



Burrville (red) and Moten (white) elementary schools compete during the fall's first DC SCORES game day, kicked off by a presentation celebrating the after-school