We want to encourage everyone to send in ideas, pictures, techniques, funny or silly homeschool antics, etc. to share with other homeschoolers. We always want to hear from you. Any submissions for the next newsletter are to be sent in by February 25, 2017.

*Please make sure to send it to mdhsanewslettereditor@pa.net

Kim Sheffler
MDHSA CO-OP Committees

Co-Op North Committee
Kendra Angle  kdangle94@gmail.com  (717) 261-2557
Melissa Ott  theothouse@yahoo.com  (717) 860-7099
Sally Myers  mustangsally1228@hotmail.com  (717)658-0062
Cherie Rich  cherierenee@live.com  (717)593-0639
Angel Snowberger  bamcraftymommas@yahoo.com  (717) 491-1830  treasurer

Co-Op South Committee
Jamie Kelley  skelly5549@yahoo.com  cell (301)331-7244
Grace Horst  ghorst13@gmail.com  (717)262-8969
Cheryl Mankins  cnmankins@gmail.com  (301)992-7109
Marsha Singer  home (301)824-2707 or text cell (301)992-8676
Barb Ward (Treasurer)  ralph.ward@myactv.net  (301) 824-3512

Co-Op West
Denise Rine  dlrine@frontiernet.net
Elena Murphy  revjam61@aol.com  (717)328-4512
Emily Dodson  ggodson07@embarqmail.com  (717)349-7531
Merry Jones  merry_marsh@yahoo.com  (717)328-0049
Heather Foltz  heather.foltz@gmail.com  (717)261-0455

Co-op Treasurers Reports Schedule
Due Date  Report for this time period to the treasurer and the administrator
Jan 31  September 1 to December 31
April 30  January 1 to March 31
July 31  April 1 to June 30
Sept 30  September 1 to August 31 and a copy of the bank statement since August 31 is the end of MDHSA's fiscal year.

Put an "as of" date on the report when you send it.

Advertising in this Newsletter:
MDHSA members may advertise at no charge in the newsletter. Members may e-mail their newsletter advertisement to the newsletter editor

Non-members who have a business (music lessons, tutoring classes, etc.) OR Commercial Business will be charged a fee. The fee schedule and detailed instructions are on MDHSA website under the Purchase Tab. These ads are not to be e-mailed directly to the newsletter editor.

MDHSA activities:
—must be registered with the activities director—mdhsaactivities@gmail.com
—If the announcement must go in the newsletter
—If the activity will be before the newsletter is printed, email it to the mdhsaactivities@pa.net for the AD to send it out to all emails.
—must be for MDHSA members only
—are put on the calendar in the membership section of website by the AD.
— IF the activity has an unlimited number that may attend, the activity may be put on the member Facebook page any time. IF the activity has a limit to how many may attend, you may NOT put the activity invitation on Facebook until the NL is received by mail, which is the day AFTER it is sent out by email. This way all will have a fair chance to sign up for the activities that are limited. Please send out reminders of activities that are announced far ahead!

mdhsa.members.only@gmail.com.
Send non-activity announcements such as MDHSA business, homeschool legislative information or a serious illness, or death in the family of an MDHSA member, business mtg announcements, etc. If this should go in the newsletter, please email the newsletter editor also. The newsletter will be sent via this email, also. Not to be used for activities and field trips. (Please check spam folders from time to time and add these emails to your contacts)
CHANGE IN PDE LIST
OF STANDARDIZED TESTS

According to the PA Home Education Program law, home education students must include standardized test results in their 3rd, 5th and 8th grade portfolios. The PA Department of Education is to provide a list of at least 5 options. The PDE added “Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)” on February 1, 2017. This is an untimed computerized test. Here is a link to Northwest Evaluation Association (test company) for more information:
https://www.nwea.org/assessments/map/
Link to PDE Basic Education Circular for Home Education Program law (BEC 13-1327.1)
You might also find this interesting. This website lists all of the tests and classifies them according to their alignment to Common Core Standards.
http://hsroadmap.org/standardized-tests/

Home Education Program Law:
24 PS 13-1327.1 (e)(1) A portfolio of records and materials. The portfolio shall consist of a log, made contemporaneously with the instruction, which designates by title the reading materials used, samples of any writings, worksheets, workbooks or creative materials used or developed by the student and in grades three, five and eight results of nationally normed standardized achievement tests in reading/language arts and mathematics or the results of Statewide tests administered in these grade levels. The department shall establish a list, with a minimum of five tests, of nationally normed standardized tests from which the supervisor of the home education program shall select a test to be administered if the supervisor does not choose the Statewide tests.

