



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

Friday, May 22, 2009

Mark Your Calendars!

5/23 – Auction Gift-Wrapping Party, 9:00 am, 7405 Alaska Ave.

5/25 – Memorial Day Holiday, NO SCHOOL

5/27 – Field Day – Grades 3-6 (*corrected date*)

5/28 – Field Day – Pre-K-Grade 2 (*corrected date*)

5/29 – Annual Auction, 7:00 pm, Howard Univ. Blackburn Center

6/1-5 – Spirit Week, see page 2 for details

6/5 – Book Exchange

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Everyone!

In last week's edition of *The Mustang*, I asked parents to begin thinking about next year and recommitting themselves to Shepherd ES. I also stated that I would be sharing with you some of my thoughts about Shepherd and what I would like to see next year and beyond as we work to become rejuvenated, renewed and regenerated together. Last week I discuss volunteerism, this week we will focus on safety.

Kiss and Ride

Before the end of the year, I encourage you to park your car, stand on the sidewalk between 8:25 a.m. and 8:50 a.m. and tell me what you see. For those of you who will be unable to complete this task, let me share with you. In the mornings between this time you will find Jonquil packed with cars, you will see people making illegal U-turns, parents stopping in the middle of the street and letting students out, students jutting in between cars, students coming close to being hit, horns blaring and every now and then someone yelling out of the window. To state it candidly, it is a chaotic mess and a disaster waiting to happen. Therefore, before our morning scene turns tragic, something will be done.

Next year, we will be implementing (reinstating) the *Kiss and Ride* program. For those of you who do not know... the *Kiss and Ride* is a designated area (identified by signs) for parents picking up or unloading their children by private vehicle. For *Kiss and Ride* to be successfully implemented, we will need parents to adhere to the expectations. More information will be coming at the start of the year, but below are a few things to keep in mind:

- School staff members, parent volunteers, and student safety patrols provide supervision.
- Children load and unload from the passenger side of the car only, so they will not have to cross the street in front of traffic.
- Drivers remain in the car. Safety patrols will assist with the car door.
- Cars stay in a single file line as they move to and from the *Kiss and Ride*.
- Parents wanting to enter the school must park in an available parking space. They are not to enter the *Kiss and Ride* line.
- Arrive early. The busiest time at the *Kiss and Ride* area is five to ten minutes before the start of classes.

*You Are Cordially Invited to Attend the
Shepherd Elementary School
PTA Annual Auction Gala*

*"Spotlight on Excellence –
Past, Present, and Future"*

Friday, May 29

*Blackburn Center
Howard University*

*Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.
Auction Bidding Starts at 7:00 p.m.
Tickets \$50 per person*

(See Principal, continued on page 2)

(Principal, continued from page 1)

Field Day

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer at one or both of this year's field day event. Mr. Burgess has been working diligently to organize a fun filled day for all. If you are able to volunteer, please call the front office. We are desperately in need of individuals to help make the day a success! Thank you again.

Spirit Week

During the first week of June, we will be having spirit week. Each day students will be allowed to dress and accessorize to match the theme for the day. Students in grades 4th through 6th voted and the results are in....

- **Monday (6/1) – Sports Day** (Who can wear the most sports memorabilia?)
- **Tuesday (6/2) – Mismatch Day** (How uncoordinated can you be?)
- **Wednesday (6/3) – Backwards Day** (How many things can you wear backwards?)
- **Thursday (6/4) – '80s Day** (Look on the internet, talk to your parents to help you create the perfect '80s look)
- **Friday (6/5) – Pajama Day** (Wear your favorite PJ's to school)

Thanks for all you do and enjoy your weekend!

Regards,

Jamie Miles

Principal, Shepherd Elementary

Get Your Tickets NOW!

