INSIDE:
WRITING THE LAND

Land Stewardship
May Not Be What It Seems

Dr. Gilbert's Big Spring
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Artists, musicians, performers, writers, poets, culinarians—Arts Department Chair Mark Dillon invites all FVS creatives to join the new Facebook Group. It’s a way to share what you’re doing, connect with other FVS creatives and the School, announce events, etc.
To join, just search “Fountain Valley School of Colorado Creative Arts Community” on Facebook.
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DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL:

Fountain Valley is a school that joins purpose to place. Our purpose is to provide a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, a community of diversity and mutual respect, and graduates who are open-minded, curious, courageous, self-reliant and compassionate. The place is a magical magnificence of plains and mountain perspective where generations of students have lost themselves and found their meaning in connection with the Colorado land and a diverse community of people, horses and wildlife.

When the School was all-boys in the 1960s, then Headmaster Lewis Perry Jr. wrote: “Here’s a fact for you: Fountain Valley boys eat from 20-25 2,500 pound steers per year. But we’re still not a ranch school!” He was clarifying that studies rather than cowboy-ing should come first. But FVS has always attracted, radiated and graduated a love for the place. Founding Headmaster Francis Froelicher became an avid mountaineer and his successor Henry Poor carefully shepherded various land parcels into a contiguous section that forms our prairie campus today, encouraging the work of the ranch manager and student work crews.

FVS faculty members have continued to love and steward the “place” as well as its people. Dr. Rob Gilbert’s article in this edition about birding, Former Faculty Bob Parker’s testimony on giving, or Rob Gustke’s article on butterflies in the Summer 2010 edition of the Bulletin are just a few recent examples. Recall also Fisher Howe’s observation of FVS’s unique attachment to that “galloping abstraction” the West, and his reference to Wallace Stegner’s concept of hope’s native home. Fountain Valley alumni have moved on with a love for the land and its habitat in their hearts and through their careers. Charles Little ’49 writes here movingly about his own professional commitment as an author of the land, as does parent and Trustee Duke Phillips about the modern stewardship of ranch management.

Today Fountain Valley School is becoming more intentional about joining place to purpose. We may be even further from Mr. Perry’s dreaded notion of a “ranch school,” but the land is our home and our classroom, and what a home and classroom we have here! You can read in this edition about the way our ranch managers are developing thoughtful use of the land for people, horses and wildlife. Jim Scott ’68’s encouragement and support has generated baseline studies and we are learning holistic management techniques. Curricular development is sure to follow, echoing refrains from past teachers and inspiring new approaches. Fountain Valley School can develop its own land ethic and return to this good place the benefits we enjoy from living upon it.

In closing, let me say that I am proud to be a member of the Class of 1969, which installed a plaque at the FVS Mountain Campus with this quote from Walt Whitman: “Now I see the secret of making the best persons; it is to grow in the open air and eat and sleep with the earth.”

CRAIG W. LARIMER JR. ’69
HEADMASTER
In November, several students headed to a nearby school to serve as judges for a district science fair. FVS students quizzed the young scientists, grades 3-5, about independent and dependent variables. They evaluated verbal and visual presentations, and they scored each entry based on the science fair rubric.

Another recent community service project involved 20-plus members of the sophomore class planting daffodils on the Hacienda hill on campus. Thanks to an annual donation from Trustee Mary Lou Mullin (spouse of Bill '57), the sophomores planted more than 600 bulbs. The hill now has close to 5,000 bulbs planted that bloom in March and April.

A trio of Fountain Valley School hockey players hit the Colorado Springs World Arena ice during Try Hockey For Free Day. Sponsored by USA Hockey, the event encourages boys and girls, ages 4 to 9, to go to a local participating rink and try youth hockey free of charge. Paiute Morrison ’15, Garrett Van Wyhe ’15 and Sage Marshall ’14 were the on-ice coaches for the Danes.

Boettcher Scholarship Semifinalist

Zack Eberhart ’13 has been named one of 200 semifinalists for the prestigious 2013 Boettcher Foundation Scholarships. He was selected as a semifinalist from 1,300 original applicants. Forty Boettcher scholarships will be awarded, and winners receive money for tuition, books and fees at a Colorado university or college for four years.

Eberhart is a member of the School’s academic honor society (Froelicher Society), and he’s on the Dean’s List. He’s currently taking three AP classes (biology, calculus BC, and French language and culture). He’s also part of the School’s Matchwits team.

Fun fact: His father Doug Eberhart is from the Class of 1976, and Zack’s brother Nathan Eberhart currently teaches Spanish and French at FVS. Perhaps an FVS first!

Community Service: Science Fair, Daffodils and Hockey

FVS students judged a local elementary school science fair.

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Parent Andrew Morrison (left) helped out along with his son Paiute ’15, Garrett Van Wyhe ’15 and Sage Marshall ’14. Paiute’s mom, Gabriella, snapped the photos.
Sophomore Wins Prize for Chinese Language Video

Chris Cha ’15, a boarding student from Korea, won third place recently in a video contest sponsored by the Colorado Chinese Language Teachers Consortium. He is currently in Mandarin IV with teacher Chiun-Pei Lin. He collected $75 for the third-place prize. Cha’s video is a humorous look at helping his roommate Calvin get a girlfriend.

The New Marimba

Last spring, members of the FVS Music Department found the School’s 1919 Deagan Marimba sitting sadly in a back room, unused and unloved. No more… in November, the newly refurbished marimba arrived back at FVS after a restoration by a master craftsman in Chicago. Cracked keys and a broken frame have been repaired, and it is now back in supreme playing condition.

Walter Records 100th Win

Longtime Fountain Valley School of Colorado varsity girls basketball coach Paula Walter recorded her 100th career win in December with a 27-19 defeat of Hanover. Walter is in her 12th season at the helm of the program. Her best seasons in terms of records were 2007-08 and 2008-09, when the team made it to the first round of the regional championships in both years with 16-7 and 17-6 overall marks, respectively. She has coached many all-league and all-state players over the years, including Emy Hanna ’09, Wrendy Rayhill ’09, and the School’s all-time leading scorer Alex Ochoa ’11, who is now playing at Northeastern JC in Colorado.

Photography from Three Seniors Honored

Seniors Alice Droeger, Bailey Knecht and Njeri Summey have all had photographs selected for the 2012 Drexel University High School Photography contest. All three students are working on their portfolio for AP Studio Art: 2D in photography. The contest drew more than 1,800 entries from high school students across the country, but only 140 photographs were selected for the show. Photographs were exhibited in the Drexel University Photography Gallery in Philadelphia, Pa., from Feb. 2-March 4, 2013. This is the sixth consecutive year that contest judges have honored Fountain Valley School students.

A Place in the Sun

Science Faculty Bill Devine and class checking out and cleaning the solar panels on the roof of the Science Building

The 21 new solar panels atop the roof of the Science Building produce 750 kilowatt hours per month and account for a carbon footprint reduction of about seven tons per year. Science Faculty Bill Devine leads FVS’s solar efforts. He was awarded a Ballantine Grant for professional development, and in the fall traveled to a village in Nicaragua where he lived with a family and helped build a solar oven, solar battery chargers and a solar system for one of the village’s homes. For his AP Environmental Science class, Devine used the Science Building’s solar installation for his unit on renewable energy. “We got to study electricity in a very real way and track for a few weeks the generating power of those panels,” Devine says. “Producing kilowatt hours through solar energy was a real ‘wow’ factor and it opened kids’ eyes as to how everyday life impacts the environment.”
William V. Webb Named Eighth Head of School

Fountain Valley School of Colorado has a new head of school.

The board of trustees unanimously approved the appointment of William V. Webb to succeed Craig W. Larimer Jr. ’69 as Fountain Valley’s eighth head of school, beginning July 1, 2013.

Board President Greg Osborne ’81 says: “Will impressed the entire FVS community with his passion for independent school education. His experience makes him a very compelling and credible leader in the field. He has a genuine and effective ability to connect with students and is warmly approachable. Will possesses boundless energy and a true love for the West, and he and his wife, Sarah, share our core values of compassion, courage, curiosity, self-reliance and open-mindedness. He has the leadership skill, educational perspective and enthusiasm to engage the FVS community in our quest to distinguish our brand of experiential education for future generations.”

Webb’s appointment is the culmination of an extensive search in which nearly 100 highly qualified candidates from across the world were screened.

Dr. Julie Chesley, FVS trustee and alumni parent, led the search committee and says, “The combination of Will’s breadth of experience in every dimension of school life, his passion for student growth and development, and his track record of building consensus uniquely qualify him to lead Fountain Valley.”

