Greetings, my fellow Saluqis! When you log in to your account you may have noticed a few changes. The webmaster has graced us with new widgets; many students ask around for catalogs, students also acquire about the final exam schedule, and even ask for complaint forms. I’m here to inform you all we have free access to those resources at our own leisure. Personally, I view these changes as a great advantage for the students. When asked in future scenarios I can simply just direct students to their accounts and tell them which widgets to click on. The widgets are very easy to access, and to use. I hope you all enjoy your widgets and find them as useful as I do! Have a great semester!

By Stephanie McAtee
Resolutions!!!

By Stephanie McAtee

A Happy New Year to all! I hope every one is off to a great start with this new semester. As we embark on a new year, we would like to keep in mind the goals that we have set for the next twelve months! Just recently, I was reading my feed on the social media website Facebook. Many of my Facebook friends are choosing not to do any resolutions for the year. I wonder why? Could it possibly be because people typically stop sticking to their resolutions after the first three months? Whatever the case, maybe resolutions are out of fashion for some. I would like to know – are resolutions out of fashion for you? I took the liberty of researching the most common New Year’s resolutions for 2013, and here’s what came up:

- Losing weight and eating healthily/ exercise
- Learning something new
- Quitting smoking
- Drinking less
- Having a better work/ life balance
- Volunteering
- Saving money
- Getting organized
- Reading more
- Finishing those around the house “to-do” lists

These were the top 10 most common resolutions for last year. In all honesty, I don’t think these resolutions will change much. These are goals that people should always work towards. I asked one student what his New Year’s resolution was, and he replied, “Respect.” I found that to be profoundly odd – in a good way. All in all, there could always be something we all could be working towards to improve ourselves; our family, our work life, and so on. So what are your New Year’s resolutions, if you have any? We would be happy to receive your resolutions for 2014! I hope you all have a wonderful new year!

On January 6th, 2014, 15-year-old Aitzaz Hasan was hanging around with his friends at their local school, located in Ibrahimzai, Pakistan. He noticed an odd-looking fellow across the yard; the man had a large vest on, almost too big for him. Aitzaz knew what that vest was for; he knew about the suicide bombers. But he refused to let this man threaten the hundreds of kids at school that day. His friends begged him not to intervene; “I’m going to stop him,” he said. “He is going to school to kill my friends.”

Aitzaz approached the man, and confronted him. He kept him away from the school - far enough, in fact, that when the man detonated the explosives in his vest, none of Aitzaz’s schoolmates were injured. Unfortunately, Aitzaz died protecting the 2,000 students at his school from that terrorist. His father, Mujahid Ali, later said this: “My son made his mother cry, but saved hundreds of mothers from crying for their children.”

Sometimes in this world, we feel powerless. The massive problems which face us, both individually and as a species, often seem too monumental to combat in any meaningful way; a veritable cornucopia of societal, economic, political, and interpersonal problems seem poised to spill out upon us all at any given moment. In times like these, the natural response is to hide. What can I do?, we think. This is bigger than me. That’s where you’re wrong.

All it takes is the power of one human being to change the course of history…one person who decides to stand up against the darkness, and do the right thing. When someone sets an example like that, others follow; a movement begins. Without Martin Luther King, Jr., there is no Civil Rights Movement; without George Washington, there is no victory at Valley Forge. Human beings require leadership, and when you stand up against wrongdoing, you are setting yourself apart – you are inspiring them, showing them that good can prevail – that this world can be a better place!

Aitzaz Hasan had his whole life ahead of him. But he decided to sacrifice those undiscovered decades, to save the lives of hundreds…hundreds of kids who will now live to have children of their own.

That is the power of one.

By Kurt Fritjofson

Tweet Your Picture To The Source!