What? You haven't gotten your auction tickets yet?? Don't fear. They're still available. Ask your room parent for tickets. If your room parent doesn't have tickets (or they're all sold out of their allotment), ask any Auction Committee member. If they're sold out of their allotment, contact Auction Committee co-chair Chantale Swanson at either 422-1249 or swanprincess75@aol.com. Chantale will put your tickets in an envelope and mark your name on it. Show up at "will call" – the school office – with a check for the proper amount made out to "Shepherd Elementary PTA" with "Auction tickets" on the memo line. It's just that simple. Remember: Tickets are just \$50 each – no increase from last year.



HONORING
MEMORIAL
DAY

PTA Election Results

Your PTA officers for the 2009-2010 school year are:

- President: Charisse Brossard
- 1st Vice President: Donna Harvey Johnson
- 2nd Vice President: Leonie Stephenson
- Corresponding Secretary: Jennifer Q. White
- Recording Secretary: Mark Pattison
- Treasurer: [position still open]
- Assistant Treasurer: [position still open]

Auction Tickets On Sale Now

**LSRT Election Results**

Your Local School Restructuring Team (LSRT) Parent Representatives for the 2009-2010 school year are:

- Marcie Bane
- Jaye Jones Muhammad
- Rhonda Davis Smith
- Bill Wilson

Auction Donations??

We still have a number of outstanding queries and/or commitments on auction donations. If you have any outstanding donation forms to be submitted, please do so at your earliest convenience.

If you are not sure on what items you had committed to request/bring in, let Marnie Keller know and she'll send you a list. Contact Marnie at marniekeller@gmail.com.

Auction Gala – Friday, May 29, at Howard's Blackburn Center

"Pay It Forward" and Give a Little to Help Make the Evening a Success!

Are you excited about this year's Auction? We are ... and so are a lot of other parents! Several families have already purchased their auction and raffles tickets, and are helping out now (and/or during the event) to ensure this year's auction is FANTASTIC! The list of auction items is steadily growing. Much has been accomplished to date, but MORE volunteers are needed. Specifically, the auction committee is looking for six parents to help for a minimum of one hour at the start of the auction (set up or check in), and six parents to help for a minimum of one hour at the end of the auction (check out and clean up). More hands make for light work! It's a BYOL (Bring Your Own Laptop) affair. Extra brownie points if you can bring a printer. Stephanie Scott will gladly train you on just how easy our auction software is to accommodate busy shoppers. stephanie.scott@dc.gov

Auction co-chairs Marnie Keller and Chantale Swanson are crazy busy getting everything ready for you for next Friday. OMG, the Auction is NEXT FRIDAY!!

Are you ready to support Shepherd and celebrate our "Salute to Excellence – Past, Present and Future"? If not, here is a short checklist:

- Contact my child's Room Parent regarding last minute help with the class' auction item(s)
- Make arrangements to volunteer some time the day of the auction
- Confirm the babysitter
- Select an impressive outfit that exemplifies "excellence"
- Find an evening purse big enough to hold auction tickets, raffle tickets, and a checkbook
- Invite at least two friends to come take advantage of all the great auction bargain
- Clean out the car to make room for all the auction items to be brought home
- Coordinate with other Shepherd parents
- Get ready to have a great evening out without the kids!!

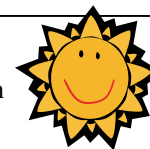
Remember, this is all for our children's future. See you at the Auction!

PTA Class Challenge Winner!



The class with the highest number of parent attendance at this past Wednesday's final PTA meeting of the year, was **Mr. Byers' class**. Thanks to their parents, Mr. Byers' class has won a popsicles party the entire class, courtesy Ms. Angela Anderson, room parent for Mrs. Chambliss' 3rd grade class.

Box Tops Update



Thanks so much to everyone who participated in the *Countdown to Summer* Box Tops Collection Contest. Results will be tallied and announced in next week's *Mustang*. Prizes will also be distributed next week to the students who contributed Box Tops.

Box Tops for Education has closed out the totals for this school year. They have tallied our contributions for this school year, and we raised **\$771** for Shepherd through your Box Tops! This is *free* money – turning trash into cash for Shepherd.

