



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

June 3, 2013



► **Friday, June 7:** *BWL & Strings Concert*, 6:45 p.m., auditorium

► **Monday-Friday, June 10-14:** *Spirit Week*

► **Tuesday, June 11:** *Shepherd's Got Talent*, 1:30 p.m., auditorium

School renovations community meeting, 6 p.m., auditorium

► **Wednesday, June 12:** *Math Explosion*, 6 p.m.,

► **Thursday, June 13:** *LSAT election*, 7:30-9 a.m. and 3-7 p.m.

PTA meeting, 6:35 p.m., auditorium

► **Monday, June 17:** *Field Day* makeup date

Cluster 4 Awards Ceremony, 6:30 p.m., Garrison School, 1200 S St. NW

► **Tuesday, June 18:** *Awards Day ceremonies*, 9 a.m. for PK-1, 10 a.m. for 2-4

Local School Advisory Team meeting, 4 p.m., library

Family Dinner Night, 5-9 p.m., Lime, 3100 14th St. NW

► **Wednesday, June 19:** *Fifth grade graduation*, 9:30 a.m.

► **Thursday, June 20:** *Moving Up Day*, 9-11 a.m.

► **Friday, June 21:** *Student Fun Day*

Last day of school, out at 12:15 p.m.

Consult the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, for a full array of events and happenings throughout the school year!

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd families!

Power Outage

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during Friday's power outage. There are some things in life which we have no control so we just embrace them when they occur and find a way to keep moving. Moving is what we did! Staff members reported to work on time and stood on the sidewalk until 9 a.m. greeting students and parents and informing them of the situation. In some cases, they monitored students, called parents and waited. In addition, though Field Day was rescheduled, many parents dropped off cases of water, bags of ice, coolers and fruit in anticipation of the new Field Day date. Thank you, Shepherd family, for working together to do what has to be done.



Field Day

The new date is Monday, June 17. Volunteers are still needed. Please stop by the main office to sign up or contact Mr. Burgess at jarrett.burgess@dc.gov.

And the Winners Are....

Fifteen parents registered their students between May 6 and May 10, and as promised these individuals were entered into a random drawing for a chance to win a \$25 Toys R Us gift card. The lucky students are: Imani Akers, Jamary Calhoun, ZaMara Martin, Nala Wise. Congratulations!

Registration Continues

Please take time to register your students for the 2013-14 school year. You do not need to complete the health forms at this time. However, all other documents, including residency verification, must be completed prior to students leaving for summer. If

(see PRINCIPAL, p. 14)



Hello, Shepherd Mustangs, this is London Downing reporting for the last time this school year.

Lately, everyone has been asking me about Geo-Plunge. GeoPlunge is club that learns different facts about U.S. geography. Last week there was a Spring Tournament Challenge. At the tournament all of our teams placed!

We had two intermediate teams and one advanced team. We had to play eight different teams in three games. The games were Guess the State, Race for the Borders, and Play the Ranks.

The advanced team with Colyar Trimble, Margaret Goletiani and Savannah Waymer came in seventh place. One intermediate team with Keshav Mehta-Harwitz, YoYo Kebede, and God-loves Tata came in 10th place. My team, with Nicole Spriggs Moye, my brother Lyndon Downing and me, came in first place! Leela Mehta-Harwitz and players from other schools placed too.

This was a really cool way to learn facts about states and competing at the same time. We did it all because of Ms. Ulba and Ms. Thomas! You should join this or some other team or club at Shepherd next year. I had great experiences this year trying new stuff. Until next year, fellow Mustangs!

--London Downing, fourth-grader

Last Family Dinner Night of the Year at Lime Restaurant in Columbia Heights

The last week on the school calendar is approaching. And with it, the PTA's last Family Dinner Night of the school year.

For this trip, we'll go south into D.C. into Columbia Heights to Lime Fresh Mexican Grill at 3100 14th St. NW.

The date is Tuesday, June 18 – a fine time for families of fifth graders to celebrate their impending graduation the next day. The hours are 5-9 p.m. There's limited street parking, but plenty of available garage parking. Consider carpooling, or meeting up with the spouse and kids halfway between school and work at Lime.

