



Memo to Media

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Monday, May 13, 2013

 **NEW! STREAM RESTORATION CHALLENGE GRANT – TREE PLANTING EVENT TOMORROW!**

HCPS recently partnered with the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning to complete a stream buffer restoration at the campus of Patterson Mill Middle/High. The project is funded through a Stream Restoration Challenge Grant through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and is headed up by Harford Glen and the Planning and Zoning Department. **Tomorrow, May 14, at 9:00 a.m., 120 7th grade students will assist with the planting of 400 native species of trees as service learning project.** The Bel Air Home Depot has provided tools and volunteers to assist with the project. Other organizations sending volunteers to the event include: Harford County Master Gardeners, Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Harford Glen Foundation, “Environmentalism” and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The planting will help to absorb nutrients from the headwaters of Bynum Run, increase habitat, increase forest cover and absorb CO2 from our atmosphere.

 **NEW! HARFORD COUNTY SECAC MEETING ON TRANSITIONING**

With less than a month left to go in the school year, it’s time to start looking ahead to next year. If your child or teen with special needs will be transitioning into preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school or beyond, you won’t want to miss the next Harford County Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) meeting this coming Thursday, May 16, from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. HCPS staff members will be present to address your concerns and answer your questions about transitioning. As always, the meeting will be held in the HCPS Board Room on the 1st floor of the A.A. Roberty Building (102 South Hickory Avenue, Bel Air). All parents, guardians, caregivers, HCPS staff and community members are welcome and are invited to attend. For further information, please call 410-588-5246 or e-mail comments@harfordsecac.com. You can also find them on Facebook at Harford SECAC.

 **NEW! ATTENTION CIVIL WAR BUFFS...**

You’re invited to A Night at the Museum - Civil War Style on Thursday, May 30, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Bel Air Middle School Gymnasium. The event is presented by Bel Air Middle School 8th Grade, and exhibits will feature key battles, heroes of the civil war, the soldier’s experience and much, much more. They will even have a few living history exhibits with live music. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Thursday, May 30. Anyone interested in setting up their own exhibit or lending your Civil War expertise, the school welcomes your participation. Please contact a Bel Air Middle School 8th grade social studies teacher at 410-638-4140.

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 **NEW! MEADOWVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES CANCER SURVIVORS, REMEMBERS THOSE LOST AND FIGHTS BACK AGAINST CANCER IN OUR COMMUNITY**

Meadowvale Elementary has watched a student, parents, staff members and family members of staff fight their own personal battles with cancer. In an effort to support all of the schools Mustangs, they have partnered with The American Cancer Society using the Relay Recess program to educate students and to raise funds to fight back against cancer. On Friday, June 7, 2013, Meadowvale Elementary will be hosting its first Relay Recess event as part of the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life program. This school-wide event will begin in the gymnasium at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 10:45 a.m. Students have been engaged in activities using a multi-sensory approach to remember how to protect their skin from the sun and learn about nicotine prevention. In addition, students will be walking the school's homemade track to raise money to fight back against cancer. The school is also inviting cancer survivors who are related to Meadowvale students to be celebrated during the Relay Recess. After the opening ceremony, survivors will walk the survivor lap on the track located on the back fields. For more information on the event, please contact the school at 410-939-6622.

 **SERVICE LEARNING CELEBRATION INVITATION – MAY 15**

Harford County Public Schools has developed an exemplary Service Learning Program that has become a model for other systems throughout the state. The Service Learning Program benefits students and the community simultaneously. Among the many outstanding Service Learning students, teachers and programs, there are a few that merit special recognition. Therefore, to recognize the Service Learning Stars, HCPS will hold its 15th Annual Service Learning Celebration on Wednesday, May 15, 2013, in the William Amoss Performing Arts Center adjoining Harford Technical High School. The program will be held from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Refreshments and social hour immediately following the ceremony.

 **HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CAPSTONE EXPO – MAY 16**

The Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Capstone Expo will be held Thursday, May 16, 2013, at Joppatowne High School. Light refreshments will be available from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m., followed by the keynote speaker from 5:30 to 6:30 and then the gallery walk from 6:30 to 8:30.

