

# ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

Katherine Carter & Anthony Esposito, Assistant Principals

Elkridge...Always providing Elkcellence!



## The Elkster Examiner

7075 Montgomery Road  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
410-313-5006

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Health Room **410-313-8506**

Front Office 410-313-5006

[ees.hcpss.org](http://ees.hcpss.org)

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

I can't remember a first week of March with three snow days. Last year we actually had two snow days the first week of March, but never three! Even though the students were only in school last week for two days (Tuesday and Wednesday) we were able to accomplish a great deal. Our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders completed the Math portion of the PARCC assessment. Testing went smoothly and our students worked hard. This week our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders completed the English/Language Arts portion of the PARCC assessment. At this time, we continue make up Math and ELA portions of the assessment for any students who were absent from school during the scheduled administration of PARCC.

These dates are still far in the future, but we wanted to make sure you were aware of them.

First, our 5th grade promotion ceremony will take place on the last **full day** of school. Second, the school calendar for 2015-16 was approved by the Board of Education. The calendar can be found here: <http://www.hcpss.org/calendar/>. One change in next year's calendar is that, due to Labor Day being so late, **school starts for students two weeks before Labor Day. The first day for students is 8/24 and Labor Day is 9/7.** We know that sometimes families plan end of summer vacations for that second week before Labor Day. Please do not plan on vacationing that week this summer, your child will miss the first week of school!

Debra Anoff, Principal

### Making Up Snow Days:

The last day of school was originally scheduled for June 10 on the 2014-2015 school calendar, which reserved five additional days through June 17 for inclement weather makeup. As of today, all five of those makeup days have been used, plus three additional inclement weather days. Once the winter season has ended, the Board of Education will make a decision regarding the makeup of the additional missed days.

### Family Fun Night

Join us on Friday, March 20 from 6:30-8:00PM for a surprise birthday party for ELKSTER! There will be karaoke, birthday cake, crafts, games, dancing and pictures with the guest of honor.



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### **Pre-K Program Coming to EES 2015-2016**

The Howard County Public School System offers a Pre-K program for children of families who meet the income eligibility criteria and who will be four years old by September 1, 2015. Applications for the 2015-16 school year are now available at the front office or on HCPSS website.

#### **Pre-kindergarten registration is a two-step process:**

1. Interested families must first submit an application with proof of income for review; income guidelines are similar to those used to determine Free and Reduced Meal status. This application must be reviewed by school administration.
2. Once approved, students can be registered by calling the front office at 410-313-5006 to schedule an appointment.

#### **Healthy Kids Cook-Off**

EES is participating in the Healthy Schools Program to help students become healthy food advocates and has registered for the Healthy Kids Cook-Off. Create your best recipe ever and once you have completed your recipe, take a picture of your creation and send your completed Healthy Kids' Cook-Off Submission Form and Release Waiver to [Jennifer.Tucker@hcpss.org](mailto:Jennifer.Tucker@hcpss.org) by **Monday MARCH 23**. Members of EES's wellness committee will select one recipe to represent our school as a Semi-Finalist in the Cook-Off in April.

If your student is interested in this fun, free contest please visit the website for detailed information (how it works, dates, judging process/criteria and rules/terms):  
<http://www.healthylittlecooks.com/howard-county-kids-cook-off/>

To obtain the submission form/waiver:

<http://www.healthylittlecooks.com/parent-kid-howard-county-cook-off-registration/>

Please contact Jennifer Tucker, RN, CN in the health room at EES if you have questions.

#### **NUTRITION TIP FROM THE HEALTH ROOM:**

By helping your child establish a healthy diet and regular exercise, you can reduce his or her risk of experiencing health problems for the future. If you eat nutritious foods yourself, your child will eat healthier too. Make sure to provide a variety of foods so your family gets all the vitamins and minerals their bodies need to function properly.

**Breakfast is the most important meal of the day!** Breakfast provides the energy and nutrients that help with increased concentration in the classroom. Studies have shown that children who eat breakfast perform at a higher level in school and are more physically active than those who skip breakfast. Eating breakfast also helps maintain a healthy body weight. Breakfast increases the body's ability to focus and reduces problems with attention and memory. Whole-grain breads, cereals, fruit, low-fat or nonfat cheeses and yogurt, eggs, vegetables are all good examples of breakfast foods. Use skim or low-fat milk instead of whole or 2% milk. Whole fruit (whether fresh or canned) is higher in nutrients and lower in sugar/calories than fruit juice.



