

# Hunters Horn

April 2007

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## President's Message

Welcome back from Spring Break! I hope you all enjoyed time together with your student(s). The next few months are always so busy; we have a lot of performances by the band, strings, and choral students. We have dance and movement performances and don't forget Primary Science Night this Thursday, April 19. Also, the PTA offers the Spring Book Fair this week.

On April 30 we will mark the end of an era when our beloved building supervisor, Mrs. Clara Johnson, retires. She has been a committed member of our community for 28 years and an employee of Fairfax County Public Schools for 30 years. As many of you may know, Mrs. Johnson was awarded the FCPS Support Employee of the Year two years ago, and last week the School Board honored her again by passing a resolution to name the Hunters Woods cafeteria the "Clara Johnson Café." On April 30 the students will have a chance to say goodbye to Mrs. Johnson at an assembly. The school will be holding an Open House for her on Saturday, April 28, from 3 to 5 pm. This will be a time for people in the community to come and say their goodbyes and give their good wishes to Mrs. Johnson.

The next two months provide opportunities to appreciate those professionals who work with our students every day. The week of April 23 through 27 is Office/Clinic Staff Appreciation week. On Friday of that week, the PTA will be providing them all lunch and covering the office phones for them while they enjoy it. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7 through 11; the PTA will be sponsoring food all day for them starting with breakfast, snacks, and then lunch on Monday, May 7. The week of May 21 through the 25 is Principal Appreciation week, and the PTA will be providing Mrs. Toatley, Mrs. Skerker, and Mrs. Mentzer with a lunch that week. Don't forget to stop by and tell all these dedicated and caring people how much you appreciate all that they do for our school and students! Thank you to Lisa Gordon, Raba Letteri, and Tami Holsten for heading up these efforts--and to the many volunteers who will be helping them.

Well, it was a lot of fun and a lot of work—many thanks to Susan Sather, Blakely Meyers, Courtney Wilson, Jody Wolfe, Marina Matthes, Emily Madden, and Shashi Ravishankar for this year's Silent Auction. The adults had a night out, the children had fun eating popcorn and watching movies, and we raised money for PTA programs at school. It is a win-win-win for everyone!

Every five years the National PTA requires us to update our by-laws. This being our fifth year since an update, we are proposing updates to reflect some changes adopted by the National and State PTA. One of the changes is the restructuring of the Executive Committee: by creating the office of "President-Elect" to replace one of our Vice President positions. This change has been broadly adopted by other PTAs, it provides a set line of succession and allows the President to work closely with the incoming President

and pass on the institutional knowledge they have acquired.

Please look in your Tuesday Folders over the next few weeks for special information about volunteer opportunities for next year. We are looking for some new people who maybe have felt a little unsure about volunteering, or who weren't sure what the opportunities entailed or if they had the time to volunteer and help our school and students. In the words of Mrs. Johnson, "It's just like a family" here at Hunters Woods! Please lend a hand!

Your PTA 2007–2008 Slate of Officers is:

President - Maureen Becker  
President-Elect - Susan Sather  
Vice President - Susan Brownsword  
Treasurer - Deborah Lannen  
Recording Secretary - Jennifer Arakelian  
Corresponding Secretary - Marina Matthes

Voting on this slate will take place during the band, strings, and choral performances in June. *Maureen Becker*

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## Silent Auction/Movie Night

Thanks to everyone who made the Silent Auction and Movie Night possible. Special thanks to Blakely Meyers, Marina Matthes, and Kim Clifner—who spent dozens of hours preparing for the event and assisted with basket assembly; Kim, Maureen Becker, Shreeti Kapoor, and Marisa Besselievre solicited and picked up corporate donations; Emily Madden, who set up the Movie Night; and Shashi Ravishankar, who stepped in to run the Movie Night; Courtney Wilson and Jody Wolfe arranged for, purchased and served the wonderful food; Hilary Bradley donated and operated the chocolate fountain; to the HW Staff who donated their time, artwork and money. Special thanks to the coordinators for the class baskets for their creative themes and the lovely baskets they created in those themes.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers whose work made the event possible; and Thank You to all in the Hunters Woods Family who attended the event and bid on items.