Under Lime's "Give Back" program, the PTA will get 20 percent of your pre-tax tab. All you have to do is say, "I'm With Shepherd!" If

you've never been to Lime, some Shepherd parents who live nearby rave about the place. That's how we found out about it. And Lime is a sister to the Ruby Tuesday restaurant chain, so you know they're all about quality.

One more time: Let's pack the place!



**LAST ISSUE
JUNE 17!**

The last issue of the Mustang is June 17, two weeks from now. This makes it your last chance to say thank you, or farewell, or congratulations, or practically anything your heart desires. Why pass up such a great opportunity? Don't say we didn't warn you! Deadline for the June 17 issue is Friday, June 14, at 5 p.m. Please send all items to sesmustang@gmail.com.



Shepherd IB PYP Corner

The Fifth Grade Exhibition Presentation on the Theme "How We Express Ourselves" took place on May 30 and it was a great success. The central Idea was: "People's unique point of view is reflected through actions and decisions because of our differences." The Lines of Inquiry were: "the roles we play, cultural beliefs and values and ideas and creativity."

Our fifth graders wrote and performed several skits with the help of two Kennedy Center artists, Tom Minter and Cheryl Foster. The skits focused on issues of Freedom of Expression, Gender Equality, Misuse of Technology, Youth Violence, and Human Rights.

Thanks to those parents who attended, to our special guests from the International Baccalaureate Office and to Mr. Errick Greene, our superintendent for Cluster 4 schools. Students were grouped according to their interest which was as follows:

Freedom of Expression

Quentin Anderson-Watson
Margaret Goletiani
Anthony Harrison II
Tolani Smith
Savannah Waymer

Gender Equality

Lawrence Carvana
Jasmine Hopkins
Luke Jennings
Yewoinhareg Kebede
Alexander Kennison
Colyar Trimble
Mackenzie Whyte

Technology

Aanisah Hasan
Neiman Holton
Kaitlyn Hunter
Chandler Mabry
Julian Mitchell
Rasheda White

Human Rights

Gavin Rasmussen
Naomi Schuster
Emperor Campbell
Frank Sheffield
Bryce Smith

Youth Violence

Omari Clarke
Chase Cooke
Lyndon Downing
Carlitta Garrett
Tiffany Greene
Detroy Hudgens
Obed Johannes
Jordan Johnson
Gregory Jones Jr.
Alvaro Lopez

Awards Day will be on Tuesday, June 18 for students in Pre Kindergarten to Fourth Grade, and Fifth Grade Graduation will be on June 19.

The Learner Profile for the month of June is Reflective. A reflective person gives thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experiences. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning.

Reflection is important because without taking time to review our experiences and consider future effects, we are likely to repeat our actions in future situations. This can mean that we may repeat the same mistakes again. A reflective person gives thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experiences. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and their limitations in order to support their learning. Throughout the month of June, take some time to reflect.

Have a super week!

---Ms. Sandra Hart, IB coordinator

ANNUAL BWL & STRINGS SHOW FRIDAY

Watch Shepherd's talented singers, dancers and players under the tutelage of Mr. Giles and Mr. Velez go through their paces at the annual BWL & Strings Concert this Friday, June 7, starting at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium.

The "strings" part of the equation is more than just violins and guitars, as Shepherd's recorder players will also perform. And for the uninitiated, "BWL" stands for Black, White, Latino, celebrating the smooth groovin' and hard rockin' of hits from today and yesterday.

The concert is free, and it's a family favorite. Make it a point to come early to get a good seat!



Field Day Rescheduled to June 17

It's too bad that Friday's power outage caused school to be closed that day, because that meant that Field Day was wiped off the calendar. But the makeup date is now set for Monday, June 17, so please gear up for that.



Permission slips signed last week will be good for June 17 (if you forgot to sign one, see page 13), and so will the water and freeze-dried sliced fruit bought by the PTA. But if parents can supplement that with granola bars, yogurt, Gogurt, 100% fruit juice or other high-energy snacks, it will come in handy.

