Playing to Win

Chris Sun ‘17 and Matthew Salomon ‘18, are members of the chess team, advised by faculty member Chris Pasterczyk. Last year, the team won its fourth South Shore Inter-scholastic Chess League championship since it joined the league five years ago.
Girls Varsity Cross Country huddles up before racing against Middlesex in their last home meet of the season. The team won every home meet and went on to finish third in the ISL and sixth at the New England Championships.

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letter from the head

Admission Open House

EVERY YEAR, ON A SATURDAY MORNING in the middle of October, Nobles hosts an admission open house. I look forward to it. Applications are due in the middle of January. The admission process is in full and energetic swing by the beginning of October, so it is the appropriate time to welcome people who are thinking about independent schools—and is there a more beautiful time to see the school, or one that is more nostalgically evocative of youth, than mid-October, with the leaves turning and the crispness of the fall air seizing the imagination? We just pray for a sunny day. And this year was gorgeous, just like the admission office ordered it.

Hundreds of families visit the campus, and we have well over a thousand guests, all between 9 a.m. and noon. They get tours, visit a curriculum fair, and attend panel discussions on a wide range of topics, as we hope they capture the full array of programs and opportunities at the school. Many students, parents, admission officers and faculty members give their time that morning, enthusiastically welcoming folks and explaining the intricacies of life at Nobles. I host two panel discussions, which, because they run back-to-back, are really one open forum for anyone to ask me whatever they want about Nobles or my perspective on the full array of challenges in American secondary education. In truth, it really isn’t a panel; for an hour and a half, I am sitting alone on a chair on the stage in Vinik Theatre, while people drop in and fire away.

It is great fun. Some people are there to see what sort of person leads a place like Nobles, trying to get a sense of my tone, manner, and values. Some are there to try to stump me, delivering questions they have concocted that they think will leave me flummoxed (but the reality is that there isn’t much that hasn’t already come my way over the years). The great majority, however, are there to discuss things that are on their minds about both Nobles in particular and independent schools in general. While there are certainly a range of queries, from cost and finance concerns to very specific program interests, one core question is posed over and over again, in various shapes and forms. That is, essentially, “What makes Nobles special, and what is the value proposition that derives from this investment?”

The answer I give, albeit shaped to respond to the specific question that was posed, is quite consistent. Nobles is unique because of the remarkable people who work here. They live the mission of the school, and they are outstanding role models for young women and men in regard to character and intellect. The most important responsibilities of a head of school are, first, to hire well, and then to support and inspire the best from those folks. The buildings and resources of the school are certainly a critical component of the experience at Nobles, but they are utterly meaningless unless utilized by faculty members who can motivate their students to reach goals they could not otherwise have imagined, with the ultimate purpose of inspiring leadership for the public good. And along the way, we create a community that is at once profoundly purposeful and deeply joyful. We do that well at Nobles, and have done so for many decades. I like to tell that story, with all the passion and conviction I can muster, to people who arrive brand new to this campus full of skepticism yet eager to understand what makes a great secondary school tick.

—ROBERT P. HENDERSON, JR. ’76, HEAD OF SCHOOL
We are left to derive meaning and purpose, not from death, but from the richness of their lives... With steady determination, we must affirm our values and principles as Americans and as human beings in the face of that most stark and egregiously violent challenge.

—HEAD OF SCHOOL BOB HENDERSON, IN ASSEMBLY ON SEPT. 11, 2014

In my first year at Nobles, I taught a course, Education in English, an introduction to what was going on in the field of education—something I knew absolutely nothing about. So I assigned my students to read everything I could find about contemporary education. Our favorite book, was Neil Postman’s *Teaching as a Subversive Activity*. Postman’s thesis was that education should work against the mainstream culture, which in the early ’60s meant having to be “subversive.” I don’t think [Ted] Gleason liked the idea of subversion very much, and he was pleased to be able to chide me when Postman came out with a new book in the early ’70s, *Teaching as a Conserving Activity*.

—FACULTY MEMBER AND FORMER HEAD OF SCHOOL DICK BAKER

Please know that teachers understand that being honest is a learned behavior. It must be learned (rather than being a human’s “default”) because of the times in our evolutionary past when “flight” was the best survival strategy. We are unfailingly forgiving and assume the best in all students. Teachers never write off a student who struggles to react appropriately when confronted. It is dealt with as an invaluable teachable moment.

—JOHN GIFFORD, ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL, HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, OCTOBER 2014 PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

I particularly enjoy preparing the first exhibit of the year, which outlines the graduating class of a century ago. Every year, I am pleasantly surprised by what I find. The Class of 1915 has been no exception. As the lives of the 32 students who graduated a century ago unfolded from the research, I was struck by how much these young individuals had given of themselves.

—ARCHIVIST ISA SCHAFF, IN AN EMAIL TO STUDENTS AND FACULTY

I took the elevator up to the 36th floor of State Street, to a room full of people. Some appeared to know everyone, and some appeared to know no one, but it didn’t matter, because everyone had at least one thing to talk about—Nobles. Andy Janfaza ’84, one of the panelists, was the first to recognize the Nobles connection. I had never considered “the Nobles connection” before, but the more I did, the more I saw it all around me.

—FROM JACK RADLEY’S ’14 LINKEDIN POST, “HOW I CONQUERED THE FINANCE WORLD 41 DAYS AFTER GRADUATING FROM NOBLES”
Tejada Takes the Lead
How to Make Schools Better

STEVEN TEJADA, dean of diversity initiatives, works at Nobles—and nationally—to advance the programs, structures and culture related to diversity issues in schools.

Tejada is on the faculty of the Diversity Leadership Institute (DLI), a National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) program designed to help educators lead and manage change in their schools.

“For those of us working with NAIS on diversity, it’s not just about what’s going on at your individual school and making it better. It’s about making independent schools better overall and sharing what you’ve been able to do well.”

—STEVEN TEJADA

Assembly highlights

Answer the Bell
Director of Athletics
Alex Gallagher ’90 fired everyone up for the fall athletic season with his dad’s boxing-inspired motto: “In life, you gotta be tough enough to answer the bell. We compete to win but pride ourselves on doing it with class, camaraderie and sportsmanship. It is your time in this legacy to answer the bell and write the next chapter.”

Worth the Wait
Head of School Bob Henderson congratulated veteran faculty member and cross country coach Bob Kern and his athletes on a sweet victory over Roxbury Latin for the boys cross country team—their first win vs. RL in a quarter century.

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diversity work is related to other institutional functions and priorities.

Tejada and other diversity educators are also developing a more senior program for leaders who are already immersed in diversity work but who want to develop their skills further.

Tejada also serves on the NAIS executive committee and on the NAIS think tank on diversity, which identifies related trends inside and outside of education. One of the conversations gaining traction is centered on socioeconomic diversity. Another focus is on gender identity and the role of schools in supporting students and educating community members. As recently reported by the New York Times, for example, Wellesley, a women’s college, is grappling with issues around transgender students—what happens when students admitted as women identify as male.

Tejada acknowledges that schools can’t take on every challenge at the same time, and he underscores the importance of simply getting productive conversations started.

“For those of us working with NAIS on diversity, it’s not just about what’s going on at your individual school and making it better. It’s about making independent schools better overall and sharing what you’ve been able to do well.” He says that schools often contact Nobles to learn about the vitality of the student affinity programs, for example.

Tejada studied psychology and sociology at Wesleyan University. At Connecticut College, he served as coordinator of minority recruitment and assistant director of admission. He was also director of admission and placement at the Oliver Scholars Program, a nonprofit organization that provides a variety of services to academically talented African-American and Latino students in New York. He then shifted the vehicle for his work, writing and performing material related to his youth in the South Bronx, the experiences of students of color and his experience as a student at Fieldston, a private independent school in New York. In 2014, Tejada gave a TEDx talk on education and identity at the Spence School in New York.

Tejada serves on the board of directors of De La Salle Academy in New York City, an independent school for academically talented, economically disadvantaged students, and, through his work with NAIS, is a national leader in diversity education.

“The work I’m doing with NAIS is about a willingness to share resources and develop this incredible network,” he says. “How can we help lead the conversation provide expertise and contribute to the work that others are doing?”

The Ultimate Book Club
During Nobles’ annual Community Book Day, the school comes together after having read the same book; this year’s was David Levithan’s Every Day. In assembly, visiting author Levithan addressed themes of gender, identity and human connection, and shared his process, as well as advice to aspiring writers.

http://bit.ly/1s7ZBsS

Farm to Table
The Environmental Action Committee (EAC) collaborated with FLIK dining services to promote the local food movement by showcasing a special Castle buffet of native produce and seafood. The EAC raised awareness of the conservation of resources, as well as ecological benefits, of consuming food that supports community agriculture.

Grandparents Day
On September 29, more than 400 grandparents joined students in classrooms and for lunch in the Castle. From those arriving for their first visit, to those who fondly recalled their own school years on this campus, all enjoyed a special glimpse into a day in the life through their grandchildren.

Noah Janfaza ’20 and his grandfather Stephen Weiner and (bottom) Grace Scott-Hiser ’17 and her grandmother Roz Scott
Cities on an Island

FROM JULY 20 TO AUGUST 3, 2014, modern languages faculty member Amadou Seck accompanied Nobles students Lexi Vocatura, Andy Casamento, and Lucy Lyons, all ’15, to Punahou School’s fourth annual Student Global Leadership Institute (SGLI) in Honolulu. It was Nobles’ third year participating, and the theme was “cities.” To prepare, they conducted extensive research about Boston.

Seck, who teaches French and also advises the Model U.N. and debate clubs at Nobles, wanted to be involved. “I knew SGLI would be a unique experience with a diversity of very rich backgrounds. Of the 100 people involved, 75 were students and 25 were faculty, and we represented more than 20 countries.”

The SGLI was launched in 2010 with grants from the Edward E. Ford Foundation, the Education Research Initiative, the Freeman Foundation and the Luke Center for Chinese Studies. It aims to inspire a community of youth leaders who care about global issues and social change. Students from Punahou and partner schools, including Nobles, explore worldwide issues including sustainability, economics and globalization, and complete community-service projects. Through workshops, discussions and field trips, students design social-action projects to enrich their communities.

In addition to the student sessions, conference-goers were treated to a luau, during which expert speakers on urban development, like Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell and members from the planning commission for the new city of Kapolei in western Oahu, shared factors to consider when building a sustainable city.
One of the leadership games students played was a simulation called “City Games.” Within the context of an urban community, they learned about politics, the allocation of resources and the value of intelligent negotiation and alliances.

During the summit, Vocatura, Casamento and Lyons also experienced Hawaiian culture through volunteer experiences and field trips. Vocatura said she valued the intercultural experiences she had with peers: “I had roommates from Jordan, India, and Hawaii. I talked to kids from South Korea about how much time they invested in schoolwork and academics. Even though we complain, there are kids who deal with much harder situations.”

In conjunction with the student institute, faculty members participated in a weeklong “Global Education Teacher Strand.” Seck and colleagues from around the world came together to examine the fundamental qualities of a global curriculum, and to discuss best practices in their own schools.

Seck was impressed with the motivation of Nobles students. “They were focused, curious and open-minded. The cross-cultural experiences they had got them out of their comfort zone; they made great connections.”

STRESS NOT ALWAYS BAD, FAILURE CAN BE GOOD

Po Bronson, novelist and coauthor of *Nurture Shock* and *Top Dog*—books that have changed the conversations about parenting and success in America—visited Nobles on September 30 and October 1.

On September 30, Bronson spoke to parents and faculty about the perceived and real effects of stress on performance in young people and the population at large. Bronson said that short-term stress can be a positive force, particularly in those who have the “warrior” gene, which allows warriors to efficiently shed the excess dopamine caused by stress. On the flip slide, excess dopamine for those with the “worrier” gene predominant is the equivalent of a car engine with too much gas—it floods the engine and shuts down operations.

Bronson also put peer pressure into perspective for parents, citing a study that suggests that peer pressure and empathy are positively correlated and that adolescents who balance the need to please with an articulation of their needs are poised to become adults with strong relationships.

At long assembly on October 1, Bronson shared personal stories with students. He said that he attended the Lakeside School in Seattle, a school much like Nobles. He delivered an explication of his name, “Po,” which is a not-very-linear derivation of his given name, Philip.

Bronson, who attended Stanford University after Lakeside, said that neither prestigious institution taught him to write—that he did, in fact, actively avoid writing and writing classes. As a Stanford senior, however, the oft-heard and annoying query of what will one do after graduation rankled Bronson.

“I hated this question because I had no answer,” he said. In the university newspaper, he published a piece with the pull-quote, “‘Being Po’ is the best term for what I’ll be doing a year from now.” The article went the pre-Internet version of viral. His friends told him he should become a writer.

Bronson catalogued his dreams and failures of the next decade. “I had a compulsive strong itch to do something. It’s confusing how to do that…and that’s okay,” he said. He also cited what he called “the fallacy of intrinsic fit.”

There is, he said, unpleasant work in every job. “It’s not what you do. It’s what you’re working toward,” he said.

“Life does not present you with great opportunities. It mostly offers you really crappy ones…. It’s important to have lots of low-cost losing in your life and to learn that that doesn’t stop you. You can have those losses and go on to do great things.”
“LESS THAN 100 LAYERS.” That’s how artist-in-residence Jang soon Im articulates the meticulous nature of his painting style. Im, a Korean-born artist, considers himself a painter, even though a large selection of his recent work features digital prints. He clarifies this by saying, “I think about my digital print as a painting, because it is not just taking a picture and printing it. It is more like making a collage—digitally manipulating and compositing all the components in the work.” During his residency at Nobles, Im returned to classic painting methods using traditional papers and natural pigments from his Korean homeland.

Three years after receiving a BFA in oriental painting from Seoul National University in 2003, Im moved to the United States and earned an MFA in drawing and painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Since graduating, he has won numerous awards and fellowships, and is a veteran of artist-in-residence programs at the Vermont Studio Center, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha, Neb., and the Core Residency Program at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Im came to Nobles and was impressed with the resources available to him. He also appreciated how welcoming and connected he found the Nobles community to be.

