

*Maryland Home Education Association*  
**CONFERENCE, RESOURCE & SERVICES FAIR**  
Anne Arundel Community College, Annapolis, MD  
**Saturday, September 29, 2007**  
*Co-Sponsored by Anne Arundel Community College*

# *The Joys & Challenges of Homeschooling*

~ **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** ~

**PAT FAREGA**  
Holt Associates, Boston MA

*"Living Better with  
Home-based Learning"*

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**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

Registration	8:00—9:00
Workshop & Seminar A	9:00—9:50
KEYNOTE	10:00—11:00
Break/Resource Fair	11:00—11:45
Workshops & Seminar B	11:45—12:35
LUNCH / Resource Fair	12:35—2:00
Workshops & Seminar C	2:00—2:50
Resource Fair	2:50—3:30
Workshops/Seminar D	3:30—4:20

## 2007 Conference

This year's conference format is streamlined to better facilitate the event's focus and flow. Note that registration for teens is FREE for current MHEA members and reduced for those who join or renew their membership.

### Keynote Speaker—Pat Farenga

Many homeschoolers have heard of **John Holt**, the father of the modern homeschooling movement. Though John died two decades ago, you have the unique opportunity to hear him through the voice of his appointed successor, **Pat Farenga** of Holt Associates, Boston MA. A long-time homeschooler with three children, Pat's national (and international) status allows him to offer us a very broad, yet intimate picture of the homeschooling movement, homeschooling's opportunities and pitfalls, and a glimpse into the future of homeschooling.

### Seminars & Workshops

All SEMINARS are held in the main theater. WORKSHOPS are held in two smaller rooms. See room designations with titles.

## Diverse Resource Fair

You will find a wide variety of vendors offering everything from computer software, Christian materials, unique learning supplies, videos, wonderful books, tools, math manipulatives and materials, curricula, and many other resources.

### Local Support Groups Fair

Support Group Fair features representative from support groups throughout Maryland. You will have the opportunity to find local groups in your area or just network with any and all you wish.

### Lunch

The cafeteria will serve a variety of sandwiches (incl. vegetarian) salads, desserts and drinks. You are also welcome to bring your own lunch. Coffee and muffins, etc. will also be available during the early morning hours.

## ~ SEMINAR A 9—9:50 Auditorium ~

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF HOMESCHOOLING IN MARYLAND

**Holes in the Umbrella; Gary Cox**—An overview of the legal and legislative issues affecting homeschooling umbrella programs. Importance of proper supervision, integrity and transparency.

**Gary Cox** is the founder and Superintendent of Walkersville Family Schools. Instrumental in securing the right of umbrella programs in Maryland.

**Threats Foreign and Domestic; Manfred Smith**—A brief history of homeschooling in Maryland, potential pitfalls and emerging threats to homeschooling.

**Manfred Smith** is the founder & President of MHEA. Instrumental in the struggle for parent's right to homeschool and formulating Maryland's home education bylaw.

## WORKSHOP 9—9:50

**ROOM: 102—Opportunity and Challenges of Starting to Homeschool.** *Lisa Stearns*

**Families new to homeschooling should attend this workshop.** How to begin. County reviews and options. Independent vs. boxed learning—what's right for you and your child? How to keep your sanity in the middle of rapid changes. Q&A.

## ~ KEYNOTE 10—11 Auditorium ~

### *Living Better with Home-based Learning*

**Pat Farenga**

Holt Assoc. & Growing Without Schooling

Keeping the focus on the education and growth of our children is increasingly important today in a homeschooling environment that offer so many possibilities and distractions. Homeschooling offers families the unique opportunity to share their lives together in ways that are not possible when children are tied to a school desk for most of their young lives—or when homeschoolers are on a treadmill running to activities, co-ops and classes. The freedom to take trips at an time to museums, historical sites or to local parks, or just to relax together and sharing a good book or some family history in a non-coercive, respectful setting is a powerful glue to build strong individuals and cohesive families.

