

Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

Thursday June 11, 2009

Mark Your Calendars!

6/15 – Last Day of School!

See you next school year!

(School starts back on August 24)

**Have a
Great
Summer!**



A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Dear Shepherd Elementary Families,

It is hard to believe this week marks the last official full week of school. It has been an exciting year full of accomplishments. I am so proud of our students and what they have achieved. I would also like to thank the teachers for their dedication and hard work. They are here every day, rain or shine ready to greet and instruct.

In the next few weeks, I will be creating and sharing my Principal's annual report. My goal was to have this for you on the last day BUT.... that is not going to happen. The annual report will be uploaded to the PTA listserv on June 30, 2009. We will also be publishing the student supply list for the 2009-2010 school year.

As your child moves from one grade level to the next, there are some very important things you can do to help them succeed. Engage in meaningful conversations with your child every day. Take time (if only a few minutes a day) to really listen to what they have to say. Read to your child and listen to your child read. Ask your child questions, make predictions, make life-to-text connections as you read. Practice math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division). Help your child develop a sense of working and solving problems independently. Talk about ways and start practicing getting and staying organized. Encourage your child to write often! Writing stories, letters, journal entries, etc., are great ways to get thoughts organized and put onto paper. These little things will lead to big successes next year.

I understand that the success of our children hinges not only on the teachers and staff of the school, but also on you-our students' parents. As we close out this year, I want to thank you for this extraordinary opportunity to work with and for your children. I look forward to August, when we can continue the forward momentum that we have begun this year. I want to wish you and your family a healthy and restful summer.

Again, thank you for a wonderful year. Have a fantastic summer and see you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Jamie Miles

Principal, Shepherd Elementary



Congratulations to our Shepherd Graduates!



Mr. King's Sixth Grade Graduates –

- Askew, Christopher
- Ballard, Christian
- Edge, Cameron
- James, Jonathan
- Johnson, Taylor
- Joiner, Donovan
- Jones, Tyler
- Lewis, Alexandra
- Marrkand, Kyla
- Morgan, Brianna
- Moore, Joseph
- Morrow, Jasmine
- Mundy, Carter
- Nicholas, Joy
- Okechukwu, Esther
- Okechukwu, Joshua
- Oliva, Victoria
- Pollock, Jock
- Reed, Virginia
- Richardson, Phylecia
- Saulny, Kristopher
- Sienke, Paul
- Sneed, Steven
- Starnes, Myanthony
- Swanson, Tyana
- Terrell, Leia
- Webster, Meghan
- Zackery, Carlos

Mr. Leonard's Fifth Grade Graduates –

- Alfaro-Flores, Jose
- Brinkley, Lauren
- Early, Domonique
- Hardnett, Rachel
- Harvey, John
- Hinnant, Justin
- Hudson, Christian
- Lindo, Lucas
- Loud, Jordan
- Luswenyo, Felicia
- Medina, Dariel
- Nikiema, Luc
- Ortiz, Bryana
- Page, Joshua
- Parker, Kenneth
- Pingshaw, Jeffery
- Preece, Nikko
- Rodriguez, Antonio
- Scott, Elijah
- Varela, Boris
- Weaver, Joseph

Ms. Ulba's Fifth Grade Graduates –

- Blue, Devin
- Branche III, Charles
- Brothers, Datagga
- Coates, Stephen
- Evans, Anton
- Gray, Jekayla
- Holmes, Julianna
- Jones, Kenrhon
- Jones, Milan
- Lindsey, Tyree
- Logan, Gisele
- Loud Jr, Marc
- Lucas-Davis, Nicholas
- Marshall, Immanuel
- McPherson, Precious-Joy
- Reynolds, Tanele
- Smith, Alexis
- Sydnor, Nathan
- Tyus, Afia
- Underwood, Cameron
- White-Ruffin, Erica



Thank You for an Amazing Shepherd Year!

It seems so long ago since we all came to school on the first day of the 2008-2009 school year! After weathering some start-up storms in the first couple of months, Shepherd has gone about the business of empowering its students – through a combination of high-quality classroom instruction, developmentally-rich extra-curricular activities, and good old-fashioned love and nurturing at school and at home for our children..

Shepherd is proudly graduating the 6th Grade class – its last – of 28 students and the 5th Grade class of 42 students. It will also promote many more students to the next grade level.

