



BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

In This Issue:

Message from Kevin

1

LATE NIGHT

2

Leadership Series

2

Community Chats

3

Midday Prayer

3

New Staff

4

Message from Kevin:



Off We Go...

A number of years ago, I accompanied a group of students on a tour of the United Kingdom. One of our stops was the Royal Air Force Base at Lakenheath, England. While there, we were ushered onto the tarmac to watch F-16 fighter jets take off. We definitely had an “up close and personal” view as the jets lined up in front of us, the engines ignited, and away they screamed. Literally, one moment the pilot was giving us “a thumbs up” through the glass bubble of his cockpit; the next he was a speck on the horizon.

The start of school reminds me of that experience. One moment cars were lining up for Move-In; students and parents were giving us the Sic ‘em through their car windows, and the next we are four weeks into the semester. Except this time, the starting point is the speck.

Because of the rapid pace we experience at the start of school, it is not unusual to move from one interaction or event to the next with little time to reflect on the excellent work that is taking place. Work, like Move-In, unites thousands of volunteers in the common purpose of welcoming our new students to campus and helping them feel at home in their new living arrangements. Events and programs such as Welcome Week, Late Night, Welcome Dinner, Traditions Rally, Mosaic Mixer, Howdy Dance, Freshman Retreat, Baylor Line, Greek Week, etc. that both aid students in their transition to Baylor and help them become more engaged in the fabric of campus. Services and advocacy efforts through the Counseling Center, Health Center, Wellness Office, Spiritual Life, Multicultural Affairs, Judicial Affairs, and other departments offer opportunities for students to gain a sense of perspective on life, grow in their faith, and take better care of themselves and others. Yes, there is much good work that has taken place in the four weeks since we first roared down the runway of the start of school. And, I am especially pleased to be flying alongside each of you as we chart a course that will ultimately transform our students’ lives.

Here’s to a great semester!

Kevin

September
Newsletter



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Division of Student Life

Upcoming Events

Baylor vs. Rice
September 23

Parents Weekend
September 23-25

Fall Break
October 21-23

Homecoming
November 4-6

Baylor vs. Oklahoma State
November 5

LATE NIGHT



Approximately 6,000 students roamed campus in search of fun and games during this year's Late Night event on Friday, August 26! This year's program featured involvement opportunities in four different campus locations: McLane Student Life Center, Russell Gymnasium, Bobo Baptist Student Center, and the Bill Daniel Student Center. By expanding the program to these new locations students were able to meet with more student organizations, hold higher quality conversations regarding involvement, and create positive interactions within these facilities. Student artists associated with Uproar Records performed in three venues throughout the evening, and a few special interest organizations also entertained the crowds through dance and spoken word.

Despite the potential challenges of extending this program throughout campus, the event was still highly successful. We are especially thankful for the many departments and entities within Student Life who collaborated so well to offer a stronger program for our students!

Leadership Series

Baylor President Ken Starr will kick off the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement's fall lecture series at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 15, in the Hankamer School of Business Kayser Auditorium. Judge Ken Starr will present "Leadership in Public Life" and will discuss his perspectives on leadership.

"We are excited that he will share his leadership journey through his extensive career in public life," said Ramona Curtis, director of the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement and primary organizer of the lecture series. "Judge Starr is committed to community and serves as a model for his intentional and purposeful acts of service. I know that he will make a great impact on our students as they continue to study leadership and find their potential to impact the world for greater purposes." For more information and future speakers, visit the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement at <http://www.baylor.edu/leadership/index.php?id=63986>.





