Happy Thanksgiving!

Remember the song that some of us learned in elementary school about Thanksgiving that begins, “Over the river and through the woods to grandmother’s house we go…?” Though we may look forward to spending the day with our family and friends, when talk of Thanksgiving comes up, we usually tend to focus on the feast, that is, all the delicious food cooked and displayed on the dinner tables for us to consume. As Thanksgiving Day approaches, think about those people in your life who have seen you through difficult times and all that you may have accomplished thus far; think about the men and women engaged in warfare overseas, far from their families; think about the sacrifices that may have been made on your behalf and all the things you take for granted. Thanksgiving is the beginning of the year-end holiday season, so take time to express your appreciation to your loved ones and be truly thankful.

BJ Lawson
SLT Communications Committee

Submit your news!

Mergenthaler’s E-Newsletter is published monthly as a service of the School Leadership Team Communications Committee. The editorial staff welcomes submissions from all members of the Mergenthaler family.

Articles should be non-commercial in nature and related to activities at Mervo. To submit an article or photo, please send an email to Ms. Brenda Lawson at BLawson@bcps.k12.md.us.

If you would like to change your email address or would like to subscribe or unsubscribe from the email list, please send an email to Mrs. Wendy Fall at wmfall@bcps.k12.md.us.

Quick Notes:
- Second Quarter progress report ending date: December 13.
- Winter Break: December 23-30
- New Year’s Holiday: January 1 and 2.
- School resumes January 3.
- Semester 1 Exams: January 17-19.
To Our New Teachers:

“The first step in the acquisition of wisdom is silence, the second listening, the third memory, the fourth practice, the fifth teaching others.”

Solomon Ibn Gabriol

Congratulations! You made it through the first quarter successfully. You are still here. Don’t waste time doubting yourselves, or on frustrations. Use your energy on the task before you. Stay the course. You’re much better than you think you are. I am proud of all of you.

Ms. Artson

Applause, Applause!

One of our seniors, Chazz Whaley, has received an internship with WMAR/ABC2 News. Chazz’s segments will air the last Sunday of every month, along with other Teen Media staff. He will be “out on the scene” throughout the local community taping segments two-three times a month. Chazz films his first segment on Saturday, December 3, 2011, on the topic of teen pregnancy. Congratulations, Chazz!

Senior Chazz Whaley

MERVO STUDENTS HAVE HEALTHY, HAPPY HEARTS

In recognition of Veterans’ Day on November 11, 2011, students in Mrs. Watkins-Cousin’s classes participated in a letter writing project. Her students wrote heartfelt letters to children throughout the local community whose parents are far away from home in the armed services. The following are excerpts from some of the letters: “…Keep your head up…Just do your best in school and make your mom and dad proud…I understand what you are going through, so be strong…I know it is frustrating not being able to see your parents every day, but keep your head high and try to succeed in life…”

Mrs. Watkins-Cousin provided incentives to reward students who wrote the best letters expressing encouragement and sympathy.
Annual Apple Festival

Mergenthaler’s second annual Apple Festival was held on Friday, October 28, 2011.

Ms. Howell, Bake Shop teacher, and Ms. Deener, Bake Shop Para-Assistant, originally designed a lesson for students to make the connection between baking and history. Since the United States is the melting pot of many cultures, students select a country with apple recipes, and then bake/cook the goods to present to parents and other members of the local community, as well as to the Mergenthaler community. Some of the food sampled and sold at the Apple Festival represented countries around the world, for example, Uruguay, Germany, Italy, and Scotland.

The food was judged by Assistant Principal Mr. Neal, LaDeana Wetzel from the Maryland Restaurant Association, and our very own Chef Patricia Robertson. Students were awarded as first, second, and third place winners for their representation, skill, knowledge, and taste.

- First place winner was Monica Smith for Turkey Apple Lasagna, representing Scotland.
- Second place winner was Jermaine Brown for Apple Caramel Cheesecake, representing the United States.
- Third place winner was Christopher Coleman for Butternut Apple Chicken Soup, representing South Africa.

Honorable Mention recognitions were awarded to Ceera Pridgen and Rashaad Veale for their Apple/Vegetable Tortillas and to Shaniya Torrence for her Apple Curry Beef.

Ms. Howell and Ms. Deener would like to thank everyone who participated in the festival, and special thanks to those who donated goods and to the students who worked so diligently to make this year’s Apple Festival a success. “What a great job!”

Recipe Corner

For those of us who enjoy lemony desserts, here is a must try.

**EASY LEMON TART**

**(ONE-STEP DESSERT)**

Cut 1 large Meyer lemon* into 8 pieces and place (skins, too!) in a blender with 1 ½ cups superfine sugar, 1 stick butter, 1 tsp. vanilla, and 4 eggs.

Whirl like crazy.

Pour into your favorite store-bought tart shell.

Bake at 350 for 40 minutes or until set.