The Box Tops submitted for our *Countdown to Summer* contest kick-starts our total for next school year. Our goal for next school year is \$500 – with your help, I know we can reach that goal. And with the Box Tops submitted in the *Countdown to Summer* contest, we already have over \$100 toward our goal for next year!

The next Box Tops Collection Contest will occur in September, just after next school year starts. A collection sheet will be sent home with next week's *Mustang*. Keep that collection sheet handy all summer, and bring it back next school year filled with Box Tops so that Shepherd can earn even more money!

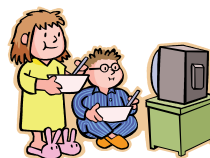


For more information about the Box Tops for Education program at Shepherd, contact Laura Noble at TaylorFarm@kddmgroup.com.

Remember to keep clipping Box Tops for Shepherd!

Counseling Corner

Parenting Tip #3: Monitoring the TV



Children learn a great deal about human relations and how people get along by watching the television. Most parents whose children watch television will know about X-Men, Power Rangers and other aggressive "Might makes Right" characters that children want to emulate. Some parents do not allow children to watch violent children's shows on TV that would certainly be the first line of defense in helping your child become a peace-loving adult. Other parents may feel that their children will watch the shows at friends' houses anyway, so why not use the shows to teach some lessons?

TRY THIS: Videotape one of your children's shows so that you can stop it at any time and not miss the action. Pause at places where other methods for resolving the problems could be tried. Discuss with your child the alternatives to violent action and why these would be preferred in our everyday interactions with others. 2nd TIP: Have your child to write a constructed response regarding the discussion you had for alternative methods for resolving conflicts.

~ Ms. Liggins, School Counselor

Literacy Corner

Help Children Find and Enjoy the Poetic Side of Life – Part III

Primary Grades

Zoo Poetry

Take a trip to the zoo then use the experience to help your child discover poetry. Take a look at the poem below then use the formula to create a similar poem after your family trip to the zoo.

Example:

Tiger!
You have a roar like thunder.
You are fuzzy, gold, and black.
You roam around on padded feet.
You scratch your back on a lonely tree.
You are the biggest cat I have ever seen.
You are my favorite zoo animal because you look so lovable.
Tiger!



Your Turn! Use the formula below to help your child compose a poem.

(Name of Animal)

You _____.

You _____.

You _____.

You _____.

You _____.

You are my favorite zoo animal because you _____.
 (Name of Animal)

Intermediate Grades

Diamante

A Diamante is a seven-lined unrhymed poem that appears in a diamond shape. Here's the formula for writing a Diamante:

Line 1: Noun that is the subject of the poem

Line 2: Two adjectives describing the noun

Line 3: Three verbs: -ing, -ed, -s words that relate to the subject

Line 4: Four nouns: two nouns relate to line 1 and two nouns relate to line 7

Line 5: Three verbs: -ing, -ed, -s words that relate to the subject

Line 6: Two adjectives describing the noun in line 7

Line 7: Noun, contrasting or opposite of the noun in line 1

Example:

Summer
hot, sunny
swimming, playing, boating
popsicles, lemonade — cocoa, chili
sledding, ice skating, skiing
cold, windy
Winter



Analyze the above poem. Examine each line and compare it to the formula. Now write your own and have fun with it. Explore subjects such as nature, sports, or even school. Get creative by adding a border of illustrations.

Contribute to the June 5th Book Exchange

Are your kids ready to dive into summer reading? One way you can help is to support Shepherd's BOOK EXCHANGE event taking place on June 5 in the school auditorium. Participation is FREE! This is a great way for the kids to own new books and ready new stories that will help develop a love of reading while also advancing their reading skills while school is out. The idea for the Book Exchange is simple: for every book your child donates, he/she will be able to take home the same number of books in exchange. Parents, please help your child select gently-used books (no torn or scribbled pages, ripped spines, tattered edges, etc.) he/she has outgrown and is no longer reading. Place the books in a bag along with a **piece of paper** containing your **child's name, teacher's name, and number of books** being donated. Books can be dropped in one of TWO BINS located outside the library and across from Ms. Crockett's and Mr. Byers' rooms. The more books families bring in, the more "new" books the kids can take home! Many thanks to those families who have already submitted their donations.

