’s skills as an educator, her love of learning, and her desire to see students engage in the world outside Stratford Academy helped shape the lives of students as well as multiple areas of school life. Her students remember her love for literature and the intellectual energy she inspired in her classroom. The students and parents she counseled through the college admissions process remember her encouragement to “reach for Pluto,” but to “secure a spot on Mars, just in case.” The scholarship is given to a student with intellectual curiosity, integrity and deep engagement in some particular area of school life or significant contributions in several areas of school life. Ann committed herself to encouraging a more diverse environment at Stratford Academy. The Ann Brown Tift scholarship is established in her honor by friends and family members in pursuit of a more diverse student body.

Henry Harding Tift IV Memorial Scholarship

Holly Bean

Henry Harding Tift IV, headmaster of Stratford Academy for 20 years until his death in 1997, was a man of personal balance. He enjoyed the exercise of his mind in projects ranging from the study of English literature at Yale University to his daily crossword puzzles and Scrabble games. He enjoyed the exercise of his body in athletics and such outdoor activities as fishing, canoeing and archery/hunting. He enjoyed the exercise of his imagination through an enthusiastic appreciation of the fine arts, especially instrumental music, choral music, theater and film. Under his leadership, Stratford developed its commitment to institutional balance in academics, athletics and the arts. Each year, in recognition of distinguished dedication to that balance, the school awards the scholarship to a rising senior demonstrating excellence and leadership in the fine arts who has made significant contributions to other areas of school life: academics, athletics and activities.

2013 Stratford Magazine 41
When Mike McCue was a student at Stratford in the 1980s, he would explore the library for information. The better-equipped teachers had filled bookshelves and an overhead projector with a rolling-overlay to write continuous notes. Today, he has the entire world’s information in his pocket.

"Give me a laptop, and I can research any topic, watch any video, read any article I like. As a teacher, I can provide a link in my class portal, and now even my students’ parents can learn what I’m teaching," he says. "The teacher is more a facilitator since all information is already available, but the students just don’t know where to look.”

Today, Mike is Stratford’s Director of Technology and teaches computer classes from the basic introductory level for preschoolers to AP computer science for upper school students. He was also key to the implementation of the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) initiative that began during the 2012-2013 school year. "Our BYOD program is a reflection of the real world, with its mishmash of competing technologies, and I couldn’t be more excited," says Mike McCue ’86.

McCue believes that BYOD allows teachers to move beyond the traditional 3Rs (Reading, Writing and ’Rithmetic) and into the 6Cs (Connect, Create, Collaborate, Communicate, Compute and Think Critically). Traditionally, Stratford graduates have been armed with the strongest language arts curriculum in the country. A quick glance at the breadth of college acceptances and the strength of the Stratford debate program is proof of that. With the 6Cs, the school is able to solidify commitment to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as well.

Upper school math teacher Bobby Stecher has energized his students by providing them with a math problem server that can
be accessed from anywhere at any time. “The WeBWorK server can be accessed from an iPod Touch or a notebook computer and everything in between. The students can now work the problems whenever and wherever they like, and the fact that they are working until mastery is achieved is a huge plus,” says Stecher. “And while I’m working through a specific example in class, they can bring out their device and try a problem for themselves. Being able to do some additional research in the classroom has been a tremendous bonus.”

The Lower School and Middle School have also utilized BYOD in their curriculum. English teacher Kailey Rhodes-Hlavaty encouraged students to bring their own laptops to school so they could work on their research papers in the classroom. Students who did not have their own laptops borrowed one from the school. “As we move forward, we fully expect more students to choose their own laptops, because it’s so much easier to use your own than to use a shared workstation,” explains McCue. “Learning how to install software and maintain your own equipment is a societal expectation; it’s another aspect of learning to be a responsible citizen.”

BYOD was an intentional decision made by the school to integrate technology into student life/curriculum. Following its first year, several situations reaffirmed for the school that this is the most effective, real-world approach versus the 1-to-1 device approach. For McCue, who required his students to bring and use their own laptops every day, realized that it made the experience so much more real for the students when they would sit next to a friend who might have an entirely different operating system than their own. He observed that they were forced to focus on the concept of an exercise and not simply memorize step-by-step rituals and this is how the real world works.

“Nearly every 1-to-1 implementation I know about locks down the device so the student cannot make changes on their own,” comments McCue. “I had one student get excited about his ability to install a different operating system on his computer in a dual-boot mode. Students love customizing their world, and I think we can all agree that decorating the outside of their computer just doesn’t quite carry the same weight as being able to rewrite an operating system.”

Stratford is anticipating even further growth as the BYOD program enters its second full year. “Years ago, my teachers would say things like ‘Do you think you’ll be able to carry your encyclopedia or calculator with you everywhere?’ Now, I can reply ‘Absolutely.’”

