

January 19, 2016

2015 North-South All-Star Football Game

Five Lexington One students and a staff member took part in the 2015 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives North-South All-Star Football Game in Myrtle Beach.

Lexington High Linebacker **Trey Mitchell** and Wide Receiver **Tyler Schadewald**, River Bluff High Wide Receiver **Davon Johnson** and White Knoll High Defensive Lineman **Tyquilo Moore** all played for the South team. They were five of 88 football players selected statewide for the game. Pelion High Linebacker **Octavius Green** played for the North Team.

Although Mitchell and Schadewald were selected to play in the North-South game, they instead played for Lexington High in the 4A State Championship football game against Northwestern High.

Johnson was a wide receiver, and Moore was a defensive lineman for the South team. As a linebacker for the North Team, Green helped lead his team to victory over the South team by a score of 37-27.

Pelion High Football Coach **Barry Fogle** was selected to serve as an assistant coach in the North-South game, helping coach the North team. Coach Fogle has been an assistant football coach at Pelion High for 16 years and also serves as the head baseball coach.

LHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **Josh Stepp** coaches Mitchell and Shadewald. PHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **Dann Holland** coaches Green. RBHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **David Bennett** coaches Johnson, and WKHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **Dean Howell** coaches Moore.

2015 Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas participants

Lexington One enjoyed great representation in the 2015 Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas.

Lexington High Defensive Back **Nick Graves** and Wide Receiver **Jayson Hopper** and River Bluff High Quarterback and Linebacker **Brandon Tillmon** played for South Carolina in the annual game held at Wofford College. A total of 88 players earned a spot on either the South Carolina or North Carolina team.

Graves and Hopper are coached by LHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **Josh Stepp**, and RBHS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **David Bennett** coaches Tillmon.

LHS Student **Bailey Kicklighter** and WKHS Student **Andrew Ditch** served as sports medicine student aides. The Lexington High Head Athletic Trainer is **Damone Leaphart**, and the White Knoll High Head Athletic Trainer is **Sheila Gordon**.

Lexington One also was involved in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas Game Ball Run, with Lexington High Cross-Country Runners **Will Bugeski** and **Hunter Janus** participating in the run. On game day at 7:45 a.m., top high school cross-country athletes run the Shrine Bowl game ball from Shriners Hospital in Greenville to Gibbs Stadium in Spartanburg. The runner of the last leg arrives at Gibbs Stadium in time for the 1 p.m. kickoff.

The Lexington High Cross-Country Coach is **Bailey Harris**.

American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Honor Choir performers

Seven Gilbert High students were selected to participate in the American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Honor Choir.

Sophomore **Emily Enlow**, Juniors **Jeremiah Kubilus**, **Alyssa McMillan** and **Hannah Perry**, and Seniors **Erin Roof**, **Olivia Schumpert** and **Morgan Taylor** auditioned and were selected to participate in one of the honor choirs.

There are four choirs, and each choir contains 125–150 singers. The performance will be held in March of 2016 in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

2015 South Carolina Football Coaches Association 4A Lower State Coach of the Year

Football coaches and principals chose Lexington High Athletic Director and Head Football Coach **Josh Stepp** as the 4A Lower State Coach of the Year.

Stepp joined the LHS athletic department as athletic director and head football coach in 2013, and has 10 years of coaching experience.

During his time at LHS, Wildcat athletic teams have won 22 region championships and four state championships. Stepp also created a leadership council for athletes, which meets monthly to increase peer-driven leadership on the school's athletic teams.

2016 Target Field Trip Grant recipient

Saxe Gotha Elementary Second-Grade Teacher **Haylee Boltjes** received a 2016 Target Field Trip Grant.

The students will take a field trip to a local strawberry farm right outside of Columbia in Hopkins, South Carolina. One of the goals of the grant is for students to experience first-hand how local farmers provide goods and services to the community in which they live.

