

Sharkbytes

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD

Mark your Calendar!

April

- SPRING MUSIC REVUE
Apr 26/Mon 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm
- HEALTH FAIR
Apr 30/Fri

May

- TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
May 3-7
- PTA MEETING
May 5 7:00 pm
- VOLUNTEER TEA
May 14
- SPRING CONCERT/PTA MEETING
May 18

June

- READING INCENTIVE FINALE
June 2
- PTA MEETING/LUNCHEON
June 3 11:30 am
- 5TH GRADE FAREWELL ASSEMBLY
June 16 9:30 am
- SCHOOL CLOSURES 3 HOURS EARLY
June 17
- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL/
SCHOOL CLOSURES 3 HOURS EARLY
June 18

To contact the Sparks PTA

✉ 601 Belfast Road, Sparks MD 21152

☎ 410.357.0046

@ kimgraybill@comcast.net

5th Grade Celebration/Farewell

Our next meeting will be May 7th, 2010 at 9:30am in the conference room.

Don't forget to send in your photos and money. The \$20.00 that was asked of each fifth grade family covers ceremony decorations, refreshments, CD/DVD of ceremony, t-shirt, class picnic, and yearbook party. The class gift donation is not included in this amount. The choice to give, and how much to give, is a personal one. Whatever the amount, it will go a long way in helping our children and their education. **Thank you!**

Gina DeSantis, 5th Grade Celebration Chair

Spark's Library Gift Fund

Spark's Library Gift Fund Committee thanks the families of the children listed below for their generous contribution to the fund. Fifteen new books have been purchased for the benefit of Sparks Elementary Library honoring these students. **We thank you!**

Katherine Blair	Miles Meagher
Anthony Ciolfi	Alyssa Modisette
Ellie Dono	Collin Mohelski
Thorne Harcourt	Elisa Rodriguez
Braun Lippe	Julian Sementa
Chase Meagher	Erik Street
	Molly Szymanski

Sparks Patriotic Revue

The Patriotic Review will be presented by our 4th grade chorus and Sparks Stars.

When? Monday, April 26th

2:00 pm School performance
7:00 pm For parents and friends

For the evening performance, students should arrive at 6:30 pm and report to the library.

Reflections 09-10 "Beauty is..."

We have wonderful news from the state PTA Reflections program!

Of the 60 entries that received state-level awards, only two received the highest award, "Outstanding Interpretation of Theme." Those two entries will move on to national PTA judging. **One of those entries was a Sparks Elementary student: Claire Tannian. Good luck at nationals Claire!**

Our Sparks PTA Reflection has excelled and grown over the past 4 years and we have made a reputation of having some very talented students! Let's continue this tradition and to do so, we need volunteers to make it happen. This invaluable program has really given our students another venue to express, excel and feel good about themselves.

I have enjoyed working as chairperson for the past four years, but I have to move on. If you are interested in taking part in the Reflections committee, contact me and I can share all the valuable parts of the program that you could take part in. We already have a few wonderful parents who will be helping next year, so with a few more volunteers and a chair person we can make it happen!

Thank you for having your child share their creativity. It so true that "EVERY CHILD HAS A VOICE THROUGH THE ARTS." Let's hear what they have to say next year with the theme..."Together we can..."

Thank you,

Kelly Tannian
PTA Reflections Chair
tannianhouse@comcast.net
410.357.9244

**The 2010 Spring Fair Committee would like to thank
all of the Volunteers, Attendees, Bake Sale Donors and Community
Members that contributed to this year's successful event!**

