

The GAM

GAM: a social meeting of whaleships...with all the sympathies of sailors [and] all the peculiar congenialities arising from a common pursuit.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

FA families hit the road – and seas – to school

When families choose to send their children to Falmouth Academy, they make an investment that requires sacrifices of time, money, and family commitments.

As we embrace the heart of winter with its gray skies and strong southwest winds, I think particularly of the many students who come to us from outside the Falmouth and upper Cape area. Their daily travels take them over open water and bridges, over dirt roads and highways to reach our Falmouth campus. Many have two-hour-plus daily commutes.

We currently have 19 students from Martha’s Vineyard. Some live in Vineyard Haven where the Woods Hole ferry docks, but others come from the farthest reaches of the island — from Chilmark and Aquinnah. Their parents drive up to 45 minutes to make the 7:00 a.m. ferry and to meet a late-day ferry. I am proud of these young travelers, proud of their self sufficiency, of the ways that the older students teach the younger ones how to use their crossing time effectively, and of the ways they all watch out for one another.

Mike Earley, our director of admissions, knows that many Vineyard families first become aware of FA by
(continued on page 2)

U.S. and EU need each other, per Ambassador Morningstar

Too few people in the United States know very much about the European Union, according to retired Ambassador Richard Morningstar, who spoke as part of the Falmouth Academy Community Series (FACS). “The U.S. and EU economies are interdependent, our political values are intertwined. It’s important for us to know about them,” he said.

Morningstar, who served among other assignments as ambassador to the European Union, described the formation of the EU as “one of the most remarkable accomplishments of the past 50 years,” an agreement in which the member states gave up some of their sovereign powers and formed a new legal entity in order to help make world war impossible. He described several areas of contrast between the EU and the U.S., for instance, regarding international institutions. “The EU was born to be multilateral,” he said, “and it relies more on the United Nations and the International Criminal Court than the U.S. does. Europe believes more than the U.S. that institutions and legal norms should restrict sovereignty.”

In terms of economics, the relationship between the EU and the U.S. is “huge. Our investments in each other dwarf any other investments,” he said,
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FA families hit the road – and seas – to school

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seeing the good-natured interactions of FA-student commuters. Adult Vineyarders and Steamship Authority personnel often tell me that they are impressed by our students on the boat. (Of course, this is no surprise.)

Another group of FA students travels to Falmouth each day over the Bourne or Sagamore bridges and faces other challenges — Friday evening bridge traffic, for instance.

One Marion student must drive a boat from his island home before he can even start his land commute.

A student from Halifax drives 20 minutes over back roads to get to the Falmouth Academy bus pick-up point on Route 3 where she joins our other Route-3 riders for the 45-minute trip to school.

Off-Cape weather can be significantly different from that in Falmouth. Kingston may have six inches of snow when Falmouth has just a dusting or none at all. Duxbury and Plymouth may have torrential rains when we have a drizzle. We are glad they make the trip and help make us geographically diverse. Students from outlying areas expand our discussions and widen our perspectives beyond our own backyard.

Although I am mentioning some of our families' travel arrangements, I am deeply appreciative of the commitment and considerations all of our families make to send their children to Falmouth Academy.

Here's to calm seas and a warm winter with safe travels!

David C. Faus

Falmouth Academy is hosting a social gathering for all Martha's Vineyard alumni and past and current FA parents on the island on January 15 from 5 to 7 pm. Please call us if you would like to attend.

We will host similar gatherings on the south shore and in the Marion/Mattapoissett area in the spring.

Alumnus sends FA flag from Iraq



Alumni director Barbara Campbell presents a gift to Headmaster David Faus at All-School Meeting from Lt. JG Chris Foster '93, who is serving in the U.S. Navy in Iraq. Chris requested that this flag be presented in Falmouth Academy's honor. It was flown November 14, 2008 over the headquarters of the Multi-National Corps-Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I find it's the habits and ideals that I learned from my family and my time at FA that have carried me through my time here," Chris wrote. "While those who serve our country in uniform are often thanked for their service, too often those who teach are not. This is my way of saying thank you for your service."