In this last edition of *The Mustang* this school year, I take the opportunity to thank so many people who have done so much to make this another great year at Shepherd. If my list fails to include some person(s) who merit our thanks, please understand that we do sincerely appreciate the contribution(s) in question.

That said, **Thank You:**

- **Principal Miles** and all teachers, teacher aides, special-resource teachers/counselors; school office staff, janitorial staff, in-school security guard, on-the-street crossing guard
- ***The Mustang Staff!***
- **PTA Executive Board** (Elected Officers and Committee Chairs)
- **Other Parent Volunteers** who contributed their time, talent, and dollars on the following activities over the course of the school year:
 - Classroom Parents
 - Fall Festival
 - Reader's Digest Fall Sales
 - Holiday Bazaar
 - Bake Sales
 - Jazz Night
 - Tree plantings and other grounds beautification projects
 - Chocolate Candy Sales
 - Student Directory
 - Book Exchange
 - Coaching of student sports teams
 - **The Annual Auction!**
 - Family support offered by the spouses and children of the many volunteers involved in all of the above activities.

Finally, **thank you** to Charisse Brossard and all the other parents elected to the PTA Executive Committee, the parents who are volunteering to serve on the Committees of the PTA Board, the parents and teachers elected to the Local School Restructuring for the 2009-2010 school year.

~ Earl Yates, PTA President

Special Summer Issue of The Mustang

Be sure to check the PTA listserv mid-summer for a special electronic-only issue of *The Mustang*. It will feature the year-end PTA treasurer's report, along with other important information you will need to know for Back-To-School. If you have anything you'd like to submit for this special summer issue, please send it in an email to SESmustang@gmail.com before July 24.

Join The Mustang Team

If you would like to join the editorial team for *The Mustang* for next school year, please contact Mark Pattison at 829-9289, or e-mail him at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

Before You Buy Next Year's School Uniforms...

Consider buying your school uniforms from either **Land's End** or **French Toast**. Both of these retailers will donate a percentage of your purchases back to Shepherd when you use our school codes.

Shepherd School Uniform Retailer Codes:

- Land's End: www.landsend.com – use Shepherd's Preferred School Number: **9001-3120-2**
- French Toast: www.frenchtoast.com – use Shepherd's School Code: **QS4SJF**

This is an easy way to raise money for Shepherd that does not cost YOU any additional money than you would have spent anyway!

SES Needs Your Empty Boxes

With a summer school program coming to Shepherd later this month, it is even more important that our teachers can safely pack away all of their classroom materials. Please bring boxes to the school at either pick-up or drop-off.

If you work in an office building, go to the copy center or the mail room and ask for empty boxes.

If you go to the supermarket, ask to see the manager and ask the manager for boxes that haven't been flattened yet.

If you pick up some pizza, ask the folks behind the counter for the empty cartons that the pizza boxes come in, if they haven't been broken down.

The more boxes, the better. We've got 17 classrooms to box up for the summer.

While copy-paper boxes are ideal due to size and portability, any boxes roughly that size or dimensions can be used. Bring them to the main office. Thanks.



Thank You, Shepherd Family!

On behalf of Christianna and Dominique Noble, the Noble family would like to thank all the amazing teachers and Shepherd staff who have been so wonderful to our daughters during our years at Shepherd Elementary. We leave Shepherd knowing that we will always treasure our time here, and we will miss you all.



~ Doug, Laura, Christianna and Dominique Noble

Thanks for the Memories!

As parents of twins, the Loud family is in a small minority who can say that our sons have had both teachers in every grade since kindergarten! Marc and Jordan now make their exit from Shepherd after 6 years. Thanks to all the wonderful teachers who have helped in their development. Thank you to the Principal's office for entertaining all of our calls, inquires, for finding lost shoes and backpacks and for being ever ready with the Band-Aids for the many booboos!

The Loud boys are outta here!

Thank You, Mr. King!

This is a small note to thank Mr. King for all his heart and dedication that he gave to the sixth graders. He is outstanding, and out of this world! There are no words that can describe or say *thank you* enough for all you have given these students. May all the fruits of your labor come back to Shepherd ES one day. Thanks so MUCH!!!!!!



~ Patricia Nicholas

Thank You, Shepherd!

