

The Neil K. Bortz Family Early Childhood Center

Cincinnati Country Day School's new home for its youngest learners will be named the Neil K. Bortz Family Early Childhood Center (ECC).

Bortz family members, an integral part of the school for decades, have been generous donors to the school. Their generosity includes in-kind gifts from their family businesses. Towne Construction Services is helping build the ECC. "The significant emotional and financial investment the Bortz family has provided for decades, is helping to create a brighter future at CCDS," said Chris Woodside, Director of Development.

"The Bortz family is very proud to be a part of the Country Day family, which has made the Early Childhood Center possible." Neil Bortz said. Neil and Susie Bortz's involvement with Country Day started as parents in 1976 with son Adam '85, continuing with Brian '87 and then Chris, '92, a 'lifer.'

During that time, Bortz said he had the honor of serving nine years on the Board of Trustees. Chris, a former CCDS teacher and coach, has been a trustee since 2010 and is the board vice president.

Now, Bortz's grandsons, who enrolled this year, will continue this tradition: Brian's son, Hayden '22, and Chris' son, Huck '28. "We'll hopefully have more on the way,"

said Bortz, founder, chairman, and CEO of Towne Properties.

"Country Day has been our next-door neighbor for almost 40 years. We have watched it grow and prosper as we have watched our children grow and prosper," Bortz said. "We know that the new Early Childhood Center will raise the bar of CCDS's excellence even higher."

The Neil K. Bortz Family Early Childhood Center will be completed this school year and will replace the aging house, which has outgrown the program's needs. The 5,500 square-foot building will be more than double the size of the 2,400 square-foot house.

Its location near the Lower School is one of the ECC's many appealing features. "We've always had a strong desire to bring the entire Lower School closer together, and with the location of the new building, the proximity to the rest of the Lower School is exciting to us," Head of Lower School Jennifer Aquino said.

"Currently, we have to travel a parking lot to connect. With the new location, we're connected by child-focused pathways and space. It will create opportunities for our youngest students to connect with our Pre-K and our primary age children."



Members of the Bortz family: Front: Susie Bortz. Back (l-r): Neil, Adam, Brian and Chris Bortz.



Classroom



**CINCINNATI
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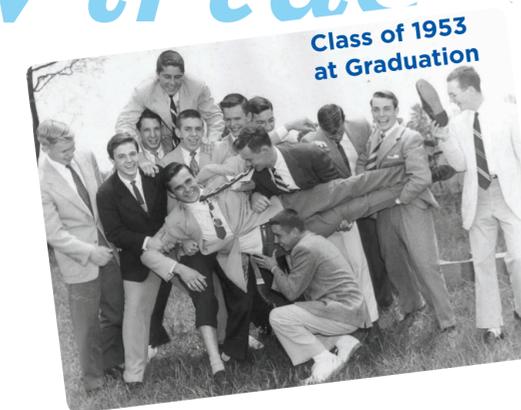
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Development News - Fall 2016

Virtue in Action



Class of 1953 at Graduation



Class of 1953 at 50th Reunion

Alumni Events

Please review our 2016-2017 trips below. If any of these destinations interest you, call Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, Paula Brock at (513) 979-0282 or email brockp@countryday.net. We will send you more information as it becomes available. All members of the Country Day community are welcome to join us as we connect with our alumni in these great cities.

Fall 2016

Boston: Saturday, October 15 – Monday, October 17

Winter 2016

Los Angeles: Friday, December 2 – Sunday, December 4

Winter 2017

Chicago: Wednesday, January 25 – Friday, January 27

DC/Baltimore: Wednesday, March 1 – Friday, March 3

Spring 2017

Phoenix: Thursday, March 9 – Saturday, March 11

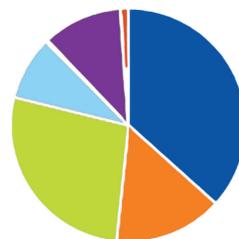
Match Day



Match Day 2016 honored CCDS teachers and staff with special recognition to those who have worked at CCDS for 20 years or more.

Match Day received tremendous support from the CCDS community including teachers, parents, alumni, and grandparents. Due to this support, Match Day 2016 reached its goal of raising more than \$200,000 in 24 hours!

MATCH DAY DONORS



Alumni	36.8%
Parents	27.3%
Grandparents	15.0%
Employees	11.0%
Parents of Alumni	8.8%
Students	0.8%
Former Faculty/Staff	0.3%
Friends	0.3%

Stay in Touch with CCDS

Your classmates and the Country Day community would like to hear from you. Please submit **updates and Class Notes** to Paula Brock at brockp@CountryDay.net.