Our thanks to you, Chris, and best wishes for a safe return. Ω

The GAM

*Published nine times a year for the
community of Falmouth Academy*

Integrating science, humanities, athletics & arts
for grades 7 through 12

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national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation,
or physical handicap.*

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Head's List sets a record

Mr. Faus was delighted to announce a huge Headmaster's List for first trimester, the largest ever. Students must earn at least three As in their five core subjects and have no grade lower than a B minus in order to be named to the Headmaster's List.

Seniors

Antonio Bardawil
Pierson Besse
Max Dantowitz
Kylee Donovan
Madeleine Friedman
Alexandra Gundersen
Christina Johns
Philip MacDonald
W. Thomas Moore
Elin Nelson
Ryan Pettitt
Robert Schneider
Hillary Smith
Maia ten Brink
Timothy Wadman
Mary Webster

Sophomores

Emelia Armstead
Lindsay Child
Anneke Elmhirst
Elizabeth Faus
Nathaniel Haycock
M. Harly Hutker
Caroline Johns
Zoe Lippsett
Kinsman Maynard
William Nicholson
Ian Remillard
Alexandria Sethares
E. Lyon Van Voorhis
M. Alexander Walsh
Maxine Zeger

Juniors

Clea Baumhofer
Marco Catipovic
Caroline Cotto
Lily Cronig
Logan Driscoll
Samuel Dunham
Nicole Fleury
Emma Nye
Marie Oldenbourg
Katherine Romagnoli
Julia Signell
Lea Skene
Lagan Trieschmann
Anna Van Voorhis

Freshmen

Thomas Aviles
Tyler Barron
Aimee Church
Sara Dorr
Rachel Dragos
Daniel Eder
Brittany Feldott
GianPaula Hulten
Jasmine Opie
Morgan Opie
David Pickart

8th Grade

Ryan Ackell
Chloe Brake
Ryan Davis
Alexandra Friedman
Alexandra Good
Clara Maynard
Jessica O'Malley
Katherine Shachoy
Elizabeth Stimson
Ronna ten Brink

7th Grade

Catherine Aviles
Cosette Bardawil
Carlo Bocconcelli
Drew Burchill
Ruth Collins
Nida Janulaitis
Lucas Johns
William Mendelsohn
Helena Oldenbourg
Lily Patterson
Cassidy Reves-Sohn
Mary Rosbach
Nicholas Russell
Leandra Sethares

Back by popular demand!

Falmouth Academy will host the second annual National Small Schools Conference (NSSC) June 17 - 19, 2009

For three days, leaders (administrators and faculty) from small, independent schools around the country will gather at FA to discuss issues and best practices particular to their schools.

"We are building on the success of our inaugural small-schools conference last June," said Headmaster David C. Faus. "We had seventy participants from schools around the country, and they were very appreciative of the chance to get together. The discussions, breakout sessions, and informal gatherings were lively, thoughtful and informative."

National Small Schools Conference 2009

At that first NSSC, Patrick Bassett, the president of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), and Robert Evans, author and speaker on challenges and changes in families and schools, were the main speakers. Weather was Cape Cod perfect for participants and their families to enjoy Falmouth beaches, bike paths, walks, shops, and restaurants.

The speakers for the June 2009 conference are Michael G. Thompson, Ph.D., psychologist, consultant and author of eight books including *Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys*, and Daniel Heischman, Executive Director of the National Association of Episcopal Schools.

"We encourage early registration because we were full last year," said Mr. Faus. "And we hope for weather at least as fine as last June." Ω

U.S. and EU need each other, per Ambassador Morningstar

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“even our investment in China.” He pointed out that we invest three times as much in Ireland as we do in China. The interdependence helps prevent the relationship between the EU and the U.S. from getting out of control, Mr. Morningstar said, noting that even in the days of serious disagreement about the Iraq War, our financial relationships were not affected.

He also stated that since the end of the Cold War, Europe sees itself as much more independent and “less under the great umbrella of U.S. nuclear weapons.” Nevertheless, these differences don’t mean the U.S. and EU can’t work together, according to Mr. Morningstar.

He warned the audience not to have high expectations for the new Obama administration, but suggested that the tone of the EU-U.S. relationship will change for the better, with more consultation, negotiation, and effort to reach consensus. He called for the two entities to work together at the very top levels and develop clear priorities in several critical areas, among them the financial crisis, climate change and energy, co-operation on the war on terror and efforts in Afghanistan, Iran, Russia, and the Middle East.

