

The Bulletin

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June 7, 2004

A weekly newsletter for and about Montgomery County Public Schools

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Distinguished Hispanic Scholars honored

Six high school seniors were honored for academic excellence with a Distinguished Hispanic Scholarship Award, given by the Hispanic Employees Association of MCPS (HEAMCPS) at a May 21 ceremony.

Each MCPS high school selects one Hispanic scholar with the highest grade point average and community involvement. The awards committee chooses the recipients.

This year's recipients are:

- Josefina Ruiz, John F. Kennedy HS, \$2,000 from Counseling Plus
- Cesar Arze, Seneca Valley HS, \$1,500 from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery County
- Sandra Katz, Winston Churchill HS, \$1,500 from HEAMCPS
- Alejandro Levender, \$1,500

from HEAMCPS

■ Daniel Ricci, Paint Branch HS, \$500 from Forest Oak MS

■ Henrique Jose Siblesz, Quince Orchard HS, \$500 from HEAMCPS

All of the nominees were recognized at the gala. This year's speaker was Moreno Carrasco, principal of Richard Montgomery HS.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Counseling Plus, Forest Oak MS, the Iris Brown Scholarship Committee, Radio America, Lauriol Plaza Restaurant, and friends and members of HEAMCPS all contributed toward the scholarships.

Anyone who would like more information or to donate to the fund can contact Vicki Medina, HEAMCPS president, at 301-230-0670 or on FirstClass or Outlook. □

Four outstanding educators receive Greenblatt awards

Four MCPS teachers have won Excellence in Teaching Awards from the Marian Greenblatt Education Fund, which recognizes teachers for excellence in motivating and educating students. This is the 16th year the awards have been given.

Veteran Teacher Awards went to Pamela Fountain, seventh grade science teacher at Tilden MS; Amy Malone, English and debate teacher at Thomas S. Wootton HS; and Shelly Nicoll, English teacher at Forest Oak MS. The First-Year Teacher Award went to Nicholas Chupka, seventh grade English teacher at Takoma Park MS.

Each teacher is being honored at a special ceremony at his or her school.
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Supporting services

"What type of health insurance do I have?"

"I'm turning 65 and eligible for Medicare. What do I need to do?"

"We're trying to calculate how much to put into the budget next year. I need the hourly rates for employees."

Those are some of the many questions that staff answer for the 350 to 400 employees who call the ERSC Call Center/Transactions Unit each day.

Many others walk into the center for information. And behind the scenes, staff also deal with a multitude of transactions that need to be entered into employees' records, rang-

Calls, transactions and more to help employees

ing from new hires to retirements, with a lot in between.

Serving the 23,000 people that the school system pays on a biweekly basis, plus outside vendors, insurance companies and others, is a big job for a staff of a dozen employees.

At the head of it all is Patricia Hurd, supervisor of the ERSC Call Center/Transactions Unit, whose job is to make sure that it all goes smoothly.

The Call Center/Transactions
(continued on page 3)



Patricia Hurd (standing) talks with payroll assistants Carrie Miller and Frances Shelton.

Board selects five candidates for seat

The Board of Education has selected five candidates from among the 17 individuals who applied to become the District 5 representative following the upcoming resignation of Vice President Reginald M. Felton. The term would end in November 2006.

The five candidates—Mary T. Edwards, Philip S. Kauffman, Henry Lee, Leslie K. Ridgway and Ruby A. Rubens—will be interviewed by members of the Board after the regularly scheduled June 8 business meeting. The interviews are open to the public.

The interviews are a continuation of the process by Board members to assess

the qualifications of the candidates for appointment. Each 20-minute interview will involve a structured question and answer session. The questions focus on the candidate's perceptions of the role of a Board member, professional and civic experiences, priorities, assessment of the needs of District 5, and availability for extensive meetings and other public commitments.

Board members selected the five finalists following a review of information submitted by each applicant. The Board will vote on the appointment by the end of June. □



Announcements

Continuing Professional Development registration. Registration has been completed for the summer Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses using the new Instructional Management System (IMS). Since there is a module within IMS designed specifically to manage staff development courses, IMS will continue to be used as the method for registration. Employees who do not have a login and password to gain access to IMS or are unfamiliar with the software, contact the Help Desk at 301-517-5800.

Red Cross blood drive. The American Red Cross, in collaboration with MCPS, has scheduled a blood drive for Thursday, July 8, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the CESC auditorium. Volunteer blood donors are needed to help alleviate a serious blood shortage in Montgomery County. To schedule an appointment to be a blood donor, call Kathy Yorro, Department of Communications, 301-279-3391.

Science in the Cinema. The National Institutes of Health Office of Science Education will sponsor Science in the Cinema, a free film festival every second Tuesday through July. The films, with medical science-related themes, will be held at the AFI Silver Theater in Silver Spring. For information, visit <http://science.education.nih.gov/cinema> or call 301-495-6720.

Next Bulletin Aug. 30. This is the last Bulletin for the 2003-2004 school year. The next issue will be published Aug. 30. □

MCPS, UMD continue Teachers as Scholars

During the 2004-2005 school year, MCPS will continue a partnership with the University of Maryland designed to provide 25 teachers with an opportunity to participate in Teachers as Scholars.

This professional development program focuses on partnering teachers with the faculty of universities and colleges. Through the program, prekindergarten through Grade 12 teachers have the opportunity to immerse themselves in scholarly topics.

The Teachers as Scholars program is a collaborative project between the University of Maryland and several Maryland school districts. Starting next fall and continuing through the

spring, small group seminars led by preeminent professors will be held on the University of Maryland, College Park, campus. Substitutes will be provided for those selected to participate in the program.

Seminar descriptions, selection criteria and the Teachers as Scholars application can be found at <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/outreach/tas/>. The application deadline is Friday, June 18.

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, the University of Maryland and MCPS provide funding for the program. Additional information may be obtained through the web site or from Russ Fazio, Office of Staff Development, at 301-353-8556. □

Pignone award

Tom and Sue Pignone congratulate Damascus HS graduate Patrick Boughan as Superintendent Jerry D. Weast looks on. Boughan received this year's Sue and Tom Pignone Community Service Scholarship award. This is the fifth year the award has been given to children of MCPS employees who are headed to college and who have demonstrated commitment to community service.



The Bulletin

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The Barnsley Olympians

Deputy Superintendent Gregory Thornton congratulates the Destination Imagination 2004 Maryland State Champions, from the Lucy V. Barnsley ES gifted and talented fourth and fifth grade center: Melodi Anahtar, Russell Crock, Ty Migdal,



Douglas Pierce and Anastasia Sorokina (not pictured Theo Cohen). Coaches of the team are Arthur Cohen of Chevy Chase and Abhisake Kole of George Washington University. The team wrote a script, designed a set, created costumes and constructed a unique “DI-verter” which sets off two different chain reactions. The group competed in the Global Finals in Knoxville, Tenn. May 26-29. Also competing in the Global Finals were teams from Wood Acres, Bethesda, Stone Mill, Gaithersburg and Kensington Parkwood elementary schools.

School system wins state CTE awards

A Montgomery County Public Schools unit and a school system business partner received two of the 2004 Awards of Excellence presented by the Maryland State Department of Education June 2 to honor career and technology education.

The MCPS Career and Technology Education Team was named Outstanding Change Agent—Secondary. The Outstanding Business Partnership—Secondary award went to the Montgomery County Teachers Federal Credit Union.

The awards, from MSDE’s Division of Career Technology and Adult Learning, honor individuals, programs and businesses for outstanding performance in secondary and postsecondary career and technology education. □

Call Center/Transactions Unit is ‘one-stop shop’ for service

(continued from page 1)

tions Unit is part of the Employee and Retiree Service Center, which opened July 1, 2003. Hurd’s unit encompasses the former Division of Payroll, Division of Insurance and Retirement, and parts of the former Department of Employment Standards.