Remember the grade-by-grade color scheme for Field Day:

- Pre-K - **RED**
- K - **ORANGE**
- 1st - **ROYAL BLUE**
- 2nd - **RED**
- 3rd - **LIGHT BLUE**
- 4th - **YELLOW**
- 5th - **GREEN**

And remember to bring coolers and ice to help keep everyone cool.

If you can help monitor rides and activities, this too is great. A new signup sheet will be at the office and we'll have two weeks to fill up every square on the paper.

Please contact Mr. Burgess at jiburgess@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



In the final few weeks of school, we will learn about a few more musicians who have made significant contributions to our culture and society:

1. D.C.'s own Chuck Brown developed go-go using the syncopated rhythm of Latin percussion and his own form of jazz and blues. Chuck Brown and the Soul Searchers had a hit with "Bustin' Loose" and inspired dozens of other D.C. musicians to experiment with go-go.



2. Bobby McFerrin is a one-person musical success story. A classically trained jazz pianist, Grammy-winning pop singer ("Don't Worry, Be Happy"), solo body-percussionist, and orchestra conductor, Bobby McFerrin steps across all the boundaries, showing that musicians don't have to stay in just one genre.



3. Harry Belafonte has been a beloved musician and a social activist. Inspired by Paul Robeson, Belafonte used his fame and wealth to support rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement. Belafonte helped Quincy Jones and Michael Jackson create "We Are The World" to raise funds for famine relief in Africa. Now, in his 80s, Belafonte is working with incarcerated people to compose and perform blues and other songs as a method of rehabilitation. This year, the NAACP awarded Harry Belafonte its highest honor, the Spingarn Award.



June 10-14 – Spirit Week!

Monday, June 10th: Express Yourself. Show your personality through your dress. Have fun and be creative!

Tuesday, June 11: Be a Star Day. Dress up as your favorite movie or TV star or singer, and spend the day watching Shepherd students perform at our bi-annual Shepherd's Got Talent Show.



Wednesday, June 12: WaCkY WeDnEsDaY. Wear your clothes backward, put on different color shoes and socks, a mismatched outfit and accessorize with something wacky. Keep your eyes and ears open because it is going to be a Wacky Day at Shepherd.

Thursday, June 13: 1800s Day. Boys, make huge cuffs in your jeans. Girls, wear long dresses with aprons over them, tie books with a rope or a belt, bring your lunches in baskets -- and an apple for the teacher.



Friday, June 14: Pajama Party Day.

Wear your pajamas, bring your sleeping bag (or a pillow and a blanket) your favorite book and NON-electronic game to school.



Special Note: The classes with the highest percentage of students who participate in activities during the week will be invited to an Ice Cream Sundae party.



Cultural Arts Night Review

Shepherd's LSAT held its first Cultural Arts Night on Friday, May 24. We had several amazing performances from community residents as well as a Shepherd fifth grader. Beautiful art work was displayed as décor thanks to Ms. Michaud who worked with Ms. Riley and the Star Achievers Aftercare students to display various selections of artwork made from all Shepherd students around the auditorium. If you were not able to make it, here's what you missed:



Ms. Loretta Neumann, president of the Takoma Theatre Conservancy, played a medley of American Songbook standards for the audience. Prior to her selections, she provided an inspiring story of how she learned to play the piano. Mr. Brian Gray, a local children's storyteller, wowed the audience with a variety of memorable children's songs where we were all happy to sing along, and sang one sad old-timey song about Polio. Shepherd Elementary's very talented fifth grader, Gavin Rasmussen, played a solo piano selection for the audience. We closed the program with Ms. Carolivia Herron, local author and storyteller, who amazed us by taking us on a historical journey as she shared her story regarding the plight of her ancestors and migration to America over 200 years ago from her book titled "Always an Olivia."

What an amazing show! The LSAT would like to thank everyone who assisted. Special thanks to the teams that assisted and volunteered before, during and after the program: Garrett Alston; Nelson Alston; Kimberly Harrison; Kennedy Harrison; Mr. Giles; Mr. Velez; Ms. Riley and the Star Achievers Aftercare Program students; and Mr. Kelly and his team.