While the artist-in-residency program provided him with a comfortable apartment in the Castle, three meals a day and a separate studio space in which to experiment and create his art, Im immersed himself further in the community by attending Asian to Asian culture club meetings, auditing a U.S. history class, and teaching a traditional Korean painting workshop during David Roane’s X-Block open painting studio.

Im also welcomed visitors, including fine arts faculty, foreign language classes and even the occasional Castle explorer, into his studio space. Visitors at lunchtime can reattach ourselves to the real one.”

A Trivial Matter
The whole school, divided into random teams, engaged in a hilarious game of pop culture trivia the week before midterm progress reports. From presidential terms to pop stars and ‘80s TV shows that predated most of the audience, students did an impressive job banding together.

Pull for Us
The Nobles crew team took the stage to plug their races at the Head of the Charles. They also recognized Finn Crawford ‘20, brother of Aidan ‘16. Both are sons of former Great Britain National Team coxswain Blair Crawford. Finn, 11, broke his brother’s record this year as the youngest competitor in the Regatta, when he rowed with his dad in the father-son double.
time might stumble upon a curious sight: a smiling Im, clad in his adopted AFC Championship T-shirt, leading students through a hidden doorway and down a secret passage to his studio.

During his residency, Im focused on developing techniques, testing materials, and applying layers for his exhibit in the Foster Gallery, “Painting a Painting,” which ran from October 27 to December 12. Using the technique of painting natural pigments mixed with water onto paper and letting it dry, several times a day for several weeks, Im created dynamic images with subtle tone variations. He describes this technique: “You don’t see strong color on one layer, but when it accumulates, the combination of this paper and pigment layering works together to create depth and acts like a prism.”

His artwork is a commentary on and a criticism of institutions that handle the placement and distribution of Asian art. His series of nine “Untitled (Gallery)” paintings depicts the floorplan of galleries in the Art of Asia, Oceania and Africa wing at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, as a commentary on the status and grouping of this collection. While the Ancient World, Europe and the Americas all have expansive wings, these “Third World collections are kind of compact in one section as outsider art,” he says.

In another piece called “If you like... (from eBay auction),” Im guides the social and cultural commentary by re-creating, with his high-quality traditional painting style and materials, the seemingly random and cliché sentence, “If you like scrolls, dragons, calligraphy, flowers, philosophy, horses, cats, folk art, we have something for you,” which was found on an eBay account selling cheap traditional Chinese paintings.

While layers of water and pigment add depth to Im’s criticism paintings, layers of distance and time have separated him from the immediacy of the Korean ferry disaster on April 16, 2014. These solemn and literal depths have stuck with him in the months since the disaster, despite his experiencing the accident that claimed more than 300 lives only through second-hand channels. Im created a series of more than 200 brief watercolor paintings depicting images he observed from mass media of the capsized keel of the sunken MV Sewol ferry, which remains submerged in the Yellow Sea’s Maenggol Channel. He hopes the magnitude of his installation will serve as a totem to keep the issue alive. He says, “The government is trying to finish the conversation, while the victims want more investigation.”

Understanding the context of Im’s work adds life to his paintings. While the technical display of constant layering and repetition is visually stimulating, uncovering the artist’s motivation and delving into his process truly merges his art with leadership for the public good.

Continuing his residency lifestyle after Nobles, Im is heading to the MacDowell Fellowship program in Peterborough, N.H., and has been accepted into the prestigious CAAK & Kapo Creator in Residence program in Kanasawa, Japan, a UNESCO City of Crafts and Folk Art.

—BEN HEIDER

A Creative Partnership

Visual Arts Department Chair John Hirsch announced a partnership with the Museum of Fine Arts Boston (MFA). This partnership is in addition to Nobles’ involvement with the MFA through visual arts faculty member David Roane, who serves on the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Educator Advisory Board, which advises the MFA’s education department.

This arrangement with the MFA provides Nobles unlimited access to the museum and its resources, including free admission for students, faculty and staff, teacher professional development workshops, unlimited school visits and more.

Both Nobles and the MFA seek to help faculty integrate the resources of the museum and its collections into their curricula.

TGIF GPS
Visual arts faculty member David Roane loosened up the crowd with some ’70s funk to welcome them back to the art studio every Friday for TGIF GPS (Thank Goodness It’s Open Painting Studio). At the end of an intense week, TGIF GPS is a popular gathering for students, faculty and staff who want to get in touch with their inner artist, enjoy the creativity of others, and nosh on popcorn.

Victory Season
Girls varsity soccer and volleyball celebrated stellar seasons, marked by determination, skill and teamwork. On November 17, girls soccer presented Director of Athletics Alex Gallagher ’90 with the ISL Championship Trophy and the New England Class A Championship Trophy; girls volleyball deliv-
WHEN LARRY GOULD RETIRED as chairman and CEO of Fortune 500 company M/A-Com Inc., in 1983, he came across a television show profiling a summer camp for children with cancer. Within the next year, he and his wife, Anna, welcomed 43 such children and their families to their own Point Sebago Resort in Casco, Maine, for summer camp sessions, donating all facilities, personnel, and costs. Since its pilot year, the camp, now in a different 24-acre location, has served more than 43,500 family members from 48 states and 23 countries.

Faculty member Lindsey Tonge is passionate about the camp’s mission to offer respite, support, joy and hope to children with life-threatening illnesses and their immediate families. She has been a volunteer there since 2011; her mother first went in 2010, after learning about it through her church, and recruited Lindsey and her cousins to help.

“At first, I was nervous,” Tonge admits. “Will it be too sad? What do I say and do? But the kids at camp are so open; they just want to be normal and have fun with their families. Some want to talk about it, and others don’t.”

At a Nobles assembly in spring 2013, Tonge shared her passion for Camp Sunshine with the school community, recounting personal experiences. She invited students to learn more and accompanied two Nobles student volunteers in June 2013. In summer 2014, Tonge and librarian Talya Sokoll returned to the camp with 12 students.

Tonge says she was compelled to let others know about the camp, because she “learned a ton about dealing with people who are different. I lost my fears about what to say in bad situations. I have such love, admiration and respect for the kids and their families. They take every minute for what it’s worth. When they play, they play hard.”

2014 camp volunteer Fiona Splaine ’15 says, “After working with sick kids in a hospital on the Romania trip, I really wanted to get involved locally. At Camp Sunshine, the staff takes care of the whole family, allowing them to relax, have fun, and just be normal.”

Splaine remembers the camp talent
show, when a few girls performed a song from the Disney movie *Frozen.* “Seeing the emotion on their faces when they sang is something I’ll never forget.” She also recalls everyone singing the Camp Sunshine theme song, “Hands Up,” before every event. “When we all sang that song, you could just feel the pure presence of community in the room.” Her experience was one of hope, not despair. “Cancer is something so many families deal with on a daily basis. When you come back from camp, you just feel so much more aware. Also it just puts you in such a good mood! The happiness of all the kids that I worked with stuck with me long after I returned home.”

Alix Santos ’15, who worked with children ages 3 to 5, adds that her motive for volunteering was her interest in working with children, united with a belief in the value of a program that “offers a truly needed escape for the families that it services.”

In addition to summer volunteer opportunities, Nobles has Camp Sunshine on the mind throughout the year. During a recent X-block, students gathered in Gleason to make cards to send to campers.

Camp Sunshine’s executive director, Michael Katz, appreciates the Nobles crew. “They represented themselves and their school in a very high standard. With the assistance of the Nobles students, families that face the daily challenge of having a child with a life-threatening illness had the opportunity to regroup, reenergize and simply relax knowing their children were in caring hands.

Tonge adds, “If you can give those kids the best week of their life, it’s all worth it. You come away with the incredible gift of friendship and perspective—the thought of death is there, but it’s less about that and more about how to live life.”

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**News Bytes**

**EVAN FALCHUK ’87 RUNS FOR GOVERNOR**

Independent Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate Evan Falchuk ’87 made headlines not only for his candidacy, but also for his insistence that voters should hear more points of view than those of the dominating two parties.

Falchuk filed a lawsuit asking a Suffolk County judge to require New England Cable News to include him in their televised debate in October. Falchuk lost the lawsuit but gained traction as an independent candidate: he attracted more than 3 percent of the vote as an independent candidate. Republican Charlie Baker won the election.

Falchuk did not win the election—but his strong showing officially established his party, the United Independent Party, in the Commonwealth.

**BRIANNA LAING ’13 CALLED ONE OF 19 INCREDIBLY IMPRESSIVE STUDENTS AT HARVARD**

A September 10, 2014, *Business Insider* piece cites Brianna Laing’s dominance as a Harvard athlete. The story notes that Laing grew up playing soccer with her dad and sisters in Marblehead, Mass. Last season, as part of Harvard’s women’s hockey team, she played 477 minutes and compiled an unblemished 7–0–0 record. At Nobles, she helped lead her team to the New England Championships.

Other Harvard students on the list include Geoffrey Martello, who worked as a neurosurgeon’s research intern after being treated for a brain tumor, and Sam Wu, who composes music for ensembles around the world and conducts two orchestras.

**JASON KRUGMAN ’01 SHEDS SCULPTURAL LIGHT**

“Rhythm and Form” is a series of three large-scale public sculptures, created by Jason Krugman ’01, installed in Bethesda, Md. Commissioned by the Donohoe Companies for a new public plaza, the installation’s three sculptures are based on a series of twisted forms that merge a variety of materials with glass and water.

“I have a body of work making sculptures from LED mesh...ordering together hundreds of thousands of light-emitting diodes,” Krugman says on a Vimeo video explaining the project.

For the Bethesda commission, a ribbon of stainless steel appears to flow through the surface of the plaza, emerging out of its three water features. As the stainless-steel ribbon surfaces in the reflecting pools at either end of the plaza, the metal passes through large panes of glass, transforming into a stainless-steel lattice inset with custom LED fixtures.

“Creatively, a lot of it was thinking about the ways the materials would interact with each other and the way that people would perceive them,” says Krugman, who gave up his job in finance to make art. “So you could take a hundred photos of the sculpture, and they don’t look the same at all.”

Watch Krugman’s video explanation of the project at (http://vimeo.com/105494288)
The Nobles Theatre Collective’s fall mainstage play, Right You Are If You Think You Are, by Italian playwright Luigi Pirandello, is one part social commentary and one part mystery. From an opening scene in which prominent townspeople cattily speculate about their new-to-town neighbors, to the final moments in which they hatch an elaborate trap to unveil the truth, the audience finds itself conflicted.

Mr. Ponza (Max Jones ’15) is a recent arrival to town, and his mysterious behavior is under scrutiny, as is that of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Frola (Alexa Serowik ’16). Mrs. Frola lives next door to the Agazzi family, the ringleaders of this witch hunt. Mrs. Agazzi (Helena Jensen ’17), daughter Dina (Syra Mehdi ’17), and husband and councilman Mr. Agazzi (Bill Mizgerd ’15) are appalled at the living arrangements Mr. Ponza has made for his aging mother-in-law. Rather than having her live with him and her own daughter, he has her comfortably ensconced in the apartment next to the Agazzi family. After investigating, Mrs. Agazzi and her daughter discover that Mrs. Frola and her daughter see each other only from a distance, and they label Ponza a selfish monster.

Adding to the drama and comedy of this unraveling are friends of the Agazzis who are likewise up in arms about the Ponza-Frola living situation: Mr. and Mrs. Sirelli (Chase Haylon ’15 and Sophie Franks ’15), Mrs. Cini (Anjali Vishwanath ’15), Mrs. Nenni (Arunima Prasad ’17), Commissioner Centuri (Arjun Anand ’17), the butler (Jonathan Herring ’17) and the governor (Will Clarke ’16). All insist they are entitled to the “truth.” The one person who defends the newcomers is Mrs. Agazzi’s brother, Lamberto Laudisi (Sam Hoban ’15), who claims nothing can be known for certain, and that one cannot fully know and understand others.

The way the judgments of the townspeople and audience vacillate from scene to scene underscores Pirandello’s point: that people are quick to believe what they want to believe, and that the truth is often subjective. In our modern celebrity-obsessed society, this 1917 commentary on gossip, privacy and the definition of truth is as contemporary and relevant as ever.
by the numbers

300
The approximate number of children in need who receive toys and gifts from people at Nobles during December’s “Snowflake Drive”

61
The number of Class VI performances of “A Christmas Carol,” adapted by Sidney Eaton ’50. The Sixies perform it every year before the holidays, along with, this year, “It Could Always Be Worse,” a Jewish folktale.

74
The number of the championships won since 1950, among hockey, basketball and skiing

0
Number of snowballs thrown by Middle Schoolers (unless they want to have a serious conversation with Mr. Gifford)

700
The number of gallons of water to make the ice at the rink (it’s 2” thick)

6
Athletes who have represented Nobles in the Winter Olympics

21k
Year in which a blizzard shut down the entire school for a whole week. Boarders were stranded for several days before the National Guard arrived to take them home. In the interim, students amused themselves by sliding down the Library roof and enjoying a cross-country ski picnic.

1978
Thanksgiving turkeys delivered to Single Parent Family Outreach by the Multicultural Student Association in the past 14 years

15
Gallons of water to make the ice at the rink (it’s 2” thick)
What Grads Write

Nobles grads globe-trot, deconstruct the Cold War, and elevate wielding the mighty hammer to an art. Read accounts detailing what they’ve learned.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM AND THE END OF THE COLD WAR: A TRANSNATIONAL HISTORY OF THE HELSINKI NETWORK**

BY SARAH B. SNYDER ’95

(Cambridge University Press, 2011)

Snyder’s book began as a dissertation and evolved into the winner of Stuart L. Bernath Prize of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and the Myrna F. Bernath Prize of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (2012). True to its title, *Human Rights Activism and the End of the Cold War* is an exploration of the forces leading to the demise of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. Funded by major foundation grants that supported international research, Snyder’s scholarly text explores the USSR’s economic stagnation, the arms race and other geopolitical forces of the time.

The reviews of Snyder’s work include raves from Harvard scholars, members of Russian and American historical reviews, and many others who share an interest in and understanding of the significance of the Cold War in the 1970s and ’80s. Jeffrey Kahn, of the *Slavic Review*, said, “All signs are present in this first book to suggest that Snyder’s second one will be even better.”

Snyder’s book is dedicated to her husband, Danny Fine ’95. “It is fitting that our relationship began as editor and writer on a student newspaper many years ago,” she writes.

