

Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

March 26, 2010

Mark Your Calendars!



- **Friday, March 26:** Half-day of school — dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
- **Friday, March 26:** Auction Ticket Booth, noon-12:45 p.m.
- **Monday, March 29-Monday, April 5:** Spring Break
- **Monday, March 29:** Auction Committee, 6:30 p.m., Ledo Pizza
- **Tuesday, April 6:** Classes resume & Terrific Kid/B.U.G. Awards, 9:20 a.m.
- **Thursday, April 8:** LSRT meeting, 3:55 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 15:** Pep Rally, 2:00 p.m.
- **Friday, April 16:** No School, D.C. Emancipation Day
- **Monday, April 19-Friday, April 30:** DC-CAS testing
- **Wednesday, April 21:** PTA meeting
- **Friday, April 30:** Annual Auction, "The Carnival for Giving," 7-11 p.m., Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th St. NW

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Dear Shepherd Parents,

The Nominating Committee has been formed and the process is starting to nominate candidates for the important parent officers that do so much for our school. Each year we have to select the following officers: a President, Vice President (two), Secretary (recording and corresponding), and Treasurer. The duties of each officer are in the bylaws which appear on the Shepherd-elementary.org Web site. We must also vote for four parent representatives to the Local School Restructuring Team, better known as the LSRT.

In the next few weeks the Nominating Committee will be soliciting nominations for officers. We will be contacting all members of the Parent Association nominated to determine their interest in being a candidate. The names of all interested members will be compiled into a list and then at the regular PTA meeting in April, the Nominating Committee will submit the list of candidates.

Con't on page 3

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings!

Thank you for working closely with the office on calling in absences, picking up a sick child, and/or getting makeup work from the teachers. If your child is absent, please be sure to send an excuse note to school with your student upon their return so that we can update your student's record. All absences are recorded as unexcused unless we receive a note, email or phone call from the parent or legal guardian.

Summer School

Many of you have inquired about summer school. Due to Takoma's upcoming summer renovations, we will be having summer school here at Shepherd Elementary for kindergarten through fifth grade. You may opt for your student to attend academic enrichment from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; or the enrichment program -- which includes music, art, PE and technology -- from 1 to 6 p.m.; or students may attend both and remain at summer school from 8:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. The cost to attend is \$1.50. If interested, please complete the registration form (sent home with your student on Tuesday) and return it as soon as possible. Space is limited.

As of now, we will not be offering language enrichment. However, this may change as soon as we get an estimate of the number of students who will be attending summer school. We will provide you with an update as soon as possible.

Countdown to DC-CAS (3rd -5th Grade)

Spring break is a time to relax. However, please work with your student during the break. Encourage them to read, practice their math facts and review any work sent home with them by their teacher. We will have eight days until the "big test" after students return from their break.

Pep Rally

On Thursday, April 15, we will have a Pep Rally for our students in grades three through five. The Pep Rally will include a fun interactive game show, skit, or dance to get students excited, and end with the students locked up, forming a human train and marching through the school hallways, where music will play over the loudspeaker and students from pre-K through second grade, along with parents, will stand and cheer the upper grade students on to success. We will also have a special surprise guest. All parents are encouraged to attend and cheer students on as the train moves throughout the hallways. The train will begin forming at 2:40 p.m. Parents should be in place ready to cheer no later than 2:35. Please check in at the front office when you arrive to learn the train route.

Finally, thank you for everything that you do for Shepherd students and staff. Enjoy your break!

Jamie Miles



Student's Eye-View

Anticipation builds as Shepherd Elementary's annual fundraising auction nears. The auction is one of the biggest and most important events of the school year. Proceeds from the PTA sponsored event go toward expanding educational opportunities for Shepherd students.

There will be a weekly raffles leading up to the auction which takes place at the end of April. The first raffle is for a Nintendo DSi, a dynamic handheld video game that is popular with kids and adults. To enter the raffles call 576-6140 or send an e-mail to:

shepherdauktion@live.com. Other raffles will have great prizes too.

