



Lake Elkhorn Middle School

NEWSLETTER

M A R C H 3 1 , 2 0 1 7

Message from the Principal

Greetings, Lake Elkhorn families:

Over the past two weeks, I have had the pleasure of being able to see many of our students shine through extracurricular activities. Band, chorus and orchestra performed extremely well at the countywide assessments, while Debate and MESA (Math Engineering Science Achievement) competed at the respective countywide competitions. In fact, both teams qualified for the state competition! Students showed LEMS PRIDE by behaving extremely well and performing at a high level. Thank you to Mr. Bond, Mr. Gatz, Mr. Rea, Ms. Bilal, and Ms. Retterer for your dedication to supporting student achievement!

Science Fair was a hit yesterday. Students showed off their hard work in a fine display of amazing projects in the cafeteria. Thank you to Mr. Gatz and the science team for your time and effort to prepare students and to grade the projects.

Just one week left in Quarter 3! Please check Canvas for missing assignments and communicate with teachers regarding any misunderstandings. Please remember that schools close 3 hours early (11:45) next Friday, April 7, and we return from spring break on Tuesday, April 18.

With Eagle PRIDE,

Martin Vandenberg
Principal

Save the Date!

- Jan. 30 - May 11 - Bridges LEMS Scholars After School Program (Monday-Thursday 2:45-5pm)
- April 3 - Mocha with Marty @ 9 am
- April 4 – Field Trip: Choral Adjudication and Assessments
- April 6 – Field Trip: 7th Grade Trip to Baltimore Zoo
- April 7 - End of Marking Period
- April 7 - 3 hours early release (11:45 am dismissal)
- April 10-14 - Spring Break
- April 17 - School Closed (State Mandated Holiday)
- May 2 – Field Trip: Baysox College Fair
- May 19 – Professional Learning / Articulation Day (Schools Closed for Students)
- May 29 – Memorial Day Schools Closed (State Mandated holiday)

LEMS Scholars AfterSchool Program

Due to a Lake Elkhorn Middle School staff meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017, there will be no LEMS Scholars on Monday.

LEMS Scholars will meet on April 4th, 5th and 6th.

Thank you-

Spring STEM Academy – Register by April 7th

Parents - The Spring STEM Academy is offering free courses to 8th-12 graders. Register by April 7th. For more details, please see below:

We are now accepting registration for our Spring STEM Academy courses. Courses are **free** and will run one day a week from April 18 to June 8. **The deadline for registration is April 7, 2017.** To register visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017stemacademy>. If you have any questions please contact us at (240)228-7836. **Space is limited.**

Courses Offered This Spring:

Solidworks II

Students learn sound reasoning and analytical thinking; how to use knowledge, facts, and data to solve workplace problems. **Prerequisite: some previous working knowledge of CAD software.**

Python II

This course provides an opportunity to learn how to treat the Internet as a source of data. Students will also learn the basics of the Structured Query Language (SQL) as well as basic database design for storing data. **Prerequisite: previous programming experience in any language.**

Youth Leadership and Communication I

Students will learn how to formulate, express, and sell their ideas with poise and confidence.

Critical Thinking

This course will teach students a variety of skills to analyze how they think and make decision. Based on the Partnership for 21st Century Learning Framework, the course seeks to teach students how to:

- Reason Effectively
- Use Systems Thinking
- Make Judgments and Decisions
- Solve Problems

About Us

To develop the workforce of the future, The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory's (JHU-APL) STEM Academy was created for 8-12th grade students to:

- Ignite interest and excitement in the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Build skills, understanding, knowledge and competence in a variety of STEM fields
- To create a path towards a future in STEM

To accomplish this, the STEM Academy prepares youth for real life work experiences in STEM through training and guidance on effective communication and technical skills from some of the top experts in the field at the Applied Physics Laboratory.