“When I give a laptop, and I can research any topic, watch any video, read any article I like. As a teacher, I can provide a link in my class portal, and now even my students’ parents can learn what I’m teaching.”
— Mike McCue, Director of Technology
Library Wing Dedicated to Ann Martin Bowen

On March 8, family and friends of the late Ann Martin Bowen gathered to remember a beloved wife, mother, daughter and friend. Before her death in 2008, Ann was one of Stratford’s most active parent volunteers. Ann and Robert Bowen’s three children, Elizabeth ’06, Mary Adger ’09 and Rudy ’14, all attended Stratford.

Not only did she serve on nearly every SIP committee possible, she also was a room mother, field trip chaperone, library volunteer and all-around spreader of good cheer. Faculty and staff never knew when she would show up with her famous iced cookies or maybe dressed as a seasonal character ready to read to a class. Her efforts to be a Stratford supporter were tireless.

When Ann passed away in 2008, memorials were designated to the Stratford library and fittingly the lower school library wing was dedicated in her name this spring. As a former teacher, Ann was passionate about reading. She loved to read and served not only the Stratford library whenever possible, but also was a board member for the Friends of Library guild. “The library was one of Ann’s favorite places at Stratford, so I knew we wanted to do something to remember her there,” said Ann’s husband, Robert ’73. “As a teacher, she knew the value of reading, so it was important that this was an integral part of every student’s experience at Stratford.”

Jerome’s Bench

In the summer of 2011, Stratford Academy lost a much-loved family member when Director of Maintenance Jerome Scott unexpectedly passed away. Since that time fellow co-workers, alumni, current and former parents and students have felt the loss for the man who cared night and day for the Stratford campus.

On the recommendation from student Rosie Poku, the 2012-2013 Middle School Council coordinated a project to remember Scott. The students purchased a bench, which sits beneath one of the large oak trees in front of the school. An attached plaque reads “In Loving Memory Jerome Scott, 1962-2011, Class of 2017.”

On May 16, students, administration, faculty and staff joined together with the Scott family to dedicate “Jerome’s bench.” Following remarks from Head of School Dr. Bob Veto, Middle School Council President Crawford Edwards explained that the entire student body had been deeply saddened when Jerome passed away and the Class of 2017 wanted to do something in his memory.
Faculty News

A Special Tribute to the Life of Former Third-Grade Teacher

Stratford kindergarten teacher Jane Dukes Williams made a vow to her mother, the late Mary Louise Shipp Dukes, that she would publish her life’s stories. The book, Excerpts from the Life of a Bad Good Girl, or a Good Bad Girl, is Jane’s fulfillment of that.

From 1970 to 1989, Mrs. Dukes taught Stratford third graders. She was a fun-loving prankster who knew how to keep her students entertained, even though her primary task was teaching cursive writing, multiplication and all the other foundations of the grade. Her mischievous nature became the basis for her memoir. Excerpts from the Life of a Bad Good Girl, or a Good Bad Girl can be purchased at Amazon.com. Former students and colleagues will enjoy Mrs. Dukes’s account of her own life as a young girl growing up during the Depression and World War II.

Valentine’s Luncheon Honors Former and Retired Faculty

On Feb. 14, former Stratford faculty and staff joined together for the 14th annual Valentine’s Luncheon. Teachers, coaches, administration and staff from the last five decades enjoyed lunch and performance by the Middle School Chorus and a solo by Made lyn Pyles ’14 from the winter musical, Thoroughly Modern Millie. Dr. Bob Veto thanked guests for their years of service to the school. Current faculty with 20 or more years of service were also included in the event and enjoyed visiting with former co-workers.

Four Decades of Teaching: Pat Horne Retirement

After nearly 40 years as a Stratford faculty member, Pat Horne retired at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Pat’s Stratford career began as a kindergarten teacher on Bond Street and she fondly remembers the move to the Peake Road campus. Facilities for Stratford’s kindergartens opened six weeks after the start of school. Each day the teachers would come paint and do work to get the classrooms ready. They literally built the lower school from the ground up.

Throughout her career as a kindergarten and first grade teacher, Pat’s passion has been teaching children to read. “There is an excitement in children’s eyes when they realize they can read, and that makes all of your hard work as a teacher worthwhile.”

Pat received her teaching degree from the University of Georgia and then moved to Macon with her husband, Frank, when he entered Mercer School of Law. The Hornes decided to make Macon their permanent home. Her children, Laurie Lee Cranford ’89 and Stebin III ’93, are Stratford alumni. The Horne’s have four grandchildren, Miller ’21 and Dottie Cranford ’25 and Stebin IV and Sanford Horne. In addition to teaching, she also served as a cheerleading advisor in the 1980s and was awarded the Anne Stamps Excellence in Teaching Award for the 1993-1994 school year.

At a reception held on the last day of school in Pat’s honor, Senator Cecil Staton presented her with a proclamation from the Georgia Senate recognizing her efforts as a committed educator and Georgian. Former students, colleagues and friends gathered in the Stratford gym to wish Pat well and thank her for her tireless service to the families of Stratford Academy.

Repeatedly people commented that Pat was an ageless example of one of Stratford’s finest elementary teachers. “Teaching first graders keeps you young, and it was always fun to come to work,” said Pat. “I received so many blessings from teaching, and I hope that I was able to impart half as many on others.”

