Welcome Southwest Students!

Welcome to Southwest Tennessee Community College! My name is Tamara Webber, your Student Government President. There has never been a better time to join Southwest. These next few years of college will be the most exciting, adventurous, and memorable time of your life. I suggest that you get involved early, so that you will be on the road to success. Here at Southwest we have several different organizations that will accommodate all your interests and activities. I assure you, SGA will have a successful 2014-2015 school year. We will work hard and put our minds together to serve the student body. Student Government is here for you. It is also one of the best ways to become a great leader here at Southwest. It is a great way to learn what Southwest has to offer as well as meet other students who want to make an impact here at Southwest. Student Government is on campus and serves to represent the entire student population. If any students have any questions, concerns, comments, or even suggestions, SGA is the outlet to let their voices be heard. We are here to serve the students and ultimately make this campus a better place for future students. On behalf of the student body, I want to welcome you to Southwest.

Written By: Tamara Webber

A Welcome from the Honors Academy

Greetings Honor Students,

My name is Ashley Shores and I look forward to being your President for the Honor's Academy at Southwest. This year will mark my second year in the Biotechnology program here. I previously taught education for three years before deciding to go back to school to pursue my dream. In the future I hope to enter medical school and study infectious disease. Enough about me, what can I do for you? I anticipate the greatest year ever for the Honor's Academy! Last year we took part in so many terrific events like the Brook's Museum tour and the amazing Art Auction. I know this year’s events will be great as well! I look forward to helping at all the events! Also, as President I will aid the Honor's Academy in fostering a sense of camaraderie. To students who are not yet member of the Honor’s Academy, I invite you to join our wonderful group of hard working achievers. The Honor's Academy welcomes you to be a part of something that will aid you not only in your academic goals, but also in your everyday life. I have met many friends through the Honor's Academy and I know you will too! We are all on this academic journey together. If there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to all that we will do this year! I wish you all a super saluqi semester! In the famous words of J.K. Rowling, “Don’t let the muggles get you down.”

Written By: Ashley Shores
Let’s Sit and Chat

Students, have you had complaints, ideas, or plans that would benefit you, the student body, faculty, or staff, but there was never a platform to be heard? Well, our wonderful school is offering students this platform. Come and ask our administrators questions concerning anything pertaining to the school. These administrators have willingly cleared their schedules so that students like you and I can come forward and talk about problems, new ideas, and future plans pertaining to Southwest. This is a wonderful opportunity, and as students we need to make time so that our voices will be heard. Now you’re probably wondering which administrators will be in attendance, and here they are:

President, Dr. Nathan L. Essex
Interim Provost, Barbara Roseborough
Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services, Ron Parr
Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Karen Nippert
Vice President for Student Services and Enrollment Management, Dwayne Scott
Executive Director of Human Resources and Affirmative Action, Paul Thomas
Executive Assistant to the President for Government Relations and Athletic Director, Sherman Greer

This platform will be held at noon on October 7, 2014 at Macon (Farris Building Meeting rooms ABC) and on October 8, 2014 at Union (Building B, room 106).

Students, let’s make the most of this offer because nothing will ever change if we don’t communicate.

Written By: Cassie Richardson

Student Success Workshops

Students, do you feel bombarded by demands? Do you feel that there are not enough hours in the day to complete everything that needs to be done? Southwest’s Student Success Center is sponsoring Student Success Workshops on Macon and Union campuses to teach you how to tackle such demands. “Time Management” was discussed at the first workshop on September 9th. Students learned how to organize the mayhems of life. Some tools for triumph include purchasing a planner, writing in your planner, reviewing your weekly agenda (homework, quizzes, tests, work schedule, study times, etc.), scribbling daily reminders when necessary, and allotting time appropriately. Another workshop held on September 9th was “Successful Help: Academic Support Center.” In this workshop students learned what kinds of support are available at Southwest. The Academic Support Center (ASC) is located on five campuses and includes study areas, computer labs, instructional resources, tutoring one-on-one, and even online tutoring. So if you feel yourself struggling, go check out the ASC! Do you feel that math is pure torture? Do you feel doomed from the start when you “add” a math class to your schedule? Never fear, the ASC hosted “How to Succeed in Math and Not be Afraid.” Also given were “Skills Study” and “Communication” workshops. The “Social Media” workshop discussed the dos and don’ts of this popular modern day topic. If you missed any of these, I’m sure the ASC will be happy to share information about any workshop recently hosted. Upcoming workshops include “Notetaking” on October 7th and “Dress for Success” on October 21st and 23rd. You will learn how taking notes can make such a huge impact. Do you want to nail that future interview and land your dream job? Come learn the rules of dress. Don’t miss these fabulous workshops!