**HAMMER HEAD: THE MAKING OF A CARPENTER**

BY NINA MACLAUGHLIN ’97

(W.W. Norton, 2015)

Not that there’s anything wrong with sitting—or perhaps, more recently, standing, as health news dictates—at a desk. A lot of us do it, right? But writer Nina MacLaughlin, who was an editor at the *Boston Phoenix* and contributed to publications including *Time Out New York*, decided to do something edgy herself, rather than writing about others’ adventures.

When did the epiphany come? When MacLaughlin saw an ad on Craigslist for “assistant carpenter.” She replied, and a job as a carpenter and the book *Hammer Head* are the very tangible results.

In college, MacLaughlin studied English and the classics. Her prologue references Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*—a tale in which gods reign over change and transformation. (NB: MacLaughlin’s acknowledgements also cite the inimitable Dick Baker, the carpenter’s beloved Nobles English teacher.)

In the chapter “Screwdriver,” MacLaughlin considers installing the trim inside a bedroom closet in Lexington. It wasn’t easy to make angles meet, she writes—to avoid gaps or bowing. “If you are able to maintain focus and attention for a piece that does not matter, that will rarely, if ever, be seen, if you are able to get that right, the rest of the work—the stuff that does matter, that will be seen—will be elevated.”

Read her tales of tools and more, or follow her at http://carpentrix.tumblr.com.

**GO CONFIDENTLY: ONE COUPLE’S YEARLONG TRAVEL ADVENTURES**

NADER AND ALLISON AKHNOUKH ’95

(CREATESPACE INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING, 2010)

Allison Sands Akhnoukh ’95 and her husband, Nader, did what others often dream about: They canceled their lease in San Francisco, packed their belongings, and traveled the world for a year before becoming parents.

Allison is an educator focused on reform, and Nader
off the shelf

is a tech entrepreneur. But what was their style for traveling around the globe from 2008 to 2009?

“We wanted to see some of the most beautiful places on earth, and we wanted to experience some of the cultures most different from our own,” they wrote. They traveled cheaply, they said, relying on tasty street food and prioritizing clean, basic accommodations.

Their book is part photo album—they saw and share great beauty—and part blueprint for other travelers considering a similar adventure. The journey of the Akhnoukh, who relocated to Colorado after their return to the United States, included Costa Rica, Alaska, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, New Zealand, Indonesia, Myanmar and China.

“I’ve read at least 10 times

BY ISA SCHAEFF, NOBLES ARCHIVIST

“I declare, after all, there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book.”—JANE AUSTEN IN PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, BY JANE AUSTEN

Pride and Prejudice is a new novel every time I read it. When I first read it, I was breathlessly waiting for the happy ending. Subsequent readings let me enjoy the sparkling dialogue, reflect on the plight of unmarried women, or concentrate on the minor characters, who are full of vitality. Every time I read Pride and Prejudice, I find something new to appreciate and love.

JANE EYRE, BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE

For me, this novel represents romantic books at their best. Jane breaks the mold of the stereotypical romantic heroine: She is not pretty. She is independent, resourceful and determined to follow her convictions, all of this bundled together with a passionate and introspective nature. The story offers social criticism of the class structure and examines the roles of religion, atonement and forgiveness.

GAUDY NIGHT, BY DOROTHY SAYERS

Whenever I am tense or tired, I turn to mystery books. Gaudy Night combines a lot of my favorite elements in any book: engaging characters, excellent prose, subtle references to other literary work and an intriguing title. Nobody is murdered in Gaudy Night, and the suspense is based on a series of malicious pranks that escalate, from poison pen letters to the destruction of important academic documents. Described as “the first feminist mystery novel,” the book examines the issues of women’s education and gender roles.

EAST OF EDEN, BY JOHN STEINBECK

Taking the title from the book of Genesis, the novel is the retelling of the story of Cain and Abel, not once, but twice, through two generations of brothers. Steinbeck created a complex canvas with a story that spans over 50 years, full of symbolism, unforgettable characters and one of the most purely evil women ever encountered in literature (Cathy/Kate). It is a story of guilt and forgiveness, friendship and betrayal.

PERSUASION, BY JANE AUSTEN

I could have filled this list with only books by Jane Austen, since her six books are those I reread most often. Published posthumously, Persuasion tells the story of Anne, who gave up the man she loved eight years prior and has lived to regret the decision. While the author/narrator still regales the reader with many of her witty and biting remarks, alone in Austen’s opus, Persuasion has a more subdued tone, emphasized by the heroine who is described as having “an early loss of bloom.” Persuasion shows the rise of a new society, where the importance of land and inherited wealth gives way to personal talent and effort.
On the Playing Fields

BOYS VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY

Overall Record: 13-2
ISL Record: 13-2 (3rd Place)
New England: 1st Place Team at New England Division 2 Championships
All-League: Eric Jubber ’16, Nick Jaczko ’15
Honorable Mention: Duncan Umphrey ’17 and Nick Hunnewell ’16
All-New England: Eric Jubber ’16, Nick Jaczko ’15, Nick Hunnewell ’16

Awards: Class of ’99 Team Award (for the athlete who embodies the true spirit of cross country): Justin Skelly and Michael Dunne, both ’15. Coaches Award (to the athlete who demonstrates significant ability, improvement and commitment to the team): Nick Jaczko ’15

2015 Captains: Eric Jubber, Nick Hunnewell and William Wang, all ’16

GIRLS VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY

Overall Record: 14-4
ISL Record: 11-3 (2nd Place)
All-League: Maddie Ayles, Ally Slowe and Molly Slowe, all ’15
Honorable Mention: Allee Ayles, Tess Dupre and Lucinda Quigley, all ’16

Awards: Walker Cup (to the player who demonstrates a high degree of skill, love of competition and desire to play within the spirit of the game) Maddie Ayles ’15

2015 Captains: Allee Ayles, Tess Dupre and Lucinda Quigley, all ’16

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Overall Record: 2–6
ISL Record: 2–6
All-League: Denery Noone ’15 and Martin Williams ’16
Honorable Mention: Ryan Duffey ’17, Teddy Strzetelski ’15, Alex Dhionis ’15
All-New England: Martin Williams ’16
Awards: Coaches Award (for best improvement and team contribution): Dakota Fenn and Michael Hazard, both ’15. E.T. Putnam Award (for excellence, leadership and dedication to the team): Martin Williams ’16 and Denery Noone ’15. Marinaro 12th Player Award (to the player whose contributions and spirit exemplify excellence): Joe King and Teddy Strzetelski, both ’15

2015 Captains: Tim Barry, Domenic Nardone and Martin Williams, all ’16

GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Overall Record: 18-4
ISL Record: 10-4 (3rd Place)
New England: New England Class B Champions
All-League: Amy Duggan ’16
Honorable Mention: Julia Ford ’16
Awards: Coaches Award (to the players who demonstrate commitment to team and exemplary sportsmanship): Adrianna Brown ’16 and Caley Dickinson ’15. Forever Bulldog (to the players whose

Season Highlights

- Girls varsity soccer won their 16th ISL Championship, and beat undefeated Choate Rosemary Hall in the New England Class A Tournament finals to claim sole ownership of the championship title.
- Varsity volleyball won the New England Class B title in only their 2nd year as a varsity program.
- Boys varsity cross country won their first New England title since 1983.
- Olivia Mussafer ’15 finished 8th in the girls cross country New England All-Star meet at the end of the season.
- 18 / 20 Nobles fall teams finished with a winning record.
- The Michele Dufault 5K Memorial Run/Walk at the start of the school year drew the largest pool of runners since the event began five years ago.
spirit and dedication exemplify the ideals of the volleyball program): Sophia Millay ’17 and Amy Duggan ’16

**2015 Captains:** Katie Benzan, Kate Carlton and Amy Duggan, all ’16

### BOYS VARSITY SOCCER

**Overall Record:** 13-3-1  
**ISL Record:** 12-2-1 (3rd Place) 
**All-League:** First Team All-ISL: Derrick Acheampong ’15, Matt Ranieri ’17 and Nick Ranieri ’17. Second Team All-ISL: Watson Cheek ’16 and Alex Notman ’15 
**NEPSAC All-Star:** Senior All-Star Game: Avery Gibson and Watson Cheek, both ’16 

**Awards:** Coaches Award (for leadership, sportsmanship and skill): Alex Notman ’15. Weise Bowl (for contribution to team spirit, in memory of Edward Weise ’54): Walker Jester ’15 

**2015 Captains:** Avery Gibson and Watson Cheek, both ’16

### GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

**Overall Record:** 17-1-1  
**ISL Record:** 10-1-1 (1st Place) 
**New England:** New England Class A Champions 
**All-League:** Julianna Chen, Claire Dardinski and Beth Kamphaus, all ’15 
**Honorable Mention:** Maddie Mills ’18, Jordan Bailey ’16 and Anna Haigh ’16 

**All-State:** Julianna Chen, Claire Dardinski and Beth Kamphaus, all ’15 
**All-New England:** Julianna Chen ’15 
**Awards:** Ceci Clark Shield (for a player who best embodies the qualities character and camaraderie that Ceci Clark represented): Toni Abate ’15. Tim Carey Award (to a member of Class I whose talent, hard work, humility and joyfully competitive spirit have led most directly to the success of the team, in honor of beloved mentor and coach Tim Carey): Julianna Chen and Claire Dardinski, both ’15 

**2015 Captains:** Jordan Bailey, Andie Gilmore and Anna Haigh, all ’16
Honoring Gleason

ON SEPTEMBER 13, in Lawrence Auditorium, Nobles honored former headmaster, the Rev. Edward “Ted” Stone Gleason, and his wife, Anne Vermillion Gleason, who died October 31, 2013, and May 3, 2014, respectively. The family also lost Persis Gleason Elkins ’78, one of the Gleasons’ three daughters, on October 23, 2014 (see obituary, p. 53).

The evening was styled as an assembly—a school ritual that Gleason embraced and elevated, and on which he left an indelible mark.

Robert P. Henderson Jr. ’76, head of school, welcomed community members from every generation and paid homage to Gleason and his legacy at Nobles.

The Copley Singers, under the direction of former Nobles music faculty member Brian Jones and joined by Nobles choral graduates, sang hymns, including “Pilgrims’ Hymn,” by Stephen Paulus, “Sure on This Shining Night,” “Try to Remember,” from The Fantasticks, by Harvey Schmidt, and “The Lord Bless You and Keep You.”

Other assembly moments included a film about Gleason’s tenure (1971–1987) by former faculty member Jim Bride, an a cappella performance by former Nobleonians, remarks and a slideshow by former faculty member Joe Swayze. The evening also included reflections by faculty members hired by Gleason, who still teach at Nobles today, including Dick Baker, who succeeded Gleason as head of school and continues to teach English, and science faculty member Deb Harrison.

“There are 11 current faculty members whom Ted hired, who are still teaching, coaching, and working with kids in numerous other capacities at Nobles,” Harrison said. “According to my humble calculations, that’s more than 360 collective years of service to the school—more than 360 years of weaving and strengthening those threads of what Ted stood for and hoped for, in the vital fabric of this community, honoring his timeless legacy.”
2014 Young Graduate Award

On September 22, 2014, Head of School Bob Henderson presented the 2014 Young Graduate Award to Dr. Meagan Rock ’99 at morning assembly. Started in 2011, the Young Graduate Award is given annually to a recent graduate who embodies the mission and spirit of the school through demonstrated leadership for the public good and a commitment to serving others.

Rock’s citation reads, in part, “Meagan Rock has faithfully dedicated her life from a very young age to the promotion and protection of the relationship that humans and animals share. As director of the MSPCA Animal Care and Adoption Center of Boston, she displayed a high level of managerial competence in order to effectively care for the most vulnerable animals in her community. Her work as case manager for more than 400 HIV-positive clients and their companion animals with the Phinney’s Friends Program further testifies to her altruistic commitment to the public good. Now, as a doctor of veterinary medicine, she is continuing to live her passion for serving human and nonhuman animals alike.”

“Being able to practice veterinary medicine at MSPCA-Angell is a dream realized,” Rock said. “The MSPCA, and the values that they represent, have been a part of me since I was 15 years old. Combine this with the honest lessons and enduring support that I have received from Nobles faculty and my family, and this magic becomes real. I encourage you to never stop taking risks or believing in your own ability to make the world a better place. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity that you have by virtue of being a Nobles student and harness it to make a difference.”

NOBLES NIGHT 2014

On November 13, 2014, more than 400 graduates, parents and friends of Nobles gathered in the Morrison Athletic Center to celebrate Nobles Night.

Head of School Robert P. Henderson Jr. ’76 thanked guests for coming and announced that the Be Nobles Bold campaign had surpassed $74 million (that number grew to more than $75 million by press time).

He thanked campaign co-chairs Karen and Brian Conway, Sandy and Paul Edgerley, Tom and Kristen Roberts, Allison and Tom Sargent ’78 and honorary chairs George Bird ’62 and C. Jeffrey Grogan ‘74. He also introduced members of the development team who announced the year-to-date combined totals of the Annual Nobles Fund (ANF) and First Class Fund for Faculty (FCFF) at more than $4.4 million; Henderson also recognized graduate co-chairs Brian O’Neill ’87, Eliza Drachman-Jones Quincy ’01 and Rich Quincy ’99 and parent co-chairs Rachel and Eric Freeman ’84 and Janet and James Nahirny, as well as FCFF co-chairs Toni and Doug Gordon and Marion and David Mussafer.

As of Nobles Night 2013, $61 million had been raised for the campaign. With volunteer leadership, Nobles has raised an additional $14 million in the last year. Henderson also recognized Robert S. Kretschmar ’63 P ’93, who received the Richard T. Flood Award for his service to the ANF.

“Bob is one of Nobles’ most loyal and committed graduates. For more than a decade, he has been an active ANF volunteer and the fundraising point person for the Class of 1963,” said Henderson.

“Bob is always willing to reach out to his classmates and fellow graduates for both leadership and non-leadership gifts alike,” Henderson added.

