

# The GreenWaveNews

*Inside the Wave . . . . . Views/Opinions, Awards Day, Fun/Field Day, Pride Band, Sports, FCCLA  
Leeds High School Quill and Scroll Honor Society (established October 10, 1947)  
International Honor Society for High School Journalists*

October 2014  
Volume 9 No. 1  
Published Quarterly



## SRO Hagan discusses online privacy

Leeds High School Resource Officer Dwain Hagan met with English 10 Honors classes to discuss the importance of “staying safe” on social media. Students posed questions of interest related to online privacy, companies tracking personal digital online searches, school safety, and personal safety issues off campus.

Dr. Steve Hall, LHS Assistant Principal, also met with the Honors classes for in-depth discussions of personal safety both on and off campus.

Hagan and Hall provided insight into the security measures in place at LHS.

Students agreed that LHS offers a secure environment.

Both leaders explained the misconception that people have with regard to “deleting” text messages and/or photos with the reminder that “just because you’ve deleted something from your phone, it’s still out there in the cyber world.”

They reminded students of the adage: Don’t write (post) anything that you wouldn’t want your parents (the world) to see!

Social media is a double-edged sword — it opens the connection with friends, but it also opens the online door to people who are NOT friends.

## National Honor Society Members 2014-2015

### Inductees

Aaliyah Abernathy  
Benjamin Braxton  
Cayla Cook  
Morgan Coston  
Austin Glass  
Hugo Paz Hernandez  
Dericka Jones  
Nathan Lewis  
Ingrid Mayo  
Arthur Patton  
Frankalyn Piazza  
Toren Pollard  
Michael Rankins  
Joseline Rebolledo  
Payton Richey  
Emmanuel Rodriguez  
Kyroon Sierra  
Abigayl Smith  
Clarke Smith  
Isadore Smith  
Sydney St. John  
Kyle Taylor  
Gabryelle Towery  
Macy Vandergrift  
Anna Warner  
William White  
Kalei Whitson

### Returning Members

Cara Anderson  
Harley Armstrong  
Brandon Black  
Alina Bouch  
Sarah Brooks  
Allison Chambers  
Jeremy Clark  
Joshua Crocker  
Taylor Gomer  
Samantha Isbell  
Brooke Kelly  
Javisia Looney  
Abrah Marbury  
Sarah Moore  
Clint Musgrove  
Raven McCain  
Ethan Phillips  
Molly O’Barr  
Rebecca Strange  
Melissa Thompson  
Elise Turner  
Dejerian Williams  
Victoria Wolfe



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**2014-15 LHS National Honor Society members**

*The Vision of Leeds City Schools is Promoting Achievement, Respect, and Success.*

# Students of the Month

By Terri Leigh Gibson

The LHS Student of the Month program promotes success in and out of the classroom.

As a well-respected citizen, a student must be able to maintain a balance among many different areas of life.

The student must exemplify outstanding characteristics both as a student and as a citizen of the community.

This award celebrates individual achievement by creating a culture of learning that values academic success, as well as elevates awareness of student contributions to the school and community at large.

With this purpose in mind, faculty and administrators select students who promote and take pride in Leeds High School, the community, and themselves.

Photos in this edition were provided by *The Green-Wave News* staff, Susan Stovall & Julie Hubbard of Crown Photography, and Terri Leigh Gibson.



**Senior**  
**Destiny Harris**



**Senior**  
**Tyler Wright**



**Juniors**  
**Sharon McCombs & Nathan Lewis**



**Sophomores**  
**Kaci Moses & Jonathan Reyes**



**Freshmen**  
**Hiromi Takeda & Sonya Mansilla**



## OUR MISSION

The mission of Leeds City Schools is to develop confident, productive young people and enable them to become independent life-long learners. We will accomplish this through a dedicated professional staff committed to continued learning. A relevant curriculum will be taught based on thinking and reasoning skills. This will take place in a positive environment recognizing the individual differences in children.

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Senior News Editor:  
Elise Turner

Junior News Editors:  
Sydney St. John  
Anna Warner  
Kalei Whitson

### Purpose

The focus of *The GreenWave News* is to provide a school and community informational service highlighting activities of Leeds High School. Additionally, the publication seeks to provide a public forum for the opinions of students, the newspaper staff, and faculty.

Articles and opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of Leeds High School nor the City of Leeds Board of Education. The editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Staff.

### Corrections:

Errors appearing in *The GreenWave News* should be reported to the advisor. If a correction is warranted, one will be published in the next edition.