Note: Due to overwhelming response, this session may be full. Future date will



Bowie Baysox / College Fair - Permission Slips Due April 6th

Attention 8th grade! □

Permission slips for the **Bowie Baysox / College Fair** trip on May 2 are **due THIS Thursday, April 6.** □

All students who returned their end of year 8th grade activities contract have already received their Baysox permission slips. If families have not seen the end of year contract, please contact your child's first period teacher. □

Also, just added to our list - The 8th grade class picture will be taken on May 10. Families can purchase a copy for \$20. Picture order forms will be sent home after spring break. □

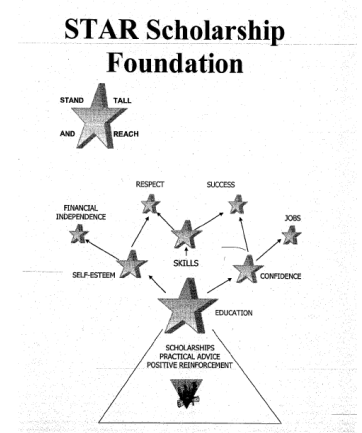


Mocha with Marty

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 3, 2017** at **9 am in the Media Center**. See you there!!

STAR Merit Scholarship – Due April 26th

Please encourage students to enter the Star Merit Scholarship Contest. Students that want to submit an essay must write 300-600 words on "What does 'fair and effective' governing mean in a democracy?" Essays should be typed or written clearly, proper use of reference citation, should include Student Name, Student School ID #, and Middle School. If interested, please print and complete the application packet <http://lems.hcpss.org/sites/default/files/StarMeritScholarshipApplication.pdf>.



Summer School Programs

Each summer the HCPSS presents a number of learning experiences and educational opportunities by offering a wide variety of programs and classes. These programs and classes are open to Howard County residents as well as out-of-county residents. Visit <http://www.hcpss.org/summer-programs/> for the programs offered this summer. Also, for students being recommended for ESY and



Dress Code and Other Policies

Parents,

Lately we have received questions about students being allowed to wear head gear i.e. hats, hoods, bandanas, scarves, sunglasses, etc. These items are not permitted during the school day in accordance with countywide HCPSS Policy 9210, *Student Dress Code*. All HCPSS policies can be found at <http://www.hcpss.org/board/policies>.



Dear Parents / Guardians:

We know that many students and their families depend on the Internet, whether at school, or at home, so they can do homework, search for jobs, access financial or government services and much more. The Bright Minds Foundation is teaming with Comcast to make affordable Internet service available to students and their families through a low cost home Internet service called Internet Essentials.

Features of Internet Essentials include:

- \$9.95 per month + applicable taxes with no term contract or credit checks
- No activation or equipment fees
- Wifi router included
- Access to an affordable desktop or laptop computer for just \$149.99
- Free in-person and online web classes

Now for the really good news: It's even easier and faster for your family to connect to Internet Essentials because your child's school has been pre-approved for a streamlined enrollment process. Any family with a child attending a school with 40% or more of students enrolled in FARMs is automatically pre-approved for Internet Essentials*. Families can call 1-888-972-5982 or apply online at InternetEssentials.com. You'll need to provide your contact information and school name. That's it. No other paperwork is necessary, and if you meet the program's eligibility, you will be pre-approved and could have home Internet within five (5) days.

We want all of our students to have the opportunity to do their homework at home, and we are excited to share information with you about programs like Internet Essentials from Comcast that may be helpful to your family.

For more details please visit brightmindsfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

The Bright Minds Foundation & Comcast

* To qualify for Internet Essentials, your household must be located where Comcast offers Internet service, have not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days and does not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment in the past year. Pre-approval for the program is limited to families of students whose schools have a 40% or higher number of students who are eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program. Internet Essentials from Comcast is a program to provide home Internet service for families. It is not a school or foundation program and is not required by your school. Your school is not responsible for Internet Essentials accounts. No school funds were used for this notice.

The contents of this letter are neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS.



