



HUFFMAN HERALD

A Note From the PTA President

Can you believe it is already May? This year has flown by but it isn't over yet. We still have a few events before Summer Vacation. Thank you to our staff and teachers for all that they have done this year to make it such a great one for our children and thank you to everyone who has helped with teacher appreciation week. Next up is the Used Book Sale so please go through your book shelves and bring in any books you are no longer using because some other child would love the opportunity to read them. Then the greatest school day of the kid's year is here – FIELD DAY!! It is going to be a blast and I hope everyone is looking forward to it and has volunteered (please remember you need a background check to volunteer). On May 18 the staff will be making all of the PTA volunteers brunch in the library. This invitation is to everyone who has volunteered for any amount of time during the year. It is at 9:00 am and we hope to see you all there.

Our last community event is Bingo Night on Thursday, May 28. We will be serving pizza and salad from 6:00 – 6:30 (no cost but if you would like to make a donation there will be a donation box available) in the cafeteria and then Bingo will start at 6:30 and end at 8:00. This is always lots of fun so please join us for our last hoorah before Summer!!

I want to thank everyone for a rewarding and fun 2 years serving as the president of the PTA. It has truly been an honor to represent Huffman and its community. This is an amazing place for our children to grow and learn and I feel very fortunate to live in Plano and go to Huffman where I know my children will thrive, learn and feel loved everyday at school! Thanks again for a great 2 years – believe it not – I actually enjoyed it!

Susie Learmont,
Huffman PTA President

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3rd Annual Huffman Bike Rodeo on April 4, 2009



Thank You Gold Key Business Partners!

Adventure Kids
Avon (KT Handley)
Burriss Windows
(Rob Breihan & Reed Ashmore)
Charo Grille
Children's Medical Center
Cub Scout Pack #265

Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas
Equest
Kids N Art
Next Level Fitness
Pump It Up
Sweet & Sassy
The Merlo Group



Huffman Bike Rodeo by Ann McKeown



The 3rd Annual Huffman Bike Rodeo was held Saturday, April 4th. Featured at the event were stunt cyclists from Richardson Bike Mart, bicycle engraving and safety information from the Plano Police Department and live music by Soul Vacation. The kids and parents rode obstacles courses and enjoyed the morning with friends. As the weather warms up families are getting out more and this event was a good reminder to be safe and wear a helmet. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were 698 pedalcyclist fatalities and an additional 44,000 injured in 2007. Head injuries are the most serious type of injury and the most common cause of death for bicyclists. Bicycle helmets have been proven to reduce the risk of head and brain injury when a crash occurs by as much as 85 to 88 percent. The Huffman PTA collected used helmets to provide to participants at the event. Richardson Bike Mart sponsored two

prizes; a BMX bike helmet and gift certificates. Other prizes at the event included Soul Vacation t-shirts, JuicePLUS and more.

We welcome spring weather and the opportunity to ride our bikes safely. The Huffman PTA would like to thank Emily Greenfield for coordinating this terrific event. Along with her were several members of the community who helped sponsor or volunteer. They are as follows: Bike Engraving by Officer Jerrick Younger of the Plano Police Department, Bike Inspection/Repair & Stunt Show by Jeremy Wolfe of Richardson Bike Mart, Obstacle Course and Registration by Cub Scout Troop 265, First Aid by Brigitte Petersen, Refreshments by Starbucks and Nettie Davis, and finally, Special Music Guest Soul Vacation. We also would like to thank the parents who helped make this event possible.

Used Book Sale

The PTA will be collecting used books from the kids on the mornings of May 11, May 12, and May 13th before school. For every three books they bring in, they get a coupon for a new "used" book to exchange for.



We will be selling the used books at lunch on May 12th, 13th, and 14th.

Are you ready for the eXtreme experience?

