



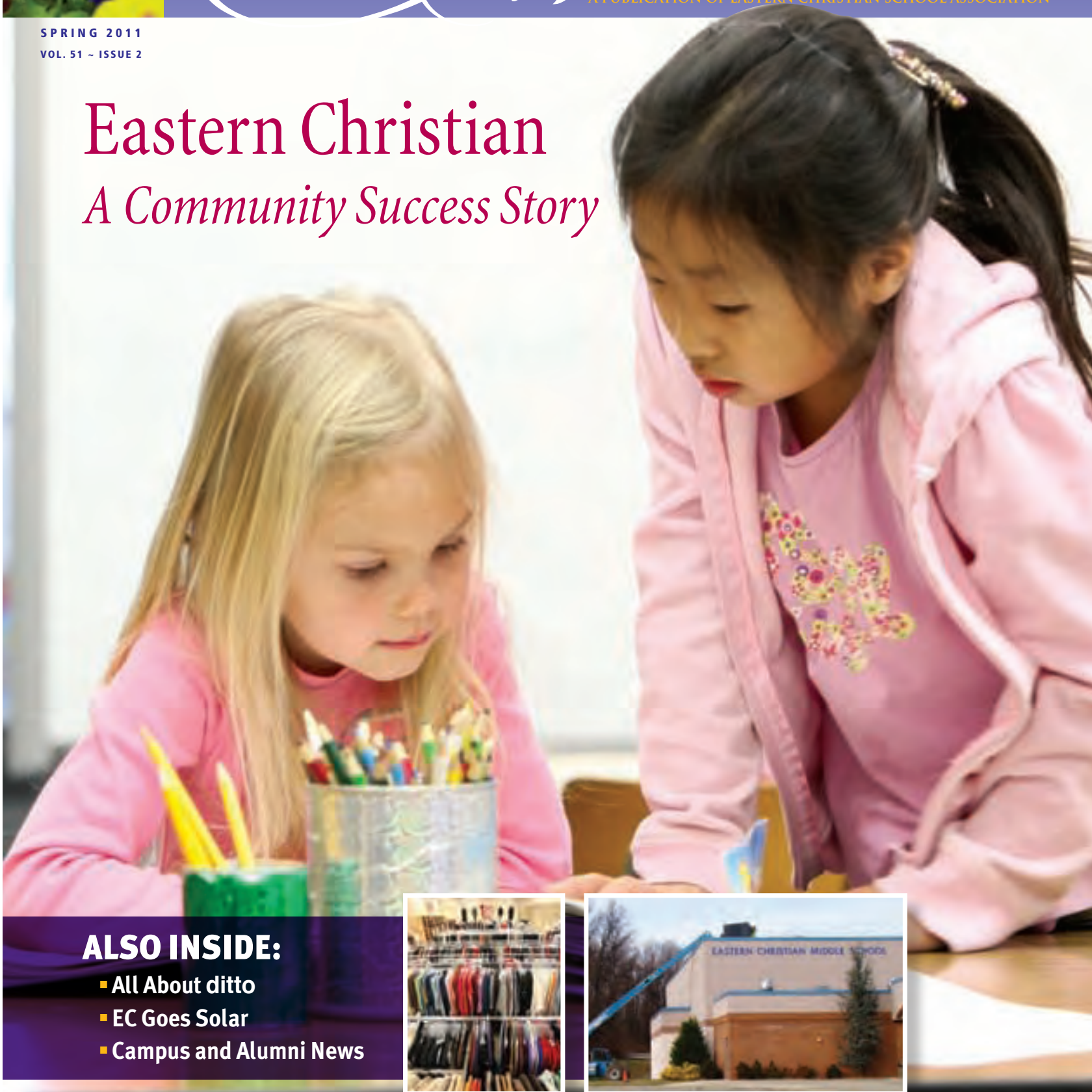
THE *Herald*

A PUBLICATION OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2011

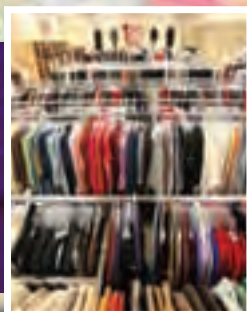
VOL. 51 - ISSUE 2

Eastern Christian *A Community Success Story*



ALSO INSIDE:

- All About ditto
- EC Goes Solar
- Campus and Alumni News





Eastern Christian School Association
50 Oakwood Avenue
North Haledon, NJ 07508-2449

BLESSING AFTER BLESSING - A YEAR OF MILESTONES!



What a year it has been! The first semester of the 2010-11 school year has flown by with an astounding number of incredible milestones marking the Lord's continued provision for Eastern Christian School in its 118th year of service!

It has been a year of people milestones. We have marked the retirement of Jan Lucas, a dear colleague and inspired educational leader, after 30 years of dedicated service to the Eastern Christian community, including an amazing 25 years as Eastern Christian High School Principal. We have been honored as a community as one of our own, High School Teacher Paul Beverly, was named New Jersey's Non-Public Teacher of the Year.

It has been a year of program milestones. We have marked numerous program expansions throughout our school, including a dramatic expansion in world language instruction at Eastern Christian Elementary School and Middle School and an exploration of our K-12 Bible curriculum and the work that we do with our youngest students. We have introduced the novel American Experience program to provide a nurturing cross-cultural experience to our students and a group of students from Korea, and witnessed the expansion of our learning space through an amazing transformation of a 1950's vintage boiler room into a 21st Century Learning Laboratory.

It has been a year of provision milestones as we have witnessed numerous novel ways that the Lord is providing for Christian education on the threshold of New York City. We have marked the opening of **ditto**, our "upscale re-sale" store, and witnessed the amazing reception that this visionary ministry has received in our community. We have watched as solar generating equipment has been installed on the roofs of our school buildings, allowing us to convert the sunshine supplied by our faithful Provider into electric power to light our classrooms and financial provision for our educational mission.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of *The Herald* as we chronicle this amazing year of milestones and the incredible things that God is doing in the life of Eastern Christian School!

Thomas G. Dykhous ('76)
Executive Director & Head of School



THE Herald

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VOLUME 51 ISSUE 2

EDITOR

Tim Steen

FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Garret G. Nieuwenhuis '58

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Justin Van Dyke '07

ALUMNI COORDINATOR

Beth Youngsman Milkamp '75

DESIGN & LAYOUT

David Luyendyk '91
Yellow House Graphic Design
www.yellowhousedesign.com

PRINTER

Lont & Overkamp
Prospect Park, NJ

EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

50 Oakwood Ave.
North Haledon, NJ 07508
Phone: 973-427-9294
E-Mail: herald@easternchristian.org
www.easternchristian.org

C o n t e n t s

CAMPUS NEWS.....2-7

FEATURES:

Solar Power Project Near Completion.....8-9

ditto Creates Community10-13

FOUNDATION NEWS14-15

BUSINESS DRIVE.....16

ALUMNI NEWS17-20

DESIGNATED GIFTS.....21-22

ANNUAL FUND23-24

EC SPORTS.....32-33

7



The varsity girls soccer team.

15



Ashleigh Maura

ABOUT THE COVER

4th grader **Kristen Kim** reads to
Kindergartner **Michelle Vriesema**,
as part of the Elementary School
Reading Buddy Program.

Inset: Racks of clothes at **ditto**,
and the installation of solar
panels at the Middle School.

The Herald is the magazine for alumni, parents, and friends of Eastern Christian School published twice a year. It is a publication of the Foundation for Eastern Christian School Association, Inc. Letters, articles, artwork and photography are welcome for possible inclusion in The Herald. Art and photos will be returned when a SASE is included. Send all correspondence regarding feedback and publication to the address above. E-mail is welcomed and encouraged. Eastern Christian School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools and is a member of Christian Schools International.

Executive Director / Head of School

Elementary School Principal

Middle School Principal & Curriculum Coordinator

Interim High School Principal

Thomas G. Dykhouse

Sandra Bottge

Richard Van Yperen

Ruth Kuder

CAMPUS NEWS



Mr. Lucas talks at the Learning Lab Dedication.

Principal Jan Lucas Retires

BY JAY CHOI, SENIOR, AND TIM STEEN

The beginning of the new school year at Eastern Christian High School came with an unexpected twist when Principal **Jan Lucas '61** announced that he would be retiring as principal. “My jaw literally dropped when he broke the news to the school during chapel!” said senior **Kristen Ciccolella**.

Principal Lucas retired as principal in January, 2011. Junior and Senior Dean **Ruth Almroth Kuder '84** took his place as the interim principal for the remainder of the school year. A search process for a permanent replacement is underway by the ECSA Board.

To mark the occasion of Mr. Lucas's retirement, the month of January was declared a “Celebration of Learning” at the High School. During the month, students presented evidence of their love of learning. The celebration included a music concert, an art show, and a special school assembly. Art students worked on a large mural in the cafeteria, as well as a video called “Be Creative,” both were finished in time for the celebration.