The grant for the field trip will allow students a real-world experience and enhance learning with important issues outside the classroom and school by using various academic resources to help develop the students' knowledge of farming, produce and markets.

DonorsChoose.org Project Funding recipient

Oak Grove Speech and Language Pathologist **Jena Sherban** thought of a creative way to help her students have fun with learning.

Sherban used DonorsChoose.org to secure funding for her project titled "Creative Communication." The funding provided Sherban with several items that will be used to create therapy materials for her classroom.

She received a Cricut machine, a laminator and other materials to incorporate fun new projects for her classroom.

National Board Certified Teachers

Four Lexington One teachers received their National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The two-part process takes from one to three years to complete.

Candidates are required to reflect on their classroom practices, assess their understanding of subject material and examine their preparation techniques. Teachers must also prepare a portfolio with videos of teaching, lesson plans, student work samples and reflective essays and complete assessment center exercises that prove they have mastered and know how to teach their subjects.

The newly certified teachers include: English Teacher **Dawne Cloninger** from Lexington High; Third-Grade Teacher **Michelle Lutz** from Meadow Glen Elementary; Fifth-Grade Teacher **Katie McKinley** from Midway Elementary and Social Studies Teacher **Jacqueline Tomlinson** from Pleasant Hill Middle.

2015–2016 South Carolina Farm Bureau Central District Classroom Garden Mini-Grant Award

Deerfield Elementary was selected as the 2015–2016 South Carolina Farm Bureau Central District Classroom Garden Mini-Grant Award winner.

The Classroom Garden Mini-Grant program is designed to show that agriculture is an integral part of our everyday environment. One purpose of the grant is to stress the importance of children understanding where their food and fiber comes from, while building an appreciation for the agricultural industry.

Students will plant and maintain eight raised gardens. They will keep a reflection journal on their daily interactions with the garden. The journal will give students an opportunity to gather and analyze data and make predictions as they interact with the garden. Students will plant collards, broccoli, carrots, cabbage, cantaloupe, cucumbers, lima beans and okra.

Deerfield Elementary received a \$500 check for the project.

South Carolina Association of Governmental Purchasing Officials 2015 President's Award for Outstanding Agency Support recipient

The South Carolina Association of Governmental Purchasing Officials has awarded the **Lexington One Procurement Office** the 2015 President's Award for Outstanding Agency Support.

The award, which recognized their commitment to public procurement, was given to one state agency, one higher education organization and one local authority.

SCAGPO stated that Lexington One was a clear winner because of its demonstrated commitment to the professional development and education of professional staff and for fostering an environment in which professionals are encouraged to grow and develop their expertise for the benefit of staff, students and Lexington County citizens.

The Procurement Department was presented with the award in December at the SCAGPO annual holiday luncheon in downtown Columbia.

Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant recipients

Twice each school year, the Lexington One Educational Foundation, represented by Executive Director Connie McFarland, and the Michelin North American Lexington Site, represented by Business Unit Leader Cleve Johnson, award Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants.

The most recent recipients include: ESOL Teacher **Lara Moore** from Gilbert Elementary for An Apple a Day; French Teacher **Amelia Groza** from Gilbert High for Petanque; Image Editing Teacher **Niya Jay** from Gilbert High for Digital Footprint; Technology Integration Specialist **Suzanne Brooks** and Media Specialist **Susan DuBose** from Lexington Elementary for Innovative Learning Through Coding; Photography and Art Teacher **Candace Cannon** from Lexington High for Digital Art; Orchestra Teacher **Megan DeFeo** from Lexington Middle for Orchestra Overhaul; Third-Grade Teachers **Amanda Beck** and **Amy Case** from Oak Grove Elementary for Students Leading Students; German Teacher **Victoria Connelly** from Pelion High for PHS Goes Green; Drama Teacher **LaNelle Simons** from Pleasant Hill Middle for Movie Creation and Production; and Art Teacher **Moraima Rosario** from Saxe Gotha Elementary.