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Weekly Refresher

Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.

- John Adams

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Guilford Gazette

Baltimore County's Foose to Take Over Helm at HCPSS

Baltimore County School's deputy superintendent, Dr. Renee A. Foose, accepted an offer by the Howard County Board of Education for the position of Superintendent of Schools for Howard County, replacing outgoing head Dr. Sydney Cousin, who served as superintendent since March 2004. Dr. Cousin decided to step down at the end of his contract due to serious health considerations.

Dr. Foose was considered for the position along with Dr. S. Dallas Dance, who has a position in the Houston Independent School District as one of three Chief School Officers. After a series of public hearings on the selection process, the Board chose Dr. Foose.

Dr. Foose served Maryland education for 15 years in various capacities from teacher to assistant superintendent of Montgomery County Schools, and now associate superintendent in Baltimore County.

Dr. Foose will take over a school system that has been ranked consistently in the top 10 percent of school systems in the nation by several ranking organizations.

In her current role as deputy superintendent, Dr. Foose is responsible for instruc-

tional and operational function and performance of Baltimore County Public Schools.

At BCPS Dr. Foose directs the implementation of school system plans, policies and programs; coordinates activities for the effective operation of all schools and offices; and provides organizational leadership to ensure the implementation of the Board of Education's goals and academic priorities, and the school system's strategic plan.

According to a recent Howard County Public School System news release, Dr. Foose has a proven success record of moving schools from the Maryland State Department of Education watch list to high achieving status.

She is credited with implementing an innovative middle school reform model at Earle B. Wood Middle School where she served as principal from 2006 - 2008



Dr. Renee A. Foose, new Superintendent

in Montgomery County.

Prior to being promoted to associate superintendent, Dr. Foose moved up to director of school performance in Montgomery County.

Dr. Foose also served as a principal at Boonsboro Middle School in Washington County from 2003 - 2006, assistant principal at Governor Thomas Johnson High School in Frederick County from 2000 - 2003, and a classroom teacher at

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The Publisher's Notes

Election time is upon us again. Every two to four years Marylanders are presented with a dizzying array of offices in which to cast votes. We are asked to choose judges, state delegates and senators, representatives to Congress and a U.S. Senator, county council members, perhaps a governor, and more. There are sometimes questions on the ballot or perhaps a citizen-initiated referendum.

Often we vote for candidates that we hardly know. We may not know how current office holders (the incumbents) voted on issues important to us. But still, we seem to understand that voting is a right in this nation, so we tend to exercise our right, typically putting aside our ignorance of the candidates and the issues.

Recently, I spent time with family. In conversation, one of my siblings began complaining about certain activities in the state and the perception or reality that police in some jurisdictions over-reach and violate constitutional rights in a routine manner.

I pointed out that much of what we see or experience is a result of legislative and executive decision-making, yet not many citizens link the regulations, laws, and police practices to the men and women we vote for at the ballot box. Much of what we suffer at the hands of the state, we inadvertently perpetuate at the ballot box every two to four years.

Until the electorate studies the issues and voting records of candidates and matches campaign promises to actual results, we are destined to complain about grievances to which we have the full power to change. Exercising our right to vote is absolutely beautiful, but voting in ignorance mars the truest intent and purpose of casting a ballot.

If we do not like the state of affairs in our state, who's fault is it, really?

Ricardo L. Whitaker

Political Points

The Guilford community finds itself in two congressional districts: District 3, represented by John P. Sarbanes (D); and District 7, represented by Elijah Cummings (D). Interstate 95 is the dividing line. If you live west of I-95 you vote in District 3. If you live east of I-95 you vote in District 7. There is an easier way to determine who represents you in Congress and at the state level. Visit <http://mdelect.net/> and key up your street address to see the names of your elected officials.

The Howard County Board of Education is comprised of seven (7) at-large seats. The board is non-partisan, meaning that members do not run for office as members of political parties. A voter's decision to place a candidate in office takes place at the primary level only. There are 14 candidates on the ballot. Citizens can vote for up to three candidates. Three incumbents (current office holders) are running for office in an attempt to retain their offices—they are: Allen Dyer, Ellen Flynn Giles, and Janet Siddiqui. For more information on the election, visit the League of Women Voters at <http://howard.lwvmd.org/vg2012.pdf>.

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April Scholarship Deadlines Approaching

NEW: Hammond High School's Seth Gottesmann Scholarship

This \$1000 scholarship is in memory of former Hammond High School student Seth Gottesmann. Applicants need to write a creative piece with a minimum of 1000 words. Applications are available in the counseling center and will be handed out in English classes. The deadline for applying is April 1st, 2012, and all completed applications are to be submitted to Ms. Shomali in the counseling center.

Literate Ladies Book Club Stipend

The Literate Ladies Book Club will be accepting applications from all Howard County Public Schools graduating seniors for a one time award of \$750.00. The deadline for this application is April 1, 2012. A copy of the guidelines, requirements, and application can be downloaded from the website <http://lbookclub.webs.com>. A completed one page application, a written letter of recommendation from a teacher, a 300 word essay, and a completed validation form from a school counselor must be submitted.

