

# Class of 2010



## Senior Student and Parent Informational Meeting

January 27, 2010

**Financial Aid Presentation immediately  
following this meeting at 7:30 pm.**

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# Welcome

- **Kim Kindell**, Rotary Futures Program
- **Bill Mowry**, Assistant Principal
- **Nicole Wolfe**, Senior Activities Director
- **Project Graduation** ☺
- **Financial Aid Presentation**
  - Immediately following the Senior Meeting (7:30 pm)

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## Bill Mowry Assistant Principal

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# “Senioritis”

(seen – yer – ayh – tis) noun.

A crippling disease that strikes high school seniors. Symptoms include: laziness, an over-excessive wearing of old athletic shirts, sweatpants, athletic shorts, and sweatshirts. Also features a lack of studying, repeated absences, and a generally dismissive attitude. The only known cure is a phenomenon known as **Graduation**.

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## Nicole Wolfe Senior Activities Director

941-488-6726  
Nicole\_Wolfe@  
sarasota.k12.fl.us

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# Graduation Pictures

- Bryn-Alan Studios will be on campus on February 25<sup>th</sup> taking senior pictures.
- Students will be photographed in a cap and gown.
- Students must sign up with Mr. Remo in building 8 room 1.

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## Grad Nite 2010

- Senior only party at Magic Kingdom
- Buses leave VHS at 7pm and return to VHS at approximately 7am.
- Cost is \$75 per student
- Includes admission to park and transportation.
- Tickets can be purchased March 8-19 in Guidance.

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## Senior Prom

- Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Ritz Carlton
- \$75 - \$80 per ticket
- Dinner and dessert included

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## Graduation Week

- **Tuesday**, June 1<sup>st</sup>- MANDATORY student meeting
- **Wednesday**, June 2<sup>nd</sup>- Baccalaureate Ceremony
- **Friday**, June 4<sup>th</sup>- Rehearsal 8-11am

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## Graduation

- 8pm in Powell-Davis Stadium
- Gates open at 7pm
- Graduates must arrive by 6:30pm.

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## Cap and Gown

- Payment is past due!
- See me immediately!

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- After graduation, donate your cap and gown to a student in need for the class of 2011. Drop off to guidance.

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**Project Graduation**  
**Julie Scarry**  
**Denise Freeman**

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## Project Graduation

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Year for Venice High students!!!
- A safe, fun-filled, all-night party for VHS graduating seniors (only) immediately following commencement (May 29<sup>th</sup>)
  - 10:30 pm – 5:00 am at the Venice YMCA
  - Must arrive by 11:30 pm
  - Food, drink, games, prizes!
- Purpose: To prevent circumstances that could threaten the future of our graduates while recognizing their need to celebrate this wonderful accomplishment.
- Many exciting prizes including gas cards, MP3 players, TVs, microwaves, a computer, and \$500 scholarships.
- Cost is \$5. Everything else is FREE to VHS seniors!!!

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## Project Graduation

- **Volunteers needed!**
- **Contact**
  - Denise Freeman, 350-5518, mfree101@msn.com

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**Kim Kindell**

Director

**Rotary Futures Program**

[www.rotaryfutures.org](http://www.rotaryfutures.org)

Kim\_Kindell@sarasota.K12.FL.US

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## Fund Raiser for Seniors

- Earn funds for Prom, Cap & Gown, Grad Night
- Capri Isles Men's Association Golf Tournament – March 24, 2010
- Sell Hole Sponsor Signs - \$50 each
  - Due February 28th
- All the money will come back to VHS to help seniors with senior expenses
  - 2 Signs = 1 Prom Ticket
  - 2 Signs = 1 Grad Night Ticket
  - 1 Sign = Cap and Gown
- Contact Ms. MaryKay Mack – Room 35-002

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## GOOD NEWS: There is still time to apply ...

- Remember, many of these schools fill-up prior to their deadlines, so do not delay.
  - Upcoming Deadlines
    - \*MCC: apply online now
    - \*FAMU: May 15<sup>th</sup>
    - \*FAU: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> priority
    - \*FGCU: Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> priority
    - \*FIU: March 1<sup>st</sup>—if space avail.
    - NCF: Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> priority, April 15<sup>th</sup>
    - \*UCF: May 1<sup>st</sup>
    - \*UNF: June 1<sup>st</sup>
    - \*USF: March 1<sup>st</sup>
    - \*UWF: June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Flagler: March 1<sup>st</sup>  
\*Fla. Inst. of Technology  
Tampa: March 1<sup>st</sup>, space avail.  
Saint Leo: March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Stetson: March 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* Rolling Admission

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual South Sarasota County

### College Night

Sponsored by **Ed & Barbara Strobel Fund** of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice

Monday, March 1, 2010

Venice High School

Gymnasium

6 p.m.