“The Call Center is a new concept with MCPS,” Hurd says. “Employees used to be bounced around from one area to another. We needed to make what we call a one-stop shop, where employees can come in or call in and get answers to anything concerning benefits, payroll, retirement, workers comp, leave, anything like that.”

The Call Center is open from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. every day, with full coverage at all hours. The front desk also is open for walk-ins during the same hours and receives plenty of business. “We’re never sitting idle!” Hurd notes.

Some of the people who call the center are upset. For example, they may be missing a paycheck, perhaps because their time was not reported for the pay period. “We try our best to help them understand the situation,” Hurd says. Sometimes that means directing employees to speak with a supervisor or timekeeper, in the case

of time not reported. Other questions may require research, and the staff tries to call back with the information within a 48-hour period. “We try very hard to see that employees are satisfied with the answers,” Hurd says.

The Call Center also takes calls from outside MCPS, verifying employees’ positions or salaries for areas including auto accidents, Social Security, social services or housing.

The Call Center is only one of the major areas under Hurd’s supervision. The other is transactions. Assistant supervisor Mary Jo Campo and the other staff members must enter transactions from Human Resources into employees’ records. This encompasses a broad range of areas. For starters, there are forms for new employees, transfers and temporary part-time workers. Payroll transactions such as W-4 changes (exemptions forms) and the 10-month summer pay option forms. New enrollment health, vision and dental benefit forms. Tax-deferred annuity reductions and dues for all three unions. Plus the large area of transportation hours and schedule changes.

Sometimes the work comes in waves. Now is a big time for the re-

tirement area, entering transactions and terminations. Another peak period is late July and August, when new teachers are hired. Late August will see another wave of supporting services employment and transfers.

This past year has been a learning process for all the employees in the area, because they came to their jobs from three different areas of expertise. Hurd herself came to the position with a knowledge base in the payroll area. She began working with the school system in April 1984 as an account assistant with the Division of Payroll and was supervisor of the Department of Payroll before her current position.

“Everyone is training,” she says. “We’re still learning as we go along.”

Juggling the competing demands from numerous areas with a limited number of staff is a challenge, Hurd says—but one made easier with motivated staff members who have grown from one area of knowledge to being able to answer all the different areas. “I couldn’t ask for better people to supervise,” Hurd says. They are more than willing to help each other, and they work so well as a team to assure that we are meeting our goals to help employees.” □



June Instructional TV highlights

Channel 33

A First Look: Young students are introduced to a variety of scientific concepts that they can observe in the world around them. These programs encourage questioning with the use of engaging visuals. 1-Air; 2-Earth; 3-Magnets; 4-Planets; 5-Simple Machines; 6-The Sky Above. Gr. 1-3. Mon., 1-2 p.m.

NASA Connect: Better Health From Space to Earth: Students learn about the importance of good nutrition and exercise. They investigate what we can learn in space about our bodies here on Earth. Students see how researchers and scientists apply the mathematics concepts of measurement and estimation to study the loss of calcium in bones and the loss of muscle mass while astronauts are living and working in space. Gr. 6-8. Teacher guides at: http://connect.larc.nasa.gov/programs/2003-2004/better_health/guide.html. Mon., 3:30-4 p.m.

NASA "Sci Files": The Case of the Disappearing Dirt: This series is part of NASA's distance learning initiatives to integrate and enhance the teaching of math, science and technology to students. In this episode, the tree house detectives discover that their favorite location at the beach is shrinking. The detectives learn about erosion, rocks, and natural preservation. Gr. 3-5. Teacher Guides at: Mon., 11 a.m.-12 noon.

Scholastic's French Media Collection: Classic stories are told in French to help young students learn the language. 1-The Amazing Bone; 2-Where the Wild Things Are; 3-The Most Wonderful Egg in the World; 4-Happy Birthday Moon; 5-Teeny Tiny and the Witch Woman; 6-Strega Nona. Gr. K-5. Teacher guides at: Thu., 9-10 a.m.

Teen Issues: In this dramatic series, teens learn about making hard decisions and responsibility in dealing with difficult health and social issues during adolescence. 1-Teen Dads; 2-Eating Disorders; 3-Sexual Harassment: You Don't Have to Take It. Gr. 6-12. Tue., 3-4 p.m.

What Would I Be Good At? Young teens learn to analyze their personalities in order to recognize their strengths, interests, and preferences to see what career categories are best suited for them. Gr. 6-9. Tue., 2:30-3 p.m.

Channel 34

Education News Parents Can Use: Reforming High Schools & Career and Technical Education: Many students

leave high school unprepared, often lacking the basic skills they need to get a high-wage job or to pursue postsecondary education and training. See how schools across the country are taking the steps needed to prepare their students for the 21st century. Wed., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 10 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m. CC

The Expanding Cannon: Teaching Multicultural Literature in High School: These professional development workshops for high school teachers are an exploration of the richness of multicultural literature shown through four pedagogical approaches to teaching it: reader response, inquiry, cultural studies and critical pedagogy. These programs feature classroom footage illustrating these approaches, enriched by background information on featured authors and analysis of their works. 1-Reader Response: Pat Mora & James Welch; 2-Reader Response: Keith Gilyard & Mourning Dove. Teachers, Gr. 9-12. Fri., 5:30-7:30 p.m. CC

The Merrow Report: Testing: Education reporter John Merrow investigates education's headline-making issues. In this program, Merrow poses 12 provocative questions covering the complex and controversial issues of measuring learning, achievement and intelligence in children. Educators/Parents. Fri., 11 a.m.-12 noon.

Social Studies in Action: Teachers in this series explore social studies themes, theories of learning, teaching strategies and ways to connect social studies to the world outside the classroom. 1-Teaching Social Studies; 2-Teaching for Understanding; 3-Exploring Unity and Diversity; 4-Applying Themes and Disciplines; 5-Using Resources. Teachers, Gr. K-5 (wkly). Tue., 8-9 p.m. CC

Teaching High School Science: Investigating Crickets: Ninth-grade biology students design and conduct experiments about crickets. This program helps new and veteran science teachers integrate national science standards and inquiry into their classroom lessons. Fri., 2:30-3:30 p.m. CC

Teaching Reading: A Library of Classroom Practices: This video library features the teaching practices of kindergarten through second grade teachers from across the country. The teachers introduce students to reading through a variety of methodologies. See how students develop reading skills over time when engaged in effective reading practices. 1-Becoming Readers & Writers; 2-Writer's Journal; 3-Building Oral Language; 4-Thalia Learns the Details. Wed., 10 p.m.-12 midnight. CC □

Awards honor Marian Greenblatt

The Excellence in Teaching program was established in honor of the late Marian Greenblatt, a member of the Montgomery County Board of Education from 1976-84 and its president from 1978-79. Marian Greenblatt believed that excellent teachers should be recognized and that social studies should be given prominence in the curriculum.

The fund is managed by her widower, Dr. Marshal Greenblatt, a former NASA researcher who runs a tutoring program at Viers Mill ES, along with his sons and friends in the field of education. □

24 juniors receive Greenblatt awards for social studies

The Marian Greenblatt Fund honored one junior in each of the public high schools in Montgomery County for excellence in social studies.

Winners are selected by each school's social studies department. Each winner received a certificate and a check for \$100.

Social studies award winners are:
Bethesda-Chevy Chase: Elaine Hargrove
Montgomery Blair: Karima Tawfik
James Hubert Blake: Michael Lanning
Winston Churchill: Abby Fradkin
Damascus: Amber McCrady
Albert Einstein: Hernan Igot
Gaithersburg: Thanh Nguyen
Walter Johnson: John Lindsay
John F. Kennedy: Will Solomon and Aaron Josephson
Col. Zadok Magruder: Emily Harwood
Richard Montgomery: Saul Carlin
Northwest: Nabanita Pal
Paint Branch: Erin Mills
Poolesville: Rueben Goetzi
Quince Orchard: Askash Mathur
Rockville: Jenna Byrne
Seneca Valley: Jason George
Sherwood: Maria Lunsford
Springbrook: Brian Salant
Watkins Mill: Kaitlin Laws
Wheaton: Jin Xue
Walt Whitman: Jeffrey Luse
Thomas S. Wootton: Scott Leighty □

Four MCPS educators win Greenblatt teaching awards



Pamela Fountain's science students try to determine the type of gas in the light tube by looking through spectrum-splitting glasses during a unit on light.