Student Life Spotlight

P.J. Martinez
New Student
Programs:
Student Worker



Major

Child and Family
Studies

Hometown

Clyde, Texas

Favorite Bible Verse

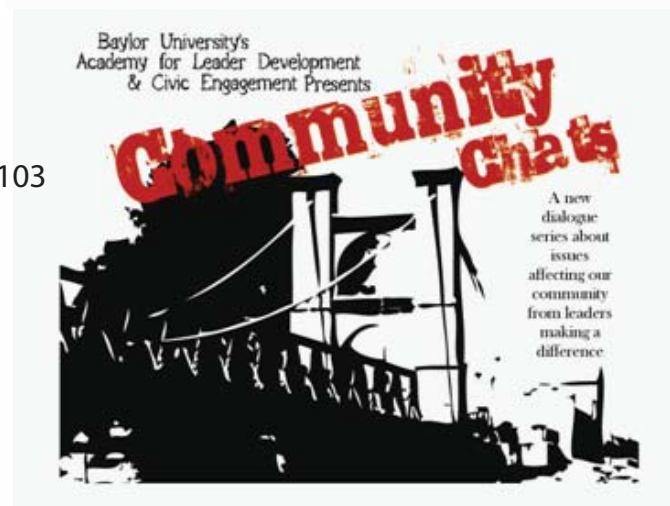
"I have fought
the good fight,
I have finished
the race, I have
kept the faith."
2 Timothy 4:7

Community Chats

The Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement is launching the Community Chat Series, a series of presentations by community leaders on pressing issues in our local community. Students will have the opportunity to hear from leaders who are making a difference and find out ways that they can get involved. The session will involve an overview of the issue, what specific agencies are doing to address the issue, and ways that students can get involved. There will also be the opportunity for Q&A time and informal networking with the speakers. If you have topic or speaker recommendations for future sessions, please contact the Academy.

This fall's lineup is as follows:

- 9/22 **Hunger & Sustainability**
Matt Hess, World Hunger Relief Farm
6 p.m., Hankamer School of Business #103
- 10/18 **Domestic Violence**
Cynthia Williams, Family Abuse Center
6 p.m., Blume Conference Suite
- 11/15 **Children & Mental Health**
Nan Holmes, Talitha Koum Institute
6 p.m., Blume Conference Suite



Midday Prayer

Throughout the ages people of faith have practiced common prayer. These short services of song, scripture, and various forms of spoken and silent prayers have been considered blessed and even prophetic interruptions in the life of any disciple's day. These pauses in the day or the week are ways of remembering God and of reconnecting with essence.

With a new and challenging year before us, you are invited to join in a new midday weekly prayer service at the Bobo





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Midday Prayer *(continued)*

Spiritual Life Chapel. Beginning after Labor Day, Burt Burleson will be leading a short, simple, and reverent service each Thursday. Some of you may want to arrive at noon and simply rest in the silence. The liturgy, which begins at 12:15, will include readings of scripture and other wisdom as well as prayers of thanksgiving, confession, intercession, commitment, and blessing. Some prayers will be heard, some sung, some read collectively, some shared in silence.

"Please consider making this brief service a part of your weekly rhythm. I believe, and the wisdom of our tradition teaches, that the experience of common prayer can form and heal us. I hope you'll mark your calendar for September the 8th as we begin a new and life-giving tradition together. Perhaps we'll soon need to move from our smaller chapel to Miller Chapel in the Bible Building. God's peace." - Burt Burleson



New Staff

Sherry Alejandro graduated from Baylor in 2010 with a BA degree in speech communication. She and her husband Juan, who is also a Baylor graduate, live in Hewitt. Their oldest daughter, Angela, graduated from Baylor in 2009 with her Master of Science in Educational Psychology, and their youngest daughter Sarah is a junior majoring in elementary education. Sherry is very excited to serve as the **Administrative Associate** in the **Department of Student Activities**, which she refers to as the heart of the university, where she can make a difference helping students continue to experience Baylor's great college life traditions.



Carlee Johnston could not be happier to serve as **Baylor's Spirit and Traditions Coordinator**! Originally from San Antonio, she joins us from Texas Tech University where she was very involved in President's Select, her sorority - Kappa Kappa Gamma, and the Texas Tech Pom Squad. She has a teacup Yorkie named Bella who she spoils as if she were her child. Carlee started on September 6th and has enjoyed every minute of it! She loves being around people and enjoys meeting new faces! Please stop by the SUB to say hi! Her door is always open!