Kretschmar has served as a class agent, a 45th and 50th reunion committee member, and ANF Executive Committee member. For his 50th reunion, Kretschmar led the class gift effort, helping to set new records for both participation and total dollars raised in a given reunion year for the Class of 1963. In addition to his ANF efforts, he served on the Campaign Committee for the OneNobles campaign and was also a member of the Marathon Fund Committee. Kretschmar is a member of the Graduates Council and the 2014–2015 ANF Executive Committee.
A Certain Slant of Light

Tell All the Truth/But Tell it Slant  
BY JULIA RUSSELL, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEMBER

While I love the work I do in the English classroom from September to June, I also love the work I do in the summer, when time is more my own. After many years of writing fiction and non-fiction during the summer, I have recently switched to painting, a more physical and, for now, rewarding medium. Perhaps spending large chunks of the previous nine months typing away at a computer screen as part of my teaching job makes the idea of returning to that screen less appealing. In any case, I’ve never been a good sitter; my neck tightens, and my eyes get bleary after a while. Two incomplete novels lie hidden somewhere, buried behind old icons or even on some dusty floppy disks in the attic. Some day I’ll go back and take a look. But for now, my attic has become a painting studio. With good light streaming through the windows and my daughter’s old Dora the Explorer boom box, I have that room of my own that Virginia Woolf once wished for all women.

About eight years ago, I took a painting class with a group of Nobles freshmen, taught by my good friend and colleague, Betsy VanOot. After that, with support and encouragement from my family (who let me slip upstairs for stretches of time), I began to work on my own, discovering that I loved it—the smell, feel and even names of paint, names like Burnt Sienna, Prussian Blue, Yellow Ochre and Raw Umber. I also learned to love the sudden surprises and small successes that came from mistakes—the unplanned or frustrated sweep of a palette knife across the canvas, or the serendipitous mixing of two new colors. Painting for me requires and rewards that kind of experimentation. Does my classroom? The fact that my job and my mortgage payment (or grades) are not tied to my process is certainly part of the freedom that I feel, but when I return to the classroom every fall, I ask myself how I can recreate for my students the dynamics inherent in the studio—a safe yet challenging space for risking ideas, making mistakes, and lasting learning. An intellectual and emotional room of their own.

Most of my paintings begin with an emotional attachment to the place I am painting. It could be a place I return to time and time again—certain meadows, paths and coves on Martha’s Vineyard or one-time adventures out West or as far away as Kenya. I work from photographs that I have taken, photographs that capture light and shadow in interesting or moving ways. That’s the feeling part.

The next part is about looking, about the intense visual focus on the scene before me. What am I really seeing? Not a pond, but a yellow streak of light here and a purple one there, a swoop of maroon shadow down here. It is a kind of focus that is hard to come by in a busy life, and yet when it happens, the clutter just goes away, and time stops. Sometimes paintings worth looking at emerge; sometimes they don’t. When they don’t, I start again, with another layer of paint, knowing that that the failed first layer beneath may very well emerge in some cool and unexpected ways in the next iteration. I have to push against the impulse to be literal. I know that when I start picking smaller and smaller brushes to recreate things exactly as they appear in a photograph, I am going down a disappointing path. Emily Dickinson, in a poem that seems to describe what she thinks about writing poetry, expresses a similar idea: “Tell All the Truth/But Tell it Slant.” Clearly, I have trouble letting go of the English teacher that I am. But sometimes, when I am using big brushes, gobs of paint, layers of failures and a certain slant of light, I can be a painter for a bit.

Julia Russell
Long Point #1
Oil and acrylic on canvas

Julia Russell
State Road, West Tisbury
Oil on canvas
37" X 25"

Julia Russell
West Tisbury Cemetery
Oil on canvas
30" X 10"
Lisa Wescott Aufranc Sharples ’84 and her husband, Cliff, decided to quit their jobs, yank their five kids (ages 6–16) out of school, and venture off for a family gap year around the world. Here are excerpts and insights from their blog chronicling their journey from September 2013 to August 2014.

**POSTED BY LISA, APRIL 2014**

The conversation follows a familiar pattern each time we meet someone new on our global family gap year: “Where are you guys from?” “Are these all your kids?” “How long are you traveling?” “What about school?”

With surprise, and usually a bit of confusion as to why we’d embark on such a crazy adventure, the conversation typically concludes with something like, “Wow! Your kids are really lucky to have this opportunity!” Or the more humorous, “Can you adopt me too?!”

At the beginning of this trip, I would think to myself, *Yep, the kids are really lucky*. Not many 12-year-olds get to skip sixth grade and see the world for a year! But as the trip has unfolded, I realize that while we are all very lucky in so many ways, the luckiest person on this trip is me.

Cliff and I joked before the trip that our real motivation was to kidnap our own children from the day-to-day so we could relish our time with them. And for nine months now, I have gorged on time with my family. The seven of us have enjoyed more than 800 meals together, uninterrupted by phone calls and texts. We have had the chance to read books together, share our thoughts about the world, and engage in conversations about all sorts of topics. We have played games, brainstormed new business ideas, taken over a dozen cooking classes, and argued about differences of opinion. But most important, we have gotten to know each other really well. Good and bad, highs and lows, we have experienced it all.

I keep asking the kids to think about how our lives will be different when we get back to Seattle. Are we all just going to go back to doing exactly what we were doing before we left? I imagine myself arriving home, unpacking everything from our worn-out suitcases, and then hollering down the hall, “Okay, making a run to Target. Does anyone need anything?” It seems a surreal, yet likely, scenario.

**POSTED BY WESCOTT, LISA’S 16-YEAR-OLD SON, JANUARY 2014**

I got the privilege of picking a book off the bookshelf with the kids and reading it aloud. I noticed on the cover there was a big, shiny silver sticker: the Caldecott Award. A flashback occurred. I went back to kindergarten, I would sit at a desk and just create books, and I have to say, some of them weren’t as bad as you would expect. The memory made me laugh out loud. Although I hadn’t yet won the Caldecott Award, I had won something far better: a journey of a lifetime. During this journey, I met amazing people who have become my role models; I have learned valuable lessons that have taught me an incredible amount about my leadership style; and, best of all, I have connected with a community. The Baobab Home is such a fitting name, considering it feels like my home away from home in Tanzania.

**POSTED BY OTTO, LISA’S 12-YEAR-OLD SON, APRIL 2014**

Imagine this: You are rubbing your chin, analyzing the city with an app that is useless, due to the fact that every street name is written in Chinese characters! Google Maps is killing you. The answer is sitting right in front of your face with all but a small barrier of alphabetical translation. Your only hope is to walk in the direction of your target. After about another 30 minutes of walking,
you get anxious and frustrated. You take charge and ask a Chinese man walking out of his restaurant if he knows which direction you are going and where the right restaurant is. His arm transforms into a straight position parallel to the ground. Your eyes follow from his shoulder, to his hand, to the tip of his finger and beyond. Your eyes end up in a dark alleyway. You squeeze out the one phrase you know in Chinese: “Xie Xie” (“thank you”). You follow the alleyway till you see an LED sign with the words DA DONG FAMOUS BRAISED SEA CUCUMBER written on it. At first you think, Okay, now I’m really lost. Braised sea cucumber? But then the words make their way back around your mind. “DA DONG!” You scream inside like a high school girl at a Justin Bieber concert. This is the famous duck restaurant of Beijing that you began to grow doubtful you would ever find. This is it!

POSTED BY YVE, LISA’S 13-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, AUGUST 2014

Adaptation: a change or the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment. When your surroundings change more than every now and then, and all cultures are different from one another, how do you cope? How can you go from place to place where everything’s unique and unfamiliar and be okay that you don’t know anything about your new environment? Well, I guess it’s simple: You adapt. That’s all everyone and everything have been doing since the beginning of time. You will soon find that adaptation will become the new lifestyle.

You can read more blog posts from the Sharples Family at http://www.projectequator.com.

“At the beginning of this trip, I would think to myself, Yep, the kids are really lucky… I realize that while we are all very lucky in so many ways, the luckiest person on this trip is me.”

—LISA WESCOTT
AUFRANC SHARPLES ’84
SCHOOLS LIKE NOBLES SPECIALIZE IN ADOLESCENTS. What does this mean? Michael Denning, head of the upper school, summarized the priorities—sometimes in conflict with each other—for parents at an October 2014 open house.

He told families interested in Nobles that the school must succeed in three crucial endeavors: to keep young people safe and healthy as they develop intellectually; to prepare them for the next phase of their life and education (i.e., college or university), and to give them the skills and habits of mind that will allow them to contribute to their communities generously and with integrity over a lifetime.

These transformations—the acquisition of skills and development of talents—take years. During the 2013–2014 academic year, Nobles parent and acclaimed photographer Rania Matar P ’12 ’12 ’16 ’18 captured aspects of some of the courage, vulnerability, humor—and, yes, great beauty—inherent in this journey, when she photographed Nobles students in the context of athletic endeavors. The following images are a selection from Matar’s work-in-progress, “Beautifully Awkward.” She credits her photographer-friend David Hilliard with inspiring the working title when he looked at her images.

“My work focuses on transitions, identity and daily life, and has its basis in my being a woman and a mother. I have four kids and am always fascinated watching them navigate the teenage years and how they deal with that important transition as their bodies are changing and their sense of self and identity are developing,” Matar says.

“After photographing A Girl and Her Room, portraying teenage girls in their bedrooms, I became interested in photographing boys in the context of sports and found myself drawn to boys—but also to girls—in middle school and early high school. I found that age beautiful in its fragility and vulnerability and found the sometimes-awkward body language even more beautiful. Casual glances, hand gestures, subtle shifts in body language, vulnerability and admissions of uncertainties became the focus of those photographs.”

Matar was born and raised in Lebanon and moved to the United States in 1984. She originally trained as an architect at the American University of Beirut and at Cornell University. Matar documents her life through the lives of those around her, focusing on the personal and the mundane, in an attempt to portray the universal within the personal. Her work has been featured in numerous publications and exhibited widely in the United States and internationally, and is in the permanent collections of several museums worldwide. Matar’s latest monograph, A Girl and Her Room, published by Umbrage Editions, was released in May 2012. The Foster Gallery at Nobles exhibited A Girl and Her Room in 2012.
EVERYONE JOKES ABOUT THE ELUSIVE MILLION-DOLLAR IDEA—the one you have before you retire early and sail around the Greek Islands. But how do you know when you’ve hit upon it? Entrepreneur Jeff Raider ’99, co-founder of online eyewear retailer Warby Parker and shaving-supply company Harry’s, has a keen sense of what it feels like, because it’s kept him up at night. And he’s listened to his instincts. Twice.

“When we started Warby Parker, the day I heard about the idea, I couldn’t sleep. About 2 a.m., I sent an email to my cofounders saying, ‘Hey, I was really interested in that conversation,’ and immediately an email pinged back, ‘Yeah, I’m thinking about it, too,’ and another one pinged back, ‘Yeah, I’m thinking about it, too.’ The excitement they all felt made the hard work worthwhile and gratifying,” Raider remembers. When Harry’s cofounder Andy Katz-Mayfield called him to discuss the idea for their shaving company, Raider says, “I literally sat back in my chair and thought, ‘Here we go again.’”
Since graduating from Johns Hopkins University in 2004 and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned his MBA in 2010, Raider has cofounded two highly successful businesses that started online: Warby Parker, for eyewear, in 2010, and Harry’s, for shaving, in 2013. Both companies take a fun, fresh approach to online retail, customer service and social responsibility, and are thriving because of it. While they maintain a robust online presence, demand for Warby Parker’s products has now spawned 16 brick-and-mortar locations with some of the hippest addresses nationwide. And Harry’s has its Corner Shop, where customers can not only purchase grooming supplies but enjoy some neighborhood atmosphere and get schooled on the perfect shave. Both companies pride themselves on quality products that make life more enjoyable for their customers, and they also give back to the community.

Warby Parker was the result of a conversation Raider and his business school friends had about the prohibitively high cost of eyewear. They wanted to offer a simple, stylish, affordable alternative. Soliciting the insights of fellow students, they learned people were resistant to buying glasses online; they wanted to try them on in person. That’s how Warby Parker’s signature and unique “Home Try-On” offer was born: “5 pairs, 5 days, 100% free.” Customers order online but can then take their time to solicit opinions and test the comfort of the glasses, with no risk, in their own home.

Buying a pair of Warby Parkers also has a feel-good factor; each purchase helps provide affordable eyewear to communities in developing countries. The company doesn’t simply donate additional pairs of glasses. It partners with organizations like VisionSpring (formerly directed by Warby Parker cofounder Neil Blumenthal), which, in turn, train workers in those regions to administer eye exams and make glasses affordable within their communities. Warby Parker has distributed more than 1 million pairs of glasses in 35 countries, which increases monthly productivity and income for workers with improved vision.

Partnering with nonprofit organizations was one of “three pillars” Raider and his cofounders agreed upon when building both Harry’s and Warby Parker.
“We wanted to have a positive impact on the world. When you think about quantifying impact, you think about it in lots of ways. You think about having a positive impact on customers. Fundamentally, our job in life is to make products that make our customers’ lives a little better.”

Raider also strives to make life better for his team. Almost 400 people work at Warby Parker; about 60 work in NYC for Harry’s; and about 400 engineers make up their German factory, Feintechnik. Raider says, “We want to make sure they’re growing and learning and having a great experience working with us.” That’s the second pillar.

“The last [pillar] is we want to have a real positive impact on the community. Those three pillars were always really important to us from the moment we

A SPECTACULAR JOURNEY

1286 Disputed origin of the first spectacles. Most point to the Italians, although there are also reports of Marco Polo coming across them while exploring China, as early as 1275.

1784 Benjamin Franklin invents bifocals, inspired by his own condition of presbyopia. He writes to a friend, he is “happy in the invention of double spectacles, which serving for distant objects as well as near ones, make my eyes as useful to me as ever they were.”

1800s Wearing glasses was considered a symbol of age and infirmity, spawning the popularity (especially with women) of hand-held lorgnettes that were only put up to the face when needed. In what is perhaps a double standard, wealthy men who adopted the monocle fad were recognized for their costly custom eyewear.

1930s Sunglasses became popular for the first time. In 1929, Edwin Land, of Polaroid fame, invented the first modern polarizing filter and began to experiment with its applications for sunglasses and other optical devices. Sir William Crookes of England created a lens capable of absorbing both ultraviolet and infrared light, and designs were further developed to aid WWII pilots.