By Stephanie McAtee

Hey you! Yeah, you! Have you walked around any of our campuses? Of course you have, because you are a Saluqi! Have you taken a picture of something or someone that caught your eye? Well, if you are interested in sharing your picture with us, here are the instructions:

1. You may take a picture on your phone, digital camera, iPad, or any electronic device that takes pictures.
2. The pictures have to be images of any Southwest Tennessee Community College campus. For instances: scenery, students (with consent), any object/image around campus (nothing derogatory or explicit), staff (with consent), or even an event.
3. All picture submissions should have a brief description of the image. For example, why did you take the picture? What was occurring in the picture? What campus was the picture taken on?
4. Each description of a picture should be only 150 characters.
5. All pictures should be submitted via e-mail with your name and the main campus you attend.
6. All pictures should be submitted on the Friday of that week by 4:30 p.m.
7. All pictures should be clear images.
8. We will not accept pictures from any personal e-mail accounts. Only Southwest e-mail accounts are acceptable.

These are the instructions on how to successfully tweet your picture to the source. If your picture is selected we will send you an e-mail informing you that your picture was accepted and will be published. Also, the e-mail will tell you which issue your picture will appear in. We look forward to your picture tweet!

Submit your pictures to scmcatee@southwest.tn.edu
The United States is a peculiar place. We vilify rebels and rabble-rousers while they live, and then celebrate them as martyrs after they die. Eventually, the late rebel is so deeply entombed in monthly celebrations, holidays, books, and documentaries that the very life is sucked out of their memory. They are no longer a human being, a creature of flesh and blood that once stood on this earth; they become iconography, rolled out every so often in the speeches of politicians.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has fallen victim to this entombment. Every January, his life is celebrated—but how many people spend that Monday reflecting upon his sacrifice? For most, it’s just a day off. Is that his legacy?

No. It is sanitization, State-approved celebration; the reality of the man was much more. In his “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” King advocated non-violent resistance in the face of inequality and injustice. How desperately such words are needed now, just as they were in 1963.

“We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor,” he said. “It must be demanded by the oppressed...lamentably, it is an historical fact that privileged groups seldom give up their privileges voluntarily.”

According to a study published by Oxfam, 1% of the Earth’s population owns nearly half of the wealth in existence. Countries across the globe continue to break down labor laws, construct electronic surveillance states, and distract the miserable masses with lewd spectacle and cheap food. But what can be done about it? What can anyone do without breaking the law, or going to jail?

“One may want to ask: ‘How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?’ The answer lies in the fact that there are two types of laws: just and unjust. I would be the first to advocate obeying just laws. One has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws. I would agree with St. Augustine that ‘an unjust law is no law at all.’”

As the powers which control this nation (and this world) continue to tighten their grip on us all year after year, I would urge you not to remember Dr. King as a postage stamp, a television commercial, a magazine cover. Remember the man the way he would have wanted you to—as a human being who forsook a life of comfort and monetary gain in order to fight injustice and to help his fellow man. Do not mourn his loss, stymied by passivity and melancholy. Remember the rebel. Honor his sacrifice with your actions, with your life.

You can be a hero in an age of none.

Written by: Kurt Fritjofson
kfranj@sw.nas.edu

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The Jewish Recorder.

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Unfortunately, the black newspapers that emerged with another black newspaper during the antebellum South era called The North Star, which was founded by Frederick Douglass. Another black newspaper that surfaced around this time was called The Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder. This newspaper was Minnesota’s oldest black newspaper, and the United States’ oldest ongoing minority publication second only to The Jewish World. Unfortunately, the black newspapers that began publishing in the 1960s, ‘70s, and ‘80s went out of business because they could not attract enough advertising; they also suffered due to widespread economic decline. However, in 2010 there was a resurgence of online African-American news organizations, most notably black news, which include The Grio and Black Voices. Therefore, it is clear that black newspapers still have a place in contemporary American journalism.

Written by: Stephanie McAtee
scmcatee@sw.nas.edu
By Candace Woods

Name: Holly Lytle
Birthday: October 14, 1987
Zodiac Sign: Libra
Favorite Color: Purple
Favorite Artist: Shakira
Favorite Sport: Soccer
Favorite Food: Manicotti
Major: Nursing

How is your college career going so far? “It’s tough but I will not give up.”
What do you plan on doing in 5 years with your career? “Hopefully, I will have a B.S.N and I will be a Chinese translator.”