[NOTE: Volunteers are needed for 30 minutes or more the day of the event to help set up books and assist children with their selections. If you have time to give, contact Kimberly Brandon at 722-0569.]

The IB PYP Corner

Update, News and Notes:

Here is the basic information about the “unit of inquiry” that each grade level is working on this month through the first few days of June. Remember, all teachers on the same grade level are doing the same unit of inquiry.

Grade	PYP Theme	Central Idea
Pre-Kindergarten	Sharing the Planet	All living things have basic needs.
Kindergarten	Sharing the Planet	Earth is made of different geographic forms that affect how people live.
Grade 1	Who We Are	People in a community express values through symbols and traditions
Grade 2	How We Express Ourselves	People use various forms of expression to convey their uniqueness and cultural differences.
Grade 3	Who We Are	Cultural differences enrich communities and make them diverse.
Grade 4	How We Organize Ourselves	How conflict and change can affect a nation.
Grade 5	Who We Are	As people grow, their roles and attitudes about themselves and others evolve.

PYP Lesson of the Week: “Action” in the PYP

Last Thursday, May 14, one of the hosts of the “Today” show on NBC interviewed a five-year-old boy who started his own television cooking show. The five-year-old, Julian, said that he had watched cooking shows on the air and simply decided that he wanted to do his own. His parents function as the directors of the show, but Julian does the demonstrating and cooking.

On the same day, the *District* section of *The Washington Post* featured a front page photograph and article on page 3 about a group of students at Horace Mann Elementary who

won a first place award for outstanding work in a program called Saving Energy in DC Schools. This is an initiative by the DC Alliance to Save Energy and the DC Department of the Environment. The article explains, “Sixth-graders at Mann collected data on temperature, light levels and wattage of appliances and calculated cost of electricity per classroom. Students alerted the principal of their findings and shared them during the school’s Earth Day celebration.” Based on the information they gathered, they also gave the principal recommendations on how energy could be conserved at the school.

Both of these stories are excellent examples of one of the five “essential elements” of the PYP – **ACTION**. Action is explained in the IB document, *Making the PYP Happen*:

In the PYP, it is believed that education must extend beyond the intellectual to include not only socially responsible attitudes but also thoughtful and appropriate action. An explicit expectation of the PYP is that successful inquiry will lead to responsible action, initiated by the student as a result of the learning process.

This action will extend the student’s learning, or it may have a wider social impact, and will clearly look different within each age range. PYP schools can and should meet the challenge of offering all learners the opportunity and the power to choose to act; to decide on their actions; and to reflect on these actions in order to make a difference in and to the world... Action should be seen as a voluntary demonstration of a student’s empowerment in the context of the expectations laid down in the programme....In the PYP it is believed that not only is it possible for students to identify appropriate action, but also that teachers have a responsibility to enable them to choose their action carefully, to facilitate this action, and to encourage them to reflect on the action they undertake. This is viewed as an important part of students’ active participation in their own learning...Action as a result of the learning may not be witnessed by the teacher and often happens beyond the classroom.

Reflection question: Have you ever observed your child taking a voluntary action at home based on some new knowledge acquired? If so, that’s PYP action!

~ Patricia L. Tucker & Jamie Miles



**Only 7 More Days Until The Auction Gala -
Come Join the Fun!**



Spotlight on Excellence – Past, Present, and Future

With the Shepherd PTA Fundraising Auction fast approaching, we're asking you to get involved in a number of ways:

DONATE: By soliciting donations for the silent and live auctions for our event on FRIDAY, MAY 29, you do more than just raise money: You help sustain a community of educators who work diligently to teach your child each and every day.