Faculty, Staff Recognized for Service

At the close of the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Trustees hosted a luncheon honoring Stratford faculty and staff. In addition to remarks made by Board Chairman Jeff Avant ’84, Head of School Dr. Bob Veto recognized staff members for their service to the school.

5 Years — Beth Henderson, Jeff Hubbard, Kathleen Medlin, Abby Schirmer, Bobby Stecher, Bob Veto
10 Years — Pat Herndon, Diane Nicholson, Lori Palmer, Kelly Solomon
15 Years — Mary Beth Gumbart, Millie Jones, Kathy Larsen, Lynn Massey, Sheri Moore, Jennifer Sweat
20 Years — Margaret Brogdon, Vicki Howell, Reeda Katz, Marilyn Walker
25 Years — David Bailey, John Paul Gaddy, Wanda Watson
30 Years — Kaye Wansley
40 Years — Griff Ethridge, Andy Lawson
While many students were traveling with family and squeezing in time for summer reading, four Stratford students took time to pursue their passion for the arts. These Upper School students were selected to prestigious summer fine arts study programs in music and vocal performance.

Madelyn Pyles’s ’14 first stage role was one of the orphans in Annie when she was 10 years old. Since that time she has been an active member of Stratford’s thespian team as well as local community theatre. For six weeks during the summer, she was one of 60 students selected to the Carnegie Mellon University musical theatre pre-college for drama summer study program in Pittsburgh, Penn. Madelyn hopes to have the opportunity to return next year as a college student majoring in musical theatre. “Singing every day and the acting training has made me a much stronger performer,” says Madelyn. Following college, she would like to find a role in a touring company with her ultimate goal of performing on Broadway.

Maggie Bergmark ’14 found her gift for vocal performance as a freshman. This summer she took the opportunity to hone her craft at the Brevard Music Center Summer Program in Brevard, N.C. For six weeks she attended classes in music history and literature, music theory, movement, acting, dictation and special topics. Her studies culminated with two song recitals and three piccolo opera scenes, but the highlight of her experience was rehearsing with the Janiec Opera Company. She plans to study music and vocal performance in college. “Being able to study with professionals, keeping pace with their energy levels and knowing what satisfies them was the most rewarding part of the summer for me,” said Maggie. “I know that I was given the gift of singing and, for me, there is nothing more amazing than using that gift to make someone else happy.”

Mary Carolyn Hulgan ’15 has been a member of the Stratford band program since she was a fifth grader, and she joined the Spirit of Stratford Marching Band as a seventh grader. She plays both the trombone and baritone, and during the summer she attended the University of Georgia Summer Symphonic Band Program in Athens with approximately 60 other high school musicians. The program began with auditions for chair positions and focused on giving students an opportunity to learn technique and gain performance experience. While
Mary Carolyn is not certain she wants to pursue her music hobby in college, she says she will consider participating in a college band program. Most importantly, she would encourage younger students to take advantage of summer study programs. Mary Carolyn says, "I would definitely recommend a summer program, not only do you learn a lot about your instrument, you also learn a lot about yourself."

**William Staton ’14** is an incredibly versatile and talented musician who has studied piano, percussion, baritone, tuba, guitar and bass guitar. This summer he was selected as one of 21 students to attend the New York University summer music business camp entitled “What Makes a Star.” During his camp experience, he attended classes taught by NYU professors, analyzed music industry projects, attended local talent shows to recruit new talent and attended a music concert at Yankee Stadium. His classes focused on topics such as copyright law, contracts and talent recruitment. As he enters his senior year, William will be looking for a college with the music business degree offering for a career which would focus on searching for untapped musical sources and finding that new musical sensation. “The best part of the experience for me was the connections I made with the professors and other campers, and I hope one day they will be my colleagues in the music industry,” he says. So why does an accomplished musician want to focus on others talents, not his own? William says, “Learning to play musical instruments helps me appreciate music and the talent it takes to produce it, but I’d rather find someone else whose star can shine brighter than mine.”

“The best part of the experience for me was the connections I made ... and I hope one day they will be my colleagues in the music industry.” – William Staton ’14

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**2012-2013 Stratford Fine Arts Highlights**

**Literary**
- First Place, Region Literary meet
- 10 Students qualified for state Region and State U.S. Extemporaneous
- First Place, Greer Smith

**Theatre**
- Fall One-Act play, Into the Woods
  - 34 cast and crew members participated
  - First place, GISA 2-AAA region competition
  - Actors Griffin Hutchins, Abbie Nash and Maggie Bergmark received region top performer awards
  - Actors Maggie Bergmark and Emmy Thornsberry received state top performer awards
- Winter Musical, Thoroughly Modern Millie
  - 38 cast/crew members, representing students grades 6-12
  - "Mini-Millie" presented by 24 students in grades 1-5 as pre-show
- Spring Upper School drama, Spoon River Anthology
  - 25 Upper School students participated
- Spring Middle School musical, High School Musical
  - 51 Middle School students (25% of division)
  - 6 new members were inducted into the International Thespian Society

