



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

HAPPY
Summer
HOLIDAYS



Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

June 16, 2014



Mark Your Calendars!

► Monday, June 16:

- Kite and Parachute Day, 9 a.m.—noon, Lower Field
- Family Dinner Night, 4-10 p.m, Ledo Pizza, 7435 Georgia Ave

► Tuesday, June 17:

- Awards Day, 9 a.m. (pre-K through first grade) and 10 a.m. (grades 2-5), Auditorium
- Showcase of Learning for Kindergarten-Fourth grade, 4-7 p.m., Auditorium

► Wednesday, June 18: Fifth grade promotion, 9:30 a.m., Auditorium

► Thursday, June 19: School Improvement Team meeting, 4 p.m., Library

► Friday, June 20:

- Deadline to order SchoolKidz supplies
- Last day of school: Dismissal at 3:15 p.m.

► Monday, Aug 25: First day of 2014-15 school year (sorry!)

► Saturday, Oct 4: Fall Fest (not sorry!)

(Go to <http://www.shepherd-elementary.org/ses-calendar/> for a month-by-month listing of dates and events)

From the outgoing PTA President

Dear Shepherd Families, Staff and Friends,

Thank you for all you have done to support Shepherd Elementary School this year. I think we've had a lot of fun and built new relationships while raising funds for the school. Some of the highlights this year were the Teddy Bear Picnics, the Back-to-School Cook Out, the Fall Fest and Book Fair, the 25th Anniversary of the Shepherd Jazz Night, and the Annual Gala. Additionally, the Family Dinner Nights were lucrative as well as delicious. Also, a big shout out to all of the people who

(see PTA President, page 2)

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd Families,

The entire building is busy completing final assessment tasks and packing up their spaces for summer modernization work.

Despite the long winter, the year has flown by rather quickly and It is hard to believe another school year is about to come to an end.



Summer Slide

The summer is a time to rest and have fun . However, please do not forget to engage your student in daily educational activities. Each student will receive a summer work packet that includes reading and math activities for their rising grade. Please take time to work with your student and help them get a "jump start" into next school year. Students who complete their work packet will be recognized at the start of the school year.

Modernization

Building modernization will continue this summer; therefore Shepherd will once again be relocated to Takoma Educational Campus. Our phone and fax number will remain the same. Our office hours will be from 8:00 until 4:00 so please do not hesitate to stop by or call if you have questions or you need to submit any of the required paperwork.

Registration

Registration deadlines have come and gone. I wish to thank each of you who registered your students prior to the deadline. This helps us tremendously with planning and preparing. **If you have not registered please do so before**

(see Miles, page 2)

PTA President _____ *cont'd from page 1*Miles _____ *cont'd from page*

bring you "The Mustang" every other week – it's the primary way of keeping all of us informed about what is happening at Shepherd. Your contribution, whether big or small, to Shepherd Elementary School and our student's well-being, has been sincerely appreciated.

As this school year draws to a close, I encourage you all to think about how you would like to get involved with Shepherd next year. We're already identifying volunteers to help with The Mustang, and we're looking for leads for the Teddy Bear Picnics which occur before school starts. If you are interested in helping out, feel free to contact me at sheriz6849@aol.com.

All the best,
Sherilyn Pruitt

Shepherd PTA President 2013 -2014

School Boundaries Meetings Are This Week at Takoma, Elsewhere

The upcoming community meetings about the school assignments and the D.C. Public Schools boundaries review process will be held in three locations throughout the city. One is quite close to us: Takoma Education Campus, 7010 Piney Branch Rd. NW, Thursday, June 19, 6–8 p.m. There will be breakout groups for parents whose kids are in feeder patterns to Wilson, Coolidge and Roosevelt High Schools.

At the meeting, participants will hear an overview of the proposed citywide policies and then break into one of three groups to discuss how policies would impact specific communities and schools. Each discussion group will focus on one high school and its corresponding proposed elementary and middle schools that feed into it.

