



THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

Friday, April 23, 2010

Mark Your Calendars

Through April – DCCAS Testing
and Makeups

Friday, April 30 – Shepherd
Annual Auction 7-11 p.m.
Washington Ethical Society, 7750
16th St. NW.

Saturday, May 1 – School
Beautification Day, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, May 7 – Concert, “Civil
Rights Songs” and BWL Band, 6:45
p.m., Shepherd Elementary

Wednesday, May 19 – PTA
Meeting

Civil Rights Songs and BWL Concert May 7

We will have our final concert of the year on Friday, May 7, 6:45 p.m. First, our advanced violinists and guitarists will play a medley of “Civil Rights Songs.” Some Shepherd alumnae will return to join our violinists by playing harmony. Then our beginner violinists will play “Twinkles.” Finally, the BWL rhythm-and-blues band will perform. Performers for the “Civil Rights Song” medley need to be at school for a 6 p.m. rehearsal on May 7. Other performers need to be in the auditorium by 6:30 so the concert can begin at 6:45 sharp.

Ken Giles, music teacher

Bring in those Box Tops

There's still time to buy auction tickets, and there's still time to clip Box Tops for the upcoming collection contest! As you all know by now, we're about \$150 away from our school year goal of \$500, so we need a lot of participation in the current contest. As you also know by now, 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!

*Katherine Trimble,
Shepherd Box Tops Coordinator*

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Breakfast with the Principal

Students in grades 3-5 came out in large numbers on Monday to eat breakfast with the Principal. Thank you to everyone who put forth the extra effort to get their student to school early so that they could enjoy breakfast with their friends. We had at least 100 students in attendance; therefore, I spent my time roaming, monitoring and mingling. The students said the breakfast was good but the sausage was small and they would have enjoyed a “short stack” of pancakes versus the one provided to them. Please remember breakfast is served every morning between 8 and 8:30 a.m. and it is always free!

DC CAS

Tuesdays was the first day of testing for students in grades 3-5. Though the idea of testing is a little stressful for some of our students (parents and teachers), the students were focused and reported to me that they did their best. Testing will continue until next Friday. PLEASE work to make sure your students arrive to school on time, are well rested and remain at school throughout the day. Please schedule all appointments after school or after testing.

Enrollment Form

By now, all of you should have received your 2010-2011 enrollment form. If not, you can access the forms online. Our goal is to register 100 percent of our students before the end of May. The sooner you register, the sooner we can begin finalizing teaching assignments for next year. Parents, you must bring in your registration form and verify residency. Please do not send your forms with your student

Report Cards

Reports Cards were distributed on Monday, April 19. Please contact your child's teacher with questions.

Summer School

Summer School is being offered at Shepherd for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Space is limited, so please register your child now! Registration forms were sent home with all students on Tuesday. If you did not receive a registration form or you misplaced your form, please contact the main office.

Shepherd Family Diversity Survey - Have you completed and returned your Diversity survey?

We are striving to become a school that models a peaceful and democratic community. In doing so, we are implementing IB standards. The mission statement of schools

Are You Ready? Auction Day Is One Week Away!

Have you heard? The sixth annual PTA Auction is just one week away - one week from today!

"The Carnival for Giving" is heating up like a tropical sun shower. Looking for some more great things to bid on? Glad you asked. Fix your gaze upon these auction items recently sent over to Auction Central:

- A full semester of Star Achievers - to the highest bidder!
- Your child's class having lunch with Mayor Fenty - make him put away the BlackBerry!
- A hand-painted decorative plate from the Brazilian Embassy - you don't see THAT in most folks' china cabinet.
- A Zambian ceremonial mask - you'll be the first one on your block, for sure!

Save the date:

What: 6th annual PTA auction
 Theme: "The Carnival for Giving"
 When: Friday, April 30
 Time: 7-11 p.m.
 Where: Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th St. at Kalmia Road.
 Tickets: \$40 each, or two for \$70
 For more details, e-mail our auction clearinghouse at shepherdaction@live.com.

- Spa visits - look your best.
- Sessions with a personal trainer - feel your best!
- A full semester of Star Achievers after-care - sure to be a great saving for the high bidder!

There will be also a LIVE auction for a hot item in very high demand. If we tell you now, it would spoil the suspense.

There will be silent and live auctions during our auction extravaganza.

It's the PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year, and every dollar raised from ticket sales, the ads, the sponsorships, and the auction proceeds benefit the educational program at Shepherd.

We've got a Caribbean theme and flavor to the auction, with a steel drum band and Caribbean dancers, not to mention the hot sounds of DJ Oz laying down the tracks once the auctioning is all done.

