

# Middlesex

A photograph of a large brick building with a dome, surrounded by flowering trees and a clear blue sky. The building is made of red brick with white window frames and a central dome. In the foreground, there are several trees with white blossoms, likely cherry trees, and a brick wall with a black metal railing. The sky is bright blue with a few wispy clouds.

Spring 2012

**Maintaining Middlesex**  
Sustainability on Campus

# From the Head of School



## Life Cycles

Since last August, we have welcomed nine new faculty babies to our school community. Perhaps this wave of newborns was an inevitable result of the round of weddings we've enjoyed over the past couple of years; a former colleague once told me that weddings and babies are great news for schools, a sign that faculty members feel secure and are eager to bring up families in the community. These babies have brought us great joy, and I am sure that part of the great year we are enjoying as a school is due in part to the happiness we all feel for these young families.

During the past year, perhaps because of these babies and the ensuing maternity leaves, or perhaps because this is Ralph's and my first year with an "empty nest," or perhaps because of some senior faculty members' upcoming retirements and a few new faculty grandchildren, I have spent some time considering the life cycle of a faculty member. Life as a school person is highly cyclical; we start anew each fall, and there is always a new crop of 15 year olds to coach through the rigors of adolescence. Young faculty members throw themselves into their work with energy and enthusiasm that light up the school and provide great role models for students. The danger is that school can be all-consuming, to the detriment of one's personal life; finding that balance is critical to a young teacher's ability to stay, long-term, and find personal happiness as well as great satisfaction teaching, working, and living with teenagers.

The key, for the school, is not to ask too much from our great teachers, coaches, and mentors, and to provide as much support as possible. The six-day week and living in the dorm are real filters for us in the hiring process; we look for expertise where we need it, affinity with teenagers, and that "big personal capacity" that defines the kind of person who can thrive while balancing the demands of life and work at school. The vast majority of teachers who join us stay to establish rich lives as long-term colleagues and friends, and we are blessed with a senior faculty that models the best of the tradition of teacher as mentor, both for students and for younger colleagues.

These nine babies join more than 60 other faculty children under the age of 14; those Mary Mae cottages (see page 22) are a welcome relief to the pressing need for more faculty housing on campus. It is important to our faculty members and our residential mission that we be able to provide housing to those adults who give so much of themselves to our students every day. For young families, and for veteran teachers with grown children, this additional housing will allow us to make Middlesex a comfortable home for teachers and their families. We are tremendously grateful to the parents, alumni, and friends who have answered this call so quickly and helped us make these new homes a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen C. Giles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## Middlesex

Spring 2012

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**Alumni News** We welcome news from alumni, parents, and friends of Middlesex School. Please send your news and labeled photographs to Alumni News, Middlesex School, 1400 Lowell Road, Concord, MA 01742, or e-mail [alumni@mxschool.edu](mailto:alumni@mxschool.edu).

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**Parents of Alumni** If this magazine is addressed to a son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please advise us of his or her new address. Thank you!

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## Mission Statement

Middlesex School is an independent, non-denominational, residential, college-preparatory school that, for over 100 years, has been committed to excellence in the intellectual, ethical, creative, and physical development of young people. We honor the ideal, articulated by our founding Head Master, of “finding the promise” in every student, and we work together in an atmosphere of mutual trust and shared responsibility to help students bring their talents to fruition as knowledgeable, capable, responsible, and moral citizens of the world. As a community, we respect the individual interests, strengths, and needs of each student. We also value the rich diversity of belief and experience each of us brings to the School.

We expect that each student will bring his or her best efforts to the shared endeavor of learning and that the School, through its faculty, will engage and encourage each student’s growth, happiness, and well-being. We aspire for all Middlesex students to develop personal integrity, intellectual vitality and discipline, and respect for themselves and for others. We expect each student to engage energetically and cooperatively in the life of the School, and we seek to inspire in all students the desire to seek understanding of themselves and the larger world, both now and in their futures.

### On the Cover

*The early New England spring was evident around Atkins House. Photo by Joel Haskell.*



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In the Terry Room after her presentation, Dr. Erica Hirshler fields numerous questions from art history enthusiasts.

## Exploring a Masterpiece

In 1882, John Singer Sargent painted a large picture of four plainly dressed, American girls in the foyer of their parents' Paris apartment. Labeled everything from “a haunting masterpiece” to “four figures and a void,” it has long been one of the favorite works on exhibit at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. What is it about “The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit” that continues to fascinate viewers 130 years after it was painted?

It's just one of the questions that inspired Dr. Erica Hirshler to write her most recent book, *Sargent's Daughters: The Biography of a Painting*, which she discussed on April 5 as this year's second Hub Lecturer. A graduate of Wellesley College with a Ph.D. from Boston University, Dr. Hirshler is the Croll Senior Curator of Paintings, Art of the Americas, at the MFA, Boston. She has written and lectured widely on American paintings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, particularly on American Impressionism and the Boston School.

### Classic and Contemporary

Calling the work “an odd painting,” Dr. Hirshler pointed out several of the features that set “The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit” apart from other paintings of its time. A study of light and shadow, it is not a straightforward portrait in which the subjects are clearly depicted, but it is also not a typical genre scene of everyday life. The picture seems to tell a story—and many conjectures have been made about what that story is—yet it does not have a clear narrative. Combining the masterful influence of Velásquez (particularly “Las Meninas”) with the modern composition style of Degas, Sargent's image was innovative and captivating, provoking criticism and earning praise at the 1883 Salon, then considered most prestigious art event held in Paris.

Equally interesting, Dr. Hirshler found, was the story of the Boit family. The girls' parents, Ned and Isa Boit, were wealthy American ex-patriots and good friends of Sargent. This connection, and Ned's decision to give up a law career to become a painter, have led many to wonder if this extraordinary work was not a portrait commission but a collaboration in which a fellow artist allowed Sargent the freedom to create a dramatic picture for the Salon.

It is also often noted that the Boits' daughters never married, a fact on which Dr. Hirshler wryly commented, “This does not mean that they were not happy!” Rich and well-connected, they could choose to be independent, which was not unusual among their social class.

### An Enduring Image

In 1919, the Boit daughters officially gave their portrait to the MFA, where—flanked by the actual Japanese vases that appear in the painting—it draws many admirers today. After inviting everyone to visit the museum to explore this and other works in the Art of the Americas gallery, Dr. Hirshler remained for another hour to answer the many questions of interested students. **M**

## Diversity and Identity

Every year, Middlesex celebrates Diversity Day, pausing deliberately to recognize the unique attributes and stories of each individual within the community—and to think about the idea of identity and what shapes each individual.

Spread over several days, diversity events involved the efforts of many, including:

- **Anita '13** and **Nikita Kodali '13**, along with **Nick D'Aiuto '12**, who shared their experiences volunteering abroad last summer; the Kodalis also concluded Diversity Day with a beautiful performance of Kuchipudi, an Indian style of dance.
- **The Reverend Joe Watkins '71**, nationally known political analyst and pastor, who was among the first African-American students to attend Middlesex. “If you have an education like this, you are not meant to be a casual bystander,” he said, urging students to address problems and injustices, not simply lament them. Joe came to campus with a number of Middlesex alumni, all of whom were invited to attend a first-ever Alumni Diversity Day.
- WITNESS Managing Director **Jenni Wolfson** (at right), who returned to campus on February 4 to present her play, *RASH*, which conveys her own experience working as a UN human rights observer in Rwanda soon after the 1994 genocide.

## Video Activism See It; Film It; Change It

As real-time footage of Arab Spring demonstrations proved last year, the prevalence of cell phones with video capabilities—and fast Internet access—can enable anyone to document history as it unfolds, violence and all.

But the power of video to inform and transform the world is far from a new concept for Jenni Wolfson, who talked about her work as the managing director of WITNESS on January 31. Co-founded in 1992 by musician Peter Gabriel, Human Rights First, and the Reebok Human Rights Foundation, WITNESS is an international nonprofit organization that “uses the power of video and storytelling to open the eyes of the world to human rights abuses.” For the past 20 years, WITNESS has provided video equipment and training to thousands of human rights activists in 80 countries, enabling them to record personal stories of abuse and bring them to the attention of key decision makers, the media, and the public—seeking justice for the crimes perpetrated.

“If a picture is worth 1000 words,” Ms. Wolfson pointed out, “What is a video worth?”

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, she continued, a video about the widespread enlistment of child soldiers resulted in the arrest of one warlord, whose criminal trial is awaiting a verdict. Another video about the horrors experienced by child soldiers appealed to families to discourage them from allowing their children to enlist.

Though cell phones and YouTube have facilitated the mission of WITNESS, two challenges remain unchanged: privacy and authentication. Protecting victims who share their stories from punishment, or even execution, is a critical concern that WITNESS tries to address by obscuring faces on film and formally seeking permission to use stories. Verifying authenticity of videos is also important, a task that is being made easier with technology that captures specific time and location data during filming.

“This is a most exciting time for WITNESS,” Ms. Wolfson affirmed. “The potential for using video to create real change is huge, and today we are hearing new voices from near and far.” **M**



Jenni Wolfson performs her original play, *RASH*, a “true story about life, love, and landmines,” on Diversity Day. (Photo: Jay Welch '13)



## Taking on a New Challenge

### Dan Scheibe to Lead Lawrence Academy

After 14 years of serving on the Middlesex faculty as a teacher, coach, mentor, dorm head, and administrator, Assistant Head of School Dan Scheibe has accepted a new appointment as the head of school for Lawrence Academy in Groton, Massachusetts.