When: *June 5, 2017*

Where: *Hammond High School*

What: *8th Grade End-of-Year Ceremony*

MESA Qualifies for State Competition

On March 24, 2017, Lake Elkhorn Middle School was victorious at the MESA competition, making so the MESA team going to the state competition. The MESA students went to John Hopkins University for the competition. Their submissions were: Alice 3 programming game, Hovercraft, and Bridge. Sadly, prosthetic wasn't able to be finished. Each group went into separate rooms to perform or show their project. After all the projects were performed from Elementary to High School, the schools came into one theater to hear the winners. Lake Elkhorn got 1st place for the bridge, 1st place for hovercraft, and 2nd place for the Alice 3 programming. To top it all, The Lake Elkhorn MESA team will be going to the States competition in 2 months time. This was truly a victorious win for Lake Elkhorn Middle School., making so the MESA team going to the state competition. The MESA students went to John Hopkins University for the competition. Their submissions were: Alice 3 programming game, Hovercraft, and Bridge. Sadly, prosthetic wasn't able to be finished. Each group went into separate rooms to perform or show their project. After all the projects were performed from Elementary to High School, the schools came into one theater to hear the winners. Lake Elkhorn got 1st place for the bridge, 1st place for hovercraft, and 2nd place for the Alice 3 programming. To top it all, The Lake Elkhorn MESA team will be going to the States competition in 2 months time. This was truly a victorious win for Lake Elkhorn Middle School.

Ropa de Primavera y Verano Regalada!



Ropa gratis para todas las edades, bebés hasta adultos
Sábado, 8 de abril • 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

North Laurel Community Center
9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel, MD 20723



Para mas información: 410-313-0220 (VOZ/RELAY)
o miscinfo@howardcountymd.gov
www.howardcountymd.gov/msc

Si necesita esta información en un formato alternativo, o si necesita arreglos para asistir este evento, contacte el MSC al 410-313-0220 o miscinfo@howardcountymd.gov por lo menos una semana en adelantado.

Spring AND Summer Clothing Give Away!



FREE Clothing for All Ages, Infant to Adult
Saturday, April 8 • 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

North Laurel Community Center
9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel, MD 20723



MORE INFORMATION: 410-313-0220 (VOICE/RELAY)
or miscinfo@howardcountymd.gov
www.howardcountymd.gov/msc

If you need this information in an alternate format, or need accommodations to attend this event, contact the MSC at 410-313-0220 or miscinfo@howardcountymd.gov at least one week in advance.

Science Olympiad Team qualifies for state competition in their first year.

This year Lake Elkhorn began to compete in the Science Olympiad. In their first year they were able to qualify to be eligible to participate in the Maryland State competition. The LEMS Science Olympiad Team participated in the Maryland Regional tournament at the University of Maryland in College Park. LEMS, was one of three middle schools in Howard County to have a team competing in this event. Lake Elkhorn was able to finish in the top nine schools in the small school division, which qualified them for the state tournament. We are very excited to continue next year and be able to do even better as we have learned a lot about this completion and what is required to compete.

As you can see below, this is a very intense competition and we are very proud of our students who were on the team this year. The students Marina, Kamran, Krish, Lauren, Margaret, Caitlin, Hadia, Dominic, Jess, Stephanie, Kaleb, Zya, and Jurnie did an amazing job of representing our school. The students will be demonstrating some of the engineering competitions at the Enrichment Fair on May 18th, starting at 6pm.

We would also like to thank the staff members who helped get the students ready for this competition. Mrs. Benedetto, Ms. Bacon, Mr. Farmer, Ms. Waters, and Mr. Gatz were all instrumental in helping the students prepare for the event. If anyone would like to help with the competition, please contact Mr. Bond at school.

Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, consisting of a series of 23 team events, which are performed by a small group, usually with two team members. Each year, the selected subset of events is rotated to reflect the ever-changing nature of genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology, astronomy, mechanical engineering and technology. Each team of 15 students will prepare throughout the school year to compete in Science Olympiad tournaments held on local, state and national levels. Unlike some science competitions, Science Olympiad requires that students DO science during the competition rather than just report about a science project. By combining events from different disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to become involved. Emphasis is placed on active, hands-on, group participation.