# LHS Art Club participates in Leeds John Henry Festival



Photo by Crown Photography

LHS Art Club hosted a fund-raiser during the Leeds John Henry Festival. Art Club members joining Ms. Kirkpatrick (right) are Tanya Alvarez, Jo Mooney, Krista Caswell, Destiny Jackson, and Alex Rawls.

## Annual library scavenger hunt

A scavenger hunt for books and information has become an annual event at LHS. Librarian Terri Leigh Gibson leads students through the resources available.

Mrs. Boone's 9th grade English students enjoyed three days of library orientation. Gibson introduced the facility, services, and technology such as OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog), webpage, wiki, and blog.

Ms. Shannon's 10th grade English classes attended an orientation review and update of services added.

Following orientation instruction, students in both English classes joined teams for the library scavenger hunt to test their understanding. Rather than the usual paper and pencil scavenger hunt, clues were hidden within QR Codes. Students decoded the QR Codes with an App they downloaded to their smart phones of iPads.

Gibson explained, "A QR Code, at its most basic, is a barcode on steroids. QR Codes are used for encoding information in two-dimensional space — like in magazine pages, advertisements, television, or web sites. Many free QR code readers are available for smart phones or iPads."



Sophomores Rachel Goodwin and Abby Perryman have their smart phones "at the ready" as they scan QR Codes for the clues in the annual LHS Library Scavenger Hunt.

**Students in English 10 Honors added a personal touch to the poem by Langston Hughes: "Theme for English B". The poetic essays on this page are submissions by creative writers in the sophomore class.**

### True Me

By Vanessa Layfield

Sometimes, when I am told to write about myself, I remember a million stupid things I have done in my lifetime. It has not been a long one (nearly sixteen years), but I have the scars to prove there have been plenty stupid mistakes. I think that is common though.

One saying I will probably remember until I am too old to remember to be self-conscious or self-deprecating or a million other *self(s)* other than self-loving or self-confident, is that our best traits are on our back. Everyone else can see them but we cannot. When I remember that, I think of the things I love to do, the things I think may define what the rest of my life will be.

I'm ambitious — I want to be a published novelist and a forensic anthropologist and a CEO and a mother and maybe a wife.

I love to learn. Some of my oldest memories are the smell of printed pages and the dusty shelves of the science section of the library as I scoured the building for fairy tales and books about dinosaurs.

I'm brave — not for myself but for other people. When they need me, I can be stronger than any heroic knight from the fairy tales.

I'm still not convinced I am beautiful. That will take time and a lot of tender love and care for my poor confidence, but I do love my body. I've been picked on for knobby legs, but they are strong; my arms cannot lift much weight, but my fingers are nimble; my stomach is not flat and sculpted, but it makes a good pillow. I'm not beautiful, but while the "pretty", delicate girls from the magazine waste away, I will survive.

My favorite part of me though, the piece of me that really shines, is my writing. My clever fingers weave strings of words tripping over themselves to be pretty sentences that become beautiful worlds, and I am incredibly proud of that.

One thing I rarely doubt, even when I'm at my worst and feel wretched, is my writing. My wrist aches from years of looping my *y's* and *g's* and dashing out squiggled *m's*; my fingers are stiff and swollen from clutching a pen. That's me. Wild curls, swollen fingers, ink covered palms, strong legs, and too big feet, topped off by liberal doses of insomnia, exhaustion, depression, and self-doubt but brought to a steady glow by the assurances of others that I will make it; that my grades will be good enough; that college will not kick my butt like I think it will; that I have friends who will love me a 3 a.m. when I am caffeine addled and stressing about finals; that I have family that will never let me live down my flaws, but love me anyway. That Vanessa Layfield on a good day — even on a bad day I'm much the same, but I generally require more hugs.

### Who I Am...

Anonymous

Who I am is something that I don't think I can completely understand. I don't think anyone can completely understand themselves. You are constantly changing whether you like it or not. But that's one of the many challenges everyone faces in life. The only thing you do know for certain is who you are now at this point in your life.

I knew who I was in the past. Although most of the time, I'd like to just forget about it. The mere thought of those distant memories makes me cringe with hope that no one will remember. That is who I was before: shy, insecure, and always worrying. I know I still worry about things, but it's not the same.

Once children grow up, they want to never look back on who they were. I admit I don't exactly like talking to other people about my past, but I own up to it. I try to move on and let go of those memories. I'm a new person now with a positive outlook on my life.

I don't put myself down when I look in the mirror. I'm proud of who I am. I've learned to accept myself for who I was, who I am, and who I will become.

