

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

Friday, April 3, 2009

Mark Your Calendars!



- 4/4 – PTA Bake Sale, 8:30 am
- 4/4 – Language Academy resumes
- 4/7 – Terrific Kids Assembly, 9:30 am
- 4/10 – Good Friday—NO SCHOOL
- 4/11 – No Saturday Academy today
- 4/11 – PTA Executive Board Meeting, time & place TBA
- 4/13 – Easter Monday—NO SCHOOL
- 4/14 – SES Garden Project, 8:30 am-1:30 pm
- 4/15 – PTA Meeting, 6:45 SES Auditorium
- 4/16 – Emancipation Day—NO SCHOOL

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Happy Friday! I hope each of you are well. I am still on maternity leave enjoying time with my little one. I plan to return soon; however, in the meantime I will continue to keep one eye on Shepherd from home and communicate with you through *The Mustang*.

Summer School

Good News! Thanks to Chancellor Rhee's support of Out of School Time and Language Initiatives, we will be able to offer a summer program at Shepherd. The program will have academic and enrichment components. Spanish and French classes will be offered. The Program will run between June 29th and August 5th. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be served and the program will be at no cost for students. More information will be coming soon! Star Achievers' summer program will not occur.

5th and 6th Grade Promotion

There will be two separate promotion exercises this year. The sixth grade promotion exercise will take place on June 9th and fifth grade will take place on June 10th. Both ceremonies will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.. More information will be sent directly to graduates and their families.

Bake Sale Tomorrow!!



The Shepherd Elementary PTA is sponsoring a Bake Sale this Saturday, April 4, inside the auditorium during the Saturday Academy (language academy for students from pre-K through second grade, DC-CAS test

prep for students in third and sixth grade – 138 in all enrolled). The sale starts at 8:30 a.m. and runs until everything is sold (or eaten, whichever comes first!).

How successful will it be? It depends not only on your purchases, but your contributions. Burn up the phone lines and let PTA First Vice President Jaye Jones-Muhammad know what you'll be making; she'll also give suggestions on what to bring if you're short on time.

You can reach Jaye at 202-327-3067.



Testing

We have 7 instructional days left before DC-CAS. The testing window is two weeks (April 20 – April 30). It is imperative that all students are in attendance and arrive to school on time. Testing will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and will continue all day. Please do not schedule appointments during the testing window. Also, please strive to get your student(s) to school on time. We do not want students rushing in at the last minute feeling stressed and rushed. When students arrive on time, they have time to settle down, relax and mentally prepare. I am also requesting that you begin now speaking with your student(s) about taking their time, focusing, reading carefully and doing their best.

Residency Verification

Please remember you must verify residency if you would like for your student(s) to attend school in the District. This year residency verification begins on April 1. This is a fantastic opportunity to ensure we have all students enrolled prior to the start of the summer. Our goal is to have all students fully enrolled by June 1. The sooner we complete verification, the sooner student/teacher placement decisions can be made for the 2009-2010 school year.

(See Principal, continued on page 2)

(Principal, continued from page 1)

Enrollment packets were mailed this week. Due to the volume of packets that have to be mailed, it may take up to two weeks before you receive your packet. If after two weeks you have not received your packet, please stop by the school to complete the verification process in person.

Out of Boundary/Pre-K Enrollment

If you or someone you know submitted an application to the out-of-boundary, pre-school and pre-K lottery, placement decisions have been made. All applicants should have received a letter confirming their placement and “waitlisted” schools. If you or someone you know applied and have not received notice, please visit <https://webb.k12.dc.us/lottery/results.aspx> to check your results using the online tool. If a student received a seat, you must notify the school by April 15 of your intent to enroll by mailing in the Intent Form you received with your letter. Failure to do so will most likely result in the loss of seat.

Have a great weekend!

Principal Miles



Take Home a Box or Two Of Chocolate Goodness!

The chocolate bars for our annual sale are in. They are \$50 per box. We have had 300 boxes delivered – 300 being a number reflective of the number of students in the school. We are asking each family to be responsible for one box @ \$50 per box. Logistically speaking, we would like for you to pay for the box with a check payable to Shepherd Elementary PTA when you receive the chocolate. This is an important step toward making this fundraising effort seamless, as in the past there has been a significant amount of energy expended on contacting parents to collect money after the chocolate was distributed.