He has extensive experience as a boarding and day school leader. He was a student at Groton School in Massachusetts and next earned his B.A. in English from the University of Vermont. He began his boarding school career at The Gunnery in Connecticut as a teacher and assistant dean of students. Webb went back to the University of Vermont as a development officer and next earned his M.A. in independent school organization and leadership at the Klingenstein Center, Teacher’s College, Columbia University. From there, he went to Athens Academy in Athens, Ga., as assistant dean of students and English teacher. In 2004, he returned to Groton School as the associate director of development and director of alumni affairs, and later as associate director of admission and assistant varsity lacrosse coach. In 2011, Webb moved to Heritage Hall School, an independent day school in Oklahoma City, to become assistant head of school for external affairs. His wife Sarah is the chair of the world languages department at Heritage Hall, and their daughter was born in July 2012.

Webb loves the outdoors and spent his summers during college working as a wrangler on a Wyoming ranch. He is an avid mountain biker and skier.

Webb says: “Sarah, Maggie and I are thrilled to join the Fountain Valley community. We are so impressed by the talent and adventurous nature of the students, the care and commitment of the faculty, staff and trustees, the beauty of the campus and its incredible landscape, and the genuine warmth of the community. I take to heart what Founding Headmaster Francis Bradsher told students on their first day of school in 1930: ‘You are all in a position to write your own history.’ I look forward to building on the school’s tremendous foundation and advancing Fountain Valley as the premier destination to chart your own journey for successful future endeavors, while setting the standard for educational innovation and best practices.”

Sarah, Maggie and Will Webb
Mountain Bike Racing

In its inaugural season, the 2012 FVS mountain bike racing team finished fourth in the state. Led by coach Aaron Schubach, the Danes began competition in the Colorado High School Mountain Biking League and improved with every race. In the final state championship race, the Danes finished fourth out of 25 teams in Division II (small schools). FVS is the only school in the Pikes Peak region with a competitive mountain biking team in the small schools division.

The four point-earners for the Danes at the state championships were Boone Scheer '13 (3rd) and Sheamus Croke '13 (4th) in Division 2 JV, and Maia Presti '13 (11th) and Julia Rogers '13 (13th) in Division 1/2 JV. Teams must be co-ed, and the top two boys and two girls for each team earn points.

“At the end of the season, the team had really bonded and we were all rather close,” said racer Connor Monk ’15. “It was one of the best experiences of my life, and I will not forget it soon.”

Sheamus Croke ’13 earned four points at state championships.
Cross Country

Dominic Carrese ’15 qualified for the state championships for the second straight year, although this time he did it against stronger competition at the 3A level. Although he didn’t have his best race at states, he still represented FVS well with a time of 19.25.6 (68th). He finished seventh at regionals and ran under 17 minutes for the first time at the league meet.

Boys Soccer

The Danes (7-8-1) qualified for the state tournament for the sixth straight year, falling to eventual state semifinalist Faith Christian in the first round. The team fought injuries all season but earned an at-large berth to states after tying for second in the league. Joe Colarelli ’14, Brian Lee ’14, Graham Sondermann ’13 and Matt Gilbert ’13 all earned first team all-league honors, while Manolo Jimenez ’14 and goalie Griffin Shelor ’14 earned honorable mention status.

Girls Volleyball

The Danes (8-14) showed strong skills and dedication in their first season at the tougher 3A division. FVS picked up wins against league opponents Florence and Salida and just missed qualifying for the regional tournament. Morgan Heath ’14 and Bailey Knecht ’13 earned first team all-league honors, and Sophie Feffer ’13 was an honorable mention selection.

Boys Tennis

Despite having a young team, the Danes (4-5) played exceptionally well all season, advancing their No. 1, 2 and 3 doubles teams to the 4A State Tournament. The No. 1 team of William Chu ’13 and William Reagan ’15 won a three-set marathon in regionals to qualify for their first state appearance together. The other state qualifiers were Fermin Serrano ’15 and Zack Salama ’15 (No. 2), and Grant Long ’13 and Phil Fan ’15 (No. 3). All three teams lost in the first round of states.

English Riding

Coach Ann Hanna’s team has begun the season with the goal of returning to the IEA National Championships this April. The riders won their first show of the season with Cleo Mueller ’15 earning high point rider. They then tied for first in their second show with Mueller earning two second-place finishes.

Western Riding

Senior Bailey Ross led the team throughout the fall, as she has already qualified for the National Little Britches Rodeo Finals in trail course, pole bending, goat tying and breakaway roping. Juliana Lough ’15 has qualified in pole bending as well.
Charles E. Little ’49 is the author or principal co-author of 16 books, including “Sacred Lands of Indian America,” “Discover America: The Smithsonian Book of the National Parks” and “The Dying of the Trees,” a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He has contributed articles to a wide range of periodicals, has been a judge for two major literary prizes, and is an adjunct faculty member at the University of New Mexico. He has also held research and management positions in nonprofit organizations and the federal government (Congressional Research Service). A native Californian, Charles Little is a graduate (with distinction in creative writing) of Wesleyan University and has served in the U.S. Army. He now makes his home in Placitas, N.M., with his wife, Ila Dawson Little, a professor emerita of English literature.
A while ago, the editor of this fine magazine asked me if I would be interested in preparing a short essay on “the land,” since that is what I have been writing about these many years in books, articles and government papers. And her request was for one other reason, more germane; she said that the School was launching a land management initiative for the prairie that, as I personally discovered in 1947, begins at Fountain Valley School—at a miraculous place just outside the window I was assigned when I first got there. As I was also to discover, what’s just outside a window can make all the difference. At least it did for me. For some, the mountains were amazing, and they are, but for me, it was the prairie, the likes of which I had never seen up close.
It was a sense of possibility that the view out my window afforded me, which was no small gift.

Just 10 years prior to my arrival at Fountain Valley, this particular patch of prairie had been on the edge of the Dust Bowl. Not really in it, but close enough. As it happens, the refugees from Oklahoma, Texas and Colorado, in flivvers packed with furniture, bedrolls and children, came to our California valley where my family lived, with its vineyards and orchards, leaving their land and looking for a good place where the soil would actually grow things. So I knew something of the event, but not of the place.

What I did not know was what exactly had been the object of such disruption. But now, at the school, there it was. In this case, unplowed rangeland. I could walk right out in it, which I did. I could walk clear to Missouri across the river-clawed grasslands eastward if I wanted, or up to the rolling sand hills of Nebraska, or down the dry washes to the hill country of Texas. It was a sense of possibility that the view out my window afforded me, which was no small gift.

Another gift was from Fountain Valley School English teacher George Taylor. He was a believer in what is called “the canon.” This is the great edifice of English literature beginning with the sagas of the Middle Ages, and the plays and poetry of the Renaissance, thence to the Romantics and the Victorians, right up to James Joyce, T. S. Eliot, Hemingway and us!

So fervently did Mr. Taylor believe in the importance of this elaborate literary structure, he required that we memorize great gobs of it, then recite what we had learned. How else could I, a graybeard if there ever was one, recall “Ozymandias” to this very day?

He also made us prepare papers, which was fine with me, the author manqué with secret manuscripts hidden about the house where I grew up. Then at the School, and despite the execrable material I turned in, Mr. Taylor told me, well yes, you can write. And so I have. Inspired by the prairie sorties by myself and with friends, I have, for some 50 years, been writing about the land.
Walt Whitman's Warning

What every writer about the land—whether in fiction or journalism or analytic papers—must do is read Walt Whitman, who left a special warning found in this passage from “By Blue Ontario’s Shore.”

Who are you indeed who would talk or sing to America?
Have you studied out the land, its idioms and men?
Have you learn’d the physiology, phrenology, politics, geography, pride, freedom, friendship of the land?
Its substratums and objects?

That is good advice for those undertaking a study of the land. It means getting on the land, understanding the people who draw a living from it or who simply decide to live on it, determining the content of its soils and substratums, as Whitman puts it, understanding the impacts of water and air, their cleanliness and volume or lack thereof, learning the animals and the infinitesimal creatures on and beneath the land, the names of trees and plants and grasses, and how all this works together.

“The land,” as American author, scientist and environmentalist Aldo Leopold taught, means a community that includes soils, waters, plants and animals. So studying out the land suggests more than doing Google searches or reading magazine articles. It means undertaking on-the-ground forays as well as deciphering dense scientific reports and papers—not just their abstracts and conclusions, but getting to the innards of purpose, method and findings. For one of my books, I had to read nearly a thousand refereed papers and so I learned how to do this, as most do not, for it takes more time than is usually allotted to the working journalist.

