

COUNSELOR'S CORNER —

December 2009

High School Guidance
Sue Lamour, Counselor
Jennifer Conrad, Guidance Assistant

PROGRESS REPORTS

Interim progress reports for the second quarter were mailed on November 20. These reports are prepared for each student and list the current class grade. If you do not receive this report, please call the guidance office and we will send a copy to you.

GRADE CARDS

The last school day for the first term will be December 18, 2009. Students will receive their grade cards in school on January 8.

SOPHOMORES

Four County Career Center Visit — Sophomores who have an interest in attending Four County Career Center have signed up to visit on the morning of December 4. School bus transportation will be provided. Each student will have the opportunity to take part in two vocation presentations. Students will return to Evergreen for lunch.

SENIORS

Check Out the Web — Families with internet access should check out the web site for the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (www.finaid.org). The services included on this web site have been cleared by the financial aid community, and should be legitimate sources of correct information.

FAFSA Forms — Information regarding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms for the 2010-11 school year is available in the guidance office. You may not file the form until after January 1, 2010. This form is required for any student receiving any type of financial aid for college. The FAFSA may be submitted one of two ways: either directly online at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov or by downloading and printing the PDF version and mailing it in for processing. Completing the online version is highly recommended. A worksheet and directions to help families with both versions of the

FAFSA form is available in the guidance office. Seniors will meet with Mrs. Lamour and Mrs. Conrad during enrichment on December 8 and these forms will be distributed.

If completing the FAFSA on the web, the US Department of Education suggests the student and a parent request a Personal Identification Number (PIN) now at www.pin.ed.gov. This will speed up the financial aid application process. The PIN may be used as an electronic signature for FAFSA on the Web, Renewal FAFSA and Corrections on the Web, and to access the National Student Loan Data System. It is very important that this PIN # be kept confidential because access to the PIN allows access to all of the financial information you submit on the FAFSA form.

Scholarship Opportunities — Seniors who are college bound should continue to visit the guidance office to gather information regarding scholarships and financial aid. Scholarship lists have been emailed to all EHS seniors and a list is posted on the District's website at www.evergreen.k12.oh.us/hsweb. New scholarships arrive daily — check it out!!!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ashley Jones has been accepted to Defiance College.

Chase Cox has been accepted to Lourdes College.

Kelsey O'Neil has been accepted to Adrian College.

Tiffany Dowling has been admitted to Eastern Michigan University.

Cassie Babcock has been granted admission to Adrian College.

Michael Fischer has been accepted to Adrian College and Bowling Green State University. Michael has also been awarded a BGSU Centennial Scholarship award valued at \$20,000 over four years.

Mackenzie Pinkelman has been accepted to Bluffton College where she is the recipient of a Trustees Scholarship valued at \$36,000 over four years.

PARENTING TIPS SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS

Source: www.FinAid.org — The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid

Every year, several hundred thousand students and parents are defrauded by scholarship scams. Scam operations often imitate legitimate government agencies, grant-giving foundations, education lenders and scholarship matching services, using official-sounding names containing words like "National," "Federal," "Foundation," or "Administration."

Fraudulent scholarships can take many forms: some of the most common types are presented here. If you receive an offer that uses one of these tactics, be suspicious. If you believe the offer is a scam, report it.

- **Scholarships that Never Materialize** — Many scams encourage you to send them money up front, but provide little or nothing in exchange. Usually victims write off the expense, thinking that they simply didn't win the scholarship.

- **Scholarships for Profit** — This scam looks just like a real scholarship program, but requires an application fee. The typical scam receives 5,000 to 10,000 applications and charges fees of \$5 to \$35. These scams can afford to pay out a \$1,000 scholarship or two and still pocket a hefty profit, if they happen to award any scholarship at all. Your odds of winning a scholarship from such scams are less than your chances of striking it rich in the lottery.

- **The Advance-Free Loan** — This scam offers you an unusually low-interest educational loan, with the requirement that you pay a fee before you receive the loan. When you pay the money, the promised loan never materializes. Real educational loans deduct the fees from the disbursement check. They never require an up-front fee when you submit the application. If the loan is not issued by a bank or other recognized lender, it is probably a scam. Show the offer to your local bank manager to get their advice.

- **The Scholarship Prize** — This scam tells you that you've won a college scholarship worth thousands of dollars, but requires you pay a "disbursement" or "redemption" fee or the taxes before they can release your prize. If someone says you've won a prize and you don't remember entering the contest or submitting an application, be suspicious.

- **The Guaranteed Scholarship Search Service** — Beware of scholarship matching services that guarantee you'll win a scholarship or they'll refund your money. They may simply pocket your money

and disappear, or if they do send you a report of matching scholarships, you'll find it extremely difficult to qualify for a refund.

- **Investment Required for Federal Loans** — Insurance companies and brokerage firms sometimes offer free financial aid seminars that are actually sales pitches for insurance, annuity and investment products. When a sales pitch implies that purchasing such a product is a prerequisite to receiving federal student aid, it violates federal regulations and state insurance laws.

- **Free Seminar** — You may receive a letter advertising a free financial aid seminar or "interviews" for financial assistance. Sometimes the seminars do provide some useful information, but often they are cleverly disguised sales pitches for financial aid consulting services, investment products, scholarship matching services and overpriced student loans.

Troop 167 Says Thank You!

Metamora: Officially, this year's popcorn campaign came to an end at the end of October. Most scouts earned enough money to send them to summer camp next year.

The Scouts and Leaders would like to thank the Evergreen Community for their generosity and support. Your kind words and donations to the boys and Troop were very much appreciated. Thank You! Funds raised from the popcorn sales go directly to the scout's account to pay for his camp fees. A few of the boys did not earn enough and the leaders are discussing ideas on helping out these scouts.

Scouting is fun. After summer camp this year, the boys did a number of things to enjoy the outdoors and at the same time, exemplify good citizenship. Whether it was a canoeing trip down the River Raisin, assisting the Andersons Stores with their recycling campaign, helping out at the Holy Trinity Fall Festival and most recently a shoot out amongst many other activities, they all involved qualities outlined by the twelve point of the Scout Law. The lessons and memories gained will last a lifetime.

If you have any questions about how to join Boy Scouting, please drop us a line at: t167sfred@gmail.com

Again, Thank you very much for your help, generosity and support.