



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

May 15, 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.

Board Meetings

- **Monday, May 19th 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. **NEW!**

Save the Date

- The Combined Groundbreaking Ceremonies for Edgewood High and Deerfield Elementary will take place on Tuesday, June 3rd from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- **The staff and the 2008 inaugural graduating class of the Science and Mathematics Academy will host a Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects at the Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School on Tuesday, May 20th in the lobby from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. A celebration banquet and ceremony will follow the walk. State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Nancy Grasmick is scheduled to attend. For more information, contact 410-588-5217. **NEW!****
- The 2008 Harford County Public Schools Teacher Night at Ripken Stadium will be held on Saturday, August 30th. On that evening, the Ten 2008-09 Harford County Public School Teacher of the Year Finalists will be honored and the Teacher of the Year will throw out the first pitch. It is also the Harford County Education Association (HCEA) night at the Stadium. Forty tickets have been reserved for Harford County Public School teachers – 20 each at \$9.50 per ticket in the Reserved Section and \$12.50 per ticket in the Loge Section. The price of admission includes a free Ironbirds cap, a game program, and free parking. To purchase tickets, call Jenna Raglani, Ironbirds Account Executive, at 410-297-9292, ext. 317. **NEW!**
- Beginning in November of 2007, two of teachers at William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary, Mr. Rieth (music teacher) and Mr. Navin (fifth grade teacher) challenged the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students to read 21,000 books at their level by the end of May 2008. The students ran with the challenge reading anywhere from 500-1800 "at level" books, poems and short stories per week with the top reader reading 665 books so far. Students were required to complete a "book slip" for each entry which included a summary of the book, as well as other information such as character traits. In the mean time, Mr. Rieth and Mr. Navin have been growing their hair. On Friday, May 23rd, the "Reading Incentive Celebration" will take place with the ceremonious head-shaving of these two teachers at 9:05 a.m. at William Paca/Old Post Road. For more information, contact Carinda Rafferty at 410-612-1737. **NEW!**
- The May inductee into the Harford County Public School Educator Hall of Fame will be Laurie K. Neeper. Mrs. Neeper spent 40 years providing excellence in instruction as a vocal and instrumental music teacher in the Harford County Public Schools. Retiring in 2007, Mrs. Neeper continues providing private music lessons and is currently teaching a course at the Peabody Institute on music and the special child. Mrs. Neeper will be inducted on May 19th at the HCPS A.A. Roberty Building at 6:30 p.m. Call Don Morrison, 410-588-5203, for more information. **NEW!**
- Susan M. Brock, RN, was named the HCPS Nurse of the Year for 2007-08. The 23-year Churchville Elementary School Nurse is a native Harford Countian who grew up respecting the nurses she encountered, developing a desire to become a nurse. Starting as a nurse assigned two schools – Riverside and Churchville, in 1987, she was assigned full-time to Churchville where she has been "the heart of the school" since. As the school's only



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medical professional, she provides routine and emergency care to students and staff. She also teaches lessons in hand washing, safety in the sun, and many other healthy-living issues. For more information, contact Don Morrison at 410-588-5203. **NEW!**

• Fallston High School's Chemathon Level II team won the 2008 regional championship, topping 21 other teams in the competition. The Fallston team, coached by Chemistry teacher Sue Fox, earned two first place awards – the "Balancing Act" and "Chemical Jeopardy," second place in the crystal-growing event, and third place in "Chemysteries," to earn the overall top rating. It was the first time the Fallston High Level II team has won a regional Chemathon. Call 410-638-4120 for more information. **NEW!**

• At MICCA's 2008 conference, held on May 1st, Martha E. Barwick, Media Specialist at Bakerfield Elementary School in Aberdeen, was honored as Harford County's Outstanding Educator Using Technology Award winner. Nominated by Janey Mayo, HCPS Technology Coordinator, Ms. Barwick is in her twelfth year of teaching, all but three of those in Harford County. For more information, call 410-273-5518. **NEW!**

• The 2007-08 "Excellence in Staff Development Award" recipient is Mary Boswell-McComas, Instructional Facilitator at Aberdeen High School, in recognition of the "High Quality Initial and Closing Instruction" embedded staff development she and others executed at the school during the second quarter of last school year and continuing through the winter of the 2007-08 school year. Call 410-273-5500 for more information. **NEW!**

• Annually, the Maryland Future Farmers of America (FFA) holds a Spring Judging competition at the University of Maryland/College Park for teams in Career Development Events (CDEs). More than 450 FFA members attended the 2008 event, which was held on April 8th. The four-member Harford Technical High School Food Science team finished first in that event among the 12 teams competing at the Spring Judging event. The team is composed of Marc Donars, Jen Preston, Kait Bischoff, and Samie Pencek. The Harford Tech team advisor is Agri-Business teacher Naomi Knight. The four – along with Zach Hout and Nykki Stritzinger – also won individual gold medals in the competition. The winning Tech Food Science team qualified for a trip to Indianapolis, Indiana in October for the national championships. For more information, call Renie Valenti at 410-638-3804. **NEW!**

• 200 eighth grade science students will participate in a special day of science demonstrations and interaction with area scientists and engineers through a cooperative effort with Harford Community College, Northeastern Maryland Technology Council, SAIC, and Aberdeen Proving Ground. The event will occur on May 29th from 9:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at HCC beginning in the Student Center. This event is called TNT, which stands for Technology Needs Teens and the intent is to provide further inspiration and attraction to science as an area of study and exposure to the many great careers in this area. For more information, contact Supervisor of Science, Dr. Dennis Kirkwood at 410-588-5217.

• Magnolia Middle School will host its Second Annual Medieval Festival on Friday, May 23rd. The event will take place at the school throughout the entire day. For more information, contact Deanna McJilton at 410-612-1525.

• On Saturday, May 17th from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Aberdeen Middle School will host a flea market in the side parking lot, as well as an American Red Cross Blood Drive and a student-run Health Fair with free health screenings from professionals. The event is part of a service learning project for 7th grade. The rain date for the flea market only is May 31st. For appointments to participate in the blood drive, contact Katie Scarborough at 410-273-5510.



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- On June 5th at 7:00 p.m., Youth's Benefit Elementary is hosting Mark Wood, of the Tran Siberian Orchestra, for a concert at Fallston High School. Mark Wood has come to YBES the past two years for a concert and workshops with our string students. The concert is a fundraiser for our arts programs at YBES. The cost is \$15 per seat. For more information, call Brad Stinar, Assistant Principal at YBES, at 410-638-4190.
- The Maryland Summer Center for Action Investigation is currently accepting applications for their program July 14-25th. The program is located at Harford Glen Environmental Education Center. This is a day program running from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Students entering grades 5th-8th are encouraged to apply. The program develops primary research skills using Harford Glen as its focus. Last year students conducted research on the pine tree infestation and whitetail deer population. To view last year's reports, go to www.hcps.org/gifted. Parents can register online at www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters. For questions, contact Eric Cromwell at 410-588-5354 or eric.cromwell@hcps.org.