ATTEND: Mix and mingle with local celebrities. Invite your friends and neighbors. Have an enjoyable visit with people you normally just pass in the hallway! With the theme "Spotlight on Excellence – Past, Present, and Future," you can see first-hand what drives the level of excellence at Shepherd Elementary. The tickets are only \$50 for an evening of food, music, and partaking in a fun-filled silent and live auction. It kicks off at 7:00 pm in the Blackburn Center on the campus of Howard University.

ADVERTISE: Show support of your child and their school by placing an ad in the auction event catalog program. Starting at only \$25, it's an eye-catching way to show you care.

VOLUNTEER: From soliciting donations to helping decorate the day of the event, there are lots of ways to participate in making this event a night to be remembered – both with the entertainment and the fundraising.

AUCTION SPONSORSHIPS: 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)

Our annual auction is a fun and easy way to help YOUR child's school meet and exceed its goals for the coming year!

For more information, contact our Auction Committee co-chairs: Chantale Swanson at 202-422-1249, or Marnie Keller at 202-244-3855.

Donation, advertising, and sponsorship forms are available online at www.shepherd-elementary.org.

Auction Action: Class Donations

- **Start Your Morning Right With a Belgian Waffle Extravaganza** – From Ms. Kuawogai's class: Belgian Waffle Basket, includes Belgian waffle iron, 3 Stonewall Kitchen syrups, 3 waffle mixes, 2 hand-painted towels, 1 jug of maple syrup, a handmade pottery batter bowl from Catocin Pottery, a batter whisk, and a butter brush. Yummy! Oohs, aahs, and mmms not included. Value: \$175
- **Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Who's the Best Kid of Them All?** – From Ms. LaPenna's class: The bidding will begin with 17 smiles from Ms. LaPenna's pre-K students as they behold their artwork on this tile-framed mirror. Each hand-painted tile depicts a scene of each student enjoying time with their friends. What a wonderful remembrance of a child's first year at Shepherd! Value: \$175

And these are just two of the class projects and generous teacher donations to this year's Auction Gala on May 29 at the Blackburn Center at Howard University. To list them all, we'd need another special issue of *The Mustang* like we had last week. Tickets are still just \$50. See a room parent or an Auction Committee member today to get your tickets!

If you have auction items you'd like to donate, or have secured from merchants, let our Auction Committee co-chairs know.

Contact auction co-chairs:

- Chantale Swanson at swanprncess75@aol.com
- Marnie Keller at marnickeller@gmail.com

Sorority Sisters and Fraternity Brothers: Show your colors at the auction!

For \$10, you can wear your sorority/fraternity colors for bragging rights on which organization has the most alumni spirit! For more information, contact Donna Harvey at djohnsonharvey@yahoo.com.

Buy A Table and Take a Load Off!

Will you have a table at the auction? You will if you buy a table or are an auction sponsor! Sponsorship packages start at just \$500. Those people with tables will have "reserved" signs, complete with naming rights (Holt's Heroes, Alaska Avenue Angels, Class of 1974). Apart from these reserved tables, we'll only have a few other tables for open seating. Since this year's auction is featuring oodles of hors d'oeuvres instead of a buffet or sit-down dinner, you can munch and bid at the same time. (Don't worry – we'll have chairs for when the live auction begins!)

To buy a table or acquire a sponsorship, contact Chantale Swanson at either 202-422-1249 or swanprncess75@aol.com

The LSRT TAPs a Teacher for MAY

- Utilizing multiple methods to keep the children engaged and striking a balance between fun and educational... Strong suit!
- Encouraging them to challenge themselves and seeking more than just mediocrity... Second nature!
- Working with parents to support the students ...Standard!
- Having the kids actually LIKE and genuinely respect their teacher... Priceless!

Throughout the years at Shepherd, we have heard of these mysteriously glowing reports. Now we are experiencing it live and in living color. And I am thrilled, as is my son. Everyday Justin comes home to tell me about what he has learned and how 5th grade teacher "Mr. Leonard has a way of making education seem fun. Like we aren't even learning at all."