1940s With the advent of various plastics and advances in lens and frame design, eyewear became a fashion statement, not just a prescriptive means to an end.

TODAY Some of the literati and glitterati who became synonymous with their eyewear: Clark Kent, Buddy Holly, John Lennon, Jackie Kennedy, Elton John, Harry Potter

SOURCES: MUSEUM OF VISION, COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS, WIKIPEDIA AND USHISTORY.ORG
launched. At Warby Parker, our giving model was drawn from my cofounder Neil’s experience. He worked in the developing world for more than five years, literally giving people glasses who otherwise couldn’t see, and had incredible stories about how a new pair could change someone’s life—like they could read for the first time; they could see which seeds they needed to plant; they could sew. All of these very basic things that they wouldn’t otherwise be able to do, they could now do. It was a really powerful set of stories.”

Although Harry’s is a younger company, its mission is equally developed. Raider explains the company’s partnership with City Year, an AmeriCorps program addressing the dropout crisis and at-risk youth. While doing a project with Bain & Company after college, Raider served on a team that helped plan City Year New York’s growth strategy.

Later, Raider and his colleagues at Harry’s examined their mission as a shaving-supply company that aimed to enhance their customers’ experience of getting ready every day. It made sense to form a partnership with an organization whose mission was also to prepare people in a potentially life-changing way, so they reconnected with Raider’s contacts at City Year New York. Harry’s wanted to do more than just donate money, so they started Harry’s 1+1, where, in addition to donating 1 percent of sales, all employees donate 1 percent of their time to volunteer with City Year.

“We have an amazing group of people at the company who have all of these incredible skills, from design to software engineering to analytics to finance,” Raider says. “We’re going to give more than 1,000 hours this year of our collective time to these organizations, and it’s been really powerful to see the impact that’s had on our team.”

This volunteering has also had a tangible impact on City Year, who was looking to recruit more male corps members. “We did a ‘hackathon’ with them,” says Raider. “We created a concept for a mobile app that we call ‘Corps Connect.’” The app would enable City Year staff—if they are having a conversation with a guy—to log information easily to facilitate follow-up. “Our software engineering team is going to build that app,” says Raider. “Every single engineer volunteered.”

Enriching the experiences of the organizations and people they work with is something Jeff and his cofounders value as high priority. “We think companies shouldn’t just have corporate mission statements that are like Hallmark cards—that they don’t really believe. They should live those missions every day. So if our mission is about helping people get ready, we actually have to go out and help people get ready.”

Raider demonstrates his commitment to mentorship and preparing others for success by sharing his experience as an entrepreneur. Even at Nobles, he
JEFF RAIDER FUN FACTS

1. As part of Warby Parker and Harry’s R&D, Jeff has tried on hundreds of pairs of glasses and shaved with more than 50 types of razors.

2. Jeff has founded two companies, but his shoe-laces are rarely tied.

3. Jeff is always down for karaoke, and “The Monster Mash” is his go-to pick.

4. Jeff’s laugh is recognizable from a mile away.

5. Jeff is happiest building sand castles with his wife, Laura, and their two kids.

6. Jeff is from outside of Boston, but he now calls NYC home.

sought ways to help others develop their potential by volunteering with Freshman Mentors and the Peer Help Program. Now he continues to support career and economic development through programs within his companies and through partnerships with organizations such as VisionSpring and City Year. In fact, in 2013, he and Harry’s cofounder Andy Katz-Mayfield launched H’University “to teach college students valuable skills they wouldn’t learn in class and to prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of the real world.” It offers free webinars conducted by business and nonprofit leaders, media gurus and writers. In addition to these complimentary online offerings, students can also pursue opportunities for internships with participating partners.

So what advice would Raider offer Nobles students who want to take bold risks and make a difference in the world?

“First, there’s a myth that exists. For a long time, people said it was not a good idea to work with friends,” says Raider. He’s had the opposite experience; he co-founded Warby Parker and Harry’s with his closest friends from business school and a work colleague, respectively. It worked, he says, because they first knew each other in a professional context.

“Because we were so close personally, we had a really strong level of trust. We were able to communicate clearly and empathize with each other really well, which is incredibly important in cofounding relationships. We had experience working with each other, so we understood each others’ working styles.”

Raider recalls having similar opportunities at Nobles—to work in small, productive groups. “Some of the most talented people I’ve ever met were at Nobles, and I think you have the opportunity to get to know people in a social context, but also in a professional or academic context that can give you a lot of insight into what they’d be like to work with when starting a business.”

Second, he emphasizes, is the importance of having “an idea you’re so excited about, you literally can’t do anything else,” like when he and his cofounders were emailing each other at 2 a.m. It’s also crucial, he explains, “to get lots of input on your idea and evolve it, so when you decide to make that investment, you’re doing it against a hypothesis that’s really strong and that’s been tested pretty heavily.”

The pillars on which Raider’s businesses are founded—creating a better experience for the community, as well as for customers and the companies’ own team members—are what he finds most fulfilling. Ultimately, the choices he’s made circle back to relationships and the experiences that change people’s lives.

“For me, what’s most rewarding are individual moments we have with people on our team, or our customers...like talking to our first employee at Warby Parker who was supposed to answer phones while we were in class, and having her lay out a strategy for how she’s going to manage over 100 people next year,” Raider marvels. “Or we had a customer email us at Harry’s—her son had a rare skin disease, and shaving was always incredibly painful for him. He finally tried Harry’s, and it gave him the most enjoyable shaving experience.

His mom was just so thankful we could give him that experience, so we sent him, essentially, enough razor blades for, well, forever. Another guy emailed us who hadn’t shaved in 30 years and wanted his first shave to be with Harry’s. We sent him to a barbershop where some of our friends set him up with a full barber shave and some Harry’s. Stories like that happen every day. Those are the things that are most gratifying to me, because I feel like they’re evidence that we’re actually making a difference.”

WINTER 2015 Nobles 33
Major libraries throughout the world hold incredible treasures in their special collections. In the Putnam Library at Nobles, the special collection, curated by director Erin Twohig and librarians Talya Sokoll and Emily Tragert, people, place and energy converge—and the Tower Collection emerges as a vital teaching tool at the school.
Here’s the story:
Nobles parent and
grandparent Walter
Tower P’74, ’75, ’78, ’80 and grandparents
of grads from 2003, 2005 and 2007, gave
the core of his rare book collection to
Nobles in the late 1990s. Tower, who
began his career selling printing services
before landing at Nimrod Press, the com-
pany he later bought and operated. From
his early days working in printing, Tower
became fascinated by books as objects,
as art and as devices for storytelling.
While working at Valley Offset Printing,
in Binghamton, N.Y.—not necessarily in
keeping with the contents of his bank
account, Tower says—he purchased 1758
leather-bound copies of John Milton’s
Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained,
which he found in a bookshop window.
He bought the set for just $50. While
the books have appreciated in value,
Tower wanted them because they were
set in the Baskerville typeface—the same
font that was being used for a series of
books he was printing. “We were print-
ing books for IBM on how to run your
accounting machine,” he says.
In that era, Tower says, he and
his wife, June, didn’t always have the
money to buy complete books. “So we
bought leaves,” he explains. One of those
individual leaves was from the Guten-
berg Bible, published circa 1450 and
the first book to be printed using
movable-type. Leaves similar to the
one Tower gave to Nobles are valued at
$50,000 or more.
“One thing that influenced the
collection,” says Tower, “is that I am
dyslexic, so a great many of the volumes
are illustrated.”
He adds that he became especially
interested in the evolution of print-
ing and, in particular, in the Incunable
Period (the last 50 years of the 15th cen-
tury), which marked the earliest period
of typography. Among the gems in the
Tower Collection at Nobles are the
Nuremberg Chronicle (1493), an illus-
trated biblical paraphrase and world
history that depicts Noah’s Ark, the City
of Troy and the Apocalypse, and Conrad
Gessner’s early, intricately illustrated
book on zoology, Thiebuch (1563).

1. (on previous) Andreas Vesalius, The second plate of the muscles from De Humani Corporis Fab-
rica, 1543. Andreas Vesalius’ De Humani Corporis Fabrica (On the Fabric of the Human Body), was
a revolutionary work of anatomy, one of the first
based on human dissection. Its illustrations are re-
nowned for their detail and have been referenced
for centuries by scientists and artists alike. The
Tower Collection includes The Illustrations From
the Works of Andreas Vesalius of Brussels, a modern
book that includes prints from the original wood
blocks of Versalius. These wood blocks were found
in the 1920s and were later destroyed in World
War II.
2. Abraham Ortelius, *Islandia*, 1585. Ortelius was a Flemish scholar and geographer who in 1570 published *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, considered by many to be the first modern atlas. His map of Iceland was the first detailed and relatively accurate map of the island published in Europe. It is also celebrated for its delightful depictions of sea creatures.

3. Azechi Umetaro, *Yuki-otoko [Snowman]*, from *The Modern Japanese Print: An Appreciation* by James A. Michener, 1962. Umetaro is part of a generation of Japanese print artists who pioneered the art of the sosaku hanga or “creative print.” These woodblock prints were created using traditional techniques but were made by a single artist. This is in contrast to the traditional system of woodblock printing, in which one artist designed the block, another carved it and a third printed it. In this way the best of the old printmaking methods were wedded to the vision of a new generation of artists. About this print, Umetaro wrote, “Here I tried to express not only the natural beauty of mountains but also the relationship of man and mountain. By the title I am referring to a simple mountaineer who walks the mountains in winter.”

4. Conrad Gessner, Rhinoceros woodcut from *Thierbuch*, 1563. This image is based on a 1515 woodcut by Albrecht Dürer, one of the greatest artists of the Northern Renaissance. Dürer never saw a rhinoceros in person—he based his design on descriptions of a rhinoceros brought to the Portuguese court in 1515. The woodcut is inaccurate in its portrayal of the animal, but Dürer’s renown and the inclusion of the woodcut in several influential books of the time, including Gessner’s, meant that this reign as the most widely accepted image of a rhinoceros in Europe for over 200 years.
Tower bought the Gessner volume in Berlin and says that the dealer believes it is a volume once owned by Gessner’s family; it includes hand-written notes in the margins, likely by Gessner’s wife.

If the foundation of the Tower Collection is 15th and 16th-century tomes with compelling imagery, the spines expand eclectically. The collection also includes an 19th-century German children’s book, 20th-century collections of Japanese prints, original leaves from the first four folios of Shakespeare, intricately illustrated stories by Lewis Carroll, a reproduction of the print “Bloody Massacre,” by Paul Revere—using Revere’s original plates—and a nearly complete set of Janus Press books from publisher Claire Van Vliet, who is known for producing tactile books and collaborating with contemporary writers such as Seamus Heaney and Ted Hughes.

The collection traces major shifts in the history of printing, with some holes that include ornate French books of the 18th century or other fashions in printing that were either unappealing to Tower or exorbitantly expensive.

Tower says that, in retrospect, two principles guided his collecting: books that fit his concept of the history of printing and books that appealed to him.

Nobles benefits enormously from the curiosity and commitment of this somewhat unlikely book collector.

The Tower Collection is currently housed in the Putnam Library, with the trifecta of librarians advocating for a more suitable permanent space that would include enhanced climate control and greater capacity for display and academic access.

5. Paul Revere (engraver), The Bloody Massacre; perpetrated in King-Street, Boston, on March 5th, 1770, by a party of the 29th Regiment, reprint of 1970. This print, struck in 1970 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, was created from Paul Revere’s original metal plate, giving it a crispness not found in many reproductions. The Bloody Massacre illustrates a 1770 clash between a mob of patriot protesters and a British regiment that left five Bostonians dead. Paul Revere’s print was widely disseminated and had a great influence over how the event was interpreted. It is considered one of the seminal documents of the Revolutionary period.
6. William Morris, title page of *The Canterbury Tales* from *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, 1896. William Morris, better known as a designer of fabrics and wallpapers, founded the Kelmscott Press to combat what he saw as the adverse effects of mechanization on the quality and artistry of printed materials. Morris believed that industrialization had degraded the quality of life and disconnected people from their work. The Kelmscott Press sought to use the tools and techniques of early printing to create beautiful, high-quality, hand-printed books. The Kelmscott Chaucer is considered the best example of the press’ fine work.

7. Michael Wolgemut and Wilhelm Pleydenwurff, Woodcut depicting the construction of Noah’s Ark, from the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, 1493. The Nuremberg Chronicle (or Liber Chronicarum, as it is known to scholars) was one of the most ambitious undertakings of 15th century printing. It was written by Hartmann Schedel, a physician and humanist from Nuremberg, and its more than 600 woodcuts were created by Michael Wolgemut and Wilhelm Pleydenwurff. The Chronicle is a history of the world from its creation to the 15th century, and draws on biblical, classical and historical sources.

8. Barry Moser, Wood engraving illustration from Chapter 8, “It’s My Own Invention,” of *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There* by Lewis Carroll, 1982. The 95 intricate illustrations in this edition were created by Barry Moser, American artist and printer, who in 1970 founded the Pennyroyal Press, a small press based in Massachusetts. The illustrations in this edition of Carroll accentuate the story’s whimsy and absurdity; this illustration shows the White Knight, who falls in a ditch while talking to Alice. Alice asks how he can keep talking with his head in a ditch. “What does it matter where my body happens to be?” he responds. “My mind goes on working all the same.”
9. David Gentleman, Lithograph illustration for “Quiquern,” *The Jungle Books*, 1968. This beautifully illustrated volume, printed in 1968 by The Limited Editions Club, brings together stories from Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book* and *The Second Jungle Book*. The Tower Collection includes many finely made and illustrated editions of classic literature printed by small and specialty presses during the 20th century. The lithographs in *The Jungle Books* were created by prolific British artist David Gentleman, whose work hangs in museums including the British Museum and the Tate in London and who has been creating watercolors, lithographs, stamps, engravings, murals and other works for over six decades.

Additional illustrations that appear in this article are from *Olde ffrendes wyth newe faces*, by Joseph Crawhall, published in 1883.
MAKING IT REAL

The Velveteen Rabbit was written by Margery Williams and illustrated by William Nicholson in 1922. The children’s book tells how a stuffed toy can become real only when a boy loves him.