Written By: Ashley Shores
Saluqi Focus

“The Policy”

The polls are in, and the students, faculty, and staff have spoken about the no-smoking policy that went into effect on July 1st, 2014. I have spoken with many about this subject matter. The feedback on the policy was perplexing; the majority of the students do not support this policy. Allow me to paraphrase and summarize the statements that I was given: “We didn’t have any say in this matter. The policy was forced on us. They treat us like children instead of adults. They could’ve at least slowly implemented this change on us. They could’ve made designated smoking areas for the smokers.” Believe it or not there were some smokers that actually supported the policy because of health issues. I found that to be befuddling. Typically, smokers feel the need to smoke after stressful circumstances such as class, work, and etc. Similarly, there were non-smokers that didn’t support the policy because they feel that would cause enrollment issues at Southwest. Personally I emphasize with both non-supporters and supporters. I can see both vantage points with clear understanding. There are more smokers than non-smokers that attend the college. I initially assumed the policy would cause enrollment issues if students have to go afar to indulge in their tobacco product(s). On the contrary the enrollment wasn’t effected by the policy.

In addition to this there are students on campus that have certain health issues that they suffer from and second hand smoke can heighten their risk of harm. Story Bobbitt stated since the policy was issued he has cut down on his tobacco consumption. Also, I had the opportunity of speaking with Dispatcher Cato on the Macon cove campus- She said, “After the student is caught smoking for the first time-it’ll be logged by an Officer. Then if the student is caught again-the student will be sent to be handled in student affairs department.” I’m assuming that authority figures are still deciding on the degree of punishment for the violators. I hope everyone empathizes with why this policy has been set into play and respects it. There are still unanswered questions that need to be answered. To be continued...

The SAVE Act

“A Change ‘Gon Come.” President Barrack Obama is creating a force to prevent college campus sexual assault and promote student aid to student loan borrowers. My name is Amanda McGillvery and I am a Macon Representative of the Student Government Association. I would like to inform you all of an important statewide planning call for “Sexual Assault Prevention and College Affordability” made by Kyle Lierman, White House Liaison to Young Americans. The event took place this past summer on July 23, 2014; it joined many colleges and universities together via Skype. In this call our paths found a sharp fork in the road. We were strongly made aware of student needs regarding safety and economic struggles. After the call, our team brainstormed on how students’ needs and necessities could be met. Our goal is to engage, enlighten and encourage our campus’ population to make changes and to lessen struggles as a team. So how will Southwest accomplish these goals? Per the Campus Sexual Assault Prevention, I would like to inform you about our school’s new campaign in motion called “Real Men Don’t Reel.” Not only will it include awareness boards at all campuses and distribution of free whistles, but we are also forming a team of our most dedicated males to take action and help aid this cause by:

1. Informing our schools’ population about “Reeling”
2. Distributing “No Reeling” shirts in support of this campaign; uniting our students to not only be aware of his or her surroundings, but to aid others in staying safe as well
3. Lastly, pledging against Sexual Assault

We are in the process of this creation and are excited to be a part of this change. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Student debt loans are very important issues currently pending in process. They are being treated very respectfully and sincerely. We are excited to say that our ideas for both topics are being brainstormed and created successfully.

Written By: Stephanie McAtee

Written By: Amanda McGillvery
DESTINY

As our life journey leads us through many trials and tribulations
Some paths of life that we travel down often force us to give up
But we learn to fight – to hold on to hope, knowledge, and wisdom to understand what we don’t know
Inside I cry from trying with fears of disappointment, failure and pain seeking through the madness
To accomplish my goals like a lion roaring in the fierce jungle stay brave with pride
If I lose one thing I gain another
If I lose hope I gain strength
If I lose a friend I gain trust for someone else to believe in me again
I had given my time, energy thoughts to succeed
Hoping for bigger brighter future that we can prosper from indeed
It’s me, you
That makes all of me
Into the greatest person that I will ever be
So stand up my fellow classmates lets sail to the end – to victory!