While Mr. Lucas retired formally as principal, he continues to have a passion to serve the Eastern Christian community. He plans to continue working for EC as an independent consultant, working on new

opportunities to broaden the education of students. Mr. Lucas said that he plans to investigate distance learning opportunities, local internships, and online college-credit courses for high school students.

Mr. Lucas believes that a productive hand-off in leadership is best done when the school is going well, so he believes that the timing of his retirement, following the school's successful accreditation process of the past year, is perfect.

With one year as a physics and chemistry teacher, four years as an assistant principal, and 25 years as principal of our school, Principal Jan Lucas has served our community for a total 30 years; he will certainly be missed!



Jan Lucas

Principal Search Process Underway

BY JORDAN KLINGLER, SENIOR, AND TIM STEEN

With Mr. Lucas's announced retirement, the search is on for a new high school principal. The EC Board has appointed a search committee to find a new principal in time for the 2011-12 school year.

The search committee is made up of faculty members, students, parents, and board members. The two student representatives are **Dawn Wang** and **Bethany Gorter**, the faculty members are **Paul Beverly** and **Anne Bazanowski**, and the board members and parents are **Mark Wisse '77**, **Cheryl Schipper '84**, and **Nick Kuiken '84**.

According to Dawn, all faculty members have been invited to give input on the qualities they desire in a good principal through meetings with the faculty representatives, and students are welcome to give their input through the Student Advisory Group and the Student Senate.

Dawn reported some of the qualities that the search committee is looking for in a new principal. A new principal must be a Christian,

promote a positive climate for learning, and be an advocate for ECHS students, inspiring them to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and to be transformative influences on society in the name of Jesus Christ. Other qualities repeatedly brought up in meetings were being open minded, having a graceful approach to discipline, being approachable, being authoritative but kind, being a principal that empowers students, and being passionate.

The committee is working with Larry Kooi, a Christian School International (CSI) consultant, in the search process. In January, the committee interviewed three candidates for the position. The candidates were welcomed to the High School for a visit and had the opportunity to meet students, faculty and staff.

Dawn said, "We're taking advantage of and emphasizing the strong sense of community at Eastern Christian to incorporate a well-rounded perspective in the search process and make this transition as smooth as possible."

Mr. Van Yperen Moves to New Director Position

Richard Van Yperen was appointed as Eastern Christian's Director of Curriculum and Instruction effective February 1. In this capacity, Dick is serving as the chief educational officer of Eastern Christian School with responsibility for curriculum development, faculty and educational staff development and leadership, and oversight of instructional techniques and outcomes. Dick will continue to chair the Educational Council and to serve as a member of the Administrative Council. He will remain Middle School Principal for the 2010-11 school year, but will transition out of that position as of July 1.

Dick joined Eastern Christian as Elementary School Principal in 2000, a position which he held until 2008, has served as Middle School Principal since 2006 and Curriculum Coordinator since 2007. Prior to his arrival at Eastern Christian, Dick served as a teacher and administrator at Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya. He also taught and coached at Ridgewood High School for twenty five years.



Dick Van Yperen

Mr. Beverly Named Teacher of the Year

Eastern Christian High School teacher **Paul Beverly** was named the New Jersey Non Public Teacher of the Year for 2010 in the annual competition sponsored by the New Jersey Council for American Private Education (NJ CAPE). The award was given at a ceremony at the New Jersey Department of Education by Dr. Rochelle Herdrinks, the acting Commissioner of Education.

Head of School **Tom Dykhous** said, "Mr. Beverly is a leader among his faculty peers, who is committed to expanding our professional development efforts, enhancing the professional skills of our faculty, and driving curricular improvements."

Students and alumni of his classes agree that Mr. Beverly is a hard worker and deserves to be teacher of the year. Junior **Jessica Wisse** said, "He engages the class and he really deserves it. He connects all the things we learn to real life situations which helps you understand everything so much more."

Mr. Beverly has been a teacher for 34 years; for the past 25 years he has been educating the students of Eastern Christian High School. Mr. Beverly has been a finalist for the Princeton University Prize for Distinguished Secondary

Teaching and has attended various workshops sponsored by the New York Historical Society, the United States Institute for Peace, Streetlaw and the Supreme Court Historical Society, The Bill of Rights Institute, The American Bar Association and Federal Judiciary Center, and the Dar al Islam Summer Institute.

In addition to his work in the classroom, Mr. Beverly has worked with students to develop the annual Christmas Festival, with a specific outreach to public elementary schools in Paterson. He sponsors the school's Micah Challenge Group which has raised money for a local "baby bank" in a Paterson clinic, and he and his students participated in an area-wide awareness campaign for the Darfur Genocide by collecting pairs of shoes to symbolize the victims, and then donating the shoes to those in need of them.



Paul Beverly

A New International Winter Program

BY JAKE CHOI, SENIOR



Marc Spoelstra '03, the teacher for The American Experience, hands out t-shirts at the Welcome Party

This January, a new EC program called The American Experience welcomed 10 international students for four weeks, introducing them to America and to Eastern Christian. The first session of the program was held from January 10 - February 2, and was designed for any international students from middle school or high school.

The program was designed to introduce foreign students to the experience of America; they learned about studying abroad, American culture, and the American education system. International Student Coordinator

Kathy Kim helped to plan the program. She said, "I think it was an exciting new venture for the school, because it allowed international students to get a glimpse of American life and also to experience the unique EC culture." Director of Eagles Camps **James Anderson**, who planned the program with Mrs. Kim, said, "The school believes there is a real demand and need for such a program. I hope that our program will continue to provide students with a quality cross-cultural experience, enhancing the skills needed for today's global citizen."

The students attended actual classes at EC three days a week. The attendees were paired up with EC students to help them as guides, and they lived with American host families. They got to go bowling, experience a snow day, and see how typical American families operate. Extra courses at school, designed especially for the American Experience program, were provided. Since students really enjoyed the program and their American experience, they will hopefully enroll at EC and come back to America as experienced students.

However, the experience explored a broader world than just EC. There were local field trips to New York City and the Statue of Liberty, as well as longer trips to Ivy League schools such as Princeton and Yale.

Eastern Christian Replaces Boiler Room with 21st Century Classroom



The Learning Lab

On August 31, Eastern Christian High School officially dedicated a new classroom, named the Learning Lab, in a space that was a two-story boiler room just three months earlier. In the dedication ceremony, Principal **Jan Lucas** said that the room reflected Eastern Christian's goals: "Here is transformation in its fullest view."

As reported previously in *The Herald*, last summer a large outdated boiler was replaced with smaller models, opening up space to divide the

area top-to-bottom and add a classroom above the many wires and pipes.

At the ceremony, **Garret Nieuwenhuis**, the Executive Director of the Foundation for Eastern Christian, acknowledged the Frank X. Wen and Mary Ethel Wen Charitable Trust as the matching donors who funded the project. Brian Hanse, Esq., representing the Trust, cut the ribbon to open the room, and spoke of the family's commitment to building educational spaces.

The new classroom saves money by eliminating the need for portable trailers outside the school. Not only is the new classroom resourceful, but it is also equipped with the latest technology. Ten MacBooks and four iMacs were added to the room to channel student creativity. The room is networked with both wired and wireless technology and a 54-inch high-definition TV that allows teachers to display a huge variety of multimedia.

In its first semester of use, the classroom has hosted journalism, yearbook, history, and psychology classes. The room was designed to be functional for a wide variety of classes. The furniture can be rearranged quickly, and the laptop computers allow students to work independently or in small groups.

Elementary School Clothes Drive

BY EMILY LOTZ, JUNIOR

The EC Elementary School students spent their Christmas season participating in a winter clothes drive to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of in the Paterson community.

Reverend John Algera '70 from Madison Ave Christian Reformed Church Crossroads Community Ministry came to kick off the drive on December 8. He addressed the students in their weekly chapel, explaining to them how they were going to be making a difference.

Students were able to help meet the physical needs of Crossroads Ministry's clients by donating new or clean, gently-used winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, and snow pants for children or adults. Although they didn't feel like they were meeting any spiritual needs by collecting clothing, they were able to pray for the people and their community. They were also encouraged to write inspiring cards that would share joy and the story of Jesus' birth.



ECES students.

Second grader **George Foley** said, "I gave to those who don't have anything to keep them warm in the winter. I was glad I could help." Second grader **Steve Molina** agreed. Steve said, "I brought in clothes for the poor people, so they can live." First grader **Capri Kuiken** said, "My mom brought a lot of things in. It made me feel happy."

The drive ended December 15, and the clothing was delivered to Madison Ave CRC. The church was extremely thankful and pleased with the outcome.