Mr. Leonard promotes a fellowship and camaraderie that allows for success in group projects and gives the children a sense of independence to work alone; to seek support when needed and to research on their own; to employ their brainpower and to feel comfortable referring to their resources.

Considering this is the last year these students [the current fifth grade students] are at Shepherd, I am pleased to know that my son is secure, academically for another environment and most likely, socially secure, as well. I am very happy for my son and his classmates as they enjoy their last weeks at Shepherd Elementary.

I applaud Mr. Leonard in his endeavor to help these young fledglings spread their wings and soar on to the next phase of their academic career.

Nayada Cowherd,
Mother of Justin Hinnant – Mr. Leonard's 5th grade class

What To Wear, What to Bring

What to wear: Our "official" Auction Gala dress code is *Fun Night Out Wear*, and that's pretty broadly defined. Show other moms and dads how well you can dress to the nines compared to morning drop-off attire.

What to bring: YOUR CHECK-BOOK! And/or YOUR CREDIT CARD or ATM CARD!



It's Time for the National Spelling Bee!

The 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee is almost here! Parents, please encourage your child to "catch the buzz" and spell along with the broadcasts.

Broadcast Schedule:

- Round Three of the Preliminaries on ESPN360.com
See all 293 national finalists compete.
Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 1:15 to 6:15 p.m.
- The Semifinals on ESPN
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- The Championship Finals on ABC
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Honoring Memorial Day



The Mustang Corral

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, simply select "no email" under the message delivery option in your listserv user setup.

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.

Deadline for Next Issue of The Mustang –

The next issue of *The Mustang* will be distributed to students on **Friday, May 29**. If you want to contribute to the next issue, send it in by 10:00 am next **Tuesday, May 26**.

The Mustang editorial team thanks you! Send your contributions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: SESmustang@gmail.com.

BWL and Year-End Strings Concert Photos

(pictures by Kim Brandon)



Congratulations and a huge THANK YOU go to Mr. Giles and Mr. Velez for their amazing talents in organizing the BWL and Year-End Strings Concert!



BRAVA!!



Congratulations to Nia Anderson, 3rd grade – Mrs. Chambliss' class, who performed this past Sunday during the 39th Annual Suzuki Strings Festival at the Strathmore Music Center in Bethesda.

Nia has become an outstanding violinist under the guidance of Shepherd's own Mr. Giles. We are so proud of her performance and representation of our school!

Dear B-W-L Band Members...

We would like to thank you for your enthusiasm and commitment to the 20087-2009 BWL Band. You put on an inspiring performance for our fans. They were dancing and singing to the songs we performed. What was once described as a "rag-tag" group of kids turned into a wonderful performing group who rocked the house under my guidance, as well as that of Mr. Thornton, Señorita Carril, and Ms. Daly.

Thanks to the parents for their donations of food and money to help our group become better. We would also like to thank the teachers for their wonderful patience, and to our fabulous Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Leonard, for another outstanding job. Mr. Thornton and I are already looking forward to next year's band.

Thanks,
Mr. Velez,
along with Mr. Thornton, Srta. Carril, and Ms. Daly

DCPS Education News

DCPS Budget Question & Answer Discussion Session –

Have questions about the DCPS budget for 2010? Get them answered as you join other parents and community members in a public discussion about the process through which the budget was developed. **Thursday, May 28**, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Malcolm X Elementary School, 1251 Alabama Ave SE.

Chancellor's Community Forum on Special Education –

Efforts to reform Special Education in DCPS is a matter that affects all families. Come learn about the work DCPS is doing to improve the quantity and quality of programs for students with special needs. This important community discussion will take place **Wednesday, May 27**, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Eliot-Hine Middle School, 1830 Constitution Ave NE. For child care, disability accommodations, and/or language interpretation services (Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Amharic, French and American Sign Language), call or email Jennifer Nguyen at 202-442-5191, Jennifer.Nguyen@dc.gov.