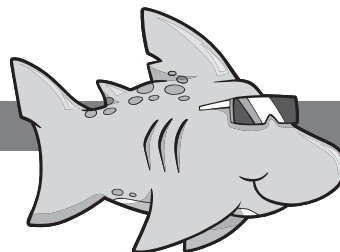
The SES Teachers & Office Staff

AMF Bowling • Amy's Amenities • Peter Angelos • Arbonne/Marie Dias • Atsuko Day • Auto Spa • Avon/Susanne Hagan • Bagel Works
Baltimore Coffee & Tea • Bee Beautiful • Linda Biggs • Dr Tracy Bowden • Brooks-Huff Tire & Auto Ctr
Cain Contracting Inc/Douglas Lasure • The Calico Dog • Camp Winwood • Carmine's Pizza • Charm City Karate
Borders Books/Christine Hilferty • Cohen's Clothiers • Coldstone Creamery • Daren Cortese • Cookie Lee/Diane Bedwell
Creative Memories/Kellie Harmon • Rebekah Delibro • Diamond in the Wruff Training • Diddywopps & Keeffers • Pam Duquette
The Fanshaw Family • F/X Studios • The Flowers Family • Fun Flicks • Giant Food • Glazetastics • Glory Day's Grill
Golden Eagle Gear/Laurie Goff • Graul's Grocery • Greetings & Readings • Gunpowder Bison • Hereford Golf • HMS/Berna Oates
Hereford Sports • Mrs. Kearney • Keith Van Eron Soccer Camps • Kingsdene Nursery • Ladew Gardens • The Lee Family • Let's Dish
Liberty Mountain • Linda Biggs • Linda Sympson • Macaroni Grill • Myriam Nails • Martha Pindale • Mary Kay/Tammy Kincaid
Mason-Dixon Arrive • Mast Tennis Academy • McInnes & Brummer Orthodontics • Merritt Athletic Club • Michael's Café • Milton Inn
John Mosotto • North County Advanced Dermatology • North County Design Ctr • Office Valet • Padonia Station • Panera Bread
Patrick's Restaurant • Pizza Connection • Rita's Ice of Hunt Valley • Rich Rosa • Sal's Barber Shop • Sam's Club • Sandra Paetow Photography
• Dr Sandra Selnick • Sherwin Williams • SoupRNatural • Spirit Cruises • Sportsman's Vending • Springfield Farms • The Still
• Stone Mill Bakery • Linda Sympson • Tammy Waechter • Tark's Restaurant • Tastefully Simple/Kelly Rodier • Kelly Thompson
• Troyer Liquors • Tupperware/Tonia Laurine • The Ultimate Playzone • Whitetail Ski Resort • Wildtree/Judy Rusins • Woodhall Vineyards
World Travel Service

**We would also like to thank Imperial Sounds & Astro Events for their support in providing us with a generous discount,
and to Aqua Ventures for their donation of wet suits for the dunking tank!!!**

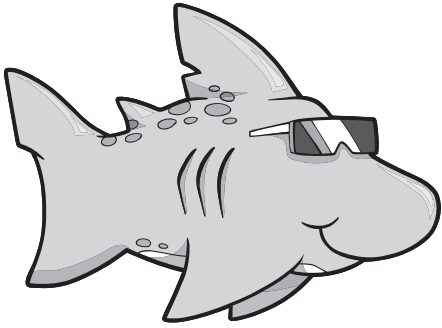
Please continue to support these businesses who give so much to Sparks!

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD!



PTA Executive Board Nominations

FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR



The PTA Nominations Committee is proud to announce the slate of Officers for the next school year. The official election will take place prior to the Spring Concert on May 18 at 6:55pm.

PRESIDENT

My name is Stacey Krotee. My husband Ed and I have a son, Dusty, in first grade at Sparks. Our daughter, Megan, is a graduate of Sparks and is now a Freshman at McDaniel College. We moved to Monkton 14 years ago. One of the reasons that we moved to this area, is the wonderful Hereford Zone school system! I am a graduate of University of Baltimore with a BS in Business, Concentration in Information Systems. I worked outside the home for 21 years at First National Bank of MD/Allfirst in various computer related jobs. I've been a stay-at-home mom for 7 years and I love volunteering! This year, I was the chairwoman for Grandparents' Day. Some of the other volunteer opportunities that I have had include the library, computer lab, room mom, Roster, Book Fair, Boxtops for Education, Hula for Hopkins, American Education Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, Ice Cream Social, and Spring Fair. Sparks is such a great school and each of us has the opportunity to volunteer to make it just that much better. I look forward to using my organizational skills and love of volunteering to serve on the PTA executive board next year.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT:

My name is Amy Lime. My husband Jeff and I moved to the Sparks area five years ago when our oldest daughter was starting kindergarten. I was raised and lived mainly in the Midwest, moving several times with my family and again with my husband, but we are thrilled to live in this area and be a part of such a wonderful community. We currently have three children at Sparks. Megan is now in 4th grade, Anna is in 3rd and Sarah is in kindergarten. My education and professional background include business administration, public relations and environmental consulting. I have been a stay at home mom since our oldest daughter was born. I feel this is an ideal time to become more involved now that all three of our children are at Sparks. I've attended many PTA events and have helped in various ways at Sparks over the years and am very excited to be a part of the PTA board this coming school year.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

My name is Susan S. Stephenson and I am the mother to Carson (3rd), Wyland (1st), Graeme and Marshall and the wife of Timothy Burton. I have lived in Monkton for 14 years. In addition to being a full time mom and wife duties, I am a

Senior Policy Analyst with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association, Inc., where I manage a multi-state effort to reduce emissions from heavy duty diesel trucks to improve the region's air quality. Over my 15 years in the environmental nonprofit arena I have worked extensively with various stakeholder groups to engage their interest and participation in various programs. I look forward to working alongside administrators, teachers and parents to continue Sparks' tradition of educational and community excellence.