List of PDE approved tests (as of 02/01/2017)
1. California Achievement Test
2. Comprehensive Testing Program (CTPIV)
3. Iowa Test of Basic Skills
4. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
5. Metropolitan Achievement Test
6. Peabody Achievement Individual Test ? Revised Version
7. Stanford Achievement Test
8. Terra Nova
9. Woodcock-Johnson Revised Tests of Achievement III
10. Woodcock-Johnson IV
11. Wechsler Individual Achievement Test III (WIAT-III)
MDHSA Officers Needed

At the March Business meeting, MDHSA will be voting on new officers for our Board of Directors. These are Chairman, Secretary and Development Chair (includes Activities Director and Fund Raising).

Please read the October Business Meeting minutes in the November Newsletter for more information on these positions. If you would like to suggest someone for this position or you would like to consider the position, please contact the officer who is currently holding that position for details.

All officers must be full members of MDHSA. The positions run for two years: 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

March Business Meeting

Monday March 20, 2017
Chambersburg Mennonite Church,

6 p.m. - 6:50---Meet and Greet
This meeting is open to all MDHSA members.

Please come and help make decisions!
Kids are welcome if there is an older sibling able watch younger siblings in the gym while the parents are near by in the sanctuary.

Light refreshments will be provided

7 p.m. Business Meeting
Be our guest to the
MDHSA 2017 High School Formal
“Beauty and the Beast”

Date: Friday, May 26, 2017 * Time: 7:00 - 10:30 pm
Green Grove Gardens 1032 Buchanan Trail E, Greencastle, PA 17225
Music, Dancing, and Light Refreshments
Open to all homeschoolers & their guests, ages 14 (by June 30th), and older
MDHSA member: $20
Non-MDHSA member: $25
ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
May 6th. No exceptions.

Questions?? Please call
Renee Wetzel 717-404-5687
or e-mail her at
Rwetzel77@gmail.com
FORMAL REGISTRATION
MDHSA High School Formal

Please detach and enclose payment, payable to MDHSA, with signed Behavioral Agreement (for each person attending) and return to the current year’s Formal Chairperson: Renee Wetzel 13147 Pennersville Rd. Waynesboro, PA 17268

| Name: ______________________________________ | Guest’s Name: ______________________________________ |
| Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________ |
| Phone: __________________________________________ | E-mail_____________________________________________ |
| # Members Attending: _________ | # Non-Members Attending: _________ | Total: $____________________ |

(A separate Behavioral Agreement is REQUIRED for each student attending. Your reservation will be returned if these are NOT included)

Parent’s Signature: __________________________________________

REQUIRED: In case of an emergency that evening, please give a

Contact person __________________________________________ | Phone number____________________________ |

Your child may have their picture taken at this event and used strictly for MDHSA purposes. (MDHSA Newsletter or MDHSA Website or MDHSA Facebook public pages)

Please inform the office if you do not want us to use your child’s picture for these purposes.

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Behavioral Agreement (Required for each guest)
MDHSA High School Formal

I __________________________agree to adhere by the following rules while attending the MDHSA High School Formal.

* Attendees are expected to show respect and courtesy to all chaperones and other attendees.
* Attendees are expected to show respect for the property and facility by doing no damage.
* No tobacco products, alcohol, drugs or other illegal substances will be permitted.
* Anyone found disregarding these rules will be asked to leave immediately.

In requesting music pieces, I will adhere to the MDHSA music policy which states in part: “…the Executive Committee is proposing that certain music not be played at formals in the future, which includes music requested by students at the formal. Music that should not be played includes that which mentions drugs, alcohol, sex, violence and unacceptable language. With this, it should be understood that certain discretion should be used by chaperones in enforcing this policy. By this we mean that there may be certain appropriate exceptions to this policy. For example, a song that speaks of someone who, through redemption, no longer is doing drugs or alcohol and has chosen a new path may be acceptable. This policy permits secular music as well as Christian music as long as it fits the above criteria.” By signing below, I understand these rules and the consequences for disregarding them.

Signature __________________________ | Date _______________________________
**2017 Graduates**

To order your
“Class of 2017” sweatshirts, 
Tee-shirts, hoodies and more! Go to the MDHSA website and click on the Purchase Tab for information on how to order. They make great Christmas Presents. (You can also order any year you choose).

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**US Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle Field Trip!**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for MDHSA member families**

The U.S. Army Heritage Center in Carlisle has an extensive outdoor trail that covers different eras of military history from the French & Indian War through Vietnam. Our group will divide into four smaller groups and rotate through the following stations that will have historical interpreters:
1) Civil War, 2) World War I - American, 3) World War I - German, and 4) World War II. Each rotation will be approximately 30 minutes long and will finish by 12:00 p.m. at which time families are free to eat lunch (you can bring your own or eat at the cafe), explore the rest of the trail or visit the Soldier Experience Gallery.