We raised over \$10,000 for the PTA, and have already got a lot of plans for how to increase that amount—and provide more opportunity to view and bid on items next year. Do you have ideas for these events? Please consider serving on the auction committee; your input is valuable.

We are also looking for donated, or partially donated, live children's entertainment for next year. If you have any entertainers to suggest, please contact me [Auction@HuntersWoodsPTA.org](mailto:Auction@HuntersWoodsPTA.org)

*Susan Sather, PTA Auction Chair*

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## By-laws Changes

The proposed by-laws can be found on the website and in the office for review. The changes are bolded in the text of the document, all else remains the same. The new by-laws will be voted on at the PTA meeting on Wednesday, May 2 at 7 pm.

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## Book Fair

The Spring Book Fair is at Hunters Woods in the 2nd grade pod this week, with evening hours on April 18 & 19. Volunteers are still needed for day and evening shifts, so please send an e-mail to [BookFair@HuntersWoodsPTA.org](mailto:BookFair@HuntersWoodsPTA.org) if you can help.

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## April Events

**16 – 20** Spring Book Fair (evening hours 4/18 & 4/19)

**20 – 30** Gaelic Gardens Sale

**21** Outdoor Workday 9 AM–3 PM

**23 – 27** Office Staff & Clinic Aide Appreciation Week

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## May Events

**7 – 11** Teacher Appreciation Week

## Spring Workday This Saturday

It's finally time for our annual spring workday in the beautiful outdoors of Hunters Woods Elementary School. There will be a variety of jobs large and small for adults and teens (community service hours) on Saturday, April 21, from 9 AM to 3 PM.

You may come and go at any point during these hours. Any amount of time you can give will help make a noticeable difference. Please bring your own gardening/work gloves, bottled water, and any preferred tools.

Our goals include:

- construction of a taller, more accessible garden bed along the back pathway
- site preparation for a new sculpture in front of the school
- weeding of our bulb, butterfly, vegetable, and other beds
- trellis installation for six native wisterias along the cafe wall

In the event of heavy rain Saturday, we will try for 1 to 5 PM the next day, Sunday, April 22. Questions? Please reply to Catherine Linberg at [Grounds@HuntersWoodsPTA.org](mailto:Grounds@HuntersWoodsPTA.org)

## Gaelic Gardens Sale

From April 20 through 30 bring in the HWES Sale Flyer and receive 10% off your entire order at Gaelic Gardens, and they will give another 10% back to our PTA. The light green sale flyer is in your Tuesday folder today, and is also available on our website for printing at [www.HuntersWoodsPTA.org](http://www.HuntersWoodsPTA.org). Many thanks to the owners of Gaelic Gardens for their continuing generous support of our Hunters Woods Elementary School PTA.

## HWES Auction Donors

Thanks to the individuals and businesses who supported Hunters Woods by donating items or experiences to the Silent Auction. Please let them know how much their contributions are appreciated:

Anonymous Parent (several)  
 Bhadra Family  
 Bonefish Grill  
 Buffalo Wing Factory & Pub  
 Build-A-Bear Workshop  
 Canine Carousel  
 Ms. Germaine (Art Teacher)  
 Cathy Hudgins  
 Clifner/Rensel Family  
 Clocktower Animal Hospital  
 Clyde's Restaurant Group  
 Crocker Family (Southern Living at Home)  
 Diane Beers (Office)  
 Dinner Zen  
 Edible Arrangements  
 Ferragamo  
 Glory Days Grill  
 Great Harvest Bread Co.  
 Groves Family  
 Grubbs Family  
 Hair & Nail Care  
 Hsu Family  
 HW Drama  
 HW Gardeners  
 HW PTA  
 Kenefik Family  
 Lakeside FASTFRAME  
 Louisa Tran (Pampered Chef)  
 Marrakesh  
 Meyers Family

