



## The Oak Leaf wins, so long Tiger's Pause

Welcome to the new version of what was formerly called *Tiger's Pause*—the campus newsletter for faculty and staff. After 25 years, we decided it was time to give the newsletter a new name, and *The Oak Leaf* was our choice. We're gradually working on a new look for the publication as well.

As many of you already know, we decided to have a contest to see who could come up with a new name for this monthly publication. *The Oak Leaf* was suggested by several people, and it was the title that our committee of judges liked the best.

It seemed natural that the name should have roots in the live oak. The oak tree has a deep history with LSU Alexandria. Take a look around campus and it's not difficult to see why. In January we registered one of our largest and oldest trees with the Live Oak Society of the Louisiana Garden Club, and campus officials implemented a plan to preserve the remaining campus oaks.

Congratulations to Vice Chancellor David Wesse, Director of Student Services Dee Slavant, Director of Educational Technology Teresa Seymour and former employee Eloise Andries for suggesting *The Oak Leaf*.

Teresa took another angle on the title that we liked: have the word "leaf" be an acronym for LSUA Events Academics Facts. We may incorporate the words in a logo as we continue to redesign the publication.

Thanks to everybody who responded to our request. We had about 40 people answer the call, with many offering multiple suggestions. The suggestions came from staff, faculty, students and retirees.

A good many suggestions were based on the "tiger" theme. They were good, but unfortunately were removed from contention after we decided to steer away from titles based on the LSU mascot. For what it's worth, we did like Tiger Talk, Mighty Stripes and Cats Corner.

A few suggestions were based on our LSU Alexandria logo. We considered LSUAngle, LSUAAttache, LSUAcorn and LSUANecdote. Other suggestions were more to the point: LSUA Times, LSUA News and Live Oak, to name a few. More people suggested names based on the campus' oak symbol than anything else. The suggestions ranged from The Champion Seed, The Oak Oracle and Live Oak News to the more light-hearted Squirrel Tales and Squirrel Beat.

## Education faculty member witnesses Bush's inauguration



*It's not often that someone from our campus has the opportunity to take a photo of the president. Donna Odom-LaCaze took this photo when President Bush and the first lady entered the Freedom Ball. LaCaze was just a few feet away.*

Donna Odom LaCaze stood just feet from President Bush as he danced with his wife, Laura, at the Inaugural Ball in Washington, D.C. this past January.

She posed for a picture with Alabama Gov. Bob Riley and snapped photographs of CNN's Anderson Cooper and TV star Rick Schroder. Her view of the president taking the oath of office was from a seat reserved just for her. Likewise, she got preferential treatment when Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney passed by the crowd in the Inaugural Parade.

LaCaze, an education instructor at LSU Alexandria, and her husband, Todd, attended the inauguration by special invitation, allowing them to witness history from an up-close-and-personal view.

Todd was the Central Louisiana chairman for the recent Re-elect Bush Campaign, so the couple got VIP tickets to all of the inaugural events.

# LaCaze

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They jumped at the opportunity. It was their first trip to the nation's capital. "It was great," LaCaze said recently from her office on campus.

Their busy day Jan. 20 started with Bush taking the oath of office. The LaCazes were in a reserved area that wasn't extremely close to the action, but close enough for Donna to get a clear picture of Bush when she hit her camera's "zoom" button. After the oath ceremony, the LaCazes trekked some 10 blocks to get to the reserved seats from which they would watch the parade. Public transportation was halted for security reasons, so everybody had to walk.

Donna snapped more photos, and was on the first lady's side of the street when the presidential limousine passed by. She got a clear photo of Laura Bush, and another one of Lynn Cheney when the vice presidential motorcade passed.



*Todd and Donna Odom LaCaze pose for a picture at the Freedom Ball held as part of the presidential inauguration in January.*

The couple left the parade quickly so they could dress for the black-tie Freedom Ball, one of nine inaugural balls scheduled for that evening. The Freedom Ball was held in Union Station and was attended by "important people" from Louisiana and about six other states.

