



THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

September 27, 2010

Mark Your Calendars!

- **Sep 24, 2010 through Oct 1, 2010**
Book Fair
- **Oct 11, 2010**
Columbus Day, no school
- **Oct 12, 2010**
LSRT meeting, 3:45 p.m.
- **Oct 20, 2010**
PTA meeting, 6:45 p.m.



Visit <http://www.shepherd-elementary.org/calendar/> for a month-by-month list of events and activities for the whole school year!

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT...

Dear Shepherd Parents:

One of my personal priorities as PTA president is greater parental involvement, and making it easier for parents to get involved in projects that reap rewards for the school, the family, or both!

Long before any of us became Shepherd families, African-American and white parents forged ways to work collaboratively to the benefit of all. Now, our demographics are changing slightly. We have a growing number of Hispanic parents as well as parents who hail from the Horn of Africa, primarily Ethiopia and Eritrea.

I've identified the husband-and-wife team of Victor and Consuelo Gutierrez to serve as Hispanic parent liaisons, and new Shepherd parent Waldegeorges Agyayeshe as an Ethiopian parent liaison.

This kind of liaison work is new not just to them, but to me. My hope is that these parents will relate PTA matters and school needs to other members of their

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A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Happy Monday!

Fall Festival

I would like to begin by thanking Mrs. Brossard, the entire Fall Festival committee, and volunteers for an exciting afternoon/evening. If you were unable to attend the 6th annual event, you missed out. There was plenty of fun, food, and games for everyone to enjoy. Based on the big smiles and endless chatter throughout the evening, I could tell everyone had a great time. Thank you all for your support.

Grade-Level Newsletter

Today you should have received an October newsletter from your child's teacher. This newsletter will recap the learning that occurred throughout the month of September and will let you know what learning will take place during the month of October. Please use this information to help your child at home.

Progress Report

Friday marked the mid-point of the first advisory. Each of you will be receiving a progress report from your child's teacher to let you know how your child is progressing. If you have not received a report by Tuesday, October 5, 2010, please contact your child's teacher.

Healthy Lunch

Each day between 12:00-1:00 p.m., I am on duty in the lunchroom and I must say it is a really eye opening experience. Many students who bring lunch from home are drinking sodas, eating bags of chips, and candy during their lunch time.

Students who are buying lunch from the cafeteria are throwing away whole peaches, pears, and oranges. They won't try their vegetables and they won't try anything that does not resemble pizza, chocolate milk, or french fries.

We all know the healthier a child's diet, the healthier the child. Healthy diets also help students to focus in the classroom and when they are focused they are more likely to retain important information.

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Mrs. Miles can't from pg 1

Please help us by speaking with your child about the importance of healthy eating and if you are packing your child's lunch please be sure it is a healthy lunch.

Thanks for all you do and have a great week!!

Jamie Miles

Principal, Shepherd Elementary

Shepherd Elementary 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.

(Cut out and return to your child's teacher.)



YES! We'll read The Mustang online.

Name _____

Child's name _____

Teacher/Grade _____

WE PLEDGE to read the Mustang EVERY WEEK online. either at the school website or in the files section of the PTA Yahoo Group page. Because we make this pledge, you don't have to put a copy of the newsletter in our child's backpack.

Signature _____

Let's Move Again!!

At the beginning of September, we told you about an opportunity to get our kids moving with the Walking School Bus (See the Mustang, September 6, 2010, issue if you would like to join). For the month of October, we are sharing even more ideas on what to do around town to get the whole family moving.

Sunday October 17, 2010, Rockville, MD. The NASA Federal Halloween Young Run is a special, non-competitive running event just for kids 12 and under.

It's the largest event of its kind in the region and one of the largest kids runs in the nation. It is designed for every kid to be a winner and to discover that Running is Fun! **Three Races: Quarter mile, Half mile, or One mile - Pick One!** Set your goal and pick your distance.

Races begin at 9am. Go to <http://www.halloweenyoungrun.com/about.html> for more information.

Washington, DC - October 23, 2010

This 2 or 5 mile walk starts at Washington Nationals Baseball Stadium. More than 3,500 participants are expected to raise important funds for the American Diabetes Association's diabetes research, education and advocacy efforts. Entertainment and family fun activities will precede the walk.

Healthy Kids Fun Run- Saturday, October 30, 2010, noon

Be a part of the Marine Corps Marathon celebration weekend by participating in the annual Marine Corps Marathon Healthy Kids Fun Run. The event takes place at the North Pentagon parking lot in Arlington, Virginia, the day before the marathon. Children ages 6-13 are invited to participate in the one-mile just-for-fun event. Pre-registration is required. Entry Fee: \$2. Participants will receive a t-shirt, goodie bag, medal and snacks at the finish line. Family fun, fitness and entertainment begin at 10 a.m. Go to www.marinemarathon.com for more information.