Rare books, perhaps, are not unlike the rabbit. A collection that is well cared for and used well—as the Tower Collection is now—comes to life.

“Paper will last for hundreds and hundreds of years under the right conditions,” Nobles librarian Emily Tragert told a group of students in October as she introduced them to the collection.

Walter Tower, who donated the collection over the course of 10 years, says that previous Head of School Dick Baker wasn’t so sure the school needed to take care of dusty tomes. When he saw the leaf from the Gutenberg Bible, however, he changed his mind.

About 15 years later, Tragert, along with librarian Talya Sokoll and director Erin Twohig, are championing the relevance of the assets and helping faculty incorporate them into the curriculum. Parts of the collection have been used in Louis Barassi’s History of Boston class. The Bible leaves have been used in AP European History during study of the Reformation. The art books, including sculptural editions of Janus Press—and other, more traditional volumes—are also used in Nora Bourdeau’s sculpture class.

Tragert, who is a librarian and a trained archivist, has studied bookmaking and the history of rare books at several programs, including one at Cambridge University. This summer, supported by Nobles faculty professional development funds, Tragert will attend a week-long course, “History of the Book,” at the University of Virginia’s Rare Book School.

Tragert asked students in her class to think about what defines a book—about its physical structure and other attributes and functions. She demonstrated how to open older books gently, with a pillow underneath, so as to not damage the spine. “Books are really a technology that is efficient and effective—and they last a long time if you treat them right.”

She explained how books are made, typically by collating sets of folded pages—signatures—by sewing them, gluing them, or otherwise binding them to one another. She shared a volume of Dove’s Bible that is bound in vellum.

“Vellum is made from animal skins,” she said. “It was really expensive to make books in the Middle Ages. Paper helped revolutionize that process.”

Bourdeau’s students began to translate the Nuremberg Chronicle. “We should get [Latin teacher] Mr. Harrington to translate this,” said Uche Ndukwe ’18. Another student, Sarah Yoo ’18 found a symbol that looked like an emoji on her cell phone.

“Humans have a legacy of needing consistent visual symbols to communicate,” Tragert said.

Tragert, who is working to fully index the collection, is excited to explore how the collection can also be an experiential learning opportunity for other classes. For example, a class on the sciences could examine Gessner’s 16th-century zoology as a lens into the scientific revolution. Or it could explore the work of Andreas Vesalius, who in 1543 wrote an influential book on human anatomy, De humani corporis fabrica (On the Fabric of the Human Body). The Tower Collection holds leaves from Fuch’s herbal, an early work of botany.
grandchildren, scattered around the country, and our first great-grandchild is due this coming winter. I’m still battling with the incorrigible Irish government over my property there. *Fortune* magazine is supposed to cover this in a month or two, but I’ll believe it when I see it.

Meanwhile, if either Stew Clifford or our adoptee Pete Fisher reads this news, I hope they will communicate with me. Haven’t heard from them for quite some time.”

Gregg Bemis writes, “Our ranks are thin, but the spirit is good. Jim Homans reports in effectively that no news is good news. Phil Baker, having lost his Ginny a year ago and being lonely, has reached out and found a new lady companion. He says, ‘Life is good again.’ Good for you, Phil. In case some of you hadn’t heard, Beezer Almy lost his Winkie this past winter, but he called in and sounded chipper as ever. He has several offspring within 30 minutes so is well taken care of.

Dick Lucas is still marrying off his next generation while he and Anne continue to work on their golf games. He says his game ‘stinks,’ but I don’t believe it. Dick, can you still shoot your age? Lisa and I continue to chase after our 11 October and for his 60th reunion at Harvard in June 2015. Ned has a busy year of travel in front of him.

Monty Goodale had the pleasure this past summer of hosting his grandson and his family all the way from China. Monty also reports having nearly completed his next novel, *Going North.* A novel for adults, it will appear on his website, AlfredGoodale.com, this December.

Dudley Hall has moved to Pineville, N.C., where he can be near family after the death of his wife, Kay, last spring.

Jack Hoag, report has it, recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to see the Harvard 11 defeat Georgetown. This after a restful summer at his cabin at Squam Lake, N.H.

Howard Jelleme reports having just harvested a strong crop of grapes at his farm in New Hampshire. Picked and pressed, the juice is slowly maturing into Chianti, a process that requires much transferring of the wine from tank to tank. After this is done, he plans to take his family to France for a vacation in early May.

Dick McCabe and Nancy depart soon for their winter home in Florida. They plan to be back in Cotuit come mid-spring.

Bruce Palmer is in the process of selling his home in Signal Mountain, Tenn. Once the house is sold, he plans to move to a three-acre piece of land he has found along the Massachusetts-New Hampshire border.

Ralph (Ted) Powell says his talk at his 60th Amherst reunion on the trend toward professionalism in college sports went well. He adds three more items: that his son Nate is about to complete a graduate degree in neuroscience, that his wife, Debbie, is about to join a friend on a two-week trip to Turkey courtesy of Odyssey Travel, and that the only Powell offspring of their eight not to attend graduate school is seriously talking about doing so.

Alden Ringquist is as busy as ever in the Town of Duxbury, his major task now being to conduct tours of the town’s two lighthouses, Gurnet Light and Bug Light. The latter, which is about to be given to the town by the Coast Guard, needs much cleaning of its exterior, quite a challenge since the Bug is surrounded by salt water regardless of the tide level.

Eddie Stimpson and his new bride, Moira, have just returned from Paris and a great walking trip along the D-Day beaches of Normandy. Now they are off to Naples, Fla., where Eddie’s brother Wally has a winter home.

Jack Whiting and Jill are great-grandparents for the second time. In addition, a granddaughter is graduating in early May from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst."

Finally, here is the present rundown of who plans to attend our 65th Reunion and who can’t: *Planning to attend: Ned Bliss* (has volunteered to help us find a res-
Friends Nobles Family Reunion & 17, when the ‘52 & ‘53 & Close place on Wednesday, September

“This summer’s ‘main event’ Winston "Hooley" Perry writes, perrydise@tampabay.rr.com

Winston "Hooley" Perry CLASS CORRESPONDENT

781-383-0854

Galt Grant Class Correspondent

1951

Jack Hoag

Not reached: (is blind).

portation and housing, for Monty

Unlikely: Monty Goodale (trans-

(Monty Goodale (trans-

unreun). Howie Jelleme

(Grandma graduates from Umass when we reun).

 UMass when we reun).

That’s nine folk (more than half the extant class).

Almost yes: Steve Leland (hard to leave Phoenix, but it’s time to).

One more folk.

Maybe: Bruce Palmer (moving when we reun).

(granddaughter graduates from UM as when we reun).

Maybe minus: Ned Almy (too many trips already), Howie Jelleme (family trip to France conflicts).

Unlikely: Monty Goodale (transportation and housing, for Monty is blind).

Not reached: Jack Hoag

1952 & 1953

CLASS CORRESPONDENT

Winston “Hooley” Perry

Winston “Hooley” Perry writes, “This summer’s ‘main event’ finally came to fruition and took place on Wednesday, September 17, when the ‘52 & ‘53 & Close Friends Nobles Family Reunion &

80th Birthday Celebrations took place at Isaac’s Restaurant on the waterfront in downtown Plymouth, Mass. We had a great turnout of classmates (some with wives, some without), and everyone enjoyed a great meal together, with lots of laughs, tall tales, ‘Did you know?’ and ‘How are you doings?’

One of the high points of the preparation of the luncheon was my having the time to contact as many of our ‘52 & ‘53 classmates as possible, to encourage them to attend the affair, and to find out what was going on in their lives, the results of which would require a special edition of the Bulletin to bring everyone up to date, so you readers will have to wait a while.

Those in attendance (in alphabetical order, of course) from the Class of 1952 were Wink and Peg Childs, Bob Cumings, Bob and Trini Dymsza, Pete and Carol Hallett. Everett Kiefer, Hal and Carol Knapp, Bill and Mary Stevens, Peter Summers, and Benny Taylor.

In addition, from the Class of 1953, were Sam and Joan Bartlett, John and Jean Childs, Jack Farlow, Dick and Sally Flood, Evan and Grace Geilich, Bob and Susan Hoffmann, Hooley and Andrea Perry, and David Thibodeau. Our ‘close friends’ from the Class of 1954 were Fred and Barbara Clifford and Peter and Gretchen Partridge. It was a toss-up of who traveled the farthest to the event—Ben Taylor from California or Bob Dymsza from Albuquerque, or Da’ Wink from Amelia Island, Fl. Also, Brooke Asnis ’90, admission officer, and Kelsey Lawler ’09, assistant head of graduate affairs from Nobles, joined us bearing gifts for everyone in attendance—namely a new CD of ‘The Putnam Legacy,’ which they kindly provided extra copies of, which I subsequently sent to every other ’52 & ’53 class member who was not able to attend the luncheon.

After reviewing the attendance at the luncheon, I think it is amazing that the Class of 1952 had a remarkable 53 percent attendance, and the Class of 1953 had a great 36 percent attendance, along with a joint class attendance of 44 percent. I have been organizing class reunions like this since our original ‘Nobles Redneck Reunion’ was held in Homosassa, Fl., in April 2005, and this is the very best turnout that we have ever had. So don’t be a stranger or miss out on the next one. I must make note that at the luncheon, Bob Dymsza’s beautiful wife, Trini, was all decked out in spectacular jewelry, namely ‘Dizzy’s’ 1952 Nobles class ring, which has an interesting and unusual history credited to it—another whole story unto itself.

In honor of the event, I also wore my 1953 Nobles class ring, which added to the mystique of both of our long-ago missing class rings. So many times life eventually does come full circle.

One of the sadder moments of mine and Andrea’s visit to Plymouth was the shocking and untimely passing of Dick Anderson ’52 on September 1 in his hometown of Marion. I first met ‘Dicky’ back in 1946, when we entered the Sixth Class together, and I have many fond memories of our growing up. On September 27,
a packed house Service of Celebration and Remembrance of Dick Anderson was held at St. Gabriel’s Church in Marion, which Bob and Carolyn Cumings, Dave and Terri Horton, Andrea and I, and Peter Summers attended. David Horton was asked to make some remarks and remembrances, which again brought back many wonderful memories. After the service, everyone went to a reception at the Sippican Tennis Club, which gave everyone the opportunity to talk with Dana Anderson and to share many remembrances of Dicky with her. Dick was a wonderful person to know, a fun person to hang out with, and a perfect gentleman. He certainly will be missed by everyone.

So, my friends, that’s all the time I have right now to share who’s doing what, so stay warm, think warm thoughts, bundle up, get out your favorite knit hat and scarf and mittens and earmuffs, and by all means, at your age, don’t shovel snow—that’s what little grandchildren or neighborhood kids are for.”

1954
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Peter Partridge

On September 17, Fred Clifford and Peter Partridge and wives joined the old men of ’52 and ’53 for a reunion lunch in Plymouth. This well-attended affair was organized and hosted by Hooley Perry ’52. It was great to see so many friends, and the stories and jokes never seem to change.

1955
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Bob Chellis

Bob Chellis writes, “We start with bad news again. Our friend and classmate Buster Gorham died July 19 and was buried near the family summer home in Harwichport. I think you all got a notice at the time, followed by the obituary. If not, please let the school and me have your current email. On June 30, the Church of the Advent in Medfield overflowed for Buster’s memorial service. Charlie Nichols and I are scheming for—a maximum turnout. What will it take to have you come from Texas, California, Maryland, Maine, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, or Ohio? Ideas are welcome and requested. Charlie has some thoughtful ones, and as he points out, our 70th is far off, so let’s do this while we can! So far—for Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9, 2015—I think the fine weather promises good attendance. Bob Chellis and I are planning for a packed house reception and art show after 4 p.m. lunch, the Nobles Athletic hall-of-fame awards, sports all afternoon, and usually a wine and cheese reception and art show after 4 p.m. The question is, What would you most like to do Saturday night? So far, pretty much all—even the prize winners.”

1956
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gren “Rocky” Whitman

Looking ahead, next May will be our 60th reunion. We’re not sure how many more we’ll have while we are so lively, and Charlie Nichols and I are scheming for—hoping for—a maximum turnout. What will it take to have you come from Texas, California, Maryland, Maine, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, or Ohio? Ideas are welcome and requested. Charlie has some thoughtful ones, and as he points out, our 70th is far off, so let’s do this while we can! So far—for Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9, 2015—I think the fine weather promises good attendance. Bob Chellis and I are planning for a packed house reception and art show after 4 p.m. lunch, the Nobles Athletic hall-of-fame awards, sports all afternoon, and usually a wine and cheese reception and art show after 4 p.m. The question is, What would you most like to do Saturday night? So far, pretty much all—even the prize winners.”

1957
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
John Valentine
1959 is saddened to lose our classmate Rudy Busé. He burned a deep impression on all of us. First, it was a captivating experience to have a classmate from Guatemala. He then became a star of our soccer team and later captain. He stayed in close touch over the years while he was involved with international business. He joined a group who visited classmate Richard Seiler in Strasbourg, France (photo to right), and later with Steve Lister hosted classmates in Santa Fe in 2012. He was a pillar in his Santa Fe Episcopal Church. From our Nobles days, some knew his grandfather Albert Kidder, a 1908 Nobles graduate, and Rudy’s mom was a dear friend of our beloved headmaster’s wife, Laura Putnam. Rudy showed us Pecos, the Indian archaeological site where his grandfather led the excavation (see photo to the left of Rudy, with the site and Mr. Kidder in the background). Rudy served there as a special guide and foundation member in recent years. Nobles ’59 classmates Henry Schwarz, Steve Lister, Charles Castellani, Ted Miles, and Rob Ladd shared in the memorial to Rudy at Pecos.

Rob Ladd summed up the feeling expressed by many classmates over the past few weeks in a thank-you to Steve for hosting a class gathering in Santa Fe before the memorial. “What a bond we all share! Life gets hectic for most of us, so our get-togethers are all the more important.” We have been blessed that Rudy shared his life with us.

Ted Mann reports that while visiting friends on Long Island, who should he find as “The Author of Honor” at a nearby bookstore but Steve Grant, on a tour promoting his new book, Collecting Shakespeare: The Story of Henry and Emily Folger. It’s a good read!

