

# Cougar News

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## *A Message from our Principal*

Hello,

What a great 1st quarter we have had. We are so proud of our student's and staff's accomplishments that we couldn't wait to share them. Plus we are excited about the many upcoming events that we want you to be aware of. Please pay particular attention to the Class of 2009 information; the Career Center News and check the Calendar updates.

L. C. Martin

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Financial Aid Workshop  
for parents and students  
November 20 - 7:00**

**Winter Choral Concert  
Tuesday, December 16 at  
7:00pm**

**Winter Band Concert  
Thursday, December 18  
at 7:00pm**

## Counselors Corner

### Seniors:

Hopefully this year is off to a great start with all eyes focused on June 2, 2009, graduation day. Now is the time to consider all of your post-graduation options. Four Year College, Community College, Vocational School, Work Force, Military. **NO MATTER WHAT OPTION YOU CHOOSE GRADES, ATTENDANCE, AND BEHAVIOR ARE IMPORTANT FOR ESTABLISHING AN EXCELLENT FOUNDATION FOR YOUR POST-GRADUATION PLANS.**

### College Planning - Seniors should be:

Gathering college applications – see Mrs. Bilmanis in the career center.  
Completing applications, requesting transcripts, talking to Mrs. Ransom about testing requirements.

Talking with parents about realistic topics like where to go to college, how to pay for college, and having backup plan if the student is not accepted into the college of their choice.

Applying for scholarships. Go to [www.ccboe.com/stone](http://www.ccboe.com/stone) for career center

newsletter every month.

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in January 2009.

Parents may contact Mrs. Ransom [hansom@ccboe.com](mailto:hansom@ccboe.com) by email or by phone at the school.

### Juniors:

Some of the most difficult courses taken in high school occur during junior year. Helpful hints to ensure success: Attend school every day unless ill. Set up a routine for studying at home. Be aware of teacher deadlines – late work is not acceptable. Parents may contact Mr. Bohne. [pbohne@ccboe.com](mailto:pbohne@ccboe.com) by email or by phone at the school.

### College Planning - Juniors should :

Meet with college representatives visiting our career center.

Research colleges online. Review results of the PSAT with Mr. Bohne when they become available.

Visit college campuses that you may be interested in attending.

### REMINDER:

**147 SENIORS HAVE NOT  
COMPLETED THE**



In case of Inclement weather:  
24-hour information line  
301-934-7410 and 301-932-6656.

Don't forget to check out our sports website  
at: [www.thomasstonesports.com](http://www.thomasstonesports.com)



## Counselor's Corner *Continued*

### Sophomores:

Students are familiar with the school and confident that Thomas Stone is a great place to be. Hints for success:

Students must take their courses seriously, study the material and be able to pass the high school assessments (HSAs). To graduate in 2011, they must pass tests in Algebra I, Part II or Algebra I, Local/State/National Government, Biology and English II. Attendance in school every day helps students get better grades. Support your student by encouraging him/her to be involved in extra-curricular activities. Conference with your student's teachers if grades are not up to the level of his/her ability. Contact the counselor, Mrs. Prado

### Special Options

If your student has an IEP or 504 Plan, the counselor to contact if you have any questions or concerns is Mrs. Jackson [pcjackson@ccboe.com](mailto:pcjackson@ccboe.com) by email or by phone.

She will be monitoring your student's progress and helping him/her have a successful school year.

[aprado@ccboe.com](mailto:aprado@ccboe.com) by email or by phone if you need help.

### Freshman:

Throughout the year we will discuss career readiness, academic achievement and social /personal development with students in classroom groups and individually.

For some students, the emphasis needs to be on personal responsibility. They need to understand that ALL decisions they make will impact their lives. Students are adjusting to high school, new freedoms, more difficult schoolwork, teachers who expect students to behave and do their best work. Please monitor your student's progress closely and email or call the counselor, Mrs. Fruh

### All Students

All students need support and positive feedback from parents and other adults in their lives. **Have a conversation with your student every day and give frequent hugs and positive words.** Let us know if there is something in your family or student's personal life that is spilling over into school. The counselors will work with you on a confidential basis to support the student.



## Career Center News

The Career Center is a resource room that can help students organize their thoughts and make plans for the future. The Center is located directly off the cafeteria and is available to students before and after school, during their lunch shifts, and by appointment during the rest of the school day.

Appointments must be approved by the classroom teacher.

We have information on colleges and universities, careers, the military, financial aid,

scholarships, standardized tests, NCAA athletic eligibility, and much more. Please feel free to come in and browse through our materials. The College & Career Advisor is available to help with research.

Students should check the bulletin boards outside of room 909, read the monthly newsletter, listen to morning announcements, watch the monitors, and check in the Career Center to keep well informed about career and college opportunities that are being offered. The Career Center newsletter is

[jfruh@ccboe.com](mailto:jfruh@ccboe.com) or the teachers when you see signs of discouragement or not enough attention to homework. Put in place some consequences for poor grades or frequent disciplinary actions. Parent, teacher, student conferences can be arranged through the counselor; they are an opportunity for everyone to get the same information at the same time.