(continued from page 1)

Pamela Fountain, Tilden MS

Pamela Fountain is a seventh grade science teacher, team leader and chair of the Science Department at Tilden MS. Her outstanding leadership skills and description as an "approachable mentor to young educators" have earned her this award. Due to her expertise, Tilden was chosen to participate in a National Science Foundation-funded project. Fountain also assists school administration in scheduling, training and anywhere else she is needed. She is recognized for doing an exceptional job with the inclusion program, where she educates students of all abilities. Her students speak of her respect for them, her warmth and sense of humor.



Amy Malone and one of her students check out the grant-funded video camera that, along with a computer editing program, helps her students make movies.

Amy Malone, Thomas S. Wootton HS

Amy Malone, a 2004 candidate for National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards, is an active member of the Wootton faculty. She created and implemented the debate elective course for the high school humanities program and is considered a leader in the debate field in the school system. Malone also founded the Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Committee to evaluate and promote academic integrity. Malone runs a student-centered classroom recognized for encouraging students to think for themselves and challenge each other for the sake of learning.



Shelly Nicoll receives her award from Marshal Greenblatt during a ceremony held in her honor at Forest Oak MS.

Shelly Nicoll, Forest Oak MS

Shelly Nicoll, English teacher and team leader at Forest Oak MS, is described by her principal as inspiring, motivational, understanding and innovative. She has not only spent time in England studying Shakespeare, she also has attended Audubon Camp in Maine to study ornithology, bringing this knowledge back to her students and developing her curriculum along the way. Nicoll's signature program, "The Bluebird Project," an environmental studies unit that is bringing bluebirds back to Forest Oak and other school grounds, has been recognized across the state by schools and nature organizations as a model for other schools.



Nicholas Chupka, first-year award winner, helps one of his students with a problem. His students have an opportunity to resubmit work and learn from their mistakes.

Nicholas Chupka, Takoma Park MS

Nicholas Chupka, a seventh grade English teacher at Takoma Park MS, is this year's first-year teacher winner. Chupka has impressed school staff, students and parents with his exceptional professionalism. "His youthful appearance is beautifully counterbalanced by a strong and confident presence before his students," writes Principal Jean Haven. Chupka's philosophy is "Don't be satisfied with mediocrity." Students are given every opportunity to "get it right" by resubmitting work and learning from their mistakes. In addition, Chupka is developing a program to encourage parent involvement in writing with their children. □



School news

Grace I. Chang of **Thomas S. Wootton HS** has won a \$2,500 state scholarship in this year's Discover Card Tribute Award program. She is one of seven scholarship recipients in Maryland. This is the 13th year of the program.



Comcast of Montgomery awarded \$23,000 in scholarships to the 2004 winners of the Comcast Student Achievement Awards at a May 19 ceremony. Winners were Andrew Kenyi of **Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS**, Aaron Johnson of **Montgomery Blair HS**, Cesar Cartegena of **James Hubert Blake HS**, Ilana Lakhman of **Winston Churchill HS**, Corey Flynn of **Damascus HS**, Daniel Saunders of **Albert Einstein HS**, Tanaisha Ramos of **Gaithersburg HS**, Christopher Jacques of **Walter Johnson HS**, Tele Amivi Aho of **John F. Kennedy HS**, Meyline Correa of **Col. Zadok Magruder HS**, Christopher Dunlop of **Richard Montgomery HS**, Rochelle Brown of **Northwest HS**, Latoshia Jackson of **Paint Branch HS**, Corey Shinko of **Poolesville HS**, Laura Alicia Turner of **Quince Orchard HS**, Nia Smith of **Rockville HS**, Boo Nguyen of **Seneca Valley HS**, Erin Schoonorer of **Sherwood HS**, William Schneider of **Springbrook HS**, Michael Nelson of **Watkins Mill HS**, Marina Kamal Haddad of **Wheaton HS**, Kevin Maloney of **Walt Whitman HS** and Evelyn Ferguson of **Thomas S. Wootton HS**.



Aaron Johnson of **Montgomery Blair HS** and Megan Turner of **Poolesville HS** were among 44 Maryland high school "Service Stars" recognized for service learning and leadership at Maryland's Service-Learning Leadership Recognition Reception.



Watkins Mill HS student Samantha Sanders was a southeast regional finalist in the DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition. The four Honorable Mention winners from MCPS were Emily Toy from **James Hubert Blake HS**, Alex Thibau from **Winston Churchill HS**, and Rebecca Casas and Sofia Danna from **Col. Zadok Magruder HS**.



The **Richard Montgomery HS** Mock Trial Team defeated Hebrew Academy in March and won the County Mock Trial Championship for the 11th time in 13

years. They went on to defeat Frederick HS to capture the Circuit Championship, defeated The Friends School of Baltimore to secure a Regional Championship and defeated James Bennett HS to advance to the State Championship, where they were defeated by The Park School of Baltimore County. Richard Montgomery has won one Mock Trial State Championship and has appeared in the Final Four six times in the past 12 years. Dan Evans, law and IB government teacher, has coached the team for the past 15 years.



Montgomery Blair HS senior Vital Akimana received the Youth Program Award at the 2004 NCCJ Brotherhood-Sisterhood Dinner, National Capital Area Region. A survivor of the 1994 conflict in Rwanda, Akimana is a leader in Blair's Diversity Workshop program and facilitated a program organized by the Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education in which residents discussed the relationship between race and achievement in county schools.



The National Television Academy announced that **Sally Lok** from James Hubert Blake HS is among six winners of the Student Television Award for Excellence, recognizing outstanding television journalism by high school students. Lok's citation comes in the writing category for a story entitled "Music Piracy."



The 6th Annual International Family Night held at **Glen Haven ES** April 30 was the successful outcome of a collaborative effort between the staff and PTA to reach out to all the families in the school's diverse population. The evening began with a "Gallery Walk" through halls where individual student and class projects, flags, reports and cultural dolls were displayed from countries all over the world. The event included a potluck dinner, student/parent fashion show and performances by students from Pre-K to Grade 5.



SGA representatives, staff and members of the Somerset Foundation presented **Broad Acres ES** with a check for \$750 to buy books for the media center and/or classrooms. This money was raised by pledges, with **Somerset ES** students reading more than 250,000 minutes during January.



On May 24, 25 and 26 **Banneker MS** sixth graders planted plants to restore the wetland and earn service learning hours. The school partnered with Fish and Wildlife on this project and has received a grant

from the Chesapeake Bay Trust for almost \$2,800.



Five **Rockville HS** juniors recently were selected for a newspaper internship program at The Gazette. Students will be writing, designing and producing the Youth Press section of the newspaper for six weeks, beginning in July. Youth Press appears in more than 250,000 copies of the Gazette's Montgomery County editions each week. Daniel Chou, Dara Kahn, Rachel Fauber, Graham Garvie and Tyler Spindel will work side-by-side with professional reporters, editors, photographers and layout artists. Rampage journalism advisor Peter Daddone arranged the program with Gazette Editor Judith Hruz.



The **North Bethesda MS** concert choir, under the direction of Dianne Hope, performed with Malcolm Dalglish, renowned hammer dulcimer player, this spring. The choir also performed on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center in celebration of Earth Day.



Greenwood ES's Harvest for the Hungry Kids Helping Kids campaign, under the leadership of Patty Marx and efforts of the Student Council, collected more than 6,500 pounds of food and was one of the top 10 winners in the state of Maryland. The council members were honored at a breakfast in the State House of Annapolis on May 20, where they met several dignitaries and received a monetary award for their efforts.