Source: cooking site: [food52.com](http://food52.com)

*Meyer lemons have an intense sweet lemony flavor. You could substitute regular lemons, but you may need to increase the amount of sugar.
1) Bell Labs Fellowships for Under-represented Minorities
   http://www.bell-labs.com/fellowships/CRFP/info.html

2) Student Inventors Scholarships
   http://www.invent.org/collegiate

3) Student Video Scholarships
   http://www.christophers.org/vidcon2k.html

4) Coca-Cola Two-Year College Scholarships
   http://www.college-financial-aid-advice.com/coca-cola-
   scholarship.html

5) Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships
   http://holocaust.hklaw.com/

6) Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships
   http://www.aynrand.org/contests/

7) Brand Essay Competition
   http://www.instituteforbrandleadership.org/IBLEssayContest-
   2002Rules.htm

8) Gates Millennium=20 Scholarships (major)
   http://gmsp.org/publicweb/Scholarships.aspx

9) Xerox Scholarships for Students
   http://www.scholarships.com/Xerox-
   Technical-Minority-
   Scholarship.aspx

10) Sports Scholarships and Internships
    http://www.ncaa.org, and search for “Scholarships”

11) National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ)
    http://www.nabj.org/?page=SEEDScholarships

12) Saul T. Wilson Scholarships (Veterinary)
    http://agnr.umd.edu/scholarships/Outside_Scholarships/Saul%20T
    %20Wilson%20Veterinary%20Scholarship.cfm

13) Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund
    http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.net/student/scholarshipprogram

14) FinAid: The Smart Students’ Guide to Financial Aid
    Scholarships
    http://www.finaid.org/

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**From The Guidance Department:**

**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

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**WHO IS THIS?**

It is Allen Graham, of course!

Playing his guitar in the hallway after school.

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**Mark Your Calendar: Book Sale!**

DON’T MISS THIS ANNUAL EVENT AT THE CENTRAL PRATT LIBRARY!

Friday, December 2 and Saturday,
December 3, 10 AM—5 PM;
Sunday, December 4, 1-5 PM.

Thousands of used and new books,
encyclopedias, sheet music, VHS tapes, music
CDs, DVDs, and books-on-tape.
The TransAmerica Life Mentoring Program is dedicated to encouraging high school students to graduate from high school, to develop business-professional skills, and to build the personal goals necessary to take into the workforce and into their future. Congratulations to the following Mergenthaler students who are the TransAmerica Life Mentee cohort:

Mia Barnes
Tonio Jenson
Danielle Saunders
Brittany Brisbon
Miranda Johnson
Bruce Sellers
Brian Chambers
Shaquioa Johnson
Stacy Taylor
Derek Dunlap
Maleek Lawrence
Stephanie Taylor
Talayah Gardiner
Destinee McKinnon
Montrell Watkins
Tyanna Handy
Michal Moore
Janae Harris
Ayinday Saleem
Coordinator: Ms. D. Hamlette

The current members of SGA are:

President- Amber Covington (Human Services Academy)
1st Vice-President- Breonna Martin (Human Services Academy)
2nd Vice-President- Jermaine Brown (Human Services Academy)
Secretary- Tanyka Wright (Human Services Academy)
Treasurer- Daira Smoot (Human Services Academy)
Sgt-at-Arms- Maria White (Leap Academy)
Historian- Keyontai Arnold (Human Services Academy)
Communication Liaison- Sade Bushrod (Human Services Academy)
Communication Liaison-Samantha Gillyard (T&T Academy)
Communication Liaison- Corey Robinson (T&T Academy)

The Student Government Association (SGA) of Mergenthaler High School

What is Student Government?
The Student Government Association is the voice of the student body of Mergenthaler High School. This organization is responsible for the input of students and what they would like to have in their school.

Why become a leader in Student Government?
The organization has local, state, and national responsibility. The students try to make student ideas a reality, and the students are learning about the actual workings of government.

What are the requirements?
You must have a grade point average of 75.
You must be a good citizen.
You must complete a nomination Ballot.

What are the advantages of being a member?
Colleges and other organizations are looking for students who are involved in their school activities and have leadership roles.

November 4, students and staff participated in a variety of spirit week activities, including a pep rally and football game, culminating in a dance held Friday night in the school’s cafeteria.

- SGA will have its Inauguration December 9, 2011.
- The Black & White Ball will be held in January.

For photos of events planned by the SGA, see page 6!
“Debate is the combat of well-prepared minds arguing to each other, and not at each other, and supporting evidence with hard facts.” –Mr. Polvino

The debate team here at Mervo is coached by Mr. Polvino and Ms. Butler, two of the most dedicated teachers. Mr. Polvino describes the debate team as a group of young, eager, and interested students who are willing to try. They are eager to learn and be heard and take the judges by storm.

These students are also preparing themselves for the real world where some of them wish to work in law or the business field. The practice that debate students are now getting will definitely help them in their chosen fields.

The coaches also have great pride and standards for the debaters. Mr. Polvino said that the only thing he could really ask from the debaters is “excellent effort, and to win as many [rounds] as they are equipped to.” He also said, “There’s a lot of good to be said about winning, but excellence is always achievable, even if someone does something better than you.” So, even though Mr. Polvino knows the team may not win every match, as long as they put forth effort, they win. The students will also learn to be better listeners, to think quicker on their feet, to expand their vocabulary, and their minds will be sharper, according to Mr. Polvino.

This year, debate teams are discussing whether the United States ought to take the lead in establishing observatories in outer space to look for future objects that will collide with earth. Last year, the team debated about the effects that wars leave on soldiers, i.e., post traumatic stress disorder.

The Mervo debate team kicked off their season by hosting a district tournament with City College, Dunbar, Achievement Academy, Heritage and W.E.B. Dubois on November 2, 2011. The results? Mervo teams won both the Novice and Junior Varsity divisions. In addition, Diamond Black won second overall as an individual speaker. Upcoming debates for the Baltimore Urban Debate League are December 17, February 11, and March 17. Other debates may be scheduled later in the year.
Mergenthaler High School Mission Statement

“To produce global leaders by ensuring excellence in the areas of college preparedness and Career and Technology Education.”

Every student, every standard: Engage, Empower, Excel!

Mergenthaler VTHS

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View our performance data: http://www.mdreportcard.org