Even though your student may complain if you become involved, he/she needs you to set boundaries, impose consequences for poor decision-making and share the excitement about high school and successful accomplishments. Praise goes a long way.

**DON'T WAIT  
UNTIL JUNE TO  
DECIDE ABOUT  
NEXT YEAR.  
Financial Aid  
Workshop  
*November 20 - 7:00***

on our website,  
[www2.ccboe.com/stone](http://www2.ccboe.com/stone).

Click on the Career Center link. The newsletter is also available upon request in the Career Center. Due to the cost of printing the newsletter, it will no longer be distributed through the English classes.

Career exploration and planning take time and should be ongoing

Junior and senior years are very busy times for students, so they need a little extra prodding. It is imperative that students, especially seniors start planning for post secondary training and financial aid now.

Please contact Mrs. Bilmanis at 301-753-1756 or [mbilmanis@ccboe.com](mailto:mbilmanis@ccboe.com) if you have questions.

## Cougar Student Accomplishments

bridge designed by Joshua Cushenette took 1st place in the 11/12th grade division of the Maryland TRAC Design Build Challenge sponsored by the Maryland State Highway Administration. Hunter Webber and Kyle Sanders helped to construct the bridge, but were unable to participate at the competition at Morgan State University because of scheduling conflicts with the SAT. Nailah Baukman and John Carr stepped in to represent Thomas Stone with Joshua since we needed three students on the team. From Leslie Scruggs. Congratulations to the team and Ms. Scruggs

ana Davis (12) will be the TSHS representative this year for the All- Star Senior Field Hockey game held at Broadneck High School in Anne Arundel County. Please congratulate her.

essage from Ms. McMullan: A congrats goes out to Junior Kirbie Gowen and Sophomore Andrew Palmer for being accepted to participate in the 2008 All County Honors Choir. Kirbie was the top scoring soprano out of a group of 67!

tin Reed finished 34<sup>th</sup> in the Maryland State Golf Tournament. That is the highest ranking of any Thomas Stone golfer in the last 4 years. Congratulations Dustin.

Marching Band has been invited to participate in the ACC's. This is the last major marching band competition held in Allentown, PA on November 16<sup>th</sup>. There will be bands from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Wish them well.

Olivia Crowley and her students planted Pinwheels for Peace in front of Thomas Stone. This is an International effort to get people to focus on Peace throughout the world and Olivia's classes have created Pinwheels to support this effort. If you have time Monday during your lunch or planning, please go outside and show your support.

The following Stone students are members of the International Thespian Society: Nikole Bennett, Alina Busch, Justin Chatarsa, Charllotte Costa, Krista Foster, Kymani Gilmer, Leah Kadjeski, Jane Lightfoot, Sean Ward, and Joshua Wright. Congratulations.

The current 12<sup>th</sup> grade students received the following recognition from the College Board for their AP test performance: AP Scholar – Justin Burch, Rachel Eddy, Nicole Grim, Adam, McClendon, Morgan Thomas, and Chanice Thompson. AP Scholar with Honor – Allison Floyd, Simon Jerome and Megan Ward. AP Scholar with Distinction Dylan Cahn, Courtney Flerlage, and Emily Trefry. Be sure to congratulate them.

The following Thomas Stone High School students earned "Honorable Mention" thru the MD Distinguished scholars program: Sara Arminger, Dylan Cahn, Joshua Cushenette, Rachel Eddy, Courtney Flerlage, Allison Floyd, Jerome Simon, Tiffany Mills, Morgan Thomas, Emily Trefrey, Megan Ward (also Honorable Mention for Drama), and Chelsea Warman. Be sure to congratulate these outstanding students.

Our student body, with the help of Mr. Winsett and the SGA, collected approximately \$500 and will be donating that money to the United Way of Charles County. Kudos to the kids.

Those of you that were here last year will remember Ashin Shah. We received word that Ashin was named the Male Maryland AP Scholar. There is only one male and one female named each year for the entire state. Congratulations Ashin!

gratulations to Kaitlin Carty, Deanna Lagana, and Megan Ward for auditioning and making the All-County Thespian Troupe.

### Charles County Fair winners - Sarah

Cardiel (photography 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place ribbons), Abby Hays (photography 2<sup>nd</sup> place), Kim Brock (photography graduated last year but received a 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbon), Cheyenne Adams-Brown (social studies 1<sup>st</sup> place), Ashley Alder (2<sup>nd</sup> Place- 3D), Bebe Deluna (graduated last year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- painting), Brittany A. Therres (graduated last year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - photography), Jin Kim (2<sup>nd</sup> place 3D), and Kahdijah Brooks (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

This makes a total of 10 ribbons for Stone this year!! Go Cougars!