But you can't enjoy the Caribbean cruise, the tropical music, the dance tunes without being there. You can't win an auction item unless bid, and you can't bid unless you show up!

Get your tickets most mornings in the auditorium before the hand-clapping, or in the afternoon during car-pool.

Students'-Eye View

Shepherd Elementary students and staff had a sporting good time Tuesday, April 13, when a boys versus girls mini basketball game took place. All classes were invited to watch.

The basketball game took place in the school's gym with members of the boys basketball team playing against the girls basketball team.

It was the teams' coaches who decided to hold the game. This was the first time the teams met in a competition. The Mustang cheerleaders were there performing, too.

"I wanted the boys to win," said fourth-grader Jalen Carter.

At the end of the game, the score was 6 for the boys and 0 for the girls. The girls took the loss in stride, saying it was fun.

The players received awards for their efforts.

And don't forget to attend the Shepherd Auction, being held April 30 at the Washington Ethical Society, located at 7750 16th St. NW.

Bid on prizes ranging from valuable artwork and televisions to fine dining packages, weekend vacation trips, enjoy tasty treats and much more. Get more info at: www.shepherd-elementary.org.

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

Compiled by Emahni Grant, fourth grade



A musical journey of note

Several Shepherd Elementary School students visited the "Paul Robeson Archives" at Howard University on Friday, April 16. The students have studied Paul Robeson's music and civil rights activities. The students who visited the library archives were: Theo Biddle, Rashad Biddle, Zennon Melnyk, Mattie Melnyk, Alexander Leonard, Emahni Grant, Sandra Stevenson (and music teacher Ken Giles).

Once the Homework's Done! Activities for You and Your Family

"Art a la Cart," Friday-Sunday, April 24-25, 1-4 p.m. each day, Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Washington. For ages 7-12. Travel through the galleries and handle brushes. Palettes, bottle caps and quilt squares, and even bison hide. For details, go to americanart.si.edu.
 Rainbow Families D.C. 2010 Family Conference, Saturday, April 24, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Georgetown Day School High School, 4200 Davenport St. NW. Workshops, discussions groups, activities for LGBT parents and prospective parents: on-site kids' camp with programs for kids age 2-and-a-half through 10s; panel of grandparents whose grandchildren are being raised by LGBT parents; premiere of documentary "Preacher's Sons" with filmmaker C. Roebuck Reed as special guest. For info, go to rainbowfamiliesdc.org.
 Hispanic American Playwriting Competition -- Children's Division, Saturday, April 24 (10 a.m.), Thursday, April 29 (3 p.m.) and Saturday, May 1 (10 a.m.), GALA Theatre, Washington. The winning entrant will be produced

by GALA Theatre! Admission. For tickets, call 800-494-8497.
 Art Day, Saturday, April 24, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., College Park Aviation Museum, College Park. For all ages. Create your own piece of aviation artwork. Admission. For details, call 301-864-6029.
 Earth Day Cleanup and Celebration, Saturday, April 24, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Anacostia River with locations in D.C. and Maryland. Help clean up the Anacostia River Watershed, then enjoy a picnic lunch, music and presentations at the Seafarers Yacht Club in D.C. To register, go to anacostiaws.org.
 Smithsonian Sleepover, Saturday, April 24, 8 p.m., Natural History Museum, Washington. For ages 8-12. Discover the museum in a whole new way. Includes snack, breakfast, Imax screening, tour, activities and more (maybe even sleep!). Admission. For details, call 633-3030.
 "Prayers in the Wind," Saturday-Sunday, April 24-25, 2 p.m. each day, Freer and Sackler Galleries, Washington. Use hand-carved wooden printing blocks from the great stupas of Nepal to print

prayer flags and paper prints of Buddhist images and prayers for peace and protection. For details, go to asia.si.edu.
 Bowie Baysox Meet the Team Day, Sunday, April 25, 12:30 p.m., Prince George's Stadium (aka Bowie Baysox Stadium), U.S. Route 301 at Maryland Route 197, Bowie. Meet the Baysox players and coaches before the game, which starts at 2 p.m. For info, go to baysox.com.
 "Taming the Electronic Beasts," Monday, April 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Parent Encouragement Program, Kensington. Learn how to set respectful limits on electronic media - and how to use it to strengthen family connections. Admission. To register, call 301-929-8824.
 "Awesome Amphibians," Tuesday, April 27, 11 a.m., Brookside Nature Center, Wheaton. For ages 3-5. Meet some of the nature center's amphibians, then go on a hike to look for wild