Used Uniforms Need Your TLC

We are looking for at least a couple of Shepherd parents or grandparents – with a keen eye for this sort of thing – to look for (or to make your own judgment) on the sizes of the used uniform clothing we have. A project is already under way to get all of the used uniform clothing properly washed, dried, and folded in plenty of time for selling at the 2009 parents' night orientations and at PTA meetings.

Once sorted... this is where you come in. If you're interested, call recording secretary Mark Pattison at 829-9289, or e-mail him at mpattison@catholicnews.com

Come to the Auction Gala and Listen to A Wammie Nominee!

Yamomanem Jazz Band plays New Orleans jazz and 1930s-era Creole Caribbean music. Twice nominated for Wammies by the *Washington Area Music Association* as Washington's best Jazz Band (2007 and 2008), **Yamomanem** (say it fast five times) is known for its versatility – whether playing chilled-out dinner music at its regular Sala Thai gigs or putting on the crazy New Orleans jazz set at our monthly Haydees Show in Mt Pleasant. – **Yamomanem** plays to fit the room and type of audience we are playing for. The band is mobile and can do parades or funerals as well as indoor events. DJ sets of New Orleans and Louisiana music between sets are also available.

"Led by tuba player extraordinaire Monty Montgomery, **Yamomanem** are one of the most rollicking, spirited and down-to-earth bands to ever hit D.C.," says the *Right On Rhythm E-Zine*. "Put on your dancing shoes, close your eyes, and feel like you're in another era."

Oh, and did we say that "tuba player extraordinaire Monty Montgomery" is a Shepherd parent?



DC ARMOR & SES

Raise money for Shepherd Elementary by coming to a game! A portion of each ticket sold through this program is donated to Shepherd Elementary. Order your tickets now at www.dcarmor.com. On business address line 2, enter code 090101SPTA.

The winner of the DC Armor tickets – four tickets for the four home games left this season – is Jalen Johnson, whose parents are Lawrence Johnson and Cheree Jamison. Congratulations! Jalen's number was drawn by PTA President Earl Yates at Wednesday's PTA meeting.

Next DC Armor Home Game – May 23rd
Game Day Ticket Price: \$20 (For game day purchases, present code 090101SPTA at the box office.)

2009 Home Game SCHEDULE

- 05/23 Reading Express
- 06/06 Baltimore Mariners
- 06/13 Carolina Speed
- 06/20 Erie River Rats

All games start at 7:00 pm. The DC Armory is located at 2100 E. Capitol St. SE Washington, DC 20003

SPCS Yard Sale!

Start cleaning out your attic!

The 13th Annual Community Yard Sale is Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, 9:00 am-3:00 pm (if it rains on Saturday, the sale will be on Sunday, June 7 only).

Neighbors sell at their own homes or at a central location. SPCA takes care of the rest: placing ads, putting up signs, and making a directory of sales and posting it on our website. The central location will be in front of Shepherd Elementary School (along 14th St.). Questions? Contact Charisse Brossard at 202-722-0525 or charisse_brossard@adp.com.



Arts Camp

Just a short distance from school is an artistic oasis many children love: **CREATE Arts Center** in downtown Silver Spring. Owned by a Shepherd Park resident, the center will begin offering one and two-week camp sessions starting on June 8. Children ages 6-14 are encouraged to come explore and develop their creative talents. Kids age 13-14 can be CITs. Camp runs 9am-3pm; before and after care is available.

Not sure if painting, sculpture, drawing, or crafts is your thing? Try a new art activity at CREATE's once-a-week art classes for ages 2 to adult; four and eight-week sessions in July and August.

For details and to register, call 301-588-2787 or visit www.createartscenter.org.



