

THE TRAVELER

WELCOME BACK GENERALS!

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Robert E. Lee High School, Houston, Texas, 77057

A look into the life of Principal Trinh

Cindy Wakiyama & Guadalupe Rodriguez
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Along with the new school year, Lee High School received a new principal, Jonathan Trinh, who not only looks to the future to see a better Lee, but also looks back through his own past to relate to the struggles that many of the school's immigrant students face today.

Trinh said he was attracted to Lee High School because he can empathize with many of the students.

"The overall background of the students of Lee got me interested in this school because I remember being the immigrant kid in classes just staring at the wall," Trinh said.

His start in this country was far from luxurious; he needed help from others in order to survive.

"I came to the United States at around 11 or 12 years old, in the late 70s," Trinh said. "I lived in the government housing projects in the Fourth Ward. I remember standing with my parents to get free clothes, free food and free lunch because we didn't have money. We'd stay in line to get free immunizations. I am trying to get different social service programs into the school to help the students who go through those kinds of experiences."

But his difficult upbringing did not keep him from trying to succeed in life. Although he faced difficulties learning the language, Trinh eventually graduated high school and moved on to higher education.

"It took me about four years to learn English to do academic work and survive," Trinh said. "[But] I got a scholarship to attend Texas Southern University. I graduated with a degree in Biology and minors in Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics. And I got a Masters from Lamar."

After college, Trinh served in the Marine Corps from 1990 to 1994, but he left the military life to be able to have a family with his wife, Silvia Saenz-Trinh. And took on his first job as a teacher.

"[When] I came out, I decided that I wanted to teach, so I started teaching science at Kashmere High School," Trinh said. "Then for the next 15 years, I went to Fort Bend and taught everything from remediation science to AP science. I came back to HISD about five and a half years ago as a Science Specialist. Then, four years ago I was asked to be the Dean of Instruction, the Assistant Principal position for a new school called the Young Men's College Preparatory Academy. I did that for three years. And in June of this year I started as principal of Lee High School."

Trinh's experience in the military has given him a backbone in the work ethic and mindset he expects from his students.

"My Marine background allows me to have structure, a working system in place, accountability, and the no excuse approach," Trinh said. "I don't make excuses,

I don't point fingers. If there's a problem, let's find a solution, take care of it and find a way to prevent it in the future. Don't make a bad grade because you didn't turn something in, if you don't understand, that's okay, you can go to tutorials. But don't fail because you didn't do the work."

Because of Trinh's hands on experience with the adversity of being an immigrant, instead of sympathizing with the students, he empathizes with them and their situation.

"There's a difference between sympathy and empathy," Trinh said. "I can empathize with a student who tells me that he wants to drop out of school to work to help his parents. I understand what it's like to be a teenager and thinking about working to help my family, the idea of working to get money for yourself is an American tradition, immigrant kids don't get to do that."

He said he uses this empathy to his advantage in order to inspire his students to do better than their parents were able to and he wants to help those students even outside the classroom.

"I show them the statistics of jobs and pay that you can get without a high school diploma, with a high school diploma, and with a college degree," Trinh said. "I want to encourage students to achieve a better future for themselves. I want students to feel like there's someone in the school, their principal



who understands them and knows what they need. I am trying to get different social service programs into the school to help the students in these situations."

Trinh has even already started to communicate with the school, in order to have the kids learn leadership and responsibility while giving the student body a voice for themselves and for their wants and/or needs. One of his plans for a better Lee is to create a student council and give more power to the students.

"I want student leaders to start forming, I want to have a student council. I want to have two senators for each grade level, so there'd be eight in total. I'd meet

with each grade's senators once a month in my office and they'd tell me what the problems going around are and let me know what they want their homecoming to look like, their prom to look like."

He is also willing to listen to the student body and work with the students to create a better school environment.

"If there's a policy that the student body thinks is unfair, then the senators would tell me. If it really is unfair, I'd revisit it. If it's reasonable, I could make some adaptations."

Trinh also said that he believes in Lee and wants to promote a school culture of positivity, collaboration, and learning.

Lee Generals adopt new logo

Guadalupe Rodriguez
Layout Editor

Lee high School is facing many changes this year including new teachers, a new principal, the beginning of the construction of the new building, and even a new logo.

The new logo consists of a "G" surrounded by five stars, and each star represents the five principals of education that lead to success.

"I thought, let's have a theme because we have a new school and each star represents something that we were going to live by," Principal Jonathan Trinh said. "So that when you make the wrong decision you follow these principles."

The principles of each star include: leadership, citizenship, compassion, resilience, and scholarship, but are open to suggestions, according to Trinh.

This new logo not only incorporates Lee's history tied to General Robert E. Lee, but is also inspired by modern military generals to promote this new level of excellence that is Lee students are trying to achieve.

"If you want to be a general you have to have a high standard," 9th

and 11th Grade Assistant Principal Joseph Mata said. "We thought we'd use the five stars because usually the five star generals are the leaders during wars, because you need to push forward to be successful in what you want to do."

Many of the students at Lee have welcomed the logo as they feel it lives up to the fresh start that Lee is about go through.

"[A]fter several years of changing the school around, changing the logo as a follow up is interesting," Senior Karina Chicas said. "After changing teachers, principals, dress code, renovating the school, this school has been changing a lot. And changing the logo is like a fresh new start of a whole new school."

Other individuals have been less accepting of the new logo and even more critical of being left out of the choosing process.

"I think the new logo is good. Things are changing in Lee so a change in the logo seems reasonable," Senior Kim Benitez said. "I just think that students should be allowed to choose our own logo."

Other Students agree with Benitez.

"I think the new logo is pretty simple," Sophomore Anthony Diaz said. "In my opinion I prefer the old one. I wouldn't like it to be our new logo because it's too simple."

Even eight-year instructor, Sergeant Trint Conrod is not satisfied with the new change.

"Being in the military, the five stars mean the generals, but instead of a G in the middle, I think it should've been an L because that represents Lee High School," Conrod said.