These issues, Mr. Morningstar said, present real opportunities to work together. “Both the United States and the European Union will need to step up to the plate and compromise,” he concluded.

In response to questions from a very engaged audience, Mr. Morningstar suggested that the U.S. and EU need to sit down and meet with Russia on many important issues. Speaking about the Caspian Sea oil, Mr. Morningstar said the policy of building multiple pipelines is a good idea, with more routes needed that pass through neither Russia nor Iran. He found himself besieged by audience members with further questions,

4 reluctant to let the informative evening end. Ω

Vineyard Social set for January 15

Headmaster David C. Faus and hosts Kristi and Gary Maynard P’11, ’13 invite all Martha’s Vineyard parents, past and present, as well as FA alumni and friends to join them for a Falmouth Academy Vineyard Social on Thursday, January 15, 5-7 p.m.

Over appetizers and drinks, Mr. Faus hopes to help families from throughout the island connect with each other while sharing news of FA today.

“We know that our Vineyard families sacrifice a great deal of time when they join the FA family,” Mr. Faus explained. “We’re grateful to the Maynards for opening their home to the entire FA Vineyard family so we can spend some time networking and sharing our stories.”

To join us, RSVP by January 8 to Crissy Pingal, Development Office, at 508-457-9696 or cpingal@falmouthacademy.org.

The Maynard home is located at 20 Hammett Road in Chilmark. Ω

“Ash Girl” brings down the house



An eerie, moody, and very funny re-telling of the Cinderella story was offered up to two appreciative audiences by the FA drama department as its fall production. *Above*, Fairy-in-the-Mirror MacKenzie Marshall ‘11 blesses [l. to r.] Prince Amir (Jared Long ‘11), Ashgirl (Marney Rathbun ‘12), Princess Zehra (Jes Waller ‘09), and the prince’s friend, Paul (Tyler Gwynn ‘12) at the climax of the play.

Bravo to all involved!

Ω

Boat builder to discuss historical restorations in Falmouth Academy Community Series

When historical sea vessels—such as Mystic Seaport’s 62-foot schooner *Brilliant*—need a doctor, they often set sail for Rockport Marine in Maine, where owner Taylor Allen restores them to good health. The renowned boat builder will share his experience building and restoring wooden boats as part of the Falmouth Academy Community Series on Tuesday, January 6 at 7 p.m.



Taylor Allen

Taylor returned to Maine and eventually was named the president of Rockport Marine in 1980. Since then, Rockport Marine has grown steadily into a yard with an international reputation for wooden boat building and restoration.

Although Rockport’s work is primarily in vessel restoration, the firm recently launched two new wooden vessels: the replica of the *Godspeed* to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, and the *Spirit of Bermuda* to celebrate the island’s nautical heritage.

Taylor first began building boats as a teenager at Rockport Marine when the yard still belonged to his father, Luke Allen. After attending Amherst College,



Rockport Marine

Falmouth Academy is committed to serving the Falmouth community as a cultural resource, and one of the ways in which we fulfill that commitment is through the Falmouth Academy Community Series, a yearly speakers’ series that features experts who lecture on topics of global interest. This series introduces the community to provocative and entertaining ideas in a forum that allows interaction; every speaker opens the floor to audience questions, and our audiences are often standing-room only.

The series has featured several prominent speakers in past years, including Robert Kaplan, Peter Gammons, Beth Schwarzman, Stefan Behnisch and Stephen Prothero. Taylor Allen is the second boat builder featured in the Community Series. Custom yacht builder Jeff Grey spoke about the construction of a 60’ Herreshoff-design ketch, *Catrina*, in 2003, the FA Community

Series’ third season.

The final 2008/2009 Falmouth Academy Community Series speaker is baritone John Murelle, who will present an evening of vintage

Cuban music, on March 5 at 7 p.m.

