



Remembering 9/11 10th Anniversary

As the 10th anniversary of the attack that changed the country approaches, Sam Houston State University will commemorate the nearly 3,000 lives lost, including responders, in the four airplane crashes.

The event—which will include the Walker County Sheriff’s Office, the University Police Department, the Huntsville Police Department, the Huntsville Fire Department, Walker County Constable’s Office, Emergency Medical Services, and the Department of Public Safety—will be held on Friday, Sept. 9, from 9:45-10:10 a.m. in Bearkat Plaza.

“We wanted to host the event on Sept. 9 instead of the actual date because we

want people to remember the event throughout their weekend and to give special recognition on Sept. 11,” said Maggie Collum, director for University Events.

“This event has touched the lives of all Americans, and we don’t want to take away from the memorial services that will be held all over the nation on Sept. 11, but instead we want it to begin a weekend of remembrance.” SHSU’s commemoration event will include performances by the SHSU band, a welcome and recognitions by university President Dana Gibson, the presentation of colors by the SHSU Army ROTC, and a city perspective by Huntsville Mayor Jay Turner.

In addition, cannons will be fired at the times of the World Trade Center Towers were hit (8:46 and 9:01 a.m., respectively), when the Pentagon was hit (9:45 a.m.), when the first tower fell (9:59 a.m.), when the airplane crashed in Pennsylvania (10:03 a.m.), and when the second tower fell (10:28 a.m.).

Commemorative bracelets also will be handed out throughout the week.

Source: Jennifer Gauntt, SHSU Communications Office. Today at Sam, 9/1/2011

http://www.shsu.edu/~pin_www/T%40S/sliders/2011/sept11memorial.html



Interested Yet Not Intrusive

Just because your student is at school, it doesn’t mean that he no longer needs you in his life. It’s important for you to be involved—its actually quite essential to his success! The key is being interested in what’s happening in his life with-

out being too intrusive. Some ways to do that include:

- don’t make conversations feel like “quizzes”
- ask your student what he is *learning* in class instead of always focusing on grades

- balance your communication by not always making it about them—share what’s happening in your life too

- don’t call or email constantly, there needs to be a healthy distance

Source: A New Chapter, PaperClip Communications, 2007.

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Special points of interest:

- *Remembering 9/11*
- *Support Services*
- *Parent Association Scholarship Information*
- *September Calendar Events*

Bearkat Family Weekend!! September 16-18, 2011

Bearkat Family Weekend is just a few weeks away and the excitement is building! With the first week of school completed students are eager to show their families what they have accomplished and share their Bearkat pride. Family weekend is a perfect opportunity to check-in on your student, meet some of their professors, mingle with the administrators, take a campus tour, visit the museums, and experience family fun at the classic car show, tailgate, and football game.

This year we have over 15 Administrators, Deans, Vice Presidents, and Associates attending the Coffee with the Administrators on Saturday in LSC Pawprint from 9-10am. This a great chance to get to know who's who on campus and what impact they have on the university and your student.

The lunch will be spectacular as we dine on Cajun style grub specially made by Aramark Catering and listen to Zydeco music by Step Rideau and the Zydeco Outlaws. There will also be a Zydeco dance instructor to give lessons on how to dance zydeco style after the final lunch break.

There will be over 25 classic cars participating in this years car show so please make sure you stop by and vote on your favorite car in the North lot of Bowers Stadium from 3:30-5:30pm.

The tailgate is promising as we serve boudin balls, Cajun fries, beignets, and much more.

Parents there is a special discount just for you. Go to www.gobearkats.com and use the promo code *parents* to receive \$5 off your game ticket. Tickets are purchased

separately from the registration.

If you were unable to register for the weekend, never fear, you can still come and participate in the free events (campus tours, open houses, classic car show) and purchase your game ticket when you arrive or online.

To see a full schedule of events visit www.shsu.edu/weekend

We look forward to seeing you there!!



www.shsu.edu/weekend

Support Close at Hand

Your student's well-being is of utmost concern! We all want him to flourish, to learn from mistakes, to experience triumphs and to stay healthy. And there are many ways you can help in that pursuit.

Wellness - staying well is vital to students' overall success. So:

- take students' emotional issues seriously by encouraging your student to talk

with a counselor, a residence life staffer, an advisor or a campus minister

- tout the benefits of good sleep

- send healthy snacks, not junk food

- encourage community service and engagement

- suggest ways to include physical activity within their schedule

Academics - you can be an academic support by:

- regularly asking what she is learning

- not always focusing on grades - talk about class content instead

- asking her to discuss class projects and papers with you

- encouraging her to seek more assistance

Support Close at Hand continued

...from a tutor, advisor, faculty member or academic support services if she is having trouble - it's *not* a sign of weakness!

- encouraging her to get involved in academic life through extra credit, participating in class and asking questions

- helping her figure out ways to balance work, social life, activities and classes

Taking an interest in *what* your student is learning and *how* he is learning can go a long way.