In addition to asking you to buy at least a box, we are also in need of a handful of volunteers to distribute the chocolate during parent-traffic heavy times of the day. We intend to make a strong push during the next two weeks (April 6 through April 17) – plus this week’s Saturday Academy on April 4, during which time the PTA will conduct a bake sale. Consider first the days between now and April 17 when you can help, then the times each day when we need help:

- Before-Care Drop-Off, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
- Start of School Day Drop-Off, 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.
- End of School Day Pick-Up, 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.
- After Care Pick-Up, 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
- Saturday Academy shifts, 8:15-8:45 a.m., 9:30-10 a.m., and 11-11:30 a.m.

If you are able to assist in chocolate distribution, please reach Chocolate Czar Yao Tyus at 345-0282 or yao.tyus@stepms.com with the date(s) and time(s) of your availability. Let’s fill the roster, and let’s empty the school of that World’s Finest Chocolate.

PTA, LSRT Elections Next Month

We are now accepting nominations for both Local School Restructuring Team (LSRT) and Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) elections to be conducted in May. Here in a nutshell, is what is available:

Local School Restructuring Team

- Four (4) parent representatives
- Monthly meetings
- An election will be held in May, even if only four are nominated.
- Nominations are due by Wednesday, April 15.

PTA Elections

The PTA will hold the election for new officers at the May PTA meeting. Nominations are open for the following PTA officer positions, with a basic overview of each position’s duties (for a full description, please consult the PTA bylaws):

- President: Presides at all meetings, coordinates the work of the officers and committees, and other duties as necessary.
- 1st Vice President: Assists the president and performs other duties as assigned.
- 2nd Vice President: Assists the president and performs other duties as assigned.
- Recording Secretary: Records the minutes of all meetings
- Corresponding Secretary: Maintains all records
- Treasurer: Maintains all financial records, develops budget, pays bills and prepares financial reports.
- Assistant Treasurer: Assists the Treasurer.

If you are interested in running for an office or nominating someone for a position, please send information to one of the Nominating Committee members: Judith McCullough (829-9289, judith.mccullough@seiu.org), or Lawanda Tyus (ltysus@yahoo.com).

All PTA and LSRT candidates should, at the time of your nomination, write a summary of your skills and experience for publication in *The Mustang* and the PTA listserve as well as for distribution at the PTA meeting.

Directory Correction

Please note the following correction in your copy of the school directory: PTA President Earl Yates’s cell phone number is 202-213-3810.

Sponsor an Issue of The Mustang

See your name in print! Donate 4 reams of copy paper – that’s what it takes each week to get the news out – and you’ll receive kudos right here in the pages of *The Mustang*! Or, if you prefer, donate in the name of your child’s teacher or one of the other amazing Shepherd Elementary School staff members and they’ll receive special mention in that week’s newsletter. To sponsor an issue of *The Mustang*, contact Mark Pattison at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

Spotlight on Excellence – Past, Present, and Future

Auction Sponsorships:

It's just under two months until our May 29 auction. Join the growing list of auction sponsors. There are definite tax-deduction advantages to becoming a sponsor – either as an individual or a business. And there are a variety of sponsorship levels to fit most checking accounts:

- **MUSTANG SPONSOR** level (\$500)
- **SILVER SPONSOR** level (\$750)
- **GOLD SPONSOR** level (\$1,000),
- **PLATINUM SPONSOR** level (\$2,500)

Arrange for your auction sponsorship with either or our Auction Committee co-chairs:

Chantale Swanson at
swanprncess75@aol.com, or
Marnie Keller at
marniekeller@gmail.com.



Parents Welcome at Tomorrow's Language Academy

If you've been wondering just what your child has been up to all these months during the Saturday Language Academy, now is the time to find out. All parents are invited to come with their children to their respective Language Academy session on April 4 for an activity designed by the teachers. We'd tell you what it is, but our lips are sealed!

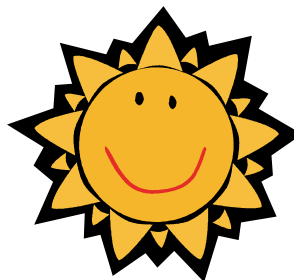


Avon Fundraiser

The PTA's first-ever Avon Fundraiser is now under way. Here's a brief recap of how it works. Avon puts a number of products -- including items from its wildly popular Skin-So-Soft line -- into bundles. There are about a dozen bundles from which to choose. No bundle costs more than \$15. And 40 percent of all proceeds will go to the PTA. Order forms were sent home via backpacks before spring break. Return the forms with checks payable to "Shepherd Elementary PTA." To learn more, contact Shepherd's own "Avon Lady," Chantale Swanson, at swanprncess75@aol.com.

