

Local Scholarships up for grabs

SIMRUNDEEP KAUR
Staff Reporter

By the time applications have been filled out and sent to colleges, students and parents start searching for scholarships and financial aid packages. Often times the first applications to cross their minds are for the LAM Scholarship, Cal Grant, and FAFSA. However, there are a multitude of other scholarships being offered locally. Best Buy, Kaiser Permanente Asian Association, Washington Hospital Medical Staff and Heald College are only a few of the many being offered. PTSA and Boosters are also offering a scholarship for members. Career specialist Michelene Wittmer has set up a page on the school website dedicated to providing information on scholarships.

The list includes scholarships being offered, the criterion for each scholarship, the amount of money being given and the deadlines by which to apply. Wittmer also added links to relevant websites, which includes Fastweb. "Everything that crosses my desk, I've put up on the website," Wittmer said.

The scholarships can be applied to a vast variety of interests. Some are being offered to those interested in a career in medicine, others to those of specific backgrounds and ethnicities and some for athletes, or those aspiring to be in a career involving athletics.

"I've heard of a scholarship for people that are either left-handed or right-handed," senior Bhupinder Kaur said.

Many of the application forms can be found in the Career Center, while most applications can be

found online.

Wittmer also mentioned that if money is still tight, contacting the actual college or university will help.

"Often times the schools are willing to help in covering some of the costs or setting up payment plans, especially if you are going to go there," Wittmer said.

Economically, Wittmer has definitely seen a change in the number of scholarships being offered, but no significant difference in the amount of money being offered. One that has dropped significantly, however, is the LAM scholarship, which went from \$10,000 to \$4,000.

The information is accessible and extremely helpful to those that need it, and Wittmer encourages all seniors to apply for scholarships even if it is not a necessity.



Photo by MAJELET LINSAO

Students stand at the starting line, waiting to begin their walk for the Breast Cancer Foundation to support those with breast cancer.

Washington hosts first Paws for a Cause

BRIANA TERRY
Staff Reporter

At a goal of raising \$4,000 to donate to the HERS Breast Cancer Foundation, our school gathered the community and its students together to spread the awareness of breast cancer.

ASB secretary and senior Lauren Floro came up with the idea of walking for breast cancer. She was inspired by "Relay for Life," an event that gives people around the world a chance to celebrate individuals who have been directly or indirectly affected by cancer.

Floro asked activity coordinator Helen Paris for her opinion on hosting the event; Paris thought it was a great idea.

Paws for a Cause is a non-profit charity walk in honor of national breast cancer awareness month, which would be a new tradition at our school.

As participants for the charity walk lined up to sign in, others lined up to get "paws" to show which individuals affected by breast cancer they were walking for. The paws represented lost, love and awareness of breast cancer.

"I lost two of my grandmas, from breast cancer, leaving one

with one breast. Before it could spread they had to cut one of my grandma's breasts," senior Casarah Catucci said.

At the starting line, a ribbon was shown to symbolize the beginning of our first annual walk. As the ribbon was cut, families and friends raced around campus. Most walked, while others decided to run their laps. Having to walk five laps, students received stamps to show their number of laps they completed.

Junior Carmelle Coleman felt the walk was a great idea to spread awareness. She came out and walked around campus for her mother.

"My mother got diagnosed with it, so she's been fighting towards breast cancer since last June. Thankfully she's been cured for a year now," Coleman said.

The students and community enjoyed themselves and came together to celebrate and spread breast cancer awareness.

At the end of the day, Paris was pleased and happy with how the first annual Paws for a Cause turned out. The community took the time to bring success to the big event.

"Paws for a Cause will now be a tradition to the Huskies family," Paris said.

ASB decorates school campus with flowers and walkway

BRIANA TERRY
Staff Reporter

ASB members redistributed large planters filled with an assortment of wildflowers around campus over the past few weeks.

The students put in a brick pathway outside of the Eggers building, and they also trimmed plants around school, with student activities director Helen Paris wielding an electric edger.

These efforts are appreciated, but some students feel the money should go to school improvements, such as new books and bathroom locks. However, ASB isn't authorized to use student funds on such items.

Senior John Rasure said al-



Photo by Kaylee Miu

Students add a walkway to the path outside the E-building as part of ASB's project.

though the improvements are helpful "they should have done this a long time ago, at this point the money could be better spent elsewhere."

Paris thought of the idea to move the planters from their original position near the Eggers building because she thought that students were not noticing them. So ASB moved the planters to more noticeable areas, and work during fourth period to water the new flowers and make sure the additions maintain their beauty.

Junior Julien Malard, president of the New Leaf Club, said their club submitted a plan to ASB to place plants around school throughout the year, but then ASB moved ahead with this project separately.

"I first was a bit disappointed because I wanted our club to do the planting," Malard said.

However, ASB agreed with the New Leaf Club to continue adding flowers, trees and other plants around the school with the help of the club.

ASB continues tradition with feasts

Htoo Htoo Lu
Staff Reporter

Laughter. Hugs. Enthusiasm. Team work. There was a sense of unity as ASB leaders bonded with special education students by decorating cookies together. Rather than baking cookies during the allotted time, the sweets were prepared beforehand to give students more time to decorate the treats. During the holiday celebration, they also made Christmas tree ornaments out of paper.

"We are trying to establish a relationship with these special education kids by recognizing them more," activity director Helen Paris said. "It's like Link Crew, except ASB is linking with special education kids."

ASB held the Christmas feast

Dec. 10 as a continuation of their efforts to reach out to special education students. Instead of wearing the usual Thursday business attire, ASB students wore red and green.

"It was wonderful. [ASB students and special education students] all got to know each other really well," special education teacher Mary DeLeon said. "Now they would greet each other even outside of classroom."

ASB also held the fourth annual Thanksgiving feast for special education students Nov. 19. This feast took place in the cafeteria during fourth period. Paris brought snacks, beverages and a turkey for the feast. She even cooked meals together in the classroom kitchen career counselor Michelene Wittmer and DeLeon.

"It was something I have never



Photo by Reggie Quero

Seniors Sandy Martinez and Cindy Chen make paper Christmas tree ornaments and decorate cookies. ASB hosted the activities to develop a strong relationship between themselves and special education students.

done before—talking and eating with the special education kids. I really enjoyed it. It was a great experience overall," senior Jack Veronin said.

Since the feast, special education students have been dropping by the student center and helping around on occasion. For example,

they helped clean the student center and around the campus.

"When the sprinklers near the amphitheater were broken, they watered the plants by hand so that the plants won't die," Paris said.

Special education students showed their appreciation for this feast by making placemats and thank you cards for the ASB leaders and teachers who helped make the event possible.

"I loved the feast. I loved them. I can't wait to see them again," senior Alex Haro said.

ASB began this tradition four years ago as a way to reach out to special education students.

Often times, special education students do not have the chance to participate in any clubs, sports and other extracurricular activities. Until four years ago, this feast has always been held in the student center. Over the past four years, the feast has expanded and moved into the cafeteria.

In the future, ASB plans to get