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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Friday, March 20

Family Fun Night 6:30-8:00PM

Monday, March 23

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade field trip to BMI (Rescheduled from February 20)  
(Kell, McNally, Bass)

Friday, March 27

**Schools close 3 hours early**

March 30 – April 6

**Schools Closed - Spring Break**

Thursday, April 9

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip (Robinson Nature Center)  
(Bass, Kell, McNally)

Friday, April 10

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip (Robinson Nature Center)  
(Ridgely, Ruffing, Shilling)  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip (DC Art Museum)

Thursday, April 23

EES Spring Individual Portrait & Class Group Photos

Friday, April 24

EES Spring Individual Portrait & Class Group Photos

Saturday, April 25

Elkster 5K

## **PTA News**

### **Yearbook Poem and Art Contest**

Our yearbook poem and art contest is underway! Does your child like to draw, paint, or write poems? Ask them to consider creating one for the 2015 yearbook contest. One poem and one piece of art will be chosen for each grade to be published in the yearbook. Please base the poem or artwork on this theme "On Track with Elkster". All works must be turned into the front office by **March 16<sup>th</sup> (extended)**. Please make sure the name, grade and teacher is placed on the back of the work. Yearbooks will be on sale at a later date for \$20 each.

### **Elkster 5k**

Help spread the word - the Elkster 5K will be held on April 25th! If you own a business or know of a business that may be willing to help sponsor the 5K please email [eespta@hotmail.com](mailto:eespta@hotmail.com)! Be sure to check your child's Friday folder for a flyer regarding our Elkster 5K T-Shirt design contest.



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## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

***The following events are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.***

### **Kindergarten Art Showcase Through April 8**

The Kindergarten Visual Arts Showcase is now on display at the Department of Education. Members of the public are invited to stop by and take a look!

For this exhibition, teachers were asked to submit student artworks and statements that reflect the HCPSS' Visual Art Curriculum for Kindergarten: Art as Discovery.

The display is in the main hallway of the Howard County Department of Education, 10910 Clarksville Pk., Ellicott City. Showcase hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. through April 8. Gallery will be closed Feb. 16, April 3 and April 6.

### **Columbia Association Art Center**

Choose Civility in Sports Poster Exhibit March 12-26, reception Mar.12, 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Howard County Library and Public Schools have co-sponsored this event with the Art Center. Come see the posters created by Howard County students of all ages. For info please call Columbia Art Center at 410-730-0075 or email [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org)

### **Columbia Association**

Pizza and Portfolio workshop series, grades 8-12 *with Alina Poroshina*. Sat., Mar. 14, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., \$25 This workshop is designed for beginner and intermediate level students. Pizza will be served. To register, please call Columbia Art Center at 410-730-0075.

### **Robinson Nature Center**

Anne Robinson's Centennial Birthday Celebration, Sat., Mar. 14 and Sun., Mar. 15. Visit for complementary admission, cupcakes and more courtesy of the James & Anne Robinson Foundation in honor of Anne's 100th birthday. For details, visit [www.friendsoftherobinsonnaturecenter.htm](http://www.friendsoftherobinsonnaturecenter.htm) 410-313-0400.

### **Howard County Conservancy**

Sat. Mar. 14, 10 a.m., Day Tripping, 50 Natural Places and Gardens. The Howard County Conservancy offers guided hikes and talks on the second Sat. of each month. A beautiful and interesting place to visit in all seasons of the year, rain or shine, program is FREE but registration is necessary. Pre-register on line through our website, <http://www.hcconservancy.org/upcoming-events.html> 410-465-8877 [www.hcconservancy.org](http://www.hcconservancy.org)

### **Boys Scouts of America**

Scouting for Food will be held on Sat., Mar. 14. Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts will be out in your neighborhood to collect your donations, which will go to one of 25 food pantries we service in the county. A bag will be dropped off at your home a few days before. Please remember to put your donations by your front door or your mailbox by 8 a.m. on March 14. Thanks for your generous donations. [scoutingforfoddnpd@verizon.net](mailto:scoutingforfoddnpd@verizon.net).



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### **Columbia Association**

Every third Sun. come to the Columbia Art Center in Long Reach and enjoy a **FREE** family friendly art activity. Sun., Mar. 15, 1-3 p.m.

### **Girls on the Run**

Girls on the Run® is a life-changing, experiential learning program for girls grades 3-8. The programs combine training for a 3.1 mile running event with self-esteem enhancing, uplifting workouts. The girls will meet after-school twice a week for 10 weeks with the season ending 5k to be held on May 30, in Howard County, MD. The program begins the week of Mar. 15, and will end the week of May 31. **To register your daughter, go to [www.gotcentralmd.org](http://www.gotcentralmd.org).**

### **Howard County Government**

The Challenges of Parenting an Adolescent, Mon, Mar. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 3300 N Ridge Rd #240 Ellicott City MD. The transition into adolescence can pose challenges as the area of the teen brain governing judgment, emotional regulation, impulse control and self-awareness is in a constant state of development. This change can be very frustrating for parents as the rules of the relationship with their growing children keep shifting and expectations need adjustment. Learn why teens do what they do, as well as how to channel their impulses into safer and saner activities.

