

COUNCIL GROVE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

129 Hockaday/Council Grove, KS 66846

620/767-5149

www.usd417.net

Kelly McDiffett, Principal

November 1, 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

It was wonderful to visit with so many parents during the Parent-Teacher Conference days in October. Many parents reflected on how quickly the school year has been passing. Our fall activities are coming to a close with state championships being held throughout the state of Kansas. Congratulations to the CGHS girls' golf team for placing 2nd at regional and finishing 7th at the 3A-1A State meet in Great Bend. We also congratulate our football squad for qualifying for the playoffs.

As we complete our first trimester and move into the winter trimester, we look forward to scholars' bowl meets, winter sports practices, and the fall play. With the coming of colder weather, we typically see more illness as well. Be sure your student makes healthy decisions so that absences do not become a detriment to his/her academic progress. **Go Braves!**

KANSAS HONORS SCHOLARS

Congratulations to the following seniors for being recognized as Kansas Honors Scholars. This was coordinated through the University of Kansas Alumni Association and recognized, academically, the top 10% of the senior class following the 6th semester. Those being recognized from the Class of 2010 are

Shelby Bowen
Emily Frese
Kristin Glick
Collin Johnson
Jana Miller
Betsy Wooden

These students and their parents were recognized with a banquet on Monday, October 26, on the campus of Emporia State University.

SIGLE WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Jeri Sigle, a 2009 CGHS graduate, was the 2009 national winner in Wildlife Production and Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement at the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, with her FFA Supervised Agricultural Experience Wildlife Management. Jeri was recognized as a district FFA winner in March and a state FFA winner in May.

The competition at the national convention was steep as Jeri, who was announced as a top-four finalist in August, interviewed in front of a panel of 15 judges. She is a four-year member of the Council Grove FFA.

Jeri became interested in hunting and trapping when she was five years old. She followed her parents' footsteps to form her own trapping and fur harvesting enterprise in Morris County. Her trapping expeditions take place on 3,000 family and neighbor-owned acres. Jeri is the daughter of Chris and Sharmon Sigle.

FALL PLAY AND LATE NIGHT

This year's CGHS fall play is entitled, "**I Don't Have a Clue**" by **Craig Sodaro**. The play opens on November 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the CGHS auditorium, with the second show at the same time on Friday, November 20. **Play tickets are \$4.00 per person.** Contact the high school if you wish to make a reservation for either showing.

Following the play on Friday, **Late Night in the Grove** promises to finish the evening with fun in the CGHS gym. This is the fifth year for the event featuring skits involving our winter sports athletes as well as team basketball scrimmages. There is no admission charge for this event. Make plans to come early and stay up late with Braves!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Each year of high school brings about a different set of events. If you have questions about the following reminders, contact Sue Shoemaker, CGHS Counselor.

Freshmen: Those freshmen who are enrolled in Investigations in Technology during the first trimester have begun working on resumes. The Kansas Career Pipeline program is easily accessed by the students, and the student's resume' is stored on the site for easy access. The resume' will be a key component in qualifying for scholarships during their senior year of high school.

Sophomores: The sophomore class will have the opportunity to attend "**Focus Day**" at **Flint Hills Technical College in Emporia on November 10**. Students will have the opportunity to gather more information on career programs. A bus will take all sophomores from CGHS who wish to attend. The bus will

leave at 8:20 a.m. PLAN scores will be available after Thanksgiving.

Juniors: Juniors who have completed the PSAT test will begin getting results back after Thanksgiving Break. It is very important for college-bound juniors to sign up to take the ACT. ACT packets are available in the counseling office, or students can sign up online at www.act.org.

Seniors: By this time of the school year, seniors should have applied to the program and school that they wish to attend for the 2010-11 school year. If your senior has not done so, he/she needs to see the CGHS counselor for information very soon. Seniors should be asking three people to write letters of recommendation for them so they may prepare to apply for scholarships during the second semester.

NEWS FROM THE AD'S OFFICE

As the fall activity season draws to a close, the Braves can reflect back on many highlights throughout the fall season. As our students, coaches, parents, and community continue to strive for excellence, we are reminded that the process is truly about our students learning life lessons on which they can build successful futures. Success, whether on the field, court, course, or in the classroom, is truly measured by the individual improvement of each participant.

We hope participants were able to take something from their experiences this fall and use it to build and develop themselves into a stronger, more confident and brighter winter and spring season. Congratulations to all of our participants and coaches for a job well done this fall.

UPCOMING ACTIVITY DATES:

November 16	Winter sports practices begin
November 19 & 20	Fall play
November 20	Late Night in the Grove
November 24	Winter Sports Parent Meeting Blue-Gold Wrestling Scrimmage

SCHOOLREACH UPDATES NEEDED

As CGHS attempts to be less dependent on paper, we have increased our phone messages to our students' homes. Throughout the school year Council Grove High School and USD 417 may use SchoolReach, a web-based communication system, to make contact with parents. CGHS uses SchoolReach on a daily basis to make courtesy phone calls to the homes of students who have

been absent from school without notification. It is an effective tool for making mass phone calls for family reminders or when major events are cancelled or postponed.

Contact CGHS if any of the contact information is different than what is currently on file. We want to make certain we can take advantage of the technology available to us by having accurate contact information for every CGHS student.

CHANGING OF ACTIVITY SEASONS

The coming of November brings a transition in high school activities. Our Scholars' Bowl tryouts have been completed and their season is underway.

Wrestling, boys' basketball, and girls' basketball are the extracurricular athletics available at CGHS during the Winter season. **Winter sports practices will begin on Monday, November 16.** All athletes must have a physical form on file with the Activities Director prior to participating in an athletic practice session.

HONOR ROLL UPDATE

Council Grove High School uses the 4.0-point GPA (grade point average) scale to determine the honor roll. A student must have a GPA of at least 3.2 - 3.69 to reach the **Blue Honor Roll**. To achieve the **Gold Honor Roll** a student must have a GPA of 3.7 - 3.99. The **Principal's Honor Roll** remains the same in rewarding students with all "A's".

We will be publishing the names of students who have earned honor roll recognition for the fall trimester on November 13.

Thanksgiving Break November 25 - 29

GO BRAVES!