

GATOR GRAM



William B. Gibbs, Jr. Elementary School
12615 Royal Crown Drive, Germantown, MD
www.gibbsespta.org

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President's Message

By Sue Amick

The Clarksburg Cluster 5K Fun Run was just that; fun! It was a beautiful morning and everyone had a great time.

November 11th and 12th are Parent-Teacher Conferences. This is a great opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss how your child is doing and what you can do to help your child's progress. It is a short period of time so it is best to come to the conference prepared with a list of questions you would like to focus on.

In November we were planning a Healthy Lifestyle event. We had applied for a grant from the National PTA for this event. One of the requirements of the grant was that the event had to take place in November. We just found out that we were not one of the recipients of the grant. With the holidays quickly approaching, we feel an event like that would make more sense to hold in January so we have rescheduled the Healthy Lifestyle event for January 7th. We will be sending more information about this fun, new event in the next couple of weeks. If you are interested in helping with this, let me know at sueamick@hotmail.com

On November 23rd we will welcome grandparents and other special guests to the Grandparents' Tea. This was an enjoyable morning for everyone last year.

Our next PTA meeting will be on **Wednesday, November 3rd at 7 p.m.**

I hope everyone has a safe, happy Thanksgiving!

Volunteer Needed

The PTA is in need of an editor for the Gator Gram and some volunteers to copy the newsletter each month. If you are interested in helping out with the newsletter, please contact Karen Ward at wardkk@msn.com.

Grandparents Tea



Save the date! Grandparents Tea is coming on Tuesday, November 23rd. All grandparents or special guests of the students will be invited to come to school, enjoy some delicious treats and spend some time with the kids in their classrooms.

Keep a look out for the flyer for this event. It will be coming home in backpacks in the beginning of November. Last year was a big success and the baked goods that our families provided were a big hit with the visitors. Please consider donating some muffins, cookies or other baked treat to make this year's event as tasty as the last.

Please contact, Lee Marshall, 301-916-4577, or via e-mail at the.marshalls4@verizon.net, with questions or for more information.

Capital One Bank Donation

The PTA would like to thank Mena Patel (a Gibbs parent) for her efforts in securing a \$1,000 donation to the Gibbs PTA from Capital One Bank. This donation will be used to fund programs and events for our Gibbs' students.

Thank you Mrs. Patel! We greatly appreciate your efforts.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon – November 11th



The Staff Appreciation Committee is hosting a "Conference Luncheon" for all of the staff on November 11th. The theme of the luncheon is "Soup and Salad."

We are still in need of the following dishes for the luncheon:

8 crock pots of soups

5 salads (green salads, pasta salads or any salad of your choice)

5 appetizers (mexican dip, cheese dips, or any appetizers of your choice)

4 desserts

We also need help with clean-up between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Thank you for your contribution to this luncheon. Please contact Lee Marshall at lee@greasedwheel.com or Nikki Haddad at nikkijayh@aol.com and let them know what you would like to make for the luncheon.

Mark Your Calendar

November

- 1-2 No School
- 3 PTA Meeting (7 p.m.)
- 11 & 12 Early Release
- 17 Spirit Night - Red Robin
- 23 Grandparent's Tea
- 24 Early Release
- 25-26 No School

December

- 3-10 Scholastic Book Fair
- 8 PTA Meeting (7 p.m.)
- 24-31 Winter Break



Clarksburg Cluster 5K Fun

Run/Walk

By Karen Ward

On October 9, over 700 Clarksburg Cluster students, families and staff, as well as community residents and others came out for the 1st Annual Clarksburg Cluster 5k Fun Run/Walk fundraiser. The weather was beautiful - sunny and warm - for the 3.1 mile course. Everyone started off with a fun but tough exercise warm-up with Zumba by Lili (Thank you Lili!!) At precisely 8:00 AM, our Speed Heat race took off. At 8:15 AM, the rest of our participants took off running or walking at their own pace following our very own Officer Larson (Thank you very much!!!)

Our parent and student volunteers cheered and greeted each participant at the "Drink More Water" water stations. The first runner finished the course in less than 20 minutes followed by all the other runners. Walkers, well they took a little longer, but everyone crossed the finish line having a fun and wonderful time.

And the Results are In.....

Congratulations to all of the following student winners of the Run!!!

Speed Heat Winners

Brian O'Connor – Clarksburg High School – first person to cross the finish line

Jacqui Young – Clarksburg High School - first girl to cross the finish line

Jack Wavering – Rocky Hill Elementary – first boy middle schooler to cross the finish line

Lucie Noall – Rocky Hill Elementary – first girl middle schooler to cross the finish line

5k Run/Walk Winners

Mia Winterburn – Clarksburg High School

Andy Decelis – Clarksburg High School

Paul Joseph – Clarksburg High School

Steven Underwood – Rocky Hill Middle School - tie

Austin Larson – Baker Middle School – tie

Jared August – Gibbs Elementary – first boy elementary schooler to cross the finish line

Miki Howson – Little Bennett – first girl elementary schooler to cross the finish line

Each participant had snacks donated by Utz, Pirates Booty and Herr's and bottled water donated by Pepsi, Costco and Cardany Realty. We thank all of our sponsors for supporting the Clarksburg Cluster 5k Fun Run/Walk. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

A huge thank you to Mr. Wells of Rocky Hill for volunteering his time to set up the 1k for the students (they had a blast!). Thank you to all his students who came out to help.

We would like to thank all the parent volunteers who stood on the street corners to guide the participants and cheer them on – Tayyab Kahn, Andrea Brenowitz, Michele Tregoning, Stan Petrone, Valerie Crosby, Cheryl Stein Mervis, Felicia Bergstrom, Sue Paul, Jeanne Shawahin, Janet Sanchez, Kathryn Hoffpauir, Amy Crumrine, Fred Levy, Joe Young and Todd Powell.