Parents of graduates: If you have been receiving mail for your graduate at your home address, and they have a permanent mailing address elsewhere, please provide us with their contact information.

We want to stay in touch with our alumni community. Please contact Paula Brock at brockp@countryday.net or 513-979-0282 with updated information or send **address changes** to addresschanges@CountryDay.net.

This newsletter is published by the Development Office of Country Day. Photos by contributing alumni, students, parents, faculty, and staff. If you have questions or believe any information to be incorrect, please contact Ralph Javens at (513) 979-0234 or javensr@countryday.net.

Save the Date - Match Day 2017 - May 11

Class of 1953 - Going strong 60+ years later!

An example for future graduates

Country Day's Class of 1953 was the first to stay together and graduate, rather than split up to attend eastern boarding schools - a common path in those days.

That momentous decision was a turning point that bolstered the life of the school and its longevity. "It was a major plus for us and the school to have us remain and graduate," said Dr. Ted Jones '53. "Chuck Yeiser (their teacher/coach) always said that the Class of 1953 was the pivotal point of the school."

"We were a very cohesive group. We did many activities together - sports and academic competition, peer pressure, and socializing outside of school," Dr. Jones said. "Four of us received offers to enroll in college after our sophomore year at Country Day. We made our decision together. We would not go to college at age 15. We wanted to stay at Country Day and graduate together." Fifteen students made up the Class of 1953 - the largest class at that time to graduate from Cincinnati Country Day School.

Class members remained close following graduation and college. When the first classmate died, the class decided it was time to give back as a group. The 1953 Alumni Endowment Fund was created out of the deep friendships they forged at Country Day.

Edward D. "Fritz" Heyd's death in 1994 was the catalyst to establish a memorial fund. "We have to do something," said Dr. Jones, who also was Heyd's roommate at Princeton University.

In 1995, Dr. Jones and 1953 classmates Bill Mashburn, John Miller, Michael Comisar, and Don Weston met. "We sat on my deck and said, 'What are we going to do in memory of Fritz?' We needed to develop a fund with monies to be given to CCDS in his honor," Dr. Jones said. All of the remaining 14

classmates contributed to the fund, a first for a student scholarship.

Five years later, class member William Doepke died. Classmates wanted to honor him as well. The group decided the fund would no longer be specifically in honor of Fritz Heyd but in honor of the Class of 1953.

The classmates debated whether it should be a scholarship fund for a student or teacher. "Because we were so imbued by and in awe of our teachers, coaches, masters, and headmaster, we elected to have the fund for a teacher," Dr. Jones said.

The fund enables the head of school to make a monetary gift each year to a teacher or administrator. It's an effort to help recruit and retain the best faculty and administrators.

During their 60th class reunion in 2013, Dr. Jones announced that the fund had grown to more than \$100,000. Classmate Bill Mashburn's death in 2010 resulted in a significant gift from the Ruth A. and William O. Mashburn, Jr. Foundation to the 1953 Endowment Fund. Another classmate, Michael Comisar, died in 2014 with donations further augmenting the endowment.

Each year, requests for additions are made. The ultimate goal is to reach \$200,000 at the Class of 1953's 65th reunion in 2018. The Class of 1953 asks that it be apprised of the amount in the fund and its recipient each year. "This is good information for the class members and to stimulate their pocketbooks for opening them up a little bit as well," Dr. Jones said.

Dr. Jones encourages other classes to establish their own endowment funds. "You've got to get started soon, because if you start doing something like this when your classmates are older than 50 to 55, it's tough to get it going and have a significant endowment. I would encourage every class that graduates from the school to start with some type of fund to be given to the school in honor of the class."

Greetings from the Country Day Development Office

With your commitment, it's going to be a great year at CCDS.



Dear CCDS Families,

Your collective support is at the heart of the transformational projects and programs that are defining the future of Country Day. To give you an idea of some of the exciting changes that are underway, the Development Office prepared this newsletter highlighting the many ways your gifts are making a difference in the lives of Country Day students.

We have our best enrollment since 2003, beautiful facilities and more on the way. Add in our always top-notch academics, arts and athletics, and we have a recipe for success. We need one final ingredient: your commitment.