Dan came to Middlesex in 1998 to coordinate the School's efforts in spiritual and ethical education, a position that involved not only teaching religious studies and English but also overseeing the Wednesday morning Chapel Program. It proved to be an auspicious time to assume this role. A project that produced a new School hymnal was completed early in

Dan's tenure, and in 2002, a beautiful renovation of the Chapel was executed that included a new organ, additional seating, and a spacious, new classroom. As Dan's role grew, he created distinctive, popular courses such as "Mindfulness," "Ethics of Work," and "Building a Life Philosophy." In addition, he found inspiring and thought-provoking speakers for all-school Evening Chapels held throughout the year. In 2005, Dan initiated Middlesex's All-School

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*As many seniors have said in their own prose from the chapel, Middlesex is a fine school but perhaps a finer community of people.*

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Read, beginning with the book *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. Every summer since, he has judiciously chosen or coordinated reading selections to initiate discussions on a theme or topic; these conversations have then continued during the year through chapel programming. Issues raised by different ASR assignments have ranged from social justice to global citizenship to personal well-being and purpose. These themes, in turn, have come to anchor the chapel program that he has thoughtfully developed.

In 2006, Dan became the assistant head of school, taking on a variety of additional responsibilities, from overseeing faculty recruitment and supervision to project managing a complete rebuild of the School's website to working with trustee committees responsible for long-range planning, marketing and communications, and academic and community life. He has developed a deep and comprehensive understanding of all aspects of school life and education, a background that will serve him well as a head of school.

Looking back on the past 14 years, Dan reflects, "While I am obviously grateful for the

opportunities I have had to experience Middlesex life fully, what I feel most is pure affection for the place. As many seniors have said in their own prose from the chapel, Middlesex is a fine school but perhaps a finer community of people.”

Dan spent his own secondary schooling years at Taft and earned a B.A. in literature at Yale University before heading to Jakarta International School, where he taught English for a year. Returning to the U.S., he joined the faculty as a class dean at Blair Academy, where he created and taught the English curriculum for international students, served as a dorm head, and coached soccer, squash, and baseball. He then completed his M.Div. at Princeton’s Theological Seminary and an M.A.L.S. at Wesleyan University prior to arriving at Middlesex.

For Dan’s students and colleagues, the news of his appointment is bittersweet; though sorry to see a valued teacher, advisor, and friend move on, the community is nonetheless pleased to see him take this next step in his career. Happily, the Scheibe family—Dan’s wife, Annie Montesano, and their four children, Lilly, Tad, Peter, and Hans—will not be far away and perhaps might often be seen on the sidelines of future games with Lawrence Academy. **M**

## Community Service Relay For Life Returns

A year ago, when Danielle Doctor ’11 asked permission to organize a Relay For Life fundraiser at Middlesex to benefit the American Cancer Society (ACS), she never imagined the endeavor would be repeated in 2012. “It just seemed like an event that would be good for Middlesex,” Danielle recalls. “It would bring the community together for a good cause and be fun at the same time.”

She was right. The five-hour walk on campus back in April 2011 involved more than 150 students, faculty, and staff and successfully raised \$17,000—about twice the amount mini-relays typically achieve. “It just shows that our community is a strong one when we come together,” says Danielle, now a freshman at Boston University. “Middlesex was the perfect place to hold it because everything came together around the Circle. It was an inspiring day and a worthwhile event.”

As early as last summer, this year’s senior leaders of Middlesex’s Cancer Awareness Group started talking with their advisor, Sarah Moss Cohane ’95, about holding another relay. “This

is really the students’ initiative,” says Sarah, “and they are an impressive, dedicated group.” As the ACS liaison helping Middlesex, Ashlee Iber adds, “It’s fantastic to have a whole team working on it. This year, we have two faculty members and six students coordinating the event.”

Set for April 28, the 2012 Relay For Life will again be a five-hour event open to the whole school. Teams of walkers have been signing up to participate, committing to have one team member walking around the Circle at all times. Music, food, games, and candlelit memorials will help make this an evening of celebration, hope, and remembrance.

In addition to funding research, the proceeds will be used for a variety of programs and services that help patients, caregivers, and survivors, including summer camps for pediatric cancer patients, lodging for those who must travel far from home for treatment, and transportation to and from medical appointments. “Cancer affects many people and their families,” Ashlee says. “All of our support programs are for everyone.” **M**





On the morning of their first full day in London, Middlesex students were treated to a tour of the Globe Theatre with Director Nick Hutchison.

## A British Backstage Pass

Tours of the Globe and the National Theatres, acting workshops with a professional director, tickets to a different show every night, and a little time to tour the city and its sights—Middlesex’s 2012 trip to London included all of these experiences during March break. This incredible opportunity is chaperoned every other year by Theatre Director Tom Kane and Director of Financial Aid Erika Prah. This year, 15 Middlesex students enjoyed the chance to explore the world of British theatre from all angles—backstage, on stage, and from the audience.

Using London as their base—and studio space at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA) for acting workshops—Middlesex thespians also visited Charterhouse in Surrey for an additional workshop and watched the school’s performance of the classic British farce *Mr. Quigley’s Revenge*. A trip to Oxford and Stratford rounded out the ambitious itinerary, which ended with catching two acclaimed shows at the National Theatre before heading home to Boston.

### Metaphor and Movement

For Ellie Charchenko ’13, hearing Director Nick Hutchison talk about Shakespeare as a writer who also thoroughly understood acting was especially enlightening, as was the visit to Charterhouse, where their hosts were welcoming and the acting workshop involving masks challenged everyone to communicate convincingly without using facial expressions. The chance to see such a wide range of shows while in England was a bonus, too. “I’m a dancer,” Ellie says, “and so I especially liked a play produced by the company DV8 called *Can We Talk About This?* It was written from real interviews on the subjects of free speech, multiculturalism, and Islam—but the actors were dancing while speaking their lines.”

By contrast, the final show the group enjoyed was the enduring comedy *She Stoops to Conquer*. “We were laughing the entire time,” Ellie remembers. “It was a great choice for our last night.”

### An Acting Alumna

Another highlight of the trip was meeting up with Mary Mallen ’07, whom Tom brought to London on a similar Middlesex tour only six years ago. “Since then,” Tom says, “Mary has completed her undergraduate degree in acting at RADA, and this year, she performed in Conor McPherson’s *The Veil* at the National Theatre. She was helpful in sharing her first-hand experience of what is like to be making a life in the theatre in London, and she introduced us to some of her friends backstage at the Royal Court Theatre after a performance of *In Basildon*.”

From Buckingham Palace to Hoxton Hall to Shakespeare’s birthplace, the group covered a lot of territory in just eight days of travel. Perhaps like Mary, a few of this year’s participants will be similarly inspired to pursue theatrical careers. **M**

# Tartuffe

*November 11–12, 2011*

*Directed by Tom Kane*

*Technical Direction by Ryan DuBray*

*Production Design by the Theatre Design Class:*

Shannon Daly '12, Olivia Gomez '12,

Yih-Jen Ku '12

*Photography by Robert D. Perachio*

Tirades and scandals, romantic entanglements and family feuds—was this really a 17th century play, or could it be a modern-day reality television show? Amused and inspired by the parallel themes, the Middlesex Theatre Department staged Molière's famous comedy as a 21st century multimedia production, complete with big-screen close-ups and confidential asides. The technical complexity of the endeavor depended upon the teamwork of a dozen actors and a dozen crew members, whose adept collaboration delivered a fresh interpretation of the playwright's 12-syllable rhyming couplets.



# Team Highlights

For more sports news visit  
<http://athletics.mxschool.edu>



## Boys' Soccer

Topping BB&N and St. George's at the season's close, the boys' varsity earned a spot in the New England Tournament for the second year in a row. Co-captain Toby Porter '12 (at left) and 2012 Captain-elect Philip Skayne '13 were both named All-League and All-State, also earning invitations to their respective Senior and Junior NEPSA All-Star games. Also a Senior All-Star selection, teammate Haden Cosman '12 received an All-League Honorable Mention.



## Football

(At right) Co-captain Nathan Canniff '12 (#74) opens a hole for fellow Co-captain Devin Chapman '12 (#2) to make another long run on the way to a 35-13 win against Brooks. Devin was the team's leading scorer for the second straight year.



(Below) Fullback Mike Pigula '12 (#42) picks up a key first down running behind tackle Alex Fuchs '12 (#68) and guard David Shapiro '12 (#52).



## Field Hockey

A novice goalie as a Middlesex freshman, Co-captain Katie White '12 makes another tremendous save in a big win over Lawrence. Her performance merited an All-League Honorable Mention and a place on the NEPSAC All-Tournament Team; she will play for Hamilton College next year.



## Girls' Soccer

Co-captain Elizabeth Turpin '12 ended her four-year varsity tenure on a high note by scoring the winning goal against BB&N in the final road game of the season. Named All-League for the second consecutive year, she was also named All-State.

# History Repeats with Three League MVPs

Back in 2003, three classmates—Chad Gaudet '04 (football), Mollie Mattuchio '04 (soccer), and Devon Shapiro '04 (field hockey)—each earned the title of Boston Globe All-Scholastic. Last fall, for the second time within a decade, three Middlesex athletes were named the League MVP in their respective sports by vote of the ISL coaches.



## Stark '12 Retains Title

She is the first Middlesex runner to win the League MVP award twice—and Emily Stark '12 has certainly earned that honor. In her second year as co-captain, she completed an undefeated ISL and NEPSTA season, routinely setting course records. Winning the ISL race by a margin of 1:08—the second largest in league history—she quickly outdid herself by winning the New England C Division by a margin of 1:20, simultaneously setting a new course record.

And that was just the 2011 season. During her Middlesex career, Emily has broken seven ISL and four New England course records, leading her teams to

four New England Championships. She has also enjoyed success in track, both at Middlesex and at the USATF Junior Olympic National Championships, where she earned All-American honors in her division. With one last track season left, she has already amassed an extraordinary athletic record, one that she can build upon competing for Yale.