If you can't make the meeting at Takoma, other meetings are set for Monday, June 16, 6-8 p.m., at Savoy Elementary, 2400 Shannon Pl. SE (nearest Metro station: Anacostia), and Tuesday, June 17, 6-8 p.m., at Dunbar High School, 101 N. St NW (nearest Metro stations: NoMa/ Gallaudet or Mt. Vernon Square) Be forewarned that their breakout groups will be to other high schools.

Childcare and light refreshments will be provided. Spanish interpretation is available at all meetings. Other languages are available upon request by calling 202-478-5738.

Thursday, June 19, 2014. We are at the point that if we do not begin hitting our summer enrollment targets, we will begin to lose teachers. Less teachers means larger classroom sizes. While I am confident each of you will register, this is something that cannot wait until the summer. IF YOU DO NOT REGISTER, SHEPHERD STAFF MEMBERS MAY LOSE THEIR JOBS! You may wait to submit your medical forms. However, all forms along with residency verification is needed this week.

Communication

There will be at least two summer mailings. One mailing will occur mid July while the second mailing will occur mid August. These mailings will include important back to school information, including teacher assignments, please be sure to check your mail. Teacher assignments will not be finalized until August.

Goodbye Mr. Burgess

Please join us in saying a final farewell to our PE teacher, Mr. Burgess. He will be leaving us this year to pursue his doctorate degree. His new home will be in the state of GA. Mr. Burgess will be missed tremendously; however, once a Shepherd family member always a Shepherd family member! We wish him much success in his future endeavors.

A calendar for the 2014-2015 School Year is not yet finalized; however, our annual Back to School Open House event will be held on September 17th. There may be a meet and greet with teachers in August; however, this will be contingent on our modernization completion timeline.

Thank you for a wonderful year and enjoy resting and making amazing summer memories!

Have a fabulous week!

Warmest regards,

Jamie Miles

Principal

Traffic Safety Report

So, how have we done as a group of parents in exercising traffic safety around Shepherd?

The quick answer: Better.

We're not perfect yet, by any stretch.

How have we done in making Shepherd a calmer and more polite area when it comes to the struggle between drivers, walkers and bicyclists? The proof is in the numbers.

Number of times a traffic cone was knocked down since Winter Break: Seven – just a bit over once a month. The last time it was done by a Home Depot delivery pickup truck.

Repeat offenders: Plenty, sad to say. We could publish the license plate numbers in the Mustang, but what good would that do? Everybody has an excuse. Amazingly, though, the vast majority of parents driving their children to school manage to drive and stop safely and responsibly. And in many cases, telling somebody once was enough to bring about a change in behavior. There has been a lot of parent self-policing, where parents in their cars will point out a driving mistake to another driver without using their horns. And those drivers wave back using all five fingers!

But some folks don't seem to realize that, in the interest of getting their children as close to Shepherd as humanly possible, they are putting other students at greater risk when they can't walk across the crosswalk, or see in front of an SUV or even a "cute-ute" to look both ways for traffic. And some people never seem to learn. Just last month, one parent had his car parked on 14th Street for an hour in the afternoon during the "NO PARKING 8AM-4PM" period.

The most common traffic violations: Blocking the crosswalk to let off students; leaving your car in a NO STANDING zone; standing in the NO PARKING zone. There were also a few drivers who ignored the stop sign at 14th and Jonquil, and some drivers who made some bizarre three-point or five-point U-turns in that intersection.

Belligerent parents: Four. These are the parents who must think that the rules don't apply to them, or that if someone tries to apply the rules, they'll get some friend or relative in MPD to void the ticket.

Rate of improvement? Considerable. In the first weeks of school, there would be two or three parents a day doing dumb things in their cars. By Memorial Day, that number was down to two or three a week — although there has been an uptick in June.

So who will emerge as the role models for next year, when a new group of pre-K students start attending Shepherd — not to mention the school's first-ever classroom of pre-K/3 students? Will it be the bad, devil-may-care drivers, or will it be the courteous, conscientious drivers? The choice is up to US.



