

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2010

## Grants awarded to Paint Branch High School staff

Education Notebook |

The Board of Directors of the Paint Branch High School Educational Foundation announced the recipients of five mini-grants to Paint Branch High School staff. The total amount of the four mini-grants was almost \$2,000. They will benefit the following programs at the school:

**Body Bars for Total Fitness Class** — Michelle Chestnut, Total Fitness Physical Education Teacher. Due to a larger than expected enrollment in the Total Fitness class, more equipment is needed for the students. A \$500 grant provides body bars with various weights for students. Fitness Bar Charts and a DVD for classroom use will also be purchased.

**French Exchange Trip to France** — Barbara Whitney, French Teacher. Students from France visited Paint Branch this fall, and Paint Branch French students will travel to France, visit Paris for three days, and travel to Besançon where they will stay with local families, go to school, and go on field trips. A \$500 grant will help defray the costs of the trip and help ensure students who want to go are able attend.

**Outdoor Pit Firing** — Alice Norris, Ceramics Teacher. This \$395 grant allows ceramics students an opportunity to experience a traditional firing technique (Raku) which will result in a more inclusive understanding of the range of effects one may achieve with ceramics. The equipment purchased with the grant allows students to compare the effects of outdoor firing on clays to that of modern electric kiln firings.

**Floraganza** — Karen Sondak, Horticulture and Environmental Science Teacher. The \$380 grant will partially fund a field trip for the Horticulture and Environmental Science students to visit the Philadelphia International Flower Show in March. Students will be able to visit the world's largest indoor flower show and view the displays in a unique setting, have the opportunity to further their understanding of the horticultural industry and attend lectures and presentations.

**Culinary Creations** — Sandy Levine, Culinary Arts, International Cultures and Cuisines and Food Trends Technology Teacher. One aspect of the International Cultures and Cuisines and Food Trends and Technology class is the opportunity for students to have hands-on experiences to broaden their skill base and encourage their creativity. This \$180 grant provides for six Cuisinart Classic Round Waffle Makers, thus maximizing the opportunity for students to have successful cooking experiences in the six kitchen labs.

The Paint Branch High School Educational Foundation, Inc. was founded in 2007 to raise funds for mini-grants and college scholarships. This is the third year that educational grants have been awarded. To learn more, visit [www.pbhsfoundation.net](http://www.pbhsfoundation.net).

Top chef

William Ripley, 17, (pictured) a senior at Springbrook High School in Silver Spring and student in the Culinary Arts/ProStart program, is one of nine finalists in the Culinary Institute of America's Top Turkey Video People's Choice Contest.

Another top contestant is Gabe Mandel, 17, of Garrett Park, a senior at Walter Johnson High School in

Bethesda.

For the contest, students were asked to design a recipe featuring leftover turkey and create a cooking video of five minutes or less. William designed Turkey Tapas, Gabe created Roasted Turkey Ravioli. Prize for the top video, determined by popular vote, is a \$5,000 scholarship to the Culinary Institute of America. The top 10 videos can be seen at [www.youtube.com/ciaadmissions](http://www.youtube.com/ciaadmissions).

William is president and founder of Springbrook's Top Chef Cooking Club. Last year, he won the nationwide Portland Dessert Works Pastry Chef Contest for high school and college students. His "S'more Cheesecake" is sold on their website.

Buy books for After Prom

The Blair High School PTSA Book Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday at Barnes & Noble, 12089 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Barnes & Noble will donate a share of the proceeds from sales to benefit Blair's PTSA and After Prom when a Blair voucher is presented or Blair is mentioned at the cash register.

In addition the Book Fair will feature performances, demonstrations and an art display by Blair students. The school will also benefit from online sales from Dec. 11 through 16 at [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) with the Bookfair ID Number of 10316917. For more information, call 301-565-8066 or visit <http://ptsa.mbhs.edu>.

MCPS after Weast

The Montgomery County Civic Federation will host a panel discussion on 'Choosing a New Superintendent' at 7:45 p.m. Monday in the first floor auditorium, County Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville.

This open community discussion on choosing a new superintendent for Montgomery County Public Schools will include panelists: Lyda Astrove, Special Education Advocate; Emily Barton, Executive Director, Teach for America, D.C. Region; Phil Kauffman, Board of Education, member of the BOE ad hoc group, Superintendent Search Process; Neal McLuskey, Associate Director, Center for Educational Freedom, Cato Institute, and Fred Stichnoth, President, Montgomery County Gifted and Talented Association. For more information, visit [www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org).

Parent Academy offerings

The Montgomery County Public Schools Parent Academy will offer a free workshop 'Let's Get Organized' from 7 to 8:30 p.m. today at Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville. Parents can learn to help their child develop organization skills that will increase academic success. The program is presented by Peer2PeerTutors. Child care and interpretation services are provided. Registration is preferred. For details, call 301-279-3100 or visit [www.mcpsparentacademy.org](http://www.mcpsparentacademy.org).

Education Notebook accepts news items and photographs about events, people and good news at your school. Please send us story ideas at least a week in advance of the event. Contact Peggy McEwan at [pmcewan@gazette.net](mailto:pmcewan@gazette.net), fax at 301-670-7183 or 9030 Comprint Court, Gaithersburg, MD, 20877.