Second graders at **Darnestown ES** participated all year in an Interages program. Each week, two of the second grade classes went to Collingswood Nursing Home to visit the seniors there, talk and sometimes perform poetry or songs. Under the guidance of teacher Debra Sekuler, the students also wrote a persuasive letter to the County Council asking that funding for Interages be maintained.



Samantha Lightner, **Gaithersburg MS** seventh grader, has been selected to participate in the Junior National Student Leadership Conference, a leadership development program for outstanding middle school students. She is one of about 1,000 gifted middle school students from across the United States and from 45 countries around the world selected to attend.



The Student Government at **Fields Road ES** ran a food drive during the middle of

Middle school service

White Oak MS students sort books collected for students as one of their service learning projects. Student Service Learning Awards were promoted for the first time this school year to middle school students who performed 75 service learning hours or more between July 1, 2003, and May 1, 2004. White Oak, with 43 awardees, had the highest number of middle school students with 75 or more service learning hours. Superintendent Jerry D. Weast visited the school to talk about service learning and presented an award to instructional assistant Kim Fitts for her work in encouraging service learning.



May. Students collected more than 680 cans of food in a two-week period. Two classes of second graders—Mrs. Carroll's and Ms. Kramer's classes—collected more than 100 cans of food. Donations will go to Manna Food, which provides food for the needy.



Silver Spring International MS students participated in its third annual Hoops for Heart Event this spring. The students engaged in a variety of heart-healthy activities, including basketball and jump rope challenges, as well as learning how to check their blood pressure and perform CPR. Students raised \$12,572 to donate to the American Heart Association to aid in the fight against heart disease.



The NAACP Parent Council and Student Coalition of **Northwest HS** will hold an awards banquet June 10 to present awards to students, teachers and other community and business leaders who have shown commitment to excellence for students. The council has sponsored enrichment programs and scholarship funds for Northwest HS students.



This year's annual Spring Arts Festival at **Glen Haven ES** was dedicated to the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling *Brown v. Board of Education*. Students in Ms. Harzfeld's art classes worked collaboratively to create a large collage mural, with magazine and newspaper articles related to the *Brown* ruling used with tissue paper to create the border. Student and staff pictures were used to spell out "Kaleidoscope of Color," this year's theme. Each student had a piece of artwork displayed along with a classroom display illustrating themes such as tolerance, acceptance, fairness, respect and

diversity.



Sam Solovney, the local man who appeared on the hit NBC show, "The Apprentice," visited **Kemp Mill ES** May 26 to give an inspirational speech to fourth and fifth graders about the importance of education, positive mindset and setting goals. Solovney also shared insights about the show, answered questions and signed autographs.



Olney ES's annual Westward Ho event took place May 21, with fifth grade students re-creating the westward movement of the pioneers by walking several miles from the school to the Smith Center. Each "wagon family," dressed in period costume, was responsible for building a covered wagon and procuring supplies for the trip.



Fourth grade students at **Somerset ES** transformed their classrooms into the City of Light, including a Parisian café, where they recited their original poetic works at the Second Annual Poetry Café May 18. Students studied various poetic forms under the guidance of poet-in-residence Adele Steiner. The students also partnered with first grade classes to read and create poetry. Students from **Burnt Mills ES** participated in the Poetry Café as part of Somerset's Service Learning Initiative, which has forged a relationship between second grade classes at the two schools over the past year.



Roberto Clemente MS held a successful Career Fair May 7. Eighth grade students learned about many different professions as guest speakers rotated from class to class. Karen Joseph, eighth grade counselor, organized the annual event. □

FFA chapters earn honors at convention

MCPS Future Farmers of America representatives from Gaithersburg and Damascus high schools attended the State FFA Convention in Hagerstown April 28-30, 2004. FFA's mission is to help develop students' potential for leadership, personal growth and career success through agriculture education.

Oscar Ramirez of Gaithersburg HS was elected state vice president for the 2004-2005 term. He will represent the Maryland FFA Association at the State Presidents Conference, National Leadership Conference for State Officers and Eastern State Exposition and will serve as official delegate at the National FFA Convention. Damascus HS is the home of this past year's state president, Chris Brosch.

Other accomplishments of the Gaithersburg HS chapter include:

■ Seven State Agriculturist degrees—Oscar Ramirez, Eva Ramirez, Fernando Ramirez, Kadir Vargas, Andy Curran, Amanda Lopez, Alicia Lopez

■ Oscar Ramirez—State Vice President for the 2004-2005 term; FFA Knowledge contest - 9th highest individual in state; Nursery Landscape contest - 3rd highest individual in state; Public Speaking - 10th highest individual in state; member of 3rd place FFA Knowledge contest; member of 3rd place Nursery Landscape team

■ Fernando Ramirez—Public Speaking - 11th highest individual in state; member of 3rd place Nursery Landscape team

■ Eva Ramirez—member of 3rd place FFA Knowledge contest; FFA Knowledge Contest - 13th highest individual in state

■ Kadir Vargas—Member of 3rd place FFA Knowledge contest

■ Andy Curran—Job interview - 7th in state

■ Anna Guerrero—Member of 3rd place FFA Knowledge contest

■ Carlos Moya—Creed Speaking contest - 12th highest individual

Accomplishments for Damascus FFA chapter include:

■ State Agriculturist—Carolyn Brosch

■ First place Floriculture team, to represent Maryland at the National FFA convention in the fall—Erwin Fuentes - 2nd place individual; Carolyn Brosch - 6th place individual; Megan Gray, Tiffany Carter - 18th place individual

■ Creed Speaking—Kali Salter □



Textbook news

The following textbooks will be on display during June in Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials, Lincoln Center:

Computer science

Simply Visual Basic.Net: An Application-Driven Tutorial Approach, Prentice Hall, 2003 (9-12)

Community-based programs

Health Careers Today, 3rd ed., Mosby, 2003 (11-12)

Health

Who Moved My Cheese? for Teens, Putnam, 2002 (9-12)

Mathematics

IGCSE Mathematics, Cambridge University Press, 2002 (9-12)

Science

The Basis of Life – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Bridges – Building Amazing Structures, Heinemann Library, 2001 (4-5)

Building Up – Discovery Links, Newbridge, 2003 (4-5)

The Changing Land – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Chemical Changes – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Constellations, Bridgestone Books, 2003 (4-5)

Delta Science Dictionary – Grades 3-4, Delta Education, 2003 (3-5)

Delta Science Dictionary – Grades 5-6, Delta Education, 2003 (4-6)

Discovering Electricity, Newbridge, 1997 (3-5)

The Diversity of Life – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Earth – Our Galaxy and Beyond, The Child's World, 2004 (3-5)

Earth and Space – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Earth in Space, Newbridge, 2003 (3-5)

Earth Materials, Delta Education, 2000 (4-5)

Earth's Structure and History – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Ecosystems, National Geographic, 2004 (3-5)

Electrical Circuits, Delta Education, 2003 (4-5)

Electricity – Science Experiments, Benchmark, 2001 (3-5)

Electricity – Simply Science, Compass Point Books, 2001 (3-5)

Electricity – Straightforward Science, Franklin Watts, 1998 (4-5)

Electricity and Magnetism – Science Explorer, Prentice Hall, 2005 (6-7)

Electricity and Magnetism – Smart Science, Heinemann Library, 1999 (4-5)

Energy – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Energy from the Sun, Children's Press, 1997 (3-5)

Environmental Science – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-7)

Fish, Compass Point Books, 2003 (3-5)

Force, Motion, and Work – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Igneous Rocks, Heinemann Library, 2002 (3-5)

Investigating Rocks, Newbridge, 1999 (3-5)

The Life Cycle of a Snail, Powerkids Press, 2002 (3-5)

Magnetism – Elementary Physics, Blackbirch Press, 2003 (3-5)

Magnetism and Electricity, Delta Education, 2000 (4-5)

Magnets, Delta Education, 2004 (4-5)

Magnets – Simply Science, Compass Point Books, 2001 (4-5)

