



February 12, 2009

Here are some story ideas in which you may have an interest:

***NOTE:** To help us track the usefulness of the Memo to Media, we ask that you inform us if you will be covering any of the events or information listed in the memo. Please send all correspondence to Amanda.Spencer@hcps.org.

Board Meetings

- **Monday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m.** - Board Business Meeting at the HCPS A.A. Roberty Building. For agenda, exhibits and more information, log onto www.hcps.org or call 410-588-5203.

Board meetings can be viewed at anytime from our website www.hcps.org!

Save the Date

The 2009 HCPS Teacher of the Year Banquet will be Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace! **NEW!**

- The 2009 Harford County Public School Teacher of the Year Application is now available online at www.hcps.org. Application submission deadline is Monday, March 2nd by 4:00 p.m. Click here to access the application. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to nominate the phenomenal teacher in your life. ***IMPORTANT NOTE: There have been considerable changes made to the application and process this year. Previous years applications will NOT be accepted.*** If you have questions, contact the Communications Office at 410-588-5203.
- Prospect Mill Elementary will host a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrating the opening of the school's new gymnasium. The ceremony will take place in the new gym on Friday, February 13th at 10:00 a.m. County Executive David R. Craig and Interim Superintendent of Schools Patricia Skebeck are scheduled to attend. Additionally, elected officials, Board of Education members and Parks and Recreation leaders have been invited to this event. A group of Prospect Mill students will also be present at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. For more information, contact Principal Bud Beehler at Bud.BeehlerIII@hcps.org or 410-638-3818. **NEW!**
- In celebration of African American History Month, Mr. Patrick Spicer, Esq., General Counsel for the Board of Education and author of the Harford Historical Bulletins Decade of Delay: The Desegregation of Harford County Public Schools, will give a presentation on Thursday, February 12th, at 7:00 p.m. for the Aberdeen Heritage Trust in the Aberdeen City Council Chambers, 60 N. Parke Street in Aberdeen. In addition, Mr. Spicer will be presenting at the Bel Air Historical Society, 143 N. Main Street in Bel Air on Sunday, February 22nd from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. For more information on the presentation, call 410-809-6065.
- Bringing January, National Reading Month, to a special conclusion, Prospect Mill Elementary School held an historic election in partnership with the Harford County Board of Elections. The event, titled "Elect a Good Book Day," held on February 5th, provided Prospect Mill students with an opportunity to utilize the same voting machines that were provided to the general public for the historic president election of 2008. This was a day-long event that involved the voting of approximately 950 students at both school locations, one being Southampton Middle School where fifth grade students currently attend due to overcrowding at Prospect Mill. For more information on this event, contact Mark Etzel at 410-638-3817 or Mark.Etzel@hcps.org. **NEW!**
- The Office of School Counseling for Harford County Public Schools in partnership with the Office of Advising, Career and Transfer Services at Harford Community College, will host the Tenth Annual Career Opportunity and Information Fair on Tuesday, March 31st from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the Student Center at HCC. This career awareness program for high school and community college students and parents will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from local educational, business and military communities. For more information, call 410-588-5245.



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- The Third Annual Harford County High School Chess Tournament will take place on Friday, March 6th from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Aberdeen High School Media Center. This chess tournament will feature 40-minute games as well as individual and team championships with trophies awarded to the top players and teams. It is open to any high school student in Harford County. To register or for more information, contact Mr. Wardle at Aberdeen High School at 410-273-5500 or william.wardle@hcps.org.
- Students at Bel Air Middle are shooting hoops to fight heart disease and stroke, our nation's No. 1 and No. 3 killers. Students raised funds for the American Heart Association, which funds cardiovascular disease research and education programs. Top fundraisers as well as a few 'wildcard' students, will have the chance to play basketball vs. their teachers, on Thursday, February 12th, at 6:00 p.m. On February 13, 2009 in the school's gymnasium, the school will hold its 11th Annual Hoops For Heart three-point shootout event. BAMS has raised almost \$250,000 over the past 11 years and been ranked #2 in the nation for fundraising efforts. The goal is to raise \$40,000. For more information, contact Gina Bechtel at 410-638-4140 or gina.bechtel@hcps.org.
- Intent to Rename Campus Hills/Schucks Road Elementary Announced - According to Board policy, the official announcement of the intent to rename the elementary school that is being constructed off of Schucks Road, near Churchville, was made at the Board meeting held Tuesday, January 20. The school was originally approved to be named Campus Hills Elementary School by the Board on Monday, December 8, 2008. The motion to rename the building was brought forth by Board member Robin Rich, who suggested the facility be named after the late Dr. Jacqueline C. Haas, HCPS superintendent of schools from 1999 - 2008. Board policy suggests that the name of a public school facility should "give proper recognition to the community which it serves," but also provides for a building/ground to be named for a person, living or dead, who has made "significant contributions to education in the Harford County Public Schools." The policy further requires the intent to name be widely publicized in the community with an invitation for the public to submit names in writing or in person during Board meetings in the 60-day interim between announcing the intent to name and action being taken. The Superintendent will provide the Board with a complete list of names suggested along with her recommendation at the Monday, March 9th Board meeting. Allowing for 60-days required prior to naming the building, the Board will take action at its March 23, 2009 business meeting (6:30 p.m.), HCPS/A.A. Roberty Building). [Click here to submit a suggestion to rename the school.](#)
- C. Milton Wright High School announces the Sixth Annual College Night, to be held on Monday, February 23rd, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the school's gymnasium. This FREE event is open to all high school students and parents in Harford County. The snow date is Tuesday, February 24th. Over 80 prestigious colleges, universities, technical schools and military from the Mid-Atlantic region will be participating in the event. College Night will enable Harford County high school students and their parents to meet directly with college admissions representatives to learn about academic studies, campus life, the admission process and tuition. College Night has been extremely successful and is recognized as the premier event for high school students and parents in the county.
- The Second Annual Harford County Table Tennis Tournament, sponsored by the National Honor Society, will take place at Patterson Mill High School on Tuesday, February 24th and Thursday, February 26th. The middle school competition is scheduled for the 24th at 3:30 p.m. and the high school competition will begin at the same time on the 26th. Admission for non-participants is \$2.00. The registration fee is \$18.00 and includes a tournament t-shirt. Prizes in the form of gift certificates will be awarded to first, second, and third place winners. Register at Patterson Mill High School. Contact Krista Wilkinson (Krista.Wilkinson@HCPS.org) or Cindy Mehr (Cindy.Mehr@HCPS.org) for more information.
- The North-East Theatre Festival, which is a two-day celebration of theatre and related arts, will take place Friday, February 20th from 2:00 – 11:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 21st from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Bel Air High School. It is an opportunity for drama students and teachers from the northeast region of Maryland to come together and participate in a variety of activities that will showcase the performing arts. The snow dates will be February 27th and 28th. College representatives will be present to provide information on the drama/theatre programs at each school as well as business representatives.