This year, donated prizes for the auction include valuable artwork, televisions, fine dining packages, weekend vacation trips and much more. Donations from area businesses and supporters are still being accepted. Please send an e-mail to shepherdauktion@live.com or go to: www.shepherd-elementary.org for more information.

The auction will have a Caribbean theme with colorful decorations. There will be a steel drummer and Caribbean dancing. Tasty food as well as different drinks will also be served. After the auction, a DJ will play songs so everyone can dance more.

The auction will be held April 30 at the Washington Ethical Society, located at 7750 16th Street NW. Festivities get underway at 7 p.m. and end around 11 p.m.

Anyone can attend. One ticket is \$40 and two tickets are \$70. A table that seats six is \$210. All contributions are tax deductible.

Keep reading this column and look for Twitter updates for more details on the auction as the date draws near.

--Compiled by Emahni Grant, 4th grade

To submit news tips, comment or contact the Mustang reporter, send an e-mail to: Emahni5@gmail.com.

Take a Giant Step

Wanted: Shepherd families to sign up for Giant Food's A-Plus Bonus Bucks Program. To date, we have only 21 families signed up. That figure is two-thirds LESS than what we had three years ago. And Giant is the supermarket closest to Shepherd. Next time you go to Giant, ask to sign up. Or, you can do so online.

Shepherd's code is: 00154.

It's Ninth Grade: Do You Know Where Your Child Is?

At last week's PTA meeting, business manager June Confer reminded parents -- including informing some who did not know --that Coolidge High School is the "destination school" for Shepherd students. One Shepherd parent checked the D.C. Public Schools Web site and spoke with someone from the chancellor's office.

It's a touch complicated, but basically, Deal is the "destination" and "neighborhood" school for Shepherd in-boundary students. Coolidge is the neighborhood high school for Shepherd in-boundary students, while Wilson is the destination high school for Deal students.

According to the DCPS Web site, beginning in 2009 -2010, students have the right to attend destination schools even if they are different from their neighborhood schools. See for yourself at:

<http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/Learn+About+Schools/Find+Your+Assigned+Schools>

Take note, though, that the subject was brought up to D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty at his November town hall meeting at Shepherd. When the situation was explained to him, he agreed that Wilson should be the high school that Shepherd Elementary students attend.

DCPS Booklet

Last week, you most likely received in the mail a booklet from D.C. Public Schools filled with student enrollment information for the 2010-11 school year. Included in the booklet is an annual student enrollment form, a home language survey, a release for student directory information for DCPS' use, a family application for breakfast, lunch and after-school snacks, a student health packet, and a solidification of your rights under the family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

If you haven't yet read the materials and filled out the forms, please do so quickly now that spring break is upon us. Your cooperation enables DCPS to do right by your children, our students, and our school.

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Con't from page 1

At the meeting, additional nominations may be made from the floor. Between the April and May meetings of the Parent Association, the Nominating Committee will provide a Candidates' Forum when all interested candidates shall address the Parent-Teacher Association and answer questions from the floor.

Please think about whether you can help fill one of the important positions in our school. Feel free to send a note to Leoniestephenon86@yahoo.com to volunteer yourself or suggest others we should contact. Don't wait until we find you -- find us first!

Have a great Spring Break.

Best Wishes,

Pharisse Brassard

We've Got a Star for The Next Pep Rally!

95.5 FM WPGC/Shack Nd Pack, will be the Special Talent at Shepherd Elementary's

April 15th Pep Rally at 2pm.

Visit the 95.5 FM WPGC Web site to learn more about the internationally known Shack Nd Pack, also known as "The Michael Jordan Of Radio":

<http://wpgc.radio.com/shows>



Every Parent's Spring Break Homework: Filling Out the 2010 U.S. Census Form!

It's time to stand up and be counted! Responding and mailing your Census form on Census Day -- Thursday, April 1 -- helps both the District of Columbia and the D.C. Public Schools get the money they're entitled to from the federal government to help its residents.