**Music**
- 94 Number of students participating in Band program (grades 5-12)
- 23 Number of band students participating in Solo and Ensemble Festival
- 28 Number of medals earned at Solo and Ensemble Festival
- 5 Number of Band Programs – Beginning, Intermediate, Spirit of Stratford Marching Band and Color Guard, Symphonic Band and student-led Basketball Pep Band
- 6 Number of students in the GISA All-Select Band – Shishir Bandi, Margaret Anne Rowe, William Staton, Dylan Cole, Benjamin Ford, Marshall Grubb
- 2 Number of students in the GISA All-Select Chorus – Maggie Bergmark, Madelyn Pyles
- 1 Number of students in Georgia All-State Middle School Chorus – Haiz Webb
- 5 Number of students in the District Honor Band – Shishir Bandi, Carter Griffin, Justin Griffin, Benjamin Ford, Carly Wanna
- 1 Number of students in the South Region Band – Justin Griffin
- 4 Number of students selected for UGA High School Honor Band Festival – Benjamin Ford, Mary Carolyn Hulgan, Julia Nelson, William Staton
Two New Coaches for Varsity Eagles

In the spring of 2013, Stratford announced two new faces for the Eagles coaching staff. Mark Farriba ’74 has returned as Head Football Coach and Ian Hayley comes aboard as Head Boys’ Soccer Coach. Farriba replaces 40+-year coaching veteran Rodney Collins, who is stepping down from his head coaching position but will remain at Stratford in the physical education department. Hayley takes the reins of a boys’ soccer program, which has amassed four state titles in the last six years, from James Jordan who has taken a teaching position in Houston, Texas.

Farriba returns to Stratford after experiencing unprecedented success as the Head Football Coach at Prince Avenue Christian School in Bogart. “We are very excited to have Coach Farriba return home to lead the Stratford football program” said Athletic Director Grady Smith. “His ability to continue to build on the tradition and excellence of Stratford athletics is very important.”

While at Prince Avenue, Coach Farriba led the Wolverines to the 2011 GHSA A state semi-finals and the 2012 GHSA A state championship game. Prior to his time at Prince Avenue, he served as head coach at Stratford leading the Eagles to the 2004 GISA AAA state championship and at First Presbyterian Day School where his team won the 1985 state title. Throughout his 19-year head coaching career, he has compiled an overall record of 134-81-3.

In a phone interview with The Telegraph, Farriba said, “Stratford is where my roots are, and it was the right decision for my family to return. I am ready and excited about getting back and getting my hands dirty.”

When asked how he was a different coach than six years ago when he left Macon, Farriba said he had learned that challenges exist everywhere and every day you must work toward fulfilling that challenge. He also commented that his experiences at Prince Avenue have reinforced how important heart, desire and attitude are to a program. Farriba plans to build the football program on his personal coaching philosophy: “Good, better, best; never let it rest; till your good is your better, and your better is your best.”

Following a standout high school career at Stratford where he garnered All-State honors in football, basketball and baseball, Farriba played football at the University of Georgia where he was a member of the 1976 SEC Championship Team. He has also served

Record-Breaking Year

The 2012-2013 school year was a record-breaking year for Stratford athletics.

Seventeen varsity teams entered the state playoff tournaments and a record number of seven teams (Fastpitch Softball, Golf, Boys’ Track, Boys’ Swimming, Girls’ Cross Country, Boys’ and Girls’ Soccer) brought home state titles while two teams (Girls’ Track and Boys’ Tennis) were named state runners-up. This is the first-ever title for the Stratford swim program. The Girls’ Cross Country, Golf, Boys’ and Girls’ Soccer, Boys’ Tennis, Boys’ Basketball, and Boys’ and Girls’ Track programs also amassed eight region titles this year.

On the individual front, numerous school records were broken. These included: Softball Most Strikeouts in Season (Lexi Rouse); Swimming 50 yard free style, 100 yard free style and 100 yard back stroke (Dori Kacsoh); Boys’ Basketball Single Game Steals (Quintez Cephus), Single Season Blocks and Career Blocks (Stewart Eberhardt); Girls’ Track Discus (Mary Wilson Avant), 100 Meters, 200 Meters and 300 Meter Hurdles (Katie Stone) and 800 Meters (Cali Ruth Hays); Baseball Career Hits (Austin Simmons) and Perfect Game (Tyler Payne); Girls’ Soccer Most Goals in a Season, Most Goals in a Career, Most Points in a Season and Most Points in a Career (Allie Hale) and Most Assists in a Career (Haley Tidwell); Boys’ Soccer Single Game Goals, Single Season Goals, Career Goals, Most Points in a Game, Most Points in a Season and Most Points in a Career (Morgan Sowell) and Most Consecutive Games without a Loss (2013 Team).

In the community, The Telegraph recognized four students as All-Middle Georgia (AMG) Players of the Year (Lexi Rouse ’13 Softball, Robert Persons ’13 Golf, Allie Hale ’13 Girls’ Soccer, Quintez Cephus ’16 Boys’ Basketball), Andrew Myler as Coach of the Year for Girls’ Soccer and 24 student-athletes were named to AMG first teams. Alumnus David Kempa ’76 was also named the 2013 recipient of the Sam Burke Service Award for his long-term commitment to the Stratford basketball program as team statistician.