For more information and directions, please visit the school on the Web at www.falmouthacademy.org. Ω



Mr. Richard Sperduto took his landscaping elective students to nearby Spohr Gardens to do some fall cleaning. The students learned about the gardens from Mrs. Rosemary Hoskins, who had visited the class. They spent a chilly day clearing leaves from groves of trees and rhododendrons for the non-profit organization that manages the gardens for the public’s enjoyment. Ω

Falmouth Academy Refro

FA Drama presents
 SCENES FROM
*THE MADWOMAN
 OF CHAILLOT*
 BY JEAN GIRAUDOUX

In this poetic satire and criminal fantasy on the battle between good and evil, an eccentric old woman – a neighborhood leader, three other “madwomen,” and a group of street vagabonds save the human race from high rank villains and their plots to make big profits and destroying the beautiful city of Paris.

FEBRUARY 6-7
 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
 7:00 P.M.

Admission is free. We ask that you bring a non-perishable food item for the Falmouth Service Center.

FACS presents
**Wooden Boat
 Builder
 Taylor Allen of
 Rockport Marine**

January 6
 7:00 p.m.
 See page 5 for details.

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Parental Title Parents Financial Statement for 2009-10 financial aid applications is due in Princeton, NJ on January 31st. The 2009 IRS Form 1040 and all attachments are due in the FA Business Office the same date. Please contact the Admissions Office with any questions.		In the Galleries: -Jan. 5-23: Photos by Nicky Fleury -Jan. 15-Feb. 28: "The Window on..." -Jan. 20-Feb. 28: Cityscape/Plaques -Jan. 29-Feb. 6: Photos by Moly...	
4	5 +1:05 am - School resumes after Winter Vacation	6 -4:00 BMS & GMS vs. St. Margaret's (H). +7:00 p.m. - FACS presents boat builder Taylor Allen (see page 5).	+1:00-GV & G vs. St. Andrew's (H). +5:00-Trustee Comm. mtg.
11	12 +1:00-BV & BVV vs. Rocky Hill (H). +4:00-GV @ OCA	13 +1:00-GMS & GMS vs. Chatham A (H). -7:00 p.m. - "Making Waves" Auction meeting.	-4:00-GV & G vs. St. Andrew's (H). +5:00-Comm. Trustee mtg. +6:00-Trustee Finance Comm. +7:00-Trustee Comm. mtg.
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. holiday No classes; offices closed	20 -AM & PM class schedule flips starting today! -9:30-BV @ Rockport. -4:00-GMS & BMS vs. Chatham D (H).	-4:30-BV & B vs. St. George (H).
25	26 -9:30-BV @ St. Andrew's. -5:00-GV vs. Chapel Hill (H). -5:00-BV @ St. Andrew's.	27 -Flag deadline for March 7 SAT. -9:30-GMS @ Chatham A. -4:45-BMS @ Chatham A.	+1:00-BV @ O vs. St. George (H).

REMEMBER

Morning (periods I-III) and afternoon classes will switch places starting...

ALUMNI DAY! FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, featuring roundtable discussion with faculty and seniors. Details on the FA Website or call Campbell at 508-457-9696 or al...

Calendar: 1/08

2009

Monday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Annual Faculty Forum, Open House and Scholarship Exam

Saturday, January 24
8:30 a.m. to noon

We invite even those families not yet interested in taking the exam to join us to learn more about the school. The day includes a **panel discussion with FA students** and presentations by every member of the **FA faculty** which are designed to provide insight into the academic life of the school.

The top three scorers on the **scholarship exam** will receive \$2,000 scholarships for their first year at FA. Prospective students interested in taking the scholarship exam are asked to **pre-register with the admissions office** by calling 508-457-9696.

EMBER!

Afternoon (periods V-VII) classes
begin on Tuesday, January 20.

January 9, 8:45 A.M.
Classes among FA alumni, a juniors,
Web site. RSVP to Barbara
alumni@falmouthacademy.org.

Gala
Night
2009

January 30
7:30 p.m.

See page 9
for details.

FA² ends fourth season with great reviews

Falmouth Academy for Adults (FA²) finished its fourth successful semester and its fourth round of rave reviews this fall.

Lalise Melillo taught a six-week evening course, The Worlds of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, and Peter Conzett and Rob Wells co-taught Issues of the Cold War.

Mrs. Melillo explored the historical background of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, looking at the ways in which the playwright both used and bent his source material. With her class, she examined the context in which the play was written and performed and considered the play's purpose.