Types of Events

Events in the Science Olympiad have been designed to recognize the wide variety of skills that students possess. While some events require knowledge of scientific facts and concepts, others rely on science processes, skills or applications. This ensures that everyone can participate, including students from technology classes or advanced science classes.

- Lab based events are those like Chemistry Lab, Forensics, or Can't Judge A Powder By Its Color, which require students to complete a lab activity during the competition.
- Research based events are those events like Anatomy, Disease Detectives, and Fossils which encourage students to prepare research materials prior to the competition and use them in the event.
- Pre-built events are engineering competitions in which students build a device to accomplish a task or goal, and the device is tested onsite at the competition.

Team Spirit

Although some events in the Science Olympiad are based on individual achievement, all events involve teamwork, group planning, and cooperation. That is the real essence of the Science Olympiad. Our emphasis is on advanced learning in science through active, hands-on, group participation. Through the Olympiad, students, teachers, coaches, principals, business leaders, and parents work together as a team toward common goals.

Pledge Camp

Howard County Police will offer a weeklong Pledge Camp. The purpose of the camp is to teach leadership, communication, teamwork, and decision-making skills, as they are essential for students in general and those entering high school. Camp enrollment and start dates are to be determined.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Department of Police, School Resource Officer Section at 410-313-6088 or Youth Section at 410-313-2613.



Winter Weather

The winter weather is making its way and students should dress warmly for the colder weather. Please be sure to help the students remember their coats, a hat, pants, thermals, and some gloves as well as boots. This makes their time outside so much more enjoyable! Please note students are not able to wear coats in class but may wear light jackets and sweaters.

For more details on weather guidelines and recess procedures, please refer to page 33 in the HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook.

Bright Minds and Comcast

Parents,

The Bright Minds Foundation and Comcast have partnered together to offer affordable Internet services.

Please see details in the attachment on how to apply for the Internet Essentials package. For more details visit

<http://lems.hcpss.org/news/2016/12/brightminds-and-comcast>.



School Store Donations Wanted

The school store at LEMS occurs every three weeks and gives students the opportunity to spend their eagle bucks, which are earned for following the school rules and displaying our **P.R.I.D.E.** (Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, and Excellence) values. The school store is run solely on donations. If you would like to donate anything to the school store please provide the items to the Front Office and let them know that the item(s) are for the school store. Some items we would gladly accept are books, electronics, electronic accessories, games, toys, school supplies, and pretty much anything middle schoolers would like except food. If you have any questions please email



Early Dismissals

Parents must report to the Front Office prior to proceeding to the Guidance Office to have student(s) called for early dismissal. A photo ID must be presented for you or the person picking up the student. Please note this procedure is mandatory for the safety and courtesy of our school staff and students. For more details, please refer to page 4 in the [HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook 2016-17](http://www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf) (<http://www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf>) as well as pages 24 in the LEMS Student Agenda/Handbook.

Emergency Cards

Please stop by or contact the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635 to update your Emergency Card Information, today!

Student Absences and Attendance

To report a student absence, please email lemsabsence@hcpss.org or call Mrs. O'Connor in the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635. All notes must be submitted in person. All absences will be recorded and will be communicated via our school messenger system. For more details, please refer to page 4 in the [HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook 2016-17](http://www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/student-handbook/student-handbook.pdf) as well as pages 24 in the LEMS Student Agenda/Handbook. Please note that due to the privacy and safety of your child and staff we are not able to verify attendance over the phone.

NOTE: *Parents may receive notifications on their child's attendance for (absentees and tardies) by subscribing to HCPSS Connect and select attendance notifications.*

Software Updates

Please note HCPSS has fully migrated to using HCPSS Connect and Canvas early last school year. If you have any questions or need assistance with accessing your account, please contact Mrs. Woolls in the Guidance Office at 410-313-7635.