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**BREAK / RESOURCE FAIR 11—11:45**

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**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF HOMESCHOOLING GROUP OPTIONS**

**Homeschool-R-Us—How an effective support/learning program group can enrich the homeschooling experience.**

*"Educational Co-Ops for Friends and Learning"* Melanie Rodriguez & Yasmin Cooper

*"Learning Centers as a natural adjunct for busy parents"* Amanda Niepold

*"Maximizing Support From Your Local Homeschool Group."* Carol Regia

*"The Heart of Homeschooling: Our Children"*

Ellie Weisfeld

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**WORKSHOPS 11:45—12:35**

**ROOM-102—IN THEIR OWN WORDS**

A Panel of homeschooled teens, college students and adults will share their experiences. Q&A

**ROOM 204—USING FAMILY MATH**

**Anne Severance**

Add some fun to your K-8 math program with Family Math. The ideas in this book can supplement any math program, can be used to practice and review, or can serve as teaching tools. The activities, games, and projects in this book include number sense; operations; patterns; probability and statistics; geometry and spatial thinking; estimation, calculators and microcomputers; careers and more. Get some ideas about how to use these activities and how to coordinate them with your math program.

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**LUNCH / RESOURCE FAIR 12:35—2:00**

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~ SEMINAR C 2:00—2:50 Auditorium ~

**PATHS TO INDEPENDENT LEARNING**

*Growing a Custom Designed Educational Plan*

**Jean Aseff.** This session will take you through the steps of how to develop and facilitate an effective independent learning plan for any child.

*Growing Independent Children—Anna Fogg.* Long-time unschooler will share how her children plan and negotiate Washington, DC without adult supervision.

**ROOM: 102—AN UNSCHOOLING JOURNEY--Video and Q&A Pat Farenga, Holt Associates**

A short video by a homeschoolers that shows a typical day in the lives of four unschooling families.

**ROOM 204—CRITICAL THINKING TOOLS FOR ACTIVE MINDS**

**Manfred Smith, MHEA**

Effective thinking, like effecting parenting, do not come naturally to us: they are learned behaviors. Learn about some simple thinking tools to generate excitement, motivation, and leverage any homeschooling lesson or program.

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**BREAK / RESOURCE FAIR 2:50—3:30**

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~ SEMINAR D 3:30—4:20 Auditorium ~

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF COUNTY PORTFOLIO REVIEWS**

**Cyn Hadnott—**Prince George's County Public Schools, Home Schooling Cordinator. Ms. Hadnott will offer an insider's view at the review process for her county as well as most other MD counties. Ms. Hadnott has worked in PG county for 34 years. She supports homeschooling families as well as learns from them!

**Ellie Weisfeld —** Long time homeschooler from Howard County who has experiecned county reviews from Kindergarten through high school. Parents represent the other 50% of this professional review and hold the responsibility to gain the trust of their reviewer while maintaninng their educational philosphy.

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**WORKSHOP 3:30—4:20**

**ROOM: 102—UNSCCHOOLING AS AN EXCITING PATH TO LEARNING**

**Anna & Reon Fogg** Long-time unschoolers of seven children, this workshop will empower and encourage parents to see how much of everyday life is education. Using a scrapbook to track living and learning, an example of a week in the life of an unschooler, resources and books to leverage the independent learning program.

**PERTINENT CAMPUS MAP**

**Rt. 2**

*College Parkway*

*Ring Road*

**Pascal Center**



**Registration**



***DIRECTIONS***

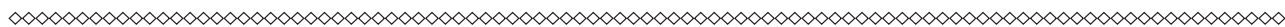
**FROM WASHINGTON:** Take Route 50 East – you must cross the Severn River Bridge – to Route 2 North. Stay on Rt. 2 approximately three miles, then turn **RIGHT** onto **College Parkway**. Take first right on **Ring Rd.** Follow Ring to Pascal Center for Performing Arts- approx 400 yards. The road bends left. Look for signs. Park in lot to the right. **ENTER AT LOWER LEVEL.**

**FROM BALTIMORE / GLEN BURNIE:** Follow Rt. 2 (Gov. Ritchie Hwy.) south about three miles past Severna Park. Turn left onto **College Parkway**, which is clearly marked. Take first right on **Ring Rd.** Follow Ring to Pascal Center for Performing Arts- approx 400 yards. The road bends left. Look for signs. Park in lot to the right. **ENTER AT LOWER LEVEL.**

**Keynote Speaker**

**Pat Farenga**

**The "Voice" of John Holt, the  
Father of Homeschooling**



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