



Shepherd Park News

A quarterly newsletter for the residents of Shepherd Park,
Colonial Village and North Portal Estates

SPCA Community Meeting:
Tues, Mar 11, 7 pm

2014 Vol., Issue 1

www.shepherdpark.org

MARCH/APRIL 2014

March Community Meeting to Focus on State Department Plans for Walter Reed

by Cynthia Prather

SPCA's upcoming community meeting will be Tuesday, March 11, at 7 pm at Shepherd Elementary. Building on recent news about the State Department's land acquisition at Walter Reed, we have invited representatives from the Department of State to discuss their plans for development of the approximately 43.5 acres that they will assume at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center. We also encourage residents to attend the public hearing on the Final Draft Plan on March 6, 6-9 pm.

In addition, we expect to hear a crime report from 4D and an update on Ward 4 happenings from Muriel Bowser's team. Of course, there will be the regular SPCA business — discussions of SPCA's May/June events (spring is our busiest

season), and opportunities to pay dues, raise issues, purchase t-shirts, and volunteer for service (see article below).

Various community organizations are offering forums to familiarize residents with the candidates running for mayor. As in previous years, SPCA will co-sponsor the forum organized by Neighbors, Inc., at Takoma Baptist Church on March 4. SPCA also has been invited to support the forum sponsored by the Chevy Chase Citizens Association. We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to hear the candidates in order to make a more informed decision in the April primary.

The SPCA Annual Membership Drive

by Cynthia Prather

The Shepherd Park Citizens Association is again recruiting members for its 2014 program year. Our initial call and mailing garnered a quick response, with more signing up at the potluck. We want to grow that number before the end of June. Membership in the SPCA supports our many programs that enrich community interaction and resources. Besides the annual potluck, picnic, and Halloween parade, membership dues support the newsletter and the website, beautification along upper Georgia Avenue and public spaces within SPCA's boundaries, our participation in the Federation of Citizens Associations and Federation of Civic Associations, and other activities. The SPCA partners with other local community organizations to advocate on behalf of District citizens for public services and to promote civic conversations like candidate forums. Our own SPCA community meetings draw District elected officials, city and police leadership, and many contingent business interests to the neighborhood to respond to our ideas and concerns.

We also take this opportunity to encourage you to give of your time. We need volunteers to help with the spring flower planting (May 10), the annual Garden Tour (May 18), the Yard

Sale (June 8-9), and the annual picnic (date is still being finalized). We need concerned neighbors to serve on the board.

Membership and participation in SPCA ensures a continued voice and coordinated action in support of this historic DC community. We invite all of you to join the SPCA for 2014. If you have already sent in your form, talk to your neighbors and encourage them to join as well (use the membership envelope inserted in this newsletter).

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Kalmia Road Bridge/Culvert

by Amy Eisner and Ed Atkins



Photo by Beth Allaben

Kalmia Road Bridge and culvert construction

Shepherd Park residents, commuters, and others will continue to have to find another way to traverse Rock Creek Park for the next few months. The District Department of Transportation reports that the recent weather put the project slightly behind schedule.

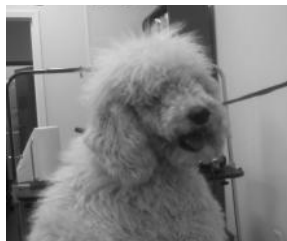
Kalmia Bridge has been closed

for three months now, and work is well underway. A sturdy temporary pedestrian bridge is in place from which you can view Fenwick Creek, the culvert, and other structures ordinarily buried beneath the road. The last word is that, barring weather delays, the new bridge will open in April 2014.

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Contact the Editors!

Whether it's a letter to the editor, info on community event, or an ad, we'd love to hear from you!

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Shepherd Park and Field

by John Pilznienski

Photo by Andrie R. Carley



Shepherd Park Playground

The new and improved Shepherd Park and Field have been in place for over two years now. They have provided a fantastic place for neighbors to gather, socialize, and play. Children love the playground, adults appreciate the picnic shelter and tables, the soccer field is frequently used, and the exercise equipment and jogging track have been a real treat. The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) maintains the space and is responsible for renting out the picnic shelter in the playground area, as well as the field.

To find out more information about renting either the picnic shelter or the field, go to <http://app.dpr.dc.gov/permits/> and click on "Shepherd Park Parksites" for the picnic shelter or "Shepherd Park Field" for the field. (Note that DC Stoddert Soccer has the field reserved year-round on Saturdays from 8 am-2 pm, and on Sundays from 10 am-4 pm.)