Whitman also observes that there is a “friendship of the land.” Leopold and others understood this at first hand—as did those who preceded them, including Jefferson and Emerson and Thoreau, and Frost and Sandburg, right up to writers whose books have most recently been published. The best of these authors, whether of fiction, poetry, history or journalism, have learned to twine the meaning of the American land into their human narratives so that there is no way to separate them. Thoreau and Concord are ever together. What is the Mississippi without Mark Twain? Or the California coast without Robinson Jeffers? Lately, I have been reading the contemporary novelist Charles Frazier, who writes of the southern Appalachians. His places are not just settings, but a foundational cast of characters in themselves.

Such writers are creating their own kind of “canon”—a canon of the American land—though I expect that Mr. Taylor might wonder about a too-easy expansion of the idea. But maybe not. Those wishing to pursue the American land-canon should get hold of Alfred Kazin’s “A Writer’s America: Landscape in Literature.”

As the dean of American literary criticism, Kazin, who died in 1998 at the age of 83, was uncompromising in his view that America was the land: “A consummation of a dream, a second chance for mankind.” The best of our literature reflects this essential fact—from the writings of Thomas Jefferson, who called the homeland he helped create “nature’s nation,” to John McPhee, one of our most accomplished contemporary journalists of the land.
There is another story of those who do not despair, who continue to believe in the idea of grass, trees and a good place for the kids to grow up.

Those writers on the land whose working life, such as my own, has spanned a good bit of the last half-century are part of this continuum, and they have had a challenging time reporting on the status of nature’s nation. While we just missed the Dust Bowl, an historic event whose ramifications are being felt even now, new assaults on the American Dream and the Second Chance have arisen.

From the end of WWII and up to this very day, the assaults have stemmed from failures in what came to be called land use policy. The issues have had to do with the destruction of “peri-urban” agriculture and the loss of a metropolitan open space aesthetic, with the drainage of vast water-based ecosystems such as marshlands and the wholesale rearrangement of shorelands, with mountain top removal by coal companies in the southern Appalachians, and with fracking in rural and exurban areas to retrieve natural gas.

The trouble with this litany of bad news is that the events are additive rather than sequential, so much so that many feel it is now too late to preserve the environmental integrity of the land. So the “story,” which is what writers are after, begins with outrage: The stupidity and greed of those who would despoilate (Leopold’s word) the land with strip-mine gashes, kudzu-covered junkyards, tasteless billboards, antennae sprouting like asparagus, Stygian mill towns, clear-felled forests, dams imprisoning free rivers, festoons of electrical spaghetti, six-laners knifing through the land (including the gentle valley where I was brought up), outer city high rises commingling with the cows, and, in a place where I used to live in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., a crazy-making office building with primrose-colored windows that looked for all the world as if it had been filled to the top with pink cold cream.

We are, Leopold said in “The Land Ethic,” “remodeling the Alhambra with a steam-shovel, and we are proud of our yardage.”

And yet, there is another story which affirms the American Dream every bit as much as the litany of bad-news-on-the-land tends to deny it. This is the story of those who do not despair, who continue to believe in the idea of grass, trees and a good place for the kids to grow up, and who get together to deal with the issues. Saving the good place. Saving the land. And this is the story I have tended to follow. (Although not exclusively so: my most successful book in terms of copies sold was so full of bad news that writing it gave me a strange nervous disease that never was diagnosed except in medical terms which translated to strange, nervous disease. After that project—“The Dying of the Trees”—I immediately took on another book assignment that was so full of good news, I got well.)
Early on, I was commissioned by a nonprofit group in New York to see what could be done about the loss of open space to rampant subdivision in the 22-county metropolitan area of that great city. I was then a Madison Avenue refugee and had learned something about moving a message. While the loss of open space around New York and other big cities in the late ‘50s and early ‘60s was dire, I knew from my Madison Avenue days (and no, they were nothing like “Mad Men”) that you can’t really scare anyone into buying your product. If the product is to be preserved open space, I concluded that the best thing to do was find out who owned it and then convince them to donate it to a public entity that would preserve it in perpetuity—a parks commission or a private group like the Nature Conservancy. We got the League of Women Voters in suburban counties to find out who owned a significant amount of undeveloped land, then we sent the owners a book that I titled “Stewardship,” a good-sounding word I picked up from speeches by President Kennedy, who had convinced me, along with thousands of others my age, to ask not what my country could do for me but what I could do for my country. He was like a big brother, Kennedy was, and so I left a really good job behind on the basis of “asking not” and started writing about the land.

The story of this open space preservation idea is written up in William H. Whyte’s book, “The Last Landscape.” He was also the author of “The Organization Man,” an earlier bestseller that had worked a powerful influence on me since I did not want to be one. I later got to know “Holly” (after Hollister, his middle name) and invited him for a drink at the bar of a pretty nice Manhattan hotel to discuss our “stewardship program.” He was a good bit older than I, so I thought it might be okay to let him know that “The Organization Man” had changed my life.

So I did, whereupon he turned a long-suffering face toward me. “Don’t ever mention that again, Little,” he said. “I am not going to be responsible for whatever dumb choices you make!”

More than a dozen books later, plus a hundred articles, scores of government policy papers, and years of book reviewing, I am not sure whether it was a dumb choice or not. Sometime after I left the ad business, Jerry Della Femina, a noted practitioner in the industry, observed that advertising was the most fun you could have in New York with your clothes on. Maybe so, but I have been having a pretty good time in city parks and suburban woodlands, and on farmlands and prairies, in marshlands and on beaches, and on mountain trails and rocky peaks. That’s what I get to do for a living, checking out the scene, interviewing people who, as I do, treasure and want to protect our natural heritage.

And so did I choose the American land as my subject, or perhaps it chose me—the places where we are brought together in the appreciation and defense of our most primary resource. We must heed Whitman, therefore, and study out the land, for it is there, as Kazin reminds us, that the American Dream begins.
LAND STEWARDSHIP
MAY NOT BE WHAT IT SEEMS
Trustee Duke Phillips heads Fountain Valley’s committee on land management. He is both a current and alumni parent (Tess ’04, Duke ’06, Julie ’10, and Grace ’15). Since 1999, he and his wife, Janet, have operated Chico Basin Ranch, an 87,000 acre spread southeast of Colorado Springs. Chico Basin is a working cattle ranch practicing progressive management to create a sustainable ranching model and provide education and outdoor recreation opportunities.

For most of Earth’s history, “land management” was a meaningless term; nature simply managed itself. More recent efforts by humans to manage land in the image of nature have met with varying degrees of success. An increasing environmental consciousness has driven society to search for a balance between our highly consumptive culture and a desire to preserve our landscapes and the resources they provide. Complicating that search are often-antagonistic schools of thought on resource management, political considerations and the ethics of competing environmental agendas. So what can the natural world tell us about how to manage our resource base? And how can Fountain Valley School play a role in developing a new model of land and resource management?
Sometimes you just ride
You reach up and climb on
And your horse moves out
Deep into the land.

And after a while
It opens up and swallows you.

DUKE PHILLIPS
At its dawn, humankind existed as a small piece of nature—a largely insignificant component of the larger whole with minimal impact on mother earth. But clearly, that dynamic has changed. Human population has soared. As nations and their economies develop, the populace inevitably migrates toward cities (98 percent of Americans live in cities today), becoming further isolated from nature and its processes. At the same time, we have the greatest impact on nature that we have ever had due to the sheer number of humans, the infrastructure we have built and the manipulation of our natural resources. Our methods of providing food, energy, transportation and other consumables often fail to account for the negative externalities they produce, resulting in a significant, unfavorable impact on the natural systems that maintained equilibrium for eons.

Our impact has become so great that society as a whole has grown increasingly eco-conscious. Recent scientific data, environmental disasters and dire predictions of a dwindling “new normal,” it is necessary to manage for a balance of important aspects relating to the growing human footprint.

Many of the pitfalls of modern land management stem from the complexities of nature itself. Even in the natural world, “sustainability” is a misnomer; change is the rule, not the exception. The natural world is not the same as it was a thousand years ago, nor is it the same as it was a million years ago. Nature has always been a system made up of many interdependent phenomena that are in a constant state of fluctuation—the competing dichotomies of moisture and dryness, cold and heat, expansion and contraction, destruction and renewal—that evolve over time to create incremental change. Species that can adapt will thrive. Those that cannot are left by the wayside.

And, so as much as we try to harness nature and control its processes, we’re never fully free from its vagaries—especially those of us who make a living directly from what the land will produce. We have learned that we must follow nature’s example and adapt to our surroundings. As a rancher, I find that an increasingly important part of my job is finding ways to adapt to nature’s new normal. Natural and economic forces create boom and bust cattle markets. Drought brings hardship to our land and our herds. Rain spawns new life and new hope.

