



## Blazer Culture: Earth Day Style

Jestira Mladenovic and Kathleen de la Fuente

April/May 2013

If you asked a man on the street if littering was wrong, you would probably agree with him on the answer - of course it is. But what if you asked him why? Every year, schools and companies celebrate a day called "Earth Day" on which a spotlight is put on "going green" and keeping our earth clean. People hear from every direction about global warming and endangered animals and decide that they should invest in eco-friendly products to help "save the earth." When we take care of nature, what are we doing it for - the earth itself?

The world's view on keeping the earth clean and taking care of it has really come up only recently. All of a sudden we're seeing advertisements for new 'green' technology or to make sure you ride your bike to school/work to prevent pollution.

After Earth Day people often forget about taking care of the planet because the event glorifying the environment is

over. If you asked people why they care about taking better care of the earth, some might say that it's because they believe in global warming and that it's causing even more animals to become endangered.



Others might say that because of constant building, there will be less plants in the future, or that pollution is destroying the atmosphere. But what if we had a better reason to take care of the environment year round?

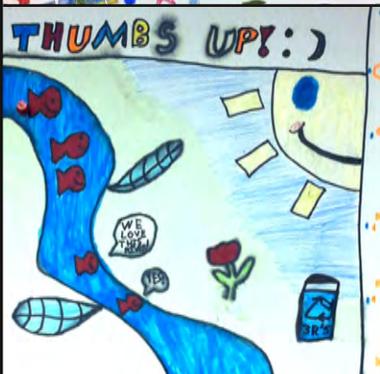
The Bible tells that we should be good stewards to the earth because God has "made [man] to have dominion over the works of His hands;" He has "put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen—Even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas." (Psalms 8: 6-8) He has entrusted us to take care of His creation, which was given us, not just for one day or whenever we remember, but every day.

While it is right to take care of the earth and its creatures, our attitudes should not reflect that we will only take care of it when there is a problem with it. God bestows a responsibility to humans to maintain the earth and everything on it. Earth Day can be a good reminder to us of what we should be doing for the earth in our daily lives, but we need to also remember why we are doing it - to honor and glorify the God that gave it to us.



*Tall and thin and dark.  
Strong limbs that blow the wind.*

*"Tree" by Isabel Budd*



Artists clockwise from top left: Amy G, Joey F, Athina S, Kaitlyn A, Ari B.

**A drawing prompt for you to try:** Draw a tree with leaves of your favorite color!

If you have any artwork or creative projects that you would like to contribute to the newspaper, talk to Kathleen or email the Trinity Times directly at [tcnewsaper2011@gmail.com](mailto:tcnewsaper2011@gmail.com).

# Christianity and Society

Danielle DiQuattro and Ethan Hastings

The legalization of gay marriage has become a major "hot" topic issue in our country. As a Christian and a Libertarian (one who advocates maximizing individual rights and minimizing the role of the state), I have put much thought into what I believe about this issue. As a Christian, I believe acting upon homosexual feelings is sinful--a violation of God's revealed will. The basis of this belief is the fact that marriage between one man and one woman is a "creation ordinance," instituted by God for all time and all situations. However, Christian *non-political* responses to homosexuality will not be the point of my article. I will be focusing on the questions I've had to ask myself to determine what I believe about the political issue of same-sex marriage.

My libertarian side wants to say, "the government should not intrude to protect people from themselves; same-sex marriage is consensual, and therefore should not be illegal." But I do not think this blanket statement is the answer. If homosexuals are allowed to marry legally, then pastors should have the right to decide whether they are willing to marry them. However, this would not be good enough for most that support same-sex marriage. They would likely be outraged if a pastor refused to marry a homosexual couple because of his convictions. Realistically, if these "rights" are given to homosexuals, the rights of pastors will be compromised.