Friday, May 15th will be the Hawk's first ever **EXTREME FIELD DAY!!** Thank you to all that have contacted me about volunteering your time. If you cannot donate your time, you can still help make this the best field day ever by donating shoeboxes and blowing up at least 25 regular balloons for 2 of the field day events. Place the blown up balloons in a large trash bag by May 14th and deliver them to Coach Lara in the gym. Shoeboxes can also be stored in the gym on the stage.

Please make sure your student has:

- Sunscreen on
- field day t – shirt on (if they have one)
- Swimsuit on under their clothes
- Dry set of clothes & towel
- Sneakers – NO FLIP FLOPS
- Sweatshirts or jackets if the weather is cool
- Water or Gatorade



Volunteers

I will contact you this week to let you know your station, position and time frame. Please remember to dress in comfortable clothes, wear your sunscreen & sunglasses and get ready for a day of FUN!!

Thanks to everyone for helping to make eXtreme field day successful!

Debbie Breihan

fieldday@huffmanpta.org



Huffman Elementary School 2009 Senior Reception

Celebrate your graduation by sharing memories, visiting with old friends and former teachers.

Light refreshments will be served

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

4:30 – 5:30 pm in our library

Wear a t-shirt for the college you will be attending in the Fall!

Putting PTA on your Resume

With the changing economy, we know that many people are considering going back to work or looking for a new job. Your experience as a PTA volunteer and leader has been valuable to your school and community, but it is valuable to employers, too. Learn how to translate the skills you've used and developed and activities you've been involved in to make a big impact!



May 20, 1- 2:30 pm

PISD Administration building, 2700 W. 15th Street, room 311.

Free, no RSVP needed.

Mark Your Calendar! Officer & Chairman Training is Here!

Plano ISD Sockwell Center

6301 Chapel Hill Blvd.

Plano, Texas 75093

Tuesday, May 12 2009

9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

This event is an excellent opportunity for PTA members to receive general and job specific training. Ask questions, share ideas, and start planning for the new year.

9:00 a.m. Annual Regular Meeting of the Plano ISD Council of PTAs. During the meeting we will announce the participants and winner of the Plano ISD Council Outstanding Local Unit PTA Award!

9:30 a.m. The Council offers something new - group training for all board members (PTA/PISD policies and procedures the whole board needs to know).

11:00 a.m. Seven job specific sessions listed below (ideas, resources, policies, and procedures specific positions need to know).

- President
- Treasurer
- Membership
- Volunteers
- Secretary
- Programs: including program resources and program planning, plus information from our Arts in Education, Diversity, Environmental, and SAGE chairmen.
- Ways and Means: including a "how to" for getting donations from your community

If a Board member is unable to attend these sessions, be sure to send representatives from your Board to take notes and gather information to take back to your local unit.

Questions? Please contact Dana Bilbray at aide@planopta.org. No reservations required!





Family Game Night

Thursday, May 28, 2009

We will be serving pizza, salad and drinks from 6:00 – 6:30 in the Huffman cafeteria. There will be no charge for dinner but if you would like to make a donation we will have a donation jar available. Dinner service will end promptly at 6:30, unless we run out of pizza before that. At 6:30 we will move to the gym for Bingo from 6:30 – 8:00. We will have mini brownies and small snacks available as well as prizes for Bingo winners. This is always a really fun, relaxing and great way to end the year and we hope to see you all there.

Shepton HS presents Robin Hood

Shepton High School Theater Department presents Robin Hood: Beware the Bow on May 7, 8, and 9 at 7:00 pm in the Shepton auditorium, 5505 Plano Parkway. Come see Robin Hood defend the forest from the dastardly Sheriff of Nottingham, Princess Margaret and Prince John, while upholding the name of King John and the honor of Maid Marian.



Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children and students and may be purchased at the door.

Spirit Night - Fundraising

If you love Italian gelato, or just meeting up with friends, new and old, then join us at the last Huffman spirit night of the school year. We are so lucky that Pacuigo have said they would love for us to hold this event with them again. If you didn't come along in December try and join us this time and see, or taste, what you missed!

