

# Burning Issues

## President's Message

Have you all noticed how beautiful the front of Burning Tree looks? I would like to send a huge

thank you to Lisa Baker and Lisa Norwalk for advocating that the landscaping needed to be improved and then finding a way to get it done. They truly took the project into their own hands and ran with it. Thanks to the **Burning Tree Foundation** for recognizing the need and donating a portion of the cost, and thank you to **Landscape Projects Incorporated** who gave us their wholesale rate on the plants and materials, and donated the labor at no cost.

Also, thank you to parent volunteers who have helped with clean up throughout the project and will continue to help with upkeep. Now we would like to ask YOU to think about planting needs for your own home and then ordering your landscape improvements from Burning Tree!

The **Plant Sale** is April 26th; completed order forms are due April 21st. This event helps us to raise money to cover the costs of ongoing landscaping at Burning Tree, and your purchases will greatly benefit our efforts to make Burning Tree a beautiful place to be! Why buy your flowers, vegetables and herbs anywhere else? The money goes back to the school and the quality of the plants is excellent.

The school is all spiffed-up just in time for the **Gym Dedication Celebration** this Saturday at 4pm! I hope you all come out, as it will be a very festive and fun community event. We are very lucky to have entertainment from the **Burning Tree Chorus** and the musical group, **Nada Brahma**, which performs high energy, culturally diverse music. We are honored by a very special group of speakers, including Mrs. Shirley Brandman, VP, MCPS Board of Education (and former Burning Tree PTA President), Dr. Jerry Weast, Superintendent of Schools, Patricia O'Neill, Montgomery County School Board Member, Former Washington Redskins player and Burning Tree grandparent Mr. Brig Owens and Ms. Crystal Robinson, assistant coach of the Washington Mystics. There will also be very

special surprise parting gifts for each family that attends!

See you on Saturday!

*Lisa Sanfuentes  
PTA Co-President*

## Plant Sale is Here!!

Don't miss out on this terrific opportunity! We have amazing annuals for your flower beds or containers, hanging baskets, tomatoes, peppers, basil & parsley.

This year we have 3 new plants - Mexican Heather, Sweet Potato Vine and Caladium.

We've included sales tax in the plant prices to make ordering easier. Our terrific plants come from the same grower that supply to many of the

local nurseries AND our prices offer substantial savings (20% - 30%). Plants need to be pre-ordered, so look for your order form in your child's backpack. Order forms will also be available in the front lobby.

If we don't have the color or annual you are looking for - drop us an email or give us a call Lisa Baker (301) 767-1730 or bakewoman@aol.com or Mary Kunst Mary\_B\_Kunst@mcpsmd.org.



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## Library Gift Program

Looking for a great way to honor a special occasion or person? Consider making a donation to the Burning Tree Media Center! After receiving your donation, our Media Center staff will purchase a book in your child's area of special interest to be added to the library collection. The book will display a bookplate acknowledging your gift. Through this program you can honor your child, expand our library collection, and benefit everyone at Burning Tree. If you are interested in participating in the Library Gift Program, complete the attached form and return it in an envelope marked "Media Center." All donations are tax-deductible and 100% of your donation will be spent on the purchase of books for our Media Center. Questions? Call or email Jan Hauck (301-469-7790 [edhauck3@aol.com](mailto:edhauck3@aol.com))

## Landscape & Grounds Update

Spring is here, and your Landscape & Grounds Committee has been hard at work to make Burning Tree look as nice on the outside as it does on the inside. During Spring Break, ArborCare Inc. of Rockville pruned all the dead branches out of the trees by the Kiss & Ride area and in the circle. In addition they drilled several holes in the ground to provide air and nutrients to the tree roots to help keep the trees strong. The PTA had approved a special expenditure of \$600 for this work at the last meeting, but afterwards a Burning Tree parent provided the entire \$600. Thank you, anonymous donor!

This week, Landscape Projects Inc. of Bethesda has begun installation of a new garden in the bed beneath the teachers' lounge. It will be completely installed and beautiful before the gym dedication on April 12th.

Many thanks to everyone who helped plant bulbs in the circle during last fall's "Beautify Burning Tree" event. Please stop by to see how beautiful the daffodils are, thanks to your hard work! We are always searching for new members for our committee. No previous gardening experience is necessary. If you are interested in beautifying Burning Tree all year long, please contact either Lisa Baker ([bakewoman@aol.com](mailto:bakewoman@aol.com)) or Lisa Norwalk ([lnorwalk@gmail.com](mailto:lnorwalk@gmail.com)).

