



HCMS Cougar News

Harper's Choice Middle School
5450 Beaverkill Road, Columbia, MD 21044

Mr. Stephen Wallis, Principal Ms. Debra Scrandis, PTA President

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April 7, 2008

"The News that Roars"

Volume 6 Number 8

Principal's Corner

April 7, 2008

6th Grade Environmental Education Trip Info: We continue to be excited about this outdoor ed experience for our sixth-graders, to take place at Camp Ramblewood, in Cecil County, from May 28-30. Please refer to the paperwork that students received in homeroom on March 10. The final payment is due on April 28. Thanks again to the staff and the many parent volunteers who are making this wonderfully worthwhile experience happen for our youngsters. We are appreciative of the many monetary donations we've received. Sincere appreciation to parents Mrs. Lumpkin and Mrs. Rollow, as well as 6th Grade teacher Mrs. Trainer and 6th grade Team Leader Mrs. Friend for their generous time, leadership, and effort! Contact Mrs. Friend and/or refer to the following web site for information:

www.harperchoicems.com You may also refer to the Outdoor Environmental Education information in this issue of the CN.

Appropriate Dress Reminder: I recently reminded students of the importance of adhering to our school dress code. As the weather warms up, there is a tendency to wear clothing that might be appropriate outside of school that is not at all appropriate while attending school. I reminded all our cherubs to avoid wearing skirts that are too short, no skimpy blouses, no spaghetti straps, no skin showing whatsoever. Guys are to present themselves respectfully, as well.....no open arm t-shirts, etc. Additionally, I asked that they not wear high-heeled sandals or the flip-flop usually worn to beaches or that one might wear under an outdoor shower. While this footwear may be very appropriate for a soft sandy beach or for a social function, injuries can and do occur in the school setting. We sometimes encounter skinned toes, twisted ankles, and even falls as a result of unsafe footwear. It's also a consideration when I may need to count on youngsters' ability to respond to directions during an emergency such as a fire.

Debate Club Congrats: As you may know, we've a terrific Travel Debate Club at Harper's Choice, sponsored by Ms. Gorkiewicz. This activity provides students the opportunity to learn how to use language, how to make good opening and closing statements, how to rebut another's issue position, how to understand content and develop knowledge of an issue, and how best to make logical arguments that are effective and persuasive, so that their performance is solid and executed with class and dignity. Our students recently won their contest (on the topic of mandatory school uniforms) against Oakland Mills Middle School. Congratulations to 8th-graders *Nik Manohar* and *Carmen Harley*; 7th-grader *Sara Mannan*; and 6th-graders *Wengiel Gugssa*, *Al Rivera*, and *Angelus Bullock*!

Spelling Bee Contest: Congratulations to 6th-grader *Rebecca Fritz*, who competed in several rounds of the regional spelling bee competition on Friday, March 14, held at Howard High School. Sincere thanks once again to sponsors *Helen Kinigopoulos* and *Kathy Biscardi*. Much appreciation for everyone's support of this terrific academic activity!

Reading Kudos for PTA and Staff: We participated in the annual PTA Council *Give the Gift of Reading* book drive and, along with other school communities, collected hundreds of books that were donated to needy schools; HCMS will also receive collected books from another school, as well. Much appreciation to parent Beth Johnson and HCMS Reading Specialist Regina Hall for their hard work and effort. We also participated in the national *Read Across America* effort that allows for the celebration of reading throughout the year. Among the activities was a student book exchange and selected readings of Dr. Seuss's *Cat in the Hat*, by staff members and me, coordinated by media specialist Ms. Oatts, and Reading Team Leader Ms. Biscardi. Our students who met their Accelerated Reader goals for the 2nd marking period were rewarded by seeing the Atholton High School production of *Seussical the Musical*, facilitated by parent Setareh Shemali and reading teacher Ms. Biscardi. If you get a moment, check out our Reading Quilt that graces the wall adjacent to the Guidance and 8th Grade areas. These are colorful pieces of art paper that provide a description of the plot, along with creative illustrations. Parents were instrumental in placing this *Reading is Fun* "quilt" on the wall for everyone's enjoyment. My thanks and appreciation to parents and staff for providing such enriching experiences for our students, as well as to our students, themselves, for their hard work and accomplishments.

