Community Surveys:
On March 22nd and April 5th, USM Social Work students and community members paired to conduct community surveys in East Hattiesburg for the E3 Health Initiative project being conducted by Dr. Richard and the City of Hattiesburg.

"Joining with the City of Hattiesburg and USM to conduct community surveys was an awesome opportunity to have direct contact with people in the community. I was able to talk with them in a relational manner in order to assess the community health needs from their perspective. It was the quintessential example of 'going where the client is.'" - Brittany Bayless

"I was teamed with two sweet ladies from the community named Mary and Jackie. I found this experience to be an eye opener for the needs of our community. I was surprised to learn of even the smallest things that affect the people of the community, both positively and negatively. I felt a sense of being connected with the community. It also motivated me and assured me to be in the field of social work and continue to strive toward my goal to help make changes. I enjoyed this experience and my time with my partners and the community" - Kelsey Courtney
What's going on this week?

In the school:
Congratulations to Sherry Gilkey on finishing her first half marathon on Saturday, April 5 - torn tendon and all!

Congratulations to Dr. Jerome Kolbo who received USM's Interdisciplinary Research Award at the Faculty Awards Recognition Reception and Ceremony on Friday, April 4, 2014!

Congratulations to Lisa Mann for being recognized for her work as a
College of Health Ambassador, Tina Johnson and Lori King (MSW Advanced Standing students) for academic excellence, and Melissa Ambrosino Kirkup for the College of Health Graduate Research Award!

Congratulations to Melissa Ambrosino Kirkup and Nicole Werle on co-authoring the latest findings of the Child and Youth Prevalence of Overweight Survey published in the Mississippi Medical Journal.

‘Save the date’ for our 10th Annual School of Social Work banquet ‘All People Matter’ on Friday, April 25th at 6pm in the Thad Cochran Ballrooms I and II. RSVP by April 17th! Starting April 9th, see Ms. Delories Williams or Sherry Gilkey to purchase $15 tickets.

**New Licensure Prep FB Page:**
A Facebook group has been created to promote an ongoing online community of learning while supporting the students as they organize study groups, exchange ideas, and discuss test related topics, related to the licensure exam. The Facebook group is called Mississippi SW Licensure Prep and can be found at this [link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mississippiswlicensureprep/).

**Engagement Zone**
The Engagement Zone is an enrichment and academic extracurricular opportunity for students looking for more out of their education.

Save the Date for the first Community Services Day: Saturday, April 26th! More information to follow. If you are interested and would like to request more information, contact: [allan.rowe@eagles.usm.edu](mailto:allan.rowe@eagles.usm.edu).

**SASW Club**
Next meeting for SASW is April 8th. Last meeting before Diversity Dash! Please bring your own lunch to this meeting.

On campus:
Sports:
The Golden Eagles Baseball team is having impressive season thus far. They currently have 18 wins and 14 losses. They have won 10 out of the last 13 games. The boys currently won their last game against Middle Tennessee State on Saturday, April 5 with a final score of 7-0. The next game will be on Wednesday, April 8 against Mississippi State at 6:30 p.m.

The Lady Eagle Softball team is having a little bit more of a bumpy ride. They have a 19 win 20 loss record. They lost their last game against East Carolina (ECU) on Saturday, April 5 with a final score of 5-1. They will play ECU again on Sunday, April 6 at 11:00 a.m.

SMAC:
Diversity Dash
THIS SATURDAY
April 12, 2014 10am
Centennial Green
Click here for a registration form

Kramer Entertainment will be hosting Family Feud Game Show Night in Seymours on Tuesday, April 29. Team registration will end on Monday, April 21. Four outstanding grad students and another one that is pretty run of the mill will be entering under the team name The Social Twerkers. We encourage as many teams as we can get from the Social Work Department. Hope to see you there.

Since February 1, the Human Rights Campaign has been conducting a survey in an effort to understand the experiences and struggles of LGBT people living in Mississippi and throughout the country. In addition, there will be community meetings planned throughout the state in order to share the results of the survey with LGBT people and allies in various cities. A meeting is planned for Hattiesburg along other meetings in Tupelo, Jackson, and Gulfport in late April. HRC is also partnering with various organizations in order to have as broad an audience as possible. Organizations supporting the Hattiesburg meeting, include The Dandelion Project, Equality Mississippi, My Brother’s Keeper, Inc. The meeting is scheduled for April 25, at 6 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Building on the USM campus, room 103. All students and faculty are encouraged to attend.