## Randon '13 Takes the Lead

Named All-New England three times and All-League twice in cross-country, James Randon '13 has established an impressive Middlesex record. As a 2011 co-captain, he won both the ISL Championship and the NEPSTA

Championship races, helping his team finish second in the league and first in Division C.

“James is really the engine driving things,” confirms Coach Jim Beaton. “He sets a high standard for commitment to running but always with a bright and positive spirit.”

Gaining momentum in track, too, James will co-captain the spring team before returning to lead cross-country again in the fall.

## All-American Sabky '12

With 17 goals and 17 assists last fall, Field Hockey Co-captain Tabby Sabky '12 was a key contributor to her team's second-place finish in the ISL and the

New England Class B Tournament. Earning All-League, All-Tournament, and League MVP honors, Tabby continued to win post-season recognition as a Second Team National All-American – only the second player in the last 20 years of Middlesex field hockey to receive such a distinct honor.

Also outstanding in the classroom, Tabby was named to the 2011 Gladiator by SGI/NFHCA High School Academic Squad, an honor she shared with teammate Alanna Fagan '12. Alanna is headed to the University of Virginia next year, while Tabby will play for Dartmouth.

# Team Highlights

For more sports news visit  
<http://athletics.mxschool.edu>

## Girls' Hockey

Co-captain Eliza Noyes '12 is poised for the faceoff against St. Mark's. With a stellar record of 22-3, the girls' varsity finished second in the ISL and in the Class B Championship battle, narrowly losing 4-5 in overtime to Proctor.



## Boys' Basketball

Captain Tyson Hallowell '12 puts up two points in a close match-up with Roxbury Latin. As his team's leading scorer with 13 points per game, he was named All-League and will play for Emerson College next year.



## Girls' Basketball

With her team right behind her, leading scorer and Co-captain Elizabeth Turpin '12 drives to the hoop in a game with Nobles.

## Boys' Hockey

Chasing down a loose puck in action versus Rivers, AJ Lucchese '13 earned an All-League Honorable Mention and will captain the varsity next winter. Highlights of this year's 12-9-1 season included victories over Brooks (2-1) and St. Mark's (3-0).



## Wrestling

Shown turning the corner on another opponent, Anthony Blanco '12 filled in for an injured captain this season and had a standout run, with wins over tough competitors.

# A Winning Winter



Designated the NEPSAC Player of the Year for Division II and a Boston Globe All-Scholastic, Co-captain Jordan Juron '12 was also named All-League, along with three teammates: Ashley Arnold '13, Cici Frattasio '14, and Maddie Winslow '14.

## Girls' Squash Takes Title

Competing at the National High School Championships in Connecticut on February 3-5, the girls' varsity squash team finished the weekend 4-0, capturing the Division III Championship.

Middlesex played a deep Greenwich Academy JV in the semifinals, but prevailed in some tight matches lower on the ladder to win the match 7-0. Facing Westover in the finals, Middlesex

ultimately earned the title after a series of hard-fought matches. The team went on to finish its season with a 9-8 record in the highly competitive ISL.

## Alpine Achievements

On a tension-filled, last day of the Independent School League season, Middlesex skiers were fired up for a last chance to prove themselves in 2012, as the girls pushed to break Nobles' undefeated

run this season, while the boys needed to defeat a talented Belmont Hill squad in order to claim the first ISL title in the history of Middlesex alpine racing.

At the end of the day, the girls wrapped up second place in the league by a wide margin, just nine points behind an extraordinarily strong Nobles team.

Meanwhile, the Middlesex boys—knowing they needed a victory in the final race to realize their goal—dedicated themselves to knowing the course as well as possible in order to squeeze every millisecond out of it that they could. In the end, their work and perseverance paid off. Captains Spencer Bienvenue '12 and Grant Barnhart '13 led the boys to their best giant slalom performance of the season, and six Middlesex racers finished in the top 16.

Truly a team effort, this was an exhilarating win that capped an historic season for the boys' and girls' teams.



The captains of the 2011-12 Alpine Ski team—Grant Barnhart '12, Nina Harrison '12, Spencer Bienvenue '12, and Emma Clark '12—gather for a photo after their strong performances at the NEPSAC Class B Championships on February 15. The girls successfully defended their New England Championship title with a victory margin of nearly 20 points, while the boys finished second among 15 teams. Closing out the season on February 22, the girls finished just behind undefeated Nobles, and the boys earned their first ISL Championship.

## Hockey Standout Juron '12

A talented, tri-varsity athlete, Jordan Juron '12 has made an impact at Middlesex, especially on the ice. The girls' hockey co-captain finished the 2011-12 season with 40 goals and 34 assists—and several awards. An All-League selection for the second consecutive year, Jordan was also named the New England Division II Player of the Year and a Boston Globe All-Scholastic.

"Jordan is consistently a dangerous threat in the offensive zone," says Coach Kate Hession, "and either directly or indirectly contributed to the vast majority of our goals this past season. Her fiercely competitive spirit and passion for the game extend far beyond the rink and motivate her teammates to give their best every day."

After closing her last Middlesex season as a co-captain of varsity softball, Jordan will play hockey at Boston University.



The Boiler Room: currently the primary source of heat for most of Middlesex's buildings.

# Maintaining Middlesex

*“Sustainability” may be something of a buzzword these days, but at Middlesex, it is a broad way of thinking that is resulting in clearly defined goals and positive changes on campus. A term with social, environmental, and economic implications, sustainability is about responsible stewardship, today and in the years ahead.*

**F**or Head of School Kathy Giles, a statement she heard at a recent conference put the idea of sustainability in the broadest possible perspective. “A board of trustees,” one presenter stated, “has no living constituents.”

It’s a daunting thought that any school’s leadership must bear in mind the distant, unknown future when trying to make decisions today about the prudent management of its resources. Difficult as that may be, however, Mrs. Giles sees this long-range, comprehensive

view—a cornerstone of sustainability—as being helpful and necessary when thinking critically and constructively about many aspects of Middlesex.

“As we update the School’s strategic plan, we are going to talk about sustainability in a variety of venues,” she explains. “For example, sustaining this terrific opportunity for young people right now requires us to address the physical needs of the campus and to do so in such a way that we maintain our financial stability. Another branch of sustainability concerns the rather

torrid pace of life for youngsters today. Can a 14-year-old student sustain a traditionally rigorous curriculum, along with athletic commitments that have become much less casual, and also take private music lessons, as one-third of our students do, and still maintain that online life and presence our students find necessary? How does an adolescent come up with the energy to do all of that?" Directly related to that, she adds, is the issue of faculty energy and their ability to maintain a similar pace.

"Time, money, and energy are all finite resources," summarizes Chief Operating Officer Matt Crozier. "Taking into consideration all the demands of a place like Middlesex and the needs of adolescents as they grow, we are trying to build a community that can become self-sustaining, where the financial resources that we have will maintain and build a program of excellence for its own sake."

While conversations about many aspects of the School's program and community are just beginning, one issue that is already being discussed, analyzed, and actively addressed is resource sustainability: Middlesex's consumption of oil, electricity, and water.

### Getting Started, Setting Goals

A confluence of people and events last spring spurred immediate progress in this segment of the School's sustainability efforts. A generous gift from a Middlesex alumna enabled the School to undertake a number of energy-saving measures in the summer, including putting high-efficiency T5 lighting in the Cage, upgrading lighting management systems in two other large buildings, and installing power-saving devices and monitoring systems on "power hog" appliances around campus. Simply by changing the lighting in the Cage and the rink—a project set for this summer—the School will save an estimated \$5,000 to \$10,000 each year. Continuing its work in this vein, the School plans to make more of these kinds of installations to improve the monitoring and control of its electrical usage.

While plans were being made for last summer's upgrades, a Sustainability Task Force was established at Middlesex to include

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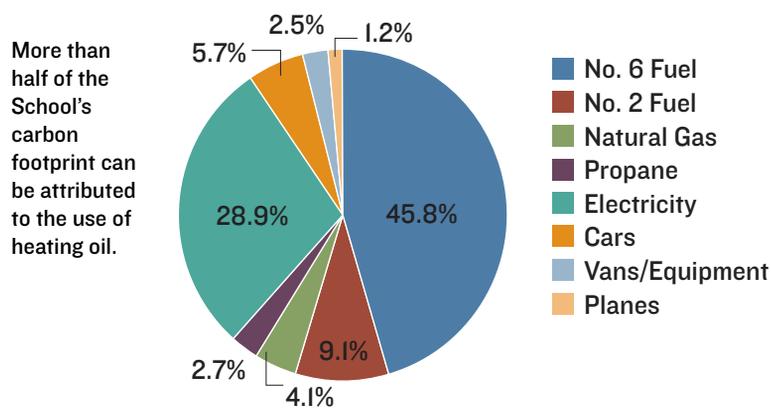
*"Taking into consideration all the demands of a place like Middlesex and the needs of adolescents as they grow, we are trying to build a community that can become self-sustaining, where the financial resources that we have will maintain and build a program of excellence for its own sake."*

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trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, and interested students in discussions about the School's use of energy and natural resources. To help with these efforts, Middlesex also joined the Green Schools Alliance, a nonprofit, global network of nearly 3,000 schools that work together to implement sustainable, energy-smart solutions and to exchange information and "best practices."

One suggested goal of the Green Schools Alliance is for schools to aim for a 20 to 30 percent reduction in their carbon footprint—an idea that struck Matt as an intriguing challenge that could have multiple benefits, particularly given soaring oil prices. "We are trying to make all of our sustainability efforts work in parallel with our financial capabilities," he states. "With this suggested goal in mind, our first big initiative has become changing our fuel source to natural gas, which we now know will reduce our carbon footprint by at least 20 percent and will also create savings in our budget. It's the marriage of good stewardship practices with strong economic rationale."