There is also the Friends of Shepherd Park

Recreation, a non-profit organization with the mission of engaging the Shepherd Park community and working with DPR in enhancing, maintaining, and beautifying the park and field. The Friends Group's website is www.thefspr.org. The Friends Group is currently working with DPR to install extra trash cans and/or recycling cans at the park and field. If you see something at the park or field that needs attention, or if you want to join the group, please send an email to fspr@yahoo.com


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Shepherd Elementary School: Annual Gala, Renovations, IB Program, and Family Night Fundraisers

by Mark Pattison



Photo by Kodjo Chantia

New Shepherd Elementary School library

Save the date: Shepherd Elementary's Tenth Annual Gala is Saturday, March 15, at 6 pm in the renovated atrium of Wilson High School, 3950 Chesapeake Street NW. We'll have a Moroccan theme this year. Tickets are \$50, and the evening's auction and SEED (Shepherd Elementary Education Dollars) contributions are the biggest fund-raisers of the year. For details, contact Kate Woods at kateandmama@yahoo.com.

Speaking of renovations, Shepherd's renovation work continues. The old library and some administrative offices are now construction sites, and a new library has been completed. By summer's end, all Shepherd classroom and office space will be renovated and fitted with a sprinkler system. In summer 2015, exterior work will result in a new atrium and a signature entrance.

Come August, Shepherd's expansion will allow it to start educating children in pre-K/3. It's welcome news, but it's also

a reminder to practice traffic safety around the school!

Shepherd's status as an International Baccalaureate School is a big draw for families in and beyond our neighborhood. What can enhance the curriculum is the personal touch. A classroom of students would benefit from you speaking from your experience in any of these roles, including: performer, storyteller, firefighter, police officer, banker, grocery clerk, grandparent, meteorologist, scientist, politician, person of interest, nurse, doctor, artist, musician, dancer, construction worker, architect, community helper, government official, embassy worker, actor/actress, singer, professional athlete, war veteran, lawyer, judge, and/or author. If you fill the bill, get in touch with our IB coordinator, Sandra Hart, at Sandra.hart@dc.gov.

Our popular Family Dinner Nights continue. Say "I'm with Shepherd!" and the PTA gets 20% back from your order. Upcoming Family Dinner Nights include Tuesday, April 29, 11 am -10 pm at Franklins, 5123 Baltimore Avenue (Route 1) in Hyattsville, and Monday, June 16, 4-10 pm, at everyone's favorite, Ledo Pizza, 7435 Georgia Avenue NW.

Lowell School Renovates Parkside Building for Middle School Students

by Ed Atkins

Lowell School, with its bucolic setting and distinctive architecture, is one of the most prominent features of our community. It defines and provides a unique sense of place to the greater Shepherd Park area.

Like any viable institution, Lowell continues to grow. Construction is on schedule on the Parkside Building, near 17th Street NW, which will house its middle school. The building, constructed in 1949, is being extensively renovated and upgraded for use this September. Key features in the state-of-the-art facility will include a "black box" theater with flexible space for student productions, a spacious library, a dedicated band room, an art suite and wordworking shop, and a living roof.

The renovated building will provide a rich learning environment for around 60 students when it begins classes. It has a maximum capacity of around 90 students.

"We will continue to work cooperatively with the community during and after construction," said Douglas Odom, Associate Head of School and CFO at Lowell. For more information, visit the expansion page on Lowell's website: www.lowellschool.org.

The Magic of Morocco

**2014 Gala to Benefit
Shepherd Elementary
School**

**Saturday, March 15
6-10 pm**

**Wilson High School Atrium
(3950 Chesapeake St, NW)**

**Cocktails, Dining,
Entertainment, and
Silent & Live Auctions**

\$50 per person

**Buy tickets online at
shepherd-elementary.maestroweb.com**



Corrections

As a matter of policy, all errors of substance are corrected in the next issue.

To report an error, contact

André R. Carley at shepherdparknews@gmail.com
or 202-813-3152.

Catholic Middle School for Latino Boys Expands Offerings and Community Service

by Ralph Blessing

San Miguel, the middle school for Latino boys first featured in the December 2009 issue of the *Shepherd Park News*, has seen a steady climb in enrollment at its Georgia Avenue facility. The 2013-14 6th grade class is its largest ever, as will be the number of 8th graders graduating this year.

David Palank, a longtime teacher at San Miguel, became the new principal at the start of the school year. He succeeds founding principal, Brother Francis Eells, who was reassigned to Manhattan College in New York. Mr. Palank outlined some of the school's recent initiatives.

