



**May 7, 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](mailto:Amanda.Spencer@hcps.org).

## Board Meetings

• **Monday, May 11th 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](http://www.hcps.org) or call 410-588-5203.

**Board meetings can be viewed at anytime from our website [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org)!**

• **The 2009 Commencement Ceremony schedule has been revised. [View the new schedule here.](#)**

• Join the students and staff of The Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School in a Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 in the cafeteria from 4:45 - 6:45 p.m. Come see the year-long, research projects and speak with students and their professional scientist, mathematician, and engineering mentors. The Awards Ceremony will be in the auditorium from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. **NEW!**

• Jason's Music Center, one of the oldest piano distributors in the country, will hold their 7th Annual Piano Liquidation on Sunday, May 17 at the Forest Hill Air Park. The highly anticipated liquidation provides shoppers a rare opportunity to purchase top-quality pianos while supporting Harford County Public Schools. Jason's Music Center and Harford County Public Schools have had a unique partnership since 2002. To date, Jason's Music Center has loaned HCPS pianos to use in targeted schools with a total value of over \$850,000. Click here to read the full press release. **NEW!**

• Six Harford County Public Schools along with 69 other Maryland Schools make up the 2009 class of newly certified Maryland Green Schools. These schools achieved certification or recertification as Maryland Green Schools and includes Aberdeen High School, Bel Air High School, C. Milton Wright High School, Forest Hill Elementary School, Forest Lakes Elementary School and North Harford High School. The Harford Glen Environmental Education Center was also recertified as a Maryland Green Center. The Maryland Green Schools Award Program, developed and administered by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE), challenges schools to integrate the environment into all aspects of the school culture including professional development for teachers, curricular integration, modeling of best management practices inside and outside the school, community involvement, and of course, celebration. For more information, visit [www.maeoe.org](http://www.maeoe.org). **NEW!**

• The May inductee into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame is Mrs. Margaret H. Cook (Monday, May 11th, 6:30 p.m., A.A. Roberty Building). Margaret "Beckie" Hall Cook lived in Queen Anne's County, Maryland during her youth and attended the University of Maryland where she earned her Bachelor's degree in secondary education in 1949. At the time, there was a need for elementary educators so Beckie joined a program at Towson State College to obtain certification in elementary education over the course of three summers while she was teaching at Old Post Road Elementary School. After one year at Old Post Road, Beckie was selected to teach at Baldwin Manor, which was an HCPS school for United States soldiers who would come on buses from Aberdeen Proving Ground to the three-building school. Baldwin Manor closed in 1953 and Mrs. Cook moved to teach at Aberdeen Elementary School, which was located in the former Aberdeen High School building that same year. Teaching classes sometimes with more than 40 students, Mrs. Cook benefited from excellent principals and developed friendships with coworkers while at Aberdeen Elementary until 1967. She then moved to teach at Hickory Elementary for a year before her last transfer to Jarrettsville Elementary where she served as vice principal and taught part-time until her retirement in 1986 after 37 years of service. **NEW!**

- [Click here to view the 2009 Spring Concert Schedule for Harford County Public Schools.](#) For questions, contact the Music Office at 410-588-5273.
- The NAMM Foundation has named Harford County Public Schools one of the 2009 “Best Communities for Music Education” survey, which acknowledges schools and districts across the U.S. for their commitment and support of music education in schools. As the economy challenges state and local school budgets to adequately support education, the 124 school districts named by the NAMM Foundation demonstrate the unwavering commitment to provide music education for their students. The NAMM Foundation’s mission is to ensure that all children have access to quality music education programs that encourage lifelong participation in music making. [Click here to read the full list.](#)
- Havre de Grace High School senior, Andy Coates, recently placed first in the Maryland state level Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competition. Andy was the only student in Harford County to earn first place and qualify for the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA this summer. The National Leadership Conference allows FBLA members across the nation to convene to compete in leadership events, share their successes, and learn new ideas about shaping their career future through workshops and exhibits. This four-day conference is considered the pinnacle of the FBLA-PBL experience, especially for those running for national office. FBLA-PBL has forged partnerships with industry leaders to underwrite competitive events and scholarships for students achieving national ranking.
- The Harford County Public Schools Title I Annual Parent Conference will take place on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Richlin Ballroom. The event will feature a sharing of Title I quilts and a unity poem presentation. For more information, contact the Office of Compensatory Education at 410-588-5278.

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