Name: Mohammud Rbrahim
Birthday: September 28, 1993
Zodiac Sign: Libra
Favorite Color: Blue
Favorite Artist: Yo Gotii
Favorite Sport: Soccer
Favorite Food: Everything but chicken
Major: Nursing (Dentistry)

How is your college career going so far? “It’s going good.”
What do you like about college? “I like my classes, friends, and meeting girls.”

Name: Joy Stewart
Birthday: August 1, 1995
Zodiac Sign: Leo
Favorite Color: Black
Favorite Artist: Rob Zombie
Favorite Sport: Roller Derby
Favorite Food: Spaghetti
Major: General Studies

How is your college career going so far? “Pretty good, good grades.”
What do you like about college? “I like the diversity and lack of drama.”

Name: Bobby Banks
Birthday: December 24, 1991
Zodiac Sign: Capricorn
Favorite Color: Black
Favorite Artist: A.S.A.P Rocky
Favorite Sport: Basketball
Favorite Food: Cheeseburger
Major: Criminal Justice

How is your college career going so far? “It’s alright.”
What do you like about college? “I like the freedom aspect.”

Name: Kevia Porter
Birthday: May 28, 1992
Zodiac Sign: Gemini
Favorite Color: Purple
Favorite Artist: Labyrinth
Favorite Sport: Football
Favorite Food: Shrimp
Major: Physical Therapist Assistant

How is your college career going so far? “It gets challenging every year but I’ll make it.”
What do you like about college? “Meeting new people is fun.”

Professor David Huffman
Instructor, Languages and Literature

“I truly love reading...it captivated me, and was a great release; I not only found it entertaining, but I also found principles, symbolism, (and) themes (which were) so dynamic and made such an impact on me; I felt like this was something that I could really get into. I finally found my true love.”

Professor David Huffman teaches a variety of courses here at Southwest, all directly related to his interest in literature. In high school, he pursued the visual arts, but transitioned to literature in college. Prof. Huffman stresses the importance of English courses, as these courses help students learn how to convey themselves properly with the written word – a skill students will need in every class, regardless of their major. “In order to (write papers) successfully at this institution, or at any other in the United States, (composition) is one of the basic fundamentals – it’s the rudiments!”

Personally, Prof. Huffman is a fan of works ranging from Dostoevsky’s Crime & Punishment to George Orwell’s Nineteen Eighty-Four. However, his all-time personal favorite is Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451, which features his favorite protagonist, fireman Guy Montag. Prof. Huffman is also involved with a variety of programs at Southwest; inclusion, retention, and graduation are three focuses which are close to Prof. Huffman’s heart.

Among the courses Prof. Huffman is offering this semester is British Literature II, a class who’s participants are also heading to London this March with Southwest’s International Studies program! I consider myself fortunate to be among them, and look forward to joining Prof. Huffman and my classmates on an in-depth examination of British Literature in the very country which has given so much wonderful art to the world.

Written by: Kurt Fritjofson
Is An Antibiotic Apocalypse Possible?