Thank you to all the middle and high school students who volunteered their time to help with this fun event. Thank you to Cord Sengbusch for designing the Fun Run website for all schools!! Thank you to Kevin Bell at Gibbs for helping us set up in front of the school. Thank you Anita Burgdorff for taking care of the Fun Run county application.

Congratulations to all winners of the Fun Run Raffle. Thank you to Nikki Haddad for working at our Fun Run raffle!!!

A special thank you to my Fun Run Committee. We couldn't have done this without all your dedicated help – Susie Audet, Sue Amick, Jen Sengbusch, Todd Powell, Billie Robinson, Debbie Young, Sandy Dupy, Everett Shupe, Janet Sanchez, Art Butler, Christina Tregoning, and Ruth Roman.

We want to thank all the families and staff of each school who came out to participate and support their schools!!! We believe we accomplished our goal as a cluster and sent a strong message to everyone about effectively working together to advocate for all the children.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions that they would like to make on this event, please do not hesitate to let us know. Comments to Karen Ward at wardkk@msn.com.

We look forward to next year's Clarksburg Cluster 5k Fun Run!!!!

Chik-Fil-A Spirit Night

Jeanne Shawahin

Gibbs students and their families enjoyed an evening dinner at Chik-Fil-A Spirit Night on Wednesday, September 22. We had the Gator Spirit that night!!! Gibbs PTA made a whopping \$427 for the evening.

A big thank you to the Chik-Fil-A cow for greeting our students at dismissal and to the whole staff at Chik-Fil-A. A HUGE THANK YOU to all Gibbs Elementary families who came out to support our school!!!!

Gibbs Gator Bracelets, Gator Grocery Bags and Magnets

The PTA has for sale Gibbs Gator orange and blue bracelets for \$1.00 each. We will be selling these bracelets at all our PTA events. Show your school spirit and buy one or two. Gibbs car magnets are for sale at \$5.00 each also.

Gator Grocery bags are still available throughout the year. The cost is \$3.75 per bag, 3 bags for \$10.50 and 6 bags for \$20. For information, email Karen Ward at wardkk@msn.com.

Global Children's Center

We are still enrolling for before and after care @ William B. Gibbs. Jr. ES! We offer daily homework time, club time, zone time, gym time, outside play, arts, crafts, snack and much more!

We are open as early as 6:30 a.m. until the start of school and in the afternoon from the end of school until 6:30 p.m. We are also open on most early release days and school closings.

For more information visit our website or contact us @ www.globalchildrenscenter.com
Monika and Steve Utrecht at 301.972.5882

Back to School Dance

Karen Ward

You could hear the DJ from Royal Crown Drive and it was fun, fun, fun inside the Gibbs cafeteria at the Back to School Dance. About 350 kids of all ages came and danced the night away in Gator colors. The kids were on the dance floor showing off their moves to sounds of the booming music. Hot dogs and nachos were enjoyed by all. Thanks to Jen Sengbusch, Sara Bass, Nikki Haddad and all the SSL student volunteers for helping out at this fun event!!!!

Scholastic Book Fair (December 6-10)

We are in need of volunteers for the Book Fair in December. Dates and times are as follows. Please contact Karen Ward at wardkk@msn.com if you would like to volunteer.

Monday, December 6
9:00 AM-12:00 PM (2 slots)
12:00 PM- 3:00 PM (2 slots)

Tuesday, December 7
9:00 AM-12:00 PM (1 slot)
12:00 PM- 3:00 PM (2 slots)

Wed., December 8
9:00 AM-12:00 PM (2 slots)
12:00 PM- 3:00 PM (2 slots)

Thursday, December 9
9:00 AM-12:00 PM (2 slots)
12:00 PM- 3:00 PM (2 slots)

Friday, December 10
9:00 AM-12:00 PM (2 slots)
Close down at 2:00 PM



THANK YOU SPONSORS!!!!

The Clarksburg Cluster Schools PTAs/PTSA would like to thank the below listed businesses that kindly donated items for our 5k Fun Run/Walk. We encourage our school families to support these community businesses. We thank you for your support sponsors!!!!

AAA WARMAN HOMECARE** (HOPE JOYCE)
ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE*
WILLIAM J. AUGUST, D.D.S.
BAILEYS PUB & GRILLE
BLOOM
BMI KARATE
CARDANY REALTY
CLARKSBURG ANIMAL HOSPITAL (GRETA STAMBERG)*
CLARKSBURG ORTHODONTICS**
COLDSTONE CREAMERY
COPPER CANYON RESTAURANT
COSTCO
DAVE & BUSTERS (JEN & ANDY SMITH)
DOUBLETREE BETHESDA HOTEL
DRINK MORE WATER
FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES**
GAYLORD NATIONAL HOTEL
GLOBAL CHILDRENS CENTER** (STEVE & MONIKA UTRECHT)
GENE'S JOHNS & RENTALS INC. (VAL AND VINCE LUFSEY)
HARD TIMES CAFÉ
HERR'S
HOME DEPOT
HONEST TEA
JERSEY MIKES
MAMMA LUCIA'S (MS. KRUPENIE)
MASSAGE ENVY
MODELL'S
OFF BROADWAY SCHOOL OF DANCE
PANDINI'S
PEPSI
PIRATES BOOTY
PIZZA 500
RED DOOR
STARBUCKS
TARGET
TD BANK
ROBERT TESTEN, D.D.S.**
TRADERS JOE'S
UTZ
Vocus* (KRISTIE SCOTT)
WHOLE FOODS

*Gold Sponsors - \$500 donation

**\$50-\$200 Monetary donation