My business, Ranchlands, provides land management services for conservation-minded owners. Whether partnering with state government or agencies, private individuals or conservation nonprofits, my land management decisions are subject to intense scrutiny. Each organization’s goals are different, but they all expect some combination of conservation, social responsibility and economic returns. To balance those needs, I have been striving for decades to operate holistically—managing each system with an ever-present knowledge that it is part of an interconnected whole. Each goal involves choosing priorities. Each tactic has the potential for unforeseen consequences. In trying to manage for a healthy whole, I have learned to look at my land as a diversified resource base, moving beyond just cattle to implement a series of land-based businesses, each one working in tandem, each one supporting the others and ensuring that no single resource is overtaxed.

Two of my children, both FVS graduates, are playing a role in our family business. They bring with them the perspective of a new generation of young people, formed to a large degree by their experience at Fountain Valley.
My daughter Tess Phillips Leach ’04 has led the development of our recreation and hospitality program on two properties we manage. Our programs bring visitors to our ranches to experience our style of ranching, learn about our nature, and understand the important role that ranching and grazing play in the conservation of our Western lands. These programs are an important part of our conservation efforts. By diversifying our income sources, we’re not forced to tax our grasslands beyond what is healthy in order to sustain the business. Tess’s efforts have taken her across the United States as well as to England, Germany and Morocco as she revamps our marketing efforts to reach a wider domestic and international audience. It’s a prime example of adapting our practices to better utilize our resources.

My son, Duke Phillips ’06, has recently re-joined the business as well. After spending a year mustering cattle on Australia’s mammoth cattle stations, Duke has come on board to be responsible for our cattle and land management programs across all of our properties. Duke will be leading our conservation efforts, ensuring that each of our ventures is making the positive contributions to our business, our ecosystem and our communities that our partners expect.

All of this complexity leaves us with more questions than answers, but in land management that’s not always a bad place to start.

I mentioned that we “strive” to practice holistic management. We don’t pretend to have all of the answers. Part of our holistic philosophy requires constant re-evaluation of our status and our strategies. On a regular basis, we look at various indicators to determine our level of success toward our goals. Are we promoting native species that were once scarce on the ranch? Are we effectively controlling invasive species? What effects are these programs having on our wild game populations? How can we use our resources to diversify in order to create flexibility in times of economic or climatic duress? How can we attract the very best people to our organization? How can we use our livestock herds to improve biologic outcomes? These reflective exercises help us identify whether our models are being effective, if our goals are being met, or if our objectives need to change.

The Fountain Valley School community is no different. It is a perfect example of the multidimensional challenges and opportunities associated with modern land management. The School has a rich Western heritage dating back to its original use as a working cattle ranch. Despite its change in mission, the land asset—1,100 acres of rolling prairie and riparian areas—remains fundamental to the School’s identity. It also represents a significant portion of the School’s financial assets, adding to the gravity surrounding our management decisions. The land is used as an outdoor classroom, for recreation, for the production of agricultural products and as open space—a harbor for wildlife. The land also features rich ecological diversity, irrigation resources, wildlife populations and native forage. The community of people living on the property is diverse as well: students, administration, faculty and families.
Alumni care deeply about the land they spent some of their most important formative years on. Surrounding the School are city neighborhoods, fire stations, hospitals, businesses and a network of roads, utility infrastructure and public use spaces. While it may be difficult to see how their goals align, each of these stakeholders has an interest in how the land is managed now and into the future.

All of this complexity leaves us with more questions than answers, but in land management that’s not always a bad place to start. What are our priorities for Fountain Valley School’s land resource? Education? Recreation? Conservation? Economics? Who are the primary users? Students? Faculty? Families? Who else is affected by the ways in which we manage our land? Neighbors? Townspeople? “Downstream” landowners? What other items need to be taken into account when we formulate a management plan? School curriculum? Native and migratory animal species? Water rights? Pollution—air, water, noise, lights?

The details may seem daunting, but there is a potentially life-changing opportunity in this challenge that we face. Is it not important to include in our management endeavors a process that provides learning opportunities to the students that come to study at Fountain Valley School? Involving our students in our land management practices will instill in them a first-hand understanding of its complexities and the balance that we must strike in managing land and help prepare them to encounter equally complex and weighty decisions throughout their lives. The board of trustees, administration and faculty are working to not only institute a comprehensive land management plan, but to develop ways to include the stewardship of our FVS land into the School’s curriculum and student life. ✨
Lift off for the thousands of sandhill cranes that migrated through the FVS campus area last October

Photo by Wyp Steenhuis, Learning Center tutor
This includes traveling to Campo, Colo., to see the lesser prairie chicken do its mating dance at dawn.

“You have to be there an hour before it gets light, stay in your car and wait for the species to appear. We saw one in the half light, and it quickly disappeared.” Perhaps the only victims in the sport of birding are the kids in the back seat!

Birding has been a decades-long passion for Gilbert and his wife, Barbara Corrigan, who have been living on campus since 1993.

Two springs ago, Gilbert came back from spring break with a bad cold and was unable to go on his daily prairie run. Instead, he grabbed a pair of binoculars and took long walks on the FVS prairie and neighboring Big Johnson Reservoir with the goal of spotting as many birds that spring as possible. His count added up to an impressive 125 species in a three-month span, March 21–June 21.

A birder’s “big year” is a competition to see as many unique bird species as possible in one calendar year. Gilbert’s quest would certainly qualify as his own “big spring.”

“This is a fairly rich habitat for both migratory and resident birds,” says Gilbert. “The Front Range is so dry; where there is water, there are birds.”

He names the blue grosbeak among his best campus sightings which in 20 years, he has only seen twice.

“It’s one of those species that people get a ‘wow’ out of,” Gilbert says. But last fall, he experienced a particularly spectacular birding event.
"Every October, you get sandhill cranes migrating from Alaska and spending a night or two at Big Johnson," he says. "It’s typically a 24-hour event."

Gilbert heard the crane calls one evening and at sunrise the next morning, he headed over to the reservoir. Instead of a few hundred as is typical, “There were five to six thousand birds out there!”

He had alerted Science Faculty Rob Gustke, who brought his biology class over to the reservoir that morning. "It was an unforgettable sight, as about 5,000 cranes took off. You do not witness too many natural events that stop 16 teenagers in their tracks and hold them pretty speechless for 10 minutes. It was one of those magical moments that old teachers remember for a long time (and hopefully the kids, too)."

Birding has been popular at FVS for decades. There are archival records of Chuck Froelicher ’43’s campus sighting while a student. Former Faculty Jim Mariner is a veteran birder who participates each year in the Aiken Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count in the FVS and Big Johnson Reservoir area. He took top honors in 2012, leading a group who sighted the most rare or uncommon birds. Gary Conover ’67 regularly leads a bird watching group on reunion weekends. And somewhat randomly, FVS’s communications department received a fun Google Alert last summer about a dickcissel’s song heard by someone visiting campus to view an Ultimate Frisbee competition.

Fountain Valley’s land management initiatives are helping ensure the health of the prairie that attracts so many birds to the delight of so many.
### DR. GILBERT'S 166 BIRD SIGHTINGS AT FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL

Running total includes sightings at Big Johnson Reservoir across the road.

