



January 22, 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, January 26th 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.

• **Monday, February 9th at 7:00 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. **NEW!**

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

• Forty intrepid members of the Aberdeen Middle School Concert Band gathered on Saturday, January 17th to perform for President Obama's Whistle Stop train tour as it roared through the town of Aberdeen. Three days earlier, the band had received an invitation to play for the historic event from the City of Aberdeen, and quickly geared up to rehearse new music for the performance. With the support of Principal Chandra Krantz, as well as the faculty of Aberdeen Middle and some serious practice on the part of the seventh and eighth grade students, the band was able to hold two rehearsals and prepare their music into performance level. As the train flew by, the band played "A Tribute to America" and "You're a Grand Old Flag" to the delight of many spectators in the area. For more information, call 410-273-5510. **NEW!**

• Artwork from four 12th grade students, Colleen Billing (honorable mention), Katherine Ramos, Kelly Campbell and Jessica Nassner, at Fallston High School who participated in the First Maryland High School Art Exhibit sponsored by the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture (RFLM) and the Maryland State Teachers Association (MSTA), was selected to be showcased in this exhibit. The artwork will also be featured in the RFLM's publication, Journey as the cover page of MSTA's brochure for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast program celebration. The exhibition will be featured at the RFLM in Baltimore January 24, 2009 – February 8, 2009 and at the MSTA in Annapolis February 16, 2009 – March 16, 2009. The artwork reflects the meaning of courage in each student's community. An opening reception to commemorate the winners will be held Saturday, January 24th at the RFLM. For more information, call Fallston High School at 410-638-4120. **NEW!**

• Dr. Leslie D. Goodwin, a 35-year Harford County Public School educator and administrator, dedicated his professional career to the success of the public school system in Harford County. He will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during the Board meeting on Monday, January 26th at the A.A. Roberty Building. Les Goodwin came to Harford County in 1954 to teach sixth grade at Aberdeen High School, which at the time housed fifth through 12th grade students. Les then moved to Slate Ridge Elementary, now closed, in Whiteford to serve as principal in 1957 before accepting a principal position at Bakerfield Elementary in 1961. Selected as the first person to serve in the new position of Director of Elementary Education in 1967, Dr. Goodwin was involved in the development and implementation of programs and curriculum at the elementary level. Dr. Goodwin served in this director position for nearly 23 years until his retirement in 1990. **NEW!**

• Prospect Mill Elementary students collected many gifts and letters of support that were sent to the United States military in Baghdad. On November 11, 2008, exactly 90 years after the end of World War I, Prospect Mill students were honored for their efforts by the flying of the American flag over Baghdad, currently the center of one of two American war efforts. Prospect Mill Elementary School also received a beautiful handmade shadowbox containing the actual American flag that was flown over the American Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. For more information, contact Mark Etzel at 410-638-3817. **NEW!**

• Nicholas W. Hancock, a 17-year-old senior at Havre de Grace High School was recently notified by an official letter of appoint-



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ment of his acceptance into the Naval Academy. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, who nominated Nicholas, called to congratulate him on this prestigious honor on January 10th. Nicholas is the son of Lisa Buonaugurio and Wayne Hancock and has always dreamed of being a member of the Academy since he was in second grade. Compelled by the military lifestyles of his uncle and grandfathers, Nicholas worked hard and excelled both academically and personally, earning him an impressive spot in the Naval Academy. A member of the SMILES program, volleyball and baseball teams, a peer mentor, mock trial participant and a member of the Havre de Grace Marching Band/Symphonic Band/Pit Band, Nicholas credits his parents, family, excellent teachers and staff with his success. He is also a National Honor Roll student, Who's Who among American High School Students, Johns Hopkins CTY participant, a member of National Honor Society and the recipient of the Presidential Excellence Award in 2002 and 2005. **NEW!**

- Each year, more than 7,000 secondary student-musicians from public and private schools in all Maryland subdivisions audition for the Maryland All-State Bands, Orchestras, and Choruses sponsored by the Maryland Music Educators Association. Students take part in a competitive audition and their musical talent is judged by experts in their field. Those selected represent the best among Maryland's middle and high school student musicians. For the school year 2008-09, a total of 51 Harford County Public School student musicians were chosen as members of the Maryland All-State Musicians by the Maryland Music Educators Association.

Additionally, students who have earned All-State award recognitions in their states can be nominated for the All-Eastern regional award. More than 650 of the most musically talented high school students in the Eastern region of the United States including 41 from Maryland have been selected to perform in the 2009 MENC All-Eastern Honors Ensembles. For the 2008-09 school year, six HCPS students have been selected as members of the All-Eastern Chorus. The All-State and All-Eastern student musicians will be recognized at the Board meeting on Monday, January 26th, 6:30 p.m. (A.A. Roberty Building). **NEW!**

- For the seventh consecutive year, the Harford County Public School Budget Office has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award." The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards program is the only national awards initiative in government budgeting. The Harford County Public Schools Budget Office received its most recent commendations for its 2008-09 Operating Budget document. A Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is presented by the GFOA to the individual or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. For more information, call 410-588-5243.

- The Harford County Public Schools Winter Cheerleading Contest will be held on January 31, 2009 at Joppatowne High School. The competition begins at 1:00 p.m. with the junior varsity squads competing first followed by the varsity teams. Tickets for the competition will be sold at each high school. Those wishing to purchase tickets need to contact the cheerleading coach or athletic director at their school. Tickets are already at each school and are for sale now. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for students and \$2 for elementary students. **TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

- 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, sec-

Memo to Media



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and, 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 their love and passion for the performing arts. The snow dates will be the following weekend, February 27th and 28th. Students will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of workshops that will help them enhance their performing and/or technical skills such as acting skills, costuming, vocal techniques, lighting design, scenic construction, improvisation, auditioning techniques, dance, etc. For students who wish to showcase their talents, the Festival will offer competitions in (7) event categories: dance, improvisation, monologues, playwriting, scenes, technical portfolio, and vocal. Schools wishing to showcase their talent will have the opportunity to perform a half-hour one act or cutting from a larger play on the Festival's Mainstage. College representatives will be present to provide information on the drama/theatre programs at each school. Representatives from local and regional theatres and businesses will discuss what their companies have to offer in the way of performing and technical work. Finally, there will be an exhibitor hall where students will have the opportunity to purchase books, shirts, and other theatrical souvenirs.

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