



May 2009

Issue 10

Hot Springs High School



# Hot Springs High School Parent Newsletter

Students should be on top of their attendance especially since semester tests are approaching. There will be one more attendance report sent out and they should make sure that corrections have been made. It will come out at the end of this week.

### Important Dates:

Senior Tea—  
May 3 @ Velda Rose

Band Booster Meeting—  
May 4 @ 6:30

Band Picnic—  
May 11 @ 4:00-6:30

Senior Awards Banquet—  
May 12 @ 6:30

Senior Graduation—  
May 14 @ Summit 7:30

Band Concert—  
May 19 @ 7:30

Jazz Band Performs for the  
Forest Service—May 21

Memorial Day—May 25  
NO SCHOOL

Attention Juniors and Seniors: CPEP (College Preparatory Enrichment Program).

Monday—Friday  
3 pm to 6 pm  
June 1—July 3rd  
Free ACT test on July 11th  
See Mrs. Ellars for details!!

## End of Year CHOIR Note from Mrs. Fox

I am so proud of our TROJAN CHOIR students! They worked very hard from the fall, with All Region music and Christmas music, into the spring, with Festival Competition music, All State music and our spring fun show. We had 7 receive the honor of performing with the Southwest All Region Chorus. At Festival competition, our choir received a I Superior rating in Sight-Reading, bringing home a plaque. They took their Christmas concert on the road and traveled to

Oaklawn Elementary, 2 local nursing homes, the Festival of Stars at Children's Hospital in Little Rock, the December School Board Meeting, and the formal concert held in the Band Hall. We had 3 students eligible for All State! In April, a small ensemble attended a Step workshop and performed an Inspirational concert with the U of A Razorback Inspirational Choir. (Yes, even Mrs. Fox tried to Step!! We shared a good laugh!) We ended the year with an exciting spring show, "Michael Jackson",

which was performed at Oaklawn Elementary, (WHAT a GREAT audience, we LOVED performing there!), and then our final concert in the Mackey on April 27th. There are many Saturdays, after school hours and evenings throughout the school year that choir students rehearse and attend these choral events. I am very proud of these students, their hard work and dedication. GO TROY!

## Naval JROTC Awards

On April 30th, the Hot Springs Navy JROTC held it's annual awards ceremony with approximately 180 Cadets and family in attendance. Several local organizations were present to personally hand out their annual awards including the Hot Springs Village Military Officers Association of America, the HS Village VFW, The Daughters of the American Revolution and Son's of the American Revolution. The Military Officer's Association awarded this years Cadet

Commanding Officer a \$1000 college scholarship. The DAR also awarded a monetary scholarship the Stephany Arzola along with that organizations medal for excellence. Kayla Brinsfield received the VFW annual award, Katherine Poe received the MOAA medal and Shanda Allen received the annual award from the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Finally, the staff for next year was announced.



Commanding Officer-Katherine Poe, Executive Officer-Shanda Allen, Operations Officer-Chris McGraw, Supply Officer-Cecilia Wood, Admin Officer-K'Andra Perkins, Public Affairs-Qwashun Duvall, Command Senior Chief-Michael Byram and Chief Master at Arms-Anita Jackson.

## International Festival

A veritable sensory overload greeted attendees of the most recent International Festival here at HSHS last Friday. From the aromas and flavors of exotic cuisine from Spain, France, Italy, China, Mexico, El Salvador, Germany and Thailand to the strains of classical Spanish guitar and Latin percussion, all blending in a French café setting with a fiesta touch, we truly celebrated the diversity that makes our school unique. After tasting delectable dishes prepared by the students, guests were asked to participate in a traditional Chinese game taught by our visiting instructor from Beijing, Ms. Min, and were treated to a Flamenco perform-

ance by Spanish teacher Ms. Espinosa. Students contributed as well: Miranda Edgar shared reminiscences of helping provide spectacles to the less fortunate in Honduras last summer, Ashley Fitzpatrick danced original choreography, and Kennion Gulley led a group of percussionists in both an introduction to typical Latin instruments and a demonstration of their rhythms. The second part of the festival theme, "Foster Unity," was best represented at the end of the

evening as busy hands of every shade of ethnic origin cheerfully dismantled decorations, cleaned spills, rearranged tables and packed leftovers, leaving behind only memories and dreams of visiting those far away places ... which we know some of us will do!