- **Loons**
  - Common Loon
- **Grebes**
  - Pied-billed Grebe
  - Horned Grebe
  - Eared Grebe
  - Western Grebe
  - Clark's Grebe
- **Pelicans**
  - American White Pelican
- **Cormorants**
  - Double-crested Cormorant
- **Bitterns and Herons**
  - American Bittern
  - Great Blue Heron
  - Great Egret
  - Snowy Egret
  - Cattle Egret
  - Black-crowned Night Heron
  - Yellow-crowned Night Heron
- **Ibises and Spoonbills**
  - White-faced Ibis
- **Swans, Geese and Ducks**
  - Snow Goose
  - Ross' Goose
  - Canada Goose
  - Wood Duck
  - Green-winged Teal
  - Mallard
  - Northern Pintail
  - Blue-winged Teal
  - Cinnamon Teal
  - Northern Shoveler
  - Gadwall
  - American Wigeon
  - Canvasback
  - Redhead
  - Ring-necked Duck
  - Lesser Scaup
  - Common Goldeneye
  - Bufflehead
  - Hooded Merganser
  - Common Merganser
  - Red-breasted Merganser
  - Ruddy Duck
- **American Vultures**
  - Turkey Vulture
- **Kites, Eagles and Hawks**
  - Osprey
  - Bald Eagle
  - Northern Harrier
  - Sharp-shinned Hawk
  - Cooper's Hawk
  - Swainson's Hawk
  - Red-tailed Hawk
  - Ferruginous Hawk
  - Rough-legged Hawk
  - Golden Eagle
- **Falcons**
  - American Kestrel
  - Merlin
  - Peregrine Falcon
  - Prairie Falcon
- **Grouse, Turkeys and Quails**
  - Virginia Rail
  - Sora
  - American Coot
- **Cranes**
  - Sandhill Crane
- **Plovers**
  - Killdeer
- **Stilts and Avocets**
  - American Avocet
- **Sandpipers and Phalaropes**
  - Greater Yellowlegs
  - Lesser Yellowlegs
  - Willet
  - Spotted Sandpiper
  - Wilson's Phalarope
  - Red-necked Phalarope
- **Jaegers, Gulls and Terns**
  - Franklin's Gull
  - Ring-billed Gull
  - California Gull
  - Forster's Tern
- **Pigeons and Doves**
  - Rock Dove
  - Mourning Dove
  - Collared Dove
- **Barn Owls**
  - Barn Owl
- **Owls**
  - Great Horned Owl
  - Burrowing Owl
  - Northern Saw-whet Owl
- **Goatsuckers**
  - Common Nighthawk
- **Hummimgbirds**
  - Black-chinned Hummingbird
  - Broad-tailed Hummingbird
- **Kingfishers**
  - Belted Kingfisher
- **Woodpeckers**
  - Red-headed Woodpecker
  - Downy Woodpecker
  - Hairy Woodpecker
  - Northern Flicker
- **Tyrant Flycatchers**
  - Olive-sided Flycatcher
  - Western Wood-Pewee
  - Hammond's Flycatcher
  - Say's Phoebe
  - Cassin's Kingbird
  - Western Kingbird
  - Eastern Kingbird
- **Larks**
  - Horned Lark
- **Swallows**
  - Tree Swallow
  - Violet-green Swallow
  - Northern Rough-winged Swallow
  - Cliff Swallow
  - Barn Swallow
- **Jay, Magpies and Crows**
  - Stellar's Jay
  - Blue Jay
  - Scrub Jay
  - Black-billed Magpie
  - American Crow
  - Common Raven
- **Nuthatches**
  - White-breasted Nuthatch
- **Creepers**
  - Brown Creeper
- **Wrens**
  - House Wren
- **Kinglets and Gnatcatchers**
  - Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
  - Solitaires and Thrushes
  - Eastern Bluebird
  - Western Bluebird
  - Mountain bluebird
  - Townsend's Solitaire
  - Swainson's Thrush
  - Hermit Thrush
  - American Robin
- **Mockingbirds and Thrashers**
  - Gray Catbird
  - Northern Mockingbird
  - Brown Thrasher
- **Waxwings**
  - Cedar Waxwing
- **Shrikes and Starlings**
  - Loggerhead Shrike
  - European Starling
- **Wood-Warblers**
  - Yellow Warbler
  - Yellow-rumped Warbler
  - Common Yellowthroat
  - Wilson's Warbler
- **Tanagers**
  - Western Tanager
- **Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Buntings**
  - Black-headed Grosbeak
  - Blue Grosbeak
  - Dickcissel
- **Towhees, Sparrows and Longspurs**
  - Green-tailed Towhee
  - Rufous-sided Towhee
  - Chipping Sparrow
  - Vesper Sparrow
  - Lark Sparrow
  - Lark Bunting
  - Song Sparrow
  - White-crowned Sparrow
  - Dark-eyed Junco
- **Blackbirds and Orioles**
  - Bobolink
  - Red-winged Blackbird
  - Western Meadowlark
  - Yellow-headed Blackbird
  - Brewer's Blackbird
  - Great-tailed Grackle
  - Common Grackle
  - Brown-headed Cowbird
  - Orchard Oriole
  - Northern Oriole
- **Finches**
  - House Finch
  - Pine Siskin
  - Lesser Goldfinch
  - American Goldfinch
  - Evening Grosbeak
- **Weaver Finches**
  - House Sparrow

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**GOLDEN EAGLE**

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**FEATURE STORY**

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**Bulletin Winter 2013**
Ranch Managers Dave Overlin and Chris McAdams wish they had a time machine. They would like to go back to 1930 to see what Bradley Ranch was like when Fountain Valley School founder Elizabeth Sage Hare purchased the property for the School.

Alternately, they have become archaeologists of a sort, discovering and revitalizing the irrigation ditches that made the Bradley Ranch prairie healthy and productive, as well as finding clues as to how the ranch was run.

“It’s like an archaeological dig,” McAdams says. “From the design of the fences to the pattern of the ditches, we’ve deduced that sheep and goats were raised here—multiple kinds of livestock—and that produce was once farmed here.”

When the ranch became a school, the emphasis shifted from production to education. Now, guided by Fountain Valley School’s land management initiatives and holistic management philosophy, Overlin and McAdams are working to restore the vibrancy and yield of the School’s 900 undeveloped acres.

“This is great land,” says Overlin, “and we are trying to combine the way it was as a ranch with the needs of today—sharing the land. This is prairie and wetlands, riparian and irrigated land. We have snapping turtles, fox, coyote, snakes, birds, deer, raccoons, skunks, steer, goats, horses. We have students and families who are runners, bikers, birders, hikers. Our holistic approach is to accommodate all of these, including the grazing horses.”

One of their success stories is an area that has been referred to as “dust bowl field.”

“We looked at it and knew it had been irrigated,” Overlin says. “We found a concrete drop structure and then another. We saw where the ditches had been, reestablished that, did a little piping and reconected our new ditches to the old ones, and now we have a wonderful field.”

Overlin calls it “the Mesopotamia irrigation system.” Indeed, the system of ditches and the regulation of the flow and direction of water are very much akin to the 6,000-year-old practice.

“Everything runs downhill from Big Johnson Reservoir [located just east of campus],” Overlin says.

McAdams and Overlin are also reestablishing historic grass compositions, especially the cool season grasses that help extend the green grass grazing season for FVS horses. A component of this is rotational grazing, using the horses to chew down the grasses for growth.

“If you manage your grazing properly, the seeds will be there to grow again,” Overlin says.

The drought has put a new spin on managing the land. “We have to maximize our potential,” says Overlin. “For us to be successful and help maintain the riding program, we have to be über-efficient. It is critical that we make every drop of water stretch.”

There is more than enough water on FVS land to meet the School’s needs, but all of it is regulated, dating back to water rights laws from 1940. Improvements and restorations of irrigation ditches have made efficient use of the precious water, reaching more pastures and in some cases, resulting in two cuttings per field.

As a result, instead of 2,700 bales of hay in 2011, the land produced 7,000 bales in 2012, and this was accomplished during the drought.

“Had Mother Nature cooperated, another 7,000 bales would have been harvested, producing income for the School.”

**MacGyvers**

Arguably as resourceful and handy as MacGyver of the television series, McAdams and Overlin have planned the prairie’s fencing and gates to most efficiently accommodate the different land uses.

“We fabricate everything here,” says Overlin. “Self-sufficiency is the way we operate.”
New extended fencing now encloses the entire horse barn area. They created small gates in the long internal fence lines by recycling sucker rod and oil field pipe donated by Guy McElvain '84 (P ‘14). These gates cleverly allow people and bicycles through, but not horses. They have also used the piping to build paddocks, roping arenas and corrals. Three new corrals bring some horses closer to the arena, and two contiguous paddocks enable one instructor to attend to both novice and experienced Western riders at the same time. They have moved fences to accommodate rotational grazing and are replacing old barbed wire with smooth wire.

Other major tasks have included building the hayfield soil by using compost from the horses (200-plus tons have been spread so far) and clearing out Dillon Pond.

“We removed invasive Russian Olives and waterlogged debris. The pond can breathe now,” McAdams says. “We cleared a trail so you can walk around the entire pond.”

The pond is now so welcoming, a pair of bald eagles chose to make their home there.

You’re Invited

The ranch managers are eager to share their passion for the prairie, and invite anyone interested to join them for a tour and a discussion of the School’s land management goals.

And, if you just happen to have a power overseeder lying around, they ask that you give them a call!
Class Notes

Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Kate Faricy Maiurro ’00

50s

JOHN CARRAWAY ’58 (father of CHANCE ’04) was mentioned in a Colorado Springs Gazette article this fall on the Mars landing project. Carraway worked at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for 30 years and was there when the first Mars Lander projected images from the planet. “I was nervous. First thing, I was nervous that the mission wouldn’t be successful, and I was nervous for the whole Mars program,” Carraway is quoted. About the current mission, he said, “I am eager to see what kind of information the Curiosity Rover sends back—especially any information on why the former lush planet turned into a dry desert.”

60s

TOM POOR ’61 has been inducted into the United States Squash Hall of Fame. He has won more than 40 U.S. and Canadian national age-group singles and doubles titles in the game of squash. He was a member of the 1973 U.S. national team at the World Amateur Championships in South Africa and captain of the 1977 team in Canada. He won the Canadian Open doubles five times and twice reached the finals of the U.S. Open doubles. He and his son, Morgan, have won consecutive national father-son Century Division titles. He has also been a tournament director, board member and advocate of junior squash.