--Kesha Pendergrast, LSAT parent representative

ART CORNER

Dear Shepherd Family,

Yikes! It's June already and it arrived in a flash. This will be my last month as the art teacher at Shepherd, a job I have absolutely loved for the 16 years that I've been here.

Artistry lives on among our talented students. Many, many thanks go to Ms. Riley, aftercare guru, who volunteered to hang the scores of art pieces on display at the Cultural Arts Night. Also kudos go to artist/educator Cheryl Foster from the Kennedy Center for the Arts, who guided fifth-graders and me through creation of drop-dead wonderful costumes of CELLPHONES and the rest for the IB Exhibition Project. And, let's give credit to Mr. Giles for writing the multi-thousand-dollar grant which made it possible for Foster and playwright Tom Minter to work with us for months on the Exhibition.

Congratulations go to 4th graders Kemani Cash-Taylor, Denija Hudgens, and Jah'Mel West; to 3rd graders Changa Anderson and Leela Mehta-Harwitz; to 2nd graders Rashad Biddle, Cierra Barnette and Radha Tanner; and 1st graders Eyan White and Tsitsi Shabazz, whose artworks are on display at the DCPS Citywide Student Art Exhibition. You can see their works at the D.C. Commission on Arts and Humanities headquarters, 200 I Street, SE. Get over and see the wonders of art from Shepherd and the rest of the city's wonderful students.

And so the art fun goes on...

Remember, you gotta have ART!

--Ms. Joelle Michaud, Art Teacher
<http://teacherweb.com/DC/Shepherd/Art>

Order Schoolkidz Supplies Online

Last chance to order school supplies for the 2013-2014 school year!

The deadline has passed to turn in paper order forms. But online orders will be accepted



through Friday, June 14, all the way up to 11:59 p.m. Please visit www.shopttkits.com and enter Shepherd Elementary code 61006 to view the Shepherd-customized supply kits for each grade, pre-K through 5th grade, and to place your order. Be sure to order for the grade your child will enter next fall.

Supply kits will be delivered to the school and sent to your child's classroom prior to the first day of school. How easy is that?! This is not a fundraiser, just a perk. All savings from the bulk order have been passed along to Shepherd families. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Trimble, Shepherd's Schoolkidz coordinator, at kctrimble@mac.com.

Retirement Celebration for Ms. Michaud

Attention Shepherd Families and Friends: On Wednesday, June 12, Shepherd School will celebrate Ms. Michaud's retirement by having a special "Art Appreciation Day." You are invited to stop by the art room to say farewell to Ms. Michaud and show her how much you appreciate her. Individuals from the community can visit between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Please note that Mr. Giles is also retiring. However, he specifically requested that no celebrations be held on his behalf. Let's show our appreciation by honoring this request.



Shepherd Elementary School Election Guide 2013

Thursday, June 13

Following are candidate profiles submitted to the Mustang for the upcoming June 13 PTA and Local School Advisory Team elections.

PTA officers will be nominated at the PTA meeting to be held Thursday, June 13, starting at 6:35 p.m., in the auditorium. If there is a contested race for any office, blank ballots will be distributed, with filled ballots counted so that a winner can be announced before the end of the meeting.

LSAT elections, according to D.C. Public Schools regulations, must be conducted even where there are four parents running for the four available parent-representative positions to allow for the possibility of write-in votes.

No schedule has yet been set to conduct LSAT elections, but they will also be held on June 13. Voting in past years has taken place during the morning dropoff, the after-school and aftercare pickup, and the start of the PTA meeting to give parents the fullest possible opportunity to vote. Election aides are needed to sit by the ballot box and greet parents. If you can take a morning, afternoon, aftercare or evening shift, get in touch with Nominations Committee Chair Tabatha McNeill at tabatha.c.mcneill@gmail.com.