TREASURER

My name is Renée Genco and I will have both my kids at Sparks next year. Elisa will be in 5th grade and Patrick will be in Kindergarten. My husband Tim and I have been living in the Sparks area for the last 9 years. I have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Towson University. In addition to my current position at PHH, I worked as an Internal Auditor at KPMG, a bookkeeper at Caves Farm (equestrian based) and I am a small business owner. I look forward to being a member of the Sparks PTA Board.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

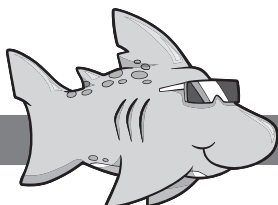
My name is Ed Kohlenstein and I have a daughter, Emily, who is currently in the fourth grade. My wife, Pam, and I moved to Sparks 10 years ago when she took a position as an 8th grade English teacher at Hereford Middle School. I am a CPA and have worked for Hertzbach & Company for almost 11 years. I look forward to my continued involvement in the Sparks Elementary PTA during my daughter's last year here at Sparks.

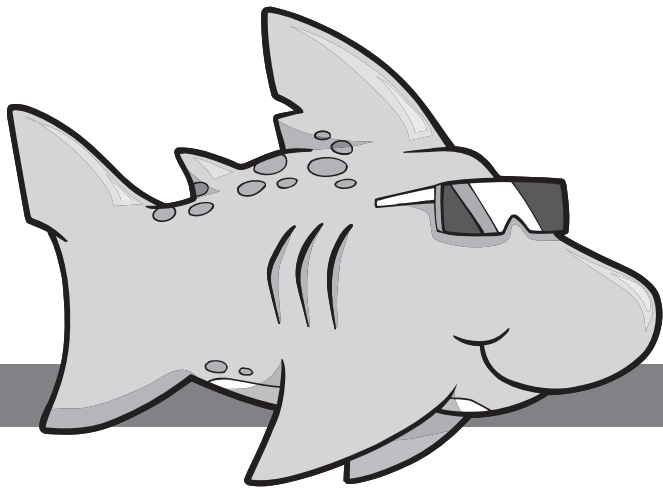
RECORDING SECRETARY

My name is Meghan Parker and I am very excited to be a member of next year's Sparks PTA board. I received my BS in Biology from Gettysburg College and my MS in Psychology from the University of Baltimore. I worked in the Social Work Department of Sinai Hospital for many years and then transitioned to Genesis Health-care. When I had my daughter Cindy, who is 7 and is currently at Sparks in first grade, I decided to become a full time homemaker and stay-at-home mom. I have been volunteering at Sparks for the past two years in various capacities including Book Fair, room mother, library classes, computer classes, and Hula for Hopkins and have loved every minute of it. I have strong organizational and interpersonal skills and I am so excited to be able to use them to assist Sparks in striving towards excellence. I am looking forward to working with this great group of people and all of the Sparks Elementary School community in the 2010-2011 school year!

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

My name is Lynn Traynor. I have two boys at Sparks. Henry is in 4th grade and James is in Kindergarten. My husband, Michael is from Hereford and I'm a native North Carolinian. I am a stay at home mom and I've enjoyed volunteering at Sparks in various ways over the years. However, this will be my first position on the Sparks PTA Board, and I'm happy to be a part of it.





Yearbook Ads

FOR FAMILIES AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

Advertise or personalize with a block ad or a line ad

PLEASE make sure your ad is fits! Ad sizes are shown on the back of this form. Submit ad layouts in either:

- digital format (JPG or TIFF); e-mail digital ads to schmalenberger@comcast.net
- hard copy (final art suitable for scanning)

Make checks payable to Sparks Elementary and return this form **NO LATER THAN** June 3, 2010. Please write "Yearbook Committee" on the envelope. **For more information contact Joanie Schmalenberger at 410-472-1051.**

Parent's Name _____ Phone _____

Child's Name: _____ Teacher's Name _____

Block Ads Please note that personal and business ads are priced differently.

Eighth page (3.5 x 2)	_____ x	\$25.00 (personal) \$30.00 (business)	Total	\$_____
Quarter page (3.5 x 4.5)	_____ x	\$40.00 (personal) \$60.00 (business)	Total	\$_____
Half page (7 x 4.5)	_____ x	\$75.00 (personal) \$115.00 (business)	Total	\$_____
Full page (7 x 9.5)	_____ x	\$145.00 (personal) \$225.00 (business)	Total	\$_____
Line ad	_____ x	\$4.00 (personal)	Total	\$_____

(All single line ads will be typed on the same page by the Yearbook Committee.)

