

ST. MARK'S SCHOOL OF TEXAS

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JFK – 50 years later

Fifty years ago this month, a seminal event in history occurred. The Re-Marker looks back on Dallas' darkest day. See Addendum magazine inside.

Community Service Director Jorge Correa

You cannot be in isolation. You need someone else for everything. In Spanish, we have a saying: you see caras pero no corazones – you see the faces but you don't see the hearts.



ts. Correa with former
Community Service
Page 3 Director Jeanne Laube

PROTECTION PROBLEM | INSIDE Are your parents overinvolved? Take our quiz. • page 7

ROTECTION

How much is too much? From banning tag at recess to incessant texting, just how much is needed to protect a child?

THE STORIES KEEP COMING.

This month, one New York elementary school banned recess activities from football to cartwheels.

Days later, another school banned the game of tag at recess.

Last week, a parent of a Western Hills High School football player filed a bullying charge against Aledo High School's coaching staff for running up a football score 91-0.

Closer to home, one 2013 Marksman graduate at a top school says that his roommate's mom calls him every morning to wake him up and drives 10 hours every two weeks — just to check in on him.

Across the nation, stories of adults being overprotective continue to pop up — with increasing frequency — raising eyebrows and creating a growing dialogue about the ever-growing protection of the youngest generation.

While these examples may be outliers, it's hard to deny that even in this community at 10600 Preston Road, adults are monitoring kids now more than ever before.

AND WITHIN THE ISSUE OF PARENTAL (OVER)INVOLVEMENT, THERE'S MUCH TO BE EXPLORED.

▶ by Charlie Golden, senior content editor, and Dylan Clark, editor-in-chief | illustration Joon Park, staff artist and Zuyva Sevilla, graphics director



SAYING FAREWELL With retirement looming, Holtbergs embark on six-city goodbye tour

By **Abhi Thumalla** staff writer

After 21 years and more than 80 cross-country trips for the school, Headmaster Arnie Holtberg will take one last tour across the United States beginning Oct. 19 to acknowledge his upcoming retirement as headmaster.

Holtberg will visit six cities, from New York to Los Angeles, during a seven-month period ending in April. The first stop of the trip took place at The River Club in New York from 5-8:30 p.m. Oct. 19.

The Development Office and the Department of Alumni Relations, headed by Director of Alumni Relations Jim Bob Womack '98, organized the events with the entire community in mind, hoping that not only alumni but also faculty and parents will have the opportunity to celebrate Holtberg's tenure.

"The printed invitations are just going to

go to the regional areas," Womack said. "It's going to go to anyone in that region, and that includes parents, parents of alums, grandparents, grandparents of alums, former faculty members and, of course, alumni. So it's really a community event."

Womack believes that including the entire community is an important feature of the farewell tour, which will also celebrate Jan Holtberg, Arnie's wife, and her contributions to the school.

"Arnie's reach was not just with the students; he obviously has lots and lots of friends and supporters who are not students, that are now former faculty and former parents," Womack said, "So we want to make sure that everyone has a chance to celebrate with Arnie and Jan."

Administrative Assistant Verna Smith, who has worked in the Headmaster's Office for

23 years with three different headmasters, believes that Holtberg's unique personality plays a role in the entire community's involvement in his retirement.

"He's gotten to know these people over 21 years; they feel like they know him and that they can approach him," Smith said. "He's done it routinely all these years so they look forward to these [events] coming to their town or their city, or here, if we have it here."

Womack, who graduated under Holtberg in 1998, feels that the main purpose of these events is to show gratitude for Holtberg's various contributions to the school.

"Arnie's pretty darn amazing, and what he's done for the school has been amazing, there's no other way to qualify it," Womack said. "And so for us and for our community, it's important to take this time and thank him. We owe that to him."

The farewell tour

Where they'll go

The Holtbergs kicked off the farewell Tour Oct. 19 in New York City. Here's a look at where they'll travel this year to visit with alumni, parents and other members of the school community.