Although some students feel they are left out from choosing, Principal Trinh said he is planning to rebuild the Lee High School student council and get a 2 person committee from each grade level to discuss the new logo.

The new logo has not been added to the school uniform shirts for this year, however, according to Mata, the logo is as official as the school wants it to be and any school program is free and open to use the new symbol that represents today's Lee High School generals.



What's inside this issue of The Traveler?

Find out when homecoming is and how you can support your Generals! Check out the spirit shirts for this year! Page 3

Need help finding your teachers and Lee staff? Take a look at the staff guide! Pages 4 to 8

Get involved on campus! Join one of our many clubs or sports. Check out page 9 for more information.



Lee begins Linked Learning

Brenda Zuniga
News Writer

During the 2013-2014 school year there was talk about bringing communities back to Lee. However, not exactly the same; these new and renovated “communities” were going to be called Academies and would work with Linked Learning. These new changes were going to take place during our 2014-2015 school year.

So where are they?

Lee High School did bring back our communities, with a different name, different approach and many more opportunities. The welding, cabinet making and GIS (Geographic Information System) classrooms are part of the Construction and Design Academy with a Linked Learning approach.

“Communities are back, but we are starting with the freshman,” English I Teacher Edward Garza said.

Why freshmen? What about the rest of Lee High School?

Well the linked learning approach is a process. It is not a one-year thing, like any other class. The freshman are going to help build up the academy as they go on to becoming seniors.

“There are things called stages, and right now the freshmen are in the first stage,” Garza continued.

The stages work in the following way: freshman will work together with their Academies, which are woodshop, welding or GIS, and learn the very basics. Then they will learn how to apply them, which would be stage two or sophomore year.

Then, finally, they will use them. This would be junior year or the third stage. By the time the class of 2018 is ready to graduate they will have applied what they learned in linked learning and be eligible for things such as scholarships, internships and even jobs. The goal is that when the class of 2018 are seniors, they will work on their off periods towards their academy with linked learning and will receive opportunities and benefits the upperclassmen don’t have access to.

“We don’t want a student to work in a job they hate once they are adults and graduate,” Jettie Greene, GIS teacher and Linked Learning Approach coordinator said. “With our linked learning approach they will try out woodshop and welding and if they do not like it for whatever reason, they will now know what kinds of jobs to approach.”

The goal is to leave no student behind. “We want our classrooms to be free. The classes are harder, but our students are being well taught and we won’t have a ‘teacher/student’ role. The students will help us learn while also teaching,” Greene continued.

The freshmen are carving a pathway for Lee High School alumni to come. They are not alone, Greene, in room 313, is always open to give out a lending hand, and Sheryl Smith, room 311, is the Linked Learning counselor. Along with them every freshman teacher is out to help and make this new way of teaching and learning possible.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY JETTIE GREENE

Greene is cutting wood for an extership project using shop tools at Madera Works of Texas in the Heights. Carl, production manager, supervises her.

Seniors start professional internships

Maria Ramirez
News Writer

As a freshman in high school, usually everyone’s main focus is finding their assigned classes on their schedules. The majority of students are not thinking about college their first week of school. They are figuring out who they are, what drama is going on in school, and if they fit in.

What students fail to realize is that once you get into high school, the goals you once had change. The people you once called your best friends are becoming strangers, yet new opportunities are arising and doors are opening. Students are very overwhelmed about personal life pressures

during school and start to ignore school responsibilities.

Students play a big role in their education. They are the ones that apply for schedule changes, for the extracurricular activities that are exceptional on a college application, and even for keeping up with grades so that their GPA is high. Opportunities are everywhere, and available for everyone of every race and background.

Opportunities such as internships are being offered to students, and some students have taken those opportunities. The two main internships that have been sweeping the school are, “Houston Chronicle” and “Genesys Works.” These two opportunities have impacted those participating in the program.

Last year, Spanish/ journalism teacher Jennifer Wiener was given a journalism class to bring back the student newspaper, The Traveler, after about 20 years. Students in the class worked very hard to learn the history of journalism as well as how to transform into successful journalists. With the newspaper and the winning of First Place in Overall Journalism at the UIL District meet, the Houston Chronicle took an interest in Lee and reached out to Wiener asking for seniors to be a part of its internship program. The Houston Chronicle took six seniors from Lee including, Kymyatta Gabriel, Cristian Morales, Ixchel Perez, Maria Ramirez, Guadalupe Rodriguez, and Cindy Wakiyama.

Genesys Works is the other internship opportunity offered to seniors at Lee this year. It offers internships to students in

information technology, engineering drafting, and accounting and finance. Students enter the program the summer before their senior year for eight weeks of training and then they are assigned to work at one of the locations, part-time, throughout their senior year. The four interns to represent Lee are Prashantika Gautam, Mindy Hernandez, Saras Paudel, and Bigyan Subedi.

“In the past Lee hadn’t had as many internships offered as now,” Keisha Smith-Davis of the College Center said. “We recently partnered up with Williams through Genesis Works and some other companies, where we let the students leave for half of the school day and look into different careers, which is the way it should be.”

She said that internships were a great opportunity to experience a job.

“Students never really understand the preparations and work that takes place in a job because they are not physically there,” Smith-Davis said. “Students at Lee High School have many opportunities offered to them, but you have to ask to receive them.”

Smith-Davis also mentioned that the turn out for student selection to work in these programs was positive and she says she believes these internships will continue to work with Lee so as long as students continue to represent Lee well.

As you continue to see student’s walking around in professional dress, and leaving school early, think about your future, and think about what you want to pursue. Who do you want be, and how are you preparing to get there?



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GUADALUPE RODRIGUEZ

Seniors participating in the Houston Chronicle internship started their first day, Wednesday, Aug. 27. They get to work with and as actual reporters by creating a newspaper for HISD. A bus takes them downtown every school day from 1:00 to 3:00 pm and they receive school credit for their work.



Football homecoming game against Sharpstown HS; themes announced

Get ready to spread school spirit and celebrate homecoming!

