



Burning Issues

FUNdraising Update

Fill Our Pond Campaign

Thanks to the Burning Tree community, teachers and staff, **our "pond" is full!** Our year long check-writing campaign, culminating in the fabulous cocktail party held one month ago, was a complete success! We raised more than **\$32,000** through many generous family donations and bids on the terrific teacher and staff outings!

In addition to the BT community, I would also like to thank the following for helping to make this campaign such a smashing success. A huge thank you to my wonderful co-chairs Julie Garcia, Surya Shah, Erin Deric, Cindy Campbell and Lisa Sanfuentes. We spent many hours working together to develop and organize this new fundraiser which was so well received by the BT community. Enormous thanks to Julie and Jon Garcia who so graciously offered their beautiful home to hold the cocktail party which was attended by more than 120 BT parents, teachers and staff!

We even had our own BTE Impromptu band at the party! The band members included John Hart on piano and Aaron Tark and Steve Morgan on guitar, Dave Abramowitz on guitar/piano/Tom Petty vocals, supported by enthusiastic vocals by our own Salima Bouhafa. Charles Erdrich also made a special guest appearance. Jon Garcia served as business manager, bartender, and all-around enabler of the chaos.

Thank so much to the wonderful teachers and staff who offered such fantastic outings for the parents to bid on. These outings provide such wonderful opportunities for the children to spend special time outside of school with their favorite teachers and staff.

Finally, thanks to the parent volunteers that helped out the night of the party: Tami Chambers, Tracey Fitzsimmons, Liza Fues, Elissa Ginsky, Elise Browne Hughes, Pam Jansen, Bob Klepp, Patricia Klepp, Olivia Lai, Yvonne Van Lowe, Kristen Martin, Lisa Norwalk, Farish Perlman, Mireya Rossi, Debby Rubin and Laura Weiss.

Dine Out at Ledo Pizza, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 21st and April 22nd

Let the dough rise! Don't forget to join us for the final Dine Out of the year at Ledo Pizza on River Road on April 21st and 22nd. Enjoy great food and yummy pizza while benefiting Burning Tree. Thanks to Nancy Sandler for organizing all of the dine outs for the last two years!



The Annual BT Plant Sale is Here!! Saturday, April 25th, 8:00-10:00 am

Don't miss out on this terrific opportunity to benefit the school and your garden! We have amazing annuals for your flower beds or containers, spectacular hanging baskets, tomatoes, peppers, basil & parsley. Some of our popular annuals include *Geraniums, Begonias, Impatiens, Salvia, and Wave Petunias*. Don't forget to try out last year's big hits - *Mexican Heather, Caladium & Sweet Potato Vine*. We've held last years pricing (sales tax included) to keep ordering easy on your wallet. Our terrific plants come from the same grower that supplies to many of the local nurseries AND our prices offer substantial savings of 20%-30%! Plants need to be pre-ordered (for guaranteed selections), so look for your order form in your child's backpack. Order forms are also available in the front lobby. Forms are due Monday, April 20th.

If you are looking for a specific annual, specific color, herb or vegetable not found on the order form - drop us an email or give us a call. Lisa Baker (301) 767-1730, bakewoman@aol.com or Mary Kunst Mary_B_Kunst@mcpsmd.org.

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Spring Fling Movie Night, Saturday, May 16th, 5:30–10:00 pm

Be on the lookout for Spring Fling Movie Night information packets in a Ziploc bag coming home this week in your child’s backpack. Make sure to read this important packet with information on all of the new and fun features of the fair, filling your Bag-O-Mania goodie bags, and volunteering at the fair. Remember not to throw away those Ziploc bags – use them to make your Bag-O-Mania bags! And stay tuned for the announcement soon of the movie to be shown. Questions or want more information on how you can help? Please contact Spring Fling Movie Night co-chairs Ellie Abramowitz (ellie.abramowitz@verizon.net), Tami Chambers (tambra.chambers@comcast.net), Laura Weiss (lauradweiss@msn.com) or Cindy Campbell (campbellhannegan@comcast.net).

Ellie Abramowitz, VP Fundraising

Thousand Sandwiches Day on March 5th was again a great success this year!

By the end of the afternoon, 1300 sandwiches were delivered to Martha's Table downtown. Martha's Table drives around a wagon that gives out 3000 sandwiches in the city every day at designated locations.

Thank you to all of the people who helped everything go so smoothly: the families for sending in cold cuts and cheese, building services staff for setting up the lobby, Mrs. Singh for making room in the cafeteria fridge, classroom staff for getting the kids to us, and of course the students for making all of those sandwiches!

Also, many thanks to all of the parent helpers and glove donators: Sheryl Steinberg, Amy Lenkin, Nikki deCastro, Celine Barker, Karyn Miele, Anne Mandigo, Pam Janssen, Sharon Curry, Wynne Sitrin, Cathy Houston, Ana Kiron, Ellen Singer, Kirsten Truitt, Jennifer Katz, Vicki Herson, Karen Feuerstein, and Sharon and Mitchell Hwang, and the Padgett and Fues families.

Britta Battaile and Ruth McDonald

Looking for Interested Parent to Organize Relay for Life!

ISO wonderful Burning Tree Parent to organize The 4th Annual Burning Tree Mini-Relay for Life benefitting the American Cancer Society. The Mini-

Relay takes part over 3 days during the kid's recess time. Kids are encouraged to walk laps on the back field to show their support for the American Cancer Society, and they also learn about making healthy choices about physical activity, sun exposure, nutrition and tobacco. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Vicki Herson at vicki@centerpiecedc.com.

Calendar of Upcoming Events



Tuesday & Wednesday, April 21 & 22 – Dine-Out

At Ledo’s Pizza on River Road

Friday, April 24 – 9:30am

PTA Exec Board Mtg.

Friday, April 24 – 12:30pm

Principal’s Brown Bag in DC

Saturday, April 25 – 8:00 – 10:00am

BTES Clean-Up Day – starts at 9:00am

Plant Sale – 8:00 – 10:00am

Tuesday, May 5 – 7pm

PTA Meeting

Saturday, May 16 – 5:30 – 10:00pm

Spring Fling Movie Night

Burning Issues is published monthly by the Burning Tree PTA, 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 or call him at 202-261-5569. The deadline for the next newsletter is **Friday, May 1.**