AVON

Countdown to Summer Box Tops Collection Contest



Announcing our final Box Tops Collection Contest for this school year: Countdown to Summer!

Turn in your Box Tops into the Collection Box in the Main Office anytime between now and May 20. Collection sheets have been sent home with this

issue of *The Mustang*. Additional collection sheets are available outside the Main Office and the Files section of the PTA listserv. If you prefer to put your box tops into a ziplock bag rather than on the collection sheet, make sure you include your full name/teacher's name/class.

Please put your Box Tops (collection sheets and/or bags) into the Box Tops Collection Box in the Main Office. As long as your full name/teacher's name/class is included with the Box Tops you turn in, your Box Tops will count toward the class totals in the Countdown to Summer Box Tops Collection Contest. All box tops that have been received since the Mardi Gras contest deadline will count toward the class totals in the Countdown to Summer contest.

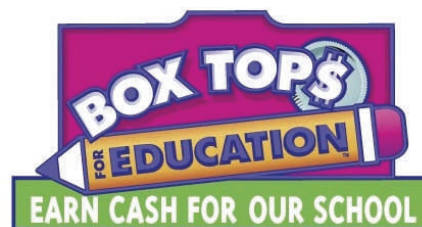
Teachers: If your students turn in Box Tops to you, please drop them off in the Collection Box in the Main Office. Thanks!

For parents with more than one child at Shepherd: You can list *each* child you have at Shepherd on one Collection Sheet, and *all* siblings listed will receive credit (and a prize) for the box tops your family submitted. You may, of course, continue to submit separate collection sheets for each child.

Deadline: Wednesday, May 20

For more information about the Box Tops for Education program at Shepherd, contact Laura Noble, Box Tops Program Coordinator at: TaylorFarm@kddmgroup.com.

Remember to keep clipping Box Tops for Shepherd!



Auction Action

Here are a couple of more featured items for you to save up for when bidding times comes at the May 29 PTA Auction:

- **MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC IN THREE EASY LESSONS!** The lucky winner of this package will enjoy three lessons from local musical genius and Shepherd wonder-maker Ken Giles. Lessons offer beginner and intermediate instruction for violin or guitar during summer break. Value: How much would YOU pay for a trip to the high C's?
- **I RUN THIS SCHOOL!:** Be Shepherd Elementary's Principal for a day! Learn what it takes to run our wonderful school. Compliments of Principal Miles. Value: Priceless.

And that's just two more of the mighty fine items we'll be auctioning May 29. If you have some item or service that you can donate for the auction, we're happy to accept it. If you know a merchant or business that would be willing to donate items for the auction, we're even happier! To learn more on how to make auction contributions, reach either of our Auction Committee co-chairs, Chantale Swanson at 422-1249 or Marnie Keller at 244-3855.

D.C. Armor Season Tickets Help PTA

Washington's new arena football team, the D.C. Armor has made a deal with the PTA. You pay \$155 for a season ticket – that's a FULL SEASON, not just one game, like some football teams in town – and a portion of that purchase price will be remitted to the PTA to help it fund its activities.

In addition to 10% of season ticket proceeds benefitting Shepherd, \$3 of every regular game day ticket will benefit Shepherd. You can order online at www.dcarmor.com. On business address line 2, enter code **090101SPTA** for the PTA to get its rightful credit. Shepherd parent Corey Barnette is the general manager of the Armor, which plays in the American Indoor Football Association.

The D.C. Armor plays all its home games at the D.C. Armory (Stadium-Armory station on Metro's Blue and Orange lines), and all home games are on Saturdays.

The home opener is **Saturday, April 4**, against the Reading Express, with the Halftime hosted by D.C. Go-Go Legend Chuck Brown.

Other games are April 11 vs. the Fayetteville Guard, April 25 vs. the Harrisburg Stampede, May 23 vs. Reading, June 6, vs. the Baltimore Mariners, June 13 vs. the Carolina Speed, and June 20 vs. the Erie River Rats.

Root, root, root for the home team, and support Shepherd at the same time!!



Special Thanks To a Special Mustang Helper

The staff of *The Mustang* want to send out a very special thank you to third grader Leslie Rodriguez-Escalante.

Leslie has been a fabulous helper in putting together the weekly issues of *The Mustang* for distribution to all the families at Shepherd. Thank you, Leslie!!



Shepherd Box Tops for Education Program Seeks New Coordinator

Would you like to help Shepherd earn some easy and much needed money?