Melissa Garcia
Sports Writer

“Don’t mess with Texas!” This new homecoming theme is all about Texan culture and football. Lee will be filled with students wearing football jerseys and the hallways will become famous cities around Texas, including Houston of course.

Edward Garza, freshman English teacher, is in charge of making all of this happen.

“We selected don’t mess with Texas because so many of our students are new to our country and new to our state and even new to our city, so we wanted to express don’t mess with Texas,” Garza said. “We wanted to go in hand and hand and take pride in Texas. We wanted them to feel connected to their school.”

This idea is meant to help new students that have recently arrived from other countries to familiarize themselves with their new city and school. Every day on homecoming week will be assigned something

that is a part of Texan culture.

“Our days are centered on the theme Don’t Mess with Texas, so Monday’s theme is centered on Texans vs cowboys,” Garza said.

This means that students will be allowed to wear their Texans or Dallas Cowboys jerseys on Monday. Tuesday will be camo vs western, which represents Texas itself. Wednesday will be Big 12 vs SEC, however, any Texas college football spirit wear is allowed. Students will wear their school colors, black and gold, on Thursday since there will be no school on Friday. The homecoming game however will be held that Friday at Butler Stadium.

The hallways will also be decorated according to the city assigned to each one. Senior hallway will be Houston, junior hallway will be Dallas, sophomores get San Antonio and freshmen get Austin. This will

include anything that defines each city anywhere from political figures to music and attractions. This is designed to help new students connect with their new home and also get to know the cities they are surrounded by and what they are famous for.

Students are also excited for this year’s homecoming.

“Homecoming should be the biggest event of the year,” Freshman Nyarie Harris said. “I feel happy for the football team because I know they are going to win this year’s homecoming game against Sharpstown.”



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Andres Sandler, freshman, said he was “ecstatic” for his very first high school homecoming week. Senior football player, Mounir T., #17, said he has mixed emotions.

“It’s good because it’s going to be a good game and bad because it’s going to be the last football game that I will be playing in high school.”

Homecoming Spirit Shirts On Sale



Show your Lee spirit through purchasing and wearing the Lee homecoming t-shirt as shown above. The shirts are \$10 and you can preorder one with Mr. Garza in room 320.

Cheer on your fellow Generals

Varsity Football Schedule					
Week	Date	Opponent	Home/Away	Time	Stadium
1	8/28/14	Pasadena HS	Away	7:00pm	Pasadena
2	9/5/14	Willis HS	Away	7:00pm	Willis
3	9/12/14	Sterling HS	Home	7:00pm	Butler
4	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye	Bye
5	9/27/14	Davis HS	Away	6:00pm	Cowart
6	10/3/14	Sharpstown HS	Home	7:00pm	Butler
7	10/9/14	Yates HS	Away	7:00pm	Barnett
8	10/18/14	North Forest HS	Home	6:00pm	Butler
9	10/24/14	Austin HS	Away	7:00pm	Dyer
10	11/1/14	Madison HS	Away	1:00pm	Butler
11	11/8/14	Waltrip HS	Home	6:00pm	Butler

JV Varsity Volleyball Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Home/Away	Time
9/5/14	Davis HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
9/10/14	Sharpstown HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
9/12/14	Yates HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm
9/16/14	North Forest HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
9/19/14	Austin HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm
9/24/14	Madison HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
9/26/14	Waltrip HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
10/7/14	Davis HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm
10/10/14	Sharpstown HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm
10/15/14	Yates HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
10/17/14	North Forest HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm
10/23/14	Austin HS	Away	5:30/6:30pm
10/25/14	Madison HS	Home	1:00/2:00pm
10/28/14	Waltrip HS	Home	5:30/6:30pm

Varsity Volleyball Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Home/Away	Time
9/5/14	Davis HS	Away	6:30pm
9/10/14	Sharpstown HS	Butler	5:45pm
9/12/14	Yates HS	Butler	6:30pm
9/16/14	North Forest HS	Away	5:45pm
9/19/14	Austin HS	Butler	4:00pm
9/24/14	Madison HS	Butler	5:45pm
9/26/14	Waltrip HS	Away	4:00pm
10/7/14	Davis HS	Butler	5:00pm
10/10/14	Sharpstown HS	Butler	7:45pm
10/15/14	Yates HS	Away	5:45pm
10/17/14	North Forest HS	Butler	6:30pm
10/23/14	Austin HS	Away	6:30pm
10/25/14	Madison HS	Butler	3:30pm
10/28/14	Waltrip HS	Butler	5:45pm

