

As baby carriages roll in, staff members head out

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Staff Reporter

Staff members are replacing their textbooks with baby books as spring brings new life, pregnancies and excitement.

Excitement was definitely the word to describe the birth of science teacher Jonathan Davies' little girl on Mar. 29, as it was much faster than anyone had expected. When his wife, Pia, went into nearly immediate labor, Davies actually delivered his own daughter, Eleanor Jean, at home. The paramedics arrived shortly after the baby was born, and although Davies was disappointed the ambulance didn't turn on the siren, everyone was fine. Davies says he was so happy the way everything turned out because delivering his daughter was an amazing life experience.



"Words like miraculous, awesome and amazing are words meant for an experience like that," Davies said.

Michelle Olson, counselor, has already left and is planning on being out for the rest of the year after the birth of her second girl, Hayden Lynn, on Mar. 3. And, although Olson's

husband was hoping for a boy, both parents are "thrilled" with their new baby girl.

"Having them look at you with unconditional love makes every minute with them wonderful!" Olson said.

Olson says she will miss students and friends at work and that the school was very



flexible in giving her time off.

Kattie Riggs, Curriculum Secretary, and Jamie Welle, Student Services Secretary, are also expecting.

Riggs is due June 16 with her first child, and although she has not yet chosen a name for her girl, she said there is a "top three list" which consists of Laney, Peyton and Abigail, although the list is subject to change. Riggs didn't have a strong preference of whether she wanted a boy or girl.

"As long as it's healthy! I was kind of hoping for a boy first, assuming that we would have both a boy and a girl eventually, but I know you can't predict that stuff," Riggs said.

Welle is expecting her baby, due Nov. 11, to come early, since her one-year-old son arrived 16 days early. Welle said she loves everything about being a mom, but is also ready for more changes in her life.



"Everything changes when you have a baby (mostly for the better), but the thing that I probably miss the most is my time. There is never enough time when you have kids," Welle said.

Welle will find out whether her baby is a boy or a girl in June and said she knows the school will be flexible in giving her time off.

"The school was flexible with my first maternity leave. It's still early this time around to do too much planning, but I'm sure they'll be great again about it," Welle said.

Also expecting is Tonya Dailey, Social Studies teacher. She already has one daughter, Genevieve, a little over two years old, and is preparing for a boy due Aug. 8.

"I hear with two children, it's not only double the

work, its quadruple," Dailey said.

Although Dailey and her husband are still "grappling" with names, one of her former students is persistent with his suggestion of Ghenghis.

Dailey plans on staying through the rest of this year, and taking maternity leave in the beginning of next year. She says the thing she will miss the most about school are the interesting discussions with her students and said, "You can't have that with an infant."

Math teacher Lindsay Harris is due Aug. 22 will also be staying through the year, but will take time off during the beginning of next year and return around the first week of October.

Baby buzz is in the air. Maybe it's spring, or maybe it's due to the abundance of young staff members, but each due date will bring a new dose of excitement.



Photographer remembers WLHS

Kennerly

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I'm always looking to capture what Henri Cartier-Bresson called, 'the decisive moment.' I'm still working on that!"

Kennerly has been nominated for a Primetime Emmy as executive producer of NBC's, "The Taking of Flight 847," and was writer and Executive Producer of a two-hour NBC pilot, "Shooter," starring Helen Hunt, based on his Vietnam experiences. "Shooter" won the Emmy for "Outstanding Cinematography."

He has also become a well known author.

"I've published several books of work: *Shooter*, *Photo Op*, *Seinoff*. In 2000, I traveled more than 250,000 miles to 38 states and seven countries for my fourth book, *Photo du Jour*: A Picture-a-Day Journey through the First Year of the New Millennium. *Photo du*

Jour was selected as one of the best books of 2002 by *American Photo Magazine*, and the *Smithsonian Institute* exhibited photographs from the book in their Arts & Industry Building in Washington, D.C., one of the largest photographic shows ever mounted by there," Kennerly said.

Kennerly has come a long way since his days as a student, but praises the opportunities WLHS provided him, as well as the inspiration he derived from the school.

"I'd just like to underscore how important it is to be curious in life, to look around every corner in order to see what's there. This applies to everything you do in life, and will serve you well as you go forward," Kennerly said, "This is especially true in the world of journalism and photography. It is part of my secret to success."

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