Space is limited. Since there are only 50 student spots available, I am requiring a $5 per family deposit to register for the field trip. You may send the deposit along with the names/ages of your students and your contact information to Valerie Eby, 15525 Ridge Rd., Waynesboro, PA 17268. Although you may contact me with additional questions at dewval_07@comcast.net, the only way to reserve your spot(s) is by sending in the deposit fee. Since there is no cost for the field trip, your $5 deposit will be returned to you on the day of field trip. If you are unable to attend after you register, the deposit fee will still be returned as long as you notify me in advance and a replacement family can be found to fill your spot(s).

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**Box Tops Pool Party 2017 - Changes!**

The annual Box Tops Pool Party scheduled for **Thursday, August 10**, will no longer be held at Camp Joy El in Greencastle. The camp is no longer able to accommodate our date or budget. Therefore, new arrangements have been made. I am pleased to announce that Cove Valley Youth Camp in Mercersburg will be this year’s host for our pool party. The party will still be held on **Thursday, August 10, from 6-9 pm**. In addition to the pool, other activities will be available to families including canoeing, gaga ball, 9 square in the air, etc. Details will follow in a later edition of the newsletter. In the meantime, mark **August 10** on your calendar (August 24 is the rain date).

Finally, remember to keep collecting General Mills Box Tops for Education! You can drop them in the collection box at any of MDHSA’s co-ops, put them in the MDHSA office drop box, or mail them to Valerie Eby, 15525 Ridge Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268.
First Fridays
at Chambersburg Brethren in Christ Church
465 Center Street in Chambersburg, Pa. 17201

March First Friday - Native Americans of the Eastern Woodlands
Friday March 3rd 1pm

Join us for March First Friday! Cumberland Valley Historical Society will present one of their traveling trunk shows called Native Americans of the Eastern Woodlands. He will present historical information while showing off interesting real artifacts and clothing.

Description from their website: "Do you think that you could stand still and proud as your nose was pierced with a sharpened bone? Would you like to know how to make clothing out of animal flesh using only stone tools and brain matter? These were the skills and cultural expectations of people from the Eastern Woodlands. Using clothing, animal pelts, weapons, and tools, we will explore the fascinating and vibrant heritage of our county’s earliest settlers."

Cost is $5 per family and can be paid at the door.

Questions can be sent to Angel Snowberger at angelandsean@comcast.net or 717-491-1830

April First Friday - Amelia Earhart!
Friday April 7th 1pm

Amelia Earhart continues to fascinate and to inspire. The charismatic, athletic, risk-taking tomboy could charm you with her sparkling eyes, motivate you with her passion, could convince you with her skill. Although she was born in Kansas, Ms. Earhart had solid Philadelphia connections: Amelia attended the Ogontz School, now part of Penn State University, flew a piper cub from Coatesville and spoke about aviation in Germantown. Ms. Earhart was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross as the first aviatrix to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. In addition to actually flying, she wrote aviation books, helped form the Ninety-Nines to support other female pilots, and taught classes at Purdue University’s aviation department. Earhart was active in the political arena as a member of the National Woman’s Party and as a strong supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment. A friend to Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt, Ms. Earhart took Eleanor flying after FDR told her he didn’t want Eleanor piloting a plane.

Pat Jordan has also flown a plane and like Amelia, she enjoys taking artistic risks. Ms. Jordan is an adept costumer and is a confident speaker. An accomplished actor, operatic singer and historian, Pat Jordan is a Philadelphia treasure. Working with the American Historical Theatre since 1992, Pat is known for her beautiful voice, her sparkling blue eyes and the dramatic intensity of her performance. With a degree in theatre from Villanova, training at Juilliard Opera Workshops, and years of experience with the German Theatre Guild and AHT, MS. Jordan’s roles have included Shakespearean heroines, Victorian Music Hall comedienne, and opera divas. A devoted teacher, Pat has led history camps, taught at the Institute for the Gifted and at Bryn Mawr College. She was honored in 2009 by the Darlington Arts Center for her many years of teaching as part of the award-winning Chester Youth Theatre Outreach Program. Her Rocks in the Sun play about every person’s right to clean water led to a gratifying performance and workshop for young people whose caretakers died in the 9-11 tragedy.

Pat Jordan has appeared at venues that include the White House Visitors Center, Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institute, National Archives, Franklin Institute, Peddler’s Village (Cock & Bull Restaurant), National Constitution Center, Union League, National Portrait Gallery, Deshler-Morris House and Mount Vernon. Besides acting and singing, Ms. Jordan creates family-friendly scripts appropriate for audience-members of all ages.

Cost for this show is $5 per person for those 4 and up.