Mr. Conzett and Mr. Wells examined the 40-year-long Cold War period starting with its roots in the aftermath of World War II and including pivotal clashes such as the Berlin Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the missile/space race.

The following comments make it clear that FA² students enjoyed the same remarkable teaching that Falmouth Academy students do. They wrote:

"Two gifted teachers who really know their stuff"

"Wonderful depth to class discussions"

"Highly informative and engaging"

"A totally engrossing course"

"First rate! I wouldn't miss it!"

"The teacher is the best I ever had in high school, college, and law school!"

"It is fabulous!"

"Fantastic teacher"

"Excellent topic"

Ω

Hat & Mitten Tree Tally -- 2008

- 90 hats
- 102 pairs of mittens
- 24 scarves
- 11 pairs of socks

8

*Thank you all for
your donations!*

Making Waves Auction splashes down at FA

The April 25, 2009, Making Waves Auction might seem far, far away now, but preparations are already underway. This evening of fine food and wine, dancing, and auctions both live and silent (emceed by John Scofield, of Eldred's Auction Gallery) won't be the best it can be without you. In the midst of your year-end bustle, see if you can spare a moment to consider how to contribute. It's probably easier than you think.

Each class will be putting together a basket, just one of the ways in which parents can donate items. The Auction Committee itself can always use another set of hands in its prep work. Perhaps you have a craft or skill you can contribute. The (photography, needlework, design, baking) talent you probably shrug off is exactly what some lucky Making Waves bidder is hoping to bid on.

Or perhaps you're a social butterfly? Let your networks know about Making Waves. Drop a line in your annual holiday letter. Mention it on Facebook (or Classmates.com or LinkedIn). An FA mom just reconnected with an old friend online and while getting reacquainted mentioned her work on the Making Waves auction committee. The friend, who happens to manage a local business that regularly makes charitable donations, at once offered to contribute!

Everyone can make this fundraising auction a success by attending! The 2007 auction was sold out, and the 300+ attendees are still talking about what an incredible evening they enjoyed. We hope you'll consider joining us in April. Invitations will be in the mail in the coming months.

The donation form can now be downloaded from the school web site (www.falmouthacademy.org); click on the "Parents" link at the top of the home page.

Still have questions? Feel free to contact Auction co-chairs Carla Hutker (hutthouse2@comcast.net) and Maribeth Wadman (mbwadman@verizon.net). Ω

FA musicians score high on festival auditions

The recent fall concert at FA gave plenty of evidence that music is an important part of the FA students' lives. Among the school's six music groups, 69 students are engaged in instrumental or vocal music every week. And some of them are very good, indeed. This fall, Falmouth Academy students have earned 23 places in competitive, high school music festivals. Four have been invited to audition for the prestigious All-State Music Festival.

FA students accepted for the **Senior Southeast District Music Festival**, January 9-10 at Brockton High School include, in the orchestra:

Clea Baumhofer '10 and Janaye Rooney '10, both violinists; Samuel Dunham '10, second chair violin; and Carly Scena '11, violin.

In the Southeast District band: Rubing Jin '10, clarinet, and Tom Moore '09, tuba.

Based on their audition scores Tom, Sam, Janaye, and Carly were recommended to audition for the All-State Music Festival.

FA students accepted for the **Cape and Islands Music Festival**, February 7 at Barnstable High School, include, in

the orchestra:

Carly Scena, first chair violin; Clea Baumhofer; Janaye Rooney; Rubing Jin; Tom Moore; and cellist Pippa Ryan '12.

In the Cape and Islands band: Molly Lippsett '09 and Allie Sethares '11, both flutists; Marco Catipovic '10, French horn; and timpanist Tony Bardawil '09.

In the Cape and Islands mixed chorus: sopranos Tessa Hulburt '11; Niolo Nelson '10, and Margaret Rathbun '12. Altos: Brittany Feldott '12, and Emma Nye '10.

In the Cape and Islands girls' chorus: Anneke Elmhirst '11, soprano, and Lindsay Child '11, alto.

Results still to come are from the Junior Southeast District Music Festival and the All-State Festival. Watch the GAM for updates!

