



FALCONS...FLYING INTO YOUR FUTURE! SENIOR NEWSLETTER



Congratulations to Taylor Mazzone who won the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship for \$1,000! Any senior who has received a scholarship offer should bring a copy of their letter to the counselor's office to have it copied for inclusion in the Senior Awards Night ceremony later on.

Seniors: You are allowed ONE day EACH semester to visit a college/university of your choice! If you plan on using a day to visit any university campus, come by the counselor's office IN ADVANCE and I will provide you a letter to have the recruiter or admissions office sign/stamp. You also need to call the college BEFORE you go to set up a tour!! Go to the college's website and click on the "Admissions" tab for more information! You can then bring the signed/stamped letter back to Mrs. Moore for an excused absence. You get only get ONE excused absence for a visit/tour day per semester!

Have you taken the ACT?? The next test date is April 14th and the deadline for Regular Registration is March 9th to register without late penalties. Remember, if you participate in the free or reduced lunch program, you can get a fee waiver to take the ACT for **free** two times during your high school career. Don't forget to put the code for **TOPS (1595)** and/or **NCAA (9999)** for score reporting when you register to take the ACT! Our high school code for reporting your scores here is: **192-692**. The last test date to qualify for TOPS is the June 9th ACT test; however, your TOPS award will be penalized on the last semester of your enrollment in college. The deadline to apply for the June 9th test is May 4th.

Have you started applying for college admissions? Most colleges and universities like for you to apply for admissions and any available scholarships before December 1st, but it is still NOT too late! If you send more than one ACT report to any college/university, they are always going to look at your highest score. Can't find a college admissions' website? Submit a green slip & I'll help you look!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the **ONLY** way to qualify for Pell Grants or free money from the Federal Government for your college education. The FAFSA is available online from January 1, 2012 until June 30th. This form is based on your parent/guardians' tax information and is **required for TOPS**. The website is www.fafsa.ed.gov **DO NOT PAY TO FILE THE FAFSA!! IT IS FREE!!**

Need help filing your FAFSA? The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid will be hosting its annual **"College Goal Sunday" event at BPC on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, from 2-4 p.m.** Students and parents can take their tax information and get FREE help filing their FAFSA at this event!!

Louisiana State University-Shreveport has announced an AWESOME opportunity for ALL students! LSU-S **GUARANTEES** each student a scholarship if you have at least a 24 on your ACT and a 3.0 unweighted Grade Point Average! In addition to the guaranteed scholarships, you can add your TOPS, grants, and also apply for other LSU-S scholarships! You could get PAID to go to school!! Apply for admissions at www.lsus.edu today!!

Confused about which college or career is right for you? Visit www.nextstepu.com and explore their College Match tool & register to win free tuition to the college of your choice! There is also a Career Search tool & other contests to enter!

The Society of Professional Journalists is offering a high school essay contest for a \$1,000 scholarship. Deadline to postmark is March 8, 2012. Topic forms are available in the counselor's office.

February is Financial Aid Awareness Month. The Louisiana Educational Loan Authority (LELA) is offering several scholarship opportunities from \$10K to \$2,000! Go to www.GoFAAM.com for more information about the "Flat Pete and Nate Photo Essay Contest." This is a fun way to get free money! "Pete" and "Nate" are available from the counselor and are ready to take a picture with YOU!

Best Buy is offering scholarships in varying amounts to students in grades 9-12 who have good grades and community service or work experience. Go to www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com or www.at15.com to apply before Feb. 15th!

NSU is offering Media Scholarships for students who are interested in working on their college yearbook, newspaper or radio station staffs. These are yearly scholarships worth \$1,000 for each year you work at Northwestern while you attend school. If you are interested, see the counselor for an application. Deadline to apply is April 16.

Students who reside on a rural water system and are interested in pursuing a career in the water or wastewater field should apply for the Louisiana Rural Water Association scholarship. Applications are available from Mrs. Bagley and should be received by March 1, 2012.

The Ark-La-Tex Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association is offering a scholarship to a student who intends to major in Electronics, Electrical, Communications or Computer Engineering, Math, Physics, Computer Science or Information Technology or a closely related field. Students must have at least a 3.0 cumulative UNweighted GPA to apply. Deadline to postmark is Feb. 24, 2012. Applications are available from the counselor.

The Imagine America High School Scholarship program is open to students who will be attending a career college after high school like Blue Cliff College, Remington College, Career Technical College, Tulsa Welding School, etc., etc. To see a list of all participating career colleges go to: www.imagine-america.org/highschoolscholarships You can also apply at this site by clicking on "Scholarships for Education."

The Louisiana Middle School Association is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to two seniors who will be majoring in education. Applications must be postmarked by March 9, and are available from the counselor.

Regions Financial Corporation is offering TWENTY-FIVE \$5,000 scholarships in association with their 2012 Black History Month Campaign. The theme is "Riding Forward" and applicants are asked to write a 500 word essay about an African-American, past or present, who has inspired them. Deadline is Feb. 29, 2012. Entry forms and more details are online at www.regions.com/ridingforward

The Barksdale Officers' Spouses' Club is offering scholarship money for any student who is a qualified dependent of a U.S. Military member of ANY rank at Barksdale Air Force Base. Contact information is available from Mrs. Bagley.