Volunteer to be the new Box Tops for Education Coordinator for Shepherd Elementary School. Our current coordinator, Laura Noble, will be stepping down from that role next school year.



The money earned through the Box Tops for Education program is deposited to the Shepherd Elementary School Student Activity Fund account. So far this year, we have raised over \$650 with Box Tops.

For more information about the Box Tops program or to volunteer to be the new Box Tops Coordinator, contact Laura Noble at taylorfarm@kddmgroup.com.



Early Deadline Next Week

Because there's no school next Friday, April 10, *The Mustang* will be distributed on Thursday, April 9.

If you want to contribute to the next issue, please get your material in by 10 a.m. next

Monday, April 6. *The Mustang* editorial team thanks you!

Send your contributions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to:

SESmustang@gmail.com.

News from the Art Room

The DCPS Citywide Student Art Exhibition, "Yes We Can - Creatively Communicate," will begin Saturday, April 4 on the arrivals level of Reagan National Airport. It will run until May 31. I am proud to say that Shepherd Elementary School will have more than a dozen student artists represented in this show and their names will be announced in the next Mustang.

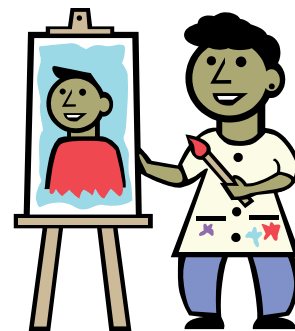
It was dreadfully difficult to choose them from all the wonderful art that our students have produced this year. Go out and see this show and tell your friends! It is always wonderful getting food for the eyes and music for the soul at this exhibit.

Conscientious local art framer and Shepherd alum Michael Hairston has again matted and backed the artworks that will be displayed in the airport art show. He does this every year for us and deserves kudos for his continued interest and generosity to Shepherd. Parents, if you or your friends have art to be framed, see him. He is the expert, and he also sells framed mirrors at unbelievably low prices in his shop at 8395G Colesville Road in Silver Spring. Even if you're not buying anything, stop by and say thank you, thank you, thank you.

The Spring Auction items will include four multiple abstract artwork arrays completed by the fifth- and sixth-grade students at Shepherd. Ms. Michaud has already piqued the interest of PTA attendees by showing them to the last meeting and got a very enthusiastic response. They will be prepared for framing by Michael Hairston who was very impressed with the works. Look for these pieces on display at school in the next few weeks.

Spring is coming to the art room. Look for signs of it in the next few weeks.

~ Ms Michaud, Art Teacher



Instruments, Vocals and Seasonal Songs

Mr. Ken Giles, Shepherd Elementary School's outstanding music teacher, has lined up a variety of activities in the music room to keep our kids' voices in tune and their toes tapping.

According to Mr. Giles:

- On April 6, we hope to take some aftercare students to hear the rehearsal of the Venezuela Youth Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. If we can arrange transportation, this will be a wonderful (free) opportunity to hear a dynamic youth orchestra.
- We will sing seasonal songs, including "Hallelujah Chorus," "One Love" and "Dayenu." We also will study the African origins of the blues and the topical songs of Odetta, Bob Marley and Pete Seeger.
- The D.C. Labor Chorus rehearses every Monday night in the music room, and several Shepherd students are singing with the Labor Chorus. More are welcome. We are getting ready for a D.C. Labor Chorus concert on May 2.

~ Ken Giles, Music Teacher

We've Got Some Cleaning Up to Do!

Join your neighbors in cleaning up our part of the Potomac River Watershed tomorrow, Saturday, April 4, 9 a.m.-noon, rain or shine. The site in our neighborhood will be the Fenwick Tributary, where we will remove the trash and improve our watershed. There will be refreshments. Look for us at the Kalmia Road Bridge.

Go to <http://www.shepherdpark.org/> and look for the link on the left to the flyer with a map and details.

This is a great community project and students can earn service hours. This site is suitable for families with children. Wear suitable shoes and bring gloves if you have them.

If you contribute three hours or even 30 minutes, you will make a difference!

Many thanks to our neighbors Clif Grandy and Jerome Paige for once again leading the cleanup at this site.

The Fenwick Tributary clean up is sponsored by the Civic League of North Portal Estates and the Shepherd Park Citizens Association.

~ Beth Allaben, President
Shepherd Park Citizens Association

Past Issues of The Mustang are Online

Would you like to read *The Mustang* electronically? Need to refer back to a past issue? Each week, *The Mustang* is uploaded to the files area of the PTA listserv. Join the listserv and click to read. *The Mustang* is also now available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at www.shepherd-elementary.org.