LaCaze said she and Todd had a laugh when they heard newswoman Barbara Walters exclaim on air that "only the powerful

and wealthy go to these balls."

She described the atmosphere at the ball as "dignified" — until the president and first lady arrived. Then, the audience went wild as Bush took the stage and had a dance with his wife. Bush left shortly afterward to stop at the other balls. The atmosphere died down but picked up again about two hours later when Cheney and his wife visited.

The LaCazes left about an hour later, exhausted but honored to have had the chance of a lifetime.



*Members of FLAME took first prize in the campus' Mardi Gras Parade. The education organization will lead next year's parade.*

## FLAME takes first prize at annual Mardi Gras parade

Members of Future Leaders and Majors in Education, also known as FLAME, will serve as grand marshals in next year's campus Mardi Gras Parade after being judged as having the best float in this year's event.

Media judges voted the Krewe of De La Flame float the best entry in the parade, which took place Feb. 4 around the campus block. The parade was originally scheduled for Feb. 2, but changed because of rain.

Membership into FLAME is for any LSU Alexandria student interested in education, early childhood education or kinesiology.

Their Mardi Gras float included a blackboard, which judges said captured their attention and led them to pick the float as the best entry this year.

Three other floats were named to the Mardi Gras court. The top selections were the Krewe of Multiple Personalities: Pavlov's Dogs, the entry from Psychology 2000; the Krewe of LabTechOtches, the entry from the Clinical Lab Tech Organization; and The Grass is Greener on the Other Side, the entry from the Criminal Justice Association.

Judges commented that they liked the psychology float's bright colors and the fact that Dr. Greg Gormanous, chairman of the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, tried to bribe them with toy dogs. The real dog on board the float also was a judge-pleaser.

Judges loved the E. coli leading the CLT float, and the black-and-white prisoner suits on the Criminal Justice Association float caught their attention as well. Always a favorite, the Chancellor's float led the parade this year as the "Big Kahuna" by the Krewe of Cavanaugh.

*See more Mardi Gras photos on page 6*

## Credit Union has campus kiosk

Campus Federal Credit Union has a new electronic kiosk located in the East Wing of the Student Union Building on the LSU Alexandria campus.

This new kiosk has many features, including a full-service ATM to make deposits and withdrawals, a telephone linked to the credit union's Baton Rouge data center and a computer directly linked to Campus Federal's Web site to check your account or to get general information. The kiosk can be used to open an account, apply for an ATM card or apply for a loan.

Campus Federal is a full-service financial institution offering free student checking accounts, free student share (savings) accounts, automobile loans, Visa cards and more. Deposits can be made using the ATM machine located in the Student Union Building or bank-by-mail envelopes. University employees can take advantage of the payroll deduction service, which offers the ultimate in convenience by automatically depositing all or part of your paycheck on payday.

Whether checking an account balance, transferring funds or applying for a loan, these transactions can be performed from the electronic kiosk, a touch-tone phone or the Internet at [www.campusfederal.org](http://www.campusfederal.org).

These automated services are available 24 hours a day. During normal business hours, members can speak to a service representative by calling 888-769-8841 (press "O") or picking up the telephone at the kiosk.

Campus Federal's LSUA liaison, Carol Mayeux, is on campus every Tuesday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the kiosk. She also can be reached at 318-442-6852 or [mayeuxc@yahoo.com](mailto:mayeuxc@yahoo.com).

**CAMPUS FEDERAL**

## Easter egg hunt set for March 19



The Office of Student Activities is sponsoring an Easter egg hunt for children of LSU Alexandria students, faculty and staff on Saturday, March 19.

The free event will be for children up to age 10. It will begin near the fountain at 10 a.m. Children will decorate their goody bags, and the hunt will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Children will be given a goody bag of candy after they complete the hunt. Drinks will be available. Participants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch and eat on the grounds.