Introducing an Exciting Video Network: ECN

BY BRANDI BUSHMAN, SENIOR, AND TIM STEEN

Eastern Christian High School is partnering with cable sports network MSG Varsity on two new ventures this year. In a partnership with MSG, high school students are now starting their own video production group called the Eastern Christian Network (ECN). MSG Varsity provided equipment to the High School in exchange for monthly videos. The videos are uploaded and shown on MSG Varsity's website. MSG Varsity selects videos from those online to show on its TV channel. Similarly, MSG has partnered again with EC for Project J, where MSG Varsity will host journalism stories from the *EC Times* student newspaper on their web site. Students will be in charge of everything from running the cameras to editing the videos.

MSG Varsity has provided Eastern Christian with a substantial amount of equipment: a camcorder, microphone, tripod, teleprompter, and video editing software. Besides the equipment, MSG Varsity also provides grants and scholarships, including \$1,000 scholarships for each school to award to graduating seniors. This is all given in exchange for five to eight videos a month so that MSG Varsity can get a broader spectrum of high school sports and events.

Principal **Jan Lucas** said, "This is an exciting opportunity for us to videotape events, provide commentary and interviews, and MSG Varsity will broadcast our content to a wide audience on the Internet and maybe even TV."

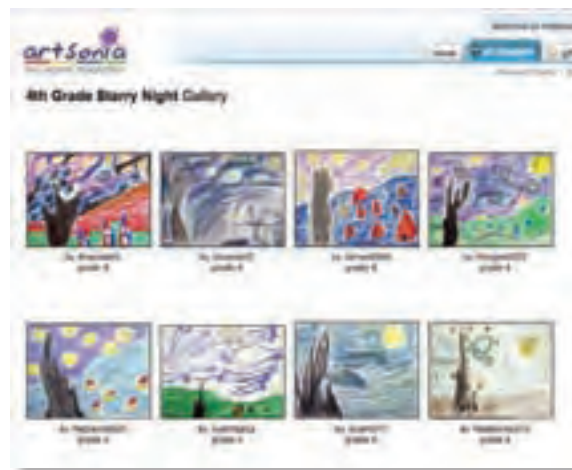
Students working on EC Network meet with **Joe Dziezawiec** two days a week during SOAR time (a daily period for special activities). Mr. Dziezawiec is a retired teacher from Passaic Tech who has a granddaughter who attends Eastern Christian. He is helping to launch ECN. Mr. Dziezawiec teaches ECN students about videotaping, editing, and interviewing.

Senior **Dara Veenstra** said, "Our teacher for the class, Mr. D., is great for the job and is as excited about everything as we are! I think I can speak for everyone on ECN when I say that working with him is a blast!"

Project J is a chance for students in the journalism class to publish their stories to a larger audience. Eastern Christian was the only school in northern NJ to be chosen for this pilot project. The best stories uploaded to MSG Varsity's web site will be chosen for publication in their quartley magazine. Although primarily a sports network, MSG Varsity plans to publish stories and videos on all areas of high school life.

EC Art Online

BY KELLY SIETSMA, JUNIOR



4th grade EC Art on Artsonia.com

The art careers of Eastern Christian students are getting an early start this year. Instead of simply hanging art in the halls, EC has started using Artsonia (www.artsonia.com) to publish student art work on the Internet.

Brenda Leentjes, the Elementary and Middle School art teacher, is responsible for discovering Artsonia and uploading student artwork regularly. Mrs. Leentjes said, "This program is a wonderful way to get parents and family members more involved in art education."

This website includes art galleries from thousands of schools. Visitors to the site can browse the collection of artwork by school or by a student's name (full student names are kept confidential). Visitors can purchase an object with their child's artwork imprinted on it, including mugs, magnets, posters, and more. This is a great opportunity for parents and other family members to enjoy the beauty of their children's art.

This virtual art museum also excites the students whose artwork is displayed. Fifth grader **Hanna Faber** said, "I like how my drawing is online so everyone can see it." Artsonia gives viewers the privilege to vote for their favorite artists. Weekly winners are honored for their participation and creativity.

Girls Soccer Kicks Cancer

BY MICHELLE BRELLO, SENIOR

The EC girls varsity soccer team ran a fundraiser to “kick” breast cancer during their fall season for the second year in a row. They donated the money to “Kicks Against Breast Cancer,” an organization for America’s soccer associations to help find a cure for breast cancer and to help women with cancer to survive and thrive.

This year the team raised \$1,200 in two fund raisers. Senior goalie **Liz Clarkin** said, “We raised a lot of money. It felt great doing this for a good cause.” They organized a car wash on Saturday, October 11. All the money made was donated to this foundation. They also had a bake sale during the car wash.

Last year the team raised money individually. Senior stopper **Emily D’Amelio** said, “This year we wanted to have a team bonding experience while raising money and awareness. The car wash was fun and the weather was beautiful. We raised over \$600 in under three hours.”

Coach **Barry Veenstra** said, “The team quickly organized and pulled off a fun and successful event.” Coach Veenstra said, “We also played our



Freshman **Rachel Barrett**, senior **Liz Clarkin**, and senior **Brianne Traub**.

second annual ‘pink’ soccer game with our friendly rival Pompton Lakes.” This game was the second part of their fundraiser.

“The team was excited to play Pompton Lakes for the third time this season. But, like the first time facing them, we came out with a loss,” said Emily. The girls lost 1-0. Although it is always hard to take a loss, they weren’t playing to win, they were playing to raise money for people in need.

Middle School Veterans Day Chapel

The Middle School chapel in early November focused on a patriotic theme that featured Veterans Day remembrances.

The worship team, led by **Andrew Culp** and **Ruth Rudd**, accompanied by student guitarists, led the music. A group of 8th grade girls led the school in the Pledge of Allegiance as they signed the words while the rest of the school recited them. **Fred Everett '66**, father of Horizons teacher **Naomi Braunius** and grandfather to 6th grader **Ethan Vander Molen**, had a fireside chat with his grandson. Mr. Everett served in the navy during the Vietnam War and had several stories about what it was like to serve in the military. He emphasized his own sense of calling to serve the country and encouraged everyone to gain a sense of God’s direction in their lives, whether they are called to serve in the military or to serve another way.

Dr. **Terry Allen** then gave a presentation about the Gettysburg Address. The slide and music celebration emphasized the idea that those who have given “the last full measure of devotion” to serve our country have helped to create and sustain the remarkable freedoms and opportunities we enjoy today. Mr. Allen mentioned the tension of being dual citizens, both of the USA and of Christ’s kingdom, and that His presence would be with Christians in whatever calling of life to which they are led. He told the students that they represented the future of the country and encouraged them to do their part to help keep it a place worthy of passing on to the next generation.

As Abraham Lincoln did, seven score and seven years ago, the students honored those who had given “the last full measure of devotion” to make and keep our country as it is to this day.

SOLAR POWER PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION



This winter and spring, all three Eastern Christian schools will have solar-energy generating panels on their roofs, giving immediate benefits to Eastern Christian's families and to the environment. This project places Eastern Christian at the cutting edge, being among the first school systems to generate this much solar power.

Eastern Christian School Association's solar energy company, Eagle Solar LLC, received its first shipment of solar generating panels in the week before Christmas and began installation of the equipment on December 22. Eagle Solar was formed by Eastern Christian in 2010 to own and operate a solar energy system on the roofs of Eastern Christian's three school buildings with the goal of reducing operating costs and generating new revenues to support the school.

Eagle Solar has the potential to generate \$7,000,000 in economic benefit to Eastern Christian over the next 20 years through the combination of reduced operating costs and enhanced revenue. Operating costs will be reduced because the solar generating equipment owned by Eagle Solar will produce nearly all of the electricity needed in Eastern Christian's school buildings. In addition, Eagle Solar will produce new revenues through the sale of solar renewable energy credits (SRECs), which were created by legislation enacted by the New Jersey legislature in 1999. Stated another way, Eagle Solar has the potential to reduce tuition by approximately \$500 for each student enrolled in Eastern Christian School for the next 20 years!

The project has attracted media interest, with the Bergen Record running a story on Eastern Christian on the front page of the local section of the newspaper on Saturday, January 15. In that story, Head of Operations John Belanus said that the installation could reduce greenhouse gases by

700,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. He also explained that the large, flat roofs of Eastern Christian's buildings make an ideal location for solar power, and that on sunny summer days when school is not in session, EC's energy generation will literally cause the electric meters to run backwards, as Eagle Solar sells the excess energy to utility companies.

The Eagle Solar project has been underway for over a year with thousands of hours of work invested by numerous members of the Eastern Christian School community. Much of the completed work has been behind the scenes in areas as diverse as system design, contract negotiation, financing and corporate formation. Eagle Solar LLC, the Eastern Christian owned company that owns the solar generating equipment, was formed in June, 2010. The New York City law firm Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler advised on the corporation formation and the legal transactions involved. Through this past summer negotiations were carried out to secure financing for the project with Atlantic Stewardship Bank of Midland Park, NJ, and to contract with Flemington, NJ based Sun Farm Network for the purchase and installation of the solar equipment. These negotiations led to the placement of an order for 1,721 solar panels and related equipment in October, 2010.