Swimming: Takoma Aquatic Center Reopens October 17, 2010. Takoma Aquatic Center is national aquatic complex containing a 50-meter by 25 yard competition pool, leisure pool, and indoor children's water play area. Takoma hosts multiple annual swim meets and other aquatic events including the Black History Invitational Swim Meet. In addition, the center offers an array of programs from water exercise classes to water polo. The complex is free for D.C. residents, just bring a picture id. For more information go to the web page at <http://app.dpr.dc.gov/dprmap/details.asp?cid=84> or call 202-576-9284.

PTA President can't from pg 1

respective groups in their native tongue. These are just the first steps - but necessary steps - in bringing all Shepherd parents together, whatever their background. If there are additional Latino/a or Ethiopian families who would like to serve as a liaison, call or e-mail me.

This is an outgrowth of the Volunteer Database Signup Sheet compiled by Shepherd parent Nashwa Beach. You may have filled one out at one of the Aug. 20 open houses, or at Back to School Night, or from copies in the Mustang, on the rack outside the office, or online at www.shepherd-elementary.org. If you haven't yet, consider this:

I've asked PTA First Vice President Lisa Deane, our classroom parent liaison, to begin a conversation with the class parents on identifying parents from each class to be the go-to guy (or gal) on each of the PTA's initiatives: the Academic Affairs Committee, the Auction, Box Tops, our upcoming "Brick by Brick" fundraiser, the Building and Grounds Committee, the Communications Committee, the current Fall Flower Bulb Sale, the Fundraising Committee, grant writing, the Green Team, the Health and Wellness Committee, a new Investment Strategy Committee, Jazz Night, the newsletter, out-of-school activities, public relations, the school directory, and the ever-important Technology Committee.

That conversation then goes straight to you, as parents. If you're interested in one or more of these initiatives (even if you've indicated as much via the Sign-Up Sheet), say so in your e-mail. I want one parent from each classroom saying they'll be the contact point for each of these initiatives. And if you've got children in two grades, you can double-dip! Thanks to Parent Power, we'll do great things for our kids and our school.

Best wishes,

Mark Pattison

PTA President
829-9289, pattison_mark@hotmail.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.

Fall Fest 2010 A Great success!

Thank you for making this the most prosperous FALL FEST ever!!! The community showed up to support Shepherd Elementary in record numbers. Thank you to all the parents who made food donations and to the Class Parents for their coordination. However, I would be remiss if I didn't thank certain parents who really made this event possible with all their hard work and dedication.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED SET-UP, MANNED BOOTHS, AND HELPED CLEAN-UP!!!

Shantelle Ballard
Jay Ballard
Jill Borris
Frank Borris
Sharon Bowman
Tom Bowman
Kenya Brent
Paula Brooks
Ms. Brooks
Ms. Burgess (Chance's Grandmother)
Lisa Connor
Crystal (Parent from Ms. Pethel Class)
Rose Dawson
Lisa Deane
Monica Golietiani
Beverly Garnes
Karen Grose
Marcus Hall
Mr. Kelly
Sean Link
Lori Matthews
Jay Matthews
Stephanie Scott Melynk
Myisha Morgan
Phillip Omohundro
Ronni Pearcy
Frank Sheffield
Derek Slater
Jennifer White
Earl Yates

I am very proud and honored to help coordinate this event over the years and even though it got a little hot yesterday the sense of community and love was palpable. Let's dedicate ourselves to keeping up the momentum for the 2010 to 2011 School Year.

--Charisse Brossard
PTA Fall Fest Coordinator

Box Tops for Education

- Go to www.boxtops4education.com to see list of eligible products and marketplace vendors
- Put Box Tops into Collection Box in Main Office.
- Shop through the Box Tops Marketplace when doing on-line shopping.



Mustang



Can you help us with the layout and design of the Mustang?

We're hoping you could take turns with our other design and layout parents through the end of the school year.

If you can offer your talents, please get in touch with Communications Committee chair Richard McIntire at 829-9289 or at sescommcmte@gmail.com.



Student's Eye-View

Shepherd Elementary held its 7th annual Fall Fest on Sept. 24 from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Fall Fest was held outside but a book fair went on inside the school.

At Fall fest there was bungee jumping and a moon bounce. "The bungee jump was soooo fun," said Autumn Parrish, a fifth grader.

Tickets were sold to participate in the games, which raises extra funds for student programs.

At the book far, there were many books to review. Book marks, stuffed animals, small notebooks and posters were available for purchase.

Each class had an activity table at Fall Fest. At one table children could make candy necklaces. At another, an artist placed henna tattoos on waiting children. There was also spin art and a chance to win a pet goldfish at other tables.

Fall Fest goes ate Ledo's Pizza, hot dogs, chicken, fruit snacks and lots of sweets! Ice pops, airheads and ring pops were favorites. Students also volunteered to run the cotton candy machine.