Mr. Bloch (5th)  
 Mr. Garrison (6th)  
 Mr. Grant & Mr. Nguyen (PE)  
 Mr. Kirylo (4th)  
 Mr. Majeed (5th)  
 Mr. Adams (5th)  
 Mr. Stefano (6th)  
 Mr. Ware (Music)  
 Ms. Birk (K)  
 Ms. Bush (1st)  
 Ms. Cooper (4th)  
 Ms. Costello (5th)  
 Ms. D'Amico (Art Teacher)  
 Ms. Donnelly (4th)  
 Ms. Downs (5th)  
 Ms. Fredgren (Dance)  
 Ms. Germain (Art)  
 Ms. Glenn (4th)  
 Ms. Greeley (2nd)  
 Ms. Hamp (K)  
 Ms. Kelly (Science)  
 Ms. Kendall (4th)  
 Ms. Kersteen (Music)  
 Ms. Kolbe (3rd)  
 Ms. Leniart (5th)  
 Ms. Mentzer (Asst. Principal)  
 Ms. Merritt (3rd)  
 Ms. Morris (Art Teacher)  
 Ms. Nebert (Office)  
 Ms. Negri (Science)  
 Ms. Pang (K/1)  
 Ms. Puga (5th)  
 Ms. Rahn (Special Ed.)  
 Ms. Richards (1st)  
 Ms. Sablosky (3rd)  
 Ms. Sensabaugh (K/1)

Ms. Skerker (Asst. Principal)  
 Ms. Straw (GT Resource)  
 Ms. Toatley (Principal)  
 Ms. Valerie Carter (4th)  
 Ms. Walenius (4th)  
 Multiplex Cinemas, Reston Town Center  
 Myers Public Relations, LLC  
 National Zoo  
 Outback Steakhouse  
 Patricia Smith (Parent)  
 Phoenix Worldgate 9 Theatres  
 Potomac Nationals Baseball  
 Price Family (Cookie Lee Jewelry)  
 Ravishankar Family  
 Red Lobster  
 Rep. Frank Wolf  
 Reston Animal Hospital  
 Reston Music  
 Salon Daniel  
 Sather Family  
 SCORE! Educational Centers  
 Senator Janet Howell  
 Senator John Warner  
 SkateQuest  
 Sohelia Rostami, MD  
 The Cheesecake Factory  
 The Chocolate Chick  
 The Container Store  
 Trader Joe's  
 University of Virginia  
 UPS Store-South Lakes  
 Washington Nationals Baseball Club  
 Washington Renaissance Hotel  
 Watermine Family Swimmin' Hole  
 Wegman's

## Office & Clinic Appreciation

The week of April 23 to 27 has been designated as the appreciation week for the office and clinic staff. Please take an opportunity to thank these committed and caring individuals who help make our school run so smoothly. A big thank-you to Diane Beers, Connie Hernandez, Nancy Huang, Mandy Kaur, Elva Liagouris, Angela Loving, Dee Nebert, Glenda Strickland, and Karen Larkin (Clinic Aide). We appreciate all that you do every day for the students, staff and families of Hunters Woods.

## Reflections

Hannah Kang received the Outstanding Interpretation Award in Visual Arts at Cluster 8 of Fairfax County judging and also at the Fairfax District. Her artwork then went to state level Reflections, where she received the Award of Merit.

Congratulations to Hannah and all of the other Hunters Woods students whose work went to the Fairfax District judging:

Student	Medium	Level	Title
Niti Jadhav	Literature	Int.	My Own Backyard
Gabriel DeValle	Literature	Primary	Earth
Breana Tate	Photography	Int.	My Favorite Place
Monika Shayka	Photography	Middle	Dog Daze
Katherine Lannen	Photography	Primary	Goose at the Farm
Flannery Twomey	Visual Arts	Int.	Lone Prairie
Champa Narayana	Visual Arts	Primary	It's Playtime