LSAT Update

Shepherd's Local School Advisory Team actually sat back and congratulated itself on a job well done over the past year when it met last Wednesday. Ours is a truly activity-filled school. The LSAT identified more than 40 different activities that take place around Shepherd, and the LSAT was able to make a measurable impact with the vast majority of them, thanks to our FUFT list (Follow-Up/Follow-Through). The activities that went by the wayside were in the single digits.

The next LSAT meeting, with newly elected parent and teacher representatives, will take place on a date and time yet to be determined at Takoma Education Campus, where the year-round staff will be over the summer as Shepherd continues its renovations.

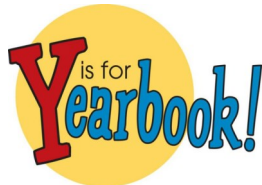
School Improvement Team

The June 4 School Improvement Team meeting was postponed to this coming Thursday, June 19, at 4 p.m. in the school library. If there was ever a last chance to make suggestions for fixes and adjustments to last summer's renovations, now is a

good time to do it! If you have any questions about the School Improvement Team's work, or about renovations at Shepherd, get in touch with Mark Pattison at either 202-829-9289 or Pattison_Mark@hotmail.com.



You Can Still Order Your Shepherd Yearbook Online



If you didn't purchase a yearbook yet, you still have a chance to get a copy and personalize it with your two free pages (optional). Here's how it works:

You'll get two pages printed in your copy of the yearbook, absolutely free, to personalize with your own photos. You can add photos directly from Instagram, Facebook and your phone.

Be sure to personalize your pages before buying the book.

Your copy of the yearbook will be shipped directly to your home address. The price of the book is the same, you'll just have to pay a small fee for shipping.

Buy your book now by clicking or copying and pasting the link below into your browser:

[http://www.treering.com/validate?
PassCode=1013930010262632](http://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1013930010262632)

If you need any help or would like to order a non-custom book by phone, please call TreeRing at 877-755-8733 and follow the prompts for a student or a parent request, or e-mail support@treering.com.

Star Achievers News

To all before- and aftercare parents:

YES, we are open every day school is open. On Friday, June 20, we are open for before- and after-care!

And, yes THANK YOU to all those who make our program possible, all the Star Achievers and Shepherd Elementary staff, the building crew and parents. We really appreciate the opportunity to help your students come together to learn and play.

Have the best summer ever.

--Ms. Claire Riley, program director



In this space, we are saluting our Shepherd students who took first lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative to heart and participated in one or more of our sports teams over the past year. They were very successful in their "field" of endeavor!

Boys' Basketball: Marcus Blunt, Jamary Calhoun, Domonique Cherry, Spencer Friddle, Weldon Genies, Wynston Jones, Johnathan Jennings, Darius King, Keyshawn Lee, Jay Matthews, Caleb McCoy, Taye Moss-Suggs, David Okechukwu, Danny Page, Ethan Reece, Kahlil Slater, God-loves Tata.

Girls' Basketball: Jocelyn Bostic, Joyce Chirambo, London Downing, Dakota Innis, Zoe McCullough, Leela Mehta-Harwitz, Victoria Newson, Deborah Okechukwu, Imani Thomas, Courtney White.

Cheerleaders: Shaina Adams, Kelci Barnette, Raya Bing, Khirah George, Amanda Glover. Aaliyah Hatten, Jamillya Henry, Denija Hudgens, Renata Mills, Taylor Parales, Deja Page, Aminata Sissoko, Nana Sissoko, Ilesha Thomas, Peyton Wood, Mackayla Wright.

Flag Football: Alex Cadet, Spencer Friddle, Weldon Genies, Johnathan Jennings, Keonte Jones, Darius King, Jay Matthews, Caleb McCoy, Taye Moss-Suggs, David Okechukwu, Danny Paige, Ethan Reece, Kahlil Slater, Godloves Tata, Jah'Mel West, Benjamin White, Caleb Wilson.