BOB WEIR ’65 was featured in a Bloomberg Business Week article. Weir, a founding member of the Grateful Dead and an entrepreneurial musician, has started a company he hopes will help other musicians make money. Tamalpais Research has a state-of-the-art recording and broadcast facility in San Rafael, Calif., and a revenue-sharing deal with Yahoo! Music to stream live concerts free to the site’s 39 million viewers.

Recently, Bill Griffiths ’61, right, and his wife, Shari, were back in the Midwest and had the opportunity to spend a couple of days with Peter Regnery ’61, left, and his wife, Barbara, who live in Soldiers Grove, Wisc., and spend the winter months in Boca Grande, Fla.

FVS received a true treasure from Otis Glazebrook ’67: The World War II letters written by his father, Otis Glazebrook ’39, above, who served in the Pacific as a decorated combat crew member of the 869th Bombardment Squadron. Also included is an extensive scrapbook of newspaper accounts of the war kept by Glazebrook ’39’s mother.

Headmaster Craig Larimer ’69 visited classmate Barry Brown ’69 in October at the Southwest Airlines headquarters in Dallas. Brown is associate senior counsel of Southwest Airlines and welcomed Larimer and FVS Advancement Director Joy Kliewer with a personal tour of the headquarters.
Mark Seelye ’70 proudly wears his FVS jersey.

GRiffin Dunne ’74 has a supporting role in the film “Broken City” starring Russell Crowe, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Mark Wahlberg. 🧑‍하였습니다.

Michael SherNick ’82’s artwork is featured in the recently published book “Spirituality and Growth on the Leadership Path: An Abecedary” by Dr. Deborah J. Haynes.

Ed Eppler ’82 lent FVS a helping hand by hosting an alumni/admission reception in New Canaan, Conn.

Class Agent Ben Howe ’89 reports that Josh Mortensen moved to Copenhagen after college where he and his wife started a Netflix-type company out of their basement. A few years ago, the company sold to Amazon. Mortensen has since started another technology company specializing in online ads. 🧑‍[parent].

Link Nicoll ’79 won first place in the Photoworks DC Photo Slam. This event was part of DCFotoWeek, a festival that takes place annually in Washington, D.C. Nicoll’s winning photo above was from her latest project titled Tancook Island Life.

Jim Dulin ’76 sent in this photo of a Class of ’76 rogue reunion in Chewelah, Wash., last August. Left to right Dulin, Greg Coleman, Rev Morton, Monte Eagleton, Dan Thompson, Matt Drake, Dave Ellis and Fletcher Schiller. Dulin also sent along this quote: “Squeeze the nectar out of life.”

Barbara Trask ’79 and husband, Ian, welcomed their daughter Sarafina on Sept. 13, 2012. Trask writes, “We may be late bloomers but sure are happy, and it will keep us young.”

Ben Howe ’89, second from right, and Josh Mortensen, far right, recently vacationed together with their families in Andalucia, Spain.

Shane Johnson ’89 reports: “This past summer I finished my first 100-mile race, the Tahoe Rim Trail 100. Exact elevation change is not published, but it is estimated at around 22,000 feet of total climbing, with the same amount of descent. In the weeks leading up to the race, I decided that my target finish would be 28-29 hours. My ultimate goal was of course to simply finish without hurting myself. About 60 percent of starters typically complete the course. I crossed the finish line at 4:35 in the morning. A truly awesome day, 23 hours and 35 minutes, 10th place overall.”

Show your FVS pride: new silk neckties just arrived!

By Vineyard Vines
$60.00
To order go to fvs.edu/store, or call 719.391.5226
90s

DAVE PHILIPPS ‘96 and his wife, Amanda, welcomed their second son, Frost. For the eighth year, Philipps returned to campus to give a talk on his career that has taken him from Middlebury College and Columbia University to the Gazette newspaper, to a book on post-traumatic stress disorder, to the research of wild horses at the University of Colorado, and back to the Gazette. He spoke with two sections of English Department Chair DAVE REYNOLDS’ Writing from Within classes. Students read three of Philipps’ pieces and he fielded questions on journalism.

Martins Zemitis ‘96 visited campus in January with his wife and son, and made a presentation to FVS global scholars titled From FVS to the European Parliament—Careers in International Relations. Zemitis works for the European Parliament in Brussels providing expert advice to members of the Parliament in drafting European Union budgets. He and his family live in Latvia.

Luke Day ‘97 writes, “I got married to a wonderful woman, Amy Lynne (now) Day. We are coming up on our one-year anniversary on Oct. 26. I graduated from my residency in emergency medicine at the Naval Medical Center, San Diego. I am now a Navy EM physician in Yokosuka, Japan. Amy and I just welcomed our daughter, Quinn Meriweather, born Oct. 16, 2012, at United States Naval Hospital in Yokosuka—7.1 lbs, 20 in. and lovely.”

00s

MELISSA WITTWER ‘96 is senior manager of operations, special projects for Pourshins Supplair, a logistics provider offering supply chain management solutions. She lives in Washington, D.C., and recently attended an FVS alumni reception there.

Classmates TIM TUCEY ‘00 and BENEDIKT SIEGLER recently visited FVS and the Mountain Campus. Tucey is living in San Diego and working on his Ph.D. in biology. Siegler is married, currently living in Boston and working on his Ph.D. in economics at Harvard.

MATT ZAY ‘00 and his wife, Barbara, opened for the Rolling Stones with their choir at a concert in December at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

ALANA (HEALEY) DICICCO ‘01 sends news: “My law firm is now well established in the legal community and I continue to enjoy my work. I also maintain a membership at a local art gallery where I show my paintings regularly. My husband, Dan DiCicco, who is trained as an attorney, recently quit law to work on his computer game company full time. We have thrown much of our resources and lots of excitement at this new venture! The first game, Star Drive, is coming out in early 2013 and we are very excited. We are particularly thankful to all our FVS friends who contributed to the original Kickstarter funding project. We continue to live in Portland, Ore.”

Sallyanne (Hayden) Massimini ‘99, center, was recently nominated for an Emmy Award. She is the computer-generated imagery supervisor for the television show Once Upon a Time, which was nominated for outstanding visual effects. She writes: “I live in Marina del Rey with my husband Emanuele. I work at Zoic Studios and am the co-episodic CGI supervisor for the L.A. office. I have also worked on shows such as True Blood, V and Fringe, a ton of commercials, and some films like Fast and the Furious, and Straw Dogs. I still paint in my spare time and love to surf!”

Scott van Hartesvelt ‘98 reports to Class Agent Heather Hall: “I’m living happily in Park City, Utah, with my wife, Monica, and 3-year-old daughter, Laila. I’m working at GCommerce solutions with fellow FVS alumni William T. Ferris ‘98 and Lindley Ferris ‘02. Together, we recently became investors in a Costa Rican rainforest hotel called Chachagua Hotel and Hacienda.”

CJ Riley ‘97 reports, “Linda and I had our first little girl, Amelia Aspen Riley, on Sept. 4. She’s beautiful and talkative and really enjoys reading Plato’s dialogs with me.”

T. Ferris ‘98 and Lindley Ferris ‘02.

Luke Day ‘97 and his wife, Amy Lynne.
SUSANNAH BARR ’03 writes: “I moved to the Bay Area of California with a friend from college and to be closer to [twin sister] STEPHANIE…Well, Stephanie bailed and moved back to Colorado and I decided to stay. I currently live in San Jose and work as a homeowner association property manager and I coach CrossFit. This year, I bought a house in the area of Willow Glen in San Jose which I am really enjoying. I have a guest room so come visit!”

While in Saudi Arabia on a recruitment trip, Assistant Director of Admission MIKE PAYNE received an update from FVS parent Robin Tems: “The kids are doing fantastic. CHRISTOPHER TEMS ’03 graduated with honors from Cornell, graduated in the top few of his class for his medical degree from George Washington and is now doing an emergency room residency at the University of Pennsylvania hospitals. CAITLIN TEMS ’04 graduated with honors in geology from Colorado College, did research at MIT, and is now in her third year of a Ph.D. program in geology/oceanography at USC in L.A.”

ALFREDO ALCANTARA ’06 was a cinematographer for the documentary American Promise, which won the U.S. Documentary Special Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

NATE BUDD ’07 writes: “I’m living in Fort Collins and working for Wyco Power and Water, the company developing the Flaming Gorge Pipeline. It’s a great experience and I’m learning a lot. My sister, CRYSTAL ’02, and her husband, Paul, are doing great as well, raising their two daughters Ava and Adrienne in Colorado Springs.”

CHASE DYER ’07 recently moved to Hong Kong and has a sales position at Thomson Reuters.