Major HCMS Drama Production KUDOS: The cast, crew, and directors provided spectacular entertainment last month

with our production of *Alice in Wonderland*; right here in our Cougar Café. Our student performers outdid themselves with very talented performances. Congratulations to *Mr. Mitton* on his directorial debut, as well as to *Mrs. Brenner* (and her girls) and *Ms. Marshall*, both of whom provided invaluable insights and assistance. Additional thanks to you wonderfully supportive parents for the time and effort that you, too, gave our program.

Carson Scholar: Congratulations to seventh-grader Lauren Marshall, who was selected a 2008 Carson Scholar! We're proud of Lauren's selection from a competitive pool of talented students. This honor comes with a \$1000 scholarship award that will be invested for her college education. My congratulations again to Lauren and her family!

HCMS March Madness: This PTA-sponsored Staff-Student Basketball Game fundraiser was conducted this past Thursday evening, April 3, before a Standing Room Only crowd of parents, students, families, and alumni. The activity was a total success and is sure to be something the community will witness annually at HCMS. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed three high-spirited basketball games, raffle drawings, free give-aways, a fashion show by our Cougar Time students, sub sandwiches, and Rita's desserts! The audience of parents, students, and friends were entirely supportive throughout! Veterans and student teaching staff rocked by winning all three games! Much appreciation to our PTA, parents Becky Ramsing and Kathy Eckley, HCMS staff, our parent game officials and all of our students! The entire evening was a collaborative effort that was a real slice of community Americana!

Additional kudos to our students and staff.....

Science Department: Felicitations, as well, to the following students, who won deserved recognition at the recent Howard County Mathematics, Science, and Technology Fair:

Brittany Baleno---Middle School Winner, Category: Physics - Light, Sound, and Thermodynamics; *Duncan Enerson*, Middle School Runner-Up, Category: Physics Mechanics; and *Emily Rizzo*, Specialty Award, Best Presentation, awarded by Johns Hopkins Society of Engineering Alumni. Additionally, the following students were awarded Blue Ribbons of Excellence: *Emma Boone*, *Henry Enerson*, *Julia Singleton*, and *Patrick Quinn*.

We're proud of our students, their parents, and our staff, who help instruct and nurture our students daily. They are among the reasons why HCMS is a National "School of Excellence."

Accelerated Reader Program: Congrats to those many students, who reached their 2nd marking Period goal and were rewarded with a field trip for their efforts to attend the performance of *Seussical the Musical* at Atholton High School. Much appreciation to our reading staff, including Ms. Biscardi, Ms. Hall, and Ms. Oatts, who facilitated this effort, as well as PTA parent Mrs. Shemali, who worked with our PTA to fund this activity. Our students enjoyed the high school performance, and I'm always appreciative when I hear that our students "were well behaved and carried themselves very responsibly." Terrific!

Young Authors Contest: Congrats to 6th grader Kiana Fok, who won 2nd Place in the Maryland State Young Authors Contest for her short story entitled, "The Guardian Chronicles: Wild Run." Kiana earlier won at the Howard County level. She was up against a host of other middle schoolers, and we're proud of this budding author!

Chamber Orchestra: Congratulations to the Chamber Orchestra for their outstanding performance at the Howard County Orchestra Adjudication Tuesday afternoon at Marriotts Ridge High School. Our students received overall *Superior* ratings for their performance. Our cherubs are commended for the time and effort they put forth to prepare for their performance that resulted in such high scores. Much appreciation, as well, to orchestra teacher *Mrs. McKay* for her fine instruction and encouragement! Congratulations on a job well done!

HCPSS Instrumental Band Adjudication: Kudos to *Ms. Miranda-Valladares* and our symphonic band students on their performance at Hammond High School. Our students received "Excellent" ratings, with a "Superior" rating for their sight-reading. Moreover, our students exhibited excellent behavior. We're proud that our students represent us so well throughout the community. Congratulations, again to Cassandra and our symphonic band!

Sweet Serenades: Congratulations to our music staff and students, who displayed talented singing and musicianship at our March 26 annual music variety. It was standing room only again this year, and we're appreciative of everyone's

efforts, including our wonderful parents, who manned the dessert tables (as well as provide many of the treats!) and assisted with tickets. Family and Consumer Science teacher Ms. Flanagan and her students made several desserts for the event, as well! Congratulations to our student performers, staff, and parents. Additional congrats to teachers *Mrs. Brisco*, *Mrs. McKay*, and *Ms. Miranda-Valladares*! Nicely done!