## E.A.S.T.

Hot Springs High School added a new course this year called EAST (Environmental and Spatial Technology) which is a self-directed classroom environment where the students use problem-solving and collaboration to improve their school and community.

HSHS has had an exciting and eventful first year with this new program. Many students came into EAST with little knowledge of advanced software and computer skills. Others simply did not know what to expect. A few discovered ways to construct buildings on programs such as *ArchiCAD* and *Google Sketchup*. Some brainstormed project ideas that would better the school environment; others planned a bus route for the new intermediate school on Main Street using *GPS/GIS* software and hardware.

Last February, Trojan EAST stu-

dents traveled to Garvan Woodland Gardens to assist in mapping the gardens using *GPS and GIS* software. This project allowed the students to work with groups outside their school: Malvern High School EAST; Fountain Lake High School EAST; Mountain Pine High School EAST; CAST (Center for Advanced Spatial Technology), which is housed on the University of Arkansas campus in Fayetteville; and the U of A landscape architecture students.

In addition, Trojan EAST organized and worked at three school-sponsored blood drives in conjunction with United Blood Services, collecting approximately 70 units of blood at each drive. EAST students also sponsored a peanut butter drive with the 2009 EAST Partnership Conference and *Feeding America* (a non-profit organization committed to reducing hunger in the U.S.). Sal-

vation Army Angel Tree was another EAST sponsored project which provided gifts at Christmas to less fortunate children.

One of the highlights of the first year was receiving a superior rating at the national EAST conference. EAST programs receive superior rating when a panel of experts from the business community feels they have met all the EAST standards in the current years' projects.

Congratulations to all who have participated in making this first year of EAST extremely successful at Hot Springs High School!



## *Gifted and Talented Nominations*

Nominations are being accepted for the Hot Springs School District Gifted and Talented Program. If you wish to nominate your child, Student Nomination Forms will be available in the school office on Monday, May 4. The deadline for receiving these nominations will be Friday, May 15. Placement decisions will be made in June. **If your child is recommended for the program and ACCEPTS the services, he/she will**

**be enrolled in International Baccalaureate Program for the 2009-2010 school year.** However, if you feel that your child is receiving an appropriate and qualitative education already and wish to have it remain unchanged, we will honor your request and place your child's records in the non-active file. If, in the future, you should reconsider your option, a place will be made available in the gifted program and

his/her file will be reactivated.

Becky Rosburg

Coordinator of Gifted Programs

## *Counselors' Corner*

Congratulations to Joey Collins, Tawny Smedley, and Daphne Willis! All three of Hot Springs High School's students who applied were accepted as candidates for Arkansas Governor's School, a six-week residential summer program for gifted and talented juniors. Tuition, room, board, and instructional materials are funded by the Arkansas State Legislature on the campus of Hendrix College in Conway for a select group of approximately 400 of Arkansas' best juniors. It is a unique experience of total immersion in an extremely rigorous creative and intellectual atmosphere. Students will explore cutting-edge theories in the arts and sciences that lead to positive contributions to our community and global society. Arkansas Governor's School is a truly life-changing experience, and it's a tremendous honor for these three HSHS students to be chosen to attend.

The Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas is accepting applications for the 2009 summer programs. ACAP, Accounting Career Awareness Program, and TAP, Technology Awareness Program, are one-week residency programs

designed to introduce students of color (i.e. Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Hispanic/Latinos) to the field of accounting, finance, and computer information systems. The students must be starting their junior, senior, or freshman college year in the fall of 2009. All application materials must reach UA before May 9. See your counselor or go to <http://waltoncollege.uark.edu/minorityaffairs/> if interested.