Matter – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Metamorphic Rocks, Heinemann Library, 2002 (4-5)

Minerals, Heinemann Library, 2002 (4-5)

The Moon – Our Solar System, Compass Point Books, 2003 (3-5)

The Mystery of Magnets, National Geographic, 2004 (4-5)

Remarkable Rocks, Newbridge, 1996 (3-5)

Rocks and Minerals, National Geographic, 2004 (4-5)

Rocks and Soil, Newbridge, 1998 (3-5)

Science Experiments with Electricity, Franklin Watts, 2000 (3-5)

Science Experiments with Magnets, Franklin Watts, 1999 (3-5)

Sedimentary Rocks, Heinemann Library, 2002 (3-5)

Skyscrapers, Heinemann Library, 2001 (4-5)

Solar Energy, Delta Education, 2000 (3-5)

Solar Power of the Future: New Ways of Turning Sunlight Into Energy, Rosen Publishing Group, 2003 (3-5)

Solar System, Delta Education, 2003 (3-5)

Stars and Constellations, Heinemann Library, 2003 (3-5)

Sun, Bridgestone Books, 2000 (4-5)

Super Structures, Franklin Watts, 2000 (4-5)

Understanding Electricity, National Geographic, 2002 (4-5)

Using Electricity, Heinemann Library, 2002 (3-5)

Water and Air – Concepts and Challenges, Globe Fearon, 2004 (6-8)

Social studies

The American Revolution, Blackbirch Press, 2004 (5)

The Battles of Lexington and Concord, Bridgestone Books, 2002 (5)

The Boston Massacre, Bridgestone Books, 2002 (5)

The Boston Tea Party, Bridgestone Books, 2002 (5)

The Bill of Rights – Documents of Freedom, National Geographic, 2004 (5)

Building The Transcontinental Railroad, National Geographic, 2002 (5)

Colonial Life: The Adventures of Benjamin Wilcox, National Geographic, 2002 (5)

The Constitution – Documents of Freedom, National Geographic, 2004 (5)

The Declaration of Independence – Documents of Freedom, National Geographic, 2004 (5)

The Declaration of Independence – We The People, Compass Point Books, 2001 (5)

The End of the American Revolutionary War: The Colonists Defeat the British at Yorktown, Powerkids Press, 2001 (5)

Following the Great Herds: The Plains Indians and the American Buffalo, Powerkids Press, 2003 (4)

Free At Last: The Struggle for Civil Rights, Perfection Learning, 2000 (9)

Freedom's Light: A Story About Paul Revere's Midnight Ride, Tradition Book Publishing, 2003 (5)

Immigrants in Colonial America, Powerkids Press, 2004 (4)

The Jamestown Colony – We The People, Compass Point Books, 2001 (4)

Kids Are Citizens, National Geographic, 2002 (4)

The Mayflower: A Primary Source History of the Pilgrims' Journey to the New World, Rosen Publishing Group, 2004 (4)

New Roads, Canals, and Railroads in Early 19th Century America: The Transportation Revolution, Rosen Publishing Group, 2004 (5)

The Oregon Trail, Powerkids Press, 2002 (5)

The Pilgrims Before the Mayflower, Powerkids Press, 2002 (4)

The Plymouth Colony – We The People, Compass Point Books, 2001 (4)

Plymouth: Surviving the First Winter, Powerkids

Press, 2002 (4)

Powhatan Indians – Native Americans, Heinemann Library, 2003 (4)

Revolutionary War, Benchmark, 2001 (5)

The State Judicial Branch, Capstone Press, 2004 (4)

The State Legislative Branch, Capstone Press, 2004 (4)

The Story of America's Trains, Newbridge, 2003 (5)

A Timeline of the Jamestown Colony, Rosen Publishing Group, 2004 (4)

The Transcontinental Railroad, Benchmark, 2004 (5)

The Transcontinental Railroad – The Library of the Westward Expansion, Powerkids Press, 2002 (5)

The Transcontinental Railroad – We The People, Compass Point Press, 2002 (5)

What Is the U. S. Constitution? Rosen Publishing Group, 2003 (5)

Spanish immersion

Accidentes Geograficos, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

El Agua Sube, El Agua Baja, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Alto Ahi, Ricitos de Oro, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Animales Extranos, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Los Animales Marinos, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Atrapado, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Las Aventuras de Coyote, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Buhos, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Los Caballos, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

El Calor, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Una Ciudad Crece, Newbridge, 2001 (K-3)

Comunidades, Newbridge, 2001 (K-3)

Cruce de Patos, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

El Cuidado de Abejas, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

Cuidar los Arboles, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

Danamos Nuestra Tierra, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Diversion en Coccion, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Donde Vives Tu, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Encontre Muchos Insectos, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Energia Solar, Delta Education, 2001 (3-5)

Enviar Productos, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

La Fuerza de la Naturaleza, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

La Gravedad, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Grillos Increibles, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Hogar, Dulce Hogar, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Insectos Por Todas Partes, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Irniq Y Las Aguilas, Pacific Learning, 2003 (K-3)

Leer Los Mapas, Newbridge, 2001 (K-3)

Llegada a America, Newbridge, 2001 (K-3)

Mi Abuelo Y Las Sequia, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

La Naturaleza, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Los Ninos Cientificos, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Las Nubes, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Observando El Espacio, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Observemos Las Ballenas, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Pablo El Preocupon, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

El Pajaro de la Canasta, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Los Peregrinos, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

El Pinguino de Ojos Amarillos, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

El Pronostico del Tiempo, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Los Pueblo, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5)

Que Sera Probable, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Quien Vive En Tu Casa, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

Las Reglas, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Reptiles, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Vamos a Medir, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

El Veterinario, Pacific Learning, 2002 (K-3)

La Vida en la Ciudad, Benchmark, 2003 (K-3)

Viento, Agua, Hielo, Newbridge, 1999 (K-3)

Votamos, Newbridge, 2001 (3-5) □



In person & print

The Instructional TV Cover to Cover segment "A Mile in His Shoes" was awarded the "Platinum Best of Show" in the News Magazine/Interview category at the Aurora Awards. This is the highest award given by Aurora. The producer of "A Mile in His Shoes" is **Aggie Alvez**, director of special projects in the superintendent's office. **Nelson Ginebra** of ITV is the director/videographer/editor.



Sue Newman, a national board certified art teacher and elementary art teacher in MCPS, has been awarded a three-week study grant in Japan through the Fulbright Memorial Fund. She is one of 600 applicants from across the U.S. invited to participate in this cultural exchange program, designed to inspire participants with fresh ideas for curriculum development. Newman will be in Japan from Oct. 3-22. Interested individuals may visit <http://www.glocomnet.or.jp/j/fmf> and <http://www.iie.org/pgms/fmf>.



Vera Torrence, principal of Jackson Road ES, has been accepted in the Fulbright Administrator Exchange Program. Administrators exchange positions for an agreed-upon term, living and working in the cultures of their host countries. Torrence will visit the United Kingdom, and an English headmistress will visit Jackson Road.



Anna Weaver, a third grade French immersion teacher at Sligo Creek ES, has been awarded one of six fellowships that were offered to Washington area educators of French by the Washington Post, the French government and the American Association of Teachers of French. The fellowship involves spending three weeks this summer studying in Avignon, France.



Synthia Woodcock-Dang was a participant on the development team for the Praxis ESOL Test. The Praxis Series is an Educational Testing Service program developed in part to provide a system of validated tests for states to use as part of their teacher certification process. The Praxis ESOL test is a new requirement for ESOL certification in the state of Maryland beginning in July 2004.



Daniel Gallagher, a teacher at Bethesda-



Dwarkin award winner

Barbara DePauw, a pupil personnel worker with MCPS for more than 30 years, talks with **Kelley Day-Terry** with **Twinbrook Community Recreation** about getting free or reduced-price membership for students in need. DePauw is the winner of the **Nancy Dworkin Memorial Award for Outstanding Service to Youth**, cosponsored by the **Gazette Newspapers** and the **Montgomery County Commission on Children and Youth**. She was nominated for the award by administrators and staff in the **Richard Montgomery Cluster**.