Fair Housing Poster Showcase: Kudos to eighth-grader *Kathryn "Kit" Winner*, whose poster will be featured in the Fair Housing Month Poster Showcase at the Columbia Mall, commencing Friday, April 18. The annual showcase displays the artwork of some 26 students county-wide and commemorates the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Fair Housing Act by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

County Teachers' Union Climate Survey: FYI.....again this year we're among the highest schools with positive workplace morale. I don't ever take this for granted, as there are a host of troubling school workplace environments in and out of the county. Quality Management dictates that we look at how we might improve upon yesterday in order to be *ahead of the curve* tomorrow. I've asked the faculty, and I would ask you, as well, to feel free to advise me how we might improve on any area of the teaching-learning process. The more that my staff love to come to work everyday, the better chance that they and your students—all of us---will be successful. It continues to be a pleasure working with so many talented and committed educators. I am appreciative of the inordinate time and effort that so many of them give to each other and to this community's cherubs! I thank you, as well, for your active involvement in your youngster's education!

Staff Retirements: My secretary, Ms. Joyce Minor, retires from the school system at the end of this month (April 30). While I (and many of you) wish her well, she will be missed. Ms. Minor remains the type of individual who never minds greeting and extending a warm welcome to those who visit Harper's Choice Middle. Joyce has been a loyal employee, always offering a hand to assist others on the staff. She has worked at a number of schools, and she was noted for arriving at work in the morning before the birds awoke. I will miss her smiling face and her good-natured attitude regarding any number of the myriad tasks I have asked of her over these last several years. I know she looks forward to spending more quality time with her grandson and family. We wish her all the best in her retirement and know that she will likely find herself in the future volunteering some of her time at a community's school, which will be a happier place with her involvement. Custodian Edna Butler also retires after having served the Harper's Choice community for over 20 years. Ms. Butler was instrumental throughout the day, ensuring that the building was clean, staff and their classrooms attended to, and that each youngster was given her immediate attention. She was also a mentor to high school special needs students, who gained valuable experience working in a public setting. We wish Ms. Butler a fulfilling retirement filled with wonderful relationships and new, exciting experiences.

Staff changes: GT resource teacher Ms. Gorkiewicz returns to the 7th grade team, taking over the science position vacated by Mr. Bethea, who has taken a position outside the field of education. We welcome long-term substitute teacher Mrs. Kim Clawson, who will step to the plate and fill the GT resource position for the remainder of the year. Mrs. Clawson brings years of successful GT teaching experience and is excited about the opportunity to teach at HCMS; I plan to fill the position with a full-time teacher in the fall. We wish Mr. Bethea the best, we're happy to welcome Ms. Gorkiewicz back to the science classroom, and we extend a warm greeting to Mrs. Clawson.

Professional Development School (PDS): As you may know, HCMS operates a "Professional Development School," in concert with Towson University, which sees a number of student teachers working along side our veteran classroom teachers. HCMS social studies teacher Ms. Leighanne Vader is our PDS site coordinator for this program. We recently completed the first phase of student teaching that saw student interns Alisha Braun, Brian Sackett, and Loryn Keyser working with Ms. Vader, Ms. Marshall, and Mrs. Crandall respectively. We currently host the following student teachers, along with their respective cooperating HCMS veteran staff: Mr. Kelly Caprorola---Mr. Hollenbeck; Ms. Jen Merson---Mrs. Burnett; Mr. Matt Dymek---Mrs. Dixon; and Ms. Monica Lynch---Mrs. Brenner. This kind of professional development program is enriching for all of us, and I know that all of these student interns are in good hands. You may well hear your youngsters make reference to some of these future professional classroom teachers.

It's Linguistic! The county-wide fourth annual "It's Linguistics" competition takes place on Saturday, April 19, from 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at Burleigh Manor Middle School. HCMS has brought home a First Place trophy in the French competition the previous three years! This will also be the second year that we will participate in both the French and

Spanish competitions. If your schedule allows, feel free to join us! Best wishes to Madame Allera, Señor Sorkin, and our French and Spanish participants.

HCMS Extended-Day After-School Program: As you may know, we continue to offer this after-school activity weekly, Monday thru Thursday, throughout most of the academic year. Much appreciation to Asst. Principal Mrs. Murray, lead teacher/media specialist Ms. Oatts, teachers Ms. Britton, Ms. Biscardi, and Ms. Rodriguez, instructional assistants Ms. Green and Ms. Jackson, Howard County Police extended-day officer John Gazmen, and Howard County Parks & Rec staff Shawnte' Berry (Program Director), Jason Kronzer (Asst. Director), and Cheryl Coleman (recreation leader) for their fine efforts in providing a healthy after-school environment for many of our youngsters.