Trees, Trees, Trees!

Casey Trees has again granted to and partnered with Shepherd Elementary to beautify and green the District of Columbia. This past Wednesday, April 1, twelve trees were planted on Shepherd's grounds including:

- 2 red oaks
- 1 sweet bay magnolia
- 1 redbud
- 1 gingko
- 2 hornbeams
- 2 Foster's hollies
- 3 ornamental cherry trees

All the trees except the cherries were donated to Shepherd by Casey.

The cherry trees were provided by the Cherry Blossom Festival Committee. Casey Trees only asks that the Shepherd Elementary community care for the trees for the first three years or so after planting. This primarily involves watering, a major concern in recent years as there seems to be periods of drought through all seasons.

Along with a handful of Casey staff and volunteers, and volunteers from the community, Mr. King's sixth-grade class provided much of the muscle to dig the holes and plant the trees. The students did an excellent job and it appears the event has sparked some interest in trees and gardening. And, despite a forecast of an 80% chance of rain, it remained dry all morning. Mayor Fenty came by and provided encouragement to the students in this project.

Casey Trees is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to recreate the tree canopy over the District of Columbia. It does this by planting large shade trees on both private and public lands throughout the city.

If you have an interest in adding a large shade tree to your property, or a number of trees to your local school, church or park, or just helping Casey in its mission, go to Casey's web site at www.caseytrees.org.



~ Scott Opis, Casey Trees

Terrific Kid Program Is Tuesday

Who will be the Terrific Kids from your child's classrooms?

We've got two months of Terrific Kid awards to distribute. Be on hand in the school auditorium by 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7, to see who will get recognized. The Terrific Kid awards, for Shepherd students from pre-K through third grade, are sponsored by the Shepherd Park-Takoma Kiwanis Club.

DC-CAS Trivia Board Winners

Winners of the CAS Trivia Board for the week ending March 6, 2009 are:

- Kevin Evans – 3rd grade Math
- Alexis Smith – 3rd grade Math
- D'Angelo G. – 3rd grade Reading
- Jada Matthews – 3rd grade Reading
- Savanna Toure – 4th grade Reading
- Faith Sydnor-Prince – 4th grade Reading
- Davonte Moses – 4th grade Math
- Carson Wheeler – 4th grade Math
- John Harvey – 5th grade Reading
- Jordan Loud – 5th grade Reading
- Joseph Weaver – 5th grade Math
- Immanuel Marshall – 5th grade Math
- Kristopher Saulny – 6th grade Reading
- Stevern Sneed – 6th grade Reading
- Jonathan James – 6th grade Math
- Kyla Markand – 6th grade Math

Make Plans to Join Us

Wednesday April 15

for the

PTA Meeting

The Shepherd Elementary PTA will meet at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, in the school auditorium. One topic of discussion will be the upcoming PTA and LSRT elections.

We are asking for parent volunteers to watch children in the cafeteria while the meeting is taking place.

School starts on time! So do PTA meetings!

Kiwanis Bringing Up Grades (B.U.G.) Awardees

Congratulate the B.U.G. (Bringing Up Grades) recipients for their awards received March 10, 2009.

- Jalen Jamison Johnson, Ms. Gilmore's class
- Yasmeen Durant, Ms. Valentine's class
- Immanuel Marshall, Ms. Ulba's class
- Antonio Rodriguez, Mr. Leonard's class
- Malik Miles, Ms. Shaibu's class
- Virginia Reed, Mr. King's class

The next B.U.G. Program will be April 14, 2009.

The IB-PYP Corner

Update:

As a result of the PYP training that many of the Shepherd teachers attended on March 10 and 11 and the faculty meeting two weeks ago that allowed the newly trained teachers to share their new learning and tips with the teachers who were trained previously, the pre-kindergarten through grade 2 teachers are revising their units of inquiry as needed and are working on the full unit planner for the unit to be implemented in the May-June period. Special subject and other support teachers are discussing with the classroom teachers how they can best contribute to those units. The teachers of grades 3 through 6 are focusing more right now on preparing their students for the DC CAS.

PYP Lesson of the Week:

The PYP Transdisciplinary Skills

PYP guidelines identify five sets or categories of skills that are applicable to all subjects or disciplines and to often to ordinary daily activities. As explained in the official document, Making the PYP Happen, "The construction of meaning and, therefore, of understanding is complemented by the students acquiring and applying a range of skills. These skills are best developed in the context of authentic situations such as those offered through the PYP units of inquiry."