Mocha with Marty

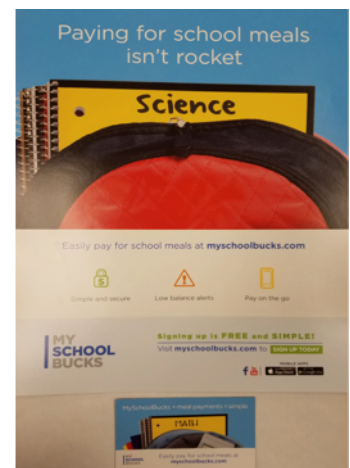
Every month, Principal Vandenberg sets aside time where parents/guardians have the opportunity to discuss various topics. We encourage your attendance and look forward to seeing you at the next scheduled time.

School Menu

HCPSS students and their families can now view menus and nutrition and allergen information for meals served in all HCPSS schools through Nutrislice, a website and free smartphone app (Visit <http://hcpss.nutrislice.com/> for school lunch menu and <https://www.myschoolbucks.com> to reload student lunch accounts).

Online Payment for School Activities

HCPSS has contracted with [Online School Payments, Inc. \(OSP\)](http://www.online-school-payments.com) (<http://lems.hcpss.org/messages/online-school-purchases-osp-student-activities>) in order to afford parents/guardians the ability to pay online for school activities that would otherwise have required payment by cash or check. OSP accepts credit and debit cards (Visa or MasterCard) through a secure web browser at



COMMUNITY NEWS

For more updates, please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>

Host Families – AFS Exchange Students

Next school year almost 20 exchange students will come from around the world to experience a life-changing year or cross-cultural sharing here in Howard County. Exchange students live in a family such as yours and attend your local high school. Host families volunteer to provide room and board and get to know a great kid and learn about a different part of the world. Students are available from more than 90 countries. For more information, please contact Christina McGarvey at ckmgarvey@yahoo.com or 410-997-7087.

Spring 2017 Foundations Program – Ellicott City Soccer Club

Open to children (born in 2012 and 2013) and Transitional (born in 2004 and 2005), **Mar. 29**, Chapelgate Christian Academy 2600 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville MD, Wednesdays from 5:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m. and Saturdays 8:45-9:45 a.m. Cost for 6 weeks/12 sessions: The TOT Academy is \$149 The Transitional Academy is \$179

- [Register for Tots Spring 2017 program](#)
- [Register for Transitional Spring 2017 program](#)

Spring 2017 House Rec league – Ellicott City Soccer Club

Open to soccer players born in years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, **Mar. 29**, Chapelgate Christian Academy at 2600 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD.

Team-based, recreational league with approximately 7 players per team. Teams will play other CiTY teams. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Wednesdays 5:45-6:45 p.m.; Saturdays – scrimmages. Times to be determined. Cost \$189 for 6 weeks, 2x/week training.

[Register for the House Rec League](#)

CA's Sister Cities Exchanges – Columbia Association

Teens in grades 10-12 can spend two weeks in July, in Columbia's sister cities, living with a teen of similar age, then host the same teen here for two weeks. Or they can travel to Columbia's newest sister city for 10 days with the Build Haiti Foundation's Global Leadership Program. Application deadline has been extended to **Mar. 31** Program fees are \$700 (CA resident) or \$850 (non-CA resident) plus airfare. Application Packet or more information, go to ColumbiaAssociation.org/teenexchange or contact Laura Smit at 410-715-3162 or Laura.Smit@ColumbiaAssociation.org

Spring Ice Show – The Gardens Figure Skating Club

Annual Spring Ice Show, Shrek on Ice with 4 shows, **Apr. 1**, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. **Apr. 2**, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Gardens Ice House Patrick Arena, 13800 Old Gunpowder Road, Laurel MD. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$12 for general admission with a limited number of special reserved seats available for \$20. General admission tickets are available online for \$13 at <http://www.seatyourself.biz/gardensfsc>. Children under 3 are admitted for free.