HCPSS MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION STANDARDS: In order to be promoted from Grade 6 to Grade 7, from Grade 7 to Grade 8, or from Grade 8 to high school, middle school students must accomplish the following: 1.) Pass all courses; 2.) Receive a final grade of "C" or better in English, mathematics, reading, science, and social studies. *Students who do not meet this requirement will automatically be considered for retention and be recommended to attend summer school.* Academic eligibility standards will apply to ninth-graders beginning with the first marking period of their freshman year, at which time they will be expected to maintain a 2.0 grade point average and have no failing grades in order to participate in extracurricular activities. These rules govern academic eligibility for student participation in all extracurricular activities, including but not limited to: athletic teams, cheerleading, school plays and musicals, school clubs, running for or serving in an elected school office, and non-required trips by performing groups (i.e. bands, choirs, etc.). Feel free to pick up a copy from any school's administrative office.

HCPSS Local Assessments: As you know, we administer to all students end-of-quarter "local assessments" in mathematics, English, science, and social studies. Additionally, assessments are given to students in health education classes, as well as in 7th and 8th Spanish and French classes in marking periods 2 & 4. Teachers work hard to ensure that appropriate material is completed for each marking period's assessments. While reading skills/tasks are embedded in these assessments, there is considerable writing involved. Individual and group assessment data are used to provide feedback for teachers to target student areas of weakness and strength, allowing intervention strategies to improve student learning. The relevant feedback on instruction and learning is also used to inform future instruction and modifications to curricula. FYI.....these county-wide school system assessments are given each grading quarter throughout the school year.

Maryland State Assessments: FYI..... these state assessments (for all grade levels) are administered during April and May. The mathematics MSA's took place on April 1 and 2; reading MSA's will take place April 8 and 9; science MSA will occur for only our eighth-graders between April 23 and May 13; and the algebra High School Assessment (HSA) will be administered on May 22. Much appreciation to those parents who volunteer their time to assist as MSA school hallway area monitors. You may also feel free to contact guidance staff with any questions regarding these assessments.

End-of-Third Marking Period: Friday, April 4, marked the end of the third quarter. Student report cards will be issued Wednesday, April 16. Please promptly return the signed envelope to your youngster's advisory/homeroom teacher.

As always, thank you for recognizing the importance of a shared partnership in the education of (y)our youngsters!

Sincerely,

Stephen Wallis
Principal

GUIDANCE NEWS

Absence for Religious

Obligation Beginning January 22, 2008, the implementation date of the revised policy, the *Absence for Religious Obligation* form (to be used in conjunction with revised Policy 3000, Religious Observances) must be completed by the parent for consideration of an excused absence for religious obligation. All requests must be signed by the principal/principal's designee and forwarded to the Office of Equity Assurance for consideration.

The new form may be obtained in the Guidance Office, or the HCPSS website (see For Parents: Forms). [LINK](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Autism Awareness Nights at The Rockfish Restaurant in Annapolis! The Rockfish Restaurant is hosting Autism Awareness nights on the third Tuesday of each month. Families with children who have Autism are encouraged to come and enjoy a family meal without any stigma. The chef will offer several items that are either gluten or asein-free and background music will be turned down to reduce sensory overload. A quiet room will be available if needed. The evening is all about acceptance and understanding and helping loved ones enjoy all the experiences that everyone else enjoys. 10% of the proceeds from each of the Autistic Awareness evenings will be donated to Pathfinders for Autism. Please call 410-267-1800 for more information.

The Howard County Autism Society and AMC Theatres at Columbia Mall will be offering movie showings for families with special needs. There will be no trailers, the volume will be kept down and the lights will be kept up. Children are encouraged to take sensory breaks. All families and friends with special needs are welcome. Showings will start at 9:30am and doors open at 8:45 am. Cost is \$6.00 per person. The upcoming schedule is:
4/12/08: Nim's Island

Parents of children with AD/HD. A new support group has formed! CHADD Parent Support Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month 7-8:30 pm, at the Norbel School, 6135 Old Washington Rd, Elkridge, MD, 21075. For more info, please call: Nancy Rhodes, 410-796-6700.

STRESSLESS TESTS a non-profit organization recognized as an educational partner with the Howard County Public School System presents Study Skills:

Spring Middle School Study Skills classes meet Monday evenings April 7 - 28, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., or Tuesday afternoons April 22 - May 13 from 3:45 - 5:45 p.m.. The fee is \$175 and includes the *Study for Success* DVD. Classes meet at Burleigh Manor Middle School.