ones. Admission. To register, call 301-962-1480.
 "Bonding With Your Baby," Wednesday, April 28, 10 a.m.-noon, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Rockville. Learn why bonding is important for both parent and child and what you can do to strengthen your connection. Admission. To register, call 301-929-8824.
 Traditional Afro-Mexican Dance, Wednesday, April 28, 10:30 p.m., Anacostia Community Museum, 1901 Fort Drive SE, Washington. For all ages. Carol Foster leads a workshop on traditional dances performed in the Veracruz and Costa Chica regions of Mexico. For details, call 633-4866.
 31-Cent Scoop Night, Wednesday, April 28, 5-10 p.m. All Baskin-Robbins scores in the D.C. area, including the one on 16th Street at Spring Center in Silver Spring. Proceeds benefit the National Fallen firefighters Foundation and local firehouses. Contribution. For details, go to baskinsrobbins.com.
 Community Sing, Wednesday, April 28, 7 p.m., Levine School of Music, Washington. For all ages.

Ysaye Maria Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock presents a performance of group song. Admission. For tickets, call 686-8000, ext. 0.
 "Chuquanaque's Gold," Thursday-Friday, April 29-30, 10:15 and 11:30 a.m. each day, Smithsonian Ripley Center, Washington. Bilingual puppet play based on the true history of Panama and the meeting between native people and the Spanish conquistadors. Admission. For tickets, call 633-8700.
 "Encouraging Kids to Do the Chores," Friday, April 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Parent Encouragement Program, Kensington. Watch as a family works with a moderator through the continual challenge of family chores. Admission. To register, call 301-929-8824.
 Dan Zanes with the Washington Performing Arts Society Children of the Gospel Choir, Sunday, May 2, 1 and 4 p.m., Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda. Dan sings songs from his new album "76 Trombones." \$15-\$32. 301-581-5100.
 Guppy Gala, Friday, May 14, 6-8:30 p.m., National Zoo, Connecticut Ave. NW Friends of the National Zoo members \$15, nonmembers \$25, kids under 2 free. Tickets available at www.fonz.org/guppy.htm.

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Students are reading books on different cultures and have chances to express their native traditions and culture in their classroom.

Furthermore, in order to have a culture in the school that nurtures such individuals we decided to celebrate the diversity in our school. We need some information to make a display of all our different backgrounds and nationalities.

The diversity survey was sent home with students on Tuesday, if you have not completed your survey, please take a moment and do it now.

The display will go up next week and we want to make sure everyone is counted!

Have a great weekend!

*Mrs. Jamie Miles,
Shepherd Principal*

Shepherd Family Diversity Survey

1)Where was the student born?

2) Where were parents of the student born?

Mother

Father

3) What languages are spoken in your family?

This information is solicited for statistical use only. We appreciate your input!

\$20,000 For Shepherd?
All You Have to Do Is Vote!

Care2 is sponsoring a contest to vote for your favorite school. I voted today for Shepherd Park Elementary. The school with the most votes receives \$20,000.

Paste the link below in your browser to read more and vote.

www.care2.com/schoolcontest/1100/025/?refer=8034.03.1271429408.147939

The America's Favorite School contest is a simple way for U.S. communities to rally around their schools. The winning school receives \$20,000!

If you're a parent, then this is your chance to brag about your school and help your school win money. If you're a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or community member, then it's an easy way to support a school.

-Janet Williams, Shepherd Park neighbor

**SHEPHERD PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AFTERCARE SURVEY
APRIL 2010**

*To take this survey online, click the link on the Shepherd Elementary Webpage.
You may send in your responses on this paper if you prefer.*

1. Please check the grade(s) your children are in.

- Pre- K K 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th

2. Does your child attend aftercare at Shepherd Elementary now?

- Yes No

3. If your child does not attend aftercare, please tell us why:

- Do not need aftercare Can't afford it
 I do not like the current aftercare program

Other: _____

4. If your child attends aftercare, please rate the following components of aftercare.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
The aftercare program is a safe place for my child.					
My child is happy in the aftercare program.					
Children are treated with love and respect in aftercare.					
The aftercare program provides enough opportunities for creativity and self expression					
The aftercare program provides enough opportunities for physical activity					
The aftercare program providers enough academic support					
I am very happy with the aftercare program					
I would recommend the aftercare program to another parent					
Aftercare is an important factor for me in choosing a school for my child					
The aftercare is reasonably priced for the services it provides					
I would be willing to pay more for an enhanced aftercare program					

5. What do you like the most about the current program? What things would you keep the same in the future?

6. What suggestions do you have for changing and improving the current aftercare program? Be as specific as possible, including ideas for activities, staffing, atmosphere, use of the campus.

7. What would the 'ideal' aftercare program have that our current one does not have? Please be as specific as possible.

If you have additional ideas or suggestions that you were not able to include on this survey, please email Jennifer Pauk at jpauk@hotmail.com