The Morgan Family (Ann, John, Devin and Brianna) would like to say thank you to all of the wonderful teachers and administrators at Shepherd Elementary School. It has been a great 10 years, give or take a few moments, and we are sad to be leaving such wonderful people and this fine school. We have made life-long friends with many Shepherd families and look forward to continuing those relationships. As Devin is already at McKinley Tech High School and Brianna is headed to Alice Deal Middle School, please know that you, Shepherd Elementary School, will not be forgotten and will always hold a place in our hearts.

Please keep in touch (ann.e.morgan@verizon.net), and may God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Field Day Fun



Literacy Corner presents...

Shepherd's Summer Reading
Incentive Program

Reading Rocks!

Details will be released Monday.



Field Day Photos:
courtesy Kimberly Brandon

The IB PYP Corner

Update, News and Notes:

Special Subject Teachers are PYP Teachers, Too!

Every teacher in an IB PYP school is a PYP teacher. The special subject teachers are doing a lot to support the IB program at Shepherd. They collaborate with the classroom teachers to plan activities that reinforce the central idea and lines of inquiry of various units in progress. They also work with students on some of the same transdisciplinary skills and Learn Profile attributes that the classroom teachers are developing.

Mr. Giles, Shepherd's music teacher, is collaborating with the current second grade unit, which has this central idea: *People use various forms of expression to convey their uniqueness and cultural differences.* In this unit, students have been studying the culture of Trinidad and Tobago as an example or case study. As they looked into the music of that culture, they learned about the steel drum. Mr. Giles has a steel drum in his classroom which he has shown students and allowed them to try to play it. On a broader scale, Mr. Giles has written a rap about the IB program and is guiding students to write their own rap about it. They are learning to fit their words with the beat. They will perform their raps at the annual concert next school year.

On a daily basis **Mr. Burgess**, Shepherd's physical education teacher, teaches and reinforces the category of IB transdisciplinary skills called "self-management skills." Included in this category are the following subskills: gross motor, fine motor, spatial awareness, organization, time management, safety, healthy lifestyle, codes of behavior and informed choices. Recently Mr. Burgess collaborated with the kindergarten team on its current unit, which has the following central idea: *Earth is made up of different geographic forms that affect how people live.* In his PE classes with kindergarten students he had them identify geographic forms outside

of the school building (forms such as hill, plain or plateau, slope, etc.) by running to the land form designated and describing it.



Ms. Michaud, Shepherd's art teacher, is providing art experiences for several of the current PYP units.

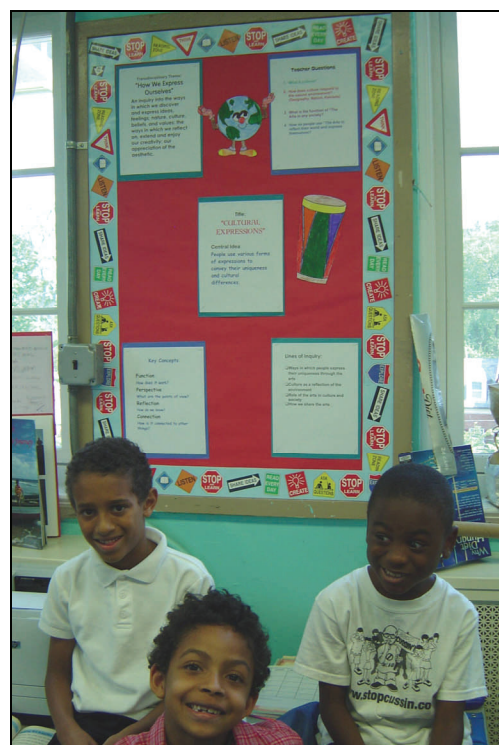
For the pre-kindergarten unit on living things, she is having students learn about how turtles look and live and do finger-paintings of turtles. For the second grade's unit on cultural expressions, Ms. Michaud is having the students do seascapes showing images that they would expect to see on the beaches of Trinidad and Tobago. For the third grade unit, an inquiry into the central idea, Cultural differences enrich communities and make them diverse, Ms. Michaud is introducing the art of Jacob Lawrence. The third graders are learning how migration in the United States created the cultural diversity that we have in our cities. Lawrence's Migration Series illustrates well the migration of African Americans in a particular time period. Ms. Michaud is collaborating with the fifth grade team on their unit about life's transitions, particularly the transition to middle school. Students are creating genre paintings showing their "middle school dreams."