NATE MACINTYRE ’07 is working at the University of Colorado Hospital in Denver as a pharmacy technician. He reports that his brother JACK MACINTYRE ’03 is living in Oregon with his wife, Rachel, and is finishing up the doctor of optometry program at Pacific University.

KATHERINE ROWE ’07 is in Afghanistan working as an executive officer for a U.S. Army signal company that supplies communications for all of southern Afghanistan.

MARCUS DUMVILLE ’08 sends news: “I graduated from the University of Denver in March with a B.S.B.A. in marketing. I moved to Norman, Okla., and am in my first year at the University of Oklahoma School of Law. BOOMER SOONER! I am planning on specializing in energy law.”

EMMA NEEDELL ’08 graduated from Johns Hopkins University majoring in Spanish, film and media studies, along with a minor in environmental science. She has set her sights on being a writer and director, and her first feature screenplay, a thriller set in Colorado, made it into the second round of the Sundance Screenwriters Lab. Out of 10,000 entries, hers was one of 150 that made the cut. Needell has written and produced a number of short films including her thesis film, Ruin Town, awarded best experimental film at the Ivy Film Festival and official selection of the Palm Beach International Film Festival. She is currently production assistant for The Ben Show on Comedy Central.

Admission Director Randy Roach met up with Asumi Kojima ’08 in Japan while on an admission trip.

WRITE ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL CHAPTER AT FVS—

Your Wedding!

Fountain Valley School has been honored to host the weddings of scores of alumni and their families. The Hacienda with its courtyard and the Lewis Perry Jr. Chapel offer stunning settings for intimate, memorable celebrations. This privilege is reserved for alumni only, and FVS makes the option very affordable. For information, please contact facility rental coordinator Alison Christofferson ’99 at 719.391.5426 or achristofferson@fvs.edu.
Spotted having dinner together in downtown Colorado Springs were classmates MADI STUART ’08, ALEX TONSING ’08 and STEPHEN WILSON ’08. Stuart is working on her master’s degree in teaching at Colorado College, Tonsing is at Haverford University and working at the school’s premed office, and Wilson is busy applying to Ph.D. programs in a number of areas of science, including biochemistry.

ASHLEY BAN ’09 writes: “I’m in school at Regis and I have about a year and a half left. I’ve been in the Air National Guard and spent last summer in Texas and Virginia for training. I’ve already been sent out on one local fatality search and recovery team which luckily was successful. I took over Exotic Tans about two weeks ago with my aunt as a partner, and we’re basically just trying to build it back up and run it to its full potential. It’s tough, but it’s definitely getting there and it takes up a good majority of my time.”

KAMAL HAJI-AHMED ’09 writes to Dean of Faculty JAKE EMERY ’71: “I’m heading into my senior year majoring in pre-law and minoring in economics at Binghamton University. I just finished a three-month internship at Martin Clearwater and Bell law firm in NYC. I did a semester abroad in Nairobi at the United States International University, and I took classes relating to international business and law. I’m pretty busy these days, but I still miss FVS and all the people there who helped me out along the way.”

EMY HANNA ’09 graduates from Texas Christian University in May 2013 with a B.B.A. in marketing and a B.B.A. in supply and value chain management. She is currently working at Superior Livestock Auction in Fort Worth, Texas. It is a marketing firm that buys and sells livestock across the U.S.

STEVE STOOT ’09 overcame injuries to make the Purdue University varsity cross country squad in the fall of 2012. Last summer, he finished fifth in the Colorado Springs Pikes Peak Ascent.

Rett Rayhill ’08 graduated with a degree in biology from the U.S. Air Force Academy in May. He reports: “My job is acquisitions for the electronic systems center at Hanscom Air Force Base just outside of Boston. A couple of buddies and I took a military hop overseas and hit up Hawaii, Toyko, Seoul, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Koh Chang, Singapore, Manila, Puerto Galera and Guam. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the five year.” Rayhill shown above with President Obama at his United States Air Force Academy graduation.

In an online article, The Coloradan recently featured SCOTT TREDENNICK ’10. He is a junior at Colorado State University studying health, exercise science and nutrition. In the article, Tredennick speaks about his most recent outdoor passions and adventures including splitboarding, crossfit, and mountaineering. He expounds on his travels to Ecuador this past summer and a recent 14-day expedition with the National Outdoor Leadership School in Teton Valley, Idaho.

MASON FORD ’10 wrote to hockey coach MIKE PAYNE: “I am taking the summer semester at University of Victoria because I was working a co-op job at the Canadian Navy Base last semester. We have to complete a minimum of four co-op jobs and a maximum of six before we graduate so the schedule works out that I have to take some school semesters in the summer. I’m really enjoying it so far! I have now finished my second year of electrical engineering and have just two more to go.”

Garron Sanchez ’09 is a senior at Middlebury College majoring in molecular biology. He was in Colorado Springs last fall to visit English Faculty Jen Buckley and other FVS faculty.

HAVE NEWS?
Send your class note to alumni@fvs.edu.
Emma Whitehead '12 recently met up with Music Director Charlie Kurchinski and her sister, Mara '13, at her Colorado College a cappella concert.

Emily Greenbaum '12 is loving college at DePaul University. FVS faculty and soccer coaches Derek Segesdy and René Lemieux were in Chicago for a soccer clinic and had the opportunity to catch up with Greenbaum over dinner.

Taylor Reid Guzy '12 is at the University of Alabama and was on ESPN TV with his sister Allison holding the Crimson Tide flag for four straight hours prior to Alabama winning the national championship game.

Jay Shen '11 spent a week with former FVS director of alumni relations Clara Duff on his way back to Carleton College in August. During his stay, they met for dinner with former faculty Eamon Essex and his family in Duval, Wash.

Kim Donaldson '12 was visited at Colby College this fall by FVS faculty Ally and Josh Doyon. She is playing both volleyball and basketball for the college.

Jane Hardy '12 is a member of the novice women's crew team at Wake Forest University. In her first meet, her boat finished third out of 23 other collegiate teams. In an email to FVS Co-Director of Communications Laura Fawcett, Jane writes: "I love crew. I, of course, went from one obsessive sport (horses) to another. Today was the last day of fall season and we had our best race. It’s been crazy fun, and I can’t wait for spring, which is the best crew season." Hardy is second from right.

Kestrel Felt '12 recently returned to the Art Barn to reunite as part of Artist-In-Residence Jeff Brown’s 2011-2012 advisee group. She attends Oberlin College. Also pictured is Eric Jiang '13.

Taylor Reid Guzy '12 is at the University of Alabama and was on ESPN TV with his sister Allison holding the Crimson Tide flag for four straight hours prior to Alabama winning the national championship game.

Emma Whitehead '12 recently met up with Music Director Charlie Kurchinski and her sister, Mara '13, at her Colorado College a cappella concert.
FVS On The Road
Photos from alumni and admission receptions across the country

Chicago
Alumni and admission event sponsored by Bob Griffiths and held at The University Club in Chicago

Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception

D.C. Councilman Vincent Orange ’75 and Life Trustee Fisher Howe

Denver Alumni and Admission Reception

Elizabeth P. Ashby ’89 and Trustee and Former Faculty Jon Patten ’60

Matt Bryant ’98, left, and Laura (Bales) Wright ’96

Left to right, Sandy Turner ’72, Bob Griffiths ’68, Min Jae Kim ’08, Laura (Bales) Wright ’96, Chris Bellios ’89, Kelly A. Kraines ’89 and Kate Faricy Maiurro ’00

Left to right, David F. Steed ’94, Stephen C. Ridgway ’94 and Addie Green ’06
In Memoriam

FRANK H. YOUNG ’66
Frank H. Young, 63, died July 22, 2012, in Evanston, Ill.
Young entered FVS as a fourth former in 1963. He was co-editor of the Pup and associate editor of the Owl, and was also a member of the Library Committee, Debate Club, Skeet Club and stage crew. Athletically, he spent three years on the bowling team, two on track, and one each on the soccer and gymkhana teams.
Young received his MBA from Northwestern University and then returned to Colorado to run a real estate development firm in Boulder. He later returned to Chicago and pursued futures trading working at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. He enjoyed Cubs games, playing cards, running, sailing on Lake Michigan and hunting for water fowl.
He is survived by three sons and two grandchildren.

ROBERT H. KELLY ’68
Kelly entered FVS as a fourth former and played two years of tennis (captain as a senior). He was also on the ski team and spent two years on the Owl staff.