The Horatio Alger Association Scholarship Program deadline has been extended to April 15, 2012. This scholarship competition is open to any student who has critical financial need, who has faced an adversity in their life but has overcome the odds to succeed in school and in life, and who has at least a 2.0 GPA. If that fits you, please apply online at www.horatioalger.com

Are you interested in a career in medicine?? Get a head start with the JUMPSTART Summer Enrichment Program!! High school students from the Caddo and Bossier Parish Districts will be selected as program participants for the eight weeks Jumpstart Summer Enrichment Program. Students are exposed to intense hands-on research activities conducted by LSUHSC-S faculty who serve as program mentors. Selected students will work in a research laboratory or clinical setting 40 hours per week for eight weeks. Each Thursday students are provided supplemental enrichment activities, which include: library, hospital, and animal care tours, lectures by health care professionals and motivational films. At the end of the program, each student is required to present a Poster Paper which demonstrates his or her ability to evaluate scientific data as it relates to the research activities. Students are encouraged to pursue careers in medicine, research or allied health professions. Applications will be available Feb. 15 online at www.lsuhschshreveport.edu/multiculturalaffairs

The ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship program will award four \$5,000 scholarships to two males and two females who are either African-American or Hispanic and who have plans to major in a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math field in college. Go to www.cgcs.org for the Council for the Great City School's website. Caddo Parish is a member of this council. Hover on the "Member Services" tab and scroll to "Awards and Services." Click to enter and find the tab for the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Scholarship on the left. Click on that link to find the online application.

The North Louisiana Jewish Federation is offering the 2012 Holocaust Essay Contest. Essays must be received by March 23rd. Winners will be published in The Shreveport Times and will receive a U.S. Savings Bond of \$1,000, \$500, or \$200. Details are available from Mrs. Bagley

The Caddo District PTA will award at least three \$500.00 scholarships to students attending a Louisiana college or university. Applications are available in the counselor's office and must be postmarked by March 16, 2012.

Shell is sponsoring the 2012 Shell Oil Company Technical Scholarship. They will award twenty \$2,500 scholarships to seniors who are majoring in engineering or geosciences. A list of universities that are participating is available in the counselor's office; however, the two closest are LSU Baton Rouge and Texas A&M at College Station. Applications are due by Feb. 28th and are available online at <http://goo.gl/HQSIY> under the tab "High School Seniors."

Are you experiencing financial overload? Go to www.cappex.com to review over 3,000 colleges and find over \$11 billion in merit-based aid (aka. scholarships in a variety of forms)!

Al's Formal Wear offers two \$1,000 scholarships. Visit www.alsformalwear.com/SchoolApp for an application. Entries are accepted Oct. 15, 2011 through May 31, 2012.

If you are thinking about applying to Dillard University or Wiley College, you can apply to BOTH with ONE application. The Common Black College Application from EDU, Inc. offers admissions applications for 34 of their member institutions with a ONE-TIME fee of \$35, instead of several applications fees! Go online to www.eduinonline.com to utilize this service. Please note: Not all Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) are members of EDU, Inc!!!

The Shreveport Lodge #122 of the Elks Club is offering a quarterly scholarship of \$300 for senior males & females who demonstrate leadership, citizenship, service and scholarship qualities. Applications for the Student of the Quarter Scholarship are available from Mrs. Bagley in the

Counseling Office. The Elks Club National Foundation also has several other national scholarship opportunities available online at www.elks.org/enf/scholars

If you are a child or a grandchild of an Elks' Club member, you may apply for a Legacy Scholarship through the Elks' National Foundation. Go to www.elks.org to apply.

Sallie Mae, a well-known college lending service, now has a free scholarship search engine that contains more than 3 million scholarships worth over \$16 BILLION. Scholarship search engines will typically match you with scholarships for which you are eligible to apply based on criteria that you provide (i.e. child of active military or veteran, single-parent, cancer-survivor, diabetic, deceased parent, etc...the list goes on and on!). Go to www.salliemae.com/scholarships to register and start your search today!

The Alfred Hall III Foundation is offering a scholarship opportunity for any senior who is active in their church, in academic good standing and who plans to further their education at a college or university after high school. Applications are available from Mrs. Bagley and are due to be received by the Foundation by April 15, 2012.

This Saturday, Feb. 11th is Spring Scholars' Day at NSU, which is an open house event for their Louisiana Scholars' College for high achieving students. If you are interested, please make plans to attend. Go to <http://scholars.nsula.edu/> for more information.

Spring Senior Day at Northwestern State University is Saturday, March 3rd. All seniors and parents are invited to attend. Credit Connection is also offered this day in order to "test out" of courses for college credit. For more information about this fun and informative day at NSU, go to www.nsula.edu and click on "Prospective Students" and then "Recruiting."

NSU offers a unique scholarship opportunity for student-leaders which will pay you scholarship money while you are a campus leader at Northwestern! Wow! To learn more about the President's Leadership Program, NSU will host an Emerging Leaders Day meeting from 2:30-5:00 p.m. on March 3rd, as well. To reserve your spot and fill out a PLP application, visit www.nsula.edu/NSU_Leadership_Application/

Interested in Nursing? Information Night at NSU-Shreveport at the College of Nursing Center will be held next Thursday, Feb. 16th at 5:30 p.m. Parents and seniors are invited to attend this open house for any student interested in pursuing a degree in Nursing or Radiologic Sciences. Call (318) 357-4503 or email mcbriDEM@nsula.edu to reserve your spot! The NSU-Shreveport Nursing Center is located at 1800 Line Avenue in Shreveport.

If you have at least a 27 on your ACT and a strong desire to attend Tulane University in New Orleans, please submit your name to Mrs. Bagley for a scholarship opportunity.



**GRADUATION: Thursday, May 24 @ 7:30 p.m.
Will YOU be there?**