### Who Are You?

Anonymous

When asked, "Who are you?" can be difficult to find an answer to that question at 16. Being a young adult, you would think I still have much to experience before I can truly answer this question — and, if you thought this, you would be correct.

I am a 16-year-old young lady who has lived a life of a woman, having under the counter jobs at 11 years of age although I was mentally 17.

At 13, I had never had a boyfriend like my peers. So far, at 16, I've only had one boyfriend. I have taken care of three children as if they were my own. I have watched my mother wither away in debt and depression. I still remember how my mother basically disappeared.

At 14, I had many things I could say I had done, none of which were drinking or smoking, but rather calling the police on my mom and being responsible for DHR taking all her children is what I have done.

I have watched my mother and brother mentally lose themselves. I have three suicide attempts on the belt I wear around my waist.

At 16, I never had a childhood but have relived adulthood everyday.

"Who Am I?" Well, can't you see? I am the broken toy your child accidentally broke at the toy store that you can't fix with super glue.



**Sophomores took Lexi on a "Goodbye and Good Luck" tour before she moved to Florida. 10th Grade English Honors (and Mr. Windham) signed her shirt. We miss her.**



...The true me continued

**This Is Me**  
By Oris Andrade

Life can either become a blessing or a nightmare — it all depends on you. In my life, I am happy. It does not matter what others think of me. I learned that the physical is not the most important for that will always fade eventually.

The true me? I am a guy who understand the beauty of life and appreciates the blessing and the curses for both will teach me lessons.

I think of myself as a very smart guy. I have learned three language so far and I'm on my way to the fourth.

I am extremely positive even though my life can sometimes be extremely negative.

Learning from others has also helped me in my understanding of life. For example, my grandfather always told his family to work hard for their dreams, for anything we could imagine was real. We must give our best efforts and believe. Determination has always been the key to achieving new things. I believe I will always achieve my goals — it does not matter how long it takes. I have more patience than you will ever know.

Over all things, I keep God as my focus and my guide and I will succeed.

**Who Am I?**  
By Kaci Moses

There is no once-upon-a-time, no Prince Charming. Life is a constant struggle and there are a bunch of toads.

As we enter the teenage years, we make some discoveries: dishes, laundry, vacuuming, and scream at the TV football! Fix your hair, choke down breakfast, fly out the door, and catch the bus. Tomorrow: rinse and repeat.

The high school atmosphere is overwhelming. I love being a part of The Pride of the Greenwave Band. When the team scores and the band plays, the crowd is drawn into the excitement.

Let me tell you about softball — girls diving in the dirt, the crack of the bat, and Dad yelling at the umpire.

**The True Me**  
By Katelynn Shadoan

My whole life has been a sequence of misused words in all the wrong places leading up to the wrong meaning. All those wrong meanings have come up to bite me in the butt my sophomore year and, quite frankly, I don't think there is a pesticide that will make these little bugs go away.

Daily, I am reminded by life's sharp tongue of my mistakes and how I will never get past those misfortunes.

On the other hand, there's a funky, curly-haired girl in the back of my mind encouraging me to push forward. Telling me that my past will only make me stronger. Telling me to learn from all those God-forsaken mistakes and telling me, even when I don't want to listen, "You are beautiful." So I have learned from my darkest days that I am beautiful even when my eyes are swollen from crying and my makeup is gone, I am beautiful.

Most recently I have learned that my life is not the perfect teenage life I thought it was. Reality slapped me in the face my ninth-grade year and I sure did take a beating.

The true me is something I may never know or want to know. There is nothing certain about this form I'm in — I have decades to change.

My favorite color is purple and I love dogs, but let me tell you that tomorrow my favorite color will be black and I will love nothing. This "being" I'm in will never be certain and, to be honest, I like it that way.

This sequence of misused words I like to call my life quite possibly hasn't been the worst nor has it been the best. That is all I am certain of because everything under the sun changes with each rising moon.

Every thing changes so this is not the true me nor will it ever be.

My greatest joy comes through my relationship with Jesus Christ. Without His love for us, we could not love each other.

Who am I? I'm a sophomore at LHS who enjoys band, softball, school, and hanging out with friends. I'm a smart, kind, funny, athletic, musical young lady who is blessed with a loving family and awesome friends.

**Who Am I?**  
By Anna LaCruz

Who am I? In short, Anna Carmen LaCruz, fifteen years old, chronic insomniac and aspiring surgeon. I get good enough grades and I idolize that of the stoic and magnificent. A perfectionist from birth, my goal was and always will be to become perfect.