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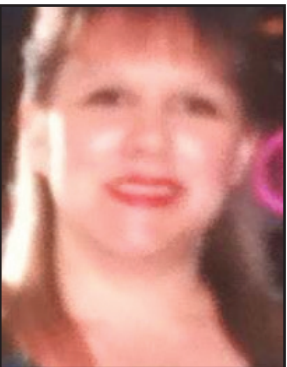
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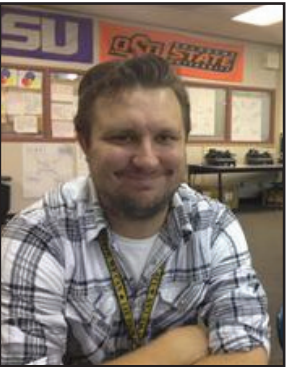
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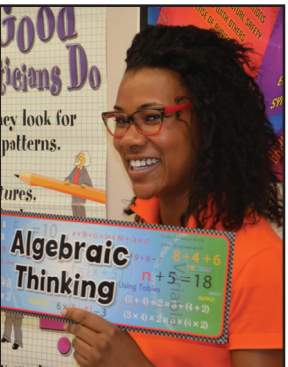
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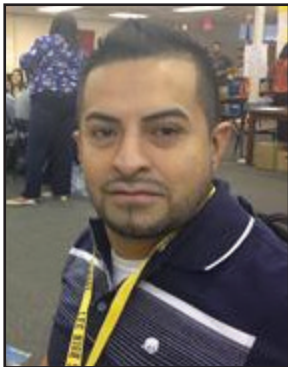
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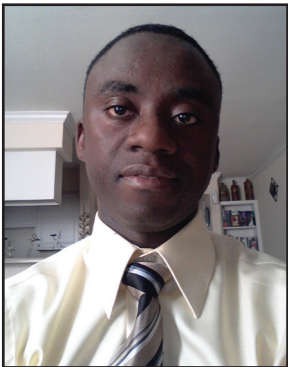
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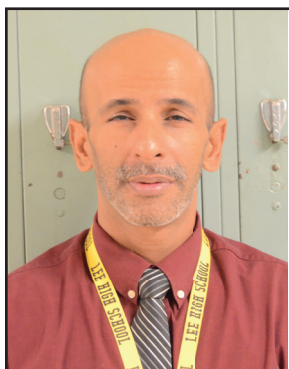
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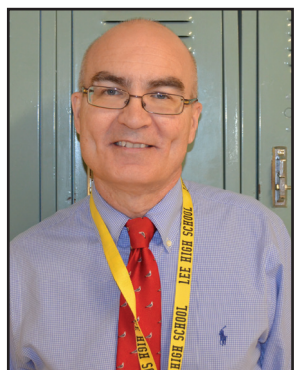
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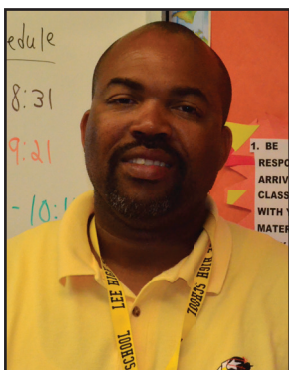
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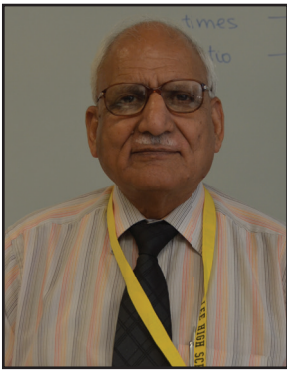
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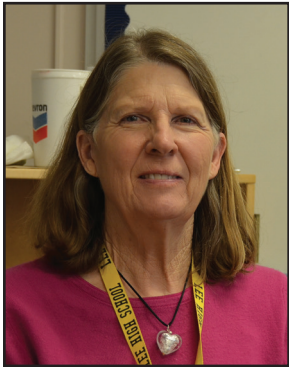
Meet the staff of LEE HIGH SCHOOL 2014-2015



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CLUBS AT LEE!



Debate

Ms. Loza
Room: 221
Are you sure you want to argue? You will lose. I am a debater.
Join Debate 2014-2015



UIL

Mr. Lantz
Room 308
Attention Lee Generals! Do you like to compete, but don't like sports? Do you want to belong to a winning team? Well, UIL academic competitions are for you! Your competitors will come from various high schools across the district. There is a wide array of teams you can compete with. Please check out the list of events below. Interested??? Great! Come by room 308 to get your questions answered by this year's UIL coordinator Mr. Lantz. Of course, you will need to train in order to be successful in demonstrating your academic superiority. Stop by room 308 on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school to sign up for a team and begin training! Bring your friends!

Accounting
Calculator Applications
Computer Applications
Computer Science
Current Issues and Events
Debate
Literary Criticism
Mathematics
Number Sense
Ready Writing
Spelling and Vocabulary

Science
Editorial Writing
Feature Writing
News Writing
Social Studies
Informative Speaking
Persuasive Speaking
Poetry Interpretation
Prose Interpretation
Headline Writing

NHS

Danielle Hubbard
Room 214
The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students and provide them and opportunity to:
create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, promote leadership, and develop character
"The National Honor Society is one of America's most prestigious community service clubs. What sets our club apart from others is that we take into account many factors to allow our members in. In order to be invited, you must be an upper classman (junior or senior) with a 3.5 GPA or above. Although a person may have the statistics down, they must prove themselves worthy of being inducted by demonstrating selfless service, dedication, and incredible work ethic. Not only is this organization great to add to your college resume, it is also very rewarding through giving back to the community. This year we have planned out so many different activities that will make a difference both locally and internationally, so stay tuned and check for your invitation to our Society."
-Guadalupe Rodriguez, National Honor Society President
First Meeting: 19 Sep 2014, Room 214/216 at 3:30 pm

Newspaper

Ms. Wiener
Room 219
Newspaper is a club/class in which you can truly make a difference at Lee High School and our surrounding community. Not only is it fun to become a published journalist, it is also a good way to boost your writing and communication skills, interact with important people, and be a leader at school, while also boosting your resume and helping improve literacy on campus. Help Lee maintain its reputation as first in UIL Overall journalism in HISD and join our Traveler family! Contact Ms. Wiener in room 219.





CLUBS AT LEE!



LeeTV

Ms. Wiener
Room 219

Have you ever wanted to be a TV or movie star? Well, here is your chance to make it in the spotlight! Lee TV is a club/class where students work collaboratively on writing scripts, inventing ideas, shooting and editing video, and sharing information with your fellow Generals! It's a fun, family atmosphere and a great way to make a positive influence on the school and community. So come be the face of Lee and join our Lee TV family! Contact Ms. Wiener in room 219.

Boys' JV Soccer

Mr. Carrillo
Room 116

Junior Varsity Boy's Soccer covering grades 9-11. We will have a program wide meeting, including Boy's and Girl's Soccer sometime around November, be on the lookout for the exact time and date to be announced. If you are interested, stop by my room.

Robotics

Mr. Carrillo
Room 116

The robotics club is expanding this year, with our team participating in two competitions, Vex Robotics in the fall, and First Robotics in the Spring. We will be meeting on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays throughout September and October. Visit the competition websites for specific information: www.vexrobotics.com and www.usfirst.org.



