

Special points of interest:

- Where are they now, Past Recipients
- History of the Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund
- What's Next for the Scholarship Fund and Board!
- Every gift of every size counts at ELBSF

Volume 1, Issue 2

June 24, 2011

Editor-in-Chief
Leo J. Morris, Jr.

A letter from the Chair's Desk

As we enter into the 4th year of the existence of the Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund, I am proud to report that we have provided Scholarships for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years. Because of our commitment to Education, we have provided Scholarship money and, thus far, we are fulfilling our Mission to assist deserving students in furthering their educational aspirations.

I believe that anyone desiring to further their education to college/trade school should be given an opportunity to do so. With that in mind, the Ethel L. Banks (ELB) Scholarship Fund was created in 2007. I am committed to helping make the process for College/Trade School educational opportunity for prospective students available.

In spite of the difficult economical climate existing today, we will continue to offer and provide Scholarship money to help ease the burden of the cost of education for our Children. Remember that our focus is always about the Children. For they are our future! I want to thank the ELB Board of Directors for their energy, time, generosity and commitment to the ELB Fund. Let's work to expand our efforts.

Sincerely

Leo Morris, Sr., Founder and Chairman

The Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees | 2008-2012

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We would like to thank our trustees for their continued service to ensure that we continue to provide scholarships to the students who are in need for our help. Our trustees are valuable to the continued success of the fund's mission. The upcoming year will prove to be a year of need for tens of thousands of incoming- freshman for college scholarships.

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History of the Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund

Become Active with the Ethel L. Bank Scholarship Fund—We are looking for talented individuals just like you!

Born in 1888, Mrs. Ethel L. Banks was a funny lady with a huge character and personality. She was well known in the little East Texas town of Marshall. Having raised six children, she instilled a sense of education and scholarship to help them get beyond their current circumstances. Through this same admiration to see others have a fair chance to obtain a higher education, Leo Morris, Sr. founded a non-profit, 501 (c)(3), in 2007, Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund. With \$1,000 and additional personal financing, an idea to help those less fortunate became a reality. Since its founding, the scholarship has provided two



outstanding individuals with a scholarship; if had not been awarded, these students would not have been able to focus on their studies, as Rutherford Sanford testifies, "I am so

appreciative for the "Ethel L Banks Scholarship Fund" for with out this scholarship it would have been a much stressful and challenging semester. " This statement exemplifies the purpose behind giving back to the next generation. Year after year, our dedicated Board of Directors have poured endless effort in gathering donations through fundraisers, pledges, and endless giving donors such as Sharon Massengale and Jewel Patterson. We are looking forward to increasing the availability of the fund by continuing the expansion of the fund's goals. We are more focused than ever to Climb, Lift and Build but first we all must Believe!

What's next for the Scholarship Fund and Board

There are new horizons for the upcoming 2011 – 2012 school year. The scholarship fund is as geared up to faced the challenges of securing and building the scholarship then ever. There have been many changes since the initial 2007 scholarship board which consisted of Nedra Sanford,

Norma Morris, Marcus Morris, Tammie Martin, and Linda Gaskin. At this point of its life, the scholarship has gained momentum and a presence. It is now out of the developmental stage as it is in the process of adding new programs to continue the enhancement in its presence and relationship in the

community. Community Relations Director, Leo Morris, Jr. adds, " We are taking the necessary steps today to ensure that we are able to provide the needed resources for in-coming freshman." The fund will unveil a new research project which will include a major role by its current scholarship recipients.

A Dollar A Day



Nearly 1/4 of the U.S. population owes a collective \$700 billion in student loan debt. We are committed to helping more students graduate from college with less debt. A gift of just \$1 a day -- for a week, for a month, or for a year -- can help ensure that students are able to achieve their goals

50 years ago, Dr. Irving A. Fradkin, an optometrist in Fall River, Mass., had a simple idea: if everyone in his community donated just \$1, they could send every student to college.

That idea has grown into the ELB Scholarship. We are looking to build Dollars for Scholars chapters. Join the movement by donating a dollar a day—for a week, for a month, or for a year. Change a life. Change our nation.



Six Possible Reasons Why College Seems More Expensive Today

1. College is worth more, so universities charge more

The income gap between people who have college degrees and those who don't has widened, making college degrees more valuable. Therefore, institutions can rationalize increasing their fees.

2. The cost of high-end labor has increased

Colleges rely on a highly educated workforce, which has become more expensive since the 1970s.

3. Colleges don't compete on price – they compete on academic reputation

Hiring a “star professor” costs a lot of money, as do better amenities, which have become increasingly important to prospective students.

4. Decline in state financing for education

Between 1980 and 2010, state investment in higher education declined by 41 percent.

5. The cost of running a university is rising faster than the consumer price index

Scholarly journals have gone up in price by 200 percent over the last 20 years. Technology must also be updated continuously to keep up with the competition.

6. Labor productivity in basic manufacturing has soared, but higher education remains an artisanal industry

In other industries, like basic manufacturing, technological advances have greatly improved labor productivity. This doesn't do a university any good when students interacting directly with professors and other students in small groups remain a benchmark of quality in education.

Where are they now, Past Recipients

We plan to keep track of all our past recipients so that “you” the donor can see how your donations are being used. Our recipients have proven that it is worth the hassle to give because it is well worth the headache.