Kickball: Jocelyn Bostic, Domonique Cherry, London Downing, Allison Holmes, India Mickey, Jay Matthews, Keshav Mehta-Harwitz, Leela Mehta-Harwitz, Taye Moss-Suggs, Deborah Okechukwu, Danny Page, Yonatan Shewangzew, Adam Thomas, Ezienne Ukaegbu, Bryan Wilson.

Track and Field: Shaina Adams, Jocelyn Bostic, Joyce Chirambo, Fahari Dominique, London Downing, Spencer Friddle, Weldon Genies, Jasmine Greene, Allison Holmes, Dakota Innis, Wynston Jones, Johnathan Jennings, Gregory Kennison, Miliki Lee, Jay Matthews, Caleb McCoy, Leela Mehta-Harwitz, Kayla Muir, David Okechukwu, Kahlil Slater, Yonatan Shewangzew, Ilesha Thomas, Imani Thomas, Ezienne Ukaegbu, Jah'Mel West, Caleb Wilson, Tony Wilson.

Congratulations to Our Fifth Graders!

Congratulations to our fifth graders, who are spending their last days at Shepherd this week. Some have been Mustangs for just one year, while others have been at Shepherd ever since their days in pre-K with Ms. Holt or Ms. Gibbs!

The promotion ceremony for our fifth graders is this Wednesday, June 18, at 9:30 a.m., in the school auditorium. It will be a festive — but very crowded! — affair. Refreshments will be served in the auditorium vestibule after the ceremony; our fifth graders get first crack at it!

For all interested, a group of Shepherd families — the head count was 40 as this issue went to press -- dare heading to Mi Rancho, the Tex-Mex restaurant in Silver Spring (8701 Ramsey Ave. at Cameron St., behind the Taste Diner), for a celebratory lunch. If you want to be part of this celebration, get in touch with Mark Pattison ASAP at either Pattison_mark@hotmail.com or 202-829-9289 so he can inform the restaurant of the size of our party and Mi Rancho can have enough servers and cooks on hand to accommodate us.



Ms. Thomas' Class

Jocelyn Bostic
Joyce Chirambo
Miles Davis
Khirah George
Jasmine Greene
Mia Heyward
Julien Kearns
Gregory Kennison
Aniya King
Temwa Makumbi
Taylor Paraless
Haley Romero-Menendez
Caleb Schuster
Adam Thomas
Imani Thomas
Aja Topps-Harjo
Bryan Wilson

Ms. Hamer's Class

Malik Belmar
Kayla Boyde
Jamarly Calhoun
Victoria Carter
Spencer Fridie
Denija Hudgens
Keonte Jones
Ernestine Lwangu
A-Mei Nickens
Heidi Nikiema
Cynthia Pattison
Ethan Reece
Godloves Tata
Cydni Taylor
Jah'Mel West
Tony Wilson
Makayla Wright

Mr. Leonard's Class

Alexandra Abebe
Kelci Barnette
Alexander Cadet
Kemani Cash-Taylor
Domonique Cherry
London Downing
Chanelle Haynes
Allison Holmes
Darius King
Keyshawn Lee
Jay Matthews II
Caleb McCoy
Zoe McCullough
Taye Moss-Suggs
Danny Page
Madison Swanson
Courtney White
De'anna Williams



Still Looking!

We're still looking for a parent or two who knows — or is willing to learn — the ins and outs of Microsoft Publisher who can help with production of the Mustang next year. If you can serve as part of the Mustang team, welcome aboard! Just get in touch with Carmen Rush at Carmen.maxine@yahoo.com and she'll help you get the lay of the land!

Early Readers Are Early Leaders!

Here are the names of the adult volunteers who have given their time over the school year to help young Shepherd students master the art of reading. They are very, very worthy of our thanks!