The five categories are social skills, thinking skills, communication skills, self-management skills and research skills. The skills in two of the categories are as follows:

Social skills

- **Accepting responsibility** - Taking on and completing tasks in an appropriate manner; being willing to assume a share of the responsibility.
- **Respecting others** - Listening sensitively to others; making decisions based on fairness and equality; recognizing that others' beliefs, viewpoints, religions and ideas may differ from one's own; stating one's opinion without hurting others.
- **Cooperating** - Working cooperatively in a group; being courteous to others; sharing materials; taking turns.
- **Resolving conflict** Listening carefully to others; compromising; reacting reasonably to the situation; accepting responsibility appropriately; being fair.
- **Group decision-making** - Listening to others; discussing ideas; asking questions; working towards and obtaining consensus.
- **Adopting a variety of group roles** - Understanding what behavior is appropriate in a given situation and acting accordingly; being a leader in some circumstances, a follower in others.

Thinking skills

- **Acquisition of knowledge** - Gaining specific facts, ideas, vocabulary; remembering in a similar form
- **Comprehension** Grasping meaning from material learned; communicating and interpreting learning.
- **Application** Making use of previously acquired knowledge in practical or new ways.
- **Analysis** Taking knowledge or ideas apart; separating into component parts; seeing relationships; finding unique characteristics.
- **Synthesis** - Combining parts to create wholes; creating, designing, developing and innovating.
- **Evaluation** - Making judgments or decisions based on chosen criteria; standards and conditions.
- **Dialectical thought** - Thinking about two or more different points of view at the same time; understanding those points of view; being able to construct an argument for each point of view based on knowledge of the other(s); realizing that other people can also take one's own point of view.
- **Metacognition - Analyzing** one's own and others' thought processes; thinking about how one thinks and how one learns.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

Can you identify which of these transdisciplinary skills are used at home in various activities? For example, if your child observed you preparing dinner, which skills would he or she say you were using? In planning a garden, selecting the plants at a home center and putting them in the ground or in containers, what transdisciplinary skills would a family use?

~ Patricia L. Tucker & Jamie Miles



Join the PTA Listserv Today

To subscribe, send an email (include your name, your child's name and his/her teacher/class) to:

Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Once signed up, you will be able to receive listserv updates directly to your email inbox. If you prefer to not receive emails for each listserv posting, simple select "no email" under the message delivery option in your listserv user set up.

Community Corner

Create an Easter centerpiece at Brookside

Join Karen Nelson Kent, owner of Floral Diversity, to design an Eastern centerpiece using tulips, irises and other spring flowers 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Friday, April 10** at Brookside Garden's visitor's center adult workshop. There will also be a chance to build nests with perhaps an egg or two. Fee of \$45 includes all materials. Registration required at www.parkpass.org, course number is 66353. Brookside Gardens is located at 1800 Glenallan Ave. in Wheaton. Call 301-962-1400.

Free family railroad fun at B&O Railroad

The Montgomery Preservation and the Silver Spring Historical Society will have a day of free family activities for young and old alike, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Saturday, April 4** at the B&O Railroad Station, 8100 Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring. From 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., children ages 2-6 can hear railroad stories and watch related videos. From 11 a.m. to noon, children ages 4-8 will participate in a variety of railroad activities. And all day there will be station tours, exhibits and a screening of the documentary "Next Stop: Silver Spring." Don't miss the free punch and popcorn. Go to www.montgomerypreservation.org or call 301-926-2650.

Register for Make-A-Wish triathlon

Registration is now open for the 19th Annual Make-A-Wish Kids' Triathlon, which will take place **May 3** at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreational Park, 1120 Jackson Road in Silver Spring. This kids-helping-kids event features two competitions: a run-bike-run event for children ages 5-8, and a swim-bike-run event for children ages 9-16. Up to 300 children may participate to raise awareness and money to make wishes come true for local children battling life-threatening medical conditions. For registration and sponsorship information, visit www.midatlantic.wish.org and click on "events," or call Sara Askey at 301-962-9474.

African American women's fitness workshop

Kick off National African American Women's Fitness Month with a "Living a Healthier Lifestyle" workshop from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Saturday, April 4** in the Charlene R. Nunley Student Services Center, room 302 on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus of Montgomery College. The workshop will seek to increase awareness of health risks associated with an inactive lifestyle while also promoting the benefits of exercise and physical activity. Guest speakers will include Yusef R. Battle of the American College of Sports Medicine and registered nurse Lennetta Tiel, among others. Visit the Sheila Madison & Associates Web site at www.SheilaMadison.com/naawfm.html.