Math is Magical – Howard County Government

2017 Children's Discovery Fair, Sat., **Apr. 1**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Cradlerock Elementary School, 6700 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD. This free event will include hands-on activities relating to preschool mathematical concepts.. Please bring a non-perishable donation for the Howard County Food Bank. A dental van will be on-site for free dental screenings for children ages 2-12 years old. This event is part of the "Launch into Learning" school readiness initiative and is sponsored by the Howard County Early Childhood Advisory Council. For more information, call 410-313-1940 or e-mail children@howardcountymd.gov

An evening with Judy Collins – Columbia Festival of the Arts

Tickets are now on sale for an Evening with Judy Collins, Sat. **Apr. 1**, 8 p.m., at the Rouse Theater, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia, MD. Additional information: <http://home.columbiafestival.org/judy-collins/>

Soup'r Sundae – Grassroots

All the soup and ice cream you can eat is available at Soup'r Sundae, the annual fundraiser for Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, on Sun., **Apr. 2**, 12-3 p.m., Wilde Lake High School cafeteria, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. Purchase at soupsundae.eventbrite.com or at the door. jeanmoon@verizon.net, 410-730-0316.

5K and Family Fun Run/Walk – FIRN's Inc.

FIRN Inc. International 5K, **Apr. 2**, 9 a.m., Howard Community College, Registration fee varies based on event selected and date registered (\$10 – \$40) <http://www.firnonline.org/international5k/>
Additional Information: sarah.choi@firnonline.org

Boys Running Program – Let Me Run

Running program, Manor Woods ES, the spring season ☐ starts on Weds. Apr. 3, and meets every Mon. and Wed. after school (except ½ days or when after-school activities are cancelled) for an hour and thirty minutes, and ends with a season ending 5K race ☐ on Sun., June 4. The program uses running as the vehicle to inspire, teach, and reach them, combining exercise with fun activities.

To learn more and to register, go to <http://www.letmerun.org/region/howard-county-maryland>

Please email volunteer LMR Coach, Girls On The Run Coach, and 3rd and 5th Grade Parent, Linda Mattes at LindaRN78@yahoo.com

Teens Day Out Spring Break Camp – Howard County Government

School is closed, Have fun and make new friends in this program created just for middle school students. Trips to Roger Carter Community Center include swimming, gym time, Xbox challenge tournaments and more. Bring a non-perishable lunch/drink.

Registration closes **Apr. 3**. Jennene Blakely, 410-313-1693 or jlblakely@howardcountymd.gov

Grades 6-8 Bonnie Branch MS Daily Activity

- RP2882.201 Apr 10 8am-6pm M-Th \$200
- RP2882.202 Apr 10 8am-6pm M \$49 Roger Carter Comm Ctr
- RP2882.203 Apr 11 8am-6pm Tu \$59 Bowling & Pizza
- RP2882.204 Apr 12 8am-6pm W \$49 Roger Carter Comm Ctr
- RP2882.205 Apr 13 8am-6pm Th \$59 Monster Mini Golf

Baby Essentials-Howard County Library System (Glenwood Branch)

Apr. 4, 5 and 6, 6-8 p.m., Glenwood branch, 2350 Rt. 97, Glenwood, MD. Ages 12-18; 2 hour sessions. Learn the essentials of babysitting with a University of Maryland Extension Instructor. Participants receive a certificate after attending all three sessions. Must attend all three.

Register: <https://goo.gl/DrZnAU>

Foundation Program – Ellicott City Soccer Club

Our academies will provide a fun, challenging and age-appropriate training environment where players will develop the skills and techniques needed to become a successful soccer player. Our program is for player's ages 3-12 years old, and will meet Wed. and Sat. for a total of 12 sessions. The program starts on **Apr. 6**.