One of them, the Stocks in the Future program developed by Johns Hopkins, promotes financial literacy by teaching students about investing and financial planning. Another is a curriculum for inquiry-based science as well as greater emphasis on computer technology. In addition, the school has moved to expanded classroom time for both math and language arts.

Outside the classroom, San Miguel is instituting a parental advisory council to both involve families in the school's decision-making process as well as to better foster and facilitate the volunteer activities that offset some of the students' tuition costs. One of the student volunteer efforts this year was the collection of food and paper products for the Little Sisters of the Poor's program to aid impoverished senior citizens.

Kids Village Learning Center Celebrates One Year Anniversary in Shepherd Park

by Ed Atkins

The Shepherd Park community is fortunate to have an abundance of resources nearby. One of the more recent arrivals to our neighborhood is the Kids Village Learning Center, located in the Washington Ethical Society building, 7750 16th Street NW.

The center, which opened its doors to the public a year ago, provides comprehensive day care for kids ranging in age from eighteen months to five years of age. The school currently has 13 students, with a capacity for 18.

A key feature of this school is its extensive Spanish language training program. The instructors are all native Spanish speakers, and the little tykes under their charge pick it up readily.

According to Tamara Williams, the center director, the student body reflects the neighborhood's rich diversity. Most of the students live within a mile radius of the facility, she said.

For more information about openings, contact the center at info@kidsvillagelearningcenter.com

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SPCA Potluck Provides Warm Welcome to the New Year!

article by Ed Atkins and Cynthia Prather, photos by Ralph Blessing



More than 100 neighbors and friends braved snow and freezing cold temperatures to attend SPCA's 10th Annual New Year's potluck at the Northminster Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 26. The food was delicious, the music was festive, and many people took advantage of the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new acquaintances. The newest residents in attendance and the neighbors in attendance who have lived in Shepherd Park the longest were recognized. Council members Bowser and Wells and City Council hopeful John Settles mingled with the crowd. Lots of fun door prizes were distributed.

Kudos to committee chair Rosalyn Coates for her leadership and the potluck committee members who supported her: Adrienne Antoine, Eddie

Cordone, Paula Sanderlin Dorosti, Christine Martin, Dan McDade, Sarah Gershman, Bonnie Randolph, Cheryl Teare Reed, and Doris Spruell. Thanks also to board members Ed Atkins, Josh Gorman, Rosemary Reed Miller, Cynthia Prather, and Tim Shuy, and to neighbor volunteers Alex Lopez, Sam Prather, and Regina Romero. Thanks to Dan McDade, representing Long & Foster, for drink donations and Whole Foods for a delicious snack platter. SPCA would also like to acknowledge the services of babysitters Brooke Milligan and Tijara Smith, and musicians Sam Prather and Dante Pope. Finally, we say thank you to the pastor and congregation of Northminster Presbyterian Church for opening their doors to us this year.



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What Is the Citizens Advisory Council?

article and photo by André R. Carley

From time to time a question comes up in conversation or on the multiple list serves I subscribe to:

“What the heck is the CAC?”

In summary, “The Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) is an advisory panel in each police district that provides the district commander with information and recommendations from the community on the public’s safety problems and police service needs.” For the complete definition go to www.dc.gov.

This definition just scratches the surface of what the CAC is really about. The CAC is about caring for the community and the quality of life of the citizens and businesses within its geographical boundaries.

Its meetings are very informative. Guest speakers are invited regularly and in the past have included members



CAC meetings are held at 4th District Headquarters

from the DC Council, the Mayor’s Office, and agency representatives. 4D Commander Kimberly Missouri routinely gives a report on 4D activity and answers audience questions.

Ron Austin, CAC 4D Chairman, emphasizes openness, transparency, and collaboration between the community and law enforcement to identify problems and bring creative solutions to bear. Chairman Austin also regularly meets with the Commander to provide

information and recommendations from the community on the public’s safety problems and police service needs. In addition, the CAC supports MPD youth programs, provides support for the Police Service Areas (PSAs) and coordinates with 4D Community Outreach. The CAC also holds special affairs such as the recently held Black History Month event and the joint CAC-MPD 4D biennial awards banquet.

The CAC meets at 7 pm every third Thursday (with the exception of July and August) at Fourth District Headquarters, 6001 Georgia Avenue NW. Yearly membership is \$5. For more information contact: Mr. Ron Austin at (202) 369-0331 or cac4d97@yahoo.com.

Note: The author is a member of the CAC 4D Executive Board.



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Upper Georgia Avenue! News

Walter Reed Development Project Is on the Move

by Steve Whatley, ANC 4A03

The Walter Reed Army Medical Center development project has seen a flurry of activity during the past few months. Three activities are highlighted here.

