



# THE FALCON CRIER

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

#### NHMS PTSA meetings

February 1

March 6

April 10

May 1

June 4

Meeting start 6:30 pm

Location: NHMS Conference Room

Dr. Karl E. Wickman  
*Principal*

Mr. Antonnio R. Hockaday  
*Assistant Principal*

Ms. Christine I. Kelly  
*Assistant Principal*

Mr. Jeffrey R. Raff  
*Assistant Principal*

## From the Principal

I am sure many of you are familiar with the term “life hacks”, but if you are not, the term refers to little tips and tricks of how to do things to make your life simpler or more productive. Since NHMS has become such a technologically rich learning environment our students are completing a lot more work using technology. As I see our students working, I notice that Middle School students are still in the learning phases of how to take full advantage of computers, and how to make research and work easier or more productive. So I offer a few simple tips for students (or parents) that you may not know about on your computers.

Have you ever closed a tab in your browser by mistake and really wished you hadn't? There is a very simple way to re-open it.

On a PC click Ctrl-Shift-t

On a MAC click Command-Shift-t

Do you need to save a screen shot of all or a part of what is on your computer screen?

On a PC, click the start menu and click on the “snipping tool” icon

On a MAC click Command-Shift-4 and drag the area you want to capture

Are you sick of lost passwords? You can use a program called LastPass to store them all. You create one master password and LastPass will securely maintain the rest of them. Now you need only remember 1.

Want to quickly increase the size of text while reading in a browser window?

On a PC click Ctrl and the + key to increase. Ctrl and 0 returns the screen to

normal. On a MAC, click Command and the + key to increase. Command and 0 returns to normal.

When writing an essay or a letter or any text, some find it helpful to actually listen to what they have written to make sure it sounds the way they want it to. On the main screen for Google, click on the squares in the top right corner to reveal Apps. Open Google Translate. You can copy and paste your text into the window and Google will read it to you. From there you can decide if you liked it, made a mistake or wanted to change anything. Know the country of origin of websites. When researching, it is a good practice to know the country of origin of the site. This can add perspective to the material and can help screen for bias or objectivity in content. The extension at the end of the site indicates the country of origin. For example, if you are researching a news article from the site “www.thelocal.se” the “.se” indicates to you that the site originates in Sweden. If you don't know which country the letters represent you can go to www.domainit.com where you can find the full listing of extensions.

I hope that you have found at least one of these tips to be of use to you. Learning advanced levels of what your computer can do makes this powerful tool even more powerful.

*Karl Wickman Ed. D.*

## 2017-2018 PTSA

### Executive Board:

President: Carla Manzo

Vice President: Sandra Monaco-Burton

Secretary: Lisa Pfeiffer

Treasurer: Christy Collins

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Check out Edline for updates to the calendar.

You can also email the PTSA at [nhmsptsa@gmail.com](mailto:nhmsptsa@gmail.com) with any questions.

# FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 pm NHMS PTSA Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Report Cards go home!	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 3 hr early dismissal	17
18	19 President's Day— Schools Closed	20	21 2-4:00pm 6th Grade Activity	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

## PTSA COMMITTEE NEWS

### BOX TOPS HOMEROOM COMPETITION!!!

Keep collecting. See page 7 for information on the next collection! We made \$898.20 on the last drive!



### 7th GRADE SPORTS SPECTACULAR

Many thanks to all the volunteers that supported this event. Food, prizes, music, and sports—a great combination! It was a remarkable success and the students loved it!

### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

The North Harford Middle School PTSA Nominating Committee will soon be looking for officers and committee chairpersons for the 2018-2019 school year. Please consider chairing a committee or running for a position on the board. This isn't like elementary school where a position takes over your life. This is a kinder, gentler PTSA experience and there are always lots of volunteers to help. Come to our next meeting and see for yourself!

### 6th GRADE "LET IT SNOW!"

The North Harford Middle School PTSA is hosting the 6th grade activities on February 21, 2018 from 2-4:00 pm (inclement weather date February 28, 2018). The event will be held in the NHMS gym. There is no cost for this event and it will include volleyball, ping pong, corn hole, minute to win it games, selfie station, light refreshments, and prizes!

## 2017-2018 NHMS PTSA Committee Chairpersons

Box Tops/Labels: Paula Mackey

Corporate Rebates: VACANT

Eighth Grade Activities: Tesha Wright, Ora Cummings

Seventh Grade Activities: Christy Collins, Lisa Pfeiffer

Sixth Grade Activities: Heather Miller, Ora Cummings

The Falcon Crier: Andrew Collins

Faculty Basketball Game: Laura Coyne

Falcon Walk: Karen Bowser, Ora Cummings

Hershey Park Tickets: Julie Harvey

Membership: Lisa Pfeiffer

Reflections: VACANT

Spirit Wear: Julie Harvey

Staff Appreciation: Tesha Wright

Volunteers: Lisa Pfeiffer

Facebook/Publicity: Sandra Monaco-Burton

If you have questions regarding the PTSA, or specific questions for an officer or chairperson, please email [nhmspts@gmail.com](mailto:nhmspts@gmail.com) and it will be directed to the appropriate person for follow-up.