Dr. Deborah T. Bradley directs the FA Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Ensemble; Mr. John Murelle directs the FA Chorale; Mr. Pat Ryan teaches Jazz I; and Mr. George Scharr leads the FA Brass Ensemble and the Jazz Band. The next opportunity to hear these FA music groups on home ground will be our Midwinter Concert, Friday, February 27. Ω

STUDENT COUNCIL'S GALA NIGHT BENEFITS CANCER RESEARCH

Our annual opportunity to dress up, have fun, *and* raise money for a good cause is coming up on Friday, January 30, when the students of FA once again host their Gala Night. Parents and siblings and friends are all welcome to join in an evening of elegant music, games, desserts, and camaraderie. Your \$10 donation gets you 20 tickets to "spend" at games of skill and of chance, in the coffee house, and to have your photo taken. The delicious desserts and hors d'oeuvres are complementary and you can dance the night away or listen to jazz or classical music as well.

The Student Council has designated this year's profits to cancer research. In past years, Gala Night has raised thousands of dollars for charities such as Children's Cove, the Schwartz Center for Children, Cape Central American Relief Efforts, and The Emancipation Network, among others.

One feature of the evening is the Silent Auction, where art work, jewelry, gift certificates, hand-crafted items, even boat tours have been offered in the past. If you would like to make a donation to the Silent Auction, please contact Caroline Cotto '10 at 508-362-9123 or drop off your item in the FA office.

The most important thing is that you *come to Gala Night!* Bring friends and family and help the FA students make their annual charity bash the most successful ever. Thank you. See you on January 10, 7:30 p.m. Ω

Alumni win again in holiday soccer match

Despite a spurt of bad weather, the fifth annual Alumni/Varsity Soccer Game took place the day after Thanksgiving in front of a crowd of alumni, students, parents, and teachers.

Although the varsity players had properly psyched themselves up for the match, the alumni soundly beat them, 4-3. (The all-time record now stands



Backed up by Kasey Bisiniere '07, Ian Hopewood '06 slips a pass by defenders Jesse Otto '09 and Alex Desnoyers '10 in the hard-fought game.

at Alumni 4, Varsity 1). **Sarah Stokey '06** (Northeastern University) and **Ian Hopewood '06** (Middlebury College) earned MVP honors. Thanks very much to **Sean O'Neill '04**, who helmed the alumni again, and Varsity captains Hannah Allen, Alex Desnoyers, Alex Gundersen, Jesse Otto, Bob Schneider, and Taza Vercruysse. Check out all the game and sidelines photos at www.falmouthacademy.org/alumni Ω



Alumni dream-team players (and fans): Matt Waterbury '04 (New England College of Optometry), Bridget Miskell '07 (American University), Kacey Bisiniere '07 (Central Connecticut College), Phil Logan '05 (Boston College), Dan O'Neill '07 (UMASS Amherst), John Gwynn '07 (Arizona State University), and Sean O'Neill '04 (Boston College).

10

Alumni in Asia featured on FA Web site

Falmouth Academy alumni are sharing a passion for Asia, blending interest and professions in the arts, business, and teaching in countries halfway around the world from Cape Cod. This month, there are two articles on the alumni page at www.falmouthacademy.org that profile six alumni who call or have called Asia home.

In “Toe Schmooze: Blending the Arts of Dance and Teaching,” **Carol Hong '99** discovers a love of nurturing others as she hones her own skills. Having spent the last year in Hong Kong teaching dance and drama to several hundred students, she said, “My experience made me appreciate what I had at Falmouth Academy: passionate teachers, small classes, and students who wanted to learn. I realized how education can drastically influence and impress people and really mold a culture.”

“A Passion for Asia: Alumni Living Beyond the Far Horizon” follows the careers of five past FA students who live or have lived in Asia. **Ray Bartlett '88**, a travel writer now living on the Cape, was one of several alumni who taught English in Japan, including **Liam Brenner '04** and **Jeff Dionne '95**.

Kurt Achin '87 is the Bureau Chief for Voice of America in Seoul, South Korea, from which he has been reporting for four years. **Yuki Honjo '90** makes her home in Tokyo, where she is senior vice president in equity research at Fox-Pitt Kelton Cochran Caronia Waller.