The majority of people here in the U.S have lived at least a large portion of their lives with medicine made readily available from drug stores, and doctors. But what if the medicine people so readily depend on didn’t work? Imagine having a child that has caught the flu or a cold but there’s no medicine that will treat the bacteria or virus. Sound like a bad horror movie? Well according to England’s Chief Medical Officer the growing resistance to antibiotics is a “ticking time bomb.” Antibiotics have only been around for the last seventy years, introduced in the 1940’s. That being said, many of us can’t imagine life without them. Antibiotics have saved countless lives and nearly everyone here at southwest has used them on one occasion or another to help get over a bug. However, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) has admitted that these viruses and bacteria have adapted to numerous medicines creating antimicrobial-resistant organisms. These organisms are highly dangerous, and when someone is infected with them there is a prolonged illness as well as a higher risk if death. The rise in untreatable disease is concerning to many. In fact, the World Health Assembly will discuss the issue in May, but how do you fight an evolving disease? Even with the nations new universal healthcare plan, antibiotic resistant diseases could wreak mass havoc across the country. Health insurance companies would go bankrupt from fishing out dollars to pay for the care of their clients, but with no antibiotic that can kill the bacteria it’s virtually impossible. The awareness of these antimicrobial-resistant organisms is rising among doctors and scientists, so hopefully doctors will make a breakthrough against these diseases before the problem grows any further. If no breakthrough is made we might possibly see the next epidemic in the coming years.

By: Walker Montgomery

ObamaCare Site Riddled With Security Issues

The Affordable Care Act has been a heated subject on the tongues of politicians since the beginning of President Obama’s first term, and whether you were for it, or against it, the bill has been passed. Healthcare is now a requirement for all U.S. citizens, and those who do not comply will have to pay a fine once every year they’ve lacked health insurance.

The Affordable Care Act, also commonly referred to as ObamaCare, will help a great deal of families receive health insurance. However, those who go through healthcare.gov are in for a glitch riddled process before they receive their benefits. The site that has been headlined to help people through the changes in the healthcare system reportedly has had many glitches, some of which are dangerous to some of your personal information such as social security numbers. HHS (Department of Health and Human Services) is said to have launched the site without full testing of it’s security, and has come under great criticism for doing so. The website has been labeled “high risk” and “really sloppy” by some IT specialists. One of the major problems found was in the password reset portion of the site. The flaw would have made it very easy for hackers to log in as other users, compromising personal information. While many of these problems have been fixed, more and more are being found as the site is continually used. It’s possible that even previous fixes could create more problems for months to come. On the bright side there are alternative ways to sign up for healthcare that don’t involve possible identity theft. Many people have been going through their own health insurance companies or state Medicaid offices rather use healthcare.gov, and currently, those options might be best.

By: Walker Montgomery
Success Stories

Updates: Project M.O.S.T

On January 23, 2014, I had a phone interview with the director of Project M.O.S.T (Men of Southwest Tennessee), Kariem Abdul Salaam about what Project M.O.S.T is and what updates will be happening soon. First off, the program is grant-funded through the Department of Education and is designed to assist first-year African American male student in their retention and graduation efforts. The benefits for the men that will be joining are services, providing support, and case management service with leadership development, help keeping young men in school and helping the students be more successful. Mr. Salaam stated “The plan for 2014 is to keep doing what we are doing but enhancing further opportunities such as; entrepreneurship training, intense sessions for the ones who want to pursue in that field, and helping throughout the semester with speakers. There will be more emphasizing on transportation, community service and scholarships.” Also, there will be changes in the near future with the organization. The plan is for financial services to expand. A lot of men don’t have the support of finances due to the fact that they work long hard hours. More counseling, mentoring, and leadership skills will help with a group of guys. Therefore, there will be a pipeline for k-12, which is visiting more schools (main priority-high schools) and getting them ready for college and going straight into the program. Salaam also says “It will help reduce the high school students that fallout from the program and goals.” This program offers excellent opportunities for our African-American males’ students to participate in this experience. If you don’t know much about the program, this information here should get you wanting to know MORE about PROJECT MOST!

By: Candace Woods

Nelson Mandela: Death of an Icon

Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa died on Thursday December 5th at the age of 95. Nelson Mandela was born into the Madiba clan on July 18th 1918. He grew up hearing stories of his people’s resistance against oppression, and they inspired him to fight for freedom. At this time the apartheid was in full effect, meaning that the black African majority was ruled by the Nationalist Party. People were required to live in separate places based on race and were treated unequally.