Boys and Girls Wrestling

James Laster
Room 141

2013-2014 HISD District Champions
Boys/Girls
First Meeting will be October 6, 2014.
Two returning State Qualifiers (Ixchel Perez, Cindy Poz)
GO GENERALS

Girl Power!

Mr. Reed
Room 312

Girl Power is a group of students that have identified their dream of attending a great university and work towards this dream with the guidance and support of successful professional women from the local community. Students not only receive mentoring for professional women, they will mentor younger students, participate in service projects and dedicate themselves totally to fulfilling their post-secondary academic dreams.



Girls' Basketball

Ms. Loza
Room: 221

Interested in being a part of a team? Join Girls' Basketball! You don't think you can? Practice and you WILL! Go Generals!



Young Men's Club

Ms. Thornhill and Dr. Forest
Room: 222 or 241

This club is dedicated to young men mastering and modeling the 7 levels of manhood through mentoring, projects, activities, internships, and workshops to assist in career and educational goals. Sign up after school in 241 or 222.



Lee Guard Dance Team

Tamara Tisdale
Room 401

Lee Guard is a dance team and support group for the athletes here at Lee High School. Their function is to perform dance routines at various functions such as football, basketball, soccer games and pep rallies. Lee Guard also is very active in the community with service projects and participates in various community parades throughout Houston. We also compete in an annual HISD dance competition with surrounding HISD schools every spring.

JROTC

Major (Retired) Adrian Corona and Sergeant First Class (Retired) Trint J. Conrod
Room 602, 603

Mission: "To motivate young people to be better citizens"

Vision: JROTC provides a quality citizenship, character, and leadership development program, while fostering partnerships with communities and educational institutions.

Instructors mentor, assist and provide guidance by incorporating their experiences and leadership skills gained throughout their military careers to motivate Cadets to aspire to succeed!

Woods Project

Garza
Room 320

The Woods Project is an outdoor adventure club where you can learn how to survive in the wilderness. It meets Tuesdays after school in room 320.

Cheerleading

Coach Camilla Thornhill
Room 222

Cheerleading is a sport dedicated to promoting school spirit at Lee High School and supporting all sports, clubs, and athletes. Cheer interest meeting will be held September 11th, 2014, promptly at 4:20 pm.



Yearbook

Ms. Wiener
Room 219

Yearbook is a club/class where you can help to record this historical year at Lee while working with awesome people and having fun! It is our responsibility as the producers of the yearbook to take pictures of events, design and layout pages, gather information about all the different aspects of Lee, and create a book that people will save and look at for years to come. Come join our yearbook family! Talk to Ms. Wiener in room 219.

Homecoming Committee

Garza
Room 320

Come help create an unforgettable homecoming! Join the committee! We meet Thursdays after school.

Police Explorers

Ms. Andrews-Elwell
Room 208

Police Explorers is a career-oriented program that gives students the opportunity to explore a career in law enforcement by working and learning from HISD Police Officers.



Students and teacher face wilderness hardships while hiking Yosemite

The Woods Project club travelled to California to experience the outdoors; little did they know what they were getting themselves into

Edward Garza
Sponsor of The Woods Project

Deep within Yosemite National Park California I am sitting on a tree stump barefoot and shivering thankful that the three hours of torrential downpour is over. I am trying to warm myself over the open fire. Only now have I accepted that I would never be the same.

Surrounded only by a blanket of silence I sit here thinking about how I made it this far. No longer do I desire the chaos that Houston provides me, but rather I need to make it through the night. In order to survive I need to dry off as quickly as possible and start looking for a place to hang up all of my wet supplies.

I elected to be here, I knew what I was getting into, I volunteered. Two weeks in a National Park backpacking with students from all over Houston I really did not know, that is what I agreed to. We would also have to carry all the supplies needed

for survival, backpacks weighing in at about forty plus pounds. I have run over 1500 miles in my running career, so the idea of thirty miles over these two weeks was going to be a cakewalk.

Looking back to boarding a plane to California and taking a five hour bus ride just a couple of days before, I now saw it as going off the deep end. My role was to chaperon this trip with an area Houston organization that took inner city high school students out to explore nature. The Woods Project boast “to create wilderness education and exploration experiences that develop critical behaviors needed for disadvantaged students to achieve success in school and life.” I do not remember signing up for a three-hour thunderstorm on a mountainside trying to navigate ten students safely to our campsite. In all honestly I guess I knew that

this could be a situation, but I didn’t think it would be this tough.

I tightened the straps of my backpack, moved the hair out of my face then looked into the eyes of my scared trail mate Bubblegum, a senior at Incarnate Word, and listened as she simply said, “We need to keep moving.” Nobody needed to say it, we all knew what needed to be done, and it was comforting just to know that even our weaker hikers were strong. I look back at my group, and I see two of my boys working hard to push forward with the extra weight of their slower trail mates, they were stronger. Buda and Shampoo were the first to take the tents or bear cans of the girls- heads down socks wet, ponchos on as they pushed on (I might not have said it to them, but they made me proud). They weren’t the only ones out there with me; there were



PHOTO TAKEN BY EDWARD GARZA

7 others, each soaked to the bone. There were no complaints, conversations, or breaks. They marched forward in silence through the pouring rain along the mountainside to May Lake. It was 3:30 pm and I did not know if we are going to make it

before nightfall.

“The mind, once stretched by a new idea, never returns to its original dimensions.”-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Tips for success even after all dreams have come true

Ixchel Perez
Opinion Writer

Is there ever an end to our dreams? Would we stop wanting more after we have gotten everything, we once asked for? Is there something more after success? The main question here is, what happens after achieving what you had planned for yourself when still in high school?

As a senior high school student, I have many goals and many dreams. They are all about my grades, graduation, college, the Houston Chronicle internship, volleyball, wrestling, scholarships and of course my successful college life but I don’t see a future after that. I haven’t planned my life after college yet, and I am not sure of what to expect. I know that as the years go by I will get closer to that point and maybe by then I will see the bigger picture. Many of you who might be on the same page of life as me may be wondering the same, so don’t worry for you are not alone.