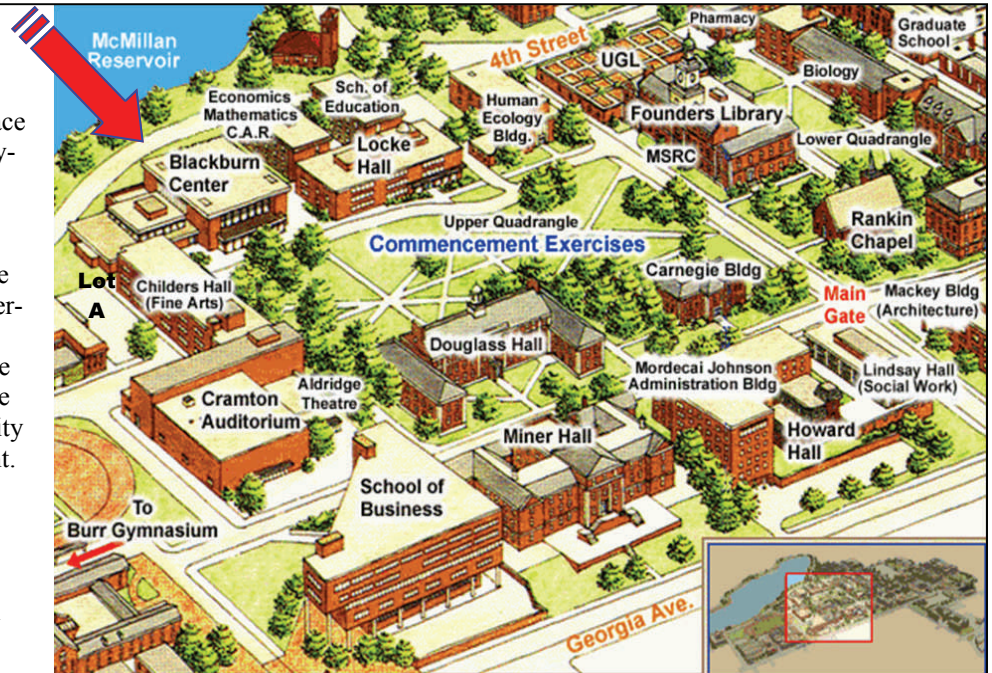
Directions from Shepherd Elementary to the Blackburn Center

Take Georgia Avenue to Howard Place (approximately four miles from Maryland line). If you drive by Florida Avenue, you missed it.

Turn left onto Howard Place. You are now on the campus of Howard University. At the first stop sign (Howard Place & 6th St.), continue through the main gate on Howard Place and make the first left turn. Blackburn University Center is the last building on the right.

Parking:

- Lot A by Childers Hall
- Street parking along route
- Behind Blackburn Center on 4th Street (along the reservoir)



I Just Wanna Testify: The Auction's Great!

Just one week left before our annual Auction Gala, next Friday at Howard University's Blackburn Center. Get your tickets now from Auction Committee members, room parents, or at the main office through Auction Committee co-chair Chantale Swanson by calling her at 422-1249.

Last year, 300 people turned out at our auction and had a great time. Here are a couple of testimonials. We promise you that after this year's auction, you'll race to your computer to write a testimonial for the 2010 Auction Gala!

"I'd never been to an auction before. I was surprised at how fast the room filled up with parents looking over the auction items and making bids, hoping that their bid would last the whole evening. I know we picked up a lot of good things at the auction - and not just some junk to toss into a corner in the basement. And I couldn't think of a better cause for an auction than my daughter's school." - J.M.

"I was having a blast, sitting at a table with other parents from my kid's class, plus her teacher. We were surprised at how spirited the bidding got! Still, I'm glad I brought my checkbook. I'm even gladder I got to see our councilwoman, Muriel Bowser, singing 'Bootylicious' with Kwame Brown and Tommy Thomas doing backup. I can hardly wait to see what kind of surprises will get sprung this year." - M.A.P.

***"Salute to Excellence –
Past, Present and Future": A
good time will be had by all!***

More Books for Summer Reading

The Friends of the Shepherd Park Library will hold their annual used book sale on June 6-7 during the Shepherd Park Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale. Find great deals on books perfect for reading at the pool, beach, and where ever your summer travels take you.



***Only 7 More Days Until The
Auction Gala –
Have You Lined
Up Your Babysitter
Yet?***



Shepherd Elementary School

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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.