Summer Study Skills is now a 5-day course, with new games and activities for a lighter touch for summer. Middle School classes start the weeks of July 28, August 4 and August 11, and meet from 12 noon to 2 pm. The fee is \$185 and includes the *Study for Success* DVD. All classes meet at Centennial High School.

6th Grade Environmental Education Trip Info

We're excited about our planned outdoor ed experience for our sixth-graders, to take place at Camp Ramblewood, in Cecil County, from May 28-30. Please refer to the paperwork students received in homeroom on March 10. The third payment was due on Friday, March 14, and the final payment is due on April 28. We are appreciative of the many monetary donations we have received. Special thanks to parents Tracey Lumpkin, Geri Rollow and to teacher Betsy Trainer for their support of this endeavor. Please contact Sixth Grade Team Leader, Tiffany Friend with questions. You may also refer to the following website for information: www.harperschoicems.com

ART NEWS

36th Annual Spring Student Exhibition at The
Columbia Mall

Tuesday, March 25th thru Sunday, April 6, 2008

**Artist's reception Wednesday, April 2nd at 6:45 pm
at the lower level Lord and Taylor**

The following students work will be on exhibit:

Thomas Klotz, Jordan Moreno, Amanda Bevans,
Rebecca Newkirk, Danielle Ortmann, Shawn Winans,
Melanie Anderson, Sarah Eber, Paul Luoma, Miriam
Acevedo, Quanesha Matthews, Mazbura Rahman,
Cristal Mills, Melissa Barall, Ainsley Duke, Monica
Albizo, Jordan Wright

STRUCTURES Exhibit

at The Howard County Center for the Arts

March 14th – April 25th

Artist's reception April 4th 5-7 pm

The following students work will be on display:
Kelvin White, Deniz Ertenu, and Anthony DeMaio

7th Grader, Kara Murphy's artwork will be featured in
the Howard County Middle School Literary
Magazine. A special reception will be held on April
29th at the Oakland Mills Interfaith Center from 7-
8:00pm.

Kelvin White, Deniz Ertenu, Anthony DeMaio, and
Rebecca Newkirk's work is on display at the Howard
County Arts Center from March 14th-April 25th. A
special reception for the artist and their families was
held on April 4th from 5-7pm.

2008-09 NEW PROCEDURE FOR FAMILY LIFE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY EXCLUSION

Next year parents/guardians will be asked to present a
written request to excuse their child from family life
and Human Sexuality. Mrs. Grizio, the health teacher
at Harpers Choice Middle School, will no longer hand

out permission slips for this class. Please feel free
to contact Mrs. Grizio if you have any questions or
comments. maureen_grizio@hcpss.org

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Harper's Choice Middle School is proud to continue
the second year of recognizing outstanding students
each month. The students are nominated by the
individual teams for displaying the three
characteristics focused on throughout the school
year: Respect, Responsibility, and Relationship
Building. When stopping by the front office, take a
look at the pictures of the students as they are
recognized each month. We are proud of their
efforts. Keep up the good work!

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

Did You Know? Sniffing solvents is more popular
than smoking Marijuana for teenagers looking to
get high. 593,000 children experiment with
inhalants every year. 45.5 percent of children ages
12 to 13 have sniffed inhalants. 12.4 percent of 16
to 17 year olds sniff inhalants. Prolonged use of
inhalants can damage the central nervous system.
The most popular types of inhalants among children
are: glue, shoe polish, and toluene (paint thinner).

Important!! Physical Exam forms have been mailed
home for students that do not have a Maryland
Physical form in their medical files. It is important
that the Health room have this vital information, the
information contained in these forms gives us a
baseline to go by (such as blood pressure readings)
should an emergency arise.

All students should update their physical forms.
When you schedule your child for his/her annual
physical exam, please contact the Health Room for
a form. Some of our students have physical forms
that date back to Kindergarten, its important that
your child's medical information be routinely
updated.

Some students have requested cough drops for their coughs or sore throats. The Health Room can distribute cough drops (Riccolla or Fruit Breezers- cough drops that do not contain medication) to students provided that parents purchase the drops and bring them to the Nurse with a permission letter.

Please make sure you fill out the extended day field trip forms. We will use the needed information for all field trips! If your child takes medication regularly or needs to take medication on an extended day field trip, please have the doctor fill out their portion of the form.