Not long to wait for this delicious event, Tuesday 19th May (yes Tuesday NOT Thursday!) from 5.30pm. Pacuigo is on the North West corner of Preston and Park (near Whole Foods).

Keep looking out for further details, including the final special guests for the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has participated in any of our fundraising events this year, whether you attended one of our many spirit nights, bought some Sally Foster gift wrap, helped out at the book fair – whatever you did THANK YOU. All

your efforts have made this year a wonderful year for our children at Huffman.

To those of you leaving the Huffman family at the end of this year, Goodbye & Good Luck in your new schools, you will be missed.

To those of you staying, keep looking out for details of some of the fun fundraisers we are planning for 2009/2010 school year.

See you all at Pacuigo, Mel Durham 3rd V.P. Ways and Means



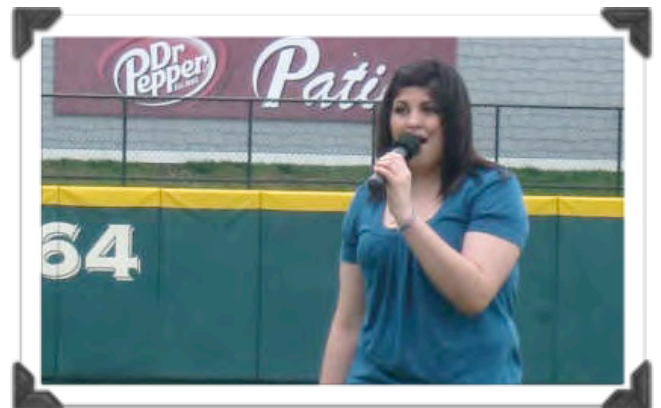
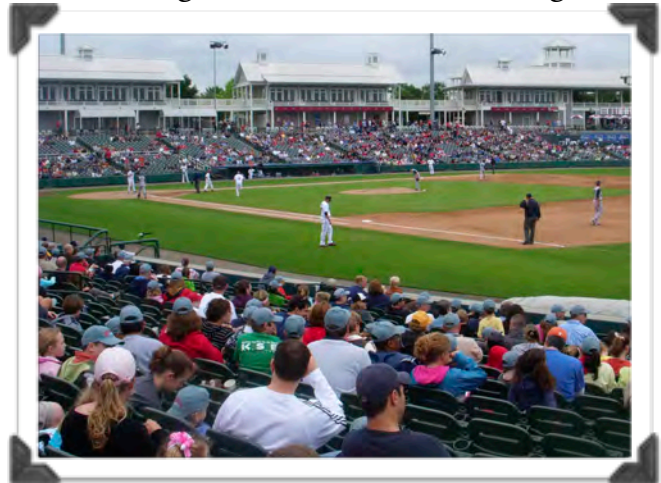
Family Day at the Frisco RoughRiders

Sunday, May 3, The Plano ISD Council of PTAs hosted Family Day at the Frisco RoughRiders. Over 800 PTA members and families were among those who attended the game, unstopped by threats of Swine Flu or menacing thunderstorms.



Before the game began, a presentation ran on the RiderVision jumbotron, featuring the art work and likenesses of 34 Plano students who were recognized with Awards of Excellence, Awards of Merit, or Honorable Mention awards at the Texas State PTA Reflections judging which occurred recently.

Our own Plano ISD Superintendent, Dr. Doug Otto, threw out the first pitch and received an autographed ball from the RoughRiders catcher, Chris Gradoville. Plano Senior HS student, Delilah Fernandez sang the National Anthem and appeared unfazed when fireworks went off in the background of her "rockets' red glare!"



Notes from the Treasurer

Have you ever heard anyone say, "I didn't know that the PTA paid for that!" Well, I have heard it a lot recently, so I thought I would share some more information on all of the great things you help support.