Open to all area students!

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## Housing

- Housing at many colleges/universities fill up very early.
- Good housing is hard to get for freshman, first come, first serve!
- Apply & pay deposit TODAY!!
- Most schools offer a refund if your student is not accepted to that university or if you cancel by a certain date.

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## SAT / ACT / CPT Tests

- These scores are important for both Bright Futures and other scholarships
- Students attending Community College that DO NOT take an ACT or SAT should take a CPT **PRIOR** to graduation.

### Schedule CPT with Community College

#### Upcoming Test Dates:

- SAT: March 13, May 1, & June 5  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- ACT: February 6 (*standby*), April 10, June 12  
[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

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## Community Service

- Is **NOT** required for graduation
- All Bright Futures community service requires a plan be approved prior to beginning volunteering.
- We encourage you to turn in all currently completed plans to the Rotary Futures Program as soon as possible for final approval.
- Then, the completed packet with signatures must be turned in to Mrs. McMahon in Guidance.
- Great opportunity for a .5 or 1.0 elective credit.

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## Financial Aid Night

**Immediately following  
this meeting...**

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## Types of Aid

- Federal Aid / FAFSA
  - Pell Grant, Stafford Loan, Perkins Loan
- State Aid
  - Bright Futures, FRAG
- Private Scholarships
  - Use Rotary Futures Program scholarship database
- Institutional Aid
  - Aid from the college you will be attending

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## FAFSA [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

- **Free** Application for **Federal Student Aid**
- Everyone should consider completing it regardless of your financial situation.
- Many scholarship/ grants consider FAFSA results, so complete it early!
- Complete your taxes ASAP. This doesn't require that you file, just complete your worksheet.
- [www.FAFSA4caster.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA4caster.ed.gov) - Estimate

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## Bright Futures

Florida Financial Aid Application

- Every senior at VHS should apply now!
- 3 years to collect Bright Futures award but **MUST** complete the application **BY** graduation (5/29/09).
- You do not need to meet Bright Futures requirements at this time—just by GRADUATION.
- **The application is for other state aid, also.**
- Apply at the Rotary Futures portable or [https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/ua/sawstua\\_uaform.asp](https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/ua/sawstua_uaform.asp)

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## Florida Bright Futures Scholarships

- **Official Website**
  - <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/>
  - Google “Florida Bright Futures”
- **In 1997, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.**
- **Summer 2009 – Changes to the award amounts**

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## Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- **Three levels of awards**
  - **Florida Academic Scholars Award**
    - Formerly referred to as “100% Bright Futures”
    - 4 year award
  - **Florida Medallion Scholars Award**
    - Formerly referred to as “75% Bright Futures”
    - 4 year award
  - **Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award**
    - 3 year award
    - Requires specific CTE coursework

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## Florida Academic Scholar

- Formerly referred to the “100%” Bright Futures
- Awards approx. \$2,900 - \$3,800 per year
- Requirements needed by GRADUATION
  - 3.5 GPA in 15 core academic subjects
    - 4 English, 3 Math, 3 Science, 3 Soc. Studies, 2 Foreign Lang.
  - 1270 SAT (reading + math) OR 28 ACT
  - ½ credit of community service
- **Only Bright Futures scholarship that requires the ½ credit of community service!**
- Must maintain 3.0 GPA in college

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## Florida Medallion Scholar

- Formerly referred to the “75%” Bright Futures
- Awards approx. \$2,400 - \$2,900 per year
- Requirements needed by GRADUATION
  - 3.0 GPA in 15 core academic subjects
    - 4 English, 3 Math, 3 Science, 3 Soc. Studies, 2 Foreign Lang.
  - 970 SAT (reading + math) OR 20 ACT
- No Community Service Requirement
- Must maintain a 2.75 GPA in college

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## Gold Seal Vocational Scholars

- 3 year scholarship
- Awards approx. \$1,500 - \$2,900 per year
- Requirements needed by GRADUATION
  - 3.0 GPA in 16 core academic subjects
    - Does NOT include Foreign Language
    - Includes Fine or Practical Art and HOPE
  - **PLUS 3.5 GPA in 3 SPECIFIC vocational classes in a “program”**
  - 440 SAT Reading, 440 SAT Math OR...
  - ACT English 17, Reading 18, Math 19 OR...
  - CPT Reading 83, Sentence Skills 83, Algebra 72
- No Community Service Requirement

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## GPA Calculation

- **15 highest grades**
  - 4 highest English grades
  - 3 highest Math grades (above Algebra 1)
  - 3 highest Science grades
  - 3 highest Social Studies grades
  - 2 highest **Foreign Language** credits
- Up to 3 additional academic courses meeting the criteria may be counted if student's GPA is increased.
- **Gold Seal – Foreign Language not required**

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## Bright Futures GPA Calculation

- **The Bright Futures GPA is not the GPA on YOUR report card!**
- **Calculated on ACADEMICS ONLY**
  - English, Math, Science, Social Studies, & Foreign Language
- Honors and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses are weighted .5 and AP courses are weighted 1 credit
- GPAs are not rounded!

