



Lake Elkhorn Middle School

NEWSLETTER

A P R I L 2 1 , 2 0 1 7

Message from the Principal

Greetings, Lake Elkhorn families:

Is it possible? Only 36 days remain of this school year. It will take perseverance to finish the school year strong, overcoming the distractions of nice weather, sporting events, and other fun activities in order to maintain focus on performing well in the classroom. Just recently, our staff climate committee has met to discuss how all parties can help students to be successful for the remainder of the year.

- Teachers and administrators are committed to holding students accountable for lateness and being present in the hallways to monitor behavior and encourage timeliness.
- We are asking students to exhibit PRIDE (please ask them if you do not know the acronym), listen and follow directions the first time, use agenda books daily for recording assignments, monitor CANVAS regularly, and ask teachers for help when needed.
- We are asking parents to monitor daily assignments in agenda books, check canvas weekly to stay updated on student progress, and continue to partner with teachers and administrators to address behaviors that are not conducive to learning.

I would like to put out one more request for a sponsor for [Girls on the Run](#). The staff members who have been sponsoring the program are no longer available. If you have interest in this area, please let us know. Finally, "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" will be on April 27, 2017. If you choose to have your child participate, please email your request to lemsattendance@hcps.org by April 26th.

With Eagle PRIDE,

Martin Vandenberg
Principal

Save the Date!

- May 1 – Final Mocha with Marty 9am
- May 2 - 8th grade field trip to Baysox game (Mr. Farmer)
- May 3 - Spring Music Concert 7pm
- May 4 - Spring Music Concert Part II 7pm
- May 5 - Spring Fling Dance 6pm (Mrs. Valentine)
- May 9 - PTSA Meeting 6pm
- May 17 - Shakespeare Festival Field Trip (Mr. Bond)
- May 18 - Enrichment Fair 6pm (Mr. Bond)
- May 19 - Schools Closed for professional learning for staff
- May 23 - 5th graders visit LEMS
- May 24 - Ladies First Closing Ceremony 7pm (Mrs. O'Connor)
- May 25 - 7th Grade Field Trip Baysox STEM Day (Mrs. Cunningham)
- May 26 - 6th Grade End of Year Field Trip (Mrs. Bailey)
- May 26 - YFS Field Trip, Trout Release (Mr. Bond)
- May 29 - Schools Closed for Memorial Day
- June 2 - GT Expo Field Trip (Mr. Bond)
- June 5 - 8th Grade Closing Ceremony at Hammond High School 6:30pm (Mr. Farmer)
- June 6 - 8th Grade Field Trip Six Flags (Mr. Farmer)
- June 6 - PTSA Meeting 6pm
- June 7 - 8th Grade Trip to visit high schools (Ms. Faggio)
- June 8 - 6th Grade Assembly (Ms. Bailey)
- June 9 - 6th Grade Field Fun Day (Ms. Bailey)
- June 12 - Early Dismissal 3.5 hours early
- June 13 - Early Dismissal 3.5 hours early
- June 14 - Last day of school early dismissal 3.5 hours early.
- June 15 - Enjoy your Summer

Samsung Galaxy Note7 Alert

Please be advised that due to recent recalls of the Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphone, these phones are no longer allowed on school property, effective immediately. The lithium-ion battery in the Galaxy Note7 smartphones can overheat and catch fire, posing serious fire and burn hazard to consumers.

More information on the Galaxy Note7 recall can be found on the [Samsung website](#) and on the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website](#). Please direct any questions to the Office of Safety, Environment and Risk Management.

PARCC Testing

Below are the PARCC testing dates. Students will complete one unit per day. Please discuss with your child the importance of trying their best, arriving to school on time, and getting a good night's rest the night(s) before testing.

8th Grade ELA - April 24, 25, 26

7th Grade ELA - April 27, 28, May 1

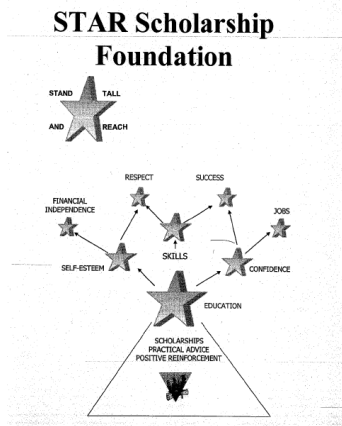
6th Grade ELA - May 2, 3, 4

8th Grade Math - May 5, 8, 9

7th Grade Math - May 10, 11, 15

6th Grade Math - May 16, 17, 18

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>.