For some of these alumni, lessons on Eastern cultures taught by FA teachers Julia Taylor and Olivann Hobbie sparked an initial interest in these far-off lands and broadened their horizons to the far side of the globe.

Ω

Alumni News

finishing her senior year of undergrad in computer science with a math minor at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). She plans to go to graduate school afterward for a Master's in math or computer science. "I've been working with a cross-departmental team on both a National Science Foundation research project and another pre-grant experiment. For the latter, I wrote topographic-map-contouring-training software for a Tablet PC to provide an experiential component and engender better learning outcomes for students in introductory geology labs. We received a second NSF grant and will launch new projects next semester -- it's exciting!" Ocean said this research is a collaborative effort between the Computer Science, Psychology, and Geology departments at Bowling Green. "It's graduate level work, but the program director invited some undergraduates to participate and gave us amazing opportunities in all stages of the research process."

Where in the world are FA alumni?
The exchange rate of Falmouth Academy

alumni is climbing higher and higher. Each year, more college students are taking advantage of programs to travel and study around the world. This month, **Morgan Abisla '05** and **Rachel Mandeix '05**, who both attend St. Lawrence University, will come home from China just as **Charlotte Dorris '07** (Eckerd College) arrives there. **MaryAnn Kowalski '06** (Bryn Mawr College) and **Jamie Reynolds '06** (Syracuse University) will spend their spring semesters in Florence, Italy. As noted on page 12, **Katie Gundersen '06** (Bowdoin College) spent the fall in Nantes, France. **Brian Miskell '06** (NYU) is in France as well. **Dana Burns '06** (American University) is in Turkey all year. [See *December '08 GAM.*] **Peter MacDonald '06** (Wheaton College) will spend the summer in Europe leading a group of youth missionaries.

Where are you traveling? Let us know at alumni@falmouthacademy.org so we can match your expertise with other FA alumni who may be considering a visit to your exchange country. Ω

Alumni Day features roundtable discussions

Alumni are invited to join their classmates as well as current FA juniors and seniors for a backpack-to-briefcase college and career networking session.

Roundtable discussions will include: the First Year Experience, Playing Sports in College, Design and Engineering Majors, Studying Abroad, Internship to Work, Careers in Technology, Careers in the Arts, Beyond the Science Fair, and the Path to a Law Career.

Alumni Day takes place Friday, January 9, 8:45 a.m. -10:30 in the gym.

RSVP to Barbara Campbell, Alumni Director, at alumni@falmouthacademy.org or 508-457-9696.

Hope to see you there!

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Falmouth, MA 02540



Alumni News

Calling the Midwest home now, former exchange student **Patrizia Petetta Argentieri '89** and her family, including her husband Paolo and two children, Marco, 11 and Luca, 7, live in Ohio. For the past two years, Patrizia taught Italian at John Carroll University and she begins this month teaching in Columbus's "Little Italy." She has also volunteered to teach Italian at her children's elementary school and is doing a weekend radio show called *Radio Italia* from the campus of Case Western Reserve University. The show is about Italian music and also includes sports news from Italy. "I do the show in Italian and make announcements on behalf of the Italian consulate or about local events."

Katie Gundersen '06 sent us a brief report of her semester abroad. "France has been spectacular and I've really enjoyed my time abroad. I've visited England, Spain, and all around France, which has been an amazing opportunity although I am looking forward to coming home for a traditional New England Christmas! I'm attending the

University of Nantes (in western France on the borders of the Loire region and Brittany). I have the opportunity to study whatever I want as all my classes are in French and qualify for my French major and I'm taking one other class toward my government major. I have a fabulous host family and my program has been excellent."

One day this fall, former Headmaster Bruce Buxton decided to test himself against the TV game show, "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" and, lo and behold, he recognized **David Ellis '94** as one of the contestants. The Alumni Office confirmed that it was indeed David, who actually went pretty far into the winner's bracket. He told us the experience was a lot of fun. David is a singer/songwriter living in Los Angeles. He plays gigs at various venues like the Viper Room, Genghis Cohen, Molly Malone's, Room 5, Tangier, and the Hollywood Improv, as well as playing and helping to organize benefit concerts.

Ocean Celestino (Rebecca Leighton) '92 is in the process of

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