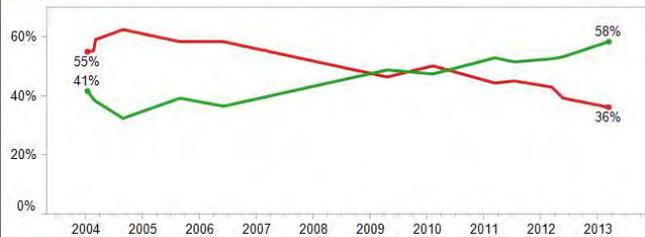
Because of this, I have very seriously wrestled with the idea that the govern-

ment should not be involved with marriage at all. Perhaps, people should have the freedom to go to a pastor and allow him to decide whether or not he wants to marry them - for whatever reasons - and leave the government out of it completely. I'm sure many could present very unlikely "what-if" scenarios against this view, but for the most part, I believe it is sound.

As a libertarian, I can easily specify and defend the areas in which I believe the government should not be involved in. However, with this issue, I am still forming my opinions. I would assert though, that even if I am not adamantly against "gay rights", that does not mean I support their lifestyle. I am simply being consistent with my libertarian ideals.

The Washington Post abc NEWS POLL

Do you think it should be legal or illegal for gay and lesbian couples to get married?



Recently more and more people have been identifying themselves as pro-gay. Recent polls by the Wall Street Journal show that about 53% of voters support giving homosexuals the right to marry. Many therefore say that the Supreme Court should just make a blanket decision denying states the right to ban gay marriage. This is a gross abuse of Federal power, and the statistics they cite are not necessarily accurate. The share of voters in pre-election surveys saying they will vote to ban same-sex marriage is typically seven percentage points lower than the actual vote on election day. Be wary when the media acts as if the vast majority of the country is pro gay, and hold to your Biblical values.

## Cairn University Quartet



## May and June Calendar

Hot Lunch (12th).....	May 17
Shakespearean Drama Night.....	May 17
Kindergarten Play.....	May 22
Senior Banquet.....	May 23
Memorial Day NO SCHOOL.....	May 27
Talent and Award Program.....	May 30
Field Day K-12.....	May 31
Mrs. Cutler's Retirement Party.....	June 1
Monthly Morning Prayer Meeting.....	June 4
Senior Finals.....	June 4-5
Senior Class Trip.....	June 6-12
Finals.....	June 11-13
Last Day of School, Graduation.....	June 14

# Smorgasbord

*It's been a busy time of year at TCS. Take a look at what some of the students have been up to.*

## A Capitol Experience

*Anita Witten*

During spring break some 9th and 10th grade students went to Washington D.C. to visit some historical landmarks. Along the way we stopped at Arlington National Cemetery and a national wildlife reservation. As soon as we arrived in D.C., we got right to walking. Some of the sites that we visited were the Capitol Building, The Library of Congress, and other national landmarks. After visiting the capitol, we had the choice to go to the National Archives or the Air and Space Museum. Most chose to go to the Space Museum.

At the Air and Space Museum there were replicas of old planes and cockpits. Several rooms had information about the first pilots and about the inventors who built the planes. There was also a big gift shop, which was a favorite of all who visited. On Wednesday before we left, we visited the World War II and Thomas Jefferson monuments and some students went paddle boating. What an adventure that was! I hope in the future students will take advantage of this trip to learn more about and enjoy the capitol.

## Track

*Full season update coming in next issue*



## Novartis

*Greg Tanis*

Over spring break, nearly a dozen ambitious TCS students attended the Multicultural Teen Corporate Mentoring Program at Novartis. Novartis, a Fortune 500 member, is ranked as one of the top pharmaceutical companies in the world. Students had the opportunity to hear several executives, including André Wyss, the President of Novartis, speak about what their jobs include and why they love them. Each student was also given a mentor in the particular field they were interested in. The students shadowed their mentor to see what their job entails.

The students were also divided into twelve teams, charged with making a drug to compete with the Novartis products for certain diseases: Sickle Cell Disease, ADHD, Schizophrenia, and MS. They also went to a college/career fair with schools such as NJIT and Fairleigh Dickinson University, and different departments within Novartis. Steve Pemberton, author and CDO at Walgreens, told the story of his life. He gave a story of hope, how he made it from rags to riches, and gave all the students a signed copy of his book *A Chance in the World*. On the fourth and final day, a mock State of the Union address was held. Groups of students also presented their sales pitches for the drug they designed. All the students who attended would encourage more to participate next spring!