Mocha with Marty

The next and final meeting is scheduled for **May 1, 2017 at 9 am in the Media Center**. See you there!!



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>.





8th Grade Photos

Photos will be taken on **May 10th at 8:15 am**. Cost for portraits will be **\$20**. If paying by check, please make payable to School Pictures.

GT Summer Institute

Every summer, the GT Summer Institute provides a variety of classes and courses that students can take over the summer. This summer Lake Elkhorn's GT Geometry Teacher Ms. Bacon is teaching the class *SPACE: Destination Mars* during the second session from July 10 – 21st. **Deadline to register is May 1st**. This course is based off of Ms. Bacon's experience at Honeywell's Space Camp for Educators, which she attended on a scholarship. A description of the course is listed at the end of the email.

We are looking for a few more students to sign up in order for the class to continue to be offered. It will be an exciting opportunity and Ms. Bacon is interested in working with all students! If interested, please follow the link below to learn more information and to register as soon as possible: <http://www.hcpss.org/f/summer/gt-summer-course-catalog.pdf>

If you have any questions, please email Carla_bacon@hcpss.org.

Thank you for your interest in the program!



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

When: *June 5, 2017*

Where: *Hammond High School*

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



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.



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



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.

Not My Child...Yes, Your Child

This timely and informative program will be presented by HC DrugFree in partnership with the River Hill High School PTSA on **Tuesday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m.** in the River Hill High School media center. Free and open to the public. **WANTED: ALL** parents (grandparents, aunts/uncles, and any adult working with teens) who think their children will never get involved with drugs and those parents who are already suspicious or dealing with a child's experimentation. You are strongly encouraged to attend this event to learn more about the drugs used and abused in Howard County, what we all need to know and do about the rise in overdose deaths happening here, how parents and the community can better arm ourselves to help our children (whether pre-teens, teens or adults), and more. Speakers include representatives from the Howard County Public School System, HC DrugFree, the Howard County State's Attorney's Office, the Howard County Police Department, parents with stories and wisdom to share, and others. For more information, contact HC DrugFree at 443-325-0040, Admin@hcdrugfree.org, or visit www.hcdrugfree.org.

Collection of Medication, EpiPens, Needles and Syringes - HC DrugFree

Looking to dispose of medications, needles, syringes, or old/recalled EpiPens all in one quick trip without getting out of your vehicle? Come to the convenient (semi-annual) drive-thru collection on **Saturday, April 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot** near The UPS Store and Slayton House. Howard County Police will receive and secure your medications for proper disposal. Help keep these items out of the hands of our youth, water supply and landfill. For more information about this event, how to dispose of medications throughout the year, how to receive a free storage lock box for your home, contact HC DrugFree at 443-325-0040, Admin@hcdrugfree.org, or visit the Events-Take Back Day page at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/drug-take-back-day-1/>.



Attention 6th Grade Parents New Vaccines Needed

Parents of Students Entering 7th Grade Next Year (2017-2018 school year) Will Need the Following Immunizations

- MCV4 (Meningococcal {meningitis}) vaccine
 - Tdap vaccine (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis {whooping cough})
- (Bring a copy of your child's immunization record to your appointment)**

These vaccines are needed in addition to current school vaccination requirements.

**** Please check with your child's doctor to see if they have already received them, and take a copy of the record to their school.****

If your child needs these vaccines, they can get them from his or her doctor or the Howard County Health Department

Contact the Howard County Health Department for Free Immunization (with a scheduled appointment).

For more information call, Beth Amstad, RN, at the Howard County Health Department, 410-313-7592 or, visit: www.hchealth.org

Failure to provide proof of updated immunizations on the first day of school, or proof of an appointment to receive the vaccinations will result in your student being excluded from school.

Spring is in the air and so is the pollen....

It might be time to start your child's allergy medication routine.

Remember to contact the HEALTH ROOM staff with a note . . .