You don't have to be a citizen to fill out the census questionnaire that came in the mail last week. And no cops or "federales" will come to your door just because you completed the census form.

The Washington Post reported earlier this week that only 65 percent of Washington, D.C., residents filled out their census forms in 2000 without requiring Census Bureau follow-up. We can do better, and you can start by filling out and mailing (for free!) your census questionnaire.

Cell Phone Recycling

Our first check has come in for the used cell phones that you have donated -- and our box has since been refilled (and emptied) of your used cell phones. Remember that Shepherd gets at least \$2 for every used cell phone that you contribute. Look for the purple-wrapped box in the office to donate your cell phones.

Girl Scout Troop at Shepherd Elementary?

Parents! Are you interested in getting a Girl Scout troop established at Shepherd Elementary? The troop would be open to girls at Shepherd Elementary and in the surrounding Shepherd Park neighborhood. If you are interested, contact Liz McNichol at 882-1384 or via e-mail at ecmcnichol@comcast.net

Auction Committee Meets Monday at Ledo

The PTA Auction Committee under the leadership of Bianca Bostic will meet **Monday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m. at Ledo Pizza** on Georgia Avenue.

Bring your kids — it's OK! Also, bring \$5 to defray the cost of Ledo's wonderful pizza and other menu items for us all to share. With barely a month left before the auction, there's work yet to be done. Chip in and lighten the load and show off your mad skillz!

BoxTops for Shepherd!

Ever wonder what cereals you could buy at the grocery store to get Box Tops signs? Well, here's the list:

News From Shepherd's Box Tops Coordinator

As you know, we're about \$150 away from our school year goal of \$500, so we need a lot of participation in the current contest. With that in mind, we have a prize! The contest ends May 5 and the top 40 contributors will receive a poster from the Smithsonian exhibition Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future, just perfect for a bedroom or classroom wall!

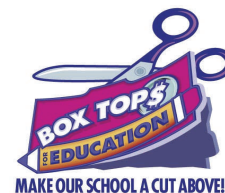
Remember the rules: no expired Box Tops or Box Tops without a visible expiration date. Box Tops only. Please tape or glue (no staples) one Box Top to each square on the collection sheet for a total of 10 per sheet. Also, you may submit Box Tops loose in a bag--just be sure to include student name and teacher/grade.

Thanks for your continued efforts to raise money for the Shepherd PTA. Any questions, please contact me at kctrimble@mac.com.