**Fuel Usage Contributing to Middlesex's Carbon Footprint**





T-shirts designed especially for the occasion were distributed to the entire school community after the launch of Middlesex's Sustainability initiative in February.

### Carbon Data

For decades, Middlesex's centralized heating plant has relied on fuel oil, a less clean and efficient form of energy. Within the last five years, the School has been able to switch two faculty homes and Robert Winsor House to cleaner, more efficient natural gas heating systems when renovation or repair projects made that transfer possible. But making the same change on a larger scale did not seem feasible until a detailed energy assessment and cost analysis was recently completed by faculty member Mike Pandolfini, who initially came to Middlesex in 2010 to cover a sabbatical in the math department. Having previously worked in energy investment at a private equity firm, Mike contributed his expertise and enthusiasm to the Sustainability Task Force.

Working with Matt, Mike first pulled together the data necessary to calculate the School's carbon footprint, taking into account three years of fuel and electricity usage. Ultimately, Middlesex's carbon footprint was calculated to be about 4309 metric tons of  $eCO_2$  each year—but what did that mean? Because equivalent data for peer independent schools was not readily available, Middlesex had to measure its carbon footprint against that of colleges and universities—an exercise that showed the School's figure compares favorably on a per person basis.

Knowing that natural gas produces less carbon than fuel oil, Matt and Mike projected

what it would cost to change the School's centralized heating plant to a dual-fuel system that could burn a higher grade of oil and natural gas. Concurrently, they estimated what it would cost to decentralize heating, creating several zones on campus with separate, natural gas-fired boilers that would further increase energy efficiency by decreasing the distance heat would travel from furnace to building. The results were a rare and pleasant surprise: both options would not only significantly reduce the School's carbon footprint but were also highly cost effective.

### Moving Forward

"This is one of those investments in the campus that would be incredibly powerful," says Mrs. Giles. "For Middlesex to establish a cleaner, more efficient, less expensive way of heating the School's facilities will be invaluable. And the financial payback period is astonishing. This is an upgrade to an antique campus that is much needed and, going forward, this project will free up close to a quarter of a million dollars in operating expenses."

With the Middlesex Board's approval last January, engineering studies are now underway to determine more precisely the costs of decentralizing the heating system versus upgrading the current steam plant. Once these figures are in, the Board will determine which direction to take. In either scenario, the School's carbon footprint stands to be reduced by at least 20 percent, and the cost of the project will pay for itself within three to five years.

Understanding that fossil fuels are not the only options to be considered, Matt and Mike are also investigating other forms of energy, including the use of solar panels. "We will analyze solar energy in the same way that we did fuel usage," Matt says. "We want to address the fuel situation first and then go from there. We are trying to take advantage of existing technology that we know works, yet still remain flexible for the future."

### Cultivation and Conservation

Reducing Middlesex's carbon footprint is one important focus of the School and its

Sustainability Task Force. A related area of interest concerns the School's food supply and the energy required to grow, harvest, and transport it to campus. To see if the community can successfully manage to produce some of its own food, the task force's Farm Subcommittee has designated a garden plot on campus, and plans are underway to grow a single crop there this year as an initial experiment. With the assistance of Gaining Ground—a Concord enterprise that grows organic vegetables and fruit for area food pantries and meal programs—the School has connected with a local farmer, who will assist volunteer students and faculty members with the process of soil preparation and crop cultivation.

"The dream for the farm," says Mike, "is to make us a little less dependent on outside resources. Whether we could generate some of our own food or sell it to a food service—it's all about conserving our natural resources, whether it's gas, food, electricity, or water."

Although water usage may not be considered in carbon footprint calculations, the School intends to reduce its consumption of this resource as well. During a morning Assembly in February, the Sustainability Task Force's efforts to date were related to the school community, and students and adults were asked to do their part, too, by being more conscientious about shutting off lights, computers, and charging devices when they are not needed. Furthermore, an upcoming Water Wars competition was announced for the month of April to see which dormitory could use the fewest gallons of water per person during that time span. At the end of that Assembly, "Sustainability" was officially launched as a school-wide initiative, and t-shirts made especially for the event were distributed to everyone to encourage them to help reduce Middlesex's environmental impact on the planet.

### **A Collaborative Effort**

In making significant changes to heating and lighting systems throughout the campus—while also continuing to make other efficiency improvements during building renovations—Middlesex is working toward

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*"We want to address the fuel situation first and then go from there. We are trying to take advantage of existing technology that we know works, yet still remain flexible for the future."*

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consuming and spending less, important steps toward sustainability. "From both environmental and financial standpoints," observes Mike, "there is a lot we can do. And when you look at the payback, it's worth making changes sooner rather than later."



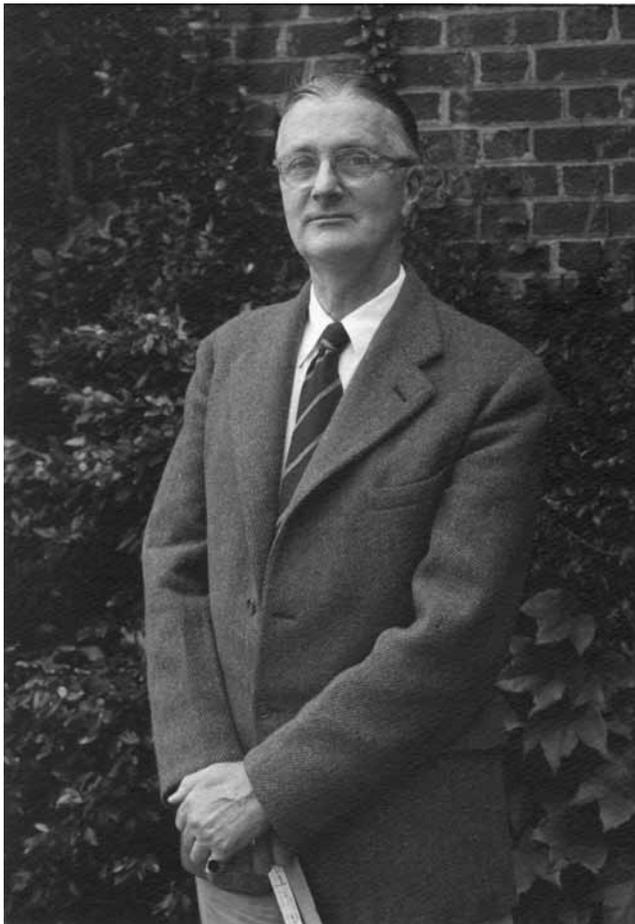
This spring, the Middlesex Board will decide whether to swap oil-burning boilers like these for dual-fuel models or to make a complete switch to natural gas.

"It's fantastic that we have had the personnel to work on this," concludes Mrs. Giles, "and we are grateful for the alumni interest in and early gifts for this project that have made changes in our lighting and energy use possible. This is one of those terrific projects where concerned members of the family have met with ready interest and in-house resources to come up with solutions that will improve and sustain the School in the long-term."

With this kind of progress and momentum, future discussions about the sustainability of other elements of Middlesex School are certain to be equally fruitful. **M**

*With nearly a third of the School enrolled in its electives every semester, Middlesex's flourishing visual arts program owes a great deal to those who nurtured it in earlier years—among them, Russell Kettell '10. A graduate of the School's first decade, Russ was eminently suited to teach woodworking and an appreciation for the arts to Middlesex students for 35 years. Somehow, while fulfilling all the duties of a full-time faculty member, he developed a second career as published authority on early American pine furniture and decorative arts. With his remarkable range of talents, he was indeed . . .*

# A Master of Arts



**A**s he carefully recorded in the mandatory (yet newsy) weekly letters to his parents, young Russell Hawes Kettell was all of about five feet tall and 80 pounds when he enrolled at Middlesex in September of 1906, the School's sixth year of operation. And though his parents' notes to his housemaster frequently centered on their son's delicate health and difficulty with languages, Russell's correspondence reveals his enthusiasm for nearly every aspect of boarding school life—even the cold shower each morning. From the creative nicknames the boys gave each other and the pranks they played, to the excitement of athletic rivalries and the guidance of formidable masters, Russ clearly enjoyed his Middlesex years and documented them well, not only in his letters home but in a thick scrapbook filled with photographs, drawings, newspaper clippings, play programs, and dance cards.

In turn, he made an equally favorable impression on the faculty, one of whom wrote to the Kettells in June 1910, "It is with great regret that I send you the last of Russell's school reports... we shall miss Russell from our house as we have missed few boys." While Russ studied at Harvard, first as an undergraduate and then as a graduate student in architecture, Head Master Frederick Winsor and other faculty members regularly sought his assistance with projects, asking him to design new mastheads for the *Anvil* and to

supervise the finishing work of the School's Lee Newman '17 Memorial Hospital.

Once, in 1917, while responding to another of the Head Master's requests for help, Russ took the opportunity to put into words what Mr. Winsor's teachings and Middlesex had meant to him:

"I really believe that with the exception of the influence of my greatest blessings—my mother and father—in no other way have I been so definitely influenced in forming my ideas of what is right and what is wrong as by the short talks that you gave us in the mornings.

A boy does so little thinking for himself! The armor with which he must enter college is made to such an extent of little pieces of someone else's manufacture that he has hung about him simply because they appealed to him....I hope you will be able to understand how I feel on just one of the many subjects that keep the School to me always a very living interest."