2018 ORDER FORM

NORTH HARFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA

DISCOUNT tickets for 2018 VALID April 27<sup>th</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup> ONE day pass included in your admission ticket

- More than 70 rides and attractions including 14 coasters and ALL-NEW Breakers Edge Water Coaster and Whitecap Racer at The Boardwalk At Hersheypark
- The Boardwalk at Hersheypark open MAY 26<sup>th</sup> thru Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018
- FREE admission to ZooAmerica when entering from Hersheypark Award winning LIVE entertainment

To order DISCOUNT tickets for 2018 (valid summer season) complete this form with payment and return to HOMEROOM or OFFICE ATTN: JULIE HARVEY/HERSHEY PARK by: MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

PLEASE SUBMIT WITH ONE CHECK PAYABLE TO: NORTH HARFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA

(RETURN CHECKS SUBJECT TO BANK FEES)

CONTACT: JULIE HARVEY AT: crazytown@zoominternet.net

PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL# \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOMEROOM TEACHER & CLASSROOM \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Our NHMS PTSA will distribute tickets on/or before the week of MAY 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

ADD-ON DISCOUNT MEAL TICKETS Reg \$12.99 get \$1.00 off pre-order Valid at select food locations Includes an entrée, one side, and a choice of a Large fountain beverage or Regular hot beverage

ALL-AGE ADMISSION (AGES 3+)

GATE RATE \$67.80 YOUR COST \$31.95 you save \$35.85

ADMISSION TICKET \_\_\_\_\_ x \$31.95 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DISCOUNT MEAL TICKET \_\_\_\_\_ X \$11.99 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**North Harford Middle School PTSA  
Falcon Fun Night**

**Thursday, March 1  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

Jarrettsville Creamery & Deli  
1747 Jarrettsville Road

Come out and enjoy an evening with friends and family.

Enjoy great food and help our PTSA raise money for student activities throughout the year. 10% of ALL sales go to NHMS PTSA!

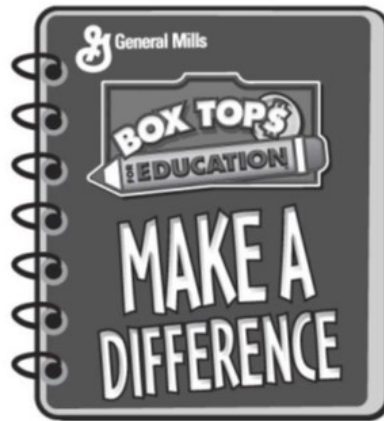
For additional information contact:

**NHMS PTSA**  
nhmsptsa@gmail.com

## National Junior Honor Society News



The National Junior Honor Society is excited to be in its second year at North Harford Middle School. Our officers this year are Jacquelyn Bultman, President, Jamiesen Kavanagh, Vice President, Marissa Altenburg as Secretary and Kaitlyn Schueler as our Historian. We are currently working on various exciting service projects. One project we are working on is lightless lunch. The purpose of lightless lunch is to save power and help the environment. We sponsor a lightless lunch once a month. The lightless lunch committee is only one of our many projects. For the holidays, we wrote inspirational letters to service members. These service members were special to us because, they were deployed out of Harford County. We also are involved in tutoring during a.m. assistance. We help with organization, understanding and making sure the students get their things done. Our goal is to make our school a better community.



## Box Tops for Education

It's time to send in all the Box Tops for Education you have been saving!! We will be having a **Box Tops for Education Homeroom Contest** from February 5<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. The NHMS PTSA receives 10 cents for every valid Box Top submitted to support NHMS activities programs. The top participating homerooms will receive a special treat from the PTSA!

Information on participating products can be found at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). Please check dates on Box Tops before turning them in to school, expired Box Tops cannot be submitted. If you have any questions please contact Paula Mackey at [Paula.Mackey@hcps.org](mailto:Paula.Mackey@hcps.org).

## General Information about the Disease

### What is influenza (flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year.

It is estimated that every year in the United States, on average:

- 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu;
- more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications;
- 20,000 of those hospitalized are children younger than 5 years of age; and
- a range of 3,000 to 49,000 people die from flu.

Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), are at high risk for serious flu complications.

### How does the flu spread?

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or possibly their nose.

### What are the symptoms of the flu?

- Symptoms of flu include:
- dry cough
  - Stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, also can occur but are more common in children than adults
  - fever (usually high)
  - sore throat
  - headache
  - runny or stuffy nose
  - extreme tiredness
  - muscle aches

Although the term "stomach flu" is sometimes used to describe vomiting, nausea, or diarrhea, these illnesses are caused by certain other viruses, bacteria, or possibly parasites, and are rarely related to influenza.

### How long is a person with flu virus contagious?

The period when an infected person is contagious depends on the age and health of the person. You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and 5 to 7 days after becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

### What is the difference between a cold and the flu?

The flu and the common cold are both respiratory illnesses but they are caused by different viruses. Because these two types of illnesses have similar symptoms, it can be difficult to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. In general, the flu is worse than the common cold, and symptoms such as fever, body aches, extreme tiredness, and dry cough are more common and intense. Colds are usually milder than the flu. People with colds are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose. Colds generally do not result in serious health problems, such as pneumonia, bacterial infections, or hospitalizations. Children or teenagers with flu-like symptoms should NOT take aspirin.

### How can you tell the difference between a cold and the flu?

Because colds and flu share many symptoms, it can be difficult (or even impossible) to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. Special tests that usually must be done within the first few days of illness can be carried out, when needed to tell if a person has the flu.

### What can I do to protect myself against the flu?

CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease. While there are many different flu viruses, the flu vaccine protects against the main flu viruses that research indicates will cause the most illness during the flu season. (Three or four viruses, depending on which vaccine you get.) The vaccine can protect you from getting sick from these viruses or it can make your illness milder if you get a different flu virus.