Garrett Reed, an amazing ESL teacher and mentor, has made a great impact on many students’ lives by teaching them a new lan-

guage.

“When I was in high school, I knew I wanted to teach. I love teaching,” Reed said. “I wasn’t afraid of not being successful because I was going to follow the footsteps of my family, I always knew I’d be successful.”

Today he is not only making a change or improvement in his own life, he is also making huge impact on every single one of his students. “My motivation is to teach kids about the journey in themselves and outside themselves,” Reed said.

According to Reed, another motivation in his life is the curiosity that one has inside themselves and outside in the world.

Another inspiration and motivator is a successful woman I met earlier this year. She said she became successful because she dared herself to take the risks in life.

At the age of 14, she traveled across the ocean with only one hundred dollars in her pockets into a new land, different culture, language, religion, and without her parents. Her mind ignored all of the

circumstances and all the potential problems that she would have to confront.

She was only focused on her dreams, and her mind was set to be successful. Today she didn’t only overcame her struggles, but she is the Executive Director of Innoventures by Softtek. She is responsible for driving innovation and entrepreneurship within Softtek, LatAm’s largest IT service company.

Just because we don’t yet have a plan or next step, doesn’t mean that we won’t achieve our dreams. It takes courage, determination, and dedication to accomplish dreams.

Always try achieving the small goals before you jump into the big ones. Baby steps might be required throughout the journey of your life, so remember it is alright to fail on your way to success, it’s normal to not know what you want to make out of your future self, and it will all fall into place as long as you keep drawing the picture of your life as you grow up. Never give up, find a way, and believe in yourself and all your dreams will come true!

Freshmen: take advantage of your first year of high school

Kimberly Benitez
Opinion Writer

Starting off your first year of high school may seem very nerve-racking, but it doesn’t need to be that way. We can all agree that freshmen have a very hard time in their first year of high school, unless you are a Jock. You get teased for being a “Fishy.”

Everyone went through it, so don’t stress on it too much. Even if you don’t realize it, your freshman year is really important. It’s the year when you basically show everyone your knowledge.

Senior Guadalupe Rodriguez said, “Don’t be afraid of joining new things in school.”

She explained how joining clubs and classes like journalism has helped her excel in high school. Rodriguez is spending her senior year working as an intern in the Houston Chronicle. She attends school for half a day and then leaves for work.

If you are a freshman challenge yourself to take

challenging classes. Not only with school work but also in sports if you play any. Challenge yourself to meet new friends. You will meet many people in High School. Having many different friends is very helpful, and will make your high school experience more memorable. Don’t try being “one deep” as many say. Having a lot of friends is not bad at all.

Make sure to come to school every day prepared. Try your best to go to every class and don’t skip, because you will lose credit for your classes and might even go to court. You don’t want to be retaking classes you lost credit for during your junior or senior year.

Most importantly enjoy your four years of high school, make memories. Go to games! Attend pep-rallies! Participate in high school activities! Get to know your teachers, trust me they will soon become your best friends. Have fun!

Generals...always!

A column written by Lee High School’s proud alumni who want to share their experiences and advice with all of you!

Melanie Hauser
Vice President

Have you ever wondered what the Lee campus looked like when it opened in 1962? What was it like to grow up in the decades of the civil rights movement, Vietnam War and the space race?

How did the students dress? What clubs were they involved in? Who were they? Who are they now?

Did you know that students packed Delmar and Butler Stadiums on Friday nights for football games? That the football team won district/bi-district/regional eight times from 1964-1975?

That we used all those lockers on the walls? That we parked in the field across the school that is now home to Pappasitos? That Lee’s halls were filled with some folks who would go on to do some amazing things? That we’re all still Lee Generals in our hearts?

You’ve probably heard that ZZTop’s Billy Gibbons is a 1968 Lee grad, but did you know that Justin Avery Anderson, a 2005 grad, started a successful granola company while he was at Lee? Or that City Councilman Ed Gonzales was a 1987 Lee grad?

That the Robert E. Lee HS Alumni Association represents the 52 classes that have graduated from Lee since 1963 and we’ll soon be representing you as alumni?