Given his affection for Middlesex—and the School's appreciation of his abilities—perhaps it is not surprising that Russ joined the faculty in 1921 as the "instructor in manual training and drawing." Yet, curiously, he does not seem to have ever shared stories of his own happy student days with his Middlesex charges, who remained unaware that he was a graduate of the School. "That was probably a wise decision on his part," comments Pebo Browne '53. "He was standing on his own feet, and you had to judge him for himself and not where he came from." Thus, through his own kind example and enthusiasm for the arts, Russ became the same kind of influential figure that he had valued highly.

### **Friendly, Fair-Minded**

"Kettell was one of those caring, warm individuals who looked after the kids in his house, who liked to teach, and who had a good sense of humor," summarizes Frank

Millet '36, a legendary educator himself who continues to work at Milton Academy after 67 years. "He was very fair to the kids and had no axe to grind."

Known as "Mother Kettell" early in his tenure for his attentive oversight of those in his dorm, he was dubbed "Rusty Kettle" for most of his Middlesex career. "He was a perennial favorite," recalls Pebo, "and on occasion, when entering or leaving a big

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*Curiously, Kettell does not seem to have ever shared stories of his own happy student days with his Middlesex charges, who remained unaware that he was a graduate of the School.*

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classroom, some well-meaning student in the back row might yell out, 'Hi, Rusty!' But it was always in good spirit."

In later years, he became "Granny," according to Rufus Frost '58, who adds, "I think everybody liked him—it was hard not to like him."

His genial nature and hospitality made his dorm "one of the favorite houses to get

**Student days at Middlesex:** Russ Kettell '10 carefully pasted this photograph of the 1907 Third football team into his scrapbook; the only one not dressed for play, he is pictured in the upper right-hand corner.



The woodworking shop (now a French classroom) in Eliot Hall was one of the domains supervised by Mr. Kettell.

into,” recalls Charlie Henderson ’40. At the opening of the school year, as Gary Stradling ’49 details, each master was responsible for hosting a party for the new boys in his house. “Russ would bend over backwards to come up with special things for the party, like cupcakes—unlike another notoriously stingy master, who would offer something like peanut butter and crackers,” he laughs. “Russ was not a cheapskate; he was very generous with his time and with his help. I think he was particularly helpful to those of us who were difficult.”

Russ was by no means a pushover, however, as former Middlesex Art Department Head Loring Coleman ’38 can attest. “He was full of good humor, but if you broke the rules, he could get very angry,” Loring says. Recounting an episode when he had hidden food in his Higginson House closet—against the rules at the time—Loring remembers being taken by surprise one evening. “I was sitting on my bed,” he recalls, “and Russ burst in, threw open my closet door, and swept *everything* in my closet onto the floor as a lesson to me: don’t hide food from the housemaster. I had all kinds of goodies! And he was furious. But I will say this: he never seemed to hold a grudge.”

### Artful Lessons

Like other faculty members, Russ had coaching commitments to fulfill in addition to his dorm duties. An agile tennis player, he coached the Middlesex varsity for all 35 years and also became the goalie coach for the hockey team and the cinematographer for varsity football, filming every game for the benefit of the program. Yet, as Charlie Henderson observes, “The classroom was the place where Kettell shone. He was very encouraging. He had a wonderful way of drawing and carving.”

Initially in charge of the School’s manual training classes—created in accordance with a philosophy of the time that working with one’s hands enhanced the intellect—Russ taught everything from simple carpentry to freehand and mechanical drawing to wood carving, guiding each senior through the requirement of completing a plaque before graduation. (When the School needed it, he also taught math.) Listed as the “master of arts” by 1927, Russ offered electives in art history and architecture, also creating exhibits in Ware Hall to introduce students to different artists, styles, and mediums. Collections of etchings, paintings, sculpture, and even manuscripts were displayed for the boys to peruse, providing visual lessons to all who paused for a look.

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*“When he was teaching you something, you were the most important person in the world. He was absolutely, totally attentive to you.”*

— Jere Farrington ’37

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Although many recall carving plaques alongside Russ, his best-remembered course appears to be geography, taken by all students in the lower grades. Here, too, Russ applied manual training methods, requiring his pupils to learn about the world by drawing maps. “They had to be very detailed, and they had to be accurate,” Loring stresses. “To ensure that students did not simply trace the maps from the atlas,” Pebo recalls, “he

demanded a larger scale, which was rather clever. This way, one really grasped the vagaries of political boundaries, locations of rivers, mountain chains, and the like. We made political maps, population maps, and geodetic maps. Some students embellished their creations with small drawings—a snake charmer in India or a spouting whale off Tierra del Fuego. I loved these exercises.”

“I remember one exam on which we were asked to take a cruise around South America and name every country—which was a good question to ask,” Renny Little ’51 approves. “I still make my capital letters in the calligraphic way that he instructed us back then,” adds Renny’s classmate, Tom Bisbee ’51.

### An Individual Approach

Russ’ creativity in the classroom was a notable strength, as was his open-minded way of treating students as individuals. In the last month of his life, Louis McCagg ’48 took the time to articulately describe this approach, writing, “Russell Kettell took personal, as opposed to professional, interest in his pupils. This came naturally to him. He’d go out of his way to point out some little nuance that could enlighten a student’s seeing and understanding of an object that he revealed to you. That he took the time to focus was a vibe a student quickly recognized and, with such recognition, would try harder.”

Jere Farrington ’37 confirms, “He had a remarkable quality I’ve only ever found in four or five people. When he was teaching you something, you were the most important person in the world. He was absolutely, totally attentive to you.”

Moreover, when Russ noticed a particular aesthetic interest or aptitude in a student, he would make an effort to nurture it. A long-time antiques dealer and authority on early American ceramics and glass, Gary Stradling remembers Russ showing him a catalogue from Swann’s Auction Galleries in his senior year. “He kind of got me into antiques,” Gary says. “He would involve us in things that we might have an interest in. He certainly never pushed; he would merely say, ‘I just acquired an old chair. Would you like to see it?’”

Recognizing Loring’s extraordinary talents, Russ urged the Colemans to give their son



more opportunities to paint. “He used to take me and a few other students painting,” Loring recalls, “and this was my first experience, I think, with sitting down and painting outdoors from nature.” In his recently published autobiography, *Living and Painting in a Changing New England*, Loring pays tribute to Russ’ influence, which eventually extended to helping Loring step into Russ’ job as he neared retirement from Middlesex.

### The Carving Tradition

Few alumni came to know Russ as well as Loring, who gradually made the transition from pupil to colleague when he came back to Middlesex to teach in 1948. “For the first few years,” Loring elaborates, “the senior class was divided in half; I had one half, and he had the other. Russ would supervise my teaching of wood carving, and I had a chance to observe how he taught, which worked very well.”

A student editor of *The Harvard Lampoon* in his undergraduate years, Mr. Kettell later provided humorous cartoons for the *Anvil* and his college reunion newsletters; this drawing in the Middlesex Archives was found slipped into the scrapbook of Benjamin Shreve ’27.

Providing a student's perspective on plaque carving, Pebo candidly relates, "While dexterous and creative students rather liked the exercise, many found it drudgery, and procrastination would set in. But you didn't get a diploma unless the plaque was completed! Somehow, Mr. Kettell always managed to extract a plaque from every graduating senior...and on time, too!"

Thoughtfully, Russ would finish carving the plaques of seniors called to military service during World War II. Letters saved in Middlesex's Archives show that he kept in touch with many of them while they served, and, if he learned that someone had been

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*In 2008, the Concord Museum honored his many contributions with an exhibit called "American Style: Russell Kettell's Pine Furniture," displaying some of the 1000 books and objects that he had given the Museum during his long and active involvement there.*

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Simple, everyday pieces of pine furniture, like these chests, were among the early American objects Russ Kettell prized and collected. (Photo courtesy of The Concord Museum)

killed, he would write to the graduate's parents and enclose photographs of their son's plaque.

Similarly, he would carve memorial plaques when students died before graduating. For Loring's younger brother, who died in 1936 of peritonitis after a ruptured appendix, Russ carved a plaque with his full name, John Linzee Snelling Coleman '41, and the dates of his life. It hangs near those of his classmates in Ware Hall.

### **Behind the Scenes**

Another responsibility that would fall to Loring after Russ' retirement in 1956 was the design and construction of the scenery for all Middlesex theatre productions, especially the lavish Gilbert & Sullivan operettas that were memorably directed by Russ' friend and colleague, Arthur Motter Lamb. "I ended up doing all the sets," says Loring, "and I kept Arthur's sets for the G&S. If they needed repainting, they got repainted. If a piece of scenery was becoming fragile, we rebuilt it. But we kept the sets Russ had made because they were good."

For the entertainment of younger students, Russ would hide within his sets some small, painted animals, two of which are now in the School's Archives thanks to Renny Little. "I would see him painting the scenery, and he would say he was going to tuck an owl in there or a mouse over there," Renny says. "I would always look for his birds and animals, and when the show was over, I would try to collect them. I thought he did a great job with that stage, considering how shallow it was. Rusty was able to design his sets so that they could fit into that area and still have depth."

### **Early American Expertise**

With everything that occupied his time on campus, it seems doubtful that Russ would have had time for much else. But in the world beyond Middlesex, he was a well-known authority on early American furniture and decorative arts. Drawing on his interests in design, woodworking, and architecture, he collected furniture and objects made in colonial America and wrote two landmark books, *The Pine Furniture of Early New England* (1929) and *Early American Rooms*

(1939), which helped others appreciate the aesthetic that he so admired.

Instead of focusing on opulent pieces of silver or mahogany, Russ was fascinated with the simple lines, gentle curves, and worn edges and surfaces of everyday objects that were made to be used. Chairs, candle stands, chests, shelves, mirrors, hinges, weather-vanes—all of these appealed to Russ, and he was generous in sharing his treasures with the Concord Antiquarian Society, now known as the Concord Museum. Working with the Society's president and architect on a brand new building in 1930, Russ was also instrumental in creating a series of domestic interiors called "period rooms," which were then considered state-of-the-art museum installations.