PTA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Sherilyn Pruitt

I would like to serve as the Shepherd Elementary School PTA president for the 2013-14 school year so I can build on the successes of the current PTA. In addition to raising funds for the school, I plan to emphasize parental involvement and community engagement. I have served on Shepherd's Local School Advisory Team for the last two years and served as the chair this past year. Additionally, I was the president of the parent organization at my children's previous school during the 2009-10 school year. My daughter is a rising fourth grader and I have a son who also attended Shepherd and now attends Alice Deal Middle School. If elected, I look forward to working with all interested parents, staff and community members.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Kyra Marshall

As candidate for Vice President for the PTA, I am able to offer a wealth of organizational leadership and development experience. As a former classroom teacher, I understand the importance of bridging the gap between the classroom, home, and school administration. As a program and project manager within the science and technology field, I would seek to find more STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) funding for the school. My previous community organization leadership experience

include being president of my local university alumni chapter, serving as national communications chair for my university's alumni association, and also serving as the reunion chair for my university's national alumni association. I have a passion for improving school environments through building collaborative relationships.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Eric Smith

No profile submitted.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Leonie Stephenson

I am Leonie Stephenson, candidate for the office of PTA recording secretary. This is my second time serving on the PTA and look forward to getting your support to serve as the recording secretary and continue the tradition from the past recording secretary, Laura Levine, of keeping you informed and current on matters that are of interest to you and your children at Shepherd. I think the role of recording secretary is very critical: the communicating of information helps to connect the PTA to the parents/teachers/students and likewise, the office allows for the parents/teachers/students to provide constructive feedback and suggestions to the PTA. On a personal note, my husband, Marcus Hall, and I have twins, Kofi and Amari Hall, who will enter the third grade next school year. I am looking forward to serving because I think we each can make a difference in enhancing and growing Shepherd even more. Go Mustangs!

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Laura Levine

I'm Laura Levine, candidate for the office of PTA corresponding secretary. I've spent the last two school years as recording secretary--you may have seen me at meetings frantically tapping away at my tablet--and since I've reached my term limit, I'm pleased to endorse Leonie Stephenson as my successor in that role. For me, though, I've enjoyed supporting Shepherd through the PTA so much, that I hope you will consider me for corresponding secretary this year. If elected, I hope to "modernize" the traditional corresponding secretary duties to a role that would better support communications with the PTA and among all of us at Shepherd. My husband Doug, my son Stephen (third grade next year) and I value the Shepherd community and the many wonderful friends we've made. I look forward to an opportunity to work with you again.

TREASURER

No announced candidates.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Kim Barnette

(co-candidate with Judith McCullough)

Kim W. Barnette, Ph.D., has served on the Shepherd PTA as the 2011-12 and 2012-13 Treasurer. She would like to continue serving the Shepherd school community and supporting the incoming Treasurer by serving as a co-Assistant Treasurer. Kim's mantra is integrity, accountability and quality. She will uphold these values as she records the financial donations, organizes deposits for the Treasurer,

and advises the Treasurer on budget matters. Kim and her husband Corey have been a part of the Shepherd community since 2007 when their rising 5th grader Kelci started Pre-K. Their daughter Ciera also began Shepherd in Pre-K and is completing the 2nd grade this year.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Judith McCullough

(co-candidate with Kim Barnette)

I'm Judith McCullough, candidate for the PTA Assistant Treasurer position (co-assistant treasurer with Kim Barnette). Last year, I was elected to the PTA board as the Assistant Treasurer working with the Treasurer to collect and record money from various sources such as the 180 Fund and fundraising events. If elected, I will continue to work with the Treasurer to ensure that all funds are accurately recorded. In addition, I'm interested in working with parents to help stabilize resources for the PTA so that we can better support our teachers and kids. I've been involved in the PTA since 2007 when my daughter, Cyntia Pattison, started Pre-K. Together with my husband, Mark Pattison, we have enjoyed being part of the Shepherd family and helping to strengthen our school.

LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

Vote for no more than FOUR (4)

Kamilah O. Martin-Proctor

I am a third-generation Washingtonian. My educational background is in Health and Organizational Communication. My professional experience crosses for-profit, nonprofit, government, and educational venues. I currently work at DOL in the office of Grants Management. I have two daughters: Madison Proctor, who is in Ms. Holt's class, and Kennedy Proctor, who is in nursery school at the Noble Learning Center. Prior to joining DOL I work at Howard University in its undergraduate and graduate programs under the Ralph Bunche international development center. I currently serve on The President's National Council on Disability, Howard University's Advisory Committee for Student Special Services and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, NYC -- Readers Advisory Panel for InsideMS magazine.

