

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education, Inc. Newsletter

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## SEPTEMBER

- All Character Counts Essay and Artwork Contest
- Collect 2009 Dues-Membership Drive
- National Literacy Month
- Early Bird Registration for MDFCE Conference
- 1 **All County Associations' List of Officers and Committees for 2009 send to State President**
- 8 **10:00 AM Executive & Education Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office**
- 25-27 ACWW Area Meeting hosted by CWC, Hot Springs, Arkansas

## OCTOBER

- 5-11 FCE Week
- 15 Rural Women's Day
- 13-15 MD FCE Annual Conference, Sandy Cove, North East, MD

## NOVEMBER

- 1 **LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING** deadline for items to Editor
- Membership Dues to Barbara Perry, Membership Chairman**
- 3 10:00AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office

## DECEMBER

- 1 **State Dues and Membership Forms to NAFCE**
- 1 10:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting, Anne Arundel Extension Office
- 31 **Counties' Annual reports due Vice President of Program; County Presidents' Reports due to President; Membership Appreciation Award due Vice President for Program**

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## MDFCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

You can still register for the **EARLY BIRD FEE** for the Maryland FCE Conference to be held at the Sandy Cove Inn, North East, MD on Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Character Counts Contest for 2008

Responsibility, the third pillar of character, is this year's focus. Contact your schools (county presidents have the information) and encourage them to participate in the FCE essay and artwork contest from September 1 to December 1, 2008. Winning entries should be sent to Evelyn Ziegler by February 1, 2009.

## MDFCE Web Site is [www.mdafce.org](http://www.mdafce.org)

Send newsletters, calendars and information to Marie Moeller at [mariemoeller@yahoo.com](mailto:mariemoeller@yahoo.com)

## Newsletter Deadline: November 1

Send all articles, Bulletin Board items, address changes and trivia for the newsletter to: Jean Purich, 15500 Gallaudet Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20905-4196 or email at [jcpurich@cs.com](mailto:jcpurich@cs.com).

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

In July, I was privileged to attend the National Association for Family and Community Education's Annual Conference. The theme was "FCE CELEBRATES WOMEN!"

The FCL training was well presented and consisted of four categories – Mentoring Magic – The Power of Teaching – Turning Stumbling Blocks Into Stepping Stones – Leading With Knowledge and Influence. This was a full day and evening of learning and participating. It was excellent leadership training.

The conference itself covered so many areas. At the President's Day meeting, there was a question and answer period. The national board members have been looking at cutting expenses and recommended changing the number of regions in the country from four to three, thereby eliminating several officer positions and reducing travel expenses. This recommendation was later accepted at the business meeting.

The motivational speakers were excellent. They really made us think about the roles we as women play in our families, the workplace and the community.

Saturday and Sunday workshops were on topics such as:

- Family Fun Time
- Reverse Mortgages
- Massage
- Political Forums
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- FCE Marketing
- Cherish Your Womanhood
- The Joy of Crazy Quilting
- Being Green
- Blossoming T's

You will be introduced to some of these programs at our Annual Conference at Sandy Cove. If you have any questions about any of these topics don't hesitate to contact me. They can all be easily adapted for your meetings.

We continue to receive so many benefits from belonging to such a viable and active organization as FCE.

I hope that you are all keeping the proper records so that you can submit a request for an Outstanding Unit Award and a Superior Unit Award. More details will be forthcoming at the Maryland Annual Conference.

I hope to see many of you at our Annual Conference in October.