A Poem By: Necora Dyson

Tennessee Promise, a Drive to 55!

Starting with the class of 2015, high school graduates will have the chance to go to community college with their first two years of tuition and fees covered by the Tennessee Promise program. The program was first unveiled at the State of the State Address by Governor Bill Haslam this past February. Tennessee Promise is both a last dollar scholarship and a mentoring program. A last dollar scholarship means that it covers tuition and fees left over from other grants or scholarships, much like other scholarship programs such as TN Achieves. The program will work closely with a number of scholarship programs like TN Achieves, The Ayers Foundation, and REDI. TN Achieves will be taking over the program in the majority of the state. Students receiving the TN Promise Scholarship will have to attend mandatory meetings, as well as complete 8 hours of community service per semester.

Tennessee is the first state in the U.S. to put this kind of program into effect, possibly setting a precedent for other states to do the same. While this is a first here in the U.S., many European countries provide free college for their citizens. The benefits of this can be seen all across the work force of these countries. Here in the U.S. most college students incur debts averaging more than 24’000 dollars.

Tennessee Promise will greatly help thousands of students get degrees and make Tennessee an overall more educated state. One of the downfalls of this program is that the worth of an associate degree will plummet, due to the massive increase of citizens that will have it. All in all, this program will help the economy in Tennessee. The due date for the Class of 2015 applications is November 1st, so tell your friends and family about this great program soon!

Written By: Walker Montgomery
What is ISIS?

Over the past couple months, chaos has swept over parts of Syria and Iraq where ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) has taken hold. The extremist group has just recently been made known to most Americans, but in reality the group has been around for much longer. ISIS used to be a part of al-Qaeda and went by the name al-Qaeda in Iraq, though the two didn't necessarily share the same ideology. Due to ISIS being far more extreme, the two groups split in February, thus beginning their recent advances through Iraq. Now, the two groups compete for influence over the extremist Muslim population. ISIS' main goal is to establish a Sunni Caliphate (Islamic State), though in order to do this the group would have to get rid of the population of Shia Muslims. Sunnis make up about 80% of the Muslim population and half that don't even consider Shia Muslims proper, but what makes the two different?

Sunni and Shia Muslims split back in 632, when the prophet Muhammad died, over who should inherit the political and religious office. The majority of tribal Arabs, that would later be called Sunnis, backed Abu Bakr (friend to Muhammad and father of his wife). Those that would be called Shias backed Muhammad’s cousin and son in law, Ali. Though Ali ruled as the caliph for a short time, Abu Bakr won out.

Today Sunni extremist groups frequently massacre Shias, and other non-Sunni groups along the Middle East. ISIS has taken a number of towns and cities in both Syria and Iraq, including Qaraqosh, the largest Christian city of Iraq. This, as well as the taking of Mosul (where there are still U.S. citizens living), has prompted action by the American Military, though all they have done so far is make air drops to a few locations and start a bombing campaign on ISIS in Iraq. American politics, for the most part, are torn on how to deal with ISIS. Seeing as both Iranian and Iraqi militaries are fighting against this terrorist organization, as well as other extremists like al Qaeda, the U.S. is limiting involvement. As of now 26 nations have joined an anti-ISIS coalition. While Obama has stated that we won't be drawn into a ground war with ISIS, U.S. mercenaries have already had their presence ousted by Iraqi soldiers. For now, it seems countries like France and the U.S. are content with simply bombing ISIS as a means of deterrent. Coincidently, studies have proven that airstrikes merely boost the morale and recruitment for extremist organizations. This is because we catch numerous civilians in the cross fire, thus building more ill will against western society. According to the CIA, ISIS is said to have between 20’000 and 31’500 ground troops across Syria and Iraq. The Iraqi army has 250’000 troops; however, it has been in a total mess since the fall of Saddam Hussein’s regime. And while Syria is fighting against ISIS as well, the country is also in a bloody civil war.