### **Candlelight Concerts**

Two HCPSS students will perform for Violin Virtuoso Rachel Barton Pine Fri, Mar. 20, 7:30 p.m. St. John Baptist Church, Columbia [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org) 410-997-2324

### **Candlelight Concerts**

Performance featuring Rachel Barton Pine, violin Sat., Mar. 21, 8 p.m. Smith Theatre, Columbia [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org) 410-997-2324.

### **Recreation and Parks**

Spring Egg Hunt at Rockburn Elementary School. Collect eggs and enjoy prizes, games, and fun for the whole family. Sat. Mar. 21, 10 a.m., for children 2-10 years.

<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/specialevents.htm>

### **Columbia Figure Skating Club**

Annual spring production, featuring multiple performances at the Columbia Ice Rink, located at 5876 Thunder Hill Rd., Columbia. Sat, Mar. 21, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. and Sun., Mar. 22, 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

For tickets and more information, please visit the Club's website: [www.columbiafsc.com](http://www.columbiafsc.com).

### **Candlelight Concerts**

CandleKids: Beauty & the Beast featuring National Marionette Theatre, Sun., Mar. 22, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m., Smith Theatre, Columbia. [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org) 410-997-2324

### **Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center**

The Rotary Clubs of Howard County in partnership with Wilde Lake High School are hosting the seventh annual Soup'r Sundae, a family event featuring soups prepared by area restaurants, on Sun., Mar. 22, 12-2 p.m., Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia, MD 21044. Tickets are at

[www.soupsundae.eventbrite.com](http://www.soupsundae.eventbrite.com) or by contacting [cathyvsmith@verizon.net](mailto:cathyvsmith@verizon.net) Tickets will also be available at the door for cash and checks made out to Grassroots. [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org)



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**North Laurel Community Center**

The MSC 2015 Spring Career Fair is being held on Tues., Mar. 24, 9 a.m. -1 p.m. The event will take place at the North Laurel Community Center on 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel MD 20723. Pre-Registration is highly encouraged at <http://mcs2015careerfair.eventbrite.com>.

**The Village Howard, Inc.**

**SELMA** will be shown on Tues, Mar. 24, 6:30 p.m., Slayton House in Wilde Lake, 10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia MD. Admission is \$6 at the door. Sponsored by The Village In Howard for the entire community.

**North Laurel Community Center**

A new, free walking program for the community beginning Sat., Mar. 28, at the North Laurel Park, at the North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whisky Bottom Road, Laurel MD. The walking program will be every Sat. from Mar. 28-Oct. 31. New member registration is at 8:45 a.m. program is 9-10 a.m. For more information call 410-740-7601.

**Columbia Association Art Center**

Columbia Art Center School's Out Spring Break program for grades 1-8. Mar. 30- Apr. 3 and Apr. 6, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., \$50 per child drop-off begins at 7:30; art activities beginning at 9 a.m. To register, please call Columbia Art Center at [410-730-0075](tel:410-730-0075) or email [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org)

**Columbia Association Art Center**

School's Out Youth Visiting Artist Series, Mosaics, grades 6-8. Come create your own mosaic with Korey Rosenbaum on Mar. 31, \$50 per child, drop-off begins at 7:30 a.m.; art activities begin at 9 a.m. To register, please call Columbia Art Center at [410-730-0075](tel:410-730-0075) or email [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org)

**Columbia Association**

School's Out Youth Visiting Artist Series, Mosaics, grades 6-8. Come create your own mosaic with Jackie Serpico on Mar. 31, \$50 per child, drop-off begins at 7:30 a.m.; art activities begin at 9 a.m. To register, please call Columbia Art Center at 410-730-0075 or email [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org).

**Robinson Nature Center**

Anne Robinson's Centennial Spring Break Activities All ages, Wed., April 1-Sat., April 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free with Robinson daily admission or annual pass. [www.howardcountymd.gov/RNCegacy.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/RNCegacy.htm) 410-313-0400.