Any questions can be directed to Angel Snowberger angelandsean@comcast.net
Council for the Arts

Tuesday Morning Home School Art Class,
Ages: 6-10
Instructor: Bethany Gonyou
Dates: Tuesdays, Feb. 14 - March 7 OR April 25 - May 16, 10:30-11:45am
Let your children discover and develop their inner creativity! A new art project and technique will be explored each week. This class will meet the PA Standards 9.1.3.A/B/C/D/E/F, introducing young art students to a variety of mediums and styles, and brief experiences with art history and terminology, as they create original artwork that reflects both their own ideas and the influence of famous artists throughout history. All materials will be provided.
Price: $45 for 4-week session

Portrait Class for Home School Teens,
Ages: 11-16
Instructor: Carolyn Baker
Dates: Tuesdays March 7 – April 11, 12:45-2:45 pm
Learn about color theory and portraiture! Students will be taught to draw facial features in detail, and will use a range of colors to create skin tones. Practical skills of color application and blending will be taught as students focus on a self-portrait that will demonstrate their understanding. This class will meet the PA Standards 9.1.3.B/E/F, introducing students to a variety of art elements and principles, and brief experiences with art history and terminology, as they create original artwork that reflects both their own ideas and the influence of famous artists throughout history. All materials will be provided.
Price: $95 for 6-week session

You’ll be able to see them on our website, www.councilforthearts.net, and you can sign up there, too. Our website is sometimes a little hard to work (it only loads 4 class descriptions at a time) but works best if you sort by Age Group or Artist (Teacher). And you can always call us at 717-264-6883 or email programs@councilforthearts.net
Homeschool Bowling,
$5 a bowler for 2 games and rental shoes!
Open to All and at Sunshine Lanes in Waynesboro.
This will be a monthly event.

Musikgarten Cattail Marsh
Thursdays 10:00-10:45 AM

Learn to play Piano in a group setting!
Piano Sampler - Mondays 1:00-2:00 PM
Musikgarten Music Makers at the Keyboard
Thursdays 1:00-2:00 PM

Cumberbunds, a Children’s Choir
Thursdays 4:30-6:00 PM

Acting Classes & Activities!
Acting is Elementary - Saturdays 11:15 - 12:15
Guys and Dolls Jr. - Auditions December 17th
~A musical performed by students in March~

Guitar Class
Thursdays 6:15-7:00 PM

Red Bridge Homeschool Skate
The last Thursday of each month
$6 per person (max $18 / family)
10am-12pm skating time,
12-12:30 playtime for ages 8 and under,
IF DATE FALLS ON HOLIDAYS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, IT MAY BE MOVED UP A WEEK. CALL RED BRIDGE TO VERIFY THERE WILL BE SKATING THAT DAY.
***NO SKATE IN JULY***
717-264-9916
Red Bridge Roller Rink,
1993 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg, PA 17201
Skating date over the holidays are November 17th and December 29th

300x58 Homeschool Bowling,
$5 a bowler for 2 games and rental shoes!
Open to All and at Sunshine Lanes in Waynesboro.
This will be a monthly event.
If you are planning an MDHSA activity, we would really like to get it on the calendar as soon as possible. This will give our members an opportunity to plan, so that they may attend. You will find additional details for all activities throughout the MDHSA Newsletter.

**February 2017**
- 3 - First Friday

**March 2017**
- 3 - First Friday - Native Americans of the Eastern Woodlands
- 20 - MDHSA Business Meeting

**April 2017**
- MDHSA Membership renewal
- 7 - First Friday—Amelia Earhart
- 20 - Graduation ceremony deadline

**May 2017**
- 5 - First Friday
- 25 - Co-op West Field Day
- 26 - MDHSA Formal

**June 2017**
- 24—MDHSA Graduation
- 30—Evaluations due to the School Districts

**July 2017**
- 1 - New membership year starts

**August 2017**
- 1 - Deadline for returning homeschoolers to have their affidavit into their school districts
- 10 - Box Top Pool Party - look in newsletter for more details Rain date is the 24th.

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**MDHSA Information**

**for MDHSA Newsletter email recipients**

If you are not receiving your MDHSA Newsletter. Please make sure that your e-mail is correct with the MDHSA secretary. You can e-mail her at

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**Newsletter Announcements**

The MDHSA Newsletter is published monthly from August–December and February–June. All MDHSA members are welcome to submit items to the newsletter. Feel free to send any information that you think will benefit our homeschool community. Articles, classifieds, contests, community events and other information will be accepted if appropriate and if space allows.

**Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month. Please send items to mdhsanewslettereditor@pa.net**

Please send all written information to MDHSA 32 West Main St. #5, Waynesboro, PA 17268

Suggestions to the newsletter are always welcome.