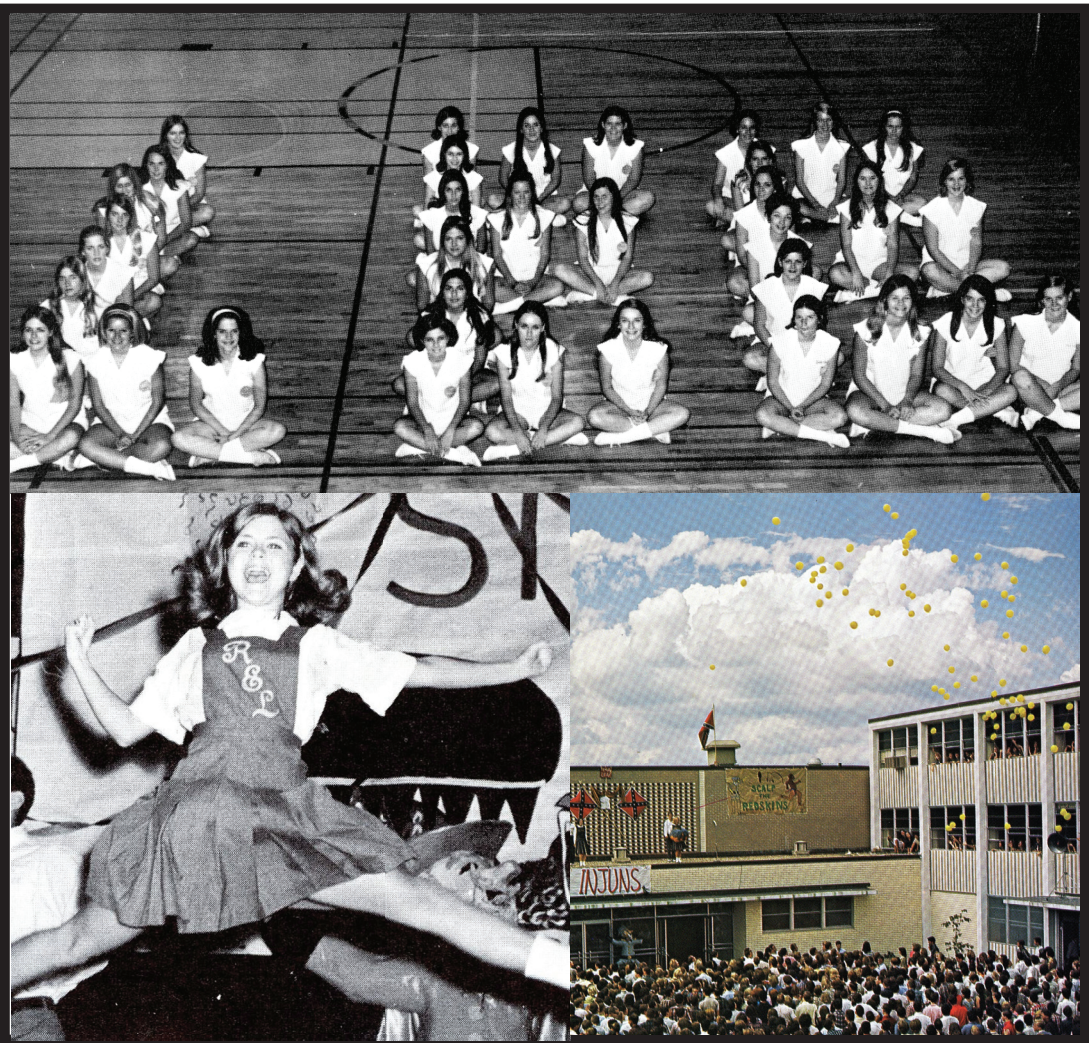
I’m Melanie Hauser, class of 1971, and I – as well as a few other alums -- will be using this space in every edition of the Traveler to tell a story or two or tell you a bit more about some of Lee’s outstanding alums. We’ll even answer your questions about what Lee was like “back in the day.” Just ask.

We’re already working on a history project for the new school and you’ll be seeing us around school helping out with a little of this and a lot of that. If you want to know more about us, visit www.houstonleealumni.org. We look forward to meeting you!

Generals . . . always!!!!

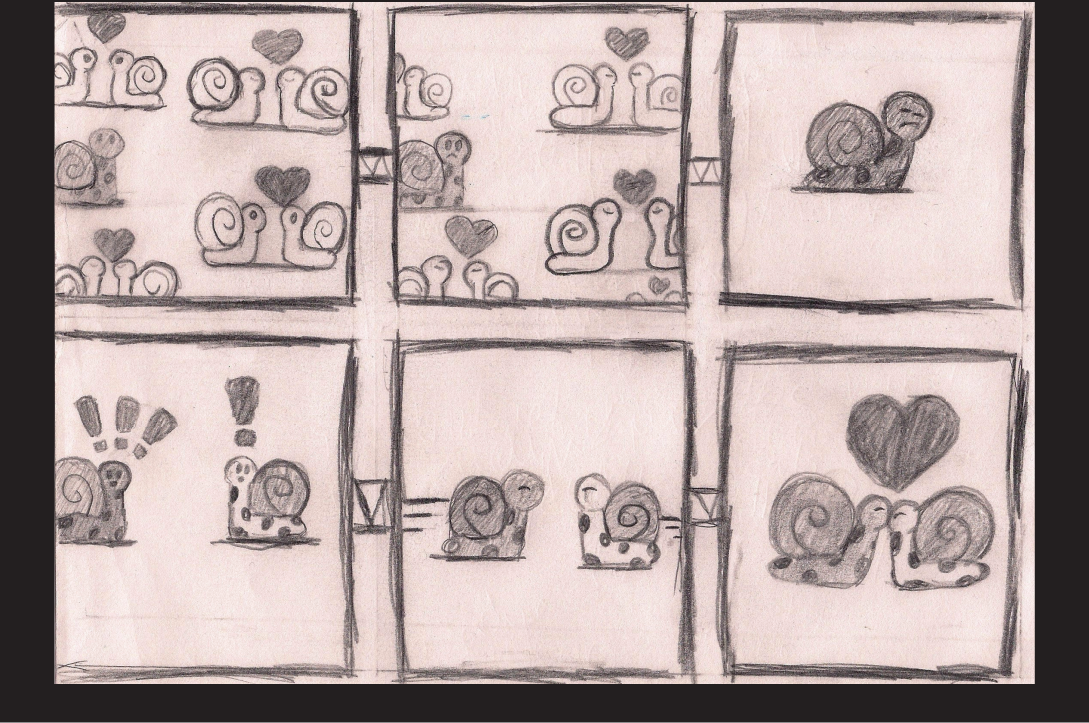
Alumni officers

President – Martin Bailey, 1965
Vice-President – Melanie Hauser, 1971
Secretary – Alex Johnson, 1974
Treasurer – Rodrigo Canedo, 1992



Snail Paced Love

Jordyn Lewis



"Who ya gonna yell for, Generals?" Claudia Holcomb and the Lieutenants cheer team to victory.

