

The Oak Leaf

A publication for LSU Alexandria employees



Cafeteria gets new look, food choices

Changes in the Magnolia Café have been taking place gradually ever since ABL Management of Baton Rouge took over food service operations on July 1.

Employees are wearing new uniforms, healthier food choices are on the menu and new signs have been added to give the cafeteria a new look and feel.

The cafeteria's full transformation will be unveiled Aug. 22 during Welcome Week activities.

"We're really excited to be here," said Food Service Director Donna Pinder, who came to LSU Alexandria from Southern Polytechnic State University in Atlanta, Ga. She said the goal is to make LSU Alexandria's cafeteria so appealing that it attracts prospective students. With that in mind, the cafeteria has expanded its offerings, adding such things as vegetarian pizza, salads and fruit cups.

Some of the initial changes have been cosmetic. "We uniformed the employees and stepped up customer service," Pinder said. "We brought the kitchen up to par."



Judy LaCombe works the register in the newly remodeled Magnolia Cafe. The cafeteria has been undergoing changes since ABL Management took over operations in July.

The cafeteria will be fully operational when students return to campus Aug. 22.

For the first time, staff and faculty can purchase meal plans. Plans roll over each month and each semester. Employees can pick from a variety of meal-plan choices: pay in advance for 20 meals per month, 40 meals per month, five meals per week or 10 meals per week. Another option is to put money on your em-

ployee OaKard and use it to pay for meals or snacks in the cafeteria.

The grand opening will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24. Dr. Robert Cavanaugh and a representative from ABL are expected to speak.

Throughout Welcome Week, ABL employees will be on the quad to sell hamburger and barbeque chicken lunches.

Pinder said plans for other Welcome Week activities are being finalized.

Campus hosts seventh LaSIP workshop

Elementary and middle school teachers from three parishes converged on campus last month to learn new mathematics skills.

This is the seventh year that LSU Alexandria has played host to the Louisiana Systemic Initiative Program, said Dr. Tommy Awtry, who coordinates LaSIP.

The program is designed to provide teachers with new methods for teaching mathematics. Each year LaSIP focuses on areas where students need the most help, based on results from Iowa and LEAP test scores.

After they complete the 15-day workshop, the teachers return to their schools and share what they learned with their colleagues. When school begins, they are ready to apply their new techniques



Dr. Tommy Awtry uses manipulatives in the LaSIP instruction.

Continued on Page 2

Campus Clipboard

Lisa Mayeux has been seated on the Board of Directors for the Fox Performing Arts Center in Marksville. “The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940” opens Aug. 11-14 and 18-21. Lisa is an administrative assistant in Arts, English & Humanities.

Mary McCampbell attended the Professional Grant Proposal Writing workshop presented by The Grant Institute at Tulane University in July. She successfully completed coursework in program development and evaluation, professional grant writing and grant research. Mary is coordinator of grant development in Institutional Advancement. She encourages employees to contact her for assistance with grants.

Lillian Wooley began her new position as LSUA coordinator at The Learning Center for Rapides Parish this month. Her duties will include assisting in implementing a cooperative agreement between LSU Alexandria, LSU Eunice and the LSU System.

Dr. Elizabeth Elder made a presentation titled “Impact of an Oxidation Pond on the Incidence of Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria” at the Gordon Research Conferences on Applied and Environmental Microbiology at Connecticut College. She also plans to make a similar presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial Microbiology in Chicago, Ill. Dr. Elder is a professor of biology.

Congratulations to the Children’s Center’s **Angela Delaney** on the birth of her son, Luke Daniel Delaney. Luke was born at 9 a.m. on July 10. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces, and measured 20 inches in length. Our last report says that Angela, husband Gary and Luke are all doing well.



Pat on the Back: A great big “thank you” goes out to everyone who helped or participated with Campus Connection last month. Campus Connection was a great success and it’s all because of you. Thanks so much for all your hard work.

If you have any suggestions to improve the Campus Connection process, please share them by e-mail to **Robin Arnold** in Testing Services. Campus Connection can use any and all feedback so that we may continue to grow and develop to best fit the needs of our students, Robin says.

Welcome to **Amy Schilling**, who joined LSU Alexandria on Aug. 1 as a resource room and training coordinator. Amy’s office is located in the Weldon “Bo” Nipper Building. Stop by and welcome her to campus. For those of you who don’t know, Amy’s husband, Deran, is our web services coordinator.

Continued from Page 1

in the classroom.

“We stress hands-on learning,” Awtry said. “Kids can get excited about math, and part of it is how we present it to them.”

Attending LaSIP this year were 39 teachers from Rapides, Avoyelles and Allen parishes. They teach grades pre-kindergarten through eight. One of their requirements is that they host Family Math Night in their respective schools. The participants also will attend the Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Baton Rouge to share what they learned in LaSIP.