In this report, you will read about some of the ways CCDS donors are strengthening the school. Your much-needed and generous support will continue Country Day's success. Thank you for being an important part of the CCDS community and for your dedication to its success. With the generous support of our student, parents, alumni, and friends, Country Day will remain triumphant for the many years to come.

Chris Woodside

Director of Development

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Contribute to CCDS at
www.CountryDay.net/go/CCDS

CountryDay Committed

Are you "committed?" The Reckers and the Vaughans are.

Nick Recker is chairman of this year's CountryDate, while Jeremy and Louise Vaughan are the Annual Fund chairs. These leaders of the school's two largest fundraisers have partnered to spread the message of the importance of being "Committed to Country Day."



Annual Fund Chairs
Jeremy and Louise
Vaughan

Recker's vision of CountryDate has a twist. The plan is to sponsor three events, all centering on the theme of being "Committed" to Country Day.

The first event, "CountryDate: Committed to Community," is a fall gathering on Oct. 22 for a bonfire and brews in the new Sally Dwyer '05 and Tonya Grieb '10 Performing Arts Courtyard and Carey Family Amphitheater. Recker envisions a service-oriented second event, "CountryDate: Committed to Service," near the end of the calendar year. The third and main event, "CountryDate: Committed to the Future," will be March 4 at the Renaissance Hotel downtown.

"The whole theme reinforces our commitment as a community to the mission of the school and what it's doing for our children," Recker said.

The Annual Fund campaign will also embrace the "Committed" theme to promote annual giving. "When we arrived in Cincinnati from the UK, the concept of an Annual Fund was completely foreign to us," Louise Vaughan said.

"In the UK, we paid tuition fees, which covered our school's operating expenses in full. We now understand that this is not the norm for independent schools in the United States, and deliberately so. Lower fees enable far greater diversity and inclusion, but the funding gap needs to be bridged. That's where the Annual Fund comes in."

When they were asked to be Annual Fund chairs, the Vaughans decided it was a great opportunity to spread the word about annual giving. "Many people believe passionately in the education offered by Country Day, but there is a disconnect when it comes to funding; people do not understand how essential the Annual Fund is to the school's day-to-day operation. Participating in the Annual Fund, or raising your paddle at CountryDate are just as important as writing your tuition check."

Recker and the Vaughans hope they inspire other busy professionals to commit to getting involved. "We have such a talented community of business and community leaders," Recker said. "There's no excuse to not be involved. Where you place your time ultimately shapes the community you're in. Does this mean I'll have less time for hobbies this year? Sure. But I feel the time spent will be far more valuable to my kids, their future and to the future students at Country Day."

Service • Community • Future

Conversation and Coffee - A winning combo!

Country Day's Dining Terrace is now on the short list of Cincinnati locations brewing Intelligentsia Coffee thanks to parents Dhani Jones and Michael DiSanto.

The two teamed up to purchase and donate equipment to make Intelligentsia Coffee, which comes from a direct trade company based in Chicago. Jones's Bow Tie Café in Mount Adams sells Intelligentsia, and he enlisted DiSanto to help him bring the coffee to Country Day.

"We wanted to do something good for the school. Our kids go to school here and we love the school," Jones said. "Coffee creates the table that people sit around and have good conversations and make big decisions."

Another perk of bringing Intelligentsia to Country Day is it can provide students with an educational lesson about fair trade, Jones said. The company gets its product directly from farmers around the globe and works with them to ensure a quality cup of joe for its customers and prosperity for its suppliers.

Jones and DiSanto met at Bow Tie Café and became friends. Jones later convinced DiSanto to send his children to Country Day. "Bringing Intelligentsia to Country Day was a great way to support the school and do something with a close friend," DiSanto said.

Currently, the Dining Terrace serves Bow Tie Dark Roast Blend, a semi-sweet, heavy-bodied coffee with a lasting impression of pipe tobacco and black strap molasses.

"We travel a lot and we try a lot of coffee," Jones said. "When you try a lot, you have a discernable palate that allows you to understand what's the best, and Intelligentsia is the best."

"There's nothing worse than bad coffee," DiSanto added. "When you have bad coffee, which schools are known for, it makes you not want to hang out. Anything that can bring parents, prospective parents, older students, and teachers together in a social environment is a good thing, so this is a no brainer."