 **PARENT INVOLVEMENT MATTERS AWARD CELEBRATION – RING FACTORY PARENT REPRESENTS HARFORD COUNTY – MAY 17**

The Maryland State Department of Education will host the 6th Annual Parent Involvement Matters Award Celebration honoring 24 Maryland parents for their outstanding contributions to public education on Friday, May 17, 2013, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Eastern Technical High School (1100 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21221). HCPS is pleased to announce that Carol Vach, from Ring Factory Elementary School, has been chosen as the semifinalist to represent Harford County. The statewide winner will be announced at the gala on the 17th. Good luck, Ms. Vach!

 **SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ACADEMY GALLERY WALK – MAY 21**

The Science and Mathematics Academy Class of 2013 will host its Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects in the dining hall at Aberdeen High School on Tuesday May 21, 2013, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

 **JASON'S MUSIC CENTER – PIANO LIQUIDATION – MAY 26**

For the past few years, a number of Harford County public schools have had the benefit of using approximately \$400,000 worth of new grand, vertical and digital pianos provided free to the school system through a partnership with Jason's Music Center. This month, many of these pianos will be liquidated to the public at prices far below those found in local stores. Other new and used pianos from Baldwin, Kawai, Yamaha, Steinway, Samick and others will also be available. The selection will include grand pianos, vertical pianos and digital pianos. These instruments have been professionally maintained, and many carry new 10-year warranties. Financing and delivery can be arranged at the site. The successful liquidation of these pianos will enable Jason's to provide our schools with replacements for the upcoming year. The public sale is Sunday, May 26, from noon to 3:00 p.m.

 **SAVE THE DATE FOR THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM GALLERY WALK – MAY 29**

The Biomedical Sciences Program Class of 2013 will host its Gallery Walk of Senior Projects in the dining area at Bel Air High School on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The presentation of certificates will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. All are welcome to attend.

 **2013 HARFORD EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – MAY 29**

An [Educational Leadership Conference](#) sponsored by Harford Community College, Harford Business Roundtable for Education and the Harford County Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Wednesday, May 29, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Harford Community College in the Chesapeake Center. This conference will help answer questions regarding what education will look like in the future and how education will meet the needs of our students and the demands of an evolving workplace. In addition, the conference will help to establish a vision and set direction for the future. The featured keynote speakers are Dr. Lillian Lowery, Maryland state superintendent of schools, and Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, president of Montgomery College. The cost is \$25 per person, with a continental breakfast and lunch included. Reservations are required. For more information, please contact the Harford County Chamber of Commerce at 410-838-2020, or visit www.harfordchamber.org.

 **EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA CLASS OF 2013 – MAY 30**

The International Baccalaureate Ceremony for the Class of 2013 will be held in the Edgewood High School Auditorium on Thursday, May 30, 2013, at 7:15 p.m. Dessert reception to follow.

 **MASTERING THE PURCHASING MAZE: A REVERSE PROCUREMENT FAIR FOR HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – JUNE 11**

All business owners are interested in opportunities to grow their company and generate revenue. Sometimes it takes just the right connection to make that happen. "Mastering the Purchasing Maze" provides you an opportunity to meet school leaders and procurement officials from numerous areas within Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). This unique program is presented by the Greater Excellence in Education Foundation (GEEF). The event will begin with a hot breakfast, followed by presentations by Dr. Robert Tomback, HCPS Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Joe Licata, HCPS Chief of Administration. Following that, HCPS officials will be available for approximately two hours for the opportunity to talk one on one with you. Register online at www.geefinc.com by May 28. Take advantage of early bird registration by May 14 and save! See the [attached flier](#) for details. Contact Deb Merlock with any questions at geefinc@gmail.com.



 **HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEEKS APPLICANT FOR SCHOOL SYSTEM AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Board of Education of Harford County is seeking applications from interested county citizens to fill one opening on the school system’s Audit Committee. The purpose of the five-member committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary oversight responsibilities. The committee serves as an independent and objective party to monitor the HCPS financial reporting process and internal controls. To view the press release, [click here](#).

 **GRADUATION SCHEDULE**

[Click here](#) to access the 2013 HCPS high school graduation schedule. For a complete list of senior activities, visit hcps.org and click on the ‘calendars’ link.

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings*:

-  Monday, May 13, 2013: Board Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m., A. A. Roberty Building Board Room.
-  Tuesday, May 28, 2013: Board Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m., A. A. Roberty Building Board Room.

**For agendas, exhibits and more information, visit www.hcps.org or call 410-588-5203. Meetings can be viewed live on the school system website. An archive of all meeting videos also is available on the website. In addition, the meetings air Tuesdays, at 8:00 p.m., on Harford Cable Network.*

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