On November 5, Mayor Gray announced the selection of Hines-Urban Atlantic-Triden Joint Venture to exclusively negotiate with the District of Columbia to acquire the surplus portion of the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center site. Pursuant to the terms of the Request For Proposals, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) and the developer will negotiate to enter into an Exclusive Rights Agreement, which will describe the activities that the team will be required to do in preparation for, and as a condition of, entering into a Land Disposition Agreement with the District.

In addition, the 2013 Budget Support Act, Subtitle K recently established a new Walter Reed Army Medical Center Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to advise the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) and the Master Developer. The Committee includes representatives of the master developer, DMPED, the city council chairman, the Ward 4 Councilmember, ANC 4A and 4B, and the Brightwood, Shepherd Park, and

Takoma communities. I was elected to represent ANC 4A. (With one exception, the DC portion of the Walter Reed site is located in the SMD that I represent.)

On January 30, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) approval of the LRA's Homeless Assistance Submission and Reuse Plan was announced. HUD's approval clears the path for DMPED to negotiate an Economic Development Conveyance with the US Army to transfer the property, and enables the Army to complete the environmental assessment required under the National Environmental Policy Act in anticipation of the transfer and redevelopment of the site. I will keep the community advised as to major activities and CAC-scheduled meeting dates.

Welcoming the Georgia Avenue Dental Center

article and photo by Angela Martin

Let's all welcome dentists Dr. Vincent E. Smith Jr, DDS, and Dr. Kalfani Walker, DMD, to Shepherd Park! They worked for previous owners, Dr. Larry Lyles and Dr. Robert Jones, and the practice became theirs about a year ago. The additional staff consists of a manager, two assistants,



and two receptionists. This state-of-the-art general dentistry practice is conveniently located on Georgia Avenue, and the atmosphere is warm and friendly.

Dr. Smith is a graduate of Howard University Dental School and attended Takoma Academy, about five minutes away, so he is very familiar with the area. He enjoys that Shepherd Park is family-oriented and would like everyone to know that "you don't have to travel far to get good quality work."

Dr. Walker graduated from Howard University and is a graduate of Rutgers School of Dentistry. He states that their approach is "to get you to a better health state...and you will not be treated like a number."

Dr. Smith and Dr. Walker look forward to growing their practice and serving our community for years to come.

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Business Beat



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Visit www.shepherdpark.org for a list of all of our business and community members. We encourage our neighbors to check out their goods and services.

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Spring Fitness: Take a Walk!

Spring is the season when the weather starts to get warmer. Perhaps you've thought to yourself: "Since it is warmer outside, I should start exercising, but I do not know what to do." Well, look no further because I have the answer for you: walking. Dr. Oz, for example, suggests three major benefits of walking: 1. People who walk for 30 minutes every day have fewer heart attacks and strokes, have lower blood pressure, and have higher levels of healthy HDL cholesterol. 2. Walking increases your energy and helps you sleep better. 3. Walking can help sharpen your memory and ward off depression and anxiety. Take action today, and go outside for a walk! Don't forget to take a friend with you!

To find out more about how walking can benefit you, contact me at Move Well Fitness or visit my website to sign up for a free report on the five best exercises you can do from anywhere.

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Robert Freeman

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We offer additional services such as; art appraisals, art consulting, and framing. Open daily by appointment, without an appointment Friday & Saturday 12:00-6:00 P.M.

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Community Calendar

March-April 2014

At the Shepherd Park Library

Job Seekers Drop-In Clinic

Individualized help with cover letters, resumes, and job applications
Every Tues, 10 am-12 pm

Preschool Story Time

Stories, songs, rhymes, movement and more
Every Tues, 11 am, ages 0-5 and parents/cargivers

Used Book Room Sale, 11 am-1 pm
every Saturday

March

Tues, Mar 4, 7-9 pm

Takoma-DC Neighborhood Forum for Mayors & Council Chair Races
Takoma Park Baptist Church
635 Aspen St NW at Piney Branch Rd NW

Tues, Mar 4, 7 pm

ANC4A mtg, place to be determined

Wed, Mar 5, 7-9 pm

Parent Education Panel Discussion: Gender and Sexual Diversity
Lowell School, RSVP
parented@lowellschool.org

Thurs, Mar 6, 6:30 pm

Healthy Thursdays
Shepherd Elem Gym

Thurs, Mar 6, 6-9 pm

Foreign Missions Center Public Hearing- State Dept. Plan for Walter Reed

Tifereth Israel Congregation
7701 16th Street, NW,

Sun, Mar 9, 7-9 pm

The Ethical Parent: explore how to address anti-racism, gender identity, and death, Wash Ethical Soc'y