Nobles ‘59 classmates Henry Schwarz, Steve Lister, Charles Castellani, Ted Miles, and Rob Ladd shared in the memorial to Rudy at Pecos.

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D.A. Mittell writes, “The strain of twice traveling over land to our former colony, the District of Maine, was partly assuaged by uplifting visits with our classmates Mike Burbank and Ben Soule. In the second instance, it was rendered a nullity by the presence of Betsy Soule. As this went to press, my 24-year plan to trespass on the estates of all 24 living classmates was three years ahead of schedule.”

Ned Reece writes, “It’s official: Chicago is my home town, in that I have now lived here longer than anywhere else. I came here in 1987 with my bride of one year, who has since become my bride of 28 years. Our threesome attends the Laboratory Schools at the University of Chicago, where I am a program director. Jack, our oldest, is a freshman at Purdue, UCLS class of ’14. Fritz (Franklin A. IV) is a junior, and their sister, Gigi, is—get this—president of...
sixth grade. Woot! Meanwhile, their half-brother lives in New Hampshire with his new wife and my granddaughter, who is coming up on her second birthday. Her half-brother, my grandson, lives in Seville. So we have some geography to deal with. Life is grand, and not a day goes by that I don’t have some odd yet relevant recollection of something at Nobles that made us who we are, like sliding on the Castle bannister with a piece of wax paper so we’d go faster still. Looking forward to hearing some good stories from y’all.”

1967
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Drew Sullivan

Jean-Marie Burgaud (AFS ’67) re-created his Class Book candid during a visit he and his wife, Ada, made to Duncan Dwinell’s (AFS-host ’67) home in Kent, England. Accompanied by his brother, Yanick, and his wife, the reunion group toured local places of interest, including a nearby fortified 13th-century mansion where Duncan and Jean-Marie sat in the Castle’s judgment seat. Reviewing a copy of the ’67 Class Book (editor Sam VanDam), Ada learned what the Class of ’67 predicted for her husband and what awards they had given him. Plus ça change!

Duncan writes, “I couldn’t join Jean-Marie and Ada for their visit with Rick Pape, Sam VanDam, and Yanick last year. With Yanick, we four classmates had spent the summer of ’68 mostly keeping out of trouble, touring Europe, and have kept in touch since. So Jean-Marie’s visit here with us completed the package. Jean-Marie’s inimitable impersonations of Nobles staff still are ‘crackerjack’ fun!”

1968
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Andy Lord

Peter Pach writes, “I was happy to get a phone call from Scott Fitzpatrick, who alluded to how he might have a little news. Long in Seattle, Scott is retired from a career divided between working in insurance and manufacturing. Sadly, he lost his wife two years ago. He still had family around as his two sons and two sisters live in Seattle. Then, about seven or eight months ago, Scott got on Facebook and looked up his college sweetheart from Trinity, Ruth Anne McSorley Taylor, who, it turned out, had also lost her spouse. They rekindled their relationship, Scott sold his house in Seattle, they got married in Trinity Chapel in Hartford, and they are living in Easton, Conn. I could see him smiling broadly, even over the telephone, as he told me the story. Scott reports being in touch with Ted Canto, who is living in Annapolis, Md. With an unusually short deadline for class notes (I’m not pointing any fingers here), I appealed for tweets of news from classmates, which officially gave them 140 characters, but I allowed more. Many rallied to the cause.”

Peter Gates joined the Parthenon Group, a Boston-based strategic management consulting firm, earlier this year as senior advisor in the company’s health-care practice.

Mark Haffenreffer reports spending several days in a 50-foot-tall cherry-picker, topping trees in Marion. “The rarefied air did wonders, and I am looking at a second career possibly in conservative management of certain orthopedic disorders. As some at Nobles will tell you, I tend to push the aggressive-conservative approach to shoulders, hands, and knees, as well as backs. This is becoming a lost art in today’s medicine, and I have found someone who is willing and has the wherewithal to possibly start a program. Maybe I am too old, but don’t tell me that!”

David Brown, whom I saw in the flesh during a wonderful September weekend of cold ocean swimming, kayaking, and golf, in Kennebunk, Maine, writes, “Trying to find my groove after 22 years on The Washington Post. Freelance market hard to crack, so I’ve spent time traveling, doing favors, kayaking, and running errands.”

Steve Baker tweeted from his Cape Cod home: “I had intentions to walk on the beach a lot this summer. Got there three times, I think. Hmm. I guess I’ve forgotten how to slow down.”

Parkman Howe isn’t the only one in his family heading back
to school: “Older daughter Emily in second year at UMass Med School; younger daughter teaching at Wycombe Abbey girls school in London for the year. I continue to teach at Concord Academy and Shakespeare at Lasell Village in Newton. All’s well that ends well.”

Tod Whittemore writes, “It’s the 30th anniversary of my Homespun ‘Learn to Yodel’ instruction tape (now CD, online at www.homespun.net/Styles/Beginner/learn-to-yodel). Our two oldest are starting their careers. The youngest is finishing high school, and our travel business is transforming into a full-time occupation.”

Tod was also eager to sing the praise of Kit Walker’s latest recording, “Out of Time”: “I listened to it a few times and then purchased it. Well worth it. The Nobles magazine will probably take a day short of forever to reach Kit in Uruguay. Kit is a master of jazz and plays with the wonderful vocalist Mariana Ingold. You can check it out and purchase it by clicking on the link for the album. For my part, all quiet in Middle Haddam. Love to hear from those I haven’t!”

In news from the Southern Hemisphere, Kit Walker says, “I’m almost fluent in Spanish and started teaching an astrology class (in Spanish). So great to be connecting with some of the guys from the class. Would love to hear from more!”

Toby Burr got away from the boatyard long enough to take a busman’s holiday last June with his wife, Barb. “We set sail from Bermuda to Marion as crew for good friends. Many birds and fish were seen from the deck. Some even landed on the boat. Best trip ever.”

Elizabeth Islander Stew Young says, “I am proud to report that my son, Alex, has his first real full-time job as the associate clinical director of Penikese, a therapeutic program for teenage boys, located on Penikese Island in Buzzards Bay and Woods Hole.”

Brad Wilkinson writes, “Just recently sailed again with Correspondent Pach in Maine. To the surprise of no one, most especially our wives, we turned the occasion into an excuse to channel our inner 14-year-olds. During the entire three-month run-up, I refer to myself as Joshua Slocum; Peter is Richard H. Dana Jr. All else very well—children healthy, happy, and producing more grand-children. Will be up to five by March next year. Best to all.”

John Clark has switched New Hampshire towns. He writes, “I am delighted to report that Carol and I have moved to the Center of the Universe (aka Epping, N.H.).”

Ted Almy reports that he is “living” the Class of ’75, and best wishes always to those I haven’t!”

Top: Wendy Patriquin at the Topsfield Fair; Bottom: Wendy Patriquin’s husband and daughter on the ferris wheel at the Topsfield Fair.
Dexter Southfield in Brookline and invites classmates to come look through the giant telescope on clear Tuesday evenings in the fall and spring. Check out www.claycenter.org for specific times. Bob attributes his ability to teach high school–level Latin and Algebra to Nobles faculty members Chris Arnold and Chris Mabley. Bob’s wife, Susan, is still a director at Johnson & Johnson, and son Matthew is a boxer and MMA coach in South Boston. Matt was recently highlighted on a Discovery Channel series called The Fighters.

Jerry Rappaport writes, “Classmates, I am looking forward to our 40th reunion this May. In fact, we have gathered and continue to gather an eclectic group of members on the reunion committee. Andrea, Kurt, Chuck, Joe, and others will be reaching out to you for a fun time and no heavy lifting. I hope to see all of my classmates there as we celebrate 40 years of coeducation, the wonderful mentoring and reign of Reverend Gleason, our undefeated football team, and the passing of our coach.

I recently attended a memorial golf tournament at Dedham Country Club for Coach Lee and have been playing a lot of golf lately in what has been tremendous weather all summer and fall.

My daughter Jen ’07 is at Columbia getting a master’s in social work, and my daughter Liz ’08 is working in life insurance and estate planning. They send their best to my classmates as they remember chowing on East Coast Grill barbecue on my back porch at our 25th. See you in May.”

1976
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Tom Bartlett

Rob Piana

1977
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Linda Rheingold

1978
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Christopher Reynolds

Please see “Memoriam” for the obituary shared by the family of Persis Allen Gleason Elkins.
The word on the street is that Mr. President, Matt Glassman, got married in Ashfield, Mass., to Jeremy Eaton on September 6. Classmates Hunter Woolley, Joe Cooney, Sarah (Fairchild) Sorvalis, Justin Alford, and Sandy
Weymouth were there to celebrate with Matt and his new wife. Hunter reports: ‘Great wedding on the farm, and so great to catch up with some old Nobles friends!’

In other news, Hunter shares that he and his wife, Ann, ‘have three in preschool and the baby at home. Ann just started a fellowship at MGH/Brigham, and I’ve been traveling a lot less. It’s been really nice to spend more time with the kiddos!’

I’m so proud of our classmates Jon Olinto and Anthony Ackil, whose restaurant business, b.good, was just named Boston’s Small Business of the Year. Way to go, guys! Looks like I’m going to have to open a franchise out here in California.

Andra (Voldins) Dix is proud to announce that she and her husband, Matt, welcomed son Kaspar Dix into the family on July 10. Kaspar joins big brother August and big sister Laila.”

And Jim Hampe is excited to make the official announcement that he and his wife, Amy, ‘are so thrilled to welcome a new Hampster to the family! We adopted a baby boy, Benjamin William Hampe. Ben was very excited to make it to our 20th reunion and meet all of the other little Gryphons.”

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### 1997

**CLASS CORRESPONDENTS**

Bobbi Oldfield Wegner

Jessie Sandell Achterhof

**Matt Smith** reports, “My wife, Susan (who actually came to our headmaster’s ball back in the day!), and I welcomed our daughter, Mackenzie Mao Smith, in June. Mom and Mackenzie have been doing amazing these past four months, and the three of us spend our weekends walking around Brooklyn.”

**Sandra Seru** writes, “It’s been a year of amazing Nobles weddings. We traveled to South Africa for Tim Mah’s wedding in February, a little closer in Dedham for Kimi Ching’s wedding this September, and on August 29, I married my boyfriend of seven years, Ignacio (‘Nacho’) Morillas, just down the beach from where he proposed in Chatham. Nacho is from Spain, so we celebrated with a mix of traditions and had so much fun with family and friends from around the world. We snapped this Nobles picture (Nobles flag courtesy of Tim Mah). Thanks for keeping us all updated!”

**George Shalhoub** writes, “While taking a screen shot with my iPhone (which is done by pressing the top and bottom buttons of the phone at the same time), I used my ring finger to apply pressure to the top button (as opposed to the standard middle finger, which is the finger that generally generates the most torque). I applied pressure with such brute force that I felt/heard a ‘pop’ in what was later diagnosed as a partially torn A2 flexor tendon. Well, we all have stories.”

**Andrew Cencini** says, “I’d like to report that I do not have children.”

In 2008, **Nina MacLaughlin** quit her desk job at a Boston newspaper and took a job working as an assistant to a carpenter, not knowing the difference between a Phillips and a flathead screwdriver. Since then, she’s built walls, bookshelves, tables, and decks, tiled floors, framed windows, and gotten a bunch of splinters. In Hammer Head: The Making of a Carpenter, she’s written a book about learning the trade, the joys and frustrations of making things by hand, and the strangeness of working as a woman in a profession that is made up of 99 percent men. It comes out in March 2015. Nina MacLaughlin’s book about quitting her desk job to become a carpenter’s assistant comes out in March 2015.

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### 1999

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Stephanie Trussell Driscoll

**Julie Palombo Wallace** writes, “My husband, Greg, and I welcomed Kylie Marie Wallace on June 4. She joins her big brother, Zack, age 4, who is thrilled to have a new baby sister!”

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### 1998

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Melissa Tansey

**Kristin Harrison**, executive director of the Christa McAuliffe Charter School in Framingham, Mass., wrote this summer, “We’re moving to a new campus in August! Demolition is complete, framing is underway. Tight timeline and we’re on track and excited for our new home, well equipped for our Expeditionary Learning program.”

**Stephanie Trussell Driscoll** writes, “Hope everyone had a great summer. The summer was filled with lots of new babies for the class of ‘99. First, **Elena Raptopoulos** says, ‘My husband, Francesco, and I bought a house this summer and moved from Brooklyn to Scarsdale, NY. On August 13, we welcomed...”
our son, Sebastian Matteo, who is just amazing. Hope to see some Nobles people over the holidays!’

Then, Amanda Tripp Hayes and her husband, Ryan, welcomed their first child, Holden Edward Hayes, on August 17, 2014. I got to meet him last week, and he is already smiling.

Lastly, Olivia Achtmeyer Boger and her husband, Andy, welcomed Stuart Crawford Boger on September 4, 2014. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. Congrats to all the new mamas!”

2000
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Lisa Marx

Joanna (Aven) Howarth and her husband, Dean, welcomed baby boy Isaac on May 21, 2014. Michelle Trivedi’s son, Dhilan, was born on August 15, 2014.

Alex Harris Woolley wrote, “Our exciting news is that Clark ’97 and I are still enjoying life in Alexandria, Va., with our dog, Brunswick. Dave is stationed at USMC Quantico as an instructor at Infantry Officers Course, and I work in the development office at National Presbyterian School, a private elementary school 3rd through 6th grade.”

Michael Raider recently married Robin Swartz.


Christine Kistner married Patrick Bowe on October 4, 2014, in Dedham, Mass.

2002
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
William N. Duffey III

Margaret Gormley Donahue writes, “My husband, David, and I are still enjoying life in Alexandria, Va., with our dog, Brunswick. Dave is stationed at USMC Quantico as an instructor at Infantry Officers Course, and I work in the development office at National Presbyterian School, a private elementary school 3rd through 6th grade.”

2003
Alex Proels writes, “After seven amazing years growing the Sperry Top-Sider brand, I have joined Brahmin as the VP of marketing. I am very excited for the next chapter in my career to steward this heritage handbag and accessories brand.”