I have a few good friends but tend to keep to myself lest distractions make their way in with their booming repercussions and obvious consequences. I love books. I love good music.

However, I am painfully over-emotional and I turned into a pillar of dust ages and ages ago. I have terrible self-esteem but conceal it under my very curly hair and good grades. I find myself staring at the walls more than I should, loving more than I can, and crying at the world's most inappropriate times. I spend more time being worried about not writing rather than actually getting the words down on paper.

I am enamored by feminism and I intend to do something about the way women are viewed.

I can have nothing but symmetry yet that phrase in itself contradicts my very being. My mother always told me that I was a walking paradox. No matter how hard I desire to be right or left, I find myself lost in the pool of everything that makes me.

My initial reaction to this essay assignment was "Oh God — I hope she skips me" in lieu of having to turn in a tear-stained piece of notebook paper. This essay could have been about the effect my dad has had on me or a neat, clean list of every existential crisis I've had in the last year. That would tell you more about the outside me rather than the inside me.

I may change from day to day, but I will always come back to one trait — I am a thinker. Some may say I think too much, but I've learned to befriend the questions that tend to bounce around inside my head.

Does everything happen for a reason? I have everything I need so why am I not content?

Who am I? I am a list of questions, a song that goes longer than it should, and the girl everyone knows but will never truly see.

# HOMECOMING 2014



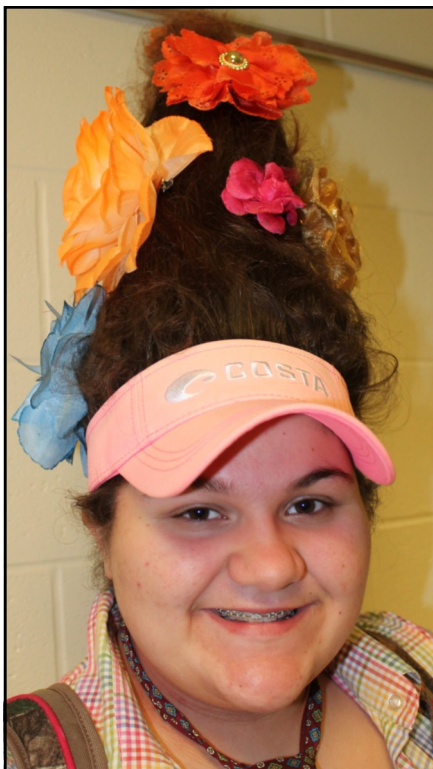




Ms. Kirkpatrick's ART students won the Door (hallway) Decoration contest



# HOMECOMING 2014



Homecoming 2014  
 'Merica Day  
 Zombie Day  
 Wacky Tacky Day  
 Disney Character Day  
 GreenWave Spirit Day  
 Leeds Beating Handley Day!!!



Is there ANYTHING Angela Walker can't do??? Senior Hallway – Homecoming 2014



# HOMECOMING 2014

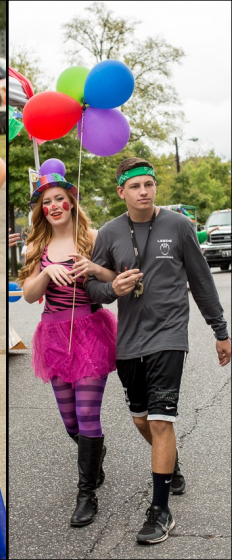




# HOMECOMING 2014









# Counselor's Corner

## GRADUATION

May 28th  
2015  
7:00 pm

Mrs. Lisa Hudson, LHS

Call 699-4510 for an appointment

Remember to check out school activities on the school website:

[www.leedsk12.org](http://www.leedsk12.org) or  
[www.leeds.al.lch.schoolinsites.com](http://www.leeds.al.lch.schoolinsites.com)

- \* Early Dismissal  
Oct. 10 1:00
- \* Fall Break  
Oct. 13 — 14
- \* Teacher Conferences  
October 23rd  
3:30 — 6:30
- \* Schools & Offices Closed  
Nov. 10
- \* Veterans' Day  
Nov. 11
- \* Thanksgiving Holidays  
Nov. 26-28

**December 18th**  
**Last Day**  
**Before**  
**Holiday Break**



## SENIORS

This is an exciting and BUSY year for you as a senior. There are many things to do and think about before graduation on May 28, 2015!

### POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Most college applications are online now. You may start filling these out immediately. An application fee may be required. Be sure to check deadlines for all schools that are of interest to you.
- If you are a college-bound senior and have not taken the ACT, you need to get registered ASAP. Online registration is at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Check the website for test dates and registration deadlines.