RICHARD B. HUBBARD ’71
Hubbard was raised in Bronxville, N.Y., Denver, Colo., and outside Corwin Springs, Mont. At FVS, one of his hobbies was photography and he did an independent study project with nationally known photographer Myron Wood.
After graduation, he went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in art from Franconia College and a master’s of fine art from Florida State University. An art installation designer by profession, he worked at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art until he decided to devote full time to his own studio.
An accomplished artist, Hubbard drew his inspiration from nature. His work and mediums changed as he did—photography, functional sculpture, mixed media and gardening. One of his most ambitious works was his home. Every detail was considered and often specially designed and fabricated for its unique aesthetic contribution to the whole.
He also loved hiking, backpacking, fly-fishing, canoeing, mountain biking and travel. His uncle, Peter Packard, is a 1966 FVS graduate.
Hubbard is survived by his wife, Judi Stauffer.

MILLIE DAWN (NÉE DAVID) FAIRCHILD ’77
Fairchild spent her junior and senior years at Fountain Valley School. A vibrant, outgoing personality, Fairchild told classmates that “there is very little left of the classmate you knew, except for the wild and crazy part.” She “coached kids, trained horses, taught cooking, volunteered for the Red Cross Boogie, looked for ways to lose weight involving butter and fine French cooking, amused her partner of 26 years, and worked as an independent buyer and merchandiser for department and big box stores.”
She was proud and open about being transgendered and spoke publicly about it. She is survived by her longtime partner.
JOSEPH T. NUNLEY ’09
Joseph Taylor Nunley ’09, 22, died July 28, 2012, in Sabinal, Texas. Nunley and his younger brother Thomas ’11 died in an automobile accident after lunch en route to their family’s Coyote Ranch in Texas. Their older sister, Chloe, is a 2007 FVS graduate, and parents Dana and Robert have been longtime supporters of the School.

Taylor loved ranches, cattle and wildlife, and knew he wanted to be a full-time rancher. He was an avid hunter and skilled outdoorsman, enjoying tournament bay and gulf fishing with his family off Port Aransas. He was an Eagle Scout and had recently returned to scouting as an assistant leader. He also served as Revaldina District FFA vice president. He attended Texas Tech University and Sul Ross State University, and was enrolled to finish college at Texas State in the fall of 2012.

He entered FVS as a junior in 2007 and participated in Western riding and as a member of the track team. He helped the boys track team win the league title in 2008 with placings in the 100m hurdles and the high jump (third).

He is survived by his parents and sister.

THOMAS H. NUNLEY ’11
Thomas Henry Nunley ’11, 20, died July 28, 2012, in Sabinal, Texas. Nunley and his older brother Taylor ’09 died in an automobile accident after lunch en route to their family’s Coyote Ranch in Texas. Their older sister, Chloe, is a 2007 FVS graduate, and parents Dana and Robert have been longtime supporters of the School.

He was an excellent athlete, hunter, angler and lovable son and brother. He attended Sul Ross State University, where was to begin his sophomore year in the fall of 2012.

Thomas came to FVS as a freshman and spent three years with the community. He was a strong tennis player for the Danes, qualifying for states in No. 2 doubles as a freshman and then again as a sophomore at No. 3 singles. He also played basketball and lacrosse, along with football and baseball at a neighboring school. He also sang with the concert choir.

He is survived by his parents and sister.

Danford Barney IV
Danford Barney, the School’s director of admission from 1965-71 and an English faculty member from 1962-71, died Dec. 31, 2012.

LYNN FROST
Caroline “Lynn” Aldrich Frost died Aug. 15, 2012, in Colorado Springs. Frost was the wife of longtime FVS faculty Hunter Frost.

The Frosts moved to Fountain Valley School in 1966, and Hunter taught English, Spanish, photography and drama for the next 16 years. He also created the FVS Film Festival (now the Dominique Dunne High School Film Competition), and directed many plays. Lynn Frost designed and made costumes for the School’s theatrical productions. After moving away from Colorado, they returned in 1992 and become active members of the Colorado Springs arts community. They also continued to support Fountain Valley School through their time and gifts. Their children are graduates of FVS: Daniel ’74, William ’76 and Julie ’83.
“Debby and I many years ago gave GE stock I had held for 65 years, and we now enjoy a handsome quarterly check along with a warm thank you from FVS. Most people don’t realize that a planned gift can sometimes make you money, or at least save you money.”

- Life Trustee Fisher Howe

Join Lifetime Trustee Fisher Howe and Debby Froelicher Howe ’38 by becoming a member of the Elizabeth Sage Hare Society. Your planned gift will support the intellectual adventure, cutting edge teaching and learning, the arts and athletics distinctive to Fountain Valley School.

For more information, contact Director of Institutional Advancement Joy Kliewer at 719.391.5252 or jkliewer@fvs.edu.

Visit fvs.edu/plannedgiving where you’ll find excellent and thorough information, including a calculator for all the ways of making a planned gift.

FVS SUMMER CAMPS

Outdoor Education
Horseback Riding
Creative Writing
Pinhole Photography
Lacrosse
Robotics
Flipping Your Classroom (for teachers)
Soccer
Tennis
Philanthropy

All camps are held at the beautiful Fountain Valley School main campus in Colorado Springs or at the School’s 40-acre Mountain Campus near Buena Vista.

Find out more at fvs.edu/summerprograms or call 719.391.5426
Bob Parker is a former Fountain Valley School faculty member who has remained closely connected to the School, volunteering in the Advancement Office and now, as a member of the FVS Land Management Committee.

Impacted strongly by Outward Bound and the National Outdoor Leadership School, I left the East Coast in 1980 to take on my third teaching position at Fountain Valley. I was particularly excited to be running the outdoor education program at a place in which outdoor recreation was in the mainstream. What I had not anticipated was how my involvement in natural landscapes both on campus and off would alter my personal/professional life.

Fast forward now three decades and I am still in Colorado Springs and on campus as a volunteer in the Advancement Office. At present, I am a fundraiser and advocate for the protection and restoration of the School’s 900 acres of undeveloped lands.

To condense a lengthy story, I left full-time teaching after four years and gave myself a year to look ahead. This led to my involvement in land preservation, first by saving landscapes in Colorado Springs [e.g., the large open space surrounding Big Johnson Reservoir] and later as a trustee with the Palmer Land Trust. It also gave me an opportunity to learn about fundraising, which I began to apply first at the Nature Conservancy and then with special projects at the School.

In 2009, I began to consider making a shift in what I was raising money for at FVS. My mind turned, not surprisingly, to the lands surrounding the School’s central campus. I contacted Jim Scott ’68 [former board president and trustee, and alumni parent]. We’d often talked about the state of the land and the importance of its preservation when he came to campus.

I shared with him the following concerns: The deteriorating health of our rangelands in particular; the need for consistent and trained management; the siren call of money that emerges in the absence of a formal land policy; and the “disconnect” between daily faculty/student lives and the natural landscape that surrounds them.

As is his way, Jim promptly offered to direct funds to the School that would serve as a challenge grant to promote a long-range management plan and its implementation. He asked that we explore holistic management, a process for the sustainable management of ranches and farms that first emerged in Rhodesia from the efforts of Allan Savory, a wildlife biologist and farmer who sought to identify the cause of increasing soil desertification in Africa and beyond. He concluded that management needed a new process and framework for making decisions.
AS A MEMBER OF THE FVS LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, I HAVE HELPED THE SCHOOL EMBARK ON A HOLISTIC MANAGEMENT PROCESS.

Treating the whole

The health of land is dependent on the interaction of many interdependent variables. Any useful change only occurs by applying a solution that will treat the whole vs. changing a single part. For example, mowing or cutting down a noxious plant is in effect treating a symptom instead of the cause. Such activity could well make the situation worse rather than better. In contrast, introducing a proper grazing plan, which we are practicing at FVS, fosters at least three positive outcomes: nutritious grasses for forage, a greater diversity of plants and animals, and an improved water cycle. Each can help to crowd out weeds by altering the environment in which such weeds grow.

Holistic Land Planning

Good land planning includes the selection, proper location and upkeep of infrastructure to meet various holistic goals such as security, access and education. Ranch Managers Dave Overlin and Chris McAdams have given considerable attention to fencing, gates and new paddocks.

Finances

It is not uncommon for ranch owners to pay attention to the ecological health of their properties but fail to manage their finances to make a profit. A big mistake made by for profits and nonprofits is to add costly inputs that may not be necessary. For example, sufficient forage is a requirement to feed the 55 horses involved in the riding program. One option would be to supply all or part of such feed from an outside supplier. The current manager estimates the cost in today’s market to be close to $75,000 per year. Alternatively we can, and now do, grow much of our own hay.

Should you have comments or reactions, I invite you to join the conversation by contacting me at bobparker002@centurylink.net. We need your interest and input!
Come Home.
The ties that bind are still here. All that’s missing are you and your classmates.

SAVE THE DATE:
Reunion Weekend 2013
May 31–June 2

Come early and play at the Mountain Campus!
Online registration is now open.
For more information, contact Alumni Relations Director Kate Faricy at kfaricy@fvs.edu or 719.391.5315