Spring Egg Hunt-Recreation and Parks

Collect eggs and enjoy prizes, games, and fun for the whole family. This fun event is being held Sat., **Apr. 8**, at 10 a.m., for children 2-10 years, \$4 per child or \$11 (3 or more children in the same household) Rockburn ES, Registration is required by **Apr. 5**. For more information, please contact Dave Grabowski at aaaal1@aol.com

Spring Break Camp – Soccer Association of Columbia

Spring Break Camp scheduled for the week of **April 10-14**. Both full and half-day sessions are offered. SAC also offers extended care from 4-6 p.m. for an additional fee. Contact asksac@sac-hc.org

SAC Juniors Program – Soccer Association of Columbia

Fun-filled introduction to Soccer, SAC offers six, one-hour weekday or weekend sessions for ages 3-4 throughout the year in Howard County. Players receive an Under Armour jersey. Topics include body awareness, agility, balance and ball control. Contact asksac@sac-hc.org

Storytelling – Howard County Conservancy

Fri., **Apr. 21**, 2-6 p.m., Howard County Conservancy at Mt. Pleasant, 10520 Old Frederick Rd., Woodstock, MD.

Learn how to craft and hone your storytelling skills in a fun, small-group setting with professional storyteller, Leigh Tillman. Become a more engaging and effective storyteller with family and friends, in your community, and at work. \$75. Learn more:

<https://www.hcconservancy.org/storytelling/>

5K walk-Lungevity Foundation

Breathe Deep Columbia is a 5K walk to raise money for lung cancer research through LUNgevity Foundation, and will be held on **Apr. 22**, at Lakefront Plaza, Downtown, Columbia.

[Register](#)

20th Annual Walk for Our Stars – Cedar Lane School

Come help us celebrate our school, our community, and most importantly our Stars. This festive event will include a fun, non-competitive walk, games, and food, Sat. **Apr. 22**, 10 a.m.

All money raised will be used to enrich the lives of our students with significant special needs and our staff. Please support The Walk and help those who can't walk, learn to stand on their own and those who can't speak, find their voice. For more information please contact Cedar Lane School at 410-888-8800 or karioreilly@verizon.net

FREE ‘Birth Year’ Soccer Clinic – Ellicott City Soccer Club

Apr. 26, We will offer a FREE clinic 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Rockburn Park for players born in the years 2005-2009.

Celebrating the written word – Howard County Poetry and Literature Society, HoCoPoLitSo

Visit HoCoPoLitSo.org to learn more about upcoming events such as the Blackbird Poetry Festival with Tyehimba Jess on Thurs.,

Apr. 27. Wilde Readings, with local poets & writers, take place on the second Tuesday of the month at the Columbia Art Center, Columbia, MD

CPR Across Howard County – Howard County General Hospital

FREE CPR class, Sat. **Apr. 29,** 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Howard County General Hospital Center, 10710 Charter Drive, Columbia, MD. This class is open to anyone ages 12 and over. Participants will be taught adult and child CPR, how to clear an obstructed airway and the basics on using an AED. To register hcgh.org or call 410-740-7601

WOMENFEST – Howard County Government

A Health & Wellness Event for Women, Sat., **Apr. 29,** 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood, Cooksville.

Kid Empowerment P.E.T. Club – Amazing Futures Foundation (Smashing Ants)

- Spring 2017 After-School Program, Classes starting the end of April.
- Online Registration now open at the following HCPSS elementary schools this spring.

Bellows Spring, Centennial Lane, Clemens Crossing, Dayton Oaks, Ducketts Lane, Elkridge, Forest Ridge, Gorman Crossing, Hollifield Station, Ilchester, Manor Woods, Pointers Run, Rockburn, St. John’s Lane, Talbott Springs, Veterans, Waterloo, Waverly and West Friendship. Children will unleash their Kid Power at this fun, hands-on program that teaches them how to create their own P.E.T.s, Positive Empowering Thoughts.

Classes are 90 minutes for six weeks (9hrs). New and returning students welcome!