At the annual GISa conference in July, Stratford received the Class AAA Dr. Michael Drake Athletic Excellence Award for the second consecutive year. The Eagles also have won this award in 2002, 2005, 2006 and 2012.
as a graduate assistant coach at the Universities of Georgia and Kentucky. Farriba was recently inducted into the Stratford Athletic Hall of Fame and the Macon Sports Hall of Fame for his stellar career.

Coach Ian Hayley comes to Stratford from Frederica Academy in St. Simons, where he has worked with both the boys’ and girls’ soccer programs for the past five years. As head coach of the boys’ program, Hayley’s teams won state titles in the GISA AA in 2012 and 2013.

Before his time at Frederica, he coached at the University of Wyoming and Mercer University. His experience includes ten years with the Olympic Development Program (ODP) in Georgia as an age group coach and evaluation coach for Region III ODP. Coach Hayley’s college days were spent at University of Central Florida as a player, and he also played for the professional youth teams of Aston Villa and Bristol Rovers.

“I am extremely excited about the opportunity to continue the winning soccer tradition at Stratford. Stratford has a wonderful reputation, not only as an academic institution but also as arguably the best soccer program in the GISA,” says Hayley.

Hayley states that his coaching philosophy is simple: give players a strong foundation and then allow his/her intuition to create from that. He allows players to use their own creativity and trust their individual playing instincts, while remembering that doing things “the right way” is key.

“From achieving good grades to practicing the right way, from treating people with respect to winning and losing the right way,” says Hayley. “If we can do this, then everything else will fall into place.”

Hayley will also serve as Middle School Dean of Students, and Farriba will also teach Upper School P.E. and coach Middle School basketball.

Move to GHSA in 2014

On March 4, after months of study and deliberation, Stratford Academy’s administration and Board of Trustees voted to apply to the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) for eligibility to compete in that association beginning with the 2014-2015 season. This decision was made in a vote by the Board of Trustees with the firm support of Head of School Dr. Robert Veto and Athletic Director Grady Smith.

In an announcement to Stratford families following the decision, Dr. Veto stated, “We are grateful to everyone in the Stratford community who provided input into this decision, which was a difficult one. In this process, we sought and received input from not only you, our parents, but also from the coaching staff and other stakeholders. There were many opinions included in those responses, but the vast majority of the feedback that we received was positive toward making the move to GHSA competition. The Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) has been a great home for Stratford’s competition in athletics and other activities, but we look forward to embarking on new challenges as we return to the GHSA in 2014.”

Stratford was originally a member of the GHS for interscholastic competitions, but became a founding school for the Southeastern Association of Independent Schools (SEAIS), now GISA, in 1969.
**Booster Club**

The Stratford Booster Club membership is composed of families who provide financial and volunteer support for Stratford's extended athletic program. Annually the Booster Club raises funds through membership dues, sports program advertising, annual golf and tennis tournament and the annual jeep raffle party. For the 2012-2013 school year, the school's Booster Club was able to assist with the following projects:

- Updated football locker room
- Softball bleachers
- Updated football landscaping including brick columns and terracing
- Billboard of the senior athletes for football press box
- Carpeting and netting for baseball batting cages
- HUDL system
- $7,000 towards new basketball goals in gym

**SIP**

Stratford Interested Parents, or SIP, is the school's parent volunteer organization. Its purpose is to enhance each student's school experience and support the school, faculty and administration through a variety of planned events. Some of the many annual events sponsored by SIP are the division Open Houses, Middle School Dances, Holiday Buffet, Daddies' and Special Friends' Breakfast, Preschool/Lower School/Middle School Field Days, Upper School Spring Fling, Elam Alexander Field Day/Lunches and the semi-annual Uniform Resales. In addition, committees such as the Stratford Sunshine and Faculty Sunshine committees, Ticket Depot, Faculty/Administration Appreciation, Holiday Decorating, and Grade Level Parent Representatives for fifth through twelfth grades operate to enrich the experience of every member of the Stratford family. Through funds raised by membership dues and the annual uniform resale, SIP was able to make the following recent gifts to Stratford:

- Computers for Science Center in 2012-2013
- Tift Auditorium Theatre Sound System in 2011-2012
- Display cases for Science Center in 2010-2011
- Tift Auditorium stage curtains in 2009-2010
- Choral risers for music program in 2008-2009

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**2013-2014 Booster Club Officers**

- President: Richard Palmer
- Past President: Bob Woodcock
- Vice President: Robin Parker
- Secretary: Melis Jamison
- Treasurer: Donna Kay McGoldrick

**2013-2014 SIP Executive Board**

- Chair: Cynthia Nystrom
- Chair-Elect: Donna Ellison
- Secretary: Laura Edwards
- Treasurer: Molly Treadway

**2013-2014 SIP Athletic Director**

Grady Smith

**2013-2014 SIP Membership**

- Lori Palmer

**2013-2014 SIP Sports Program**

- Sherri Douthit
- Christy Lischer
- Terry Sowell

**2013-2014 SIP Concessions**

- Betsy Hatcher

**2013-2014 SIP Team Parents**

- Elizabeth Avant

**2013-2014 SIP Administrative Liaison**

- Marsha Creter

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(Above left) Parent Karen Baxley helps during Lower School Field Day.
(Above center) Volunteers Lee Barrow and Kathryn Manley work the Uniform Resale.