Anyone interested in having their child participate is asked to contact Student Services at Ext. 6486 by Wednesday, March 16. Student Services also is looking for volunteers to help man tables and hide Easter eggs.

## Lifelong Learning classes offered this month

It's not too late to sign up for non-credit courses offered by LSU Alexandria Continuing Education this semester. Several Lifelong Learning Courses start this month. Pre-registration is required. Call Continuing Education at ext. 6495 for more information.

All courses include a fee plus a \$10 non-refundable registration fee.

### Computers and Technology

*Microsoft Word – Beginner*, eight hours. 5:30-7:30 p.m. March 15, 16, 22 and 23. Taught by Shelia Napier. Fee is \$155.

*Designing Accessible Websites*, eight hours. 6-8 p.m. April 19, 21, 26 and 28. Taught by Deran Schilling. Fee is \$155.

*Web Design Basics*, eight hours. 6-8 p.m. April 5, 7, 12 and 14. Taught by Deran Schilling. Fee is \$155.

### Exam preparation and certification

*ACT English Prep*, six hours. 4:30-7:30 p.m. March 22 and 23. Taught by Kassie Harlow. Fee is \$75.

*ACT Math Prep*, six hours. 4:30-7:30 p.m. April 5 and 7. Taught by Dr. Tommy Awtry. Fee is \$60.

*Louisiana Concealed Handgun Permit and Renewal*, nine hours. 5:45-9:15 p.m. March 21 and 22. A range time will be announced at a later date. Taught by John Lummus. Fee is \$80.

### Personal enrichment

*Beginning Photography*, 2.5 hours. 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 15. Taught by Gale Trussell. Fee is \$35.

*Cooking Series: What's for Dinner? Meals in 30 minutes*, 2 hours. 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 17. Taught by Suzanne DeKeyzer. Fee is \$60.

*Cooking Series: Party Time Foods*, two hours. 6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 14. Taught by Suzanne DeKeyzer. Fee is \$60.

*Stained Glass Intermediate*, 14 hours, 5:30-9 p.m. March 15, 16, 22 and 23. Taught by Denise Bankovic. Fee is \$80.

*Tropical Landscaping*, two hours. 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 17. Taught by Gale Trussell. Fee is \$35.

*Wedding Bells -- Budgeting and Planning Your Wedding*, two hours. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 26. Fee is \$65.

### Professional development

*Art of Negotiation*, four hours. 8 a.m.-noon Thursday, April 14. Taught by Charles Horton. Fee is \$100.

# Campus Clipboard

Congratulations to **Dr. Catherine Tabor**, assistant professor of speech, for receiving the Cenla's Best Alexandria Black Heritage Recognition Award. She earned the honor at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual awards banquet Feb. 26.

**Dr. Walter Hollingsworth**, chair of the Department of Business Administration, attended a meeting of the Aviation Curriculum Committee on Feb. 22-23 at The Federal Aviation Administration Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The meeting was hosted by Nick Sabatini, associate administrator for regulation and certification for the Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration.

**Dr. Owen Elmore**, assistant professor of English, had an essay on teaching composition published in the "Louisiana English Journal." He presented a paper on William Faulkner's "If I Forget Thee Jerusalem" at last year's Jungian Symposium in Newport, R.I., and in November presented another essay of Faulkner criticism, "The Stereoptic Whole," at the Conflict in Southern Writing Conference in Montgomery, Ala. That essay has been accepted for publication in the conference proceedings journal due out later this year.

**Dr. Syrous Marivani**, associate professor of mathematics, attended the West Coast Number Theory Conference in Las Vegas, N.V., in December where he gave a talk on "Fibonacci, Lucas Sequences" and on continued powers. His paper "On the Divisibility of Lucas Sequence" was accepted for publication in the 2004 Louisiana/Mississippi Proceedings of the Mathematical Association of America.

