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Rich history remembered

Chris Butler, Reporter
06-12-2009

Attention all Ruston High School graduates — members of that school's alumni association want some of your high school memorabilia.

Catherine Letendre, the school's freshman academic coordinator, suggested earlier this year that alumni association members start collecting memorabilia from as many RHS graduates as possible. Alumni association members already have collected some memorabilia from past and present students, and they have placed most of it on display in the school's teacher's lounge.

Letendre and alumni association members need more items, however, and ask past students to send their memorabilia to the high school.

RHS graduates can donate yearbooks, school newspapers, band memorabilia and old pictures of Ruston High School, in addition to many other school-related items, said Jack Thigpen, alumni association president.

"We are not just looking for just sports memorabilia only," Thigpen said.

A Bossier City resident who graduated from the school many years ago has already told alumni association members that he will donate a football trophy he won while playing for the school in 1946, Letendre said.

Letendre attended Byrd High School and helped organize a similar project there, according to a statement from the alumni association.

Items already on display in the teacher's lounge include duffel bags with the name "Ruston High School" emblazoned on them, basketball uniforms and a T-shirt from the 1980s celebrating the school's state football championship. The display also includes a maroon and white letter jacket from the late 1950s. The school's colors changed to red and white around 1961, Thigpen said.

RHS alumni may always come to the school and visit the display on special occasions, such as homecoming events or reunions, he said.

Graduates may also lend the items if they wish, instead of donating them, he said.

"In the future years, if the person would like to have it back, then we would be willing to give it back to them," Thigpen said.

Alumni association members are asking that people with memorabilia contact Letendre as soon as possible. People who donate or loan any items must attach their name and address to the item.



Anyone who donates an item will receive it back, upon request, according to the alumni association.

Want to donate?

To donate or loan RHS memorabilia to the school or for more information, contact Catherine Letendre at 255-0807 or e-mail cletendre@lincolnschools.org.

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