The reason I am seeking the opportunity to contribute to Shepherd is because I believe in the school. However, I see some gaps that I know I can help fill. Recently I have felt a decline in morale and communication as parents try to stay informed and make personal connections, but in this busy world how can we keep up? I would like to help reinstate morale through more open communication and re-affirmation of our partnership with each other. I want to help look at new tech models that might be able to help with communication, whether that is developing a Facebook page or more direct contact via phone or text; another possibility is using more web and phone-conferencing apps to give parents to be online if they cannot be there in person to be engaged. Parents need to stop feeling out of the loop and staff needs to stop feeling underappreciated and we all need to work together. That process may be hard. We may need to reassess our partnership. We may need to ask for more say-sos with DCPS. We may have to ask that not every question be answered with well its policy. I know it's not good to hear and I know it can't feel good to say. I want to contribute to more open communication and reestablishment of a better partnership for all parties.

Mark Pattison

My daughter, Cyntia, enters fifth grade at Shepherd next year. I've been busy at Shepherd during her time here, serving as Mustang editor, website moderator, PTA recording secretary (two years) and president (one year), and helping out with everything from the Gala to Jazz Night to the Loose Change Collection. I'm the current LSAT secretary and under the able leadership of LSAT chair Sherilyn Pruitt we helped get the Bike Rodeo going in April, sponsored last month's Cultural Arts Night, and continue to support the TV-Video Game Turnoff Club. I want to be able to continue the good work done this year on the LSAT into the year ahead.

Kesha Pendergrast

My name is Kesha Pendergrast. I am an involved parent of a future second grader at Shepherd Elementary and have served as a Parent Representative of the LSAT for one year.

Since we began attending Shepherd in Pre-K, I've been a classroom parent for two years and have volunteered each year for the Fall Fest to support the class; participated in Beautification Day; the annual Back To School Cookout; and served as the School Bank parent volunteer.

When I'm not busy contributing to Shepherd Elementary, I run my own management consulting firm where we focus on providing financial management services to various clients, primarily to the federal government. My husband and I also own a community based organization where we provide workforce readiness training, financial literacy and supported employment to youth ages 18 – 21 and adults in the Washington Metropolitan area includes those with disabilities.

I have a vested interest in seeing Shepherd Elementary continue to grow and thrive allowing all our children to be the best global representatives of the world. My family has several years remaining at Shepherd and being a part of the Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) will allow me to continue my contributions in helping to grow and improve our school and school community for years to come. It would be an honor to be voted as the next LSAT parent volunteer for the coming year.

Keith White

Keith White is a native Washingtonian and a graduate of Dunbar High School. He has a BS in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University and a Master's in Management from the University of Maryland's University College with a focus on Supply Chain Management and Organizational Development. He is an Account Executive at Johnson Controls, Inc. where he helps his clients maximize their building's environmental assets through technology and optimized manpower.

Keith has been involved with K-12 education since graduating from undergraduate school. He coached track and field for nine years at Dunbar, and acted as a mentor and tutor to many of his student-athletes. During the time his children attended Whittier Education Campus, he was an active member of the PTA and the chairman of the School Improvement Team (SIT). He helped the school secure a Phase 1 modernization and a badly needed cafeteria addition. Currently, Keith is a member of the Shepherd SIT and participates in many school activities. He also participates in the Ward 4 Educational Collaborative.

The skill sets he has developed through his various endeavors will be a good addition to the already strong LSAT.

Gala Report



Thanks so much to everyone who supported our annual signature fundraiser on May 18!! Preliminary reports indicate that our total revenue is \$30,948.00. This revenue was generated via ticket sales, sponsorships, advertisements, SEED donations, and auction purchases. Our expenses totaled \$8900.54. The breakout is as follows:

- ▶ Catering: \$5,496
- ▶ Auctioneer: \$900
- ▶ Printing: \$861.80
- ▶ Location rental: \$840
- ▶ Supplies: \$365.09
- ▶ DJ/Entertainment: \$250
- ▶ Decorations: \$187.65

This brings our total profit to \$22,047.46!! Congratulations to the entire Shepherd community.

