

LSUS student surprises class with new baby daughter during Zoom session

LSU Shreveport senior Alexandria Davenport didn't press pause while waiting to give birth to her daughter during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Like other resilient LSUS students, she transitioned to online-only classes when the Covid-19 pandemic forced LSUS to close the campus in March. At the time, she was juggling a full-time job at Dillard's, classes at LSUS and preparations for motherhood.

When she went into labor on April 14, she made sure her mom grabbed her laptop before they headed to the hospital. Alexandria underwent a C-section and welcomed her daughter Leighton Aria Clark to the world.

The next day – still recovering in the hospital – Alexandria finished

her homework. Two days after having Leighton, she joined the class videoconference from her hospital room. Her instructor, Dr. Helen Wise, and the rest of the class got the surprise of a lifetime.

"Leighton was in her little bin by my bed, so I turned my computer and I showed them," Alexandria said.

Wise said she and students like Alexandria have missed meeting faceto-face for classes. She wondered how Alexandria was doing as her due date approached. Wise said she was excited to see Alexandria's daughter.

"She said she didn't want to miss class and sharing her good news," Wise said.

Alexandria and Leighton remain quarantined at home. She plans to

finish her senior year in the fall.

"Everything I have planned for these months is about my daughter," she said. "You just don't know what your strength is until you have to use it."



Alexandria Davenport and Leighton Aria Clark

Pioneer Heritage Center director crafts, forages during pandemic pause



Pioneer Heritage Center Director Marty Young is restoring artifacts for the center during the Covid-19 pandemic quarantine. He holds the Bobbie C. Hicks Pioneer Heritage Center Endowed Professorship.

Pioneer Heritage Center Director Marty Young has honed his survival skills during the Covid-19 quarantine.

The Pioneer Heritage Center on the LSU Shreveport campus is a living history museum that attracts thousands of visitors each year.

Young fired up his blacksmith forge, hammering out metal trivets, and used vintage hand tools to create wooden crates. The trivets and crates will be part of the living history displays at the center.

"I decided to take this time to do some 'field research'," Young said. "I've always had an idea and a theory that if I'm going to do presentations or living history programs, I should have at least tried a thing or tried to do a thing."

LSUS Foundation connects with technology to hold first virtual annual meeting

LSUS Foundation members logged in, dialed in and linked up via videoconference for the foundation's first-ever virtual annual meeting May 21.

Sixty participants heard updates from LSU System Interim President Tom Galligan and LSUS Chancellor Larry Clark. Both said the university system is pursuing cautious plans to have students back on campus for the fall semester.

During the meeting, board members also heard from Charley Meyer of Plancorp, the financial management company that handles the foundation's assets. Meyer said the foundation's portfolio has regained ground since the stock market hit record lows in March. He said the portfolio is poised for additional growth as the economy recovers from uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic.

Meyer said he's working with the foundation's leadership and LSU



LSUS Foundation members conducted their annual meeting entirely online May 21 as the foundation and university continue following Covid-19 prevention guidelines.

Shreveport officials to guarantee cash flow as the university resumes more normal operations.

Board members - voting via email - unanimously approved 2020-21 officers.



Carey Sullivan, of Shreveport, has been elected president of the LSUS Foundation.

She is SWEPCO's corporate communications director. She is responsible for company communications activities in SWEPCO's three-state service area of northwest and central Louisiana, east and north Texas, and western Arkansas.

Sullivan has held a number of positions with AEP, SWEPCO's parent company, including transmission project outreach strategist, social media manager and principal communications consultant.

Sullivan began her career as a newspaper journalist, has worked in public relations in the education and healthcare fields and served as the marketing director of the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



Dr. Sanda McCalla, of Shreveport, was re-elected as vice president of the LSUS Foundation.

Dr. McCalla was a long-time educator in Caddo Parish public schools. She served as principal at Captain Shreve High School in Shreveport for 30 years before retiring in 2015.

She has also worked as a professor and director of the Division of Education at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches. She has been an adjunct instructor at LSU Shreveport.

Dr. McCalla earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Northwestern State University in 1960. She earned a master's degree in instruction and curriculum with a focus on mathematics and computer sciences from the University of Northern Colorado in 1968. She earned a doctoral degree in education leadership from Texas A&M University in 1987.



Hardy D.
Foreman,
CPA, of
Shreveport, has
been elected
treasurer of
the LSUS
Foundation.

A certified public accountant, Foreman is a Tax Partner/Consultant with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from LSU Shreveport in 1999 and has practiced accounting for more than 20 years. He primarily focuses on oil and gas industry accounting and taxation.

He has been part of an advisory committee for the LSUS College of Busiess. He previously served as President of the Advisory Board to Red River Radio. He is also active in the LSUS Alumni Association, Junior Achievement of North Louisiana and the Shreveport chapter of the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants. In 2008, he was named a 40 Under 40 award winner by the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce.

Call to Action Staying Connected

COVID-19 forced LSU Shreveport and the LSUS Foundation to reconsider the many ways we connect with YOU. We want to stay in touch while ensuring your generously donated dollars go where it matters most-- to LSU Shreveport!