The Fall Fest and book fair were two great events we've had so far this school year.

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

--Compiled by Emahni Grant, 5th grade

Have It Your Way: Mustang On Paper or Online



Last year, the PTA offered an opt-in on the Mustang, meaning that you had to ask for it to be put into your child's backpacks. This year, based on a show of hands at last week's Back to School Night, we'll offer an opt-OUT system. This means you pledge to read the Mustang online every week, either at the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, or in the "Files" section of <http://groups.yahoo.com> (look it up under "shepherd_elementary_pta") and look for the folder named "Mustang 2010-11"; there are automatic notifications each week on the listserv, too.

Look for the coupon in this week's paper (page 11) if you want to take the pledge. You'll do your part to reduce, reuse and recycle.

An Invitation to Participate in Shepherd History

Each academic year proves to be an exciting time for the Shepherd family. We continue to work to make Shepherd Elementary a stellar school for our children, and to implement many changes to strengthen our commitment to our school. The "Brick by Brick" Program is one of many important initiatives taking place this school year. I invite you to take part in "Brick by Brick," the engraved brick paver program which provides the Shepherd family an opportunity to participate in shaping Shepherd Elementary for future generations. Through this program, you can have your name or the name of a loved one (i.e., your child -- whether currently enrolled or a Shepherd alumnus) engraved on a brick in the entry and walkway which lead to the school's entrance. The sale of the pavers endows programs sponsored by the school's PTA and funds will be designated to our most critical initiatives.



Please take this important opportunity to become a living part of the tradition and spirit that is uniquely Shepherd Elementary. Your support of this initiative is tax-deductible.

--Lawanda Tyus



HEALTHY RECIPES COOKBOOK TO FEATURE YOUR FAVORITES

The PTA's fundraising committee is assembling the first-ever Shepherd Elementary Cookbook. This will be a collection of healthy and kid-friendly recipes contributed by you and your family members. Please drop off a copy of your favorite recipes in the office! Make sure to note your child's name with the recipe. All recipes must be submitted by September 30!

**School website:**

www.shepherd-elementary.org

Join the PTA listserv:

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

Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

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

To post a message:

shepherd_elementary_pta@yahoogroups.com

To see the archives:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shepherd_elementary_pta

Weekly school newsletter: The Mustang!

Delivered each Monday in kids' backpacks. *Copy deadline each Friday at 5 p.m.*

The Mustang is also available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at www.shepherd-elementary.org.

To submit an item send to :

sesmustang@gmail.com

Twitter: Get fast-breaking Shepherd Elementary info by following *SESmessenger* at www.twitter.com

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, simple 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

The deadline for the October 4 issue is Friday, October 1, at 5 p.m. Send all contributions to:

sesmustang@gmail.com

You'll be glad you did!

Shepherd Elementary School



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

Support Shepherd PTA's





SHEPHERD IB PYP CORNER

The month of September is coming to a close very quickly. Next week is our week of reflection. As parents, teachers and students we will all take a moment to reflect on the Learner Profile trait of Caring and teachers and students will reflect on the current Program of Inquiry unit in the classroom. Parents, please be on the look out for your reflection sheet coming home with your child this week. We ask that you take a moment to reflect on moments of caring gestures and/or behaviors that you've observed from your child at home. Please send the reflection sheet back to school for the teacher to complete their reflection about your child.

To highlight the month of September and to recognize those students who have demonstrated the Learner Profile trait of Caring, Shepherd Elementary School will be holding its first Recognition Assembly. The assembly will be on September 30, 2010 in our gymnasium.

Hispanic Heritage Month began on September 15th and will continue until October 15th. Hispanic Heritage was acknowledge by Congress in 1968 and was originally designated as a one week celebration beginning on September 15th. However, in 1988, the celebration was extended to 31 days, to include Columbus Day (Oct. 12th) ending on October 15th.

Here at Shepherd each classroom has begun marking and celebrating Hispanic month in numerous ways:

Pre-K and Kindergarten classes have begun listening to stories about Hispanic Heritage

1st Grade – through their Program of Inquiry Unit on “Map It”, have been learning about explorers and will be learning about the Spanish astronaut Pedro Duque

2nd Grade – has been learning about Christopher Columbus and will complete their study with a small play about Christopher Columbus. (More details to follow)

3rd Grade – has been learning about Cesar Chavez and the movement of Social Justice through their Program of Inquiry Unit on “Yes We Can”. This unit looks at systems of government around the world.

4th Grade – Students will be choosing a Spanish Personality and conducting an inquiry Research on that Person.

5th Grade – will be discussing the origins of Hispanic Heritage Month in relation to the natural resources of various Spanish speaking countries.

During October, the Learner Profile we will be focussing on is Inquirer. Have a Great Week!

Sandra Hart

IB Coordinator