CountryDate Chair
Nick Recker



Neil K. Bortz Family
Early Childhood Center (ECC)



Sally Dwyer '05 and Tonya Grieb
'10 Performing Arts Courtyard and
Carey Family Amphitheater



Leonard
Athletic Center (LAC)



Taft Semple
Maintenance Facility

North Campus Project - the finishing touch on 62 beautiful acres

Work on the North Campus Project (NCP) continues to transform Cincinnati Country Day School as another new facility went online this spring.

The 358-seat Carey Family Amphitheater in the Sally Dwyer '05 and Tonya Grieb '10 Performing Arts Courtyard, served as the venue for the all-school closing ceremony and graduation. On Oct. 14, the fall play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will open in the amphitheater.

Located on the North Lawn, the amphitheater and outdoor performance area include an outdoor classroom and campus

green where students can gather for outdoor activities. It's also the latest go-to venue on campus for events, such as the faculty/staff Lip Sync Battle held in August.

"Although it's a small piece of the project, it was apparent how important the new use of the north campus would improve the student experience at Country Day," Head of School Tony Jaccaci said. "Very quickly, the amphitheater has changed that side of the campus into a visually pleasing place where learning opportunities are increased."

The NCP also is updating two heavily-used facilities that were in need of replacing/upgrading, the Early Childhood House and

the athletic complex, which is five different buildings/additions all constructed at different times.

"I am excited our Early Childhood Center (ECC) and Leonard Athletic Center (LAC) will equally, if not more fully, enhance education at CCDS," Jaccaci said. Both buildings are expected to be completed during the 2016-17 school year.

The new Early Childhood Center will have four natural light classrooms, a kitchen, and common space, as well as a playscape for exploration and unstructured play.

Upgrades are being made to the North Gym, resulting in a renovated athletic complex to be named the Leonard Athletic Center (LAC). The

renovation includes a new pool in the same footprint as the current pool, a new wet classroom, boys and girls locker room renovation, a new facade, and renovated/expanded weight training room, among other improvements.

The NCP also includes the completed facility for The Broadwell House and the new Taft Semple Maintenance Facility.

"While the heart of a good school is the student-teacher relationship, we do realize the importance of facilities in a student's learning experience," Jaccaci said. "I feel blessed that these new facilities will help our students more fully develop their passions and interests."



grow the best teachers in the city, if not the country?"

In addition, Jaccaci said the committee is excited about the ways the three pillars will help the school remain dynamic and flexible to prepare students for a changing world.

• Innovations in Learning & Teaching

• Global Engagement

• Environmental Commitment

"We are looking to build programs for the future," Head of School Tony Jaccaci said. "For any long-range plan, we have to build the foundation but also keep the school a dynamic institution."



"In essence, the foundation is our teachers. One of the things that we discovered over the summer when reflecting on the plan is we need to ensure our teachers, who know and nurture our children, are at the forefront of the plan. How can we find, retain, and continue to



"The school is seeking relationships with international schools and exploring partnerships.

"All lights on campus were replaced this summer with LED bulbs; water bottles have

been distributed to students to encourage healthy living and water conservation; and a new composting program is recycling food scraps from the Dining Terrace."



"A key ingredient needed to implement the document's course of action is funding," Jaccaci said. Plans are being made for a campaign to grow the endowment to support the LRP.

Your generosity will play a key role in the implementation of the LRP.

Will Thayer '05 Memorial Arboretum

Will Thayer was the kind of guy who could work a room. He could talk to anyone about anything and endear himself to all. His outgoing nature won him many friends, not just from the Class of 2005, but other classes as well.

"He was bigger than life," said Vallie Tapke '05. "He had such an amazing personality and was liked by so many people."

"I would say he's the only other person we've met who was as witty as Mrs. Dunn," David Tapke '05 said. "Those two were almost too much to handle, because Will was hilarious and could make everyone laugh - students and teachers. The combination of Mrs. Dunn and him quipping back and forth was really entertaining. He had that kind of spunk."

Will's death Sept. 28, 2015, from a heart attack, left a huge hole in the Class of 2005 and in the hearts of others in the Country Day family who were shocked and saddened that his vibrant life was cut short.

On behalf of their class, the Tapkes are spearheading an effort to establish the Will Thayer '05 Memorial Arboretum in memory of their good friend. The goal is to raise \$5,000 to purchase trees to replace those lost to disease.

The trees will be planted in the area between Given Road and the soccer fields. "When we were at Country Day that was always a really impressive row of grand trees and made a statement as you drove by Country Day's campus," David said.

"He was bigger than life. He had such an amazing personality and was liked by so many people."