Kudos to all of Shepherd's teachers and students for the fine work they have done this year to begin implementing the IB Primary Years Program.

~ Patricia L. Tucker & Jamie Miles

Together we put aside
our differences and
dance the song of life.

IB Photos:
PYP unit work by
Ms. Johnson's
2nd grade class



'Songs of Freedom and Justice' CDs Still on Sale – and Hear the Show!

You can still get commemorative CDs of February's "Songs of Freedom and Justice" show. They're only \$10 each. Now that school is nearly over for the year, send your check to Mark Pattison, 1221 Floral St. NW, Washington, DC 20012. Make your check payable to "Shepherd Elementary PTA" with "CDs" in the memo line.

And if you can't get enough of the show from just listening to it, you may have the opportunity to see the show again. Check the PTA listserv for more information.



It's Laundry Time For Used School Uniforms

Every year, Brossard Enterprises, run by incoming PTA president Charisse Brossard, offers at the auction a prize of doing 100 pounds of laundry. At this year's auction, PTA recording secretary Mark Pattison was the lucky winner. In past issues of *The Mustang*, you may recall that he was looking for help to help figure out the sizes of the PTA's stock of used uniform clothing after washing it all. He WAS going to do it all himself, but now those clothes will receive the tender loving care of a Shepherd mom who really knows what she's doing around the washing machine.



We'll still need help in figuring out the sizes for some of the uniforms – the colors don't fade, but the size and cleaning-instruction tags do – so if you can offer that help over the summer, contact Mark at 829-9289.

Andrea's Spanish Immersion Summer Camp

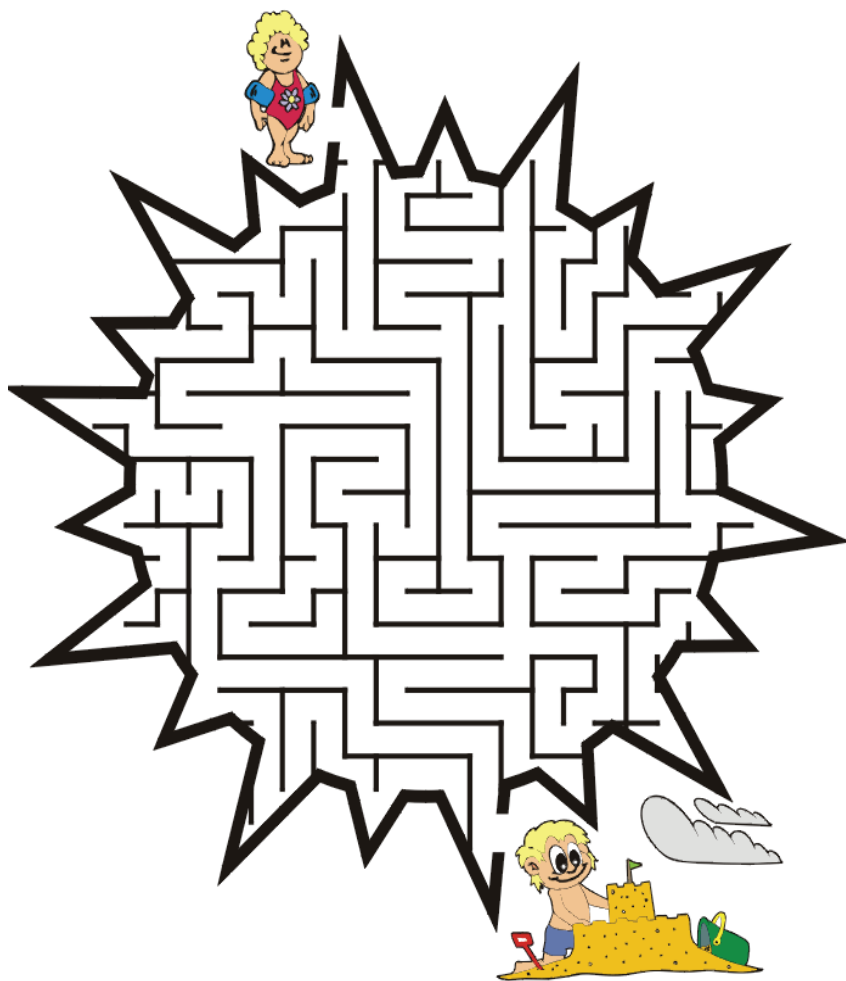
Session I: August 17-21 from 9:30 am to 1:30pm. Cost \$146. Ages: K-2. Location: Family's home in Takoma Park/Washington DC area.