President Sherri Douthit presides over a SIP monthly meeting.
The Stratford 2012-2013 Report of Giving

The 2012-2013 Report of Giving is an acknowledgement of the generosity of Stratford supporters. Trustees, parents, alumni, grandparents, former parents, faculty, staff, friends, foundations and corporations have all contributed to continue the 53-year-old tradition of “freedom for excellence.” Stratford is grateful to the contributions made to the following funds from June 1, 2012, through May 31, 2013:

- Stratford Loyalty Fund
- Excellence Never Rests Capital Campaign
- Endowment Fund
- Overlook Planned Giving Society
- Georgia GOAL Tax Credit for Education Program

This report is also a reflection of the commitment of Stratford volunteers. It is their work, commitment and belief that makes each of these fundraising campaigns successful. Stratford Academy appreciates the continued support of each donor recognized in the 2012-2013 Report of Giving.
### The Stratford Loyalty Fund

Each year Stratford Academy depends on the generosity of supporters for the Loyalty Fund. This annual giving campaign bridges the gap between expenses and revenues and represents a portion of the school's annual operating budget. Giving percentages are emphasized in our Loyalty Fund campaign and we look for 100 percent participation among many of our constituent groups. Volunteers are also a key component to the success of the Stratford Loyalty Fund. We are grateful to the following families who took on leadership roles in 2012-2013.

#### Heritage Circle
**$10,000 and more**
- Mr. and Mrs. Reginald W. Buzwell II
- Mrs. Charles W. H. Cook, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Mary B. Dawson
- Mr. and Mrs. Edith E. Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. James H. Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. Virginia A. Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. E. Eugene Davis

#### Overlook Circle
**$5,000 - $9,999**
- Buckhead School Uniforms Shop
- Community Foundation of Central Georgia, Inc.
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Hatcher, Sr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Hatcher, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Eugene W. Kelly
- Dr. and Mrs. Todd Jones
- Mr. and Mrs. William F. Montfort, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Corey Moore

#### Founders’ Circle
**$2,500 - $4,999**
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Garnett Briscoe
- Mr. Robert S. Burgess
- Mr. John W. Edwards, Jr.
- Publix Super Markets, Inc.
- Mr. and Mrs. Marty Shapard
- Dr. and Mrs. George S. Stefanis

#### Benefactors’ Circle
**$1,000 - $2,499**
- Dr. and Mrs. Ali Ahmadi
- Mr. and Mrs. Farhan Siddiqui
- Ms. Lina Thomas
- Target

#### Partners
**$500 - $999**
- State Farm Companies Foundation
- SunTrust Foundation Matching Gift Program
- Target
- State Farm Companies Foundation
- SunTrust Foundation Matching Gift Program
- Target
- Ms. Lina Thomas
- Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Thornsberry
- True Blue Schools
- Mr. Daniel R. and Dr. Mary Bell Vaughn

#### Supporters
**Up to $499**
- Abbott Fund Matching Grant Plan
- Mr. and Mrs. Dave Adams
- Mr. and Mrs. Erma Adams
- Mr. and Mrs. Alicia A. Adeleke
- Mr. and Mrs. Emesto Aguinii II
- Dr. and Mrs. Ali Ahmed
- Dr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Ayalotus
- Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Daniel Alday

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#### Gifts to the 2012-2013 Loyalty Fund

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**Anonymous**
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- Dr. and Mrs. Eric C. Beringer
- Dr. and Mrs. Ben Butznight
- Dr. and Mrs. Allyn Brooks
- Ms. Rebecca B. Burgess
- Mr. and Mrs. March Butler, Jr.
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- Microsoft Giving Campaign The JK Group Inc.
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- Mr. and Mrs. H. Jerome Strickland
- SunTrust Foundation Matching Gift Program Target
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Thornsberry
- True Blue Schools
- Dr. and Mrs. Mary Bell Vaughn

**Stratford Magazine** 2013
The Stratford Society represents our school’s leadership donors. Families who contribute $1,000 or greater to the Loyalty Fund comprise this prestigious group. Each spring the Stratford Society celebration is held to recognize these donors and acknowledge our appreciation of their continued support. This year’s event was held on May 5 at the home of Dr. David and Beth Cohen.
New Stratford Lower School — With an opening anticipated in 2016, the proposed Stratford Lower School completes our school’s master campus plan and includes a repurposing of the current Lower School facility which benefits every student division. Campaign co-chairs, Julie and Tom McAfee ’86 and Shannon and Stewart Vernon ’98, as well as steering committee members have been secured for Phase II of the Excellence Never Rests capital campaign. To learn more, contact Kathleen Medlin, Advancement Director, at kathleen.medlin@stratford.org.
2012-2013 Report of Giving