Rutherford N. Sanford IV

Reigning as the first recipient of the Ethel L. Banks Scholarship, Rutherford N. Sanford IV has shown the fund how the mission can further scholarly learning. After graduating from Westside High School in 2009, Rutherford, better known as “Nate”, decided to attend Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Nate states that regarding which university to attend, there were a few choices that he could have made. However, his main choice was K-State's Wildcats. There was a drawback. It would be a little easier for him to attend the school if he was able to secure additional financial assistance. Nate is a Hotel and Restaurant Management major with a Business minor. He is an active member on campus as the Chair of the Hospitality Management Society. He is on the Big 12 counsel planning committee for 2013 and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha. As a

second semester student, Nate has earned a 3.33 GPA. Besides having worked for Disney for a semester, Nate



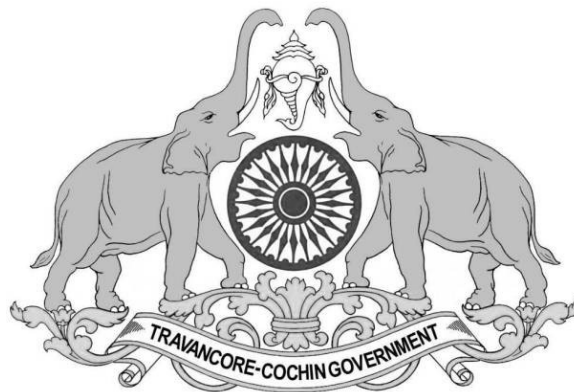
enjoys swimming, working and playing in the snow. We asked Nate to tell us about his Ethel L. Banks Scholarship experience, “Nov 29, 2007 this is the day when

“A panel of economists officially declared that the United States is in a recession.”...**Scholarships** became all I can think about, where can I find one? How much can they give me? What do I need to do to get one? These are a few of the many questions I found myself asking on a Daily basis.. the **Game Changer**. The “**Ethel L Banks Scholarship**”, a new scholarship to help young minds, gets to and afford college. The money I received from this scholarship allowed me to buy books and other studying materials for my upcoming semester at college. I am so appreciative for the “**Ethel L Banks Scholarship Fund**” for with out this scholarship it would have been a more stressful and challenging semester.”

Cherry Peyton

After graduating from California's Thomas Jefferson High School in 2007, Cherry Peyton chose Alabama's oldest (Private) Historically Black Liberal Art College, Talladega College. Started by two former slaves in 1865, Talladega College commitment as stated by Savery and Tarrant, “We regard the education of our children and youth as vital to the preservation of our liberties...” After sending in her Ethel L. Banks Scholarship application, Cherry had no idea that she would get a response back. She was overjoyed when she received the mail response. Cherry is a Junior Accounting major with a minor in Management. Her hobbies are reading and writing. So we caught up with Cherry to get a story of her college experience

before and after the \$500 scholarship. She writes, “Money is highly beneficial to everyone in



the world. Money is used for many things, including bills, food, clothing, and in my case, tuition. This past school year, I received the Ethel L. Banks scholarship for \$500. It was beneficial to me because at the time, I did not have a job at all. I was discouraged because I didn't have a clue as to how I was going to get my school supplies.

To top it off, I attend school out of state in Alabama, and I didn't even have the money for my plane ticket!!! So the scholarship came in handy in both of those situations. It allowed me to get any stress off my mind, and contribute to school at the same time.

Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to be an actress. I wanted to write my own screenplay, and star in the movie. Writing and reading are my two best hobbies. But of course, I needed a back up plan. So I did what no one expected me to do. I enrolled into college. I went out of state so that I could concentrate on my studies without distractions. Now, my major is Accounting, with a minor in Management. My goals are to graduate from college....”

The Ethel L. Banks Scholarship

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*Helping Today /
Shape Tomorrow*

About Us

The Ethel L. Banks Scholarship Fund (ELBSF) promotes higher education of underprivileged Americans by distributing scholarships for qualified students going to college. Established in 2007, ELBSF has already earned the support of many businesses, partnering with non-profits and organizations.

Mission Statement

To forge partnerships building a leading Scholarship organization that supports and encourages all students to pursue higher education, thereby developing future leaders who will contribute back to their communities, and ultimately, strengthening America.

Vision

Our vision is to see that all high school students who wish to pursue higher education have that opportunity, regardless of their ethnicity, national origin or financial means.

Every gift of every size counts at ELBSF

Donor Categories

Foundation Club - Donors of at least \$10,000 have their name engraved on a brass nameplate displayed permanently in the Foundation Club category.

Founders Club - Donors of at least \$1,000 are recognized as members of the Founders Club.

President's Club - Donors of at least \$500 for three consecutive years are designated as members of the President's Club.

Contributors Club - Donors of at least \$250 are recognized as members of the Contributors Club.

Friends of the Scholarship - Donors of amounts up to \$250 are recognized as Friends of the Scholarship.

All contributions are appreciated and disbursed as designated by the donor. The exact amount of a contribution is kept confidential unless the donor wishes the amount to be publicized.

Founders Club

Leo J. Morris Sr.

President's Club

Sharon Massengale

Jewel Patterson

Jo Ann Morris

Friends of the Scholarship

Ruthie Reed

Leo J Morris Jr.