I want to extend a BIG THANK YOU to the auction committee. They worked tireless hours to bring this wonderful event together and streamlined the expenses way under the set budget. I want to give a special shout-out to Lisa Connor, Christine Kithcart, Judith McCullough, Angela Anderson, Yasmin Lewis-White, Mark Pattison, Megan Giblin, Laura Levine, Yolonda Walden, Nicole Pethtel, Allison Boehm, Hollie Carter, Desmond Dunham, Toni Waymer and the many volunteers who helped out the day of the event to transform the Wilson High atrium into "Feria de Sevilla."

I want to especially recognize Toby Susse for his dedication to the auction. He is the master of our Maestrosoft auction software. For months leading up to the auction, he ensured that auction items and gala attendees were entered and registered correctly, patiently addressing any and all questions. He was behind the scenes throughout the night of the gala ensuring that auction bids were captured correctly and that folks went home happy with their winnings -- not to mention all of the post-auction reconciliation that he does to process

PTA MEETING JUNE 13

It's the last PTA meeting of the year -- but an important one, with officer nominations and elections for 2013-14, plus recaps of school and PTA activities from 2012-13.



The meeting date is Thursday, June 13. It starts at 6:35 p.m. The meeting will take place in the auditorium. There will be childcare in the auditorium, and food and water will be provided for both adults and children.

School starts on time ... so do PTA meetings!

credit cards and generate revenue reports. Thank you, Toby, for your talent and your time!!

As I have reached my term limit on serving as the Shepherd Elementary PTA treasurer (two years in a row), I strongly encourage one of the parents reading this report to ask yourself these three questions:

- 1) Do I have a strong sense of integrity, accountability and quality?
- 2) Do I want to provide community service at my child's school?
- 3) Do I know how to balance a checkbook, maintain a budget spreadsheet and make deposits at our local bank?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, then you should run for the position of 2013-14 Shepherd PTA Treasurer. I will be around next year to help you through the transition.

Muchas Gracias!

--Kim W. Barnette, PTA treasurer



Each year, Shepherd loses talented students and parents, but always finds new parents and students to take their place.

Here are just a few of the needs we know we'll have for 2013-14. The parents currently doing these tasks are happy to show you the tricks of the trade so that you can step in with much less anxiety. Think of it as an apprenticeship, but without Donald Trump's decibel level.

Mustang editor: Take turns with the current Mustang editor, who will show you the ropes in soliciting and editing articles, as well as writing them. There's no better elementary-school newsletter in DCPS, and we aim to uphold that excellence for years to come.

Mustang layout/design editor: Our talented Art Department is leaving after June, but she can fill in her successor(s) on how to find the right artwork to illustrate articles and assemble a jumble of stories (see above) into a lively publication.

PTA listserv moderator: Apprentice for a year under the guidance of the current moderator, who's got just one year left at Shepherd. The listserv is the backbone for parent-to-parent communication, and you'll be regarded as a hero.

Student Scoop reporter: We will have one opening for sure, and maybe two, for students who will be in fourth or fifth grade next year to write the Student Scoop for the Mustang. They'll also be published in the Northwest Current, which is distributed free in the city from Takoma and Petworth west

to the D.C.-Maryland border.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF: The boxes have already been ordered for Halloween; what needs to be done come October is to assure distribution to each classroom followed by regular pickup of filled boxes from the office in November. Counting the change is as easy as going to PNC Bank on Georgia Avenue!

Jazz Night Coordinator: Next year is the Silver Anniversary of Jazz Night. The coordinator acts as a liaison with the former Shepherd parent who started Jazz Night all those years ago and still books the talent. You also get to pester people to contribute to the potluck dinner and arrange for children's activities between sets or when they're too antsy to sit still and listen to jazz.

We'll offer more apprenticeships in the next issue of the Mustang. If you want to take a stab at any of these, send an email to Mark Pattison at [Pattison mark@hotmail.com](mailto:Pattison_mark@hotmail.com) and he'll put you in touch with the parent who's been responsible for doing that work now.