Sun, Mar 9, 10:30 am-3 pm

St Mary's Baptist Church Annual Officer's Day

Mon, Mar 10, 5-9 pm

Shepherd Elem PTA Family Dinner Night, Fire Station 1
8131 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring
Tues, Mar 11, 7 pm

SPCA Community Meeting

Shepherd Elementary
Wed, Mar 12, 7 pm

PSA 401 mtg, Sheperd Park Library
Sat, Mar 15, 6-10 pm

Shepherd PTA Gala/Auction

Wilson HS
3950 Chesapeake St. NW
Sun, Mar 16, 2 pm

Summer Camp at Lowell School Open House

1640 Kalmia Rd NW
For more information, visit
www.lowellschool.org or call (202) 577-2000

Wed, Mar 19, 7 pm

Concerned Neighbors, Inc. Comm. Ass'n mtg
Shepherd Park Library

Thurs, Mar 20, 7 pm

4D Police Citizens Advisory Council mtg, 6001 Georgia Ave NW

Sat, Mar 22, 10 am-6 pm

Shepherd PTA Book Fair
Politics and Prose, 5015 Conn Ave NW

Sat, Mar 22, 11 am-5 pm

Shepherd PTA Family Dinner Day, Comet Ping Pong, 5037 Conn Ave NW

Fri, Mar 28, 7 pm

St Mary's Baptist Church Union Prayer of DC

April

Tues, Apr 1, 7 am-8 pm

Primary Election
Shepherd Elem Gym (Precinct 62)

Thurs, Apr 3, 6:30 pm

Healthy Thursdays
Shepherd Elem Gym

Sun, Apr 5, 9 am-12 pm

Annual Rock Creek Extreme Cleanup
Starting from Kalmia Bridge,

East Beach Drive NW

Sun, Apr 6, 10:30 am, Wed, Apr 9, 7 pm

Fri, Apr 11, 7 pm

St Mary's Baptist Church 64th Anniversary/Revival

Tuesday, Apr 8, 7-9 pm

Adult Education Class: Inclusivity in Groups: Mainstream/Margin
Facilitators: Andrew Batchner and Danna Pope, Wash Ethical Soc'y

Wed, Apr 9, 7 pm

PSA 401 mtg
Sheperd Park Library

Wed, Apr 16, 7:30 pm

Friends of the Library meeting
Shepherd Park Library

Wed, Apr 16, 7 pm

Concerned Neighbors, Inc. Comm. Ass'n mtg
Shepherd Park Library

Thurs, Apr 17, 7 pm

4D Police Citizens Advisory Council mtg
6001 Georgia Ave NW

Sat, Apr 19, 6 pm.

Humanist Seder, WES Meeting hall
For more information contact Mary Herman, MaryH@EthicalSociety.org.
Wash Ethical Soc'y

Tues, Apr 22, 7-9 pm

Adult Education Class: Transforming Interpersonal Conflicts. Facilitator: Danna Pope.
Wash Ethical Soc'y

Sun, Apr 27, 10:30 am

St Mary's Baptist Church Annual Ushers' Day

Sun, Apr 27, 11 am

Spring Festival. Music by the WES Chorus. For information contact Mary Herman, MaryH@EthicalSociety.org
Wash Ethical Soc'y

Tues, Apr 29, 11 am-10 pm

Shepherd PTA Family Dinner Day/Night
Franklins, 5123 Baltimore Ave Hyattsville

SHEPHERD PARK CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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Calendar of SPCA Events



Election Forum with Neighbors, Inc.

Tues, Mar 4, 6-9 pm
Takoma Baptist Church

SPCA Community Meeting:

Tues, Mar 11, 7 pm
Shepherd Elementary

SPCA Board Open House

Thurs, April 3
Time & Location TBA

SPCA Community Annual Meeting & Election:

Tues, May 13, 7 pm
Shepherd Elementary

SPCA Garden Tour

Sun, May 18, 2-5 pm

SPCA Yard Sale

Sat-Sun, June 7-8
9 am-3 pm

Calling All Gardeners!

With spring in the air, it's time to start thinking about SPCA's spring time gardening efforts. First, we are already soliciting gardens and planners for the **annual Garden Tour** on Sunday, May 18.

In addition, the spring plant-in for the large pots on Georgia Avenue and several other public spaces within the boundaries of SPCA is scheduled for Sat May 10. Contact Cynthia Prather, scsprather@aol.com, if you are interested in helping with either of these activities.



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