A Web of Support

Students who are struggling can turn to:

- the counseling center

- academic support services (SAM Center)

- student and professional residence life staff

- advisors

- health services

- peer educators

- career services

- the learning disabilities coordinator

- faculty and staff members

- campus ministry

- student affairs staff

Campus professionals are there because they *want* to work with college students and have specific training to help them connect. So encourage your student to seek help rather than "toughing it out" alone.

Source: A New Chapter, PaperClip Communications, 2007.

Smart Choices, with Help

Major decisions will continuously face your student. You can help by providing decision-making food for thought.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

It's possible that your student will be tempted to experiment with alcohol or drugs during her college years. You can help her make smart choices by:

- talking openly about alcohol and other drugs
- empowering her to say "no" when something doesn't feel right
- learning all you can about alcohol, "date rape drugs" and other substances
- not glorifying your own "youthful drinking days," if you had them
- helping her learn from her mistakes
- leaving the lines of communication open

Money Matters

Encourage smart financial practices by:

- working together to set up a budget plan for the year

- warning your student not to apply for every credit card offered
- having him chip in to pay expenses rather than always relying on you
- setting spending limits if your student is using a credit card that you provided
- warning him about frequent visits to the ATM

- encouraging him to keep an eye out for scholarships and other financial aid

Personal Safety: Playing it Smart

Remind your student that safety experts advocate:

- not walking alone in isolated areas
- never getting in a car with someone under the influence

- refusing to accept drinks from strangers (a drug could easily have been slipped in)
- keeping rooms locked
- not giving out personal information to people met online
- reporting any obscene phone calls right away
- avoiding being alone in isolated places such as the basement laundry room, deserted study lounges, etc.
- never becoming so intoxicated that she loses consciousness or the ability to keep herself safe
- not being alone with unknown people

There's no guarantee that your student will always make the smartest choices when it comes to alcohol and drugs.

Yet, your efforts are bound to have an impact. *Source: A New Chapter, PaperClip Communications, 2007.*

Parents' Association—Draw and Academic Scholarship DEADLINE September 30, 2011

The Parents' Association offers a Draw and Academic Scholarship for students whose parents are members of the association. The Draw Scholarship will be awarded to students whose applications are drawn from the pool of applicants. There are no requirements for students to receive this scholarship; except that their parents must be member of the association. To receive the Academic Scholarship you must be a member in good

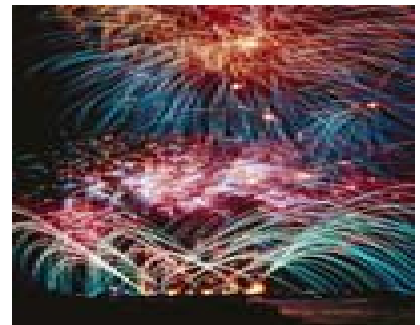
standing, your student must have completed at least 12 hours of course work at SHSU, must be currently enrolled in at least 12 hours at SHSU, and have a 3.0 GPA or higher. Both applications can be downloaded from the Parents' Association homepage by going to www.shsu.edu/parents and clicking on SHSU Parents' Association, then scholarships. For more information contact President, Don Burton at burton1983@sbcglobal.net



SHSU To be Closed For Labor Day



Classes will not be held and offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. A complete listing of non-academic holidays can be found on Today@Sam's ["Notices"](#) web page.



PARENT RELATIONS
OFFICE

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"The measure of a Life is its Service."

We're on the web
www.shsu.edu/parents

At SHSU we understand the importance of working with parents as part of a student's team and support network. The Parent Relations Office mission is to partner with the community of parents and family members of SHSU students by encouraging students to excel towards academic success and personal development. We recognize that informed, involved parents contribute to student success.

The Parent Relations Office is a under the Dean of Students' Office which is a Division of Student Services. Together with the help of the University community we are here to serve you, the parent or family member of an SHSU student. From the first day until your student applies for graduation please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions about a specific department, student support service, have a concern, or want to know what is going on around campus, we are here for you.

Dean of Students' Office

Sam Houston State University
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Student Activities

Sammypalooza—September 30, 2011

Sammypalooza is now a yearly event that takes place on the campus of Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Co-created by the Recreational Sports Department and Student Activities, it has become the premiere event for SHSU students and is a FREE and exclusive event for the students of SHSU. Featuring music, activities, food, and games, there is nothing like it around and is the must-see event of the school year.

For more information visit
www.sammypalooza.com

President's Speaker Series

The President's Speaker Series will feature Stedman Graham, New York Times Best Selling Author, Educator and Businessman, on Wednesday September 21, at 11:00am in the James and Nancy Gaertner Performing Arts Center. The lecture will focus on personal and professional development, "You Can Make It Happen." A book signing will take place at 2:00pm in the Lowman Student Center Atrium.