--Katherine Trimble, Shepherd Box Tops Coordinator

- ▶ Apple Cinnamon Cheerios
- ▶ Banana Nut Cheerios
- ▶ Basic 4
- ▶ Berry Berry Kix
- ▶ Berry Burst Cheerios
- ▶ Berry Lucky Charms
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Clifford Crunch
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Dark Chocolate Almond Granola
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Flax Right Pomegranate Ras
- ▶ berry Clusters
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Fruit & Nut Granola
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Hearty Morning
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Honey Nut O's
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Maple Brown Sugar Granola
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Multi-Grain
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Oats & Honey Granola
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Purely O's
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Raisin Bran
- ▶ Cascadian Farm Vanilla Almond Crunch
- ▶ Cheerios Crunch
- ▶ Cheerios
- ▶ Chex
- ▶ Chocolate Chex
- ▶ Chocolate Lucky Charms
- ▶ Cinnamon & Raisin Granola
- ▶ Cinnamon Chex
- ▶ Cinnamon Toast Crunch
- ▶ Cocoa Puffs
- ▶ Cocoa Puffs Combos
- ▶ Cookie Crisp
- ▶ Corn Chex
- ▶ Country Corn Flakes
- ▶ Curves Fruit and Nut Crunch Cereal
- ▶ Curves Honey Crunch
- ▶ Curves Whole Grain Crunch
- ▶ Disney's My Friends Tigger & Pooh Corn Puffs
- ▶ Disney's Little Einsteins Fruity Stars
- ▶ Disney's Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Berry Crunch
- ▶ Disney's Princess Fairytale Flakes
- ▶ Dora The Explorer
- ▶ Double Chocolate Cookie Crisp
- ▶ Fiber One
- ▶ Fiber One Caramel Delights
- ▶ Fiber One Honey Clusters
- ▶ Fiber One Raisin Bran Clusters
- ▶ French Toast Crunch
- ▶ Frosted Cheerios
- ▶ Fruity Cheerios
- ▶ Golden Grahams
- ▶ Honey Nut Cheerios
- ▶ Honey Nut Chex
- ▶ Honey Nut Clusters
- ▶ Kix
- ▶ LaLechera
- ▶ Lucky Charms
- ▶ Multi-Bran Chex
- ▶ MultiGrain Cheerios
- ▶ Nature Valley Cinnamon
- ▶ Nature Valley Oats 'n Honey
- ▶ Nature Valley Organic Vanilla Nut
- ▶ Oat Cluster Cheerios
- ▶ Oatmeal Crisp Crunchy Almond
- ▶ Oatmeal Crisp Hearty Raisin
- ▶ Oatmeal Crisp Maple Brown Sugar
- ▶ Para Su Familia Raisin Bran
- ▶ Peanut Butter Cookie Crisp
- ▶ Raisin Nut Bran
- ▶ Reese's Puffs
- ▶ Rice Chex
- ▶ Strawberry Chex
- ▶ Team Cheerios
- ▶ Total
- ▶ Total Blueberry Pomegranate
- ▶ Total Brown Sugar & Oat
- ▶ Total Cinnamon Crunch
- ▶ Total Cranberry Crunch
- ▶ Total Honey Clusters
- ▶ Total Raisin Bran
- ▶ Total Vanilla Yogurt
- ▶ Total With Strawberries
- ▶ Wheat Chex
- ▶ Wheaties
- ▶ Whole Grain Total

Yep, it's a long list, but there's something for every taste -- and we do mean EVERY taste. Look for any of these cereals on your next trip to the supermarket.



Auction Time Is Here!

The Sixth Annual Shepherd PTA Auction, "The Carnival for Giving," will happen on Friday, April 30, starting at 7 p.m., and it'll be held at the Washington Ethical Society, partially across the street from Shepherd at the corner of 16th and Kalmia.

Get Tickets At Friday Dismissal

When you head to Shepherd at 12:15 p.m. Friday to pick up your kids from school, take a little extra time to pick up an auction ticket or two. Parents will be strolling and trolling the highways and the byways outside of school to sell tickets to the auction, now just five weeks away! Tickets are \$40 for one and \$70 for two. You can pay cash, or you can come prepared with a check made out to "Shepherd Elementary PTA."

And in more Auction News...

Auction Action Heats up with Terrific Items to Win

You Heard It On NPR! We have not one but two NPR-related auction items this year:

1) WAMU Lunch and Listen: Tour the studios of NPR's local affiliate WAMU, enjoy lunch and meet the DC-based on-air personalities.

Diane and Kojo up close and personal! Start thinking of what you'll ask them now.....

2) NPR Lunch and Listen: Shepherd Park's very own Michel Martin, host of "Tell Me More," will give you a tour of the NPR studios, have you sit in on her taping, share lunch and NPR goodies with you, then take you to the taping of "Talk of the Nation." Culture and current events galore!

Entertainment for everyone! Radio not your thing? There are many ways to share in the family fun with these auction donations. Here's a sampling of tickets to events we've received thus far:

- * Imagination Stage
- * Bowie Baysox
- * Dance Place

We're sure to get more cultural and sporting event tickets - stay tuned!

Art Smarts



Hello Everyone!

Spring is finally here even though we thought it would never come. Although most of Shepherd's walls are yet to show it, we are certainly celebrating spring in the art room with new activities everywhere. After the break I could use all the help I could get from volunteers to help me mount art work.