Joyce Batipps

Shelley Brazier

Anita Finkelstein

Rita Goodenow

Jackie Holt

Alex Humphries

Ruth Jordan

Dana Ju

Altomease Kennedy

Susan Learmonth

Valerie Mann

Martha Mitchell

Monroe Newman

Margie Odle

Cynthia Prather, co-coordinator

Carol Randolph

Arthur Sheekey

Kathleen Sheekey, co-coordinator



Let's Go to Ledo's Pizza!

Monday is our last Family Dinner Night of the school year, so we saved the best for last. Let's all head to Ledo Pizza, 7435 Georgia Ave. after school on Monday, June 16. The Family Dinner Night starts at 4 p.m. and runs all the way to 10 p.m., when Ledo closes for the evening.



The PTA gets 20 percent back from your pre-tax tab, so enjoy pizzas, pastas, salads and sandwiches until your heart's content.

You can order in person, or you can order pickup by calling 202-726-5336 and saying "I'm With Shepherd!" Now, for pickup orders you can also go to www.ledopizza.com and order online! Be sure to pick the Georgia Avenue store and just prior to hitting the submit order button type SHEPHERD in the 'Order Name' name box.

Ledo Pizza has been fantastic to Shepherd throughout the years: Not only the Family Dinner Nights (now twice a year!), but by their annual sponsorship of the Gala, providing discounted pizzas for Fall Fest, delivering pizzas to PTA meetings, and even donating cleaned-out tomato sauce cans so music students can make their own djembe drums. Now it's our turn to repay the favor.

Let's pack the place!

Shepherd Has Even More GeoPlunge Winners!

Shepherd had two prize-winning GeoPlunge teams in last month's city-wide competition.

Taking first place in their group was the team of London Downing, Keshev Mehta-Harwitz and Godloves Tata.



Winning third place in their category was the team of Leela Mehta-Harwitz, Jean Pierre Roberts and Jonathan Jennings.

Congratulations to them, and thanks also to Ms. Ulba and Ms. Thomas for all their efforts in preparing our teams!

Shepherd Park Picnic June 22

The Shepherd Park Citizens Association's annual summer picnic takes place Sunday, June 22, 2-5 p.m., on the grounds of Lowell School, across 16th Street from Shepherd Elementary.



One thing the SPCA picnic organizers have requested of our parents is to monitor the moon bounce that will be at the picnic. There is already one non-parent volunteer, but he can't be expected to do all three hours by himself. Since parents seem to make the best monitors, if you can pitch in for a half-hour, an hour or even more, please let Beth Allaben know at beth.dc@Verizon.net.

It's Friday!



If you have any questions, please contact Shepherd parent Katherine Trimble at kctrimble@mac.com.

TV/Video Game Turn-Off Club: Nelson Alston, Kyle Bowman, Gabrielle Brown, Weldon Genies, Chyna Holloway, Awa Kanta, Asanatou Kanta, Emma Laudadio, Marshall Lewis, Coruan Nunn, Sarah Rice, Damari Smith, Cydni Taylor, Aja Topps-Harjo, Yeternity Williams.

Afterschool Specials

Sometimes, girls (and boys) just wanna have fun. Shepherd offered a wide array of extracurricular activities that engaged our children and left them wanting more.

BWL Band/Singers/Dancers/Crew: Kelci Barnette, Jocelyn Bostic Jamary Calhoun, Miles Davis, London Downing, Khirah George, Allison Holmes, Grace Kao, Jay Matthews, Zoe McCullough, Taylor Parales, Cyntia Pattison, Ethan Reece, Aileen Santacruz, Madison Swanson, Cydni Taylor, Ilesha Thomas, Aja Topps-Harjo, Ezienne Ukaegbu, Courtney White, Makayla Wright.



Comic Book Club: Nivel Afrika, Aidan Alston, Lee Bruner, Micah Charles, Awa Kanta, Emma Laudadio, Brandon McIntyre, Kennedy Mack, Aaron Smith, Khari Wilson.

Double Dutch Club: Savannah Alexander, Marcus Blunt, Eva Doomes, Amanda Glover, Kayla Muir, David Okechukwu, Timia Snow, Nana Sissoko, Kahlil Slater.