It seems ISIS will become a bigger problem in the future due to its constant expansion, made possible by the recruitment of radical Muslims and well-funded income from it’s controlled oil fields. For the moment our troops may be at home, but the U.S. does seem to be inching ever closer to another war in the Middle East.

Written By: Walker Montgomery

Ebola Outbreak in Africa!

Currently, the most deadly Ebola outbreak in history is occurring. The outbreak has now hit four countries (Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea) and shows no evidence of slowing down. President Ellen Johnson of Liberia wrote a letter to President Obama stating that without more direct help from the American Government they would lose the battle against Ebola. She stated that, according to an investigation conducted by WHO (World Health Organization) and other partners, thousands of cases are projected over the next few weeks and that 40% of the previous cases happened in the three weeks prior to her letter. Countries worldwide are nervous about the possible spread; they are taking precautions to ensure that if the virus does reach their borders, they have the proper medicine and systems in place to deal with it. There is an estimated 5’335 cases of Ebola with about 2’622 cases being fatal, according to WHO reports. These numbers have doubled within the last month. The virus begins with flu like symptoms and can end with the victim profusely bleeding from pores of the body. Many victims simply die from blood loss. One of the problems is that the symptoms don't begin until two or three days after infection, giving time for people infected to cross borders with no knowledge of infection. Luckily, people only become contagious once they begin to show symptoms. One of the main reasons this outbreak is so catastrophic is because, out of the 5 different types of Ebola, the most deadly virus (Zaire Ebola) is spreading across Africa. This form of the virus has a 79% death rate. One patient was brought to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta Georgia for treatment. Many U.S. citizens panicked at the thought of the virus being brought into our borders, even though the hospital has a specially built isolation unit for contagious diseases. The unit is physically separate from the rest of the hospital to ensure the best quarantine. This hospital works especially close with the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and while many are scared of an outbreak from this risk, the studies of the virus will increase potential for prevention. It has recently been discovered that Ebola is rapidly changing to a more deadly form. This can greatly increase the risk of spreading on American soil isn't a likely event.

Written By: Walker Montgomery
**Success Stories**

**A Standing Ovation**

On the morning of May 3, 2014, at the Landers Center in Southaven, Mississippi, Southwest Tennessee Community College held their 2014 Graduation Ceremony. Every year in the month of May, Southwest Tennessee Community College holds one graduation ceremony for the graduating class. This year, our guest speaker was Mr. Lionel Hollins; Mr. Hollins’ immaculate record speaks for itself. We were honored to have such a guest address the graduates and that attendees.

Speaking of the graduating class of 2013-2014 -- our very own newspaper staff member Kurt Fritjofson was the student speaker. Kurt’s speech was phenomenal! He spoke about humanity’s contributions to the world. The speech embodied how the human race has managed to do the impossible, in spite of the challenges of the past.

He spoke with so much compassion and conviction. From an objective vantage point, his commencement speech was one of the stellar ones – one of the best we have had the opportunity to experience in years. In all likelihood, hopefully the graduates came away with the same impression after hearing his speech.

“*We are brothers and sisters, you see. Every single one of us. All of us came from the same father and the same mother, hundreds of thousands of years ago. The world dares us to win, and in the grand scheme of things, we are victorious, every time.*” –Kurt Fritjofson

Those are just a few quotations from this grand speech. Here at the Southwest Source we are fortunate to have had the opportunity to work alongside such a superb individual. We are disheartened that we have to say our final goodbyes, but on the contrary, we are delighted with his many accomplishments. The Southwest Source gives our very own former reporter a standing ovation for an outstanding performance in his academics and duties on every organization he has served. We salute you, Kurt! Good luck on your future endeavors!

**Southwest Cheerleaders Come Home with the Title!**

The day Ms. Sabrina announced that we were going to compete in a national competition was a thrill all in itself because we worked so hard as a team during the season and dedicated ourselves to a sport we all loved so much. Going to a National Cheerleading competition was one of the best experiences of our lives. We worked hard as a team to win a national title.

