

Whirlie family expands with joyful occasions

BY KAT ELLIOTT
Features Editor

Staff members are not only busy with their careers as they grade papers, prepare lesson plans, attend conferences, and teach their daily material. They also must make special arrangements for major changes about to happen in their personal lives. Some have recently been married and are enjoying their newlywed status, while others are anxiously preparing to welcome their bundles of joy into the world, if not already adoring their beautiful creations.

Social Studies teacher Clara Wetmore entered holy matrimony on March 10, 2011 upon becoming Mrs. Clara Kuyoth-Rote. She married Mikal Kuyoth-Rote at the lovely Tanglewood Park in Clemmons, North Carolina. When he stopped by to visit his cousin one day, Clara happened to be finishing her homework there. She not only learned that he was from Virginia, but she also sensed his interest in her.

After rejecting his invitations twice, he continued to pursue her, which made her realize he was the one for her. Clara's favorite trait about Mikal is his humor; she does not go a day without laughing because of his lighthearted nature.

Attendance secretary Beth Hunsinger proudly became Mrs. Beth Gray on October 8, 2011 when she wed Gary Gray. Their ceremony took place at the beautiful Magnolia Manor located in Colfax, North Carolina. They met at a bar where she used to bartend; he was a

customer. Mrs. Gray grew up with a very independent nature, often keeping to herself. She was single for six years before meeting her soul mate. What most impressed her was how comfortable she felt in his company because she felt like she could let her guard down.

At one point in time, they experienced a rough patch in their relationship. She surprisingly went running to her mother crying about Gary.

"Mom told me, 'Wow, you really like this guy!' I am not a cry baby when it comes to stuff like that, but this was weird. It really scared me!" said Gray. After some wise words from her mother, Beth knew Gary was the one for her.

Beautiful baby Lexie Claire Velazquez was born on January 3, 2012, at 2:08 am. Spanish teacher Ashley Velazquez discovered she was pregnant the Friday before Mother's Day, which she considered a wonderful present. Obviously, her husband had a gift on the way, too.

"Lexie was originally due on January 10, which is my husband's birthday, so I told him that I already had his present figured out. As usual, he wanted his birthday present early, so I guess Lexie thought that was a great idea, too!" said Velazquez.

Noah's Ark provides the theme of Lexie's yellow nursery. As a child herself, Velazquez enjoyed when her parents read to her each night, so she plans to carry out that tradition with Lexie even if she is only two months old right now.

IB Coordinator, Christina Adams, sporadically took off work one afternoon on October 27, 2011 and visited City Hall in Greensboro, where she happily became Mrs. Christina Purgason. The lucky fellow is David Purgason; they met one evening at Green Valley Grill, and she immediately knew it was true love at first sight. They will remarry again on April 11, 2012 in Tower Isle, Jamaica so they can have their dream wedding on the beach.

Family and friends will celebrate their marriage and wish them luck at their reception here in Greensboro on May 12. Not only does she find him handsome and adorable, but Mrs. Purgason also enjoys how well he clicked with her family.

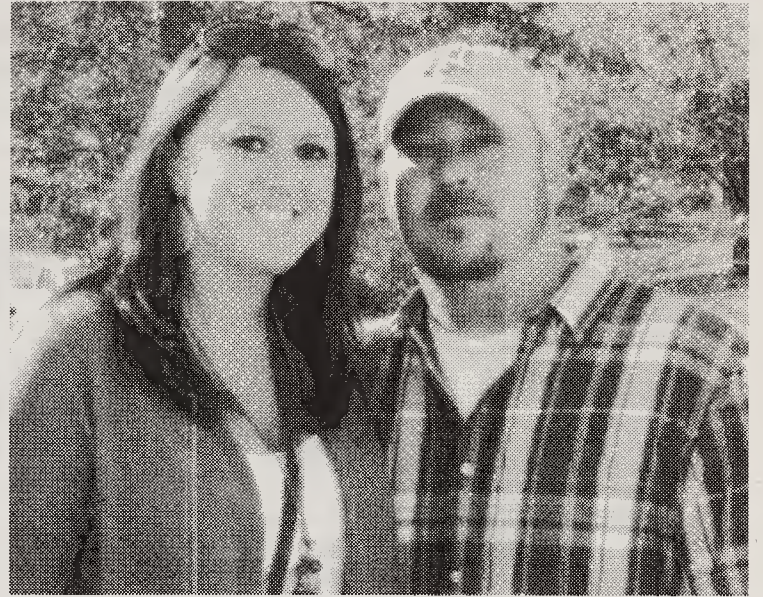
"My family and my dog, Valentine, loved him right away, which is always a good sign."

