

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

January 3, 2008

***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.

Hold the Date

• **Tuesday, February 19, 2008 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** - The Parent Involvement Committee at C. Milton Wright High School will host its Fifth Annual College Night, free to all Harford County Public School students and parents. (snow date Feb. 20). More than 80 colleges and universities will be present along with scholarship information for students. For information, contact the school at 410-638-4110.

• Linn Griffiths, science teacher at C. Milton Wright High School has been named one of Maryland's finalists for the 2007 Presidential Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics and Science by the Maryland State Department of Education. The names of the three finalists have been submitted to the White House for consideration as the state winner for Secondary Science. For more information, contact Don Morrison at 410-588-5203. *NEW!*

• The January inductee into the Harford County Public School Educator Hall of Fame is LeRoy H. Jones. Mr. Jones, 60, taught Social Studies at Aberdeen High School for 32 years, retiring in 2002. He was a pioneering teacher in the area of African-American studies, having developed first a local course and then co-developing a countywide program of black history. The Coppin State (undergraduate) and Morgan State (master's) graduate was one of eight children raised in poverty by a single mother in Baltimore. He was an accomplished long distance runner and race walker, coaching Aberdeen High's cross country and track and field teams for many years. Mr. Jones will be honored at the Board of Education's January 28th meeting (HCPS/A.A. Roberty Building, 6:30 p.m.). For more information, call Don Morrison, 410-588-5203. *NEW!*

• Hickory Elementary in Bel Air has been named one of Maryland's six "Blue Ribbon" schools by the Maryland State Department of Education. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program is a state and national program that recognizes and honors schools that exhibit high performance and/or significant improvement in reading and mathematics achievement as measured by Maryland's assessments. Schools must meet rigorous standards developed by the Maryland State Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education. These schools are either extremely high achievers in reading and mathematics or economically disadvantaged schools exceeding norms and dramatically closing achievement gaps of their students in reading and mathematics. The Maryland Blue Ribbon Schools go on to compete for National Blue Ribbon Awards, which will be announced by the U.S. Department of Education next September. For more information, contact Don Morrison at 410-588-5203.

• Six Harford County Public School educators have recently been notified that they have achieved National Board Certification as teachers following a rigorous process that took at least a year to complete. The teachers achieving the status are Lori McNeil of Magnolia Elementary School, Robert Bruce of Joppatowne High School, Karla Weinhold of Patterson Mill Middle School, Christine Baker of Hall's Cross Roads Elementary School, Michael Schul of Church Creek Elementary School, and Mary Beth O'Donnell of Harford Technical High School. For more information, call Don Morrison, 410-588-5203.

• Richard 'Rick' Raulie of the Harford County Public School Purchasing Office, has recently passed the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) test and is certified as a Certified Public Procurement Officer (CPPO) – the highest certification given by the organization. Mr. Raulie completed required course work, a written exam, and an oral exam given by three peer CPPOs. For information, contact Don Morrison at 410-588-5203.