

# The Senior Scoop

DECEMBER, 2016

*A Publication of the Counseling Department at Monson High School Just for Seniors*



## Staying Safe on Campus

Are you getting ready to head off to college in the fall? Did you hear rumors about the University of Massachusetts Amherst being one of the most dangerous colleges in the country? Remember that college campuses are often like small towns or cities and thus are subject to crimes like theft, rape, hazing and assaults. Here are some tips to help make your college experience safe and injury free.

- ◆ Don't allow your photo and personal information to be published for distribution to the campus community. Fraternities and upperclassmen have abused this type of publication to "target" naive freshmen.
- ◆ Study the campus and neighborhood about routes between your residence and classes/activities. Locate emergency phones.
- ◆ Share your class/activities schedule with parents and a network of close friends, effectively creating a type of "buddy" system. Give network telephone numbers to your parents, advisors, and friends.
- ◆ Always travel in groups. Use a shuttle service after dark. Never walk alone at night. Avoid "shortcuts".
- ◆ Survey the campus, academic buildings, residence halls, and other facilities while classes are in session and after dark to see if emergency phones, escorts, and shuttle services are adequate.
- ◆ Do not loan out your key. Rekey locks when a key is lost or stolen.
- ◆ Always lock your doors and windows at night. Never compromise your safety if someone asks you to leave the door unlocked.
- ◆ Dormitory residents should insist that residential assistants and security patrols routinely check for "propped doors" - day and night.
- ◆ Do not leave your identification, wallets, checkbooks, jewelry, cameras, and other valuables in open view.
- ◆ Program your phone's speed dial memory with emergency numbers that include family and friends.
- ◆ Know your neighbors and don't be reluctant to report illegal activities and suspicious loitering.
- ◆ Be cognizant of posting too much information on social media, in particular, where you are, what you're doing and how long you will be there. This information gives would-be assailants instant details about your plans and location.
- ◆ Check out the US Department of Education's Campus Safety and Security Data Analysis Tool at <http://ope.ed.gov/Security/> for current campus crime statistics and information

## College Application Celebration Week Recap

Monson seniors participated in the annual Massachusetts College Application Celebration Week program from November 14 – 18. Fifty-three (out of a total of 82) seniors completed 103 applications during the week to 49 public colleges and 54 private schools. Several received assistance from the school counselors to complete their college applications. There were 29 on the spot decisions from American International College, Elms College, Bay Path University, Western New England University, Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College. Over \$130,000 in scholarship funds were awarded as part of the instant decisions.

Sixty-five seniors (or 79%) of the class applied to at least one college before November 17 and were recognized in an all-school assembly. Each had their name announced and which school(s) they had applied to and if they had been accepted. Participants received their "I applied to college" t-shirt provided by CHP Student Health.

Four college mascots along with the Monson Mustang participated in the Mascot Madness by playing dodgeball. Roary the Bobcat from Bay Path University representing the seniors (aka Trey Miller) was victorious in the spirit competition.

# December Scholarship Listing



## 2016 GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program

January 5, 2017

This national program awards college scholarships to high school seniors who embody the characteristics of President Ronald Reagan at school, in the community, in the workplace, and at home. Apply online through [www.reaganfoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/scholarships) or <http://facebook.com/GEReaganScholarships>.

## The Massachusetts JCI Senate Scholarship

January 17, 2017

The Massachusetts JCI Senate will award two (2) \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating students in Massachusetts. The State winners will be forwarded to the National JCI Senate and will be eligible for additional \$1,000.00 scholarships. To obtain an application please visit <http://majcisenate.weebly.com>.

## The National MS Society Scholarship

January 18, 2017

Individuals who have MS or have a parent with MS are eligible to apply as long as they meet all of the eligibility criteria found at: [www.nationalmssociety.org/scholarship](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/scholarship).

## Walter S. Barr Scholarships

February 1, 2017

These awards for undergraduate education are made annually to graduating high school seniors. They must be residents attending public or private secondary schools in Hampden County, MA. The awards are given based on school records, college entrance examinations, general accomplishments, recommendations and financial need. The annual award is \$2,500 for a maximum of four years. **The William R. Rooney Award** is awarded to a graduating high school senior who is currently on and has been on an IEP or a 504 Plan for a minimum of two years. Please visit [www.HoraceSmithFund.org](http://www.HoraceSmithFund.org) to complete and submit an application.

## Massachusetts Elks Scholarship, INC. Major Project

February 1, 2017

The program offers grants to students demonstrating financial need, scholarship aptitude, and good citizenship. Please see Guidance to obtain an application.

## Henry David Thoreau Scholarship

February 1, 2017

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation selects Massachusetts' high school seniors interested in environmental studies to receive up to \$20,000 for tuition to the college of their choice. Please visit: [www.thoreauscholar.org](http://www.thoreauscholar.org) for more information and to submit your application.

## Big Y Scholarship

February 1, 2017

All Big Y scholarships recognize **academic merit and achievement**. They are awarded to the most academically outstanding students in the **Big Y market area**. Applications can be printed from the Big Y website: [www.bigy.com](http://www.bigy.com). Under the Services then the community tab. The scholarships are located at the bottom of the page.

## Order Sons of Italy in America Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

February 1, 2017

Scholarship awards are limited to members of the Senior Class of any secondary school and shall be awarded on the following basis: Scholastic Ability; Character; Activities. Please visit [www.osiama.org](http://www.osiama.org) to obtain more information and an application.

## Wace National CO-OP Scholarship Program

February 15, 2017

To qualify for this scholarship, students must: Have a high school GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale or better; Apply and be accepted for the 2017-2018 academic year at one of the WACE Partner Institutes. Please see application for participating Colleges & Universities. To obtain an application, please visit [www.waccinc.org](http://www.waccinc.org).

## Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs

March 17, 2017

A \$1000 scholarship opportunity to a young woman between the ages of 16 and 20 as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, and who lives in the Quaboag Valley. This scholarship seeks to recognize a student who demonstrates a commitment to her community, exhibits leadership ability, and shows global awareness. You may download an application at <http://www.zontaqv.org>.

## B. Davis Scholarship

May 22, 2017

This Scholarship is available to all high school juniors and seniors as well as all students currently registered in any post-secondary institution. For more information please visit <http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm>.