The initial delivery of Eagle Solar's equipment occurred on December 21 with the arrival of three trailer loads of solar panels at Eastern Christian Elementary and Middle Schools (ECES & ECMS). The panels were loaded onto the roofs of both buildings in the days immediately before Christmas and installation began on December 22. The installation at ECES and ECMS was interrupted by the record snowfall in January, but electricity generation for these buildings began by the early spring. Eastern Christian High School's (ECHS) solar panels, approximately one-half of Eagle Solar's total capacity, were delivered mid-February and Eastern Christian anticipates beginning electricity generation at ECHS in the spring.

Eagle Solar has the potential to make a major contribution to the affordability of Christian education for Eastern Christian parents and to the long-term sustainability of our school. We thank God for continuing to provide for our school through projects such as Eagle Solar and through the many talented individuals that he provided to our school community to make this dream a reality!



WELCOME TO THE



BY TIM STEEN

The primary goal of EC's new resale store **ditto**, which opened on September 13 to lines of eager shoppers, is to help raise money for the Foundation for Eastern Christian, which will give the funds to EC to keep tuition costs down. After four successful months of operation, **ditto** Director/General Manager **Eric Hawn** can report that this goal is being met. "Our first year target was to raise \$75,000 in profits for EC. We are definitely trending to reach that goal," said Eric.

However, these first months of operating 11,000 square feet of retail space at 975 Belmont Ave in North Haledon, have shown that **ditto** has a deeper and more meaningful impact than its impact on EC's wallet. **ditto** is having an impact on EC's community, the community around the store, and is quickly becoming a community in itself.

It only takes a short observation to see this community in action. Volunteers greet customers as they come through the door by name, or introduce themselves to new customers. EC families stop by after school,

as do teachers. Eric said that many out of town alumni have run into each other at the store when they stop by to visit on a trip home.

"There has been such excitement in the EC community at large about **ditto**," said Eric. "Everyone has been so encouraging about what we are doing."

Prayer has been a primary factor in the monetary and communal success of the store. Eric said that he and the volunteers begin each day together in prayer. This has formed a tight bond in the group, as they have already shared the excitement of new births together as a staff, and they have grieved together from loss as well. Eric is quick to point out that he and others from the Foundation continue to be amazed at the initial and, hopefully, long term success of **ditto**. Eric said it can only be summed up one way – "only God!"

If you haven't had an opportunity to visit **ditto** yet, the stories on the following pages will give you a taste of the store. There is no substitute for seeing it for yourself, so be sure to stop by as soon as possible!

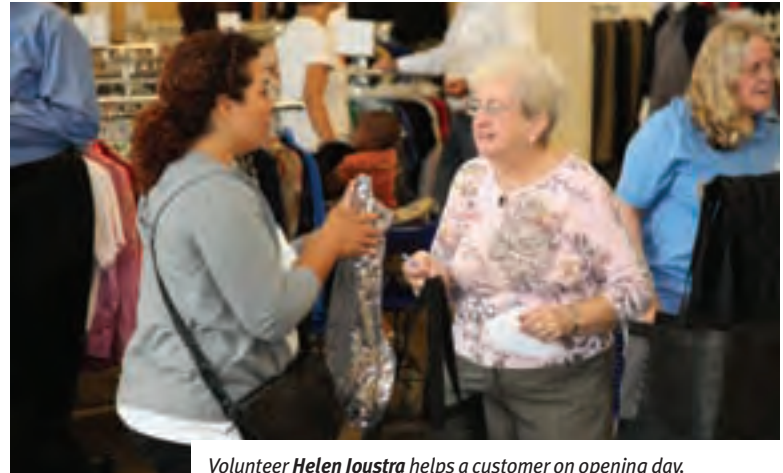
ditto COMMUNITY

Volunteers are Essential for Success

Undoubtedly, the success of **ditto** hinges on dedicated volunteers who staff the cash register, sort through donations, clean and organize the store, and so much more. Eric said that more than anything else, it is the dependable, regular core group of volunteers that has made **ditto** a quick success. He said that, compared to his years of work at retail stores with paid employees, he has had virtually no personnel problems due to our volunteers' strong belief in their work.

Volunteer Coordinator **Barb Gorter** is responsible for organizing the volunteers to make sure that the store is always staffed. Most workers have a specific day(s) they will come in to work, though the hours of each individual can be highly flexible. Anyone interested in volunteering at **ditto** will find a welcome, and work to do whenever they are available.

Skilled volunteers are able to help at **ditto** in unique ways. **Paul Lyman** is one of those volunteers. He and his wife **Lois** contribute many hours volunteering together. Paul and his recruit **Martin Leegwater**, together put in hours as electricians, testing and repairing lamps and other electric items. **Len Dykman** offers his services as a furniture repairer, sanding worn items and refinishing them, filling in chips and scratches and refurbishing until these used pieces almost look new.



Volunteer **Helen Joustra** helps a customer on opening day.

Eastern Christian students are able to earn service learning hours at **ditto** toward their High School graduation requirements. Eric said that there are about seven regular student volunteers but they hope to get more. Volunteer **Ginny Steensma** said that she is impressed with the willing attitudes the students come in with.

Once a month, four Eastern Christian Elementary School teachers come in to volunteer together. Eric said their time together is another example of how community can be enhanced and encouraged at **ditto**.

Volunteer **Nora Versnel** helps at store closing once a week. She said, "**ditto** is a great atmosphere. The people are great, the product is great, and the prices are great!"



These volunteers were trained as cashiers before **ditto** opened. Row 1 (l to r): **Betty Dykman, Jeanette Rozema, Matilda Roetman, Lois Lyman, Emma Sweetman, Helen Joustra, Harriet Abma, Donna Chrinian**, the cashier trainer, and **ditto** Director/General Manager **Eric Hawn**; Row 2: EC Executive Director **Tom Dykhous**, **Geraldine Monsma, Annamae Hulsebos, Wilma Kohere, Charlotte Elzinga, Andrew Elzinga, Raeanne Dykhous, Paul Lyman, Gary Ommundsen**, and EC Foundation Director **Garret Nieuwenhuis**.



Customers Buy Into Vision

Volunteers and customers at the busy cash register.

Eric said that he has repeatedly seen customers look around **ditto**, get out their cell phones, and call friends or family to tell them that they've got to come in immediately to see the store. The enthusiastic support of the shoppers is a vital part of the community that **ditto** is establishing. There are loyal customers who go in to **ditto** almost every day. The very first customer on opening day has only missed three days of shopping since **ditto** has been opened.

ditto appeals to many types of shoppers. In one sense, the store provides opportunity for customers who may not be able to afford regular retail prices very often. At **ditto**, they can get good quality within their budgets. On the other hand, Eric said, a lot of customers who normally would shop retail come back again and again once they realize that the quality of the items at **ditto** matches many retail stores, especially in the boutique area.

One very exciting opportunity for **ditto** volunteers is that they get the chance to share **ditto**'s mission with customers. Customers learn that **ditto** supports Eastern Christian School and other charities, which can open a

door for volunteers to share the gospel. Eric tells his volunteer staff that "even within these walls, we can still fulfill the Great Commission, being Christ-like to everybody who comes in the door."

ditto is a ministry, serving by selling affordable items, talking to potential new students and families, and ultimately sharing the true driving force behind **ditto**, a Christian commitment to the community at large.



Manager Eric Hawn opens the doors of ditto to customers for the Grand Opening.

Donations In and Out

ditto receives donations in a backroom/processing area of the store that is almost as large as the entire former EC store, The Corner Closet. With that much space, they are able to sort, clean and test items before putting them out for sale. Eric said that **ditto** is eager to receive donations of "clean and gently used, as well as new items."

In addition to receiving donations, **ditto** is able to make other donations. As well as their commitment to supporting Eastern Christian, **ditto** will give 10% of their profits to local community charities and non-profits. They are able to

make regular donations of clothing to small local ministries that often are overlooked by individual donors. They are also able to provide support to Eastern Christian High School's mission trips; every mission team sent out from the High School has brought with them bags of clothing from **ditto**. For example, this January the Honduras mission team was given kids clothing from **ditto** for the orphanage for which they volunteer while on the trip.

Eastern Christian students have been giving back to **ditto** by donating items to the store. In January, the Elementary School organized a toy drive, collecting



Shopping at **ditto**

A customer shops for purses.