Energy Patrol: Rashad Biddle, Nicolas Cater, Fahari Dominique, Dakota Innis, Haley Romero-Menendez, Tony Wilson.

First Grade Health Club: Chaunce Allen, Andrea Bolanos, Zion Banks, Autumn Cowsert, Aaron Curtis, Nia Dunham, Cailey Edmunds, Makhaila Elmore, Meley Ghermay, Taylor Joiner, Jewel Jones, Miles Johnson-Dean, Joyce Kao, Sydney Mabry, Zo'Mora Martin, Amari Mhooon, Kadar Muir, Jaylon Newby, Alexander Poole, Alexandre Ritter, Damari Smith, Noni Wise, Alexander Yemane.

Jewelry Making Club: Kayla Boyde, Autumn Cowsert, Joyce Kao, Kennedy Mack, Sydney Mabry, Carys Nelson, Farrah Richmond.

Safety Patrol: Victoria Carter, Lauren Curtis, Miles Davis*, Weldon Genies, Leela Mehta-Harwitz, Keshav Mehta-Harwitz, India Mickey, Cyntia Pattison*, Jean-Pierre Roberts, Caleb Schuster*, Cydni Taylor, Aja Topps-Harjo*, Benjamin White, Courtney White (* indicates fifth graders who showed up practically every day).

Tea Party Club: Jocelyn Bostic, Victoria Carter, London Downing, Jasmine Greene, Christopher Gomez, Kyle Jackson-Chang, Keonte Jones, Ernestine Lwangu, Temwa Makumbi, A-Mei Nickens, Heidi Nikiema, Yonatan Shewangzew. Cydni Taylor, Ilesha Thomas, Aja Topps-Harjo, Courtney White, Bryan Wilson, Caleb Wilson.

Yearbook Club: Jocelyn Bostic, Miles Davis, Aja Topps-Harjo.

Join the Listserv

Just because school is ending for the summer doesn't mean school life goes into hibernation. Keep up with the PTA's listserv for vital updates throughout the summer.

If you're not already a member, you can subscribe by sending an email to shepherd_elementary_pta-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. In your request, mention your name and your child's name and grade.

To post a message, members can email shepherd_elementary_pta@yahoogroups.com. It's just that easy!



THE MUSTANG**FAMILY DINNER NIGHT****FAMILY DINNER NIGHT****FAMILY DINNER****Ledo Pizza**

7435 Georgia Ave, NW

(next to McDonald's between Geranium and Hemlock)

Monday June 16, 4-10 p.m.

→ **SAY "I'M WITH
SHEPHERD"** ←

The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax tab!

Check out the new menu items

www.ledopizza.com/menu**Good for Dine-In and Carryout (PH: 202-726-5336) www.ledopizza.com/menu****FAMILY DINNER NIGHT****FAMILY DINNER NIGHT****FAMILY DINNER****Ledo Pizza**

7435 Georgia Ave, NW

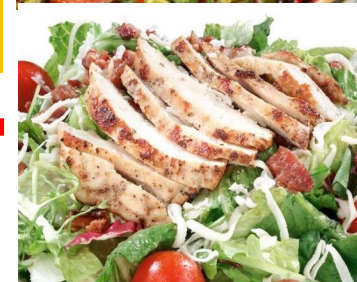
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Deadline for Next Mustang Issue

Fri, Aug 22 at 5 p.m.
Send all contributions to:

sesmustang@gmail.com

Shepherd School Pledge

Today is a new
day!

I will respect the
rights of others.

I will treat all
property with
respect.

I will take re-
sponsibility for my learning.

I will take responsibility for my ac-
tions.

I will act in a safe and healthy way.

Today I will be the best me I can
be!



Shepherd Elementary School Mission:

At Shepherd, we are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social and physical well being. We, as a community, will provide students with a safe, supportive, creative, and flexible environment in which children think and learn globally and act compassionately.

Shepherd Elementary School

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