- New York | October 19
- •Los Angeles | January 24
- •San Francisco | January 25
- Houston | February 15
- Austin | February 16
- Alumni Weekend | April 25

INSIDE

COMMENTARY

Staff discusses possibilities for a new Science Building **P.13**

SPORTS

Senior John Caldwell fought a long battle with meningitis **P. 17**



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SENIOR DEBATER NIKHIL JAIN It's not something that's easy, but when it works out, the results are honestly beautiful. Page 5

A five-dollar bill in my pocket

very Wednesday, I drive to my dad's house in Plano.

Every Wednesday, I take the first exit past George

Bush Turnpike, and I take the first left on Plano Parkway. Every Wednesday, she was there.

She was overweight. The bottom cuffs of her faded blue jeans were worn and tattered, inches too long for her height. She wore a once-white t-shirt and her ratty hair seemed greasy and unwashed even from a distance.

She had a beautiful smile. The kind of beaming, radiant smile that you see on actresses and star athletes. And anyone who stopped at that intersection would be lying if he said he didn't notice her piercing cerulean eyes.

"Single mom.

Bank foreclosed on my house.

Trying to feed my child."

It was written in sturdy swooping letters with a bold sharpie. I wanted to give her something—anything—but I had forgotten my wallet. The left turn arrow flashed green, and I left.

She didn't.

She was there the next Wednesday, too, and the one after. She was there for five weeks in a row. Every time I turned left on Plano Parkway to go to my air-conditioned home and eat a good meal, I read the same sign. I felt the same sorrow. Then the arrow turned green, I turned left and I felt the same guilt.

I could have pulled out a dollar bill. Or a five. It was to feed this woman's child, for God's sake. But I didn't.

I sat in my bed, thinking about the single mom whom I haven't helped. If she had only been begging



once, I wouldn't have thought too much of it. But she was there for five weeks in a row. It was as if she were pleading directly to me to help her,

pleading with me to get her out of whatever mess she had gotten into with creditors and her bank. Pleading with me to feed her child that night.

y mom always pulls out a couple of ones for the homeless. Sometimes she gives more than that. One time in New York she gave a man with no legs a twenty. I know when she's going to do it, too. We pass someone on the street, and she looks with pity and compassion at the homeless, the veterans, or the addicts. Once we walk by, she stops, turns, and sighs. She knows as well as I that she is about to give, as it pains her to think of the guilt she would endure should she have the opportunity to help someone but refuse.

My dad, just like most people I've seen in this situation, always sits stoically looking forward in the car, or he turns to me and we continue to talk about sports or life. "If what my mom does is good, then what my dad does must be bad," I thought to myself. But my dad isn't bad—my dad is among the fairest and most decent people I have ever known.

I sat there in bed and remembered a time when a very elderly man walked down a sidewalk with an empty five-gallon gas container. My dad was driving me to his house – I was probably around ten. My dad pulled over and asked him if he needed any help.

"My car ran out of gas a mile back, I'm just going to the gas station," the man said.

My dad replied, "Get in, I can take you."

And he did, he drove the man to the gas station, filled the container, helped him carry the now heavy canister, and drove him back to his car.

With that in mind, I resolved to come with five dollars the next time I drove to my dad's house in Plano, felt content, and started to concentrate on the Spanish final exam I had the next day.

A week later, it was the first Wednesday of summer – a scorching day – and I drove up the toll way to my dad's. I had my five-dollar bill in the cup holder right next to me. I owed it to her.

I took my exit, got in the left lane, and stopped at the red light. $\label{eq:left_lane} % \begin{subarray}{ll} \end{subarray} \begin{su$

But she wasn't there.

I glanced at the portrait of Honest Abe. The guilt was still there. I folded the bill to put it in my wallet.

Someone honked. The arrow was green. I turned left and went home.

I can only hope she did the same.

UPCOMING | THINGS TO DO IN THE WEEKS AHEAD



SWEET TOOTH Senior Jonathan Ng, Milan Savani '13 and sophomore Henry Goldberg collect candy donations during last year's drive.

Today

> The Community Service Candy Drive begins, hoping to top last year's record of 224 pounds in the first two days.

"Most people see candy as something that will give them a little comfort, a sweet moment in life," Community Service Director Jorge Correa said.

Weekend

> Evensong will be held Sunday in the Chapel at 7 p.m. This will be the second Evensong service of the school year.