Being on the Southwest cheer team was one the best choices I could have ever made. Ms. Sabrina is one of the greatest coaches I have known. She worked with us and pushed us to always want more and never settle for mediocre. She constantly reminded us that when you know better, you should do better. She is a good role model. She gave us constructive criticism while encouraging us to be better than what we thought we were. She made sure that everyone shared a piece of the spotlight as a team. One thing she says the most that I love is “when you are dancing feed off the energy of the people around you on the dance floor because you are dancing as a group”. She said if one person can “Bring it” then we all need to “Bring It.” I think that was a good way for our team to build up our inner confidence. Our coach always made sure that we worked as a team even when we didn’t want to. She taught us how to be self-sufficient as a squad when she was and wasn’t present at practice. We always communicated as a team or just chatted about how everyone was doing outside of practice, and in a short period of time we became a family. We learned to help one another in every way we learned quickly that that is what teammates were for. By the time we made it to nationals, we were ready to bring it.

After the competition we had to sit in a big group alongside our competitors. Waiting for our team name to be called during the awards ceremony was probably the most nerve-racking experiences of the entire trip, but the moment they called our team name for first place all of our nerves, doubts and uncertainties went out the window, we were so happy that tears of joy ran down our faces. We had confidence in ourselves and knew we delivered our routine well but we never thought that we could actually win the National Championship, this was proof that our hard work had paid off. This entire experience was the greatest. We were proud to bring home a trophy and we were even more proud to be a Saluquis.

Written By: Victerri Lee

Written By: Stephanie McAtee
Race for the Cure

Chances are you have started to see a heightened awareness in our local Memphis area of the Race for the Cure put together by Susan G. Komen Memphis Mid-South. October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the race takes place on the 25th. This race is a wonderful opportunity for any of us to run for a mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, co-worker, or friend who has been affected by this devastating disease. If you are not a runner there are various other means in which you can help out. As always there is a chance to give a donation but here are some other creative and fun ways to help out this wonderful cause. There is fundraising backed runners, volunteering (jobs can vary widely), and what is called Sleep in for the Cure, which allows people who are out of town, have to work or just want to sleep in to register and have their t-shirt delivered to them. Susan G. Komen Memphis Mid-South is an organization committed to helping the women of our community help fight this horrible disease, and they do this by giving 75% of their proceeds back into the community through what they call Community Health Grants with the other 25% going to National Research Grants. So let’s get out and support the women who fought and survived and help out in any way to remember and honor the loved ones we lost.

If you would like more information, to sign up for volunteering or to give donations you can visit komenmemphis.org  Written by: Cassie Richardson

Did Somebody Say Free Movies?

Like many of you, I too struggle with finding fun things to do on a Friday night in Memphis. If you’re like me then you’re also on a budget as well. Thankfully our wonderful city is expanding and with that expansion new and exciting opportunities are becoming evermore present that could fit any budget. One of these opportunities is absolutely free to any one who wants to join in on the fun. Since Friday August 29, 2014 the Riverfront Street Landing Corporation has been sponsoring a series of free movie nights. The movies are shown on a massive 24-foot screen start at dusk at the south end of the grass roof at Beale Street Landing (22 North Front St). Concession will be offered and provided by the landing’s Riverfront Bar & Grill and Parker’s Concessions Food Truck. The movies are family friendly, and from the past nights their choices seem to be pretty top notch. There are just thee more Friday nights to take advantage of, so grab a blanket or lawn chairs and some friends and you will be set to have a fun budget friendly night!

The dates and movies for the last three nights are:

October 3 – Men in Black
October 10 – Spider-man
October 17 - The Incredibles

Note: No coolers, picnic baskets, or pets allowed.

Written by: Cassie Richardson
New Donors

Weight               Fees
110-149              $40 first TWO Donations
150-174              $50 first TWO Donations
175 & up             $50 first TWO Donations

You can earn up to $260 per month donating plasma

Requirements

18-65 YEARS OLD
WEIGHT AT LEAST 110 POUNDS
HAVE PROOF OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER,
CURRENT PICTURE I.D. AND CURRENT ADDRESS
BE OF GOOD GENERAL HEALTH

Business Hours

M,W       6:00am – 5:00pm
T,TH      7:00am – 5:30pm
Friday    6:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday  7:00am – 2:00pm

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