Here's how you can keep up with all things LSU Shreveport and the LSUS Foundation:

- 1. Please sign up for our email newsletter and e-blasts by sending an email to Melody.Brumble@lsus.edu
- 2. Visit the LSUS Foundation website at www.LSUSFoundation.org
- 3. Follow the LSUS Foundation on Facebook

We will get through this together and be stronger for it.



Scan the QR code below to hear LSUS Chancellor Larry Clark's inspiring speech to the 2020 spring graduates.



LSUS professors connect with the community through Quarantine Chats



Dr. Alex Mikaberidze dressed as a plague doctor to illustrate his quarantine chat about the Black Death. He holds the Ruth H. Noel Endowed Chair for the Noel Collection.

Four professors in the LSUS History and Social Sciences Department are engaging people around the world through a series of Quarantine Chats streamed live on Facebook.

The chats have a common theme – how pandemics past and present have influenced history and society – but the professors have touched on a wide range of topics.

Dr. Alex Mikaberidze, dressed as a plague doctor, kicked off the series in March with a talk about the Black Death. Dr. Cheryl White discussed the saintly heroes of the Black Death. Dr. Helen Wise offered advice on being a sensible consumer of information during the pandemic. Dr. Gary Joiner shared parallels between Yellow Fever epidemics, the 1918 Spanish flu outbreak and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The chats are available on the LSUS History and Social Sciences Department Facebook page.

Spring Street Museum staff aims to preserve history as it happens

Spring Street Museum staffers are compiling artifacts and information to preserve the history of the Covid-19 pandemic as it unfolds.

Museum Director Maria Markell and Curator Marty Loschen are identifying items to put in time capsules that will commemorate the pandemic's impact on Shreveport. They're also asking people to share photos, journals and social media posts to document this unprecedented moment in history.

On May 19, LSU Shreveport professor Dr. Cheryl White delivered a quarantine chat from the museum to mark Phase 1 of reopening, which allows employees to return while social distancing in the building.

Please watch the museum's Facebook page for continued virtual exhibits and plans for reopening to the public.



Congratulations 2020 graduates holding LSUS Foundation scholarships!

Brenda Acuna Sandoval

Bill Harwell Memorial Scholarship

Megan Arbuckle

Noel Foundation Transfer Scholarship

Samuel E. Smith Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Junie Barela

AEP/ SWEPCO Foundation Computer Science Scholarship

Noel Foundation Junior/Senior Scholarship

Connor Bass

Noel Foundation Graduate

Natalie Bianco

John & Joanna Magale Endowed Scholarship for Liberal Arts

Ariana Boyd

Noel Foundation Junior/Senior Scholarship

Alexus Brown

John & Joanna Magale Endowed Scholarship for Education and Human Development

Taylor Brunson

Noel Foundation Junior/Senior Scholarship

Annsley Bundy

New Pilot Scholarship for Transfer Students

Alysia Cannon

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Sciences

Lauren Carney

Porter "Court" Crow Scholarship

Andres Carrasquilla

LSU-S Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship for Business Noel Foundation Junior/Senior

Scholarship

Jaimie Clampitt

AEP/ SWEPCO Foundation Computer Science Scholarship

Lindsay Colligan

Earl Gray and Dorothy Adams McCalla Endowed Scholarship in Education Educational Leadership Graduate

Fellowship in Memory of Betsy and Martha Trusty

James Davies

Matel & Bessie Hall Dawson Endowed Scholarship

Louise Duffy

Matel & Bessie Hall Dawson Endowed Scholarship

Shelby Dupuy

John & Joanna Magale Endowed Scholarship for Liberal Arts

Blake Duschel

AEP/ SWEPCO Foundation Computer Science Scholarship

Katelyn Ebarb

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Community Health

Kaici Gordon

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Sciences

Ashton Hamm

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Computer Science

Austin Helms

KPMG Peat Marwick Main Endowed Scholarship S. Berton Heard Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Albert Krause

LSU-S Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship for Sciences

Tarah Lockard

George A. Khoury, Jr. Endowed Scholarship

LSU-S Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship for Education and Human Development

Andrew Lowe

Noel Foundation Transfer Scholarship

Bijay Maharjan

AEP/ SWEPCO Foundation Computer Science Scholarship

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Computer Science

Noel Foundation Junior/Senior Scholarship

Tyler Maizels

Community Foundation Endowed Scholarship in American Studies

Drue McInnis

Jimmie N. Smith Endowed Graduate Scholarship

AnneDanielle Nardo

John & Joanna Magale Endowed Scholarship for Sciences

Nardo-Neal Dlin Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Richard Perez

Cole, Evans, Peterson Scholarship in Accounting

S. Berton Heard Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Lauren Perot

B.E. Tabarlet Endowed Scholarship

George A. Khoury, Jr. Endowed Scholarship

Lujien Sallam

AEP/ SWEPCO Foundation Computer Science Scholarship

J. P. Morgan Chase Endowed Scholarship in the College of Sciences

Mary Talamayan

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Community Health

Jared Wolf

Annie Lowe Stiles Scholarship in Computer Science

J. P. Morgan Chase Endowed Scholarship in the College of Sciences

Misty Wood

Matel & Bessie Hall Dawson Endowed Scholarship

THANK YOU for supporting the privately funded scholarships that help LSU Shreveport students achieve their dreams!