Here's what's happening in the art room. Pre-K classes are creating shape collages in bright colors. Kindergartners are just completing their Suns and Moons that go with their current International Baccalaureate unit. First graders are making Still Life Collages with Flowers. Second graders just completed photo montages (ask them what that word means!). Third graders finished their Frida Kahlo Self-Portraits which tell us what things are their favorites. Fourth graders are weaving and creating human figures out of clay. Fifth graders have created books of their figure drawings, covered with a special illustration. So, you can see how busy we have been.

Parents, over the spring break make sure your child has scrap paper and pencils or any other drawing materials you can scrape up. Art is a very enjoyable, peaceful activity for children and adults alike.

It's a great way to get your head back on straight in this busy, busy world, and it's fun!

So a safe and happy spring break to all. Remember, you gotta have Art!

--Ms. Joele Michaud, Art Teacher

Shepherd School Mission:

All stakeholders are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social, and physical well-being within a supportive, creative and flexible environment in which children learn to think compassionately and learn globally.

Happenings In The Neighborhood

Here's a rundown of events happening in the Shepherd Park neighborhood over spring break. Be sure to mark your calendars for items of interest:

- **Tuesday, March 30 and Wednesday, March 31:** Showing of the film "The Passion" at St. Mary's Baptist Church, 8008 Eastern Ave NW, 7 p.m. each evening.
- **Friday, April 2:** Screening of the documentary "No Impact Man," 7 p.m., Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th St. NW. Part of the "Movies With Meaning" series. \$5.
- **Tuesday, April 6:** Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A meeting, 7:15 p.m., Ft. Stevens Rec. Center, 1327 Van Buren St. NW.

Thank You Corner

A special thanks to:

**PTA Board and the
Communication Committee**
Keep up the good work in letting
us know what is going on at
Shepherd!

**And thanks to the Auction
Committee for being dedicated
and committed to working toward
putting on an awesome adult af-
fair!**

In the Thank You Corner, ANYBODY connected with Shepherd Elementary can thank ANYBODY ELSE connected with Shepherd. Just send in your thanks, whatever they are, to sesmus-tang@gmail.com.

If you prefer to stay anonymous, you can. Or, if you want everyone to know you're the one who appreciates someone's good deeds, you can do that, too!

Spring Camp Listings



Spring Break Camps For Students Off From School

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) will offer DPR Spring Break Camps for District youth ages 5-13 from March 29 through April 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DPR Spring Break Camps are in line with the District of Columbia Public Schools' spring break and will provide youth with a variety of structured games, activities, sports, arts and crafts, and field trips while school is not in session.

Ward 4 Facilities open for DPR Spring Break Camp are:

Emery Recreation Center
5801 Georgia Avenue NW
(202) 576-3211

Takoma Recreation Center
300 Van Buren Street NW
(202) 576-7068

There is, however, at least one recreation center in each of the District's eight wards.

There is a \$25 camp fee for the entire week. Registration can be completed online at:

www.dpr.dc.gov

... or at the facility at which parents would like to enroll their children. Early registration is recommended as space is limited.

For additional information, please call the DPR Camp Office at 671-0372.

Don't Wait Until It's Too Late!!!



One SWEET Message!

Sign Up to Get SES Tweets

Stay in touch and be notified of breaking news or situations. Shepherd Elementary's Communications Committee keeps us all connected via Twitter.

If you have a Twitter account, gain access to the Internet, then go to: twitter.com/SESmessenger [no spaces, please] and click the "followers" button.

Or simply send your e-mail address or Twitter handle/name to: sesmustang@gmail.com or Richard.mcintire@gmail.com and we'll send you an invite. If you haven't already, give it a try. Look for updates and tweet ya later!

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](mailto: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.

Deadline Looms!

for Next Mustang Issue

Our next issue won't appear until Friday, April 9, NO FOOLING! But thanks to e-mail, you can submit your items to the Mustang at any time. Our next deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 6.

sesmustang@gmail.com

You'll be glad you did!

Support Shepherd PTA's



Shepherd Elementary School



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