SAT Crossword Puzzle

www.RudolfAcademy.com

- Across**

 - 1 adj. lacking drive or emotion.
 - 2 n. sincerity, honesty.
 - 4 adj. concise; brief and full of meaning and substance.
 - 6 n. a social outcast.
 - 9 adj. lacking respect; scornful.
 - 11 adj. having little or no energy.
 - 12 adj. thinking only about money; greedy for self gain.
 - 14 adj. abstract; hard to understand.
 - 15 adj. generous in giving to others or in spending money.
 - 16 adj. hard to understand; hidden; mysterious.
 - 17 adj. dishonest or deceptive.
 - 20 adj. pleasing to the taste.
 - 21 adj. trite; made commonplace by overuse.
 - 25 v. to wander off from the topic or subject spoken about.
 - 26 adj. smooth sounding and sweet.
 - 27 n. abundance; excess.
 - 29 adj. compatible; having kindred tastes or needs.
 - 30 adj. vivacious; lively; full of uplifted spirit.
- Down**

 - 1 n. the beginning or something; the start.
 - 3 adj. ready to fight; taking part in fighting or war.
 - 5 adj. itinerant; moving around or walking about.
 - 7 adj. small in quantity; minor or trivial.
 - 8 v. to recover from an illness.
 - 10 adj. like a slave; very submissive.
 - 13 n. determination, firmness.
 - 16 v. to scold or punish harshly.
 - 18 adj. underhanded, furtive.
 - 19 adj. very careful; finicky; fussy.
 - 22 v. to make quiet or tranquil, especially by giving into demands.
 - 23 adj. cautious, careful, and wise.
 - 24 v. to nourish, to care for.
 - 28 v. extol; to praise.
- Possible Answers:**
appease, belligerent, candor, chastise, congenial, contemptuous, convalesce, cryptic, devious, digress, effervescent, hackneyed, impassive, inception, laud, lavish, lethargic, mellifluous, mercenary, meticulous, nurture, obscure, palatable, pariah, peripatetic, petty, pithy, plethora, prudent, resolve, servile, sly

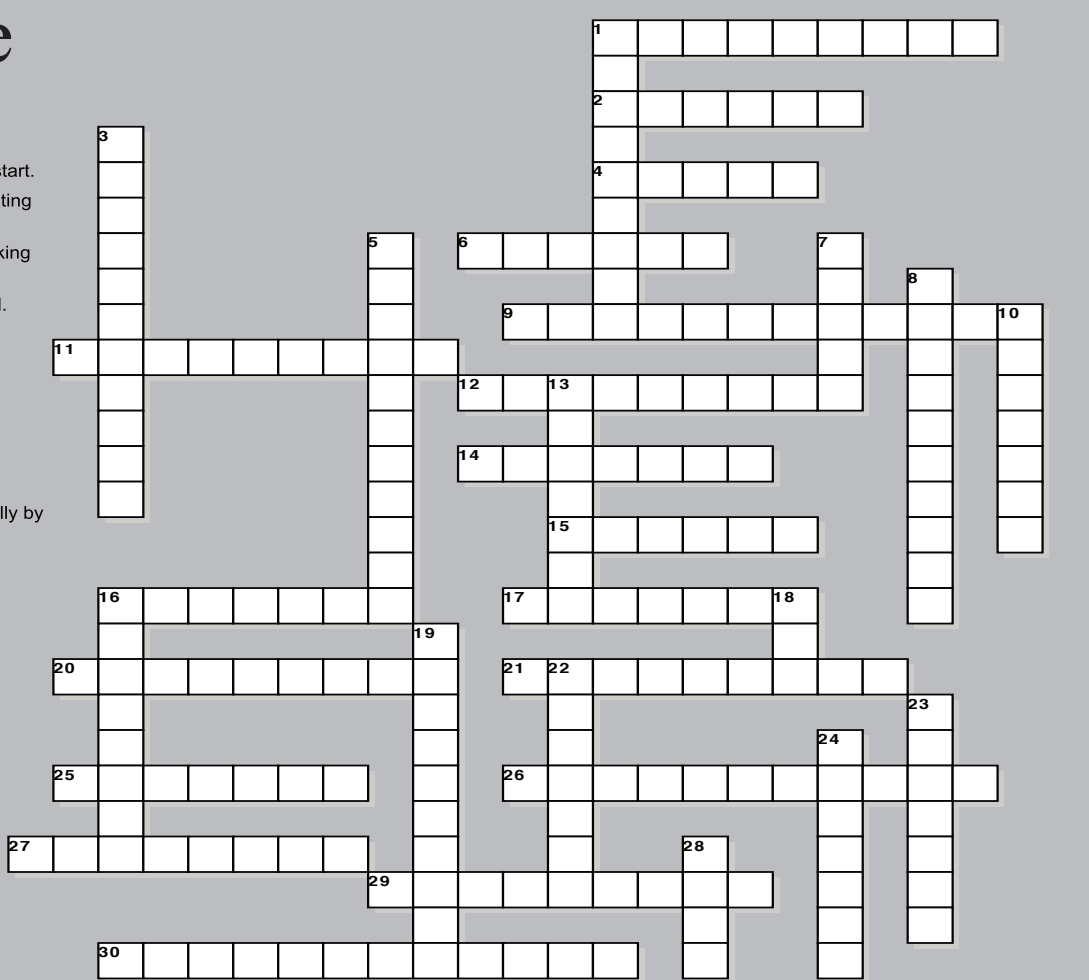




PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

The Lee Guard dances as the band plays at the very first pep rally of the year on Friday, Sept. 5 in the main gym to support football and volleyball teams.



PHOTO TAKEN BY YOHANNES NYAMA

Ms. Aerin McQuiggin and Marcelin Kamdoum challenge the entire staff, faculty and student body to participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Lee High School students finish their first week back to the classroom Friday, Aug. 29, after meeting their new teachers and administration.



PHOTO TAKEN BY ISSA YAGI

Two Houston Texans cheerleaders came to cheer on and show their support for the football and volleyball teams at the first pep rally. Go Lee Generals!



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Juniors assembled in the auditorium Thursday, Sept. 4 to learn the new expectations for this school year.



PHOTO TAKEN BY ISSA YAGI

Lady Generals volleyball players Yamilex Plancarte (left) and Bria Davis (right) get excited for the game.



PHOTO TAKEN BY IXCHEL PEREZ

The Generals football team fought hard but lost against Pasadena High School in their very first game of the season Thursday, Aug. 28.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MARCELIN KAMDOUM

Lee Cheerleaders show off their moves and their school spirit at the first Lee pep rally, Friday, Sept. 5.



PHOTO TAKEN BY ISSA YAGI

JROTC led the opening ceremonies of the pep rally with the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to Texas.