Congratulations to **Cathy Robinson**, an instructor in the Department of Allied Health, for completing her Masters of Science in Administration in Health Sciences from Central Michigan University. She completed the degree in December 2004.

Welcome **Patricia Manuel Hoyt**, who joined LSU Alexandria as a new Accountant 2 in Accounting Services. Also welcome **Dr. Bonnie Hines**, who joined the library faculty on Feb. 1. Her primary duties are to coordinate library resource development activities and to be LOUIS system administrator.

Andrea Lunsford, director of the Writing and Rhetoric Program at Stanford University, has invited **Dr. Leslie D. Hannah**, assistant professor of English, to participate in a research project to chart and define changes in First Year Composition. The focus of the study is to identify and describe errors being made by composition students in the age of new media and genres.



More than 100 community members visited our campus on Saturday, Feb. 19, to receive free cholesterol, triglyceride and lipoprotein "a" testing as part of a Community Health Screening & Free Forum. An informational session about a new test to indicate heart disease was also presented by Dr. Rita Ellerbrook. Many thanks go out to the following people, without whom the program would not have happened.

- Operations and Maintenance staff for hauling tables, chairs and other supplies to set up for the program and then removing everything after it was over.
- Continuing Education staff for handling the promotion and registration, as well as helping coordinate, set up and present the program.
- Faculty, staff and students who helped staff the registration tables, performed blood pressure checks, assisted participants in completing medical history forms and served refreshments.
- Julie Gill for providing heart healthy literature to give out to participants.
- The community partners who assisted with the program, including CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital; Rapides Regional Medical Center; LSU Health Sciences Center – Huey P. Long Hospital; LSU Health Sciences Center – Family Practice Center; VA Medical Center; Helena Laboratories; Clinical Pathology Laboratories; American Heart Association; Super One; and Kroger.
- And finally and most importantly, special thanks to the Allied Health staff – especially Cathy Robinson, Sheryl Herring and Haywood Joiner – for having the inspiration for the program, developing the idea and then following through on all of the contacts to community partners and coordinating all of the millions of tiny details that go into hosting such a comprehensive service project to the community.

# Coming up this month ...

## March

- 14 Bolton Award ceremony, Caffey Annex
- 14 Campus-wide birthday party, Student Center
- 16 SGA-sponsored free lunch and special program
- 16 Job Fair. 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Caffey Annex
- 17 Barbecue brisket fund-raiser  
Sponsored by Baptist Collegiate Ministries. Tickets are \$5. Call Yvette Palmer at Ext. 6510 for tickets.
- 19 Easter egg hunt  
Call Student Services at Ext. 6486 to register your child.
- 19 Region IV Science and Engineering Fair
- 21-25 Spring break for students and faculty
- 25 University closed for holiday



## April

- 2 Ms. LSU Alexandria pageant. 7 p.m. Caffey Annex
- 6 SGA crawfish boil
- 6 Student Activities Health Fair, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 7 Human Resource Management Benefits Fair



20-23 *The Winter's Tale*

A Shakespearean classic presented each night at sunset.

22-23 Shakespeare-on-the-Greene festival. 3-7 p.m. on the campus grounds

# Picture this ...



*You don't have to be Spongebob to have your own pineapple. Big Kahuna Cavanaugh had a colorful ride as grand marshal for the Mardi Gras Parade.*



*Members of Krewe de la FLAME wowed the judges with their float and will be the grand marshal for next year's parade.*



*Members of Clinical Lab Tech Society had a display at the recent Student Organization Fair. The organization's advisers are Cathy Robinson, left, and Sheryl Herring, right.*



*No tin man costume for David Wesse this year. Just the laid-back look of the island for the Big Kahuna and his Krewe members (Chancellor's Staff)*



*Vice Chancellor Dr. Tom Armstrong shares a laugh with Dean Fred Litton at a reception honoring Armstrong, who started his job in January.*



*Town Talk reporter Eugene Sutherland interviews Dessie Williams following a Black History Month program in February.*