An Evening with Councilmember Muriel Bowser

In celebration of Women's History Month, please join the Culture Shop on **Saturday April 4** from 6:00-7:30 pm as we welcome Councilmember Muriel Bowser. Ms. Bowser is one of three women on Washington, DC's 13-member legislative branch of the District government, also known as the Council of the District of Columbia. All legislative powers are vested in the Council. Among many responsibilities, the Council approves the District's annual budget and financial plan, and sets the revenue required to fund the budget. We look forward to learning more about Ms. Bowser's past achievements, present challenges, and future aspirations. A donation of \$10 will be collected and presented to Councilwoman Bowser's charity of choice, [the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer](http://www.avonwalkforbreastcancer.org), which is supported through Ms. Bowser's friend, colleague, and Ward 3 Councilwoman, Mary Cheh. Light refreshments will be served. Location: The Culture Shop. www.cultureshop.com.

Local Library Events

Open House At the Shepherd Park Library. Come join friends and neighbors **Saturday afternoon, April 4** at the Shepherd Park Library for an open house from 1 to 4 p.m. There will be crafts for children of all ages - and stories read, too! - starting at 1 p.m. Library teen aide Kianna Shepherd will perform a piano recital at 2:30 p.m. Shepherd parent Mark Pattison, a baseball book author who spent spring break week at spring training in Florida, will share his observations about the upcoming 2009 season at 3 p.m. Shepherd Park neighbor Faith DeVaux, who has written a novel and is working on a documentary about military chaplaincy, will read from her book "When Duty Calls" at 3:30 p.m. There will be gaming for teens, and an introduction to the library's new laptops. Naturally, refreshments will be served in the library lobby. It's all free. But if you want join the Friends of the Library, no one's going to stop you. Seniors and students can join for \$5 a year, adults for \$10, and families for \$15. For more details, call the library at 541-6100.

The Takoma Park Maryland Library at 101 Philadelphia Ave. will continue with its regular weekly children's events, including its **Bilingual Spanish Circle Time** every **Thursday** from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and "**Wonderful Ones**," a program for children 12 through 24 months and their parents beginning at 11 a.m. every **Wednesday**.

The library will kick off a **Comics Jam** at 4 p.m. **Friday, April 17** where participants are encouraged to bring in their favorite comic books to share.

To register for an event or for more information, call the library at 301-891-7259.

The Long Branch Library will host a Caribbean culture event at 2 p.m. **Saturday, April 4** as part of its "**Many World Cultures**" series at the library, 8800 Garland Ave. in Silver Spring. The program will feature steel drum, keyboards, percussion instruments, dancing and singing led by Goombay, a group of three artists who strive to highlight the multi-lingual aspects of the islands.

The library will also hold a **book sale** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Saturday, April 4** to generate proceeds for the library. Call the library at 240-777-0910.



Shepherd Elementary School

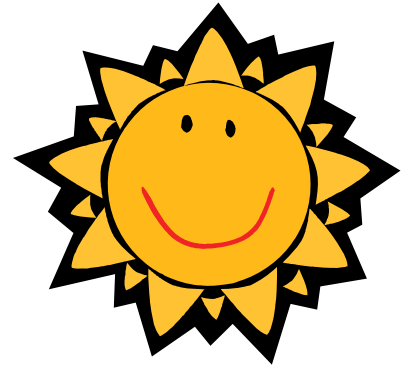
7800 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20012
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140
Office Fax: 202-576-7578

Mrs. Jamie Miles, Principal – jamie.miles@dc.gov
Mr. Rembert Seaward, Interim Principal – rembert.seaward@dc.gov
Ms. Robyn Brooks, Admin. Assistant – robyna.brooks@dc.gov

The Mustang Newsletter Editors: Kimberly Brandon, Fred Lewis, Mark Pattison, and Matt Sullivan. Layout/Design: Laura Noble

Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: SEMustang@gmail.com. Deadline is Tuesday at 10 am for inclusion in the newsletter issued that Friday.

Count Down to Summer Box Tops Collection Contest



Turn in your Box Tops into the Collection Box in the Main Office anytime between now and **May 20**. A collection sheet can be found on the flip side of this page. Additional collection sheets are available outside the Main Office and the Files section of the PTA listserv. If you prefer to put your box tops into a ziplock bag rather than on the collection sheet, make sure you include your full name/teacher's name/class.