Session II: July 13-17 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Cost \$146. Ages 3-4. Location: Family's home in Silver Spring (Four Corners).

Andrea Grynberg is native Spanish speaker with a degree in elementary education. Andrea's been running this Camp for 10 years. Andrea has been teaching Spanish to children for 15 years at schools and different settings. For more information, call Andrea Grynberg at (301)366-4773 or email her at: andregry@hotmail.com.

Private Enrichment Tutor

Erika Almanza Brown, a previous DCPS teacher and experienced private tutor of over 3 years, is available for summer tutoring for children going into grades 3-7. Allow her to help fill in the gaps or prepare your child for the next grade level in math (including algebra), reading, grammar, writing, plus phonics and spelling. She has excellent references from Shepherd and other DCPS families. Call her at 301-213-9247 or email at almanzabrown@gmail.com for more information.



2009 Ward 4 Family Fun Day Happens Saturday, June 20

The annual Ward 4 Family Fun Day sponsored by Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser will be held Saturday, June 20, starting at 3 p.m. at Lafayette Elementary School, 5701 Broad Branch Rd. NW.

Planned activities call for a moon bounce. Food to be enjoyed includes hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn sno-cones, and ice cream. Entertainment includes a steel drum band and Taiwanese drummers.

Some lucky folks will win Frisbees and T-shirts. In case of rain, the Family Fun Day will move indoors at Lafayette.

SPCA Yard Sale Update



The Annual SPCA Yard Sales was a tremendous success. We had over 60 families sell at their individual homes and we had over 20 families signed up at the school. Most families reported brisk sales on both Saturday and Sunday.

A good time was had by all while at the same time participants were able to sell items no longer needed/used. The SPCA looks forward to everyone's participation next year.

School's New Trees Need Water, TLC

With the planting of an extra dozen new trees in April by our graduating sixth-grade students, we are in need of families who can come to Shepherd two or three times over the course of a particular week to water the trees. We've had quite a bit of rain all spring long and that has helped our continue to grow. We cannot be guaranteed that the summer will be as wet; we know that it certainly will be hotter.

Sign up for a week of filling up the Tree Gators, those greenish bags surrounding the trees, plus watering the four mini-gardens, the main walkway laurels, and the hillside terrace. With the new hoses, it should take about an hour to do. For most of the summer, watering twice a week is fine. When it is HOT and HUMID, three times a week is better.

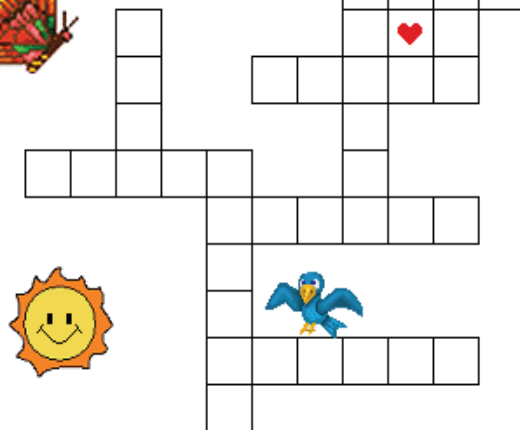
Greenery responds best to early-morning watering, since the water mimics the dew that graces the greens in other seasons. WHAT DAYS you go is up to you; THAT you go is most important.

Of the 10 weeks between the end of school and the resumption of school, we have only ONE week not taken yet: August 9-15

Be true to your school and help out with the watering. Reply to Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or pattison_mark@hotmail.com



SummerTime



Word List

summer vacation water swim travel
picnic camp sports games



Post-Summer School Cleaning Blitz

With summer school at Shepherd ending Aug. 5 and teachers reporting back to school Aug. 17, that gives us eight to 10 working days for the school to be transformed into a sparkling clean facility. This effort will require the hard work of not only Shepherd's custodial staff and the best efforts of teachers, but also the elbow grease of parents. Get ready to block out dates on your summertime calendar to join in the cleaning blitz.