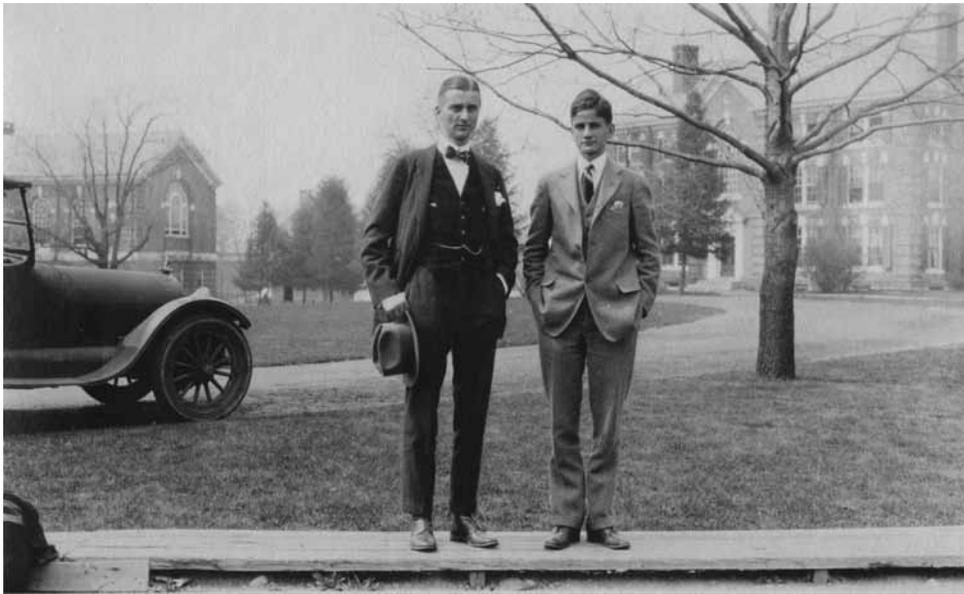
"He was a teacher all the time," remarks David Wood, curator of the Museum today. "You can see it from the way he set up the period rooms. They were arranged to show or teach you something, not just to say, 'Here are a bunch of pretty things.'"

In 2008, the Museum honored his many contributions with an exhibit called "American Style: Russell Kettell's Pine Furniture," displaying some of the 1000 books and objects that he had given the Museum during his long and active involvement there. That their former housemaster would merit such a distinction was a surprise to many Middlesex graduates. "He would praise a picture or a piece of furniture, but I don't think he came out and said he had written a book on this," says Charlie Henderson. "You could tell he was an aficionado, but he was a supremely modest man."

### A Lasting Legacy

Within two years of his retirement from Middlesex, Russ died after a brief illness in May 1958. To this day, however, his interests and influence endure, not only through his books and the Museum he supported—and the Middlesex arts program that he helped sustain—but in the lives of his individual students.

"Mr. Kettell was a gifted and knowledgeable teacher," Pebo Browne reflects. "He was a gentleman in the best manner of the word. I never saw him lose his temper or his cool.



(Above) Mr. Kettell as a new teacher, with Phil Lenhart '23. (Right) This 1956 Yearbook photo shows Mr. Kettell perched on a tower with his movie camera, ready to film another varsity football game.



My knowledge of geography and map reading, as well as early appreciation of art and tennis, was due to him." When Pebo later studied with Vincent Scully, Yale's legendary professor of art history, he realized, "I was well-prepared!"

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*"Somehow, Mr. Kettell always managed to extract a plaque from every graduating senior . . . and on time, too!"*

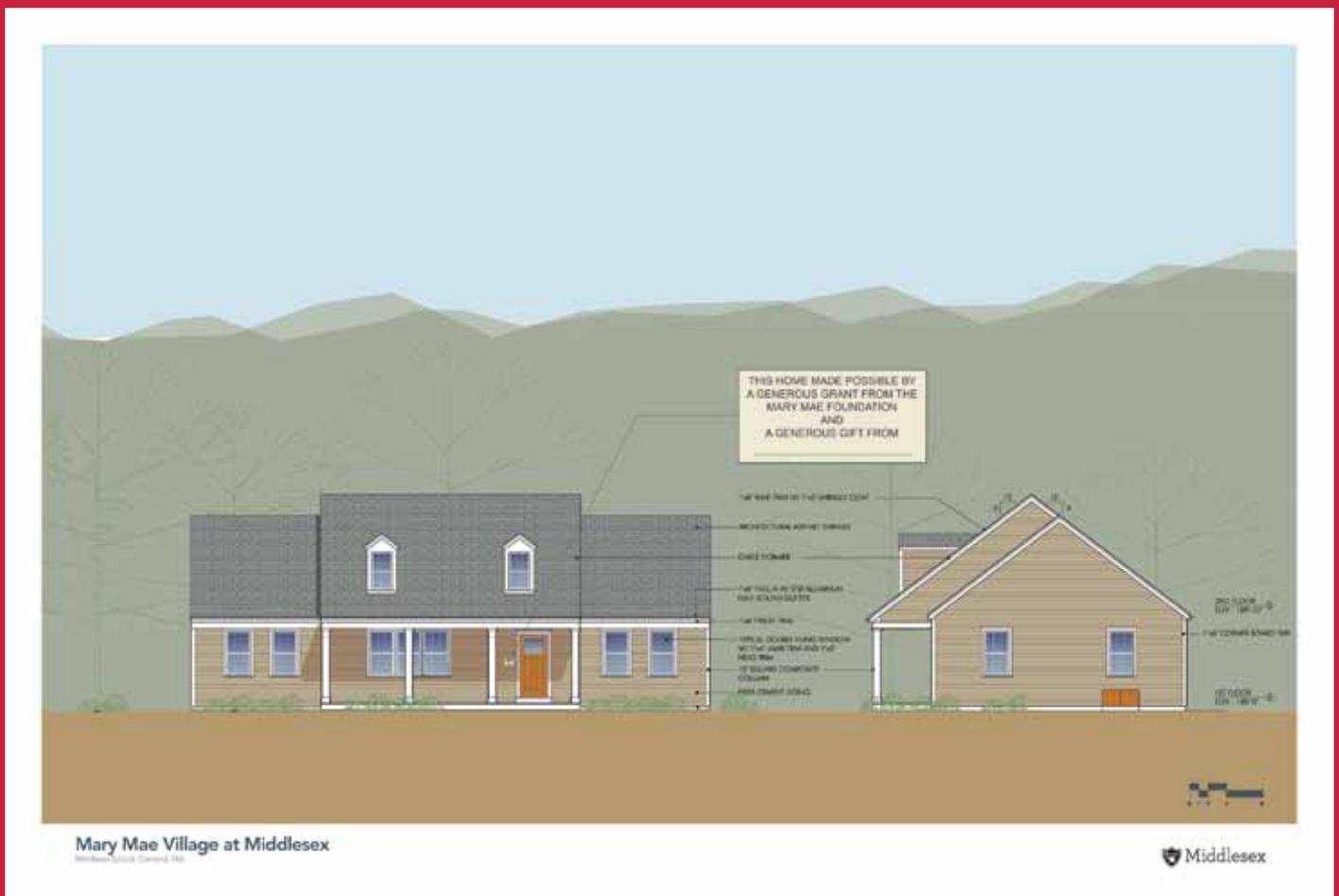
— Pebo Browne '53

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"Kettell took me under his wing and enriched my life in the process," Jere Farrington affirmed when he established the Russell Kettell Fund in 2008 to support Middlesex faculty. Thanks to Russ, Jere developed a deep and lifelong interest in design, American Colonial furniture, and the arts. "His teaching collection of prints and drawings inspired my own modest collecting in the visual arts, and thus has been directly responsible for over 70 years of enjoyment of beautiful things," he adds. "I can never repay Kettell, or Middlesex, for these gifts." **M**

# A Residential Solution

## A Mary Mae Foundation Grant Spurs New Faculty Housing Project



Plans by CBT Architects

It isn't often that a foundation finds and reaches out to an institution, offering to help fulfill one of its needs—yet this is exactly what happened to Middlesex last summer.



(Opposite)  
 A rendering by the firm of CBT Architects provides an idea of the new home's style.

(Left)  
 Sample floor plans for the homes illustrate the efficient use of space in these three-bedroom models.

Out of the blue, in June 2011, the School was contacted by the Mary Mae Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to foster academic excellence by awarding grants to independent schools for the construction of “comfortable, modest, on-campus housing” for teachers. Selecting potential recipients on the basis of “above-average academic achievement,” the Foundation considered Middlesex a strong candidate and invited the School to apply for funding.

Given that the median home price in the Concord area currently hovers around \$685,000 (compared to the Middlesex County median of \$374,000 and the national median of \$175,000), Middlesex’s ability to offer housing to faculty members is indeed critical to attracting and retaining outstanding educators—and to supporting the residential mission



*Given that the median home price in the Concord area currently hovers around \$685,000, Middlesex's ability to offer housing to faculty members is indeed critical to attracting and retaining outstanding educators – and to supporting the residential mission of the School.*

of the School. An application was quickly filed with the Foundation and, after further inquiry and a campus visit, Middlesex was awarded a grant of \$500,000 to put toward building five new faculty homes.

“In terms of the Board’s 2002 statement about being a premier, small, national boarding school,” says Head of School Kathy Giles, “we still have too many faculty members who have to live off campus. This is a fantastic opportunity for Middlesex, and with nine babies born to faculty members this year, it could not come at a better time.”