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## Eligible Post-Secondary Institutions

- All Florida public post-secondary vocational-technical institutions, community colleges, and universities.
- Private in-state institutions eligible if accredited or licensed by accepted accrediting associations.
- **Bright Futures website:**  
[www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf)
- Google "Florida Bright Futures"

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## Once Initial Eligibility Determined...

- Eligible student information electronically transmitted to Dept. of Education at end of seventh semester and at end of June
- Bureau of Student Financial Assistance notifies student regarding eligibility status **by email**
- Student eligibility posted on Internet for colleges
- BSFA funds institutions and tracks student progress

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## Florida Department of Education Communications

- Follow-up with communications
  - Email after application is submitted online
    - ✓ Save User Name and PIN
  - Should receive preliminary notification in March or April
- Communicate with college/university financial aid office

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## Local Scholarships

- RFP scholarship databases holds over 900 scholarships.
- **PLAN AHEAD!** Applications can be time consuming.
- **GET ORGANIZED!**
- **BE CAREFUL OF DEADLINE DATES.**
- Plan for scholarships which have deadlines that fall during Spring Break. Must get official transcripts before Spring Break!

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## Local Scholarships - Continued

- Health Career scholarships overlooked in the past!!!
  - Sarasota Memorial due February 15<sup>th</sup>!
  - Auxiliary of Doctors Hospital due April 1<sup>st</sup>!
- Community Foundation of Sarasota County
  - **DUE March 1<sup>st</sup>** – online now, [www.cfsarasota.org](http://www.cfsarasota.org)
  - Click on "Scholarships, Traditional Student Scholarships"
  - **Must provide copy of parents 2009 Income Tax Return (do not have to file yet)**
  - **Over \$50,000 awarded to VHS Seniors last year!**

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## Local Scholarships - Continued

- Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice
  - **DUE March 17<sup>th</sup>** – online now!
  - [www.gulfcoastcf.org](http://www.gulfcoastcf.org)
  - **Must have completed the FAFSA**
  - Over \$30,000 awarded to VHS Seniors last year!
- State College of Florida Foundation (formerly MCC)
  - **Due March 14<sup>th</sup>**
  - [www.scffoundation.net](http://www.scffoundation.net)
  - Must have applied to MCC and completed FAFSA
- State College of Florida
  - Paper application will be available in Rotary Futures
  - Must have applied to SCF and completed FAFSA

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## Institutional Aid

- To be eligible for institutional aid, most colleges require:
  - That you have been accepted
  - That you have completed the FAFSA (sometimes even for merit-based aid)
- Check with your college's financial aid office.
- Be aware of deadlines! Many schools use February or March deadlines for FAFSA

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## Senior Awards Night Thursday, May 27, 2010, 7 pm

- Students are responsible for reporting **ALL** scholarship offers. (**Blue report form** is available in the Rotary Futures Program, portable 1405.)
- **PLEASE** report all scholarships—even scholarships you will not accept.
- Only scholarships you **ARE** accepting will be included in Awards Night.
- Students must report scholarships **by May 4<sup>th</sup>**, to be included in the Awards Night program.
- Professional attire will be required!

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## Requests for Information

- Any information that you request from a faculty member of VHS must be given **AT LEAST 10 working days ahead of time.**
  - This includes letters of recommendation, school data surveys, and recommendation forms
  - Transcript requests require **5 working days.**

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## Graduation Requirements

- It is the **STUDENT's** responsibility to assure they have met all graduation requirements.
- Guidance counselors are here to help you help yourself.
- Please review your transcript and meet with your guidance counselor regarding any concerns.

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**Do not hesitate to contact us:**

**VHS Phone – 488-6726**

**VHS Email Directory**

(from VHS Home Page, click on Directory)

**[www.SARASOTA.K12.FL.US/VHS](http://www.SARASOTA.K12.FL.US/VHS)**

**Tonight's PowerPoint and Financial Aid  
information will be on the VHS website.**

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