

ViewPoint – January 8, 2010

Calendar for the Week of January 11th

8th Grade News

Community News

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Jan. 11 PTA Meeting 7:00 PM

8th Grade News

New Student/Parent Orientation for the Class of 2014 on Thursday, January 14th.

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Open House- “How to Get Involved at MRHS” - Commons

7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Topics include: graduation requirements,
Grade 9 courses offered, course registration process, and more.

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Rotations with individual curricular areas

Students Not In Howard County School System - Parents of students attending private schools can register by making an appointment during the following days: January 27th - January 30th, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Please contact Ms. Deison, Registrar at 410-313-5446. The 2010-2011 catalog of approved high school courses will be sent to some of the local private middle schools. The catalog is also available on the following website www.hcpss.org.

Community News

G/T Parent Academy: Interested parents and community members are invited to attend on January 20, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM at Centennial High School Auditorium, 4300 Centennial Lane, Ellicott City.

The Social and Emotional Needs of Advanced-Level Learners: Strategies for Parents

Featured Speaker: Dr. Patricia Schuler is a National Certified Counselor with expertise on issues related to the educational and social/ emotional needs of highly able learners, including perfectionism, twice exceptional children, and underachieving advanced-level learners. Mark your calendar for this academy where you will learn practical strategies to help your child deal with the internal and external pressures related to being an advanced-level learner. If you are interested in learning how to reduce your child's perfectionism, anxiety and stress as they "reach for the stars," please plan to attend this Academy!

For additional information, please e-mail Stephanie Bateman at Stephanie_Bateman@hcpss.org or call 410- 313 - 6800.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SECAC) Q&A WITH SUPERINTENDENT DR. COUSIN on Wednesday, January 20th 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM at Cedar Lane School in Fulton. The Special Education Community Advisory Committee presents a Q & A with HCPSS Superintendent Sydney Cousin. Dr. Cousin will meet with parents of students receiving special education services to answer system-wide questions about Howard County schools and students with special needs. Questions are being taken in advance, please e-mail annschoolz@hcpss.org. There will also be an opportunity for questions the night of the event. For more information please call the Family Support and Resource Center at 410 313-7161. If Howard County schools are closed or if after school activities are canceled, the snow date will be January 27th.

Do you have a child between the ages of 5 and 18 years old interested in baseball? If so, the **Atholton Youth Recreation Association (AYRA)** would love to have him or her join us in enjoying America's favorite pastime. AYRA Baseball offers recreational and travel baseball programs for beginning to advanced players throughout the greater Columbia area. Registration for the Spring 2010 season is now open at www.ayra.com until March 1. We hope to see you on the ball diamond!

Capitol Debate will hold winter after school classes in Debate, Public Speaking and Mock Trial starting the week of January 25th. Introduction to Debate (grades 6 - 8) will be offered at Bonnie Branch Middle School on Mondays, Marriotts Ridge High School on Wednesdays and River Hill High School on Thursdays. A debate league for advanced debaters will be offered at Centennial High School on Tuesdays. Introduction to Mock Trial will be offered on Wednesdays at Marriotts Ridge for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. The cost is \$200. For more details/times and to apply, go to www.capitol-debate.com/winter2010.asp, or contact: Ronald Bratt, 443-538-4992 or mail to: bratt@capitol-debate.com

The **Howard County Poetry and Literature Society**, will host its 32nd annual Evening of Irish Music and Poetry with award winning short story writer Claire Keegan on Friday, February 19th at 8:00 PM at the James Rouse Theater in Columbia. Tickets are \$30 general admission and are available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/89385 or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a check payable to HoCoPoLitSo, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, 21044. For more information, call 410-772-4568.

The Howard County Autism Society and AMC Theatres at Columbia Mall will present a special needs movie showing of *Alvin and the Chipmunks: the Squeakquel* on Saturday, January 9th. Tickets are \$6 and may be purchased at the door. Doors will open at 9:30 AM and the movie will start promptly at 10:00 AM with no trailers. The volume will be kept down and the lights will be kept up. Sensory breaks are encouraged. All families and friends with special needs are welcome. For further information, contact Marianne Ross at rossfda@hotmail.com

On Saturday, January 16th, **Neurologist Dr. Norbert Myslinski will present his ideas on teaching and learning in “Keeping the Brain in Mind.”** He’ll explain how understanding the workings of the human brain improves the learning process, and will discuss relevant brain research and its application to the field of education. Dr. Myslinski, the founder of the national neuroscience competition Brain Bee, teaches at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. The talk begins at 1:00 PM at the Central Library in Columbia. To register, call 410-313-7850.

The Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission will present **its 25th Annual Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Civil Rights Leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, on Sunday, January 17th at Howard Community College’s Smith Theatre. The celebration is free to the public and will begin with a reception at 2:00 PM and a program at 3:00 PM. This year’s theme is “*I Have a Dream: Justice, Equality and Peace.*” The Commission asks that attendees bring a canned food item to support Howard County’s Food Bank. An interpreter for people who are deaf or hard of hearing will be available if requested seven days prior to the event. Call the Department of Citizen Services at 410-313-6400 (voice) or use Relay or 711 between 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. If you need accommodations to attend the celebration or for more information, contact the Office of Human Rights at 410-313-6430.

Learn which snacks can sustain your energy instead of sugar and caffeine, how to shop for and prepare simple meals for optimal performance at work and school, and how to identify healthy prepared meals on Wednesday, January 13th from 6:30 PM–8:00 PM at Tai Sophia Institute’s main campus (in the Montpelier Business Park near Rt. 29 and Johns Hopkins Rd). Create more wellness for you and your family with two weeks of FREE wellness classes at Tai Sophia Institute from January 12th-21st. Classes include:

Powerful Practices for Everyday Living – January 12th at 6:30 PM

Healthy Eating for the Busy Lifestyle - January 13th at 6:30 PM

Acupuncture for Health, Healing & Wellness – January 14th at 6:30 PM

Yoga and Meditation – January 21st at 6:00 PM

For a complete list of free classes and to reserve your seat, visit www.tai.edu, call 410-888-9048 ext. 6611, or email communityprograms@tai.edu.