As a PTA, we have helped provide low cost meals during Math Night for all families and purchased the teachers and staff meals during Open House/Family Dinner night. We have brought two programs to school in the last two months. One was an evening program called, "Experience the Awareness" which gave us insight with various challenges and showed us how to be more understanding of those around us. The other was an assembly during school for our 3-5 graders called "Science in the Movies" with exploding flower pots and lots of cool science information.



We have sent kids in all different grades on field trips. Some grade levels have been to the Science Place, the Interurban Railway Museum, the Symphony, and the Opera (well, actually the Opera came to Huffman this year!) There is more... come to a PTA meeting or request a copy of the treasurer's report! Leslie Gilvar, PTA Treasurer

Thank you for an awesome year in the music department!

I am so proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by our students this year - both in the classroom and in their grade level and choir performances! Our 4th graders did a FANTASTIC 'boot-scootin' - 'toe-tappin' job on their performance of "Deep in the Heart of Texas"! The grade level teachers have been very supportive and patient, as I've enlisted their help; and we certainly could not have put any of the programs on without the sacrifices made by our wonderful art teacher and P.E. coaches. Our Huffman Hawk parents have also made great contributions to the music program, whether through carpooling, making props and costumes, approving a new sound system (Woo HOO!), or encouraging their children in achieving their best in music. Last, but not least, our administrative staff have enabled us to really "soar" by backing our program in all areas. I feel very fortunate to have been a part of such a challenging and wonderful year!



As we get ready to watch our wonderful 5th graders walk out the door as Huffman Hawks for the last time this year, we are happy for them yet feel sad to see them go. We still have 3 choir performances with our concert on May 14th, our Sandy Lake Competition on May 21st, and our Graduation Ceremony on June 3rd. We congratulate you on graduating, and wish you many blessings as you move on to Renner Middle School. Good luck in your choice of choir, orchestra or band next year!

For the rest of our Hawks, I encourage you to keep singing and maybe "brush up" on those hand-signs over the summer! If you are looking for activities to keep you busy you can check out the following sites:

- <http://www.planomusicteachers.org> for private lessons.
- <http://www.dsokids.com> a fun website for students to visit and learn about the symphony
- <http://www.planochildrenstheatre.com>

Have a great summer everyone! - Mrs. F.



**Volunteer Brunch
Monday, May 18, 2009
9:00 am in the Huffman Library
PTA Meeting to follow**



The Huffman staff will be thanking all of the PTA volunteers by making a very yummy brunch for all of us. If you have volunteered any of your time during the year please come by and let us thank you for everything. Without your volunteerism we couldn't do what we do!



Thank You Volunteers!

The Office would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have worked in the office as a helper and Childsafe. We really appreciate all the time and effort you have put forth to help the school and the students. A special THANK YOU goes to JoAnn Compton for coordinating all the volunteers and coming in every day to help. Have a great summer and we hope to see you in the fall.

Upcoming Calendar

- May 1-22
MAP testing K- 5th grade
- May 4-8
Staff Appreciation Week
- May 8 Spirit Night
The Gymnastics Place
- May 10
Mother's Day
- May 11-14
Used Book Collection & Sale
- May 12
PTA Officer training
- May 13
12:00 Early Release
- May 14
Choir Performance
- May 15
Field Day
- May 18
PTA Volunteer Brunch &
PTA regular meeting (library)
9:00 am
- May 19
Spirit Night at Paciugo
- May 22
Field Day (rain date)
- May 25
Memorial Day - no school
- May 28
Family Game Night
6:30-8:00 pm

GEM AWARDS

*Going the Extra Mile
for Huffman*



- Cara Mendelsen**
- Amy Mitchell**
- Ann McKeown**
- Claudia Montero**
- Paul Durham**
- Mel Durham**
- Bill Handley**
- Steve Greenfield**
- Emily Greenfield**
- Len Stevens**
- Brigitte Petersen**
- Mike Anderson**

**5th Grade Graduation
June 4, 6:30 pm**



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