A working committee of trustees, faculty, and staff has been focused on the many details of the “Mary Mae Village,” as it is currently called. Today, Middlesex is in the active phase of getting the necessary permits to build five homes in the old apple orchard across from the School’s main entrance. If permitting and preparations proceed smoothly, the School hopes to have the homes constructed and delivered in the spring of 2013.

“With each project,” explains Middlesex’s Chief Operating Officer Matt Crozier, “the Foundation is working to improve the cost effectiveness and efficiency of these homes.” Building modular homes will help achieve these goals, as will exploring alternative energy sources.

“These are not big homes,” adds Mrs. Giles, “but they are a huge shot in the arm for our faculty and an investment in the residential community of the School. We’re so grateful to the Mary Mae Foundation for starting this conversation with us, and we’re grateful to the parents and alumni who have stepped up to support this project.”

**For more information on ways to support the Mary Mae Village, please contact Director of Development Heather Parker or Director of Advancement George Noble at 978-369-5110.**

# In Memoriam

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## *Julian S. Carr '31*

The School was recently notified that Julian Shakespeare Carr died on May 1, 2006.

Julian was born on February 4, 1913, in Durham, NC, and moved to Atlanta, GA, as a youth. He attended Middlesex for four years and went on to earn degrees from Virginia Military Institute and Harvard Law School. During World War II, Julian taught mathematics at VMI and later became the first non-Virginian to serve on its governing board. He practiced law in Atlanta for some 50 years with Watkins and Daniel. His 1963 book, *From the Cripple to Khrushchev*, offered a point of view about Soviet Communism in the context of Russian history and predicted that Russia would one day overcome Communist oppression.

A gifted athlete, Julian won Harvard Club of Boston squash tournaments while in law school. Later, he excelled in Piedmont Driving Club tennis competitions, and in 1957, he and his son Julian won the father-and-son tournament there. Active in his community, he was a member of numerous clubs and organizations.

His wife of 67 years, Anne Coppedge Carr, died in 2005. Julian is survived by three sons, Julian, James, and Beauchamp; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and his employee of 42 years, the Reverend Jethro Harden. Three sisters predeceased Julian: Margaret Carr Howell Shoun Levings; Nancy Carr Friendly Dorman Whitney; and Mary Ann Carr Sanger.

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## *M. Jack Strauss, Jr. '34*

Maurice Jack Strauss, Jr. died after a short illness on June 11, 2011, at the age of 95.

The son of Maurice J. and Edith K. Strauss, Jack was born on November 29, 1915, and attended the Horace Mann School in New York City before joining the sixth

class at Middlesex in September 1928. On graduating, he attended Harvard and later served in the U.S. Army Air Force from 1942–46. Heading out to California, Jack eventually began his own business as a general building contractor, a venture he successfully continued into his early 80s.

Jack was also a successful breeder of California-bred thoroughbred racehorses. In 1991, he was given the Breeder of the Year Award for his Champion Older Horse, Bruho.

Twice married and divorced, Jack is survived by his son Donald; stepson Thomas H. Van Dyke; stepdaughter Judith Van Dyke Marlow; and six grandchildren.

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## *Sheldon Flory '44*

The Reverend Sheldon Flory died on September 9, 2010, after an extended illness.

Born on June 28, 1927, Sheldon entered the sixth class at Middlesex, where his half-brother—**John DeQ. Briggs, Jr.**—was a young teacher. Graduating at the age of 16, Sheldon was too young to serve in World War II and attended the University of Wyoming before joining the Army. He subsequently completed his A.B. in French at Middlebury College, earned a master's degree in English at Columbia University, and graduated from New York's General Theological Seminary. As an Episcopal priest, he served as rector of St. Margaret's Church in Belfast, ME, and Trinity Church in Geneva, NY. He then served as Episcopal chaplain of Brown University in Providence, RI, and of Darrow School in New Lebanon, NY, where he also was the dean of faculty and taught English and history.

After retirement in Naples, NY, he served as chaplain of Ontario County Hospice Services in Geneva and the Hospice Center in Naples. Rev. Sheldon was a published poet and was the first American to win Britain's Arvon Poetry Competition in 1990. He is also remembered

in Geneva and Providence for his support of civil rights and antiwar causes.

Sheldon is survived by his second wife Beth; his three children, Christopher, Susan, and Sarah; and five grandchildren. His nephew, **John DeQ. Briggs III '61**, is also a Middlesex graduate.

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## *Frederic N. Hord '47*

Frederic Norcross Hord died peacefully on October 16, 2011.

The son of Stephen and Catharine Norcross Hord, Fred was born October 9, 1929, in Chicago, IL, and grew up in Lake Forest, where he attended Lake Forest Day School and Lake Forest Academy. Entering Middlesex in the third class in 1944, he continued on to Yale after graduation. Fred served as a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a veteran of the Korean War. He was active in the business community of Louisville, KY, and was the owner/president of PAC-COM, Inc., specializing in packaging and graphic design.

Fred enjoyed sailing, downhill skiing, flying, hiking, golf, birding, rowing, traveling, jazz, ragtime, and big band music. He will be remembered for his keen wit, sense of adventure, loyalty, and charm.

In addition to his wife of 47 years, Aubrey Campbell Hord, Fred is survived by his two children, Stephen and Aubrey; his brother, Steven Young Hord, Jr.; and his sister, Brent Hord Malarkey.

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## *Louis B. McCagg '48*

Louis Butler McCagg died of cancer on March 3, 2012, in Cambridge, England.

Born on September 21, 1929, to Louis B. and Katherine Winslow McCagg, Louis was raised in Boston, MA, and attended Dexter School before enrolling at Middlesex. On graduating, he continued on to Harvard, where he completed an A.B. in social relations and then became a Lionel de Jersey Harvard

Fellow at the University of Cambridge's Emmanuel College; he later returned to Harvard to earn an A.M. in history. An outstanding oarsman at each of his schools, Louis stroked the Harvard crew that won the Grand Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta in 1950, and he rowed in the Cambridge boat that defeated Oxford in the 1953 Boat Race.

After serving in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant, Louis taught history and served as the director of admission at Middlesex from 1956 to 1961, moving on to become the secretary of the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs for five years. Louis was a dedicated civil rights leader and a coalition builder in education, urban planning, land conservation, and world peace, taking on such roles as director of the education task force for the New York Urban Coalition; executive director of the Child Fund of America; and president of the Westchester Land Trust. He returned to England in 1996; through his work as a volunteer and as a planning consultant for the Centre of International Studies at the University of Cambridge, Louis was instrumental in launching initiatives and organizations that have benefited the city as well as the university.

Louis is survived by his two daughters, Miranda Winthrop-Ellis and Emma McCagg-Zamudio; two sons, Winslow and Brin; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and four siblings, Mary Warren Perkins, Caroline McCagg Kelly, Edward King McCagg, and Harry Pollock.

# In Memoriam

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## *John A. Mills '49*

John Ainsworth Mills died in his sleep on September 12, 2011.

Jack was born on September 25, 1930, in Portland, OR, to Katherine Ainsworth and **Abbot L. Mills, Jr. '17**. He followed in the footsteps of his father and uncles, **Lewis H. Mills '10** and **Thomas H. Mills '17**, in coming to Middlesex, and he attended Cornell after graduation.

In 1952, Jack married Katharine "Kate" Leadbetter. After a tour of duty on the *U.S.S. Norton Sound* and a stint working in a paper mill, he returned to Portland and worked as a banker for what is today US Bank. With forefathers who led two major Portland banks, Jack believed that bankers had an unshakable responsibility to their community, especially urban neighborhoods. In the early 1970s, Jack persuaded the bank to create an urban affairs department and to connect directly with inner-city communities that were vulnerable to unfair loan and real estate practices. He also served as president of the Urban League of Portland and advised organizations ranging from the Metropolitan Economic Development Industrial Alliance to the Albina Arts Center.

Deeply involved in the arts as well, Jack served as president of the Portland Art Museum, commissioner of the Oregon Arts Commission, and director of the Oregon Arts Foundation, among other associations. After moving to the north side of Mount Hood, he became equally involved in the community there, buying the roadside Mt. Hood Country Store—the first among a fusion of business ventures that included Full Sail Brewing Co., Mt. Hood Brewing Co., Dee Forest Products, and the Mt. Hood Railroad. He also played a key role in helping to restore Mount Hood's Timberline Lodge to its historic grandeur. He served on numerous statewide boards, commissions, and advisory committees.

Jack is survived by Kate, his wife of 59 years; his brother, **Abbot L. Mills '46**; his four sons, Michael, Lewis, Edward, and **John A. Mills, Jr. '71**; and seven grandchildren, who will miss his upbeat influence. Jack was preceded in death by his sisters, Katherine A. Mills and Sally Mills Harball, and his cousins, **Frederic C. Mills '47**, **Joseph A. Minott, Jr. '41**, and **Rodney G. Minott '47**. His cousins, **John H. C. Minott '70** and **Geoffrey D. Minott '71**, also attended Middlesex.

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## *Richard C. Spelman '49*

Richard Carter Spelman died on March 6, 2012.

Born on June 18, 1931, to Henry and Arline Spelman, Dick attended the Browne and Nichols School before coming to Middlesex in 1946. After receiving his diploma, he earned his undergraduate degree in physical science at Harvard and embarked on a successful career in life insurance, later becoming an independent bookseller of science fiction.

Always grateful for his Middlesex education, Dick generously established a stock portfolio for current Middlesex students to manage, giving them real-life investment experience. Later, he also created a trust designated to fund the Lawrence Terry Chair in Communications in memory of the School's second headmaster.

Dick is survived by his sister, Betty Spelman.