Trustees

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Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Aguilar II
Dr. and Mrs. Ali Ahmed
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Albritton
Dr. and Mrs. M. Sohail Akbar
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Aivalotis
Dr. and Mrs. Ali Ahmadi
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Dr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Cheek
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Congratulations to the Class of 2027 for posting the highest parent participation in annual giving with 91 percent. It is Stratford’s Loyalty Fund goal to post an overall participation percentage of 75 or greater in the parent campaign.
Established in 2008, the Education Expense Credit allows taxpayers to take a credit against their Georgia income taxes for amounts contributed to the Georgia GOAL, a qualified student scholarship organization, and designated to Stratford Academy. Stratford uses these funds to increase the amount of financial aid available to families who demonstrate need.

Individual taxpayers can receive a tax credit against their Georgia income tax liability for amounts contributed to the GOAL Scholarship Program. In addition, amounts contributed to GOAL are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

The GOAL Scholarship Program uses the contributions to provide financial assistance for public school children who desire to attend Stratford. The funding is also available for students who are eligible financial assistance for public school children who desire to attend Stratford Academy. Stratford uses these funds to increase the amount of financial aid available to families who demonstrate need.

Learn more about receiving your tax credit at www.goalscholarship.org. 
Questions, contact Kathleen Medlin, Director of Institutional Advancement, at (478) 477-8073 ext. 210. Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 tax year. Apply online at www.goalscholarship.org. The 2013 tax credit program closed when the $58 million statewide cap was met on May 9, 2013.
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Mr. and Mrs. Penny Eudora Frame
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Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edmond Sharpston, Jr.
Mrs. Mary K. Sheridan
Mr. and Mrs. Harley Frank Shurling
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Mr. and Mrs. George Siemore
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Mr. and Mrs. Sam J. Smith III
Ms. Brenda F. Smith

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Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Smith
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Mr. and Mrs. John D. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Steven M. Smith
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Mr. and Mrs. Bill Spivey
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Mr. and Mrs. Kashiuro Yoshida
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Young

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Mrs. and Mrs. Lynn Massey
Mr. Walter S. Mays
Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. McDannell
Mrs. Karen E. McCue
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. McCue
Mrs. Jessica S. McDaniel
In 2012-2013, Stratford continued its Alumni Loyalty Fund Class Challenge, which is a friendly competition among our graduating classes to see which can produce the highest percentage participation in the Loyalty Fund. Typically, alumni classes post eight to ten percent in annual giving, and our goal is to increase that number to 25 percent over the next three years.

In the Alumni Loyalty Fund Class Challenge, participation matters most - each gift counts towards a class’s total. The class with the highest overall participation is recognized in this annual report. Many thanks to everyone for supporting the Stratford Loyalty Fund and congratulations to the Class of 1963, who celebrated their 50th class reunion this year and have also shown us support in giving.

The following classes had the highest percentages:

**Class of 1963 21.42%**
**Class of 1992 21.05%**
**Class of 1991 20.75%**
**Class of 1993 19.64%**

**Online gifts and pledges** can be made to the Loyalty Fund at www.stratford.org/pledgeonline.

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**Alumni Loyalty Fund Class Challenge**

**1962**
- Mrs. Kathleen Hatcher Cook
- Mrs. Barbara Brubaker Lightower
- Mrs. Catharine Burns Liles

**1963**
- Mr. C. Victor Armstrong
- Mr. Hoyt S. Bailey
- Mrs. Martha Watkins Bush
- Mr. Fredrick L. Chambers
- Mr. Ronald W. Hewett
- Mrs. Margerie Reid Jennings
- Mrs. Elizabeth Arnold Kane
- Mr. Bernard L. Levins, Jr.
- Mrs. SusyMcCowan McClusky
- Mrs. Margaret McMillan
- Dr. Orlanda Lewis

**1964**
- Mr. Henry L. Barfield II
- Mrs. Suzanne Jones Harper
- Mr. Chant E. Leader
- Mr. Homer S. Mullins
- Mrs. Tina Stokes Wooton

**1965**
- Mr. V. James Adams, Jr.
- Mrs. Louisa M. Featon
- Mrs. Amy Brubaker Lightower
- Mrs. Chandler Jones Pike

**1966**
- Mr. Bertram Maxwell III

**1967**
- Mrs. Deborah Daniel Schwartz

**1968**
- Mr. Evan Jones Hardeman

**1969**
- Mrs. Carol Robbin Bushuk
- Mr. Rodney A. Brown
- Mr. Robert L. McCleom III
- Mrs. Doris McCowan Muir
- Mr. Kenneth D. Sams
- Mrs. Jan Jones Ward

**1970**
- Mrs. Martha Williams Berg
- Mrs. Mary Hogan Brantley
- Mrs. Frances Amaler Hail
- Mr. Roger A. Phillips
- Mrs. Anna Newton Smith
- Mrs. John Steven Stewart

