

Memo to Media



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

November 8, 2007

***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

- The 2007 Teacher Bonus Reception will take place on Wednesday, November 14th from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the County Council Chambers.

- Beginning tonight (Thursday, November 8th) and continuing Friday and Saturday, this week and next Thursday through Saturday (November 15th, 16th and 17th) the Bel Air High School Drama Club will be putting on two plays on alternating nights – 'Taming of the Shrew' and 'Wait Until Dark.' The two plays are set 400 years apart and will feature two separate ensembles of Bel Air High student performers under the direction of Chuck Bowden and Ben Smith. The unique performances will be featured on Jamie Costello's WMAR-TV (Channel 2) morning show from 6:00 until 6:30 a.m., Friday, November 9th. The shows each start at 7:00 p.m. and admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for students and \$6 for children under 12 and senior citizens. Call Mr. Bowden at BAHS, 410-638-4600, for more information. *NEW!*

- The annual Student Page Breakfast will be held at Fallston High School on Thursday, November 29th from 8:00 until 10:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria. Each year, six high school seniors from the Harford County Public Schools (and John Carroll School) are chosen to represent the county as pages in the General Assembly session in Annapolis. Local Senators and Delegates are invited to meet the pages and discuss issues facing the General Assembly. Students from all over the state are similarly chosen to be pages in either the Senate or House chambers. For more information – and for reservations at the breakfast – call Fallston High Social Studies teacher Pat Whitehurst, 410-638-4120. *NEW!*

- Fountain Green Elementary School is involved with a community service project involving 16 students in grades one through five who are making fleece lap blankets for children in wheelchairs at the Shriners Orthopedic Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. The blankets will be presented to the president of the organization on November 14th from 3:30 until 4:30 p.m. at the school. Call FGES fifth grade teacher Sue Belenski, 410-638-4220, for more information. *NEW!*

- Roye-Williams Elementary School will be honoring Veterans' Day by having Colonel Ray Van Pelt, Deputy Commanding Officer for the 20th Support Command, as a guest speaker. The 16th Ordnance Battalion will be posting the colors at the beginning and end of the assembly. Students will do the Pledge of Allegiance, a select group of 4th and 5th grade students will sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and all students will sing a patriotic song followed by the school song at the end. For more information, contact Sharon Krown at 410-273-5536. *NEW!*

- Jacqueline C. Haas, Ed.D., Superintendent of the Harford County Public Schools, has been named Maryland Superintendent of the Year for 2007 by the American Association of School Administrators. Dr. Haas was named in a surprise announcement October 25th at the annual Maryland Negotiating Service fall conference. She has been a teacher, helping teacher, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent in the Harford County Public Schools, serving for 36 years – the last ten as superintendent. Dr. Haas was nominated by the entire leadership team of the Harford County Public Schools including both administrator employee associations, the HCPS Senior Staff, and the Board of Education of Harford County. For more information, read the story on the HCPS website – www.hcps.org.



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- Penelope M. "Penny" Ekey, retired 30-year English teacher at Edgewood Middle School, will be inducted into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame on Monday, November 19th (6:30 p.m., HCPS A.A. Roberty Building). Mrs. Ekey continues as a home/hospital teacher and para-educator in the Alternative Education/summer school programs of the Harford County Public Schools. Call Don Morrison, 410-588-5203 for more information.
- George Toepfer, HCPS Supervisor of Social Studies has won the Maryland Council for the Social Studies Distinguished Social Studies Educator Award. Additionally, Gifted and Talented Teacher at Youth's Benefit Elementary Jan Truzzolino has won the Social Studies Educator of the Year Award. The two will be honored at the Board Meeting on Monday, November 19th (6:30 p.m., HCPS A.A. Roberty Building). For more information, contact the Social Studies department at 410-588-5223.
- The opening celebration of the Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Magnet Program at Joppatowne High School will be held on Tuesday, November 27th at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the school. For more information, contact the program advisor, Leah Beaulieu, at 410-612-1510.
- On Saturday, November 10th from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., Hickory Elementary School will host its Second Annual "Driven to Read!" This is an event connecting a "car show" theme with reading, designed to encourage students to read. Some activities include pine wood derby and remote control car races for students, a book character costume contest, a DJ, and refreshments along with funny jokes and poems from the students. For more information, contact Kay Smith at 410-638-4170.
- In an effort to disseminate information about educational opportunities at Harford County High Schools, HCPS will be conducting a series of evening informational presentations within the county. The objective is to give parents and students an introduction to the magnet programs available to students in Harford County beginning in the fall of 2007.

The Open House schedule for each magnet program is:

- November 13, 2007: Global Studies at Edgewood High
- November 20 & 28, 2007: Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High

For more information, contact Frank Mezzanotte at 410-809-6069.