In the community:
The Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention is hosting a fundraiser at Marlin’s Grill on Monday, April 7th. All day, 10% of sales go to support this great cause. The Shafer Center is a non-profit organization that counsels victims of sexual assault as well as secondary victims of homicide and suicide. Call or email in your orders on the 7th and help support The Shafer Center!

BSW Club
We are SO excited for our Profit Share Night at Qdoba. It will be April 15th from 5–10! Please come out and support the wonderful agency Lifesupport. For every person who purchases a meal that night mentions the BSW club, we will get 15% of the transaction donated! Please bring your families and help support a great cause! Our next meeting will be April 17th. Also, Social Work Banquet tickets will go on sale Wednesday. They are $15 per person. It will be in the Thad Cochran Center.
BSW Club Meeting will be this Tuesday at 11:45 in Holloway D. Pack a lunch or grab lunch quickly, because we have lots to talk about! We will be passing around signup sheets for volunteering at the Diversity Dash in Hattiesburg on the 12th, as well as the USM Jazz and Blues Fest on the 19th. For April's service project, we will be collecting duffel bags and backpacks for Hope Haven, to be given to children in foster care. Please start bringing in new or gently used bags for this.

April 6-12th is National Crime Victim's Rights Week! Please join us on Tuesday April 8th at 6:30pm to support and honor crime victims in our community. Information will be available about restoring the balance of justice: protecting the rights of victims and providing resources needed. Event will be held at St. Thomas Church Fellowship Hall 3117 West 4th Street Hattiesburg, MS 39401. For additional information contact 601.264.7777.

Staff Spotlight
Ms. Ruth Travis
Custodian

Bio: Ms. Ruth was born and raised in Hattiesburg, MS, with most of her family still residing in the area. She has worked at USM for 20 years. She raised her nieces and nephew, but has no children of her own. Ms. Ruth believes life is so much better when you live to bless others.

What is one random thing about you?
I love Jesus.

What is your favorite thing about USM's School of Social Work?
It seems like we are one big family, and we always help each other out.

Scholarships:

BSW Scholarship:
The NASW, MS Chapter Pine
Belt Program Unit will award their annual scholarship to a USM School of Social Work BSW student this year at the school's annual banquet. Students can pick up an application in the tray on Ms. Williams' office door. The amount of the Scholarship is $300.00. If you have any questions, call Ms. Williams at 601 266 5915.

To be eligible for the scholarship the applicant must:
1. Be a BSW student from The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg campus
2. Have been accepted into the BSW Social Work program
3. Have an overall 3.0 or above grade point average
4. Be a member of NASW, MS Chapter
5. Be a resident of the state of Mississippi

The deadline to submit your application is April 11, 2014.

MSW Scholarship:
The American Clinical Social Work Association (ACSWA) is offering a student scholarship. The Judith Holm Memorial Student Awards go to final-year master's students based on a paper competition “which recounts the process of one of their field-placement interventions and demonstrates readiness to enter professional practice”. The award amount is $2,000 and applications are due April 30, 2014. Details are on the ACSWA website (http://acswa.org/content/2014-judith-holm-memorial-student-awards).

If you had one request to make to the students in the SW program, What would it be?
Shake your umbrella before you come in (if it is raining), and push your chairs up to the table after class.

What are your dreams for the future?
To relax and enjoy retirement!

Writing Center
FG Hall Rm 202
601-266-4163

Need help with APA style? Want someone to edit your paper? Need assistance navigating the research databases?

Open to Pre-Social Work and BSW students!

Hours
Sunday 2-7pm
Monday 5-9pm
Tuesday 8-9am & 6-9pm
Wednesday 5-9:30pm
Thursday 12:15-1pm & 4-9pm
Friday 8am-12pm
If you have any information that you'd like included in the newsletter, please send an email to alexandria.camp@eagles.usm.edu