Evelyn Ziegler, Maryland FCE President  
[zieglers@comcast.net](mailto:zieglers@comcast.net)  
410-465-3587

## CONFERENCE AGENDA Monday, October 13, 2008

Dinner on your own  
4 – 6:30 PM Registration  
7:00 PM Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for FCE

## Tuesday, October 14, 2008

8:30 AM Breakfast  
9:15 AM Conference opens with keynote speaker, author Cathy Gohlke  
10:45 AM Business Meeting  
Election of Officers  
12:30 PM Lunch  
12:50 PM "Going Green"  
1:50 PM Business Meeting Reconvenes  
2:15 PM Workshop  
3:30 PM County President's reports  
4:45 PM The Incredible Edible Egg  
by Michele Close  
5:30 PM Dinner and Entertainment  
Jack Foreaker, puppeteer and singer

## Wednesday, October 15, 2008

8:30 AM Breakfast  
9:15 AM "Breast Cancer Update" Laurie Fitzgerald,  
Nurse Manager Breast Health Center  
10:15 AM "Reverse Mortgages" Tyre Jay  
11:00 AM TBA  
12:00 AM **Jewelry Sale**  
12:30 PM Lunch  
1:30 PM TBA

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS****AWARD WINNING AUTHOR TO ADDRESS FCE CONFERENCE**

Cecil County FCE is pleased to announce our own Cathy Gohlke will be the keynote speaker at this year's Annual Conference, October 13-October 15, 2008, at Sandy Cove in North East, Maryland. Cathy's first book, "William Henry is a Fine Name", was published in 2006. The book is about the Underground Railroad in Cecil County and the adventures stretch from North Carolina to Canada. Cathy's first book won the coveted Christy (a Christian fiction award for excellence) Award in 2007. Cathy's second book, "I Have Seen Him in the Watchfires", will be released in September 2008. She will have copies available for sale and will be on hand to sign them. Both books are paperback and reasonably priced and they make great gifts.

Cathy has an amazing personal story to share. You won't want to miss her presentation as our conference officially begins on Tuesday, October 14. Registration deadline is September 15. The registration form is in the Summer 2008 LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING FCE Newsletter. For another copy contact Judy Pugh at 410-398-4536 or email [fdjrpugh@aol.com](mailto:fdjrpugh@aol.com).

**NEWS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARYLAND FCE!**  
Join the celebration for our 70<sup>th</sup> birthday at Sandy Cove in North East, Maryland on Monday evening, October 13 at 7 p.m. This event will kick off our Annual Conference October 13 through 15<sup>th</sup> in Cecil County. We plan to celebrate with lots of memories and want YOU to bring some of your Homemaker/FCE memorabilia to share with your longtime and new friends. The party will include birthday cake and each person will receive a special gift! Registration for the party and the Annual Conference was in the Summer 2008 LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING FCE newsletter. Hurry! Friends and guests are welcome also, but will need to register.

Judy Pugh, Vice President for Program

**PUBLIC POLICY NOTES**Public Policy Concerns

There is a new show on CBS, SWINGTOWN. It is about couples in the 70's who swap partners, drugs and more. National FCE is asking you to contact the Federal Communications Commission and/or the sponsors with your thought on this type of programming.

Another show, also on CBS, is 2 ½ MEN. Now that it is in syndication it is shown in some areas at 7 PM, during the "family" hour. There is a young boy in the show exposed to sex and conversations that should not be in front of children.

You can write the sponsors and CBS a short note and let them know that National FCE supports Family Values and object to this type of programming on television. (See web site for sponsors.)

[www.mdafce.org/NAFCE\\_Concerns001.pdf](http://www.mdafce.org/NAFCE_Concerns001.pdf)  
Product-Safety Bill

Historic legislation that would remove toxic chemicals from toys and police the safety of consumer goods is on the verge of becoming law. It will prevent dangerous products by dealing with hazards before goods reach the marketplace and include products made overseas. Consumers would be able to look up complaints or accident reports involving not only toys, but also lighters, electric saws, cribs and other goods in an online database. The toy industry is hoping the new law will deliver the number 1 item on its list - consumer confidence.

Marie Moeller, Vice-Pres. For Public Policy  
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301-292-2365



## Bulletin Board

Rita Bastek is recovering at Riderwood Rehab from a stroke.

Brenda Price is recovering at home after a week stay in the hospital.