Big Yard Sale Next Weekend At School, In Neighborhood

The annual Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale sponsored by the Shepherd Park Citizens Association will take place next weekend, Saturday-Sunday, June 8-9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. both days.



There are great bargains to be had. Most years, more than 50 families have yard sales in the neighborhood. In addition, 14th Street outside Shepherd Elementary is lined from Jonquil to Kalmia full of tables of great deals. You may even spot some faces you know. You may even spot a knife sharpener there in his green truck.

If it rains on Saturday, then the yard sale will be Sunday only. For a list of sites, consult the SPCA's website, www.shepherdpark.org.

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

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FAMILY DINNER NIGHT



3100 14th St., NW
(in Columbia Heights)

Tuesday, June 18
5-9 p.m.



→ **SAY "I'M WITH SHEPHERD!"** ←
The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax bill!

"Delicious, freshly-prepared Mexican food"



<http://www.limefreshmexicangrill.com/>

Walking Field Trip Permission Form

As we approach the end of the year, Shepherd students will be participating in several activities that may take them to the lower field or to a location within a block of the school. To keep from having to send multiple permission slips, we are asking parents to sign this walking field trip permission form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. In order for your student to participate in end of year activities on the lower field or join their class on a neighborhood walk, we must have a signed permission slip from each parent.

Student Name: _____ Parent Name: _____

_____ I give my child permission to participate in activities on the lower field or in the immediate neighborhood (within one block of the school) effective now until the end of the year.

_____ I do not give my child permission to participate in activities on the lower field or in the immediate neighborhood (within one block of the school) effective now until the end of the year.

Parent Signature: _____

_____ Date

PRINCIPAL from p. 1_____

your student(s) will be attending another D.C. Public School, please take your forms to your student's new school. In addition, if your student will not be returning to Shepherd, please let Ms. Brooks know. The earlier we register, the sooner we can fill vacant seats, group students into classes and assign them to teachers.

Last Days of School: Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home with students or given to parents on the last day of school. If you know that your students' last day will be before the official last day of school, please inform your child's classroom teacher in advance so that they can prepare your students' belongings prior to their last day.

Walking Field Trip Permission Form

As we approach the end of the year, Shepherd students will be participating in several activities that may take them to the lower field or to a location within a block of the school. To keep from having to send multiple permission slips, we are asking parents to sign a walking field trip permission form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher no later than Tuesday, June 4. In order for your student to participate in some end-of-year activities on the lower field or join their class on a neighborhood walk, we must have a signed permission slip from each parent. If you completed this form at the start of the year, we ask that you would take a moment to complete it again. Copies are available in the main office and on page 13.

Spirit Week: June 10-14

Spirit Week will be held during the week of June 10. Each day students will be encouraged to participate in various fun activities. At the end of the week, classes with the highest percentage of student participation will be invited to an Ice Cream Social. A list of Spirit Week activities can be found on page 5.

Have a great week!

Jamie B. Miles
Principal

THE SIT-uation ROOM

You are cordially invited to the June 11 community meeting to discuss the renovations at Shepherd Elementary. Representatives from the architect, the contractor, the public school system, the city — and, of course, our own School Improvement Team — will be on hand to show blueprints of the work to be done this summer and next (and in-between), plus some before-and-after photos of previous improvements at other D.C. Public Schools buildings, along with some architectural renderings so you can judge for yourself how close the reality approaches the vision.

There will also be a FAQ (frequently asked questions) sheet as well as some presentation boards that you will be able to inspect up close and personal as to what kinds of materials will be used in different parts of the building.

As a School Improvement Team, we are bound and determined to get value out of every penny of the \$20.4 million the city has allocated for renovations in the current and coming fiscal years. And school families are our best allies in ensuring that the work gets done right the first time.

There will be time for questions and answers, and I'll be happy to stick around to answer even more questions after the meeting, which starts at 6 p.m. and will last about an hour.

If you've got questions now before the meeting, feel free to call me at 202-829-9289.

--Mark Pattison, School Improvement Team chair

Shepherd Elementary School

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