Walking in to **ditto** is a surprising experience. The store resembles a mall retail clothing store more than the second hand stores that you may be used to seeing. The high ceiling gives shoppers a light, airy feeling. Carpeted throughout, there is also a tile drive aisle in a racetrack layout allowing for easy flow of traffic. The aisle easily allows the use of the shopping carts **ditto** provides, and there are numerous racks of clothes that are straight, neat, and easy to browse through.

A special boutique area is reserved for donated designer clothing. Eric said that the boutique area has great bargains on the best designer clothes, and all the items there are individually priced. All the other clothes in the store are priced by category. Children's clothes are well-organized by size, and there are often brand new clothes that are donated with their original tags still on them.

There are display cases with jewelry and other valuable, collectible items. Tables, chairs, sofas, and hutches are displayed as you find them in

retail furniture stores. Books, toys, puzzles, luggage, art, home decorations and more each have their own department.

ditto treats their inventory much like a retail store would, with special seasonal items on display. For example, many high quality Christmas decorations were put out in November, and after Christmas, the remaining inventory was deeply discounted with special deals, to make way for new spring goods. It is this level of detail that indicates the professionalism and planning behind **ditto**.

Eric said that he has learned to never guess what will sell, and **ditto** displays as wide a variety of inventory as they can. Turnover is quick – every day new items are displayed and often purchased immediately. Volunteers say they often plan to come back for an interesting item later, only to find it already purchased.

gently-used and new toys for **ditto's** inventory. On the last day of the collection, the school celebrated "**ditto** Day." Each class choose a theme, such as silly hats, pajama pants, or the color blue, and dressed alike for the day. In the High School, girls have organized the donation of their used prom dresses to **ditto**. These dresses, many which were wore only once, can then be purchased by other students or by anyone who shops at **ditto**.

*Photo Caption: The donation and inventory area of **ditto**.*



FOUNDATION NEWS

*Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who builds his house on a rock.
Matthew 7:24*

Christian Education Week-2011

APRIL 25 – MAY 1, 2011 *Theme: Building on the Rock*

Artwork from CSI

Ways to Help EC

- **Shaklee** purchases now help EC! Visit www.ec.myshaklee.com and view everyday products that you would otherwise buy in the food store, vitamin shop or local market. All orders placed through this site will benefit EC.
- Save money on your electric bill! Many EC families have already switched to **Viridian Energy** as their electricity supplier and are seeing a savings on their bill. You'll be saving money every month and Viridian will be making a contribution to EC. Go to the Viridian site at www.viridian.com/easternchristian and click on the "Become a customer" button. Select Everyday Green (20%) for your rate plan.
- Advertise your business with a **fence banner**! Banners are displayed on the fence of EC's high school baseball field at both fall and spring games. A banner fee of \$150 includes a full-color 6' by 3' banner. Display fees are \$300/year. Purchase three years now for \$900 and the banner fee is waived.
- Does your company purchase **gift-cards** for employee incentives and service awards? Did you know you can purchase them from EC? EC's TRIP Office has filled many large order requests. The TRIP Program contributes \$25,000 each year to the operating budget. You can help! Please remember EC's TRIP Program when making your purchases.

BY GARRET NIEUWENHUIS ('58), EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
FOUNDATION FOR EASTERN CHRISTIAN

As in prior years, Eastern Christian School will once again join with many local churches to celebrate Christian Education Week. This is a tradition that we have observed for many years, with the principal focus being on Christian Education Day, usually the Sunday at the conclusion of Christian Education Week. Each year Christian Schools International (CSI), of which EC is a member, suggests a theme and dates for Christian Education Week. Although the participating Christian Schools and churches have some flexibility as to when they wish to schedule this event on their school or church calendars, this year Eastern Christian has chosen to celebrate Christian Education Day on the date suggested by CSI, May 1.

EC will be encouraging local churches to use the Litany prepared by CSI in their Sunday service. EC will offer the churches speakers from our Christian School leadership, educators and parents who can speak about Christian school education and about Eastern Christian. This is always a special day in the churches, as the focus on Christian education permeates the service. In many churches, a special offering is taken in support of Christian Education.

Christian Education has been offered at Eastern Christian and its predecessor schools for over 118 years. To say that some things have changed during those years would be a gross understatement. In fact, many things have changed and continue to change even in 2011. Perhaps not all of the changes have been for the better, but God, by His grace, has preserved the heritage of Christian education at Eastern Christian so that we indeed can lay claim to the fact that our foundation was built on a rock. Not the rocks that are abundant in North Jersey but on the Rock, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are convinced that our work with Christian education is not done: in fact we see daily evidence that a Christian school education is far superior in many ways. I wish time and space would permit us to share some of the correspondence we receive from new parents each year bemoaning the fact that they didn't consider Christian schooling for their children earlier. Even though Christian education has a financial commitment attached to it, the benefits of an Eastern Christian education to these parents and their children are far greater than the sacrifice they may have to make to obtain the benefits.

Christian Education Day is a day to celebrate these testimonials and to encourage all of us to renew our financial commitment to support our local Christian School on behalf of our own children and grandchildren as well as our neighbors' children. Please respond generously when you are asked for your support on Christian Education Day and join with the psalmist in exclaiming that "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge" (Psalm 18:2a).

Upcoming Fundraisers

Auction Elegance – Wednesday, April 6

The Tides, North Haledon, NJ

Enjoy a fun night out while supporting EC! A delicious dinner, fellowship with other supporters and lot of bidding activity all take place while raising funds for Eastern Christian. Bid on a variety of items such as front row graduation tickets, Yankee tickets, golf opportunities and more! Auction Elegance tickets are \$60.

Christian Education Week 2011

Date: April 25-May 1, 2011

Theme: BUILDING ON THE ROCK

Bible Verse: "Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who builds his house on a rock." Matthew 7:24

Golf Outing – Monday, May 23

Black Bear Golf Club, Franklin, NJ

Participate in an afternoon of golf, followed by a scrumptious dinner. Match your skills against one of ECHS's golf-team members! Several sponsorship opportunities are available – a great way to advertise your business!

For more information on these events, please call EC's Foundation Office at 973-427-9294 or visit: www.easternchristian.org.



Freshman **Josh Ashkinazi** and junior **Morgan De Marco** walk the runway at this fall's annual Fashion Show. Held at the EC Middle School on Saturday, November 13, the day consisted of a lunch, silent auction, and a fashion show, featuring many EC students, parents, and even teachers wearing clothes from local boutiques. The event raised \$10,000 for EC.

You Counted on Eastern Christian for a Great Education



*Eastern Christian High School
Class of 1959 50th Reunion*

Help give future Eagles the same opportunity by including ECSA in your will, living trust, or other type of estate plan.

Create a Legacy.

Join the faithful generations supporting ECSA in our **2nd Century**.

We're Counting on You!

Visit us at:
<http://plannedgiving.ecsa.org>



**Eastern Christian
School Association**

Foundation Office
50 Oakwood Ave
North Haledon, NJ 07508

**For more information
please contact:**

**Garret Nieuwenhuis
Dir. of Planned Giving**

**Phone 973.427.9294
Fax 973.427.9775**

**[gnieuwenhuis@
easternchristian.org](mailto:gnieuwenhuis@easternchristian.org)**

BUSINESS DRIVE

BUSINESS DRIVE DONOR REINER GROUP EMPLOYS 16 EC ALUMNI



Front Row (L to R): Roy Hulsebos '87, George Hoogenhuis '77, Sharon (Roetman) Hendrickson '84, Richard Flaming '73, Debra Sanders '76, Ryan Vander Weit '01, Steven Hulsebos '80. Back Row: Bernard Tolsma Jr '77, Harold Kuipers '83, Art Vooys '77, Peter Ten Kate '96, Nicholas Kuiken '67, Michael Tolsma '02, William Tolsma '04. Not pictured: Whitney (Maner) Samples '01 and David Henion '06.

2010-2011 Annual Business Drive Exceeds Goal

We are pleased to report that the recently concluded Annual Business Drive has topped all previous Business Drive results; in fact, it is 3 times more than we received from this group in 2006! As of the date of this printing, Business Drive Chairman Bernie Tolsma reported cash and pledges for this drive totaling in excess of \$62,000 for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Tolsma, President of the Reiner Group, appealed to his fellow businessmen and women in his October letter "to support Eastern Christian in spite of the difficult challenges all businesses are currently facing." He went on to say that "in this uncertain economic climate, no one knows what will happen next, but I believe we would all agree that the need for quality God-centered education is more critical now than ever."

The supporting business community rallied to the cause with conviction and generosity so that the goal of \$55,000 was exceeded by over \$7,000 for a total of \$ 62,000! Since the inception of the Business Fund

Drive in 2005 over \$250,000 has been raised for Eastern Christian by this group of ardent supporters.

"We are most grateful for this strong support in a challenging year" stated Garret Nieuwenhuis, Executive Director of the Foundation for ECSA, "our business community is called on to help us several times throughout the year and they have never disappointed us. We praise God for this faithful group of men and women who consistently put the school ahead of other interests and causes."