Vallie Tapke '05

"We wanted to do something at Country Day for Will, because we felt he epitomized a Country Day student. Being a lifer and having spent so much of his too short life at Country Day, we wanted to have something there," he added.

"We wanted a memorial that people could come back and enjoy and think fondly of Will," Vallie said.

Once the trees are planted, a dedication ceremony will be held with classmates, friends and the Thayer family. "Another great thing about Will is that he comes from a wonderful family," Vallie said. "His dad, Abbot ('71), was a Country Day graduate. Will's older siblings, Abby ('00), and Richard ('03), both attended Country Day, so they have a long Country Day history."

At Country Day, Will was a standout football player. In his senior year, he was named Outstanding Lineman and First Team Southwest All-District.

Besides football, Will loved reading and talking politics. "One reason he was so outspoken is because he had an informed opinion on just about everything," David said. "He was one of the few people I knew in high school who followed politics and could talk about them at a level that went over most of our heads."

Will's love of nature makes the trees an appropriate memorial. David said, "A big inviting tree that offers shade and comfort, that has sort of a welcoming personality, is befitting of Will and the type of the guy he was."

Donations to the Will Thayer Memorial can be made on the Country Day website at Countryday.net/go/CCDS. Please specify the Will Thayer Memorial in the comments section.

Lip Sync Battle a hit!

Multi-talented and gregarious faculty and staff members hammed it up during a Lip Sync Battle on Aug. 26. More than 100 spectators gathered to watch them perform in the Carey Family Amphitheater and Sally Dwyer '05/ Tonya Grieb '10 Performing Arts Courtyard.

Upper School faculty Peter Fossett '80 and John Christiansen performed solo acts, as did Middle School teacher Uly Marin. The Lower School was represented by Tara McMullen, Tresonne Peters, Lee Ann Bertsch, Liz Carr, and Prissy Schoeny. Rick Schoeny also performed, assisted by several third graders. Fossett and Development Director Chris Woodside kicked off the event.

Guests were served Skyline Chili and UDF Ice Cream. After the performances, the crowd headed to the stadium to cheer on Coach Greg Ross in his inaugural game as head football coach.



Peter "Springsteen" Fossett

Alumni Internships and Job Shadows

Twenty-seven Country Day students and recent graduates experienced the work world this summer through job shadows and internships with alumni, parents, past parents, and friends of the school.

Will Swinton '17 had a successful experience when he spent two days shadowing alum and parent Dr. Susanna Schwartz '93, a veterinary surgeon for MedVet. Will watched her diagnose animals and perform surgery. (Will and Dr. Schwartz pictured below).

While several alumni offered out-of-state internships, those proved more difficult. Finding housing and transportation were stumbling blocks. Beyreis still plans to take alumni up on their offers by connecting them with CCDS graduates in college.



assigned to college sophomores or juniors.

Tony Wen '18, Kaylin Hoffman '17 and Lizzie Norwood '18 worked with or shadowed colleagues of Dr. Melissa DelBello in one of her many labs. Dr. DelBello, is a CCDS parent and professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

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"Some kids can do out-of-state job shadows, but we think our youngest alumni in their first year or two of college might love Country Day connections," Beyreis said.

"Colleges have great systems for internships, but it can be hard to work your way into it freshman year, so Country Day connections for sophomore year can still be very useful."

Matching students with hosts for job shadow/internship experiences begins in January. Beyreis, along with Upper School teachers Paula Butler and Marcus Twyford and Director of Alumni Relations Paula Brock work together to make it happen.

"We're looking to increase the breadth and kinds of experiences," Beyreis said. "We have kids who are interested in architecture and design. We'd also like to increase opportunities for interns with people who own businesses." The group also is looking for opportunities in engineering, fashion and finance.

For more information on the program visit www.CountryDay.net/go/Internship.



"Mickey Masterson '17 shadowed parent Andy Berghausen, an assistant prosecuting attorney with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office. (Pictured: Mickey Masterson).

"Anna Geohegan '17 worked all summer with alum and past parent Judy Williams '67, co-founder of Hyde Park Farmers Market.

"Adam Katz '16 shadowed parent Steve Schwartz, CEO of LION, manufacturer of clothing and protective equipment for firefighters.

Many CCDS students had research positions at the University of Cincinnati or Children's, undertaking work normally



Pictured above: Dr. Mohab Foad '91, an orthopaedic surgeon with Beacon Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, hosted Liah Apatira '18, (third from left) for a job shadow experience.