## The Power of Prayer

*Samantha Yamasaki*

“Anything that you want to do starts with prayer.” This simple truth led Mr. Voigt and Mr. Holcomb to start the monthly Tuesday Morning Prayer Meeting at TCS. On the first Tuesday of each month a group of students, faculty and parents meet together at 7 AM to pray for various things ranging anywhere from current events to school matters such as leadership, activities and students. One student (an attendee of the prayer meeting) strongly encouraged other students to go if they are able. “Just get all your homework done the night before. It’s only once a month; it’s doable to sacrifice the time to be there. Prayer is an important part of the Christian life. It strengthens our relationship with God to give our burdens to Him. When we become Christians our perspective should change and we should realize that we are helpless and need to go to God in prayer for everything.”

Feeling encouraged to come and pray? You too can attend this Prayer Meeting. Meetings will continue till the end of this year and will Lord-willing resume next year. So if you are able, come out the first Tuesday of every month, and you can enjoy the benefits of a day started with prayer.

## Seniors at the Banquet



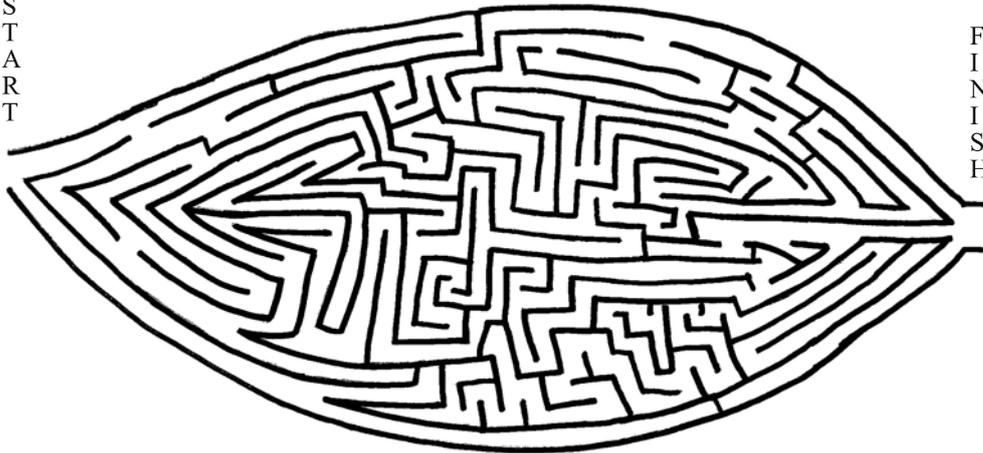
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Maze by Luke Genberg

## In Honor of Spring

*Psalm 148*

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights!  
Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, all you shining stars!  
Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord!  
For he commanded and they were created.  
And he established them forever and ever;  
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
Beasts and all livestock,  
creeping things and flying birds!  
Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to him.  
Praise the Lord!

## Bringin' It to Blaze

*Anita Witten*

In our last issue, we brought up the topic on how we could get more student involvement for Bringin' it to Blaze. A few students responded and said we should collect individual students' e-mail addresses and send out our surveys in that way. This suggestion has been presented to both Mr. Holcomb and Mr. Prol. For right now this will be limited to the highschoolers and copies of the surveys will also be e-mailed to their parents. Keep in mind that this new process won't begin until next year. We would love to hear more suggestions on how to make polls more interesting and accessible. This would give us insight on what you think are interesting topics. (Thank you, Jurgen Lipps, for giving us the topic for this issue's poll.) Stay tuned for more updates coming next year!

Here are the answers to our most recent poll:  
If you could add any sport to the program at school what would it be?

- swimming
- tennis
- ice hockey
- lacrosse
- field hockey
- volleyball
- biking

(Sorry, Ben, underwater basket-weaving is not a sport).

### Prayer Requests:

- For the many people who were affected by the Boston bombings and still need healing.
- Praise for Michael Tanis as he has had all of his surgeries and is now on the road to full recovery.
- For the students as they press on through the final months of the school year.
- For those affected by the explosion in West, Texas.

**Please send all contributions to [tcsnewspaper2011@gmail.com](mailto:tcsnewspaper2011@gmail.com) or put them in the folder downstairs at the end of the locker hall. Thank you!**