



Howard County Government News Release

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Howard County Announces 2010 “Community Sports Hall of Fame” Induction Class

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – As part of its “July is Recreation and Parks Month” focus, Howard County’s “Community Sports Hall of Fame,” sponsored by the Department of Recreation & Parks, is proud to announce its 2010 inductees. The Community Sports Hall of Fame honors outstanding individuals who have gained prominence and/or have made a substantial contribution to community recreational sports in Howard County. The induction ceremony will take place at the 8th annual “Celebration of Sports” on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center.

This year’s inductees were selected by a 13-member Hall of Fame Committee and include:

Barbara Bellamy coached swimming in Howard County for 30 years. She started with the Columbia Aquatics Association’s (CAA) competitive year-round team in 1978 and 10 years later, launched a new CAA team, the Columbia Clippers. Over 10 years as head coach and team manager, she grew the program from 50 to more than 400 swimmers. Barbara has coached and taught swimming to literally thousands of children, including those in the Columbia Neighborhood Swim League. She retired from coaching in 2007.

Dick Burns was a lacrosse pioneer in Howard County. In 1963, as a high school student, he started the Howard High School Lacrosse Club. In 1970, with financial help from the Columbia Optimist Club, he co-founded the Howard County Lacrosse Program. Later, he established the Howard County Lacrosse Club and co-founded the Central Atlantic Lacrosse League. Through his leadership, Howard County became the incubator for developing youth lacrosse programs in surrounding counties.

Doug and Jean Parker have shared their love of sports with the county’s youth. They coached their four children and their children’s friends in soccer, basketball and lacrosse at the recreation and travel-team levels. Doug often toted teams to games in his 15-passenger “Kid

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Taxi.” In addition, the Parkers started the Glenelg Titans travel basketball team and the Howard Stampede Field Hockey Club. The Stampede, which started in 2002 with one team and about 16 players, has since grown to include 17 teams of players ranging from 3rd to 8th grade. Sadly, Doug Parker passed away in 2008.

Mary Jane Rudnicki has been an active volunteer with the Howard County Youth Program (HCYP) where she is involved with baseball, softball, basketball and volleyball. Under her guidance, HCYP’s volleyball program grew from a few dozen to several hundred players. In addition, Mary Jane was HCYP’s first female commissioner and its first female board member. Although her own children are no longer involved, she continues to volunteer with HCYP.

Those interested in seeing the County’s “Community Sports Hall of Fame” may do so Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Department of Recreation and Park Headquarters, 7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, Maryland. To learn more about the Hall of Fame and its current members, visit www.hcrpsports.com.

Tickets for the event may be purchased at Recreation & Park Headquarters, online at www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP or by phone at 410-313-7275.

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