> The SAT will be given Saturday on campus and other designated schools around Dallas.

Next Week

> Dr. Hal C. Urschel '77 will speak to parents about alcohol and drugs' effect on children in Nearburg 114 Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.

> The Admission Open House will begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday and will introduce prospective families to the campus and school curriculum.

newsfeed | a quick look at news around campus

- The Humanities Department is in the process of streamlining its history curriculum. Headed by Humanities Department Chair **Nick Sberna**, a committee formed to decide on the changes plans to change the focus on world history in fifth and sixth grade and American history in seventh and eighth grade.
- The Robotics Team will advance to the state Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST) robotics contest after a second place finish in the BEST award and a fourth place finish by game score at the regional contest Oct. 19. The BEST award is judged based on overall robot design, game score, and the team's engineering documentation. Four other Dallas teams, including Hockaday, will attend the state competition at UT Dallas Nov. 9, facing off against winning teams from New Mexico and Texas.

"The competition was tough, but the team came together for some clutch performances at key moments" senior captain **Dylan Altschuler** said

- After a year-long interviewing process which drew more than 150 candidates, **Paul DiVincenzo** has been hired as the new chief technology officer. The new position was formed when the administration felt it needed a new staff member to help oversee all technology on campus. DiVincenzo formerly worked in the health care industry in New York and began working at the school Oct. 16.
- Six Chinese students from the Beijing No. 4 Middle School will be studying at the school from Jan. 19 to Feb. 16 as part of the Winter Mini-Semester Exchange Program. The school will host the middle school students in order to expose its students to a foreign culture. The middle school curriculum is being expanded to represent a broader spectrum of Asian culture, including Chinese.
- Former Navy SEAL Lt. Cmdr. **Rorke Denver** will address the Class of 2014 at Commencement May 23, 2014. Denver was chosen by the administration after strong recommendations by the Senior Class leadership. Denver, who spoke to the Upper School last year about his experiences in the SEALs and the qualities of a leader, performed in *Act of Valor*, a 2012 war film featuring real SEALs. Denver published his first book, *Damn Few: Making the Modern SEAL Warrior*, in February.
- Best-selling American author and ethicist **Gus Lee** will return to campus mid-November for one of his annual visits. Lee will meet individually with faculty members and have a talk available to all faculty/staff members on handling difficult conversations that every person has to deal with. He will return in the spring to speak exclusively with the students.

Lee visits the campus multiple times per year and was a visiting scholar in 2004. He is the author of multiple best-selling books including *China Boy, Honor and Duty, Tiger's Tail* and *No Physical Evidence*.

– Newsfeed stories reported by Cameron Clark, Akshay Mahotra, Philip Montgomery, Vikram Pattabi and Anvit Reddy



ROYALTY Senior Jack Mallick and Hockaday senior Payton Scott were crowned Homecoming king and queen Oct. 5 during this year's Emerald City-themed dance, held at 7 for Parties in the Dallas Design District.



SPEAKER Former Navy SEAL Lt. Cmdr. Rorke Denver was announced as the 2014 Commencement speaker by Headmaster Arnie Holtberg after Senior Class leaders strongly recommended the Act of Valor star. Commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2014 are set for May 23, 2014.



WELCOME BACK Author Gus Lee will return to campus in November to speak with faculty and students about social situations.

OVERPARD I COMMENTS MADE BY FACULTY. STAFF, AND STUDENTS AROUND CAMPUS

'Breaking Bad is the modern-day *Macbeth'*. – Victor F. White Master Teaching Chair in English **David Brown** to his AP English class

'I run off Junior Mints now.' — senior **Sam Perkins** while eating a Junior Mint

'Where are the numbers? Where did the numbers go? I thought this was math.' – senior **John Garnsey** aloud during an AP calculus class

'People are surprised to find out how much I like Buffalo Wild Wings seeing as I'm a vegetarian and follow no sports.' – senior **Nikhil Jain** to friends

'Can you curve a zero?' – senior **Will Nelson** during his calculus class

'If you wanted to extract government secrets from me, just tie me to a chair and make me watch reality television for 30 minutes.' — The Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Master Teaching Chair **Bruce Westrate** to his class