We have included a listing of the Business Drive donors with this article so that you may become familiar with this unique group of supporters. Should you have an opportunity to require the services of a business listed, please tell them that you saw their business listed in the Herald. They will appreciate the referral and we will be happy that we were able to help both the "buyer and the seller."

2010 Business Drive Donors

Gold Sponsors

Ashley Furniture HomeStore
Atlantic Stewardship Bank
Braen Stone Industries
Bushoven & Company
Dr. Jennifer Bushman D.M.D. PC
C S Stucco & Plaster Inc.
Cedar Hill Nursery Inc.
Dykhouse Construction Company, Inc.
Green-Way Irrigation, Inc.

Groenewal Electric
Hi-Tech Family Dentistry, LLC
KJB Fireplaces, Inc.
Kuiken Brothers Co., Inc.
Reiner Group, Inc.
Sales Consultants of NJ Inc.
Searchpath New York Metro, Inc.
Sietsma Landscape Operations, Inc.
William Sytsma Landscaping

Vander Plaat - Vermeulen
Memorial Home, Inc.
Visbeen Construction Co.
Wayne Tile Co.

Silver Sponsors

Columbia Bank
Deer B Gone
Bob De Jong Landscaping
Eastern Insurors LLC
Leegwater Electric Inc.
Martin Orthodontics

Shotmeyer Bros. Fuel Co., LLC
Skyline Greenhouses, Inc.
Sun Farm Network
V&S Floor Covering, Inc.

Sponsors

Baker & Hoogerhyde LLC
Black Bear Spring Water
CCM Foodservice LLC
Faber's Home & Kitchens
Framed Image Art Gallery
R&R Truck Maintenance, Inc.

Supporters

Forrest Signs
McBride Agency, Inc.
ServiceMaster/
NorthEastern Network
Sir Speedy - Wyckoff
Tanis Hardware Corp.
John Wispelwey, D.M.D.
Mark Wisse Tile

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI PROFILE



Vice President Joe Biden at Ens. Matthew Bouwense's '06 commissioning.

Ens. Matthew Bouwense '06 graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD on May 28, 2010 and was commissioned as an Officer in the US Navy. Matthew successfully completed four years of intensive academic, physical, and professional training, resulting in a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Naval Architecture. As a graduate of the Naval Academy, he completed a four-year, total immersion program where a strong, balanced academic program, focused on the educational needs of the Navy and Marine Corps, is superimposed on a strict, professional military training environment emphasizing the development of leadership skills. Following graduation, Ens. Bouwense has been assigned to Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC where he will begin an 18-month training program for assignment as a submarine officer.

Matthew adds, "I truly appreciate the opportunity to have attended Eastern Christian High School. From the personal attention afforded me by my teachers, coaches and counselors, as well as the challenges of the Honors and athletic programs, I found myself well-prepared for the academic and physical rigors of the United States Naval Academy. The support and guidance of my Christian mentors at EC was, and continues to be, something I am very grateful for."

Note: The following Alumni News was received via written note, e-mail or from media sources. The editors reserve the right to edit submissions.

1990s

Richard '90 and Sheryl (King) Pierce '95 announce a son, Daniel Evan on 9/18/10. Daniel joins Richard (age 5) and Julia (age 2). Alyssa and **Ryan Leegwater '92** announce a son, Sean Edward on 5/13/10. Sean joins Hannah (age 3). **Kevin Byma '93** and Melissa Shaubach were united in marriage on 11/13/10 in Gap, PA. **Mark '93 and Jennifer (Steinginga) Anema '97** announce a daughter, Hailey Grace on 7/29/10. Hailey joins big brother Luke (age 4). **Eric and Kimberly (Troast) Fluit '93** announce a daughter, Hannah Ellen on 12/16/10. Hannah joins Emily (age 11), John (age 6) and Rachel (age 2). Sarah and **Matthew Struyk '94** announce a daughter, Sophia Susan-Kate on 5/9/10. Sophia joins her two brothers, Jacob and Andrew. The Struyk family resides in the Salt Lake valley in Utah. Matt is a Credit Analyst for Discover Card.

Laura and **Paul (Pablo) Laauwe '95** announce a son, Nicholas Adrian on 8/11/10. Steven and **Brenda Cooke Woods '95** announce a son, Wyatt Walden Bruce on 5/17/10. Mandy and **Keith Post '95** announce a daughter, Erin Ruth on 12/20/10. Sal and **Katie (Borduin) Mallimo '96** announce a daughter, August on 12/27/10. **Kevin '96 and Tara (Smith) Breur '98** announce a son, Colin James on 11/15/10. He joins big brother Jared. Jessica and **Joel Spoelstra '98** announce a son, Aiden Patrick on 7/25/10. **Julianne (Borduin) '98 and Doug '00 Everett** announce a daughter, Reese Anne on 7/15/10. Jeremy and **Kim (Veenstra) Meserole '98** announce a daughter, Lucy Ann Louise on 6/7/10. She joins big brother Jack (age 2). Jason and **Sarah (Breur) Nell '99** announce a daughter, Olivia Joy on 9/1/10. Olivia joins big brother Jordan (age 2). Jason and **Sandra (Vogel) Sweetman '99** announce a daughter, Julia Ann on 7/15/10.

2000s

Ryan and **Renee (Bogertman) Texer '00** announce a daughter, Emma Rae on 8/27/10. Ben and **Sarah (Steenstra) Ashby '00** announce a son, Isaac Benjamin on 10/25/10. Emma and **Bill Faasse '00** announce the birth of a son, William (Liam) Thomas on 11/8/10. Joe and **Erin (De Jong) Siervo '01** announce a son, Evan Michael on 9/21/10. **Scott Sietsma '02 and Kristen Lagerveld '02** were united in marriage on 11/12/10. The couple live in North Haledon, NJ. **Jennifer Faasse '03** and Niles Mathias were united in marriage on 8/20/10 at Faith Community Church. They are residing in Wayne, NJ. **Elyse De Jong '05 and Brett Fritsch '06** were united in marriage in Greenpond, NJ on 10/2/10. They are living in Acton, MA. **Nastassja Santana '07** graduated in January 2011 from the Art Institute of Philadelphia.

REMEMBERING . . .

The Foundation Office has learned of the deaths of these alumni and former staff members since our last issue of The Herald.

Cornelius van Zwoll, Former teacher and principal at Eastern Academy. He was a graduate of Calvin College, received his master's at University of Michigan and his Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He also taught at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI. Throughout his career, he taught Latin, French, German, and Russian.

Jeanette Steen Okma '29 on 8/9/10 at the Holland Christian Home, North Haledon, NJ. Jeanette was a former resident of

Prospect Park and Wyckoff and a lifetime member of Unity Christian Reformed Church, Prospect Park, NJ. She was an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary for Eastern Christian Schools for many years.

Lena Soodsma De Ritter '35 on 10/2/10 in Grand Rapids, MI. She was a lifelong member of Midland Park Christian Reformed Church, where she was a Deaconess and Ruth Circle member. She served many meals to Eastern Christian students as a Mothers' Club member.

Dorothy Hay Eelman '36 on 7/1/10. She was a lifelong resident of North Haledon, NJ. Dorothy was a longtime member of Hawthorne Gospel Church and a member of The Daughters of the American Revolution.

Claire Greydanus King '36 on 7/16/10. Claire was a long-time resident of Wyckoff and a member of Cedar Hill Christian Reformed Church in Wyckoff, NJ. She was a dedicated volunteer at EC's The Corner Closet in Hawthorne.

Donald L. van Reken '37 of Holland, MI on 5/26/10. He was a member of Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Holland, MI. Donald served in the US Army for 4 years, a pilot of a C-47 during D-day. Following his army life, he was a missionary teacher in Nigeria for 8 years and a Christian School teacher in Cicero and Holland Christian.

Emma Kuiken Puderbaugh '38 of Manlius, NY passed away at her daughter's home on 4/8/10 after a short illness. She was an active member of the United Methodist Church of Fayetteville. Emma was a champion tennis player in the New York State Senior Games and a volunteer at Upstate Medical Center for over 40 years.

Elsie M. Wispelwey '44 of North Haledon, NJ on 7/4/10. Prior to moving to North Haledon, she was a lifelong resident of Clifton. Elsie was an accounting clerk for Hoffman La Roche and retired in 1990. She was a member of the Preakness Valley United Reformed Church in Wayne.

Dorothy Kooistra Loftus '45 on 8/11/10.

Dorothy graduated from Calvin College with a degree in psychology in 1949 and received her MSW from the University of Illinois in 1951. She worked for over 30 years in social services with her career culminating when she served as the director of the Child Protective Services in Delaware from 1984 to 1987. Upon retiring she moved to Cape May Point, NJ and relocated to Grand Rapids, MI in 2002.