- IF your child needs to come to school with crutches, a splint/cast and/or has physical activity restrictions. Please provide a note from the doctor/practitioner with instructions for activity.
- IF your child has a medical condition that requires medicine or treatment during school hours. Medication should be accompanied by a written order signed by the both the doctor/provider and the parent.

Sincerely,

Kassy Wanless RN, BSN
Cluster Nurse
Lake Elkhorn Middle School
410-313-7607





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

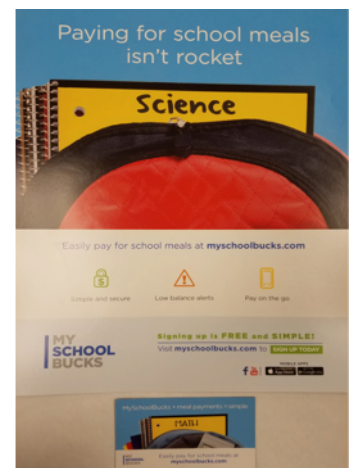
Every month, Principal Vandenberg sets aside time where parents/guardians have the opportunity to discuss various topics. We encourage your attendance and look forward to seeing you at the next scheduled time.

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://lems.hcpss.org/messages/online-school-purchases-osp-student-activities) (<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 ckmcgarvey@yahoo.com or 410-997-7087.

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.

Setting Your Child Up for Success in Kindergarten – Howard County Government

FREE Mon., April 17, 6-7:30 p.m., 3300 N. Ridge Rd. Suite #240, Ellicott City, MD. Space is limited; pre-registration is required Who Should Attend: Parents and Guardians (no child care) register online for Setting Your Child Up for Success in Kindergarten. Register By Phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

Foster Parent Information Session – KidsPeace

KidsPeace is in need of families, as well as single adults, to become Specialized Foster Parents. Make a difference for Maryland's children, Wed., April 19, 6 p.m., KidsPeace- 5575 Sterrett Place, Suite 200 Columbia, MD.

Please RSVP by emailing asia.ewing@kidspeace.org or calling our office at 410-964-9329. For more information, please visit <http://fostercare.com/>

Be a Brain Builder Know As They Grow Scientists-Howard County Government

Weds, April 19, 6-8 p.m., Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center, 9411 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD. Any parent, grandparent or caregiver who wants to improve their parenting skills and learn hands on ideas for raising a healthy, happy child ages birth to eight. [Register online](#) or by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

Family First Workshop Series – Howard County Government

Join the Howard County Family Institute for a special series designed for parents and guardians raising children from birth to age eight. Participants who complete all five classes can receive a Certificate of Completion upon request. Wednesdays, **April 19, May 17, May 31, June 7 and June 14;** 6-8 p.m. Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center, 9411 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD. [Register online](#) or by Phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940.

Anime & Manga, Styles of Classic Mangaka – Howard County Government

April 20, Wilde Lake MS, 4 classes, 6:30-8 p.m. Manga (Japanese comics) is the world's most versatile and influential form of sequential art.

Supplies included, but you are encouraged to bring your own sketchbook. Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or wbanks@howardcountymd.gov

Lively Arts for Little Ones – The Other Barn

Silly Goose and Val, Fri., **April 21**, 10 a.m., at The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia. Silly Goose and Val introduce the book and song Springtime Dance. Tickets are \$5.00 (ages 2 and up). To purchase, visit The Other Barn, visit

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2564668>, or buy at the door. For more information, call 410-730-4610 or visit oaklandmills.org

Storytelling – Howard County Conservancy

Fri., **April 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. Additional information:

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

Modeling School, Commercial Acting and Modeling – Howard County Government

April 22, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 5 classes, North Laurel Community Center. Join Sean Gibson, a former National Modeling Agency Director, National Modeling School Instructor and current scout of Model Citizens Models Info: Holly Harden, 410-313-4625 or harden@howardcountymd.gov or Sean@teenfashionshow.com

Hip Hop Dance – Howard County Government

April 22, 5-6 p.m., Roger Carter Community Center ages 11-17, 6 classes, wear comfortable clothes; jazz shoes or sneakers required. (No class 5/27.) Info: Holly Harden, 410-313-4625 or harden@howardcountymd.gov

Painting for Teens – Howard County Government

April 22, 5 classes, 10:30 a.m., N. Laurel Community Center, in acrylics to learn or master color mixing, brush work and how to build painting rich with texture and color. The instructor does a demonstration painting each week and works with you one-on-one. Materials included, Info: William Banks, 410-313-4609 or wbanks@howardcountymd.gov

Bluebeard's Castle – The Columbia Orchestra

Sat., **April 22**, 7:30 p.m., Jim Rouse Theatre, Columbia

An incredible dramatic event! Robert Cantrell and Kyle Engler join the orchestra for a concert version of Bartok's 50-minute opera. Visit columbiaorchestra.org/hcpss/ for a special offer.