Remember to update new phone numbers ASAP. If an emergency arises the emergency contact information you provide to us is our only lifeline to you.

If your child's medical condition or medications change, notify the Health Room (the first thing the paramedics ask is what medications is this child taking, are there any allergies to medication, or do they have asthma). This updated information could save your child's life!

Spring is coming. Be prepared!

Does your child have Asthma? Asthma is a chronic condition that affects about 10% of children at some time during childhood. Some of the common triggers are: Viral infections, exercise, allergens, environmental irritants, and emotions. If your child has asthma, please be sure that the Health Room has an inhaler for your child should an episode arise.

Also, does your child have an allergic reaction to bee-stings or food? If any Epi-pen is needed for such cases, make sure the Health Room has one available for your child.

Not sure if you should send your child to school? If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, the student needs to stay home. Students need to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. The isolation of ill students at home can prevent the spread of illness in the school.

If you are in need of health insurance for your child.....you may be eligible for the Maryland Children's Health Program. Call 1-800-456-8900 for more information. Remember, a physical exam is needed for every child who attends a Howard County Public School.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Vollmerhausen or Annette Grzybinski in the Health Room.

CELL PHONES

Cell Phone Recycling

If you are swapping out your phone for one with more bells and whistles, don't throw the old one away. Recycle it instead of seeing it end up in a landfill.

Decrease landfill: more than 500 million mobile phones are in landfills now, with another **125 million heading to landfills** this year alone!

Start a trend: in the past 4 years, **fewer than 1% of phones** were recycled or reused.

Help Harper's Choice Middle School: coming soon to our school – a cell phone recycling box that will earn our school much needed funds.

So, start gathering up your old phones, tell your family and neighbors.

For more information please contact Raquel L. McLaughlin at raquelmclaughlin@gmail.com or at 301.307.0101

While we appreciate your cooperation with the collecting/recycling of cell phones, please remind your children that Harper's Choice Middle School is a cell phone free building. Cell phones may be brought into the building but have to remain off and in their locker during the school day. We also request that parents not use cell phones in the building. Your cooperation is appreciated.

GT NEWS

- April 9 - Incoming 6th Graders G/T Orientation.
7-8pm. Cougar Cafe
- April 29 - G/T Parent Meeting. 7-8:30pm. Meeting
House at Oakland Mills
- May 7 - Middle School Book Club Meeting.
7-8pm. Barnes and Noble, Ellicott City.
- May 14 - HCMS Enrichment Fair. 6:30-8:00.

If you have any questions regarding the G/T program
at HCMS, please contact Ms. Gorkiewicz
at Megan_Gorkiewicz@hcpss.org

HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library is offering FREE live on-line homework help. Check it out at www.howa.lib.md.us/. The service is available seven days a week from 2 p.m. through 1:00 a.m. Eastern time. Students in 4th-12th grades, as well as college freshmen, can use the service as often as they wish and receive help in math, science, social studies and English. A Howard County Public Library card is necessary to access this free service.

WILD LAKE HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS

Annual Bull Roast and Auction
Friday, April 18th
8pm until Midnight
Ten Oaks Ballroom
5000 Signal Bell Lane
Clarksville, Maryland

FUN, FOOD, LIVE MUSIC AND AUCTION

Tickets are \$40.00 per person and can be purchased from Kathy Hanks in the WLHS front office or from Denise Richards at 410-772-0437. Make checks payable to WLHS Boosters.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

It is our pleasure to congratulate 7th grader, Lauren Marshall on being selected a **2008 Carson Scholar**. with this honor, she will receive a scholarship award that will be invested for her college education. Lauren's achievement will be honored with a banquet at Martin's West. We wish her continued success.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 10 – Market Day Pick-up 7:45 pm – 8:45 pm
- April 16 – Report Cards issued
- April 24 - Schools Closed
Professional Development Day
- April 28 – Final payment due for 6th Grade
Environmental Ed Trip
- May 16 - Schools Closed
Professional Work Day
- May 26 - Schools and Offices Closed
Memorial Day
- May 28 - 30 6th Grade Environmental Ed Trip
- June 11 - 8th Grade Picnic 10 am-1:45 pm
Cedar Lane Park
- June 12 - Schools close 3 hours early
8th Grade Farewell Ceremony 7 – 8 pm
- June 13 - Schools close 3 hours early
- June 16 - Last day for students
Schools close 3 hours early