Line Ad (59 characters, spaces included). Ad will be typed as follows:

FULL PAGE

Dimensions: 7" x 9.5"
Cost: \$145.00 (personal)
\$225.00 (business)

EIGHTH PAGE

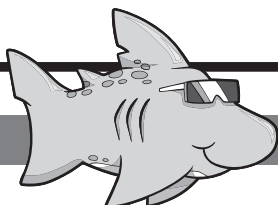
Dimensions: 3.5" x 2"
Cost: \$25.00 (personal)
\$30.00 (business)

QUARTER PAGE

Dimensions: 3.5" x 4.5"
Cost: \$40.00 (personal)
\$60.00 (business)

HALF PAGE

Dimensions: 7" x 4.5"
Cost: \$75.00 (personal)
\$115.00 (business)



Summer Academic Enrichment

Help your child:

- *continue to develop academically all year long*
- *build confidence in his/her ability to learn*
 - *retain key skills through reinforcement*
 - *begin the next school year prepared*
 - *learn in a positive environment*

*1 hour of academic
enrichment for
only \$23*

Choose from 4 Possible Academic Topics

General Math Enrichment

Using the *SummerSkills* book series students will review relevant math concepts that are quickly forgotten over summer break and must be relearned. Some of those areas enriched will be:

- fast fact review
- basic operations
- fractions and decimals
- word problems
- geometry and measurement

General Reading Enrichment

Using the *SummerSkills* book series, students will review reading and writing strategies gained from the previous year's instruction. Some of the areas that will be reviewed and re-presented will be:

- grammar rules and conventions
- sentence structure
- reading strategies (prediction, summarizing, inferring, etc.)
- varying genre's and styles of text

Writing Enrichment

Knowing how to write a well written paragraph has become an expectation for elementary school students. Using highly motivating text and prompts, students will review the necessary concepts for writing strong written responses. Some of those concepts will include:

- topic sentences
- transition words for supporting details
- weak and strong supports
- using direct quotations

Specific Math Enrichment

Using a variety of teaching resources, students will review one or two specific math concepts that have presented a challenge. Concepts may include (*but are not limited to*):

- multiplication
- long division
- equations/algebra
- fraction concepts or operations
- decimal multiplication
- area and perimeter

*** Modifications will be made for students working above or below grade level upon parent request. For example, a 4th grade student who completed 5th grade math would use the 5th grade Summer Skill book.*

2010 Academic Enrichment Instructors: Mr. Ament and Mrs. Laude

This program is not affiliated with Baltimore County Public Schools

How "Academic Enrichment" Works -

Who	Students entering 4th through 6th grade.
Where	Oldfields School - Located at 1500 Lower Glencoe Road in Glencoe, MD
When	We will offer enrichment sessions on Mondays and Thursdays between 10am and 6pm beginning June 28th and ending August 19th. Choose the session(s) and subject(s) that work best.
How	Teacher to Student ratio of about 1:3
Why	All children benefit from summer learning (The average tutor in Maryland charges \$50+ per hour)
Cost	\$23 per session x the number of sessions your child(ren) will attend + Supplies from www.summerskills.com (about \$15-\$20 per topic)

For questions call Chuck Ament at (443)564-8803 or email: learn4fun@comcast.net

If you would like to enroll your son or daughter in the program, please fill out the portion below and mail it with your \$50 deposit to: Chuck Ament
7707 Buckhill Road
Kingsville, MD 21087

3 Easy Steps

Check Topic Focus(es)	___ Gen. Math ___ Gen. Reading ___ Writing ___ Specific Math
Circle Attendance Dates	Mondays: 6/28 7/5 7/12 7/19 7/26 8/2 8/9 8/16 Thursdays: 7/1 7/8 7/15 7/22 7/29 8/5 8/12 8/19
Check Time Preference	___ 10am ___ 11 ___ 12pm ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 <i>If your child uses 2 topic focuses, choose 2 consecutive hours for your convenience.</i>

Academic Enrichment Participation Slip

Child _____ **Parent:** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **Zipcode** _____

Age: _____ **Grade student is entering:** _____ **School:** _____

Home Phone _____ **Work Phone:** _____

E-mail address: _____

Enclose a \$50 deposit, detailed bill for remaining balance will be mailed to you.

I give consent for my child to participate in "Summer Academic Enrichment. I expect that my child will be academically challenged in a safe and educational environment. I release Oldfields School and the instructors of "Summer Academic Enrichment" from liability for any unforeseen incidents that may occur.

Please list any health concerns _____

Parent Signature _____ *Date* _____