Meeting after a faculty meetin were, English teacher Karyn Collie and Spanish instructor Jade Dickerson, who tied the knot on March 3. After becoming acquainted, they used to meet once a week to watch favorite television shows together.

"One night I realized that we had been talking the whole time (for about four hours). Something just clicked, and I realized that we shared so many views about life," said Collie about her new husband.

Dickerson, known to his students as Profe, had a different perspective to share.

"I realized she was the one on my 25th birthday. She was such a good sport to go along



Beth Hunsinger proudly poses with her husband Gary Gray. They have only been married for a little over five months. Hunsinger photo.

with my friends and some of their crazy schemes," said Dickerson about his lovely wife.

Collie describes her soul mate as "the perfect combination of intellect, compassion, and great sense of humor. His eyes are also amazing!"

"Her dimples," said Dickerson. "They're a great indication of her wonderful heart."

Director of Orchestras, Britany Green-Stimpson, is anxiously awaiting her second bundle of joy to arrive. She and her spouse are expecting a beautiful baby boy; they are still thinking of the perfect name for him, but they do not have much time left because she is due on April 1, 2012, coincidentally on April Fool's Day. The couple found out at the end of July, 2011 when the doctor gave her the confirmation that baby number two is on his way.

Zoo animals will provide the theme as they decorate the nursery. Both she and her husband will raise their second child as they have their first, which resembles how their parents raised them.

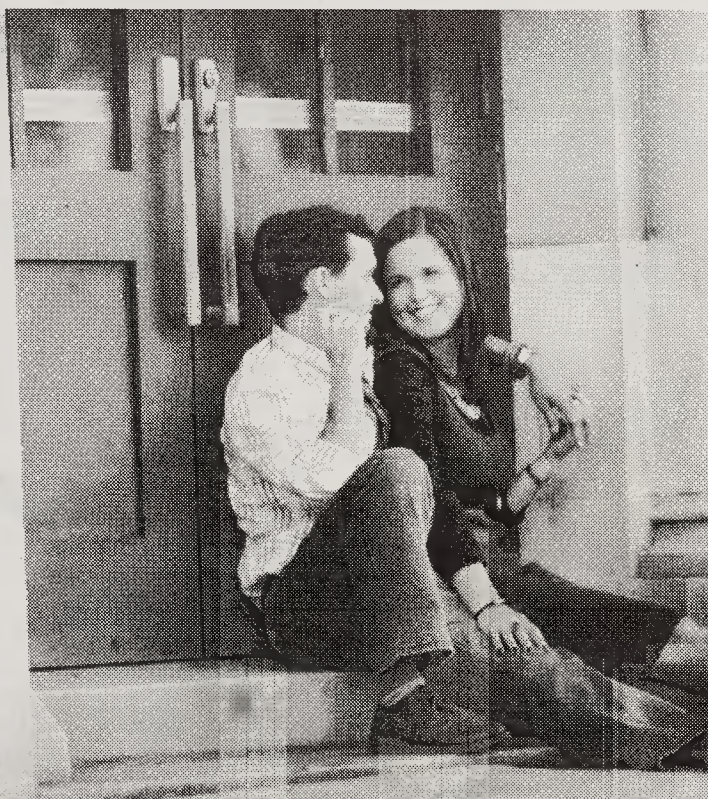
"In general, when parenting, don't always listen to everyone else's opinions on how a child should be raised.

Every child and family is different, and therefore you need to figure out what works for you and your family. Do what is best for your own child's well-being. Our parents used that with us, and it has worked well so far with our two year old as well," said Green-Stimpson.

This paper is sent out weeks before its campus release, so the possibility exists that the baby has already joined the Whirlie family.



Infant Lexie Claire Velazquez is already making her fashion statement in the company of her parents, Ashley and Salomon Velazquez. This sweet bundle of sunshine was born in January of this year. What a wonderful way for Mr. and Mrs. Velazquez to celebrate the new year! Velazquez photo.



Spanish teacher Jade Dickerson enjoys a beautiful weekend afternoon on campus for an engagement photo shoot with his fiancée Karyn Collie. Though they used to keep their relationship very secret, it was no longer possible to maintain complete privacy among their students since they married on March 31. Congratulations, newlyweds! Nixon photo.



Social studies teacher Clara Wetmore is now Mrs. Kuyoth-Rote. She posed beautifully for her bridal shots before her March wedding last year. Robbins photo.