Gerard Meyers '48 of Mahwah, NJ on 9/29/10. He was a graduate of Calvin College and prior to his retirement in 1990 he was Vice-President and Technical Director at Pettit Paint in Rockaway, NJ. He was a member of Ridgewood Christian Reformed Church.

Ethel M. (De Vries) Cammenga '49 of Caledonia, MI was unexpectedly called to glory on 10/3/10. She was a member of East Paris Christian Reformed Church, Kentwood, MI.

Cornelia "Connie" (Wisse) Terpstra '51 of Clifton, NJ on 4/6/10. She was a member of the Richfield Christian Reformed Church, Clifton, NJ.

Mae Mari (Baker) Boote '53 of Derby, KA on 10/30/10. She was a retired co-owner of Air Capitol Salvage and a member of Woodlawn United Methodist Church.

Bernard Den Boer '53 of East Rutherford, NJ on 6/29/10. He was an Army Veteran and a Parishioner of Most Sacred Heart RC Church, Wallington, NJ.

Elsie (Schwier) Golden '55 of Wyckoff, NJ on 9/24/10. She was an active member of Midland Park Christian Reformed Church where she served in many capacities, most recently as a Deaconess. Elsie was a EC Class Representative for the Class of 1955 for many years, sending classmate's news updates and contact information to The Herald. She will be greatly missed.

John L. Sweetman '56 of Northvale, NJ on 10/1/10. John was an accountant and also owned Sweetwater Fisheries, which was a tropical fish wholesaler. He was a veteran of the US National Guard.

Identify These Students



This photo was run in the previous issue of The Herald. The Foundation Office thanks the following alumni for contacting us:

Bill Martin '47, Peter De Boer '47, Marcia (Hey) Zuidema '47, Gladys (Hamstra) 'Schuil

This is the 8th grade class of Passaic Christian School in 1943.

Row 1: Henry Van Kluyve, William Martin, Sidney Cooper, Raymond Van Hook.

Row 2: Jeanette Nydam, Cornelia "Connie" De Boer, Lorraine Locker, Trina Van Althuis, Jane Andela, Gladys Hamstra, Alma Wisse.

Row 3: Nicholas De Graaf, Harold Wisse, Emma Wispelwey, Marjorie Sisco, Anna Freed, Marcia Hey, Nicholas Pruiksma, Cornelius "Casey" Michaud. **Row 4:** Peter Alleman, Alfred Muller, Shirley Van Dongen, Gertrude Vander Vliet, Hubert Van Horn, Leonard Breure.

REUNION UPDATE

The Class of 1960



Row 1 (L to R): David Snope, Craig Bender, Jon Bontekoe, Richard Hamersma, Raymond Reid, Leonard Wynbeek, Ernest Wiegers. **Row 2:** Margaret (Gordon) Mongin, Karen (Beversluis) Beck, Sandra (Daviou) Biel, Betty (Vandergoot) Dykman, Patricia (Makepeace) McQuay, Dorothy (Roukema) Doss, Jean (Schoone-Jongen) Janecek, Donald Baker, Ruth (Baker) Wynbeek. **Row 3:** Dale (Houston) Sprague, Joanne (Dyer) de Bruyn, Doris (Sonderfan) De Groat, Judy (Spoelstra) Abma, Trudy (Graham) Boogertman, Marilyn (Eichhorn) Myers, Joanne (Velzen) Wit. **Row 4:** Russell Kauffman, Annamae (Nienhouse) Dykstra, Ruth (Hagedorn) Knyfd, Ida (Dykstra) Hazen, Lois (Sikkema) Leentjes, Joyce (Anema) Streelman, Marcia Roukema, David Langford, Gail (Bangma) Baker, Lois (La Fleur) Vredevoogd. **Back row:** Ruth (Bardenhagen) Ball, Richard Van Hoff, Alida (De Vries) De Boer, Gladys (Buckley) Van Der Woude, Jack Faber, Connie Wondergem, Harold Kuipers, Calvin Wiegers, Samuel Steen, Roger Bosma.

The Class of 1960's 50-Year Reunion took place on Friday, September 17 at The Paris Inn, Wayne, NJ. Classmates enjoyed a wonderful time and gathered again the next morning for a catered breakfast at ECHS.

We are sincerely grateful to the leaders of the Class of 1960 who, in connection with their 50th reunion, challenged their classmates to consider a personal donation to EC in memory of this occasion and in memory of the years spent at EC. Class President **Cal Wiegers** spearheaded this appeal and his classmates responded generously in support of their Alma Mater. To date, Eastern Christian has received in excess of \$2,800 from class members, several of whom included a personal note reflecting on their time at EC. One class member summed it up very succinctly when he stated that "he felt this was a great opportunity to show our gratitude for the fine education we all received at Eastern Christian."

Thank you **Class of 1960** for your generosity and support!

REUNION UPDATE

The Class of 2000



Front Row (L to R): Julie (Heerema) Ferwerda, Tanganyika Barnes, Laura Veenstra, Janessa (Jeltema) Davis, Laura King, Janelle (Klaassen) Peters, Latia Taylor. **Back Row:** Doug Everett, Jon Ydo, Craig Borduin, Kyle Laauwe, Evan Petito, Brian Grzymkowski, Trella (Allen) Dolgin, Stephen Fritzky, Katherine McCoy, Daryl Huber, Tim Brand, Rachel (Vriesma) Kuperus, Nick Vander Plaat

The Class of 2000 enjoyed an exciting reunion on November 27, 2010 at The Brownstone. Twenty classmates joined together to catch up on where our lives have taken us over the past 10 years.

2012 Reunion Years:

Attn: Reunion Committees: It's not too early to start planning for your 2012 reunions!

10 Years: Class of 2002	40 Years: Class of 1972
20 Years: Class of 1992	50 Years: Class of 1962
25 Years: Class of 1987	60 Years: Class of 1952
30 Years: Class of 1982	

2011 Reunion Years:

10 Years: Class of 2001

Reserve the date: Our 10-Year Reunion will be on Friday, November 25, 2011 at the Paris Inn in Wayne, NJ. A mailing will go out with more information in early spring. If you have questions, please contact **Yvonne (Wisse) Gogolen** at [ygogolen@hotmail.com](mailto:yvogolen@hotmail.com) or **Heather (Bushoven) Troupos** at troupos758@gmail.com.

20 Years: Class of 1991

Save the Date! Our 20-Year Reunion will be held on Friday, November 4, 2011 at the Indian Trail Club in Franklin Lakes, NJ. Search for "Eastern Christian Class of 91" Reunion on Facebook to join the group for updates. An invitation will be sent in the spring. If you have questions, please contact **David Luyendyk** at david@yellowhousedesign.com.

25 Years: Class of 1986

Our 25-Year Reunion is scheduled for Summer 2011. Please contact **Lauran Bell (Hudson) Harrison** at echs25reunion@supportingwomen.com. Be sure to join "ECHS Class of 86" on Facebook for updates.

30 Years: Class of 1981*

40 Years: Class of 1971*

50 Years: Class of 1961

Our 50-Year Reunion will be on Friday, September 23, at Best Western Regency House in Pompton Plains, NJ. It's not too late to sign up! Contact **Nancy Meyer Wilkens** at 201-773-8442 or email her at wtwilkens@optonline.net. If anyone has information about how to find Eric Mak, please let **Joyce Kruithof** know at jkruithof@rockisland.com.

60 Years: Class of 1951*

* contact EC's Foundation Office at 973-427-9294 or email alumni@easternchristian.org with your reunion plans.

ALUMNI PROFILE



Jennifer Baker Peterson '89 sent in the following update:

My husband of 18 years is Eric Peterson and we have two children. Claire is 13 and Jacob is 10. We spent September-December of 2010 in Swaziland, Africa serving AIDS orphans and widows. I had visited the same community in Africa in 2009 on a short mission trip and felt the desire and pull in my heart to return. While my family and I were there for three months recently, we were discerning the Lord's leading to a longer term commitment in Swaziland. All four of us definitely felt God confirm in our hearts that we are to return to join Him in building His Kingdom in the tiny nation of Swaziland! The work includes feeding orphans at nine neighborhood care points. The focus is not only giving them physical nourishment, but feeding them the Gospel as well! In a country that has been ravaged by the spread of AIDS, extreme poverty and drought, Swaziland has its share of pain and despair. However, we found people full of hope and promise! We believe God is raising up a new generation of believers in Swaziland. We are excited to join in the work of helping to mentor and disciple them. We are planning on returning to Swaziland in April for two years. We are partnering with Adventures in Missions, located in Gainesville, GA. Please check out our blog for more information, stories and pictures. Blog address is: www.ericandjen.myadventures.org.