2004
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Carolyn Sheehan Wintner

Sarah Parsons married John Walter, a fellow Dartmouth grad, at the Wequassett in Chatham on Labor Day.

Brittany Oliver married Cody Hatfield this past May at the Fairmont Copley in Boston.

2006
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
E.B. Bartels

Caroline Holland writes, “I am working in the development office at Fenway High School, a pilot school that is (obviously) near Fenway Park. I am now in an article club with E.B. Bartels and friends. We have not had a meeting yet.”

Cory Rosenfield writes, “I’ve been living in NYC for the past four years with my girlfriend, Aysha, and I am currently working for the CEO of JPMorgan Global Wealth Management, which has completely taken over my life. Ready to tackle the next challenge, I’ve submitted applications to graduate business school for fall of 2015. I hear some of our impressive ’06 classmates are already starting this fall at Harvard Business School (Griffin Keady, Drew Oppenheimer, Jay Kelly, and Whitney Kelly) and MIT Sloan (Rachel Plitch). While it would be great to join them, I just hope to get into any of the places I’ve applied to.”
Meaghan McGoff checked in to tell us all: “I’m doing well. I’m still working for Boston Public Schools in the special education department. I am also in grad school, working toward a master’s in social work at Salem State. I love the MSW program, and I was pleasantly surprised when I walked into class on the first day and saw Jenny Koningi-sor sitting there! Small world. I was also a bridesmaid in Ayla Brown’s wedding in August. It was at her house in Nashville and was a ton of fun.”

Caroline Harrison now lives in Queens and is desperately attempting to keep the whole art thing going when she’s not at the job that pays her rent. The day that class notes were due was her 27th birthday, which is significant, because if she can hang on, she’ll have a longer (albeit less high-profile) artistic career than Janis Joplin, Kurt Cobain, and Jim Morrison. She still (clearly) makes jokes in poor taste and loves making nerdy puns.

A top-secret West Coast gossip source (whose name definitely does not rhyme with Shmalexa Shmalls) reports, “Last October, Hilary Segar, Alex Burns, and Pamela McDevitt visited Anabel Lippincott, Abby Mayer, Arthur Levy, and Mike Murray in San Francisco. Two of these individuals did engage in a make-out sesh, but I won’t disclose specifics. I think it’s more interesting if we keep people guessing.”

Courtney Stockmal wrote in to share, “I was named the studio associate director for the NFL on FOX. The Emmy Award–winning show is in its 21st season, and I am the youngest person to hold the title. The job consists of a 12-plus-hour day of live TV, starting with an hour pregame show, game breaks, half-time segments, a bridge show, more game breaks, half-times, and a postgame show, which often gets higher ratings than the Simpsons.”

Janna Herman has been busy focusing 90 percent of her efforts on petting strangers’ dogs. She is also part of the “article club.”

And get this: Our very own Mariel Novas just became a board member. She will be working primarily with the Achieve and Buildings Committees, and she is the youngest board member (maybe ever?). To quote Greg Croak, she is “representing ’06 in a way we can all be proud of.” Damn straight! I am literally glowing with pride. Seriously, my cheeks are flushed.

Also, it should be noted that on one of my very first nights back living in Massachusetts, riding the Red Line home to Cambridge, in the same train car as me was none other than the delightful Jay Roman. Hey, Jay. Good to see you.

Last, Josh Pollack writes, “Brad Caswell finally got a light for his bathroom. I thought that was pretty clutch.”

Andrew Inches writes, “I graduated from Nobles in 2012. That fall I attended Hobart College. Since then, I have transferred to Auburn University, where I am now a sophomore. This past spring, prior to transferring, I left Hobart and did a National Outdoor Leadership School semester in the Rockies. We lived outside for 100 days across Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. It was an incredible experience. Hope everyone is well. Go War Eagles!”

Lara Abouhamad reports, “I am currently a junior at Cornell, studying art history with a minor in business. I interned in the program marketing and advertising department at Showtime Networks this summer and plan on studying abroad in London at the Sotheby’s Institute of Art this spring.”

Left: Hannah Birnbaum and Hannah Graham, both ’10 are now housemates in Somerville; Right: Andrew Inches ’12 at Auburn University with his dad Rob ’76
Richard Alan Anderson ’52 died on September 1, 2014, at the age of 79. He was born on September 9, 1934, in Bridgeport, Conn., and grew up in Wellesley. At Nobles, he sang for many years as a member of the glee club and was secretary of the Athletic Association club. Elected as best dressed by his classmates, he was voted most likely to be a traveling salesman in 10 years. Anderson was a member of the hockey team and won the Nobles cup in 1947.

After Nobles, Anderson attended Yale University and graduated with a degree in economics. He enlisted in the Army in 1957 and was stationed in Germany. Upon discharge in 1959, Anderson was awarded the Good Conduct Medal. In 1965, he started working as a sales associate at the La-Z-Boy Chair Company, where he quickly ascended from employee to store owner. He retired in 1989 and spent many of his days volunteering for various organizations in his community. Anderson is survived by his two brothers, Robert and Alexander; his wife, Dana; his four children, Virginia, Margaret, Timothy, and Sarah; and eight grandchildren.

Buster Gorham ’55 died July 19, 2014, and was buried near the family summer home in Harwich-port. See page 44 for more.

Franz “Rudy” Busé ’59 passed away on August 20 in Santa Fe, N.M. He was 73 years old. Born in Beverly and raised in Guatemala City, he arrived at Nobles in the fall of 1955. Busé particularly excelled on the soccer field, playing for three years and captaining the team his senior year. He won the Wiese Soccer Bowl in recognition of his contributions to the team. Rudy also wrestled and played tennis. Outside of athletics, he was an avid photographer and joined the Dramatic Club his senior year. Busé was also a three-year member of Deutscher Verein.

After Nobles, Busé went on to graduate from Princeton University. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, he spent most of his career working for American companies in Santiago de Cali, Colombia, Mexico City, and São Paulo. He later lived in Newtown Square, Penn., and Santa Fe. He was an active volunteer at St. Bede’s Episcopal Church and with the Friends of Pecos National Historical Park. Though his travels took him across the continent and the world, Busé still found time to keep in touch with his Nobles friends throughout his life. He will be missed.

Persis Allen Gleason Elkins ’78 was born in Exeter, N.H., on October 19, 1960, and died in Minneapolis, Minn., on October 22, 2014, after squeezing every drop of meaning from life. True to her uncommon name, Persis was one-of-a-kind, a genuine original. From the moment she came into the world, she demonstrated extraordinary gifts—gifts of compassion, intuition, humor, and creativity. Persis saw the world from a unique perspective, never failing to notice beauty, fight for justice, perceive pain, celebrate joy, and advocate for those in need. Persis made us think. She made us question convention. She made us laugh. She made us stop and pay attention to things that matter most. She gave abundantly of her love, her spirit, her compassion, and her imagination. She envisioned the world as it could be and acted upon those beliefs, loving, giving, and inspiring others to do the same. Persis lived as she died, showing us the way. Our family priest writes, “Persis’s energy and integrity have altered the course of the world, and that energy and integrity are way stronger than death.”

Thankfully, Persis discovered a profession that capitalized perfectly on her many talents and her ability to comfort, heal, and cheer sick children. After graduating from Noble and Greenough School and Bowdoin College, Persis earned a master’s in child life from Wheelock College, where her mother and grandmother had studied before. She leaves her devoted husband, Tod S. Elkins; cherished daughters Sarah Hallock Gleason Ross, Eliza Fernald Gleason Kean; mother-in-law Betty Elkins; brothers-in-law Robert Murray Ross and Patrick Daniel Kean; nieces Avery Ashe Kean, Louisa Gleason Kean, and Lila Frances Kean; nephews Benjamin Gleason Ross and Matthew Mather Ross; many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins; and legions of friends. Persis was predeceased...
by her parents, Edward Stone Gleason and Anne Mather Vermillion Gleason, and her father-in-law Myron Elkins.

Most of all, she leaves us with a giant hole in our hearts and a vast legacy to fulfill—a legacy of ceaseless faith, infinite courage, endless kindness, limitless grace, interminable joy, and boundless love.

—Contributed by the Gleason family

Laura Marilyn Hanser (née McLeod) ’85 died on Thursday, August 28, in St. Louis, Mo. She was 48 years old. Hanser was widely involved at Nobles as a member of the field hockey and cross country skiing teams (captain in ’85); she attended Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C.

Her favorite spot on earth was Camp Kohahna, on the shore of Lake Michigan, where she spent summers as a camper, counselor, director, and board member. Deeply devoted to the Christian Science church, she spent many years teaching Sunday School in North Carolina, Florida, and Minnesota; she loved watching her children grow and gain their own identity and expressions of God’s qualities through all their activities.

She is survived by her husband, Drew; her children, Dylan, Emma, Kelsey, and Peyton; her sister, Leslie McLeod ’89; her brother, Doug McLeod ’83; and her mother, Marilyn. Hanser had a deep love for life, and she will always be remembered.

Matt Glassman celebrates his wedding to wife Jeremy alongside 1994 classmates (left to right) Sandy Weymouth, Justin Alfond, Hunter Woolley, Sarah (Fairchild) Sorvalis and Joe Cooeny.

Brittany (Oliver) Hatfield ’05 and husband Cody were married this past May at the Fairmont Copley in Boston.

Sandra Seru ’97 and husband Nacho surrounded by Nobles friends at their wedding in Chatham, Mass., in August.

Sarah Parsons ’05 married Jon Wolter at the Wequassett in Chatham this past Labor Day. (From left to right) First row (holding the banner): Matt Glazier ’05, Matt Nelson ’05. Second row: Jenny Koningisor ’05, Chris Huxley ’06, Helen Resor ’04, Kate Gormley ’05, Sarah Wolter (née Parsons) ’05, Sarah Cantin ’05, Molly Valle ’05, Marya Stansky ’05, Carry Resor ’05, Jenny Cedorchuk ’06, Maddy Petrini ’09. Third row: Steve Cedorchuk P ’06, Drew Delorey ’05, Mark Faye ’06, Nick Hayes ’05, Tyler Parsons ’09, Tim Fuscillo ’06, Will Maich ’05, Curt Nichols ’09, and faculty member Tom Resor.

Engagements

Nim Shah ’93 to Anne Severtson

Marriages

Peter Griglik ’83 to Michael Tilley in June 2013

Matt Glassman ’94 to Jeremy Eaton on September 6, 2014 in Ashfield, Mass.

Tim Mah ’97 to James Carter in February 2014 in South Africa

Kimi Ching ’97 to Joe Bliss in September 2014 in Dedham, Mass.

Sandra Seru ’97 to Ignacio (“Nacho”) Morillas in Chatham, Mass. on August 29, 2014

Christine Kistner ’02 to Patrick Bowe on October 4, 2014 in Dedham, Mass.

Michael Raider ’02 to Robin Swartz

Samantha Strauss ’02 to Jonathan Hanman on October 11, 2014 at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston

New Arrivals

Tim Sullivan ’91 had a boy, Patrick, in August 2014.
Danielle Coutu Silletti ’91 had a girl, Genevieve Maria, on October 10, 2014.

Melissa Pressley Rowe ’93 and husband Syburn had twin girls, Katelyn and Leah, in April 2013.

Stephan Seiffert ’93 and wife Nina had a girl, Genevieve Maria, on October 10, 2014.

Melissa Pressley Rowe ’93 and husband Sylburn had twin girls, Katelyn and Leah, in April 2013.

Stephan Seiffert ’93 and wife Nina had a girl, Genevieve Maria, on October 10, 2014.


Jim Hampe ’94 and wife Amy welcomed a son, Benjamin William Hampe.

Matt Smith ’97 and wife Susan welcomed daughter Mackenzie Mao Smith in June 2014.


Stephan Seiffert ’93 and wife Nina Parameswaran with their son Max, and daughter Johanna


Kaspar Dix, son of Andra (Voldins) Dix ’94

Jim Hampe ’94 and his wife Amy welcome son Ben

Mackenzie Mao Smith, daughter of Matt Smith ’97

Stephan Seiffert ’93 and wife Nina Parameswaran with their son Max, and daughter Johanna

Julie Palombo Wallace ’98, husband Greg, and son Zack welcomed Kylie Marie

Stuart Crawford Boger, son of Olivia Achtmeier Boger ’99, and husband Andy

Sebastian Matteo, son of Elena Raptopoulos ’99 and husband Francesco

Owen Tailer Woolley, son of Alex Harris Woolley ’00 and husband Clark ’97

Joanna (Aven) Howarth’s ’00 son, Isaac

Kaspar Dix on July 10, 2014.

Jim Hampe ’94 and wife Amy welcomed a son, Benjamin William Hampe.

Matt Smith ’97 and wife Susan welcomed daughter Mackenzie Mao Smith in June 2014.

Julie Palombo Wallace ’98 and husband Greg had a girl, Kylie Marie Wallace on June 4, 2014.

Elena Raptopoulos ’99 and husband Francesco welcomed a son, Sebastian Matteo.

Amanda Tripp Hayes ’99 and husband Ryan had a boy, Holden Edward Hayes, on August 17, 2014.

Olivia Achtmeier Boger ’99 and husband, Andy had a boy, Stuart Crawford Boger, on September 4, 2014.

Joanna (Aven) Howarth ’00 and husband Dean had a boy, Issac, on May 21, 2014.

Michelle Trivedi ’00 had a boy, Dhilan Patwardhan, on August 15, 2014.

Alex Harris Woolley ’00 and husband Clark ’97 had a boy, Owen Tailer Woolley, on October 7, 2014.
TENDRILS

From the Tower Collection of the Putnam Library (see story, p. 34): *Neu Kräuterbuch* [The New Herbal], written by Leonhart Fuchs in 1543. Published in Basel, it was a translation of his exhaustive Latin herbal, *De historia stirpium commentarii insignes*, published the year before.
Girls Varsity Cross Country huddles up before racing against Middlesex in their last home meet of the season. The team won every home meet and went on to finish third in the ISL and sixth at the New England Championships.

PHOTO BY BEN HEIDER

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Playing to Win

Chris Sun ’17 and Matthew Salomon ’18, are members of the chess team, advised by faculty member Chris Pasterczyk. Last year, the team won its fourth South Shore Interscholastic Chess League championship since it joined the league five years ago.