SAT Prep – Howard County Community College

A five week exam prep class. You may register for this two-part course, morning verbal or afternoon math sections. Offered Saturdays, **April 22-May 20**, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Howard Community College. For more information, visit at howardcc.edu/coned or contact Elizabeth Watson at 443 518-4976.

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 **April 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. **April 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

Not My Child... Yes, Your Child – HC DrugFree

Learn more about drug use and abuse in Howard County **April 25, 7 p.m.**, River Hill High School. Free and open to the public. Speakers include representatives from the Howard County Public School System, HC DrugFree, the Howard County State's Attorney's Office, the Howard County Police Department, parents with stories to share, and others. For more information, contact HC DrugFree at 443-325-0040, Admin@hcdrugfree.org, or visit www.hcdrugfree.org.

Parenting on the Same Page – Howard County Government

Thurs. **April 27**, 6-8 p.m., Cradlerock Elementary School, 6700 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD. Cost: FREE! Space is limited and registration is required! Who Should Attend: Parents and Guardians; Child care available upon request during registration. Register Online for Parenting on the Same Page Register By Phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940.

Scuba – Howard Community Church

Head to your next beach vacation with a new skill, Scuba, Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., **May 4-June 8**, required orientation **April 27**, at the HCC Aquatic and Fitness Center. For more information, sign up on HCC's website or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

Poetry Contest – Howard County Poetry and Literature Society

Celebrate National Poem in your Pocket Day by attending the Blackbird Poetry Festival on Thurs., **April 27**, Howard Community College. A Free Sunbird reading will be held at 2:30 p.m., Smith Theatre. The Nightbird Reading begins at 7:30 p.m., Smith Theatre, Howard Community College, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD. Presented by the Howard County Poetry and Literature Society and Howard Community College, the readings will feature slam poet Tyehimba Jess. Tickets (\$15 general admission) for the Nightbird reading will be available at the door beginning at 7 p.m. For more information visit <https://hocopolitso.org/>

Mindfulness Meditation – Howard Community College

Meditation has been proven to have many beneficial effects for people of all ages. HCC offers several courses in this area. **April 29 and June 3**, at the Laurel College Center and **May 6**, Howard Community College, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, sign up on HCC's website or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

Performing Magic – Howard Community College

Learn sleight of hand, card and rope tricks from members of the Society of American Magicians. Hands on practice in this fun course. Offered Mondays, **April 24-May 22**, 7-8:30 p.m., at Oakland Mills High School. For more information, sign up on HCC's website or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

Sewing, The Sample Book – Howard Community College

Learn a plethora of stitches and techniques and create a book of examples to assist in future sewing endeavors. Bring a portable sewing machine. Offered on Tues. evenings, **April 25-June 13**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wilde Lake High School. For more information, sign up on HCC's website or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

FREE 'Birth Year' Soccer Clinic – Ellicott City Soccer Club

April 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., **April 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. **April 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., **April 29**, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood, Cooksville.

Glass Fusing: Pins, Pendants, and Bracelets – Howard Community College

Just in time for Mother's Day. Create beautiful, wearable pieces of art for yourself or to give as a gift. All supplies provided. Offered on Sun, **April 30**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Howard Community College. For more information, contact Howardcc.edu/coned or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

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 minutes

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

- April 25, (7 – 8 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/24nH3a>
- May 20, (3:30 – 4:30 p.m.) Register: <https://goo.gl/AW4JfX>

Digital Camera Basics – Howard Community College

Learn digital operations, photographic principals and get hands on experience with your camera. Instructor Walt Calahan is a professional photographer who will guide you create better photographs with enhance techniques. Offered, on Saturdays, **May 6 and 13**, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Howard Community College. For more information, sign up on [HCC's website](#) or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

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@neighborrider.org

Family Time with Yoga – Howard County Government

Learn introductory yoga designed to stimulate the parasympathetic nervous system, Identify practical ways to integrate breath work and body movement into basic family routines.