Chevy Chase HS, has been awarded a James Madison Fellowship by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Washington, D.C. A total of 54 fellowships were awarded in 2004. The fellowships support the further study of American history by experienced secondary school teachers of American history, American government and social studies, or by college graduates who aspire to teach in these areas. The fellowship foundation was founded by an act of Congress in 1986.



Albert Einstein HS teacher **Liliana Monk** received the Diane Tobin Memorial Award from Johns Hopkins University's School of Professional Studies in Business and Education. Monk received her master of arts in teaching from Hopkins in 2002.



Rock Terrace School music teacher **Janet Frank** and media specialist **Edward Tamulevich** presented at the Celebration of Children's Literature conference at Montgomery College in April. Their topic was "How to Make Quality Literature Available to the Less Able Reader" and included strategies for teaching high-level literature to low-level readers using a multidisciplinary approach, including music and drama.



As part of the Fifteenth Annual Celebration of Children's Literature in April, **Karen Kresge**, Northwest HS art teacher, presented "Brainstorming to Final Proofs: the Computer as Another Illustration Tool." The conference was sponsored by Montgomery College, MCPS, Montgomery Department of Public Libraries, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, the Children's Book Guild of Washington, D.C., the Maryland Library Association, Children's Division and the Catholic Library Association of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Kathryn Sawetz, Seven Locks ES resource teacher, presented this spring at the D.C. conference "Sharing Hope," cosponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association and Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation, Germantown, Md. Sawetz, parent of a brain tumor survivor, shared strategies and information to parents about issues related to the educational needs of their child who had undergone treatment. The comprehensive conference included medically related topics by renowned experts.



Teachers from Brookhaven, Bradley Hills and Takoma Park elementary schools took a weekend trip to New York City for professional development. Participants included **Holly, Michell Koopman** and **Maleka Liddell** (Takoma Park); **Louise Davidson, Robyn Dinallo, Sarah Jeffers, Cecilia Johnson** and **Marie Wingo** (Brookhaven) and **Jill Bederman** and **Laura Naimark** (Bradley Hills). The teachers visited a progressive school in Brooklyn to observe first and second grade classrooms during a reading and writing workshop. The following day they attended reading and writing workshops that were offered at Columbia Teachers College.



Debra Levy, health educator at Ridgeview MS, and one of her sixth grade health education classes were filmed for a health segment on The Today Show. The segment was aired on May 3. Suburban Hospital and The Sidney Malawer Memorial Foundation have joined with MCPS to educate middle school students about the dangers of sun overexposure and melanoma, one of the fastest growing cancers in America, often associated with sun damage. The new program, called "Block It

(continued on page 12)

Tuition reimbursement deadline extended

The deadline for requesting teacher tuition reimbursement for Fiscal Year 2004 (July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004) is extended to Oct. 31, 2004. To receive reimbursement for graduate courses, submit Form 440-13 plus proof of payment and copy of grade report to the Office of Staff Development, Upcounty Regional Services Center.

For answers to questions, contact Sandra Marmol, Office of Staff Development, at 301-353-8556. Teachers must preregister for all courses for which they are requesting tuition reimbursement at <http://filemaker3.mcps.k12.md.us/tuitionreimb/>. □

Applicants sought for seat on ICB

The Interagency Coordinating Board for Community Use of Public Facilities (ICB) seeks applicants for a seat on the ICB as a community member.

The appointment is for a four-year term expiring June 30, 2008. The individual will be appointed by Superintendent Jerry D. Weast, subject to confirmation by the Board of Education.

The ICB establishes, reviews and coordinates interagency policies for community use of schools. The ICB meets at least once every three months.

To apply, send a letter of interest and resume to Carey Wright, Associate Superintendent for Student and Community Services, 850 Hungerford Drive, Room 220, Rockville, MD 20850, by close of business June 18. □

Summer pay option enrollment to begin

Enrollment in the 10-month summer pay option for the 2004-2005 school year begins July 1, 2004. No enrollments or changes will be accepted after Dec. 31, 2004.

Participants in the summer pay option have a designated portion of their net salary withheld from 20 paychecks during the school year. Enrollments received and processed after Sept. 17 will have fewer deductions.

The amount withheld is paid to the employee in five equal installments during July, August and September. No taxes or miscellaneous deductions are withheld from the five summer payments.

Any amount designated from direct deposit to the credit union will be deducted and transmitted to the credit union from these summer paychecks, if the net amount of the summer pay

is greater. All summer paychecks or direct deposit advices are mailed to the employee's home.

To enroll in the summer pay option program or make changes to an existing agreement for next year, complete an authorization form and indicate the amount to be deducted from each paycheck.

Summer pay authorization and cancellation forms are available on the ERSC web site.

The address for the summer pay option authorization form is <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/forms/pdf/280-33.pdf>. The address for the summer pay cancellation form is <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/forms/pdf/280-32.pdf>.

Payments for employees enrolled for the 2003-2004 school year will be made on July 9, July 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 20 and Sept. 3, 2004. □



Retirements

Judy Farber. A brunch buffet to celebrate the retirement of Judy Farber, English teacher at Thomas S. Wootton HS, will be held Sunday, June 13, 11:30 a.m., at O'Donnell's Seafood Restaurant, Gaithersburg. Send \$30 per person/\$52 per couple for meal and gift, payable to Kathleen A. Wolfrey, to Wootton HS by June 9. Gift donations also welcomed from those who cannot attend. For information, call Leah Jaffee, 240-246-0440.

Elaine Masso. A retirement dinner for Elaine Masso, counselor at Meadow Hall ES, will be held on Monday, June 14, 6 p.m.,

at Madison's in Olney. Send \$25, payable to Abby Hendrix (donations can be made to the St. Raphael's/Bart Masso Memorial Fund foundation in lieu of gifts), to the school. For info, contact Abby Hendrix (FC: Abby Zweig), 301-279-4988 or 240-461-9803.

Mary Louise Petrie. A retirement reception honoring Mary Louise Petrie for 28 years as HeadStart/Pre-K instructional assistant will be held Wednesday, June 9, 3:30 p.m., in the Media Center at Rock View ES. For information, call Lyn McNevin, 301-929-2002.

Sandy Rhodes. In honor of Sandy Rhodes, who retired June 1 as cafeteria manager at Monocacy ES, the school is accepting donations toward a gift. Rhodes worked for Montgomery County Public Schools for 16.9 years. She will be living in North Carolina. □

Employment opportunities

The jobs below were available at *Bulletin* deadline. All require excellent human relations skills. These are summaries of min. & special job requirements. For staffing info., contact the Department of Staffing at 301-279-3515. Complete job descriptions are available at <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/personnel>. Applicants will be screened based on the job description & special considerations. Supporting services applicants apply on MCPS Form 446-6; outside applicants on MCPS Form 460-27. Specify ad number, school

or location & name of the personnel specialist following the job summary. Take tests & submit required materials by the application deadline; additional skills tests may be administered after the deadline. A job change may affect retirement/pension status; check with the Employee & Retiree Service Center, 301-517-8100. Returning from leave, involuntary transfers & reassigned employees have priority for positions.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity/Title IX employer.

Unless otherwise indicated, the deadline for all jobs is 06/15/04. Apply by job number and title for all supporting services positions.

Administrative

Administrative & supervisory positions are listed in bold. If no ads are

listed, no new positions are available. Complete descriptions of advertised positions can be found on FirstClass (Employment Opportunities conference under MCPS Information), Office of Human Resources employment information web site (<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/personnel>).

Director, Division of Family & Community Partnerships (P). Deadline: June 18.

Coordinator, Division of Family & Community Partnerships (N). Deadline: June 11.

Director, Department of Student Services. Deadline: June 18.