Please put your Box Tops (collection sheets and/or bags) into the Box Tops Collection Box in the Main Office. As long as your full name/teacher's name/class is included with the Box Tops you turn in, your Box Tops will count toward the class totals in the Countdown to Summer Box Tops Collection Contest. (All box tops that have been received since the Mardi Gras contest deadline will count toward the class totals in the Countdown to Summer contest.)

Teachers: If your students turn in Box Tops to you, please drop them off in the Collection Box in the Main Office. Thanks!

For parents with more than one child at Shepherd: You can list *each* child you have at Shepherd on one Collection Sheet, and *all* siblings listed will receive credit (and a prize) for the box tops your family submitted. You may, of course, continue to submit separate collection sheets for each child.

Contest Deadline:

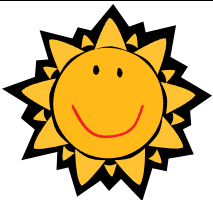
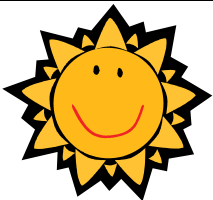
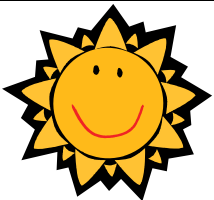
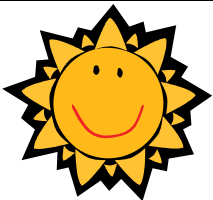


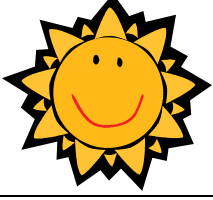
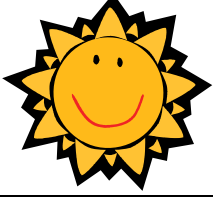
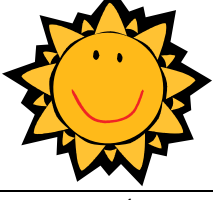
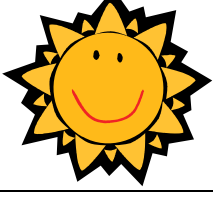
Wednesday, May 20



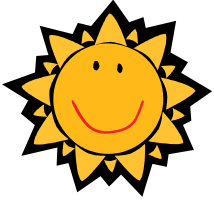

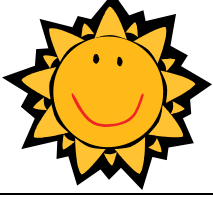
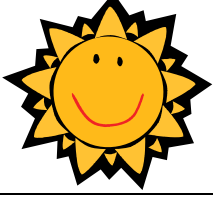
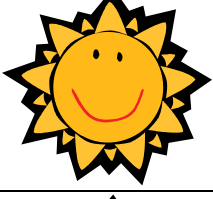
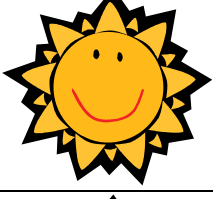
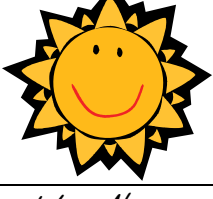
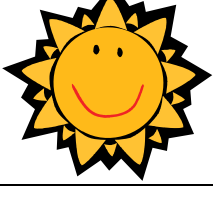
For more information about the Box Tops for Education program at Shepherd, contact Laura Noble, Box Tops Program Coordinator at:

TaylorFarm@kddmgroup.com.

**Remember to keep clipping Box Tops for
Shepherd Elementary School!**



			
	<h2>Countdown to Summer Box Tops Collection Contest</h2> <p>Glue or tape (no staples) one Box Top Coupon onto each Summer Sun and help turn trash into CASH for Shepherd Elementary School! Each sheet is worth \$1.00 to our school. (Expired Box Tops, Box Tops with expiration dates cut off, and other coupons such as Betty Crocker points <u>cannot</u> be used.)</p> <p>All students returning a completed sheet will receive a prize! A special treat is planned for the class that turns in the most Box Tops.</p> <p>Deadline: Wednesday, May 20, 2009. Turn in as many collection sheets as you are able to fill with Box Tops. (Additional collection sheets are available outside the Main Office.)</p> <p>For more information about the Box Tops for Education program at Shepherd, contact Laura Noble, Box Tops Program Coordinator at: TaylorFarm@kddmgroupp.com.</p>		
			
			
<i>First and Last Name:</i>		<i>Teacher/Grade:</i>	

			
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