Sat., **May 6**, 9-10 a.m. or 10:15-11:15 a.m., Bain 50+ Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia, MD. Space is limited and registration is required. Parents with children ages 3-6. Wear comfortable clothes and layers. Mats provided. [Register online](#) or register by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

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.

Behavior Basics & Managing Meltdowns – Howard County Government

Learn how to teach your child new skills to replace challenging behaviors. Tues., **May 9, 16, & 23**, 6-8 p.m., East 50+ Center, 6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD. Open to Parents, Grandparents & anyone involved with children ages 1-6. [Register online](#) or register by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940.

Create Floral Wreath – Howard Community College

With the advice and assistance of artist Michele Schroder, create a beautiful, long-lasting wreath for yourself or to give as a gift. All supplies provided. Offered on Weds., **May 10** and Weds., **June 14**, 6:30-9 p.m., at The Turn House Kitchen, Hobbits Glen Golf Course. For more information, sign up on [HCC's website](#) or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

TEEN Anxiety Help – Howard County Government

Adolescence is a stressful time filled with academic, community, and social pressures. Stress tops the list of concerns of most teenagers today. Only Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend, Thurs., **May 11**, 6-8 p.m., Bain 50+ Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia, MD. Space is limited and registration is required. [Register online](#) or by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940.

Bridal and Special Occasion Makeup – Howard Community College

The season is quickly approaching. Register with family and friends to learn the latest techniques to enhance your natural features for any special occasion. Bring your own beauty supplies and let experienced Cosmetologist Andi Bradshaw guide you. Sat. **May 13**, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Laurel College Center. For more information, sign up on [HCC's website](#) or call Rosemary Muir at 443-518-4404.

Keeping Kids Healthy and Happy – Howard County Government

Weds., **May 17**, 6-8 p.m., Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center, 9411 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD Any parent, grandparent or caregiver who wants to improve their parenting skills and learn hands on ideas for raising a healthy, happy child ages birth to eight. [Register online](#) or register by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

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](#)

Where Does My Money Go – Howard County Government

Parents and Teens are invited to join MakingChange for a lively and informative exchange of ideas regarding a wide variety of money management tools, Thurs, **June 1**, 6:30-8 p.m., Bain 50+ Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia, MD. Space is limited; pre-registration is required. [Register online](#) or by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

Discipline and Communication Part 1 & 2 – Howard County Government

Part 1: Set the stage for better behavior. Part 2: Learn how to teach children self-control and problem-solving techniques that they can use in the moment of behavior problems. Establish rules and logical consequences for misbehavior that are developmentally appropriate. Weds, **June 7 & 14**; 6-8 p.m., Ellicott City 50+ Fitness Center, 9411 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD. Any parent, grandparent or caregiver who wants to improve their parenting skills and learn hands on ideas for raising a healthy, happy child ages birth to eight. [Register online](#) or by phone (voice/relay): 410-313-1940

Young Entrepreneurs – 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 <http://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 online <http://www.the4thqtr.org/incoming-5th-graders/>, or contact 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

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

Summer Camp – HowGirlsCode

Mind, Body & Coding camp for girls entering grades 3-9. Session 1 runs **July 10-14** and Session 2 runs **July 17-21**. The camp day is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with supervised drop-off beginning at 8:30 a.m. and pick-up ending at 4:00 p.m. Girls will challenge their minds through coding and robotics and will nurture their bodies and well-being through yoga, meditation, and self-empowerment exercises all while focusing on the arts and creative dance expression.

Registration is open at www.howgirlscode.com/summercamp

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

Contact: jguy@the4thqtr.org or call 443-904-6318

HCYP Girls Middle School Basketball League – HCYP

We are attempting to establish a basketball league for middle school age girls. The league would start by having tryouts sometime in the late September/Early October time frame. As a result we are trying to establish a list of interested players. If your daughter is interested in participating in this league, please send an email to the following address HCGMSBL@gmail.com and indicate her current grade and what middle school she will attend in the Fall. Also, if you have any questions regarding this league, please send those to the same email address.