Other professional

Staff development specialist (B-D) (12 mos.) (readvertised; prev. applicants need not reapply) Office of Staff

Development—MEQ or MA from accred. college or univ. with understanding of staff devel. in continuous improvement org. pref; min. 7 yrs. successful classroom teaching exper.; understanding of job-embedded staff development in contin. improvement org.; knowl of school improvement processes, MCPS goals & initiatives, dynamics of change, team devel. & group dynamics; exper. planning, delivering & monitoring prof. devel. for adults.; strong, engaging presentation skills as trainer & facilitator; interest in & abil. to work collab. on high-performing team. Send resume & letter of interest to Judy Zauderer, Dept. of Staffing.

Arts Integration Model Schools (AIMS) lead teacher (B-D) (10 mos., grant-funded 1 yr.; possibility of 3 yrs.)—

Master's degree or equiv. with degree in art, music, theater or dance edu.; min. 3 yrs. school-based teaching exper.; must meet MD State Certif. req. in art, music, theater or dance; thorough knowl. of MCPS curric. framework & understanding of curric. standards for arts, music, theater & dance; demonstrated excellence in designing & planning staff devel. trng. for teachers. Pref. given to apps. with successful exper. in arts integration or arts magnet programs. Send letter of interest & resume to Pearl Drain, Dept. of Staffing.

Supporting services

Paraeducators. All paraeducator vacancies are posted on the vacancy database at www.mcps.k12.md.us/ForStaff/School-basedJobs:VacancyDatabase. Next to "Position:", select "para-educator," "special education paraeducator," etc. Only permanent paraeducator and special education paraeducators may apply for current vacancies until Friday, June 25, 2004. After this date, only involuntary transfers will be considered for vacancies until all placements have been made. Send letter of interest with resume directly to the school.

#1 Bus operator (9) (4 hrs., 7-9 am & 2-4 pm) Dept. of Transportation—Driver's license for at least 5 yrs.; excel. driving record; abil. to obtain MD Class-B commercial driver's license (CDL) req. to drive a school bus; must pass phys. exam. & drug test; exper. not needed, training provided. Sub. exper. may lead to perm. pos. (Taff)

#2 Cafeteria worker I (4) (substitute) (2-5 hrs.) Div. of Food Services—Food preparation exper. req. (Taff)

#3375 Administrative secretary I (14) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Dept. of Alternative Programs—HS grad. with some college or business school pref.; progr. respon. exper. as sec.; abil. to keep complex records, compose memos & letters from gen. instruct., skilled in use of word processors & desktop computers; MCPS typing test req. Pref. given to cand. with school-based secretarial exper. at secondary level; knowl. of MCPS payroll & ordering procedures req.; responsible for managing small office. (Arrington)

#3379 Administrative secretary I (14) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Office of Staff Development—Same basic req. as #3375. Special consid.: consid. knowl. of MCPS office practices incl. central office admin. procedures; prev. admin. sec. exper.; demonstrated skill using all Microsoft Office programs; excel. HR skills (Arrington)

#3366 Building service work leader II (9) (ND) (2:30-11pm) Kingsview MS—Cling. & bldg. maint. exper.; boiler course req.; must have, or attain within 6-mo. probationary period, Basic Skills & Supervisory & Leadership certifi.; abil. to effectively maintain safety & security of bldg./grounds & prepare routine reports. (Calavetinos)

#3362 Building service work leader II (9) (ND) (2:30-11pm) Gaithersburg MS—Same basic req. as #3366. (Calavetinos)

#3387 Building service work leader II (9) (ND; avail. 7/1/04) (2:30-11pm) Key MS—Same basic req. as #3366. (Calavetinos)

#3358 Building service worker 2nd shift (6) (ND) (2:30-11pm) Cabin John MS—Gen. cling/ exper.; oper. power equip.; clear snow from walkways; repetitively move heavy objects (Calavetinos)

#3388 Building service worker 2nd shift (6) (ND) (2:30-11pm) Wood MS—Same basic req. as #3358. (Calavetinos)

#3355 Buyers assistant II (14) (avail. 7/1/04) (8 hrs.; 12 mos.) Procurement Office—HS grad. with progr. respons. office exper. incl. demonstrated working knowl. of formal bid procedures; abil. to write clear bid specs., test materials, evaluate/analyze vendor bids, express ideas well, oral/written skills, maintain complex records, prep. reports; deal with MCPS users & vendors; proficient in oper. computer equip.; position req. sustained operation of keyboard devices. (Calavetinos)

#3359 Cafeteria worker I (4) (4 hrs.; 10 mos.) Waters Landing ES—Food prep. exper.; successful cashiering exper. pref. (Taff)

#3384 Career information coordinator (15) (12 mos.) (7 am-3:30 pm) Seneca Valley HS—2 years college with emphasis on business, personnel or exper. in career info.; knowl. of var. occupations & assoc. terminology; knowl. of college/vocational/technical school selection, testing, application & admission process; knowl. of HS courses; knowl. of computerized information sys. such as career searches, SAT/PSAT/ACT prep, college search & application, financial aid & scholarship; knowl. of & abil. to manipulate FileMaker Pro databases; abil. to org., prioritize & present information to students; excel. oral, written & HR skills. (Merson)

#3381 ESOL bilingual secretary II (12) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Div. of ESOL/Bilingual Programs—HS grad. with some college or business school pref.; abil. to maintain records & prepare reports; computer skills incl. word processing & database; MCPS typing test req. Special consid.: knowl. of MCPS school office oper. & area & central office org.; bilingual English/Spanish cand. pref.; exper. working with ESOL students & families pref.; skills using MS Word, Excel & Outlook; must have excel. HR & commun. skills. (Arrington)

#3208 ESOL/bilingual therapeutic counselor (20) (8 hrs; 12 mos.) Div. of ESOL/Bilingual Programs—Master's in edu., counseling, psychology, social work or rel. field with specific training in counseling techniques & consid. exper. working directly with school-age children from other cultures & their families, or other comb. of approp. edu. & exper.; knowl. of counseling principles, practices & techniques; proficiency in Korean or other Asian lang. pref.; knowl. of customs, & protocols of other cultures; abil. to establish rapport with students from other cultures; sensitivity to trauma exper. on the part of some students; cross-cultural counseling skills; excel. commun. & HR skills. (Merson)

#3368 Media assistant (12) (8 am-12 pm; 10 mos.) Spark M. Matsunaga ES—30 sem. hrs. college course work &/or 1 yr. exper. working with children in instruct. situations; exper. us-

ing computer apps. such as wd. proc., spreadsheets, databases, e-mail & Internet; exper. working or vol. in a library environ. pref.; abil. to lift & move books, AV equip., & other equip. or obj. weighing 25-30 lbs.; MCPS typing test req. Special consid.: expertise with adapted commun. devices & exper. with children with profound disabilities pref. (Arrington)

#3377 Media assistant (12) (8 hrs., 10 mos.) Montgomery Blair HS—Same basic req. as #3368. Pref. given to candids. exper. with web page design. (Arrington)

#3370 Media assistant (12) (12-4 pm; 10 mos.) Sherwood ES—Same basic req. as #3368. (Arrington)

#3356 School administrative secretary (16) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Damascus ES—HS grad. with commercial courses & some college pref.; progr. respons. exper. incl. 2 yrs. as school sec. I or equiv.; knowl. of PC word processing & database software; demonstrated writing & proofreading skills; MCPS typing test. (Arrington)

#3371 School secretary I (11) (7:30-11:30 am; 10 mos.) Paint Branch HS—HS grad.; gen. clerical exper; computer skills incl. word processing & database; MCPS typing test req. Special consid.: exper. handling main office duties pref. (Arrington)

#3373 School secretary II (12) (Kingsley Wilderness Project) (6 hrs., 12 mos.) Dept. of Alternative Programs—HS grad.; clerical/sec. exper; abil. to maintain records & prepare reports; MCPS typing test. Special consid.: working knowl. of MCPS school office oper. & area/central office org.; exper. with payroll, financial records & procurement proced. req.; excel. HR, commun. skills. (Arrington)