Details, Specific Topics and Registration Links at: www.smashingants.com

Intro to College Applications and Essays – Howard County Library Systems

The college application process can be daunting, so let local expert Gail Jacobson guide you with successful strategies for applying to colleges and for writing your college essays. Parents strongly encouraged to attend. Ages 14-18; 60-90 min.

Navigating the College Application Process

Mar 29, (7 – 8:30 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/whtGh7>

May 3, (7 – 8:30 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/U5Qwh7>

Writing the College Essay

Apr. 25, (7 – 8 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/24nH3a>

May 20, (3:30 – 4:30 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/AW4JfX>

Basket BINGO – Neighbor Ride

Join Neighbor Ride at FOP Lodge #69 (near Old Ellicott City) on Sat., **May 6,** for our 3rd Annual Basket BINGO, featuring incredible prizes. Doors open at 6 p.m. / Games begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and include cards for 20 games. Dinner and snacks will be available for purchase at the event. Get your night-out crowd together, proceeds benefit Neighbor Ride’s volunteer-driven transportation program that helps local seniors stay active, independent and connected to the community. Contact Colleen Konstanzer at (410) 884-7433 or community@neighborrideride.org

Family Fun Fest – Voices for Children

Sun., May 7, 1-4 p.m., Burleigh Manor Animal Sanctuary, 3950 White Rose Way, Ellicott City, MD. To benefit Voices for Children, Howard County’s Court Appointed Special Advocate Program \$10/individual, \$25/family, Tickets available at

www.voicesforchildren.org

For more information, please call 410-740-0933.

Spring 2017 Soccer Programs – Soccer Association of Columbia

Spring 2017 season for the Clinic, Recreational and Recreational High School programs. Leagues are open to players with birth years from 1998 to 2012. Gender based teams meet for eight weeks beginning in April. Register on sackick.com

Young Entrepreneurs’s – Le’Chic Academy Foundation

Invites students, ages 5-18, to participate in our annual Young Entrepreneur’s “Biz Kidz” Business Startup Workshop, Vendor Outdoor Market Day, “Dress For Success” Fashion Show and Award Reception (June 3-4, 2017). For online registration and detailed information, please call 410-530-4876 or visit www.lechicacademy.com

After school programs – The 4th Quarter

Our program aims to create young leaders. By using football and fitness students develop stellar habits and a positive mindset that allow them to accomplish their dreams.

Register your child for the Elkridge Landing or Bonnie Branch for the after afterschool program here:

<http://www.the4thqtr.org/incoming-5th-graders/>, or email jguy@the4thqtr.org

Theater Camp – Slayton House

A Musical Theatre Summer Camp, Improv Week, **June 19-23**, (1 week, subject to change) Broadway Edition, **June 26-July 14**, (Session I, 3 weeks. No Camp on July 4th), Rising Stars, Session II: **July 17-July 28**, Sessions III, **July 31–Aug. 11** (2 weeks) Visit our website www.campofthearts.com

For more information or registration forms call 410-730-3987 or email camp@wildelake.org

Track and Field Camp – Crosslife Church

June 26-June 30, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Hammond High School, 8800 Guilford Road, Columbia, MD

Cost: \$60 for the first family camper, \$55 for each additional family camper Contact: Carol McGinnis, 410-960-6301 Website

Registration: <http://trackandfield.crosslifeevents.org/>

Summer Study Skills Camps Start July 31 – Healing Dimensions Foundation’s Stressless Tests

The first combined Middle School and High School camp starts **July 31**, meeting Mon. – Fri. at the Owen Brown Community Center in Columbia. The next class starts **Aug. 7**, at the same times and place. The basic fee is just \$175.00 including the textbook. A payment plan is available at no extra cost. To register or read more information, you can email Betty at Bcaldwell202@gmail.com or go to <http://www.stresslesstests.org/>

Golf Outing – 4th Quarter

3rd Annual Golf Outing, **Sept. 25**, 1 p.m., Waverly Woods Golf Course

For more information, contact jguy@the4thqtr.org or call 443-904-6318