DESIGNATED GIFTS

JUNE 25, 2010 – JANUARY 6, 2011

During this time period, 347 gifts were received in honor/memory of a loved one or friend. The total amount of the gifts received in honor /memory of a loved one or friend was \$48,074.43. Thank you to all who made these donations to support Christian Education at EC!

In Memory of

J. George Aupperlee

Robert & Elizabeth Aupperlee
Kenneth & Ruth Tanis
William & Susan Aupperlee
PSE&G Matching Gift Program

John & Nellie Bangma

Mae & Andrew Rienstra

Jacob "Jay" Bruinooge

Berta Bruinooge

Neil De Haan

Judi Neeb
Regina Setikas
David Neeb
Michael Manzo
Dennis Coleman
Virginia Manzo & Family
Christina Contrubis
Simon & Judith Elzinga
Henry & Lois Schuurman
Toufic Hakim
Garret & Florence Nieuwenhuis
Henry & Grace Lootsma
Wayne & Betty Kuiken
John & Judith Bosloper
Arthur & Rose Van Tol
Kevin & Elizabeth Van Dyk
Mary Ann Basileo
Mark & Pamela Reitsma
Howard & Eleanor Southway
Harold & Janice Post
Gerda & Donald, Debra & Dean, & Christina & Mike White
Concetta Helble
John & Kay Drukker
Jeffrey & Theresa Moeller
Henry & Cornelia Hagedorn
Albert & Joyce Curving
David & Maureen Hubschmitt
David & Marjo Reitsma
Karin & Arie Van Tol
Elinor Postma

Lena De Ritter

John & Anita De Korte
Joyce Schoonejongen
Helen Breure
James & Elaine De Ritter
Alice & Henry Luinenburg
George De Ritter
David & Nancy De Ritter
Beatrice & Elton Van Pernis
Carole & James Brinks
Herbert Soodsma
Katherine Veenstra
Pam Shebest
James & Marilyn Niewiek
Midland Park CRC
Henrietta Borst

Karl & Betty Hofstra
Elinor Postma
Gertrude Ackerman

Nicholas Flaming

Linda Johnson

Barney G. Fylstra

Henrietta Fylstra

Henry Gideon & Elsie Gideon

Ross Glass & Terry Beversluis Glass

Betty Galenkamp

PSE&G Matching Gift Program

Elsie M. Golden

Ernest & Georgia Wiegers
Roger & Carolyn Veenstra
Ruth Ann Knyfd
Alice & Clarence Baker
Garret & Carolyn Vermaas
Jack & Shirley Faber
Eleanor Kooreman
John & Gertrude Van Lenten
Raymond & Donna Luyendyk
Henry & Doris Zeeuw
Barbara Davis
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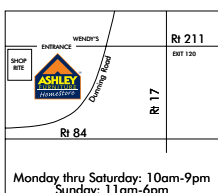
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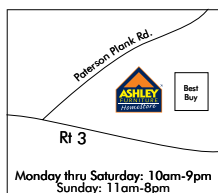
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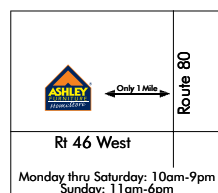
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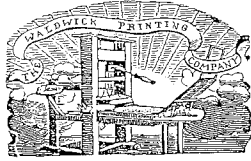
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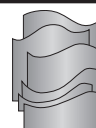
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EC SPORTS



Senior **Chad Miller**

Boys Soccer: Despite a slow start the boys varsity soccer team found its stride in the second half of the season. The team started with a 2-7 record, but won 4 out of their 6 final games. Season highlights include wins over division rivals in Hawthorne and Pompton Lakes. For the first time since 2007, the team qualified for the state tournament and despite a solid effort, lost a close game to Morris Catholic in the first round. Seniors **Noah Ruitenburg** and **Chad Miller** led the team in goals, with 8 each, and junior goalie **Mitch Noordeloos** '12 posted a strong season between the pipes. The boys junior varsity soccer team ended their season with a satisfying record of 7-7-2. Throughout the entire season, the boys committed to getting their record back to .500. At 3-7-2, they needed to win their last four games in order to achieve their goal. They were successful, and ended up outscoring their opponents 13-1 in those games.



Senior **Victoria Westra**

Girls Tennis: The girls tennis team continued to be strong this year, though with the tough competition in the league and in the county (featuring some of the best national teams), the team finished around .500 for the year. The team featured six senior players: **Victoria Westra**, **Brandi Bushman**, **Emilee Kim**, **Jacqueline Jacobs**, **Kathleen D'Urso**, and **Allison Woodfin**. Brandi said, "We played Newark Academy for the last 2 years in a row as our first match of States, and they beat us both years because they're basically one of the best teams in New Jersey. I was surprised how well we did against Morristown Beard this year. We did extremely well."



Senior **Kristen Lindsay**

Volleyball: The varsity volleyball team finished the season with 11 wins. Their final game was a close loss against Immaculate Heart Academy, the four-year defending state champs. The team put up a strong fight, showing how far their hard work and great communication had brought them. The players also remembered their long, exciting win in three sets against Becton as a season highlight. In addition to great communication, the team said strong leadership by senior captains **Kristen Lindsay** and **Paige Rainville** was a reason for the team's success.

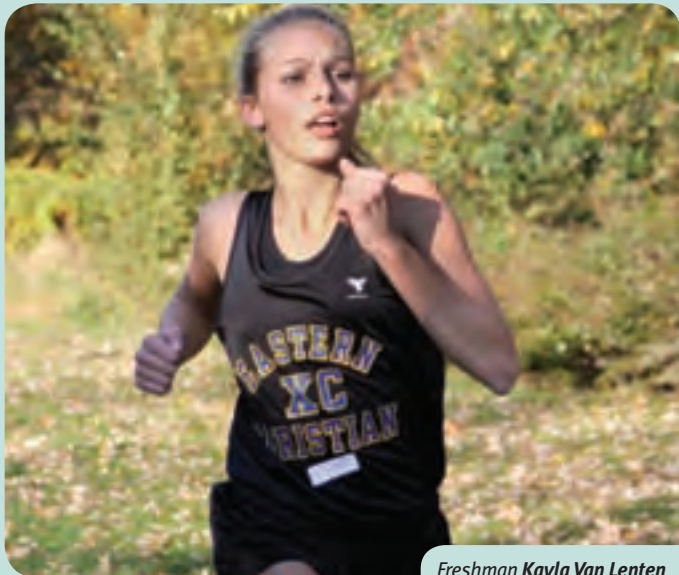


Junior **Heather Tanis**

Girls Soccer: With 19 wins, just 3 losses and a school record 96 goals, the team enjoyed one of the most successful seasons in the program's history, including a fifth consecutive league title and their third trip in four years to the state sectional finals. The defense pitched a 10-game shutout to begin the season, and the midfield displayed an attractive and effective passing game that fueled the talented attack. Though the results against Clifton (a loss in the county tournament semifinals decided on penalty kicks) and Morris Catholic (a 2-1 loss in a thrilling State Sectional Final) were disappointing, the effort and comebacks shown on those occasions was not. The junior varsity girls ended a successful season with a record of 8-5-3. All of the players demonstrated their talents in each and every game. The leading scorers consisted of freshmen **Alyssa Veenstra**, **Bethany Kuiken**, and **Dianni Hall**. Sophomore goalkeeper **Julie Van Buiten** and freshman sweeper **Sarah Mulcock** led a strong defense.

Senior **Jeremy Braunius**

Boys Cross Country: The boys team faced tough competition in the new reorganized league this year, and ended up taking 3rd place. The team was led by seniors **Jeremy Braunius**, **Joey De Marco**, **Craig Jacobs**, **David Harrison** and **Sam Braen**. Joey said, "In the beginning of the year Coach Apol didn't have high expectations for us men, but towards the end of the season we've stepped up to the plate. We have done much better than expected." They exceeded their original goals as a team and posted many personal records.

Freshman **Kayla Van Lenten**

Girls Cross Country: The girls' cross country team ran one of their strongest seasons in EC's history, winning the league championship and placing 3rd overall in the NonPublic B Group State Meet, the team's best ever finish. With the help of junior **Kristen Traub** placing 2nd, freshman **Kayla Van Lenten** placing 7th, and freshman **Kathryn Post** placing 12th in the State Meet, all seven girls qualified to participate in the State Meet of Champions. EC was the first Passaic County team since 1993 to make it to the Meet of Champions. Coach **Joel Apol** was named the league's coach of the year.

Middle School Sports

The Middle School had another successful season of teamwork, mastering skills, and achieving goals. The final records of the teams were: Girls Soccer: 7-6-0; Boys Soccer: 0-9-4; Boys Cross Country: 4-2; Girls Cross Country: 3-3. In the photos are (1) the entire cross country team (2) soccer player **Kelly Dykman** (3) soccer player **Jason Englishmen** (4) runners **Brooke Van Lenten** and **Alyssa Botbyl**.



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