**1971**
- Mr. John K. Duke, Jr.
- Dr. Ronald E. Elliott, Jr.
- Dr. Stephen D. Mallory
- Mr. Clark D. Mann
- Mr. Frank C. Pickton, Jr.
- Mr. Jack T. Rouson
- Mrs. Harriett Newton Sams

**1972**
- Dr. William V. Argo, Jr.
- Mr. Heaven A. Lewis
- Mr. Steven R. Brook
- Mr. Henry K. Koplin
- Mr. Eugene M. Maddox
- Mrs. Bryan B. Persans
- Mr. Bradford E. Swann
- Mrs. Mary Allen Wright
- Mr. Neil S. Wyche

**1973**
- Mrs. Susan Bentley Hardee
- Mr. William C. Harris
- Mr. Richard B. Hicks III
- Mrs. Nelle Childs Barnett Persons
- Mr. Samuel Z. Swygert

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**Alumni**

**1981**
- Mrs. Nain Solomon Harper
- Mr. Mark B. Hom
- Mr. John B. Peterson, Jr.
- Mr. John V. Sheridan II
- Mrs. Karen Jarrand Snow
- Mr. Robert C. Woodcock
- Ms. Julie Yates

**1982**
- Mr. Robert F. Hatcher, Jr.
- Mr. Charles N. Koplin
- Mrs. Wimbley McCock Rader
- Mrs. Alice Swann Sheridan

**1983**
- Mrs. Margaret2 Keen Grubb
- Mr. Eric Helmer
- Mrs. Stacie Wigley Hill
- Dr. George W. McCoomon
- Mrs. Roberta Lee Parker

**1984**
- Mrs. Tracey Brown Apollobaum
- Reverend Jimmy R. Ashbel
- Mr. Jeffrey L. Avant
- Dr. John C. Barrow II
- Mr. Thomas W. Evans II
- Mrs. Amy Mauzi Hendrix
- Dr. Gregory A. Parker

**1985**
- Mrs. Elizabeth Boswell Avant
- Mrs. Frances L. Clay
- Mr. John Paul Gaddy
- Mrs. Bonnie Butler Gibson
- Mrs. Janet Bowes Hale
- Mrs. Jean Huffman Peterson
- Mrs. Cheryl Parker Shufrych
- Mr. Andrew Young

**1986**
- Dr. Mark E. Barrow
- Mr. Jacob Milton Moen III
- Mr. Thomas H. McCook, Jr.
- Mr. Michael S. McKinster
- Mr. Arthur R. Newberry, Jr.
- Mrs. Stephanie Rice Pekowitz

**1987**
- Mrs. Lee Kinman Bailey
- Mrs. Donna Kay Miller McDougald
- Mrs. Gerla Lawrence Osbraughness
- Mr. William A. Snow IV
- Mr. Stephen M. Solomon V
- Mr. John S. Spivey

**1988**
- Dr. D. Duward Benson, Jr.
- Mrs. Lisa Herring Bridges
- Mr. Robert J. Cleveland, Jr.
- Mrs. Becky Sorensen Corley
- Dr. Robert C. Ham, Jr.
- Mr. Henry W. Harper III
- Mr. Russell Hilburn, Jr.
- Mrs. Jaime C. Kaplan
- Mr. William F. Montfort, Jr.
- Mr. William K. Sherwood

**1989**
- Mrs. Lisa Browne Barkside
- Mr. Jill Young Dean
- Dr. Anna Weaver Hogan
- Mrs. Gena Cummings Howell
- Dr. Jeffery D. Laster
- Mr. Lee Leineberger
- Mrs. Pamela Mullici Maxwell
- Mrs. Elizabeth Fournoy Thompson
- Mr. George E. Youmans, Jr.

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**Report of Giving**

2012-2013
Endowment Fund

The Stratford Endowment Fund is a collection of funds (unrestricted and restricted) which supports students, faculty, staff, and programs. Each year about $60,000 is budgeted to fund operations not covered by tuition, other fees and revenue sources.

Continued endowment growth helps the school maintain reasonable tuition levels while continuing to provide excellent programs and exceptional faculty and staff, which results in smaller, more personalized classes and plentiful co-curricular offerings. Stratford’s endowment total stands at $3.16 million (market value as of June 30, 2013).

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Phase I of the Excellence Never Rests capital campaign came to a close in 2011 with the opening of the Stratford Science Center. This represented the final project in the first phase of the campaign which brought improvements made to Stratford’s campus from 2006-2011, including the Dr. John Paul Jones Field House renovations, Maurice Barnett Golf Pavilion, the loop road, the Jaime Kaplan Tennis Complex and finally the Science Center. Stratford Academy is grateful to the following donors who made all of these projects possible for our families of today and tomorrow.

Phase II of this campaign will focus efforts on building a new Lower School complex and repurpose the current Lower School facilities. Every division of the school will benefit from this campaign, as it includes additional facilities for our Upper and Middle School fine arts classes, athletic programs, Upper School academic programs and ASAP (After School/Summer Programs).
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