The following JROTC cadets represented Thomas Stone at the Blue Crabs 9/11 Remembrance Salute to our local military, police, fire fighters and EMT at Regency Furniture Stadium on Thursday night. Congratulations to Robert Mullens, Rebecca Flippin, Carlos Metcalfe, Justin Turner and Michael Therrien for representing us so well. Be sure to congratulate Nailah Baukman and Johnnie Kearse. They received recognition as Outstanding Participants in the 2009 National Achievement Scholarship Program. They scored in the top 4% of 150,000 Black Americans who took the 2007 PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Their names, along with 3,100 other outstanding students, will be sent to 1,500 colleges and universities. Way to go Nailah and Johnnie.

Volleyball players from Thomas Stone and North Point high schools were wearing pink in a recent match to raise awareness and money for breast cancer research. For this story and more, visit our Web site at [www.cbboe.com](http://www.cbboe.com) and click on the News Break 96 logo on the right. We are about 1/2 way through the show.

Emily Trefry is an FEA Essay Contest winner, she has won a free trip to the National Conference in Denver, Colorado.

## Cougar Staff Accomplishments

Ms. Jennifer Reid, Art teacher, won 2<sup>nd</sup> place for a painting, 2<sup>nd</sup> place for a B+W photo, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for a scrapbook. Congratulations to all. NiYa Costley, our Sign Language teacher, recently received word that one of her crochet patterns is being published. The publication is the 2009 Pattern-a-Day Crochet Calendar. She is December 24th & 25th. It is a Musical Snowman Ornament. Congratulations NiYa. Ms. Joi White-Henderson is now a Teacher-Consultant with the Maryland Writing Project. Joi completed the MWP's Invitational Summer Institute. Congratulations Joi! Congratulations to Ms. Adeeb. She recently was awarded a \$650 grant from the Charles County Arts Alliance. The award will be distributed at the Artists in Education Grand Reception held on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Old Waldorf School.

# JROTC News

**Ice Breaker:** On October 30th JROTC had our annual icebreaker from 12:15 to 2:30 PM. We had approximately 119 cadets attend. We had a Battalion formation, Pass & Review, knockout drill, introduced our Battalion Staff & Cadet Company Commanders. Pizza & soda were served for lunch.

**Veteran's Day Parade:** Approximately 80 Thomas Stone JROTC cadets participated in the annual Veteran's Day Parade in La Plata on November 9th. We had the largest turnout of all the Charles County JROTC programs. Cadets earned the parade ribbon.

**LA Plata NJROTC Field Day:** This was the start of American Freedom Week The TSHS Raider team competed in the La Plata NJROTC Field day on November 1st. Events included the Australian trolley, push-ups, sit-ups, 100 & 200 yard relays, sea bag race, Forest Gump race & tug of war. Cadet Murray came in 2nd in the Forest Gump race Christmas Connection:

**Christmas Connection:** TSHS JROTC is assisting the Charles County Children's Aid Society in collecting toys for underprivileged children in Charles County. We will be manning 2 tables in the mall on November 8th, 28th, 29th & December 6th & 13th. Each company is responsible for one day. Cadet Flippin and Alpha Company did an excellent job on November 8th.

**American Freedom Week:** Charles County American Freedom Week started on Sunday November 9th with the Veteran's Day Parade. The TSHS JROTC drill team and color guard is also participating in American Freedom Week celebrations At JP Ryon ES, Stoddert MS, Malcom ES, Middleton ES, Eva Turner ES & John Hanson MS.

**Drill Team:** The Drill Team & Color Guard will be competing in the Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School Drill Meet on November 15th.

**Marksmanship Team:** The TSHS JROTC Marksmanship Team began practice this week at the Saint Charles Sportsmen's Club range at Middleton Hall. We will be practicing one day a week thru February 2009.

**Raider Team:** The TSHS Raider team is going well. We have competed in two events already, the Patuxent Orienteering meet & NJROTC Field Day.

**Springfield M1903:** All Army JROTC units had the Army M-1's drill rifles replaced with the Springfield M1903 drill rifles. We received our's in October

**Fort AP Hill Field Trip:** We will be taking 40 cadets on a field trip to Fort AP Hill, VA, on November 21st. Cadets will be completing the Leadership Reaction Course & the Confidence Course. Cadets from McDonough HS & Leonardtown HS will be joining us

## **THOMAS STONE VISION STATEMENT**

We believe that all students can learn and that it is our responsibility to create an environment in our school that results in the highest possible level of performance in the areas of academic achievement, personal responsibility, and career readiness in a global society. We will work collaboratively with colleagues, students, parents, and the community to achieve this shared educational purpose.

## **THE STAFF OF THOMAS STONE BELIEVES**

All students can learn with appropriate guidance.

Teachers must be devoted to those whom they teach and passionate about what they teach.

Students are most successful when parents and staff are involved in their education.

All students have dignity, unique talents, and are entitled to mutual respect.

Equity for all students in school programs and activities is essential.

There is value in diversity.

Positive self-esteem is critical to learning.

Learning is a lifelong process.

All staff play a valuable role in the education of students.

Our school supports an atmosphere and an environment for each student to develop intellectually, physically, morally, socially, and emotionally.

Our school has the responsibility to prepare students to become global citizens in a technological society.

A safe, orderly, caring environment is essential to students' success.