*Lisa Baker & Lisa Norwalk,  
Landscape & Grounds Committee co-chairs*

## Celebrate Earth Day with BT's Spring Cleanup!

Please join us on Saturday, April 26 from 10a-12n. We will be tackling the entire school grounds to remove litter, leaves and debris. We will also need some help transplanting a few ornamental grasses. Show school spirit and take part in a

worthwhile community project. Earn SSL or scout credit! We encourage you to bring your own rakes, brooms and gloves although some tools and gloves will be available.

Contact Lisa Baker at [bakewoman@aol.com](mailto:bakewoman@aol.com) or Lisa Norwalk at [lnorwalk@gmail.com](mailto:lnorwalk@gmail.com).



## Gym Dedication

You are cordially invited to attend Burning Tree Elementary School's Gymnasium Dedication Ceremony!

**When:** Saturday, April 12th from 4 to 5pm

**Where:** Burning Tree ES, 7900 Beech Tree Road

Featuring: Musical and vocal performances (Nada Brahma and our wonderful Burning Tree Volunteer Chorus), dignitaries (Superintendent of MCPS Schools Dr. Jerry Weast, MCPS Board of Education VP Shirley Brandman, former Redskins player (and Burning Tree grandparent!) Brig Owens, Washington Mystics Assistant Coach Crystal Robinson), refreshments and a celebration of this momentous occasion.

Come CELEBRATE those who made this great space a reality!

### Burning Tree Foundation

The BTES Educational Foundation has started a campaign to raise funds for upgrading technology at Burning Tree. The foundation, working with the BTES Faculty and PTA, will focus their fundraising activities to support technology improvements at BT, along with grant opportunities for teachers to hone their technology skills. The mission of the foundation is to be a complementary partner with the PTA working together to address the needs of the BT Faculty and Community.

The Foundation's second brick campaign will finish up on May 1st. The second walkway will be installed this summer. Engraved bricks are a great way to leave your mark, say thanks to a teacher, or leave an inspiring message for future students. Each brick can be with engraved with up to three lines; each line can consist of up to 17 characters (Each space and punctuation mark count as one space). Bricks cost \$75; checks should be made out to BTESEF. The proceeds from the brick campaign support the purchase of health and fitness items to be used in the new gym. If you wish to purchase a brick, flyers are available in the PTA box, or you can access the flyer on the PTA website.

To learn more about the foundation, please contact Joe Busch at [jbusch@urban.org](mailto:jbusch@urban.org) or by phone at 301-767-9786. The foundation meets on the first Monday of the month and all are welcome to attend.

Here are some sample brick ideas from the first campaign:

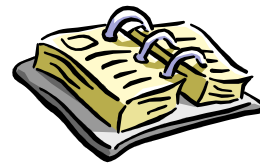
	2,4,6,8 We really Appreciate BTE!
BTES ROCKS! We ♥ the Frogs!	
	Thanks for making Every Child's Dreams Possible!
Just another Brick in the Walk	

### Dine Out At Ledo's Pizza

Don't forget to join us for the final Burning Tree Dine Out on Monday AND Tuesday, April 14th and 15th at Ledo's Pizza on River Road. Enjoy great food and outstanding pizza while benefiting BTES PTA! Let the dough rise!!



### Calendar of Upcoming Events



**Saturday, April 12 – 4:00 – 5:00pm**

Gym Dedication Ceremony

**Monday, April 14 & 15 – Dine Out**

Ledo's Pizzeria on River Road (2 nights!)

**Saturday, April 26**

Plant Sale & BTES Clean Up

**Saturday, May 17**

Spring Fair!

**Burning Issues is published monthly by the Burning Tree PTA, usually the week following each PTA meeting.**

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We welcome your contributions and suggestions. Please send your articles via e-mail to Joe Busch at [jbusch@urban.org](mailto:jbusch@urban.org) or call him at 202-261-5569. The deadline for the next newsletter is **Friday, May 2.**



## Burning Tree Library Book Gift Form

Please fill in this form as you wish the information to appear on the bookplate:

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Special interest areas of honoree, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Special interest areas of honoree, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Special interest areas of honoree, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Please find my check or money order made payable to Burning Tree PTA for  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$20.00 minimum) to purchase book(s) for the Burning Tree Media Center.

Person responsible for payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form in an envelope marked "Media Center."

Thank you for your donation to the Burning Tree Library Book Gift Program.