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## *John G. Hopkins '50*

John Goodwin Hopkins died on December 18, 2011, after a long battle with heart disease and Parkinson's disease.

Born on January 9, 1932, John joined the fourth class in 1946 at Middlesex, the alma mater of his father, former Trustee **John B. Hopkins '15**. Staying with family tradition, he then went to Harvard, where he completed an A.B. in

English; he subsequently earned an M.B.A. at the University of Virginia in 1960 and an Ed.M. at Harvard's Graduate School of Education in 1964. His was a life of service to country and community: as a pilot in the U.S. Navy, and as teacher, coach, and counselor at the Peddie School, Adirondack Camp, Cushing Academy, and the Pike School. The John Hopkins Award at Pike is named for him and is given annually to a seventh grader for his or her commitment to athletics and for being a team player.

In retirement, John served as a volunteer, first in the Peace Corps in the Kingdom of Tonga, then at Crotched Mountain School in Greenfield, NH, and finally at Horse Power at Pony Farm in Temple, NH.

Predeceased in 1987 by his wife Ann, John is survived by his children, Thomas and Cynthia; his grandson Tobias; three sisters; 11 nieces and nephews; many dear friends; and countless grateful former students.

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## *William C. Speidel '53*

William Chase Speidel died on September 18, 2011.

The son of William H. and Margaret Chase Speidel, Bill was born on June 11, 1935, in Honolulu, HI, and attended the Fenn School before entering the fourth class at Middlesex in 1949. After graduation, he earned a B.S. in hotel management at Cornell.

Following a long and successful career in the hospitality business, Bill retired as the senior vice president of development for Carlson Co. Always active in his community, he most recently served as president of the resident advisory council at Carlyle Place. He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed a lifetime of travel, including all seven continents, 60 countries, and all 50 United States. Thankful for all that he learned at Middlesex, he generously endowed the Joan

A. Speidel Chair in English at the School shortly before his death; his gift was named in honor of his wife, now retired from her career as a dedicated, high school English teacher.

In addition to his wife Joan, Bill is survived by his daughter, Amanda Speidel; his stepson, Michael Harrison; his stepdaughter, Catherine Tiersten; and three grandchildren.

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## *William S. Mackenzie '61*

William Strange Mackenzie died peacefully on December 15, 2011, in the loving arms of his wife and daughter.

Sandy was born on July 27, 1943, in Washington, DC. After WWII, his family returned home to San Francisco, where Sandy attended the Town School for Boys. On graduating from Middlesex, he earned a B.A. in history at Stanford and an M.B.A. at Harvard Business School.

Sandy followed a career in real estate, but his real passions were: all things French, learning, and reading great books. In 2000, he and his wife Janet moved from San Francisco to Salt Lake City, UT, to care for Janet's father, David Ellison. During this time, Sandy and David became fast friends. After Mr. Ellison's death, Sandy began taking courses at the University of Utah in art history and ancient history. Upon learning in early 2011 that he had terminal melanoma, Sandy remarked, "I'm so glad I had the chance to study ancient history with Dr. Adams." His only regret was that he would not be able to reach his goal of reading all three million books at the Marriott Library.

Preceded in death by his daughter, Elizabeth Boyd Mackenzie, Sandy is survived by his wife, Janet Ellison; his daughter, Dr. Katherine Mackenzie; his two brothers, Roger and Mac; his first wife, Virginia von Hasseln; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

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### *Willoughby G. Walling '61*

Willoughby George Walling died from complications of lung cancer on February 4, 2012, at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston; his wife and children were by his side.

Born November 29, 1942, Wib graduated from Middlesex and earned a B.A. at Stanford. He later completed his M.Div. at Union Theological Seminary; his C.A.S. at Harvard's Graduate School of Education; and his M.B.A. at Harvard Business School. In his long and distinguished career, Wib was most proud of being an artist and a founding member of the Street Academy program for high school dropouts in New York City. Just a year ago, the Middlesex community enjoyed viewing several of Wib's paintings at the 2011 Alumni Art Show, held during reunion weekend.

In addition to Susan, his wife of 44 years, Wib is survived by his daughter Jessica; his son, **W. Hayden Walling '94**; his sister, Ann Alexander; his brother Bill; and two grandchildren.

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### *David F. Lomasney '62*

David Fales Lomasney passed away on March 12, 2012, at the age of 69.

After graduating from Middlesex, David earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Pennsylvania. He served as a lieutenant, ordnance officer in the U.S. Navy for an A-4 attack squadron aboard the *U.S.S. Enterprise* during its deployment to Vietnam.

David had a distinguished career as a due diligence analyst for Fortune 500 companies. He was also a recognized independent real estate developer, specializing in historic preservation on the North Shore of Massachusetts and in Oyster Bay, NY.

He was an avid sailor. In 1998, alongside his sons, David and Michael, he placed second in class in the 635-mile Newport-to-Bermuda race in his 41-foot C&C Redline racing sloop, *Firefly*. His recently published first book, *The Piscataqua Registry*, explores the shipbuilding career of the Customs District of Portsmouth, NH, and its contribution to American maritime history. David also maintained a pilot's license and had a lifelong interest in gardening and landscape design.

David is survived by his sons, David and Michael; his daughters, Katherine and Megan; his sisters, Flora and Marinna; and many dear friends. He will be greatly missed.

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### *Christopher A. Joyner '10*

Christopher Anthony Joyner died on February 11, 2012, at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, MA, after a short illness.

Born on January 27, 1991, in Framingham, MA, Chris graduated from The Fessenden School and came to Middlesex as a freshman. In his four years at the School, he was a compassionate leader in Peer Support and Spectrum, also serving as a diversity officer as a senior. Chris enjoyed performing, too, from acting in theatrical productions to singing in musicals and with the Small Chorus. He was studying political science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Chris is survived by his parents, Deltra and Sharon DeBerry; his siblings, Deltra and Desiree; his grandmothers, Connie Joyner and Lula DeBerry; his great-grandmothers, Marjorie Young and Ora Milan; as well as his aunts, uncles, cousins, and a host of friends.

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### *Delia Briggs*

Former Middlesex dorm parent Delia Inglehart Briggs died at home on January 29, 2012.

The wife of the late **John DeQ. Briggs Jr.**, legendary Middlesex master who served on the faculty from 1932 to 1976, Delia is fondly remembered by decades of students who once lived under the Briggs' care on campus. Born in Watertown, NY, she was the daughter of George and Rhea Grems Inglehart and graduated from Smith College in 1939. At Brooks School in Concord, Delia taught third grade and then served as assistant head mistress.

Delia is survived by her son, **John DeQ. Briggs III '61**; her daughter, Henrietta Cosentino; her sister, Georgia Borden Cox; three grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

# Worlds Beyond

**Image of the Great Orion Nebula, taken at Middlesex on January 10, 2012.**

At a distance of more than 1,340 light years from Earth, the Great Orion Nebula is a “stellar nursery,” where the stars forming at its center are less than one million years old—a youthful astral age. About 24 light years across, and with a mass 2000 times that of our Sun, it is just one of many celestial features that can easily be detected using Middlesex’s 18-inch Centurion telescope in the observatory of the Clay Centennial Center.

Since 2003, Middlesex has been fortunate to have this scientific instrument, which can take images of objects up to seven billion light years away and is more often found at small colleges, not small independent schools. After completing her master’s degree a few years ago, Physics and Astronomy teacher Sara Kate May returned to her Middlesex classroom with a renewed commitment to making greater use of the telescope; she just needed a little help with its maintenance and repair. Enter Dr. Ralph “Skip” Pass, a mathematician by training who once supported every manned Apollo mission while working for NASA. Currently, he teaches astronomy at Merrimack College and directs the observatory there. As

Middlesex’s part-time technician for nearly two years now, Skip has established procedures and written programs to make using the Centurion much easier—and has happily taken and perfected numerous images for students to consider and discuss.

Members of the Astronomy Club have always shown the greatest enthusiasm for these images, also using the 12-inch Meade telescopes on the Center’s rooftop for midday sunspot viewing or nighttime star parties. Now, Sara Kate’s astronomy students regularly use both the large and small telescopes to maintain their observation notebooks, while her students in Physics 10 used the Centurion to view Jupiter with its Galilean moons when learning about gravity.

“It’s unique to have a telescope like this at a high school,” says Sara Kate. “What I want most is for every student to go to the observatory and look through the telescope before they graduate from Middlesex. If almost every dot—or star—in the sky is a sun like our own, what does that mean? I like to give students a chance to stop and think about those big—literally *big*—questions.” **M**

# The Landry Family Challenge



An  
Extraordinary  
Opportunity  
for  
All Middlesex Parents,  
Past and Present  
to



**Double the impact  
of your leadership gifts**

and

**Generate \$10 million  
for the School's strategic  
objectives**



Thanks to the generosity of the Landry Family—Kevin '62, Barrie, Kim '89, and Jen '94—Middlesex parents have an extraordinary opportunity to impact the School's strategic objectives in a significant way. Between now and December 31, 2013, the C. Kevin Landry Charitable Foundation will match all increased or new leadership gifts made by Middlesex parents—up to \$5 million!



Matching gifts will be directed, dollar for dollar, to the same purpose designated by each parent donor. To qualify for matching funds, commitments must fall within the capital range of \$50,000 to \$1 million.

All of the gifts will support Middlesex's capital campaign goals, further strengthening the School's ability to fulfill its mission of finding the promise in each student.



For more information, contact the Development Office at 978-369-5110, or e-mail George Noble at [gnoble@mxschool.edu](mailto:gnoble@mxschool.edu), or Heather Parker at [hparker@mxschool.edu](mailto:hparker@mxschool.edu).



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## Tartuffe

Molière's 17th century comedy was convincingly given a 21st century setting last fall.