Some in the recent workshop were new to LaSIP and eager to return to their classrooms to try out what they learned. Others said they enjoy the program so much that they return each summer to learn new skills.

Empty Space Players announce 2005-06 season

The Empty Space Players theatre group is kicking off its 2005-06 season this October with a production of "Burn This" by Lanford Wilson.



It is the first of four plays on the group's schedule for the fall and spring semesters. The schedule is as follows:

"Burn This" will run Oct. 14 through Oct. 23.

It is a contemporary play that is set in motion with the death of a young, gifted dancer and his lover. Director Rhonda Shook says playwright Wilson presents a gorgeous, moody and surprisingly funny play in which love grows out of grief. Shook is assistant professor of communication studies and theatre.

"The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" by Paul Zindel will be presented from Nov. 11 through Nov. 20. The play, which won a Pulitzer Prize for Zindel, focuses on a single-parent household where

a disillusioned mother flaunts her power over two very different daughters. Director of Theatre Jim Stacy will direct.

The Director's Showcase featuring one-act plays will run March 3 through March 12.

Two seasoned Empty Space Players performers, Lisa Mayeux and Yolande Thornhill, are scheduled to direct. Mayeux is an administrative assistant in Arts, English & Humanities.

"Romeo and Juliet," the classic by William Shakespeare will run April 26 through 29. The production will be the centerpiece of the 2006 Shakespeare-on-the-Greene festival at LSUA. The director will be Richard Gwartney, chair of Arts, English & Humanities.

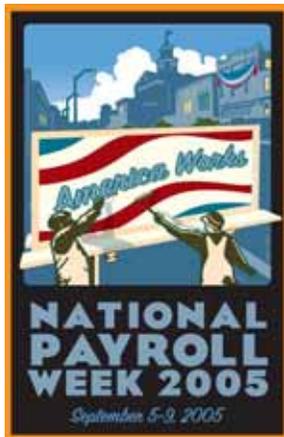
With the exception of "Romeo and Juliet," all of the plays will be performed in Room 205 of the Fitness Center on the LSU Alexandria campus. "Romeo and Juliet" will be presented on an outdoor stage.

National Payroll Week celebration set for Sept. 8

LSU Alexandria's Human Resource Management Department along with Linette Guillory from the American Payroll Association of Acadiana will be throwing a Celebration for National Payroll Week on Thursday, Sept. 8.

Guillory, who graduated from LSUA last spring, said National Payroll Week is a threefold celebration. It celebrates all of us who work for wages. It honors the payroll professionals who calculate and prepare our paychecks. It also celebrates the tax systems supported by employee and employer paid payroll taxes.

LSU Alexandria employees are invited to a National Payroll Week celebration from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sept. 8 in the Caffey Annex. It will include refreshments, door



prizes, goodies from different Central Louisiana businesses and speakers from different government agencies. An event of the same format will be held for the public on the same day from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Also related to National Payroll Week, a canned food drive will be held to benefit the Food Bank of Central Louisiana to help them prepare for the holiday season. This will be a friendly competition between all departments, based on a percentage of items brought by each department's personnel, Guillory said. Watch your e-mail for more information about the celebration, plus in-

formation on how you can receive a free paycheck and trip for two to Las Vegas from the American Payroll Association.

Welcome new students to campus

Staff and faculty will be manning "welcome" booths during the first week of school to help new students get accustomed to their surroundings.

One booth will be near Oakland Hall, across from the southwest parking lot. The other will be near Coughlin Hall, across from the Science Building parking lot.

The booths will be manned from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22, through Thursday, Aug. 25, and from 7:30 a.m. until noon on Friday, Aug. 26.

If you haven't already signed up, please contact Karen Norman at knorman@lsua.edu and let her know which shifts you are willing to work. Employees are asked to help new students at all times, regardless of whether you are working a welcome booth.

Coming up this month ...

August

11 Orientation

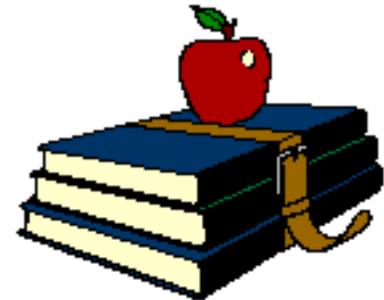
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., F. Hugh Coughlin Nursing Auditorium

15 New faculty orientation

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Live Oaks Conference Room

15-16 Walk-in fee payment

Begins in the Magnolia Cafe



15 Orientation

1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., F. Hugh Coughlin Nursing Auditorium

16 Fall Faculty/Staff Meeting

Begins at 8:15 in the F. Hugh Coughlin Nursing Auditorium

17-18 Registration

22 Classes begin

22-26 Welcome Week activities, late registration

24 Magnolia Cafe grand opening, 10 a.m.