Nelson Mandela was one of the many that opposed and fought against the apartheid, for this he was considered a terrorist by both the U.S. and British governments. He is the key example of the quote, “one man’s terrorist is another man’s freedom fighter.” Nelson led the militant arm of the African National Congress, and embarked in guerrilla warfare against the South African government. Mandela and the ANC detonated bombs in public places all across South Africa, and were responsible for the deaths of 100’s, maybe 1’000’s of South Africans. He was then captured and sentenced to life in prison in 1964. At his hearing he was quoted, “I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.” On February 11th 1990, 9 days after the ANC was legalized as a group, he was released. A year later he was elected President of the ANC, thus beginning the reform of the South African government. Mandela worked with the former South African president F.W de Klerk to transition the country away from a system of racial segregation to a Democracy. Due to this, they were jointly awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1993. In 1994 he was inaugurated as the first democratic elected president of South Africa. Nelson Mandela will forever be remembered as a man that changed his country, and will never be forgotten.

By: Walker Montgomery
Honors Academy
Challenge Accepted!

There are two types of college students. Some are simply after the piece of paper. But some come to school to better themselves – to expand their minds. They become the men and women which lead us into the future.

For students who wish to challenge their intellect, there is no better place to look than the Southwest Honors Academy. Led by Director Doug Branch and Associate Director Melinda Wade, the Honors Academy is an elite group composed of individuals from all walks of life. The young, the old, the rich, the poor – the best and brightest of Southwest all gather at the Honors Academy, joined by their common love of learning. Here, students take a variety of Honors-level courses, all of which include learning outside of the classroom. For example, while working on one of my Honors projects last semester, I heard Mayor AC Wharton speak and interviewed Congressman Stephen Fincher for an American Government project! These sorts of experiences are common for Honors Academy members; students travel to all kinds of places around Memphis to learn more about the subjects they are taking for Honors credit.

And the notoriety which accompanies Honors coursework is quite enviable, indeed. Honors students who complete 15 hours of Honors credit and retain a 3.0 GPA or higher graduate with an Honors diploma – a rare, prestigious acknowledgement of the hard work that Honors graduates put in. In addition, Honors graduates receive a medallion which is worn at graduation! And being able to list involvement in Honors on a resume is an incredible advantage.

Southwest’s best and brightest crave new challenges. The Honors Academy is ready and waiting. Are you?

Dare yourself to do better.

For more information: visit http://southwest.tn.edu/honors/, or contact the Honors Academy directly:

Macon Cove Campus
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Wing B, Room 139
(901) 333-4615

Union Avenue Campus
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Room 210
(901) 333-5203

Written by: Kurt Fritjofson

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Phi Theta Kappa
Honor Society

Founded in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society comprised of more than two million members from two-year colleges across the globe. Officially, the purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is “...to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students.” PTK “provide(s) opportunity for the development of service and leadership, for an intellectual climate for the exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.” Phi Theta Kappa has over 1,250 chapters worldwide, but Southwest Tennessee Community College is home to our very own Upsilon Delta chapter. Upsilon Delta is overseen by three advisors; Dr. Twyla Waters, Dr. Joan McGrory, and Ms. Angela Payne.

In order to become (and remain) a member in good standing, students at Southwest must earn at least 12 credit hours and a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Failure to fulfill either of these criteria renders a student ineligible for membership in PTK.

Phi Theta Kappa offers many benefits to Kappans who excel within their ranks; foremost amongst these are the many scholarships that PTK members are offered. These scholarships include the Hites Transfer Scholarship (worth $7,500) and the Pearson Prize for Higher Education (worth $10,000)! As a member of Phi Theta Kappa, applicants for all scholarships have a competitive edge which regular applicants may not. And in addition to the potential monetary benefits, Kappans gain hands-on experience as leaders and thinkers in their local chapters, experience which benefits them long after graduation in their careers.

To learn more about Phi Theta Kappa, contact Southwest’s Upsilon Delta chapter via the aforementioned advisors, or visit http://www.ptk.org/. To my fellow (and future fellow) Kappans – much success!

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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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