#3369 School secretary II (12) (8 hrs., 10 mos.) Cabin John MS—Same basic req. as #3373. Special consid.: abil. to meet tight deadlines, prioritize, assign, & have strong telephone skills. Pref. given to bilingual Chinese cand. & previous attendance exper. (Arrington)

#3345 School secretary II (12) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Col. Zadok Magruder HS—Same basic req. as #3373. (Arrington)

#3376 School secretary II (12) (8 hrs., 10 mos.) Briggs Chaney MS—Same basic req. as #3373. (Arrington)

#3378 Secretary (12) (avail. 7/01/04; 8 hrs., 12 mos.) Dept. of Management, Budget & Planning—HS grad. with some college or business school pref.; abil. to maintain records & prepare reports; computer skills incl. word processing & database; MCPS typing test req. (Arrington)

#3363 Security assistant (11) (avail. Aug. '04) Sherwood HS—HS grad. & college courses in criminal justice, law enforce. or rel. fields; AA degree desirable; exper. involving student/adolescent safety, conflict resolution & investigative proced. desirable; knowledge of behavior mgmt. req.; valid driver's lic.; first aid/CPR certifi. desirable; avail. for flex. hrs., incl. week-ends, eves. & overtime req.; may be req. to hold violators for police, confiscate drugs/alcohol & other evidence; other comb. of edu., trng. & exper.

may be considered. (Taff)

#3361 Security assistant (11) (avail. Aug. '04) Wheaton HS—Same basic req. as #3363. (Taff)

#3360 Security assistant (11) (avail. Aug. '04) Eastern MS—Same basic req. as #3363. (Taff)

#3205 Social service assistant (13) (4 hrs; 10 mos.) (Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten) Div. of Early Childhood Services—HS grad. with some courses in early childhood services or rel. field or some exper. in family service or community action prgms.; or other comb. of applicable edu., trng. & exper.; abil. to work effectively with parents & staff; abil. to function as part of a team; knowl. of computers & exper. in data entry, pref. wd. processing & database apps. (MS Word & ACCESS); good org. & record-keeping; abil. to coord. prog. activities; skills in org. & working with diverse socioeconomic groups; excel. HR, oral & written commun. skills; valid driver's lic. (Merson)

#3206 Social service assistant (13) (8 hrs; 10 mos.) (Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten) Div. of Early Childhood Services—Same basic req. as #3206. (Merson)

#3390 Supply service specialist (23) (avail. 7/1/04) (8 hrs.) Dept. of Materials Mgmt.—HS grad.; consid. college-level courses in business, purchasing, supply mgmt. or rel. field; consid. exper. administering supply & property programs; abil. to plan & implement comprehensive computerized, radio frequency warehouse mgmt. sys., complete written reports & supervise & evaluate employees; must have excel. commun. skills, work overtime nights & weekends without compensation; other comb. of rel. edu., trng. & exper. will be considered. (Calavetinos)

#3386 Transportation assistant (13) (7 am-3:30 pm) Dept. of Transportation—HS grad.; thorough knowl. of school bus routing strategies; knowl. of local street & road sys. of entire metro area; good oral & written commun. skills; abil. to organize & prioritize heavy workload; knowl. of guidelines for transporting students (regular & special edu.); consid. computer database exper. & strong math skills; valid MD driver's license; must have abil. to read & follow a map. (Reed)

#3383 User support specialist I (20) (8 hrs.) Gaithersburg HS—BS or equiv.; consid. course work in computer sys.; knowl. of PCs, peripherals & oper. Sys., LAN/WAN; abil. to work in fast-paced environ. with tight deadlines; strong commun. & interpersonal skills; exper. installing, maintaining & troubleshooting Novell 5.x networks. (Horos)

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Web site wins gold medal for communication improvement

The MCPS web site is one of the best educational sites in the country.

That's the consensus of judges from the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA), which awarded the school system the Gold Medallion Award for its Web Site Communication Improvement Project.

The award is the organization's highest honor in the top national competition recognizing excellence in educational public relations. Judging is highly competitive and is against criteria and other entries.

"We're thrilled our web site has brought this honor to MCPS," said John Q. Porter, chief information officer. "We're on the right track to

making the web work for everyone—students, parents, staff and community."

The Web Site Communication Improvement Project focused on the past year's work to improve the content and structure of the MCPS web. Critical to that work was the creation and implementation of a site template for all non-school sites; a more frequently updated home page; updated pages for parents, students and staff; improved support for MCPS webmasters; and other changes. The new site template and home page launched in March 2003 to positive responses from site visitors.

In the year since the new template launched, the site has seen dramatic

growth in visitor satisfaction, use of the site template and visitor traffic. Page views, visits and visitors to the site were more than 80 percent higher in the first quarter of 2004 compared with same quarter in 2003.

The NSPRA judges evaluated the improvement project on a point scale, examining the program's assessment, planning, communication and evaluation. The project was managed by the Web Services Team in the Office of Global Access Technology. Members of the Web Services Team are supervisor Chris Sturm, art director Susan Eskite, webmaster Gail Horvath, technical lead Elaine Keagle and senior systems engineer Derek Sundra. □



In person & print

(continued from page 9)

Out," is a hands-on health lesson that gets students actively involved in protecting themselves from sun damage.



Brandy Reazer, world studies teacher at the McKenney Hills Alternative Center, was selected to participate in the "North American Slavery in Comparative Perspective" seminar at the University of Maryland July 11-17, 2004. The focus of the seminar is to deepen participants' knowledge of American history and to provide them with new ideas to bring back to students.



Judith Price, teacher-trainer for the DNA Resource Center housed at Thomas S. Wootton HS, and **Patricia Richards**, AP and APEX biology teacher at Walter Johnson HS and workshop coordinator for the DNA Resource Center, presented "Putting It All Together" at the 9th Annual Symposium on Biotechnology Education at the Boston Museum of Science this spring. The symposium, which was designed to help teachers incorporate biotechnology into their classroom, was attended by

teachers from 160 different schools in five states and two countries.



Melissa Sikorski, instructional specialist for secondary English language arts, authored a chapter in the book *Motivating Reading Comprehension*, edited by John T. Guthrie, Allan Wigfield and Kathleen C. Perencevich of the University of Maryland, College Park, and recently published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. The chapter, titled "Inside Mrs. O'Hara's CORI Classroom," describes a practical example of using reading strategies to help struggling readers in a science classroom.



Robert Hines of Richard Montgomery HS was invited by the Library of Congress to make a presentation at the John W. Kluge Scholars Conference on May 13. The topic of his address was "Getting Students Hooked on History."



Joy Williams-Camp, a special education teacher in the Transition Training for Independence Program, was honored recently by the MCCPTA Special Needs Committee as an Outstanding Educator.



Darryl Norwood, MCPS Juvenile Court liaison, and his Prince Georges County

Public Schools counterpart gave a presentation on "How Suburban School Systems Work with Truant Students on May 14 at the Baltimore City Public Schools Student Services Conference on Truancy.



Jane Woodburn, director in the Office of School Performance, and Joanne Yamauchi, professor of communication at American University, conducted a workshop, "Survive and Thrive in the Workplace: Value Matching Communication Strategies—Implications for Education," at the National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education (NAAPAE) in Philadelphia May 22. **Constance Lee**, president of the Washington-Metropolitan Chapter of NAAPAE and counselor at Seneca Valley HS, **Donna Hollingshead**, principal of Cabin John MS, and **Paulette Smith**, assistant principal of Cabin John, also attended the conference. □



In remembrance

Dr. Wayne Fleeger, hearings coordinator in the Office of the Chief Operating Officer, died June 1. He was 57 years of age and had 31 years with MCPS. □

This document is available in an alternative format upon request, under the Americans with Disabilities Act, by contacting the Department of Communications, Montgomery County Public Schools, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850; telephone 301-279-3391 and TDD 301-279-3323.

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