Parents of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who plan to attend college: encourage your students to volunteer in their community and/or church as much as possible over the summer to help them to build impressive volunteer and leadership areas on their college and scholarship applications. Keep track of the hours! Many college scholarships weigh not only students' GPAs and ACT scores, but also their volunteerism and extra-curricular activities.

Parents of seniors: **Senior Awards Night** will be Tuesday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. in Mackey Theater. If your student is receiving any academic award or scholarship, please attend

so your student can be honored!

Military options for paying for education beyond high school: after signing with any branch of the military for a minimum of 4 years, one can obtain 16 credits free while enlisted or can use the GI Bill while enlisted or after serving the minimum 4 years.

The GI Bill provides the following:

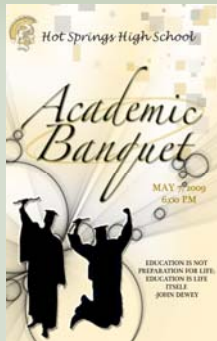
36 months of paid tuition and fees equal to 4 years of school or vocational or on-the-job training

- monthly housing allowance based on the common housing allowance in your area
- annual \$1,000 payment for books and supplies
- up to \$80,000 for education
- can transfer money for education if unused to spouse and/or dependents
- available for 15 years from separation date
- FREE--no longer do recruits have to pay in \$1,200 in their first year in the military

If interested, see any recruiter!



**Pictured:**  
Olivia Hatley, the winner of the 2009 Academic Banquet program cover design contest.



May 4, 2009

Dear Parents and Students:

It has been a great pleasure serving your students, but with mixed emotions, Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Rowe are both retiring from education in June 2009. Parents should be sure to check with their students' new counselors next year to ensure that their students are in the correct courses for graduation and/or to be career/technical completers. If your student has failed any class, has been in credit recovery, or will be a senior, it is especially important for you and her/him to re-check her/his next year's schedule with the new counselors so there won't be any unpleasant surprises at graduation. Best of luck to all Hot Springs High School Trojans!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Rowe

## *Encourage Your Teen to Exercise Daily, Stay Healthy This Summer*

School's out--and your teen probably thinks he can sleep all day, every day. Don't let him waste his summer! Encourage your teen to get some exercise. It only takes 21 days for a habit to form--and daily exercise is a great habit to have.

Teens who exercise regularly:

- Are less likely to become overweight.
- Have stronger bones and muscles.
- Sleep better than those who don't exercise regularly.
- Are less stressed and better able to handle problems.
- Have higher self-esteem.
- Earn better grades.

The key is to make exercise fun. Your teen doesn't have to run nine miles every day (unless he really enjoys running). He can split his workout time into shorter bursts.

Maybe he'd prefer to walk for 15 minutes in the morning and swim at the local pool for 30 minutes later in the day. Or maybe your teen and his friends want join a summer sports league. Then they'd experience the benefits of exercising their bodies and their social skills simultaneously. Whatever your teen decides to do, try to be supportive of his choice.

And while your teen's exercising, make sure he has the proper fuel for his growing body. The summer is a great time for fresh fruits and vegetables to make their way into his diet.

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## *Students at Hot Springs High School Help Mena Students*

The students and staff at Hot Springs High School collected \$762.00 and had several prom dresses donated to help the students at Mena High School with their prom. Mena had to reschedule their prom because of the devastation from the tornado. The money was sent to the Junior Class sponsor to help with food and decoration expenses.

**Pictured:**

Jordan Breckenridge, Student Council President; Eric Lenox, Beta Club Vice-President; and I'Nita White, Honor Society President, presented Ms. Cheri Mertz, guidance secretary, with the money to be sent to Mena.