**Howard County General Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine**

Free seminar for parents or coaches of student athletes featuring Johns Hopkins experts – learn about concussions, overuse injuries, heat illness, common knee injuries and hernias, as well as injury prevention and when to seek help for potentially serious conditions. Apr. 8, 6:30 p.m., *register online:* <http://bit.ly/YoungAthletteSeminar>

**Robinson Nature Center**

Butterfly Gala, all ages, Sat., Apr 11, 6:30-9 p.m. The Howard County Therapeutics Division and Robinson Nature Center cordially invite families of children and adults with special needs to join in an evening of sensory-friendly activities celebrating spring.



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### **Elkridge Youth Organization**

The EYO 12U Baseball Team is hosting a Bingo Night, April 11, 7 p.m., at the OLPH Gym located at 4801 Ilchester Road, Ellicott City. There will be Designer Purses filled with great prizes for each bingo winner and also Special Bingo card rounds. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at the door. Tickets may be bought online at <http://12ucanesbingonight.eventbrite.com> or [12ubingo@verizon.net](mailto:12ubingo@verizon.net)

### **Howard County Government**

Howard County Office of Workforce Development & the Mid-Maryland Youth Council  
2015 Youth Job Fair, Friday, Apr.17, 2- 5 p.m. The Sheraton Hotel in Columbia, located at 10207 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Md. **Free** but youth must register at [www.MIDMDYOUTHFAIR2015.EVENTBRITE.COM](http://www.MIDMDYOUTHFAIR2015.EVENTBRITE.COM) Jermira Sarratt 410-290-2623 or [jesarratt@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:jesarratt@howardcountymd.gov)

### **Cedar Lane School**

Cedar Lanes Annual Walk for Our Stars, Sat. April 18, 10 a.m., Maple Lawn Community Center. Come join us for this fun, non-competitive walk. All money raised will be used to support our students with significant special needs and our staff. Funds will go towards the purchase of specialized equipment, expand the school's cultural arts program, increase the number of student field trips, and provide staff development opportunities beyond what is provided by the county. 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 further information, please contact Cedar Lane School at 410-888-8800 or [walkforourstars2015@verizon.net](mailto:walkforourstars2015@verizon.net)

### **Ballet Royale**

Registration for Ballet Royale Institute of Maryland's 2015 Summer in Motion is open. Summer Programs include intensives, one-on-ones, camps, evening classes and maintenance classes for all ages. Programs run from July 13-Aug. 28, Ballet Royale offers an unbeatable combination of small class sizes, great value and internationally recognized faculty. Register Sat., Mar. 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. to receive 10% off your summer tuition. Call us at 410-997-8443 or visit us online at [www.balletroyale.com](http://www.balletroyale.com).

### **AFS USA INC.**

Host Families Sought for AFS Exchange Students: Next school year, some twenty AFS exchange students from around the world will come to Howard County for a life-changing year of cross-cultural sharing. Exchange students live in a family such as yours and attend the locally district HS from your address. Contact Christina McGarvey at 410-997-7087 or [ckmgarvey@tahoo.com](mailto:ckmgarvey@tahoo.com) More information is also available <http://www.afsusa.org/hosy-family>.

### **Howard County Government**

Womenfest...A Health & Wellness Event for Women, Sat., Apr. 25, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. **FREE** Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood, Cooksville, MD. For more information visit the event's website at [www.howardcountygaging.org/WomenFest](http://www.howardcountygaging.org/WomenFest) or call 410-313-5440.

### **University of Maryland**

Study on Child Brain Development and memory. We are seeking children ages 4-8, typically developing children will participate. Children will receive \$60.00 for participating. Call 301-405-5922 or email [kidbrainstudy@umd.edu](mailto:kidbrainstudy@umd.edu).



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## **CAMPS**

### **YMCA**

Join us for the best summer ever. At the Y, for various camps, discover, create and make memories that will last a lifetime. Whether you're the outdoorsy type, the air-conditioning type, the nature-lover type, the sporty type, the traveler type, the science type, the "I want to get away from home!" type, or every type in between, Y Camp will leave you with a grin on your face! For more information visit [www.ymaryland.org](http://www.ymaryland.org).

### **University of Maryland**

iEngineer@UMD a summer STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) camp for rising 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. This one-week commuter day camp is an exciting opportunity for girls to learn more about STEM through a variety of fun, hands-on activities. Mon., Jul. 6 –Fri., Jul. 10, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. for more information and to apply, visit <http://wie.umd.edu/k12/iengineer>

### **UMBC Summer Day Camp**

The UMBC summer Day Camp will be celebrating it's 36<sup>th</sup> year of existence in 2015, and we hope that you will send your child to spend all or part of the summer with us. Please let us know if you have any questions 410-455-2638 or email us at [summercamp@umbc.edu](mailto:summercamp@umbc.edu)