Shepherd Park Citizen Association Annual Community Picnic

Sunday, June 14th – 2:00-6:00 pm

Lowell School Grounds, 1640 Kalmia Rd NW
(Rain Date June 28th)

- All Afternoon – Food, DJ, moon bounce, and Fire Truck
- 2:15 pm – Water Balloon Toss (age ages)
- 2:45 pm – Relay Races (all ages)
- 3:15 pm – Hot shot Basketball (12 Basketball)
- 4:00 pm – Three Legged Races (all ages)
- 4:20 pm – Hot Shot Basketball (13-16)
- 5:00 pm – Door Prizes and Community Awards Announced
- 5:15 pm – Water Balloon Toss (all ages)

Counseling Corner

PARENTING TIP # 6

CHILDREN'S BOOKS that FOCUS on PEACEMAKING

Read books about characters facing conflict and/or difficult situations. Discuss the stories and consider the characters' opinions. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Have the child relate the theme, or lesson, to his/her own life.

The following books deal with issues of peace and peacemaking. The 'P' identifies picture books; the 'C' designates books with chapters. Many of these books are available through Amazon.com.

Friends From the Other Side/Amigos del Otro Lado, by Gloria Anzaldúa (P) A young Mexican boy and his mother have recently crossed the Rio Grande River into Texas. As they search for a new life, trouble follows them. A brave young Mexican-American girl befriends and helps them.

The Search for Delicious, by Natalie Babbitt (C) A fantasy in which a king is creating a new dictionary. He asks one of his subjects to go throughout the kingdom in search of a good definition of "delicious." The man's different definitions lead to an uproar in the kingdom. A mermaid comes up with a good solution for bringing peace back to the kingdom.

Old Henry, by Joan W. Bios (P) A touching picture book about an older man whose neighbors do not understand him. He seems to create a messy nuisance for everyone. By the end of the story, everyone has a new appreciation of what Henry has to offer, and he makes peace with his neighbors.

The Wall, by Eve Bunting (P) A gentle book about a family's visit to the Vietnam War Memorial.

The Big Book for Peace, by Ann Durrell, Marilyn Sachs, Lloyd Alexander, and Natalie Babbitt (Eds.). (C) A wonderful collection of poems, short stories, and letters about peacemaking. Something for every level of grade-school children.

Owen, by Kevin Henkes (P) Spanish edition. An absolutely delightful story of a conflict between a little mouse and his parents over his "blanky" and what to do with it now that he is starting school. A perfect solution that satisfies everyone is found.

The Giver, by Lois Lowry (C) An amazing tale about a twelve-year-old boy who has been chosen by the elders in the futuristic society to become the next "giver," the holder of the memories of the community. (Upper elementary and middle school)

My Hiroshima, by Junko Morimoto (P) A graphic but beautifully illustrated book about the effects of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and the memorials that are held to remember the victims.

The Great Peace March, by Holly Near (P) A book that includes everyone in efforts for peace.

Peace Begins with You, by Katherine Scholas (P) A simple picture book about each one's responsibility to be peaceful and gentle.

I'm Terrific, by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat (P) An oldie, but goodie. Jason Everett Bear is insufferably good, according to his friends, a "mama's bear." He learns how to be a friend and to value his real identity.

Angel Child, Dragon Child, by Michelle Surat (P) An interesting book about a young Vietnamese girl in an American school. She has been separated from her mother and feels alone and unloved. She finally makes peace with a boy who has been unkind to her. Everyone learns a lesson.

Have a great summer!

~ Ms. Liggins, School Counselor

The Mustang Round-Up

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 available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at www.shepherd-elementary.org.

Special Summer Issue of The Mustang –

This is the last regular issue of *The Mustang* for the 2008-2009 school year. Look for a special electronic-only issue of *The Mustang* on the PTA listserv in mid-summer. If you would like to contribute something to this special summer issue, please send it by Friday, July 24 to SESMustang@gmail.com.

The Mustang editorial team thanks you for a wonderful news-filled year. See you in the Fall!

Join The Mustang Team –

If you would like to join the editorial team for *The Mustang* for next school year, please contact Mark Pattison at 829-9289, or e-mail him at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

Thank You Bell Flowers!

Thank you **Bell Flowers** for your floral donation! It was the final "extra special" touch that was needed for our graduation celebration.

~ Shepherd ES 2009 Graduates

www.Bellflowers.com
8201 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301-588-1300



Shepherd Elementary School

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Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: SESMustang@gmail.com.