Central Scholarship Bureau (CSB)

The CSB will begin accepting online applications for scholarships on January 1, 2012. The applications will be available at www.centuralsb.org. The final deadline to submit the online application is April 1, 2012. To be eligible for these awards/scholarships, students must have been accepted at any accredited college, university, or vocational school in the United States. Students must have a GPA of 2.0 and must have established permanent residency within the State of Maryland for at least one full year before entering a post-secondary program. The families of the students must meet CSB income guidelines of an adjusted gross income of less than \$90 000. Students must have applied for Federal, State, and school financial aid and students must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Only one application needs to be submitted to be considered for all of the CSB programs.

NEW: National Organization of Professional Natural Resources Conservation Service Employees

This \$1000 scholarship is awarded to students who are pursuing a degree in Agriculture, Natural Resources, or Natural Resources Conservation related field of study at an accredited school of higher education. Applicants must have a grade point average of at least 2.75. The application can be downloaded at <http://www.nophnrce.org/index.php/scholarships/62-scholarshipsmain>. The due date is April 2, 2012.

Earl Slacum Scholarship:

Earl Slacum was the first principal of Rockburn Elementary School and this scholarship is being offered to a former Rockburn Elementary School (RES) student who attended RES for at least 1 grading period. Applicants must be attending a public high school in Howard County, have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher as well as demonstrate consistent participation in extracurricular or work related activities. The RES PTA Scholarship Committee must receive the completed application packet by April 2, 2012. The award amount is \$500. Please see your counselor for an application packet.

NEW: Joseph J. Fox Memorial Scholarship:

This \$2000 scholarship will be awarded to graduates of any Maryland high school majoring in reading or a reading-related field. Applicants must major in English with the intent to pursue teaching as a career and

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must have maintained a GPA of 3.2 or better in high school. The website to apply is www.somirac.org and the deadline is April 13, 2012.

NEW: Kamryn Lambert Foundation:

This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior going into the nursing or medical field. Applicants must file an application and write an essay on an adversity they have overcome. Applications are available with your school counselor. The due date for this application is April 13, 2012.

NEW: Ken Mann Scholarship:

This \$1000 scholarship will be offered to prospective elementary school teachers. The recipient of this award must graduate from a public high school in 2012 and plan to attend a college, trade school, or university within the state of Maryland. The application can be obtained and completed online by visiting www.wcps.k12.md.us and the deadline is April 13, 2012. Once applicants visit the website, click on "Our Schools," then click on "Elementary," then scroll down to "Maugansville Elementary," and click on "More Info."

Clare and Robert Moore Scholarship:

This fund offers a yearly \$1000 scholarship to a student who is majoring or plans to major in English and/or Drama and will attend the Notre Dame of Maryland University. The application can be found at <http://crmoorescholarship.org>. The deadline for this scholarship is April 15, 2012.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Tau Pi Chapter:

The Tau Pi Chapter Scholarship Committee will award scholarships under the categories of the Fraternity's four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. The scholarship application must be post marked by April 15, 2012. This scholarship is available to all Howard County Public School System graduating Male seniors (class of 2012). Special consideration will go to students enrolling in Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Applications must be typed and can be downloaded at www.ques-taupi.org.

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Hammond News

Film Festival Winners

Many congratulations to the Hammond students whose work was recognized at the Howard County Student Film Festival.

Director's Choice Award – Michael Riddle

3rd Place – Jesse Maier, Ian Lyness, and John Lamberton

Semi-Finalist – Adam Albaari

Arts Teacher of the Year

Dance teacher Brooke Kuhl-McClellan was recognized as the Howard County Arts Council Arts Educator of the Year on Saturday Night!

Culture Fest 2012 April 17, 2012 Hammond High School (Cafeteria)

The members of Hammond's International Club have invited our students to attend the fifth annual Hammond Culture Fest on Tuesday, April 17, 2010 from 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm. Culture Fest highlights Hammond High School's cultural diversity.

This year, the evening pot-luck component of Culture Fest, open to students, families, and community members, will take place from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Enjoy demonstrations, performances, and food from different countries that will be shared with those who attend.

If you are interested in participating in Culture Fest 2012 and/or the evening event, please see Ms. Hart or Ms. Wardell in rooms 513 and 511. There is an RSVP form for the evening event that needs to be completed. Parents, please encourage your students to participate in this unique and exciting experience.

Primary Election Day: April 3, 2012

Superintendent from page 1

Parkville High School in Baltimore County from 1996 - 2000. She was also a Maryland State Trooper for six years from 1990 - 1996.

Dr Foose holds a doctorate of education from the University of Delaware, Master of Business Administration and Master of Science degrees from Loyola University, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Towson University.

She is currently a graduate fellow at Harvard University.

Board Candidates Forum

The Howard County League of Women Voters recently held a Board of Education forum. Residents can watch the recorded version of the Board Candidates' Forum on HCPSTV.com.

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