

ASPIRE NOWS

by Shayna Dortch

We have planed two field trips to visit Southern Oregon University and Rouge Community College campuses. Bus transportation and lunch will be provided for both trips. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend these trips with there students. Friday April 7 we will attend SOU's Friday Preview Day from 8 am to 1:30 pm and Tuesday April 11 we will visit RCC's Table Rock and Medford campuses from 8 am to 1:00 pm. These trips are open to all middle/high school students. I strongly encourage all Juniors and Seniors to attend both trips.

The scholarship season is winding down and award letters should be arriving soon. RCC and SOU scholarships are generally awarded in May. The OSAC scholarships are usually awarded in early June. Each individual scholarship committee determine the award dates for their scholarships, therefore award dates vary. So be sure to keep checking your mailboxes. I hope all your hard work pays off.

If you are planning to attend any type of college or university next year, it is very important that you complete the FAFSA. Remember the FAFSA stands **Free Application for Federal Student Aid** and by completing this application, you are applying for grants and federal student loans. If you have not completed this application yet, it is very important that you do so. Every school only has a certain amount of federal dollars to award to its students that qualify for financial aid. This money is distributed on a first come first serve basis. In order to be considered for this money you must complete the FAFSA.

Once you have completed the FAFSA you will receive a SAR, which stands for Student Aid Report. On this report will be an EFC number. EFC stands for Expected Family Contribution. Your EFC measures your family's financial resources and indicates how much money your family can contribute to your college education. If your EFC number is less that \$3850, you are eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. There are two another grants available to students with low EFC numbers. These are the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG). The amount of each grant depends on your individual family's income. Pell Grants range between \$400 - \$4050 per year, the FSEOG ranges between \$100 - \$4000 per year, and the Oregon Opportunity Grant awards are determined by approximately 11% of the cost of attendance at the school you plan to attend. Some students and families are eligible to receive all three of these grants and will receive enough financial aid to cover all there college expenses (tuition, books, and supplies).

If the school you plan to attend sent a request for additional information to you or your parents, it is very important that you reply and send this information as soon as possible. If this information is not received within a timely manner, the school will automatically award the money that has been set aside for you to another student. This could mean a loss of 1000's of dollars of grant money you never have to repay.

Also, note that the FAFSA must be renewed every year in order to be eligible for financial aid. Therefore, it is very important that you keep your PIN number in a safe place. You (parents and students) will need to use the same PIN number to sign your application next year. It may also be helpful to save this years application as guide for next year. Parents also note if you have more that one child attending college you will use the same PIN number for each FASA application.

If you have not yet completed your FAFSA and would like some help I am available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. I can also arrange to meet with you at other times if necessary just give me a call or send me an email. I will be more that happy to help you complete this application or answer any questions you may have. My phone number is 865-3563 ext 230 and my email address is sdortch@buttefalls.k12.or.us.

Block of the Month Quilt Class

Starting Sat. April 8th from 10 Am until Noon

Natural Resource Center

\$60 for 12 classes and a one time fee of

\$6.00 for patterns and fabric...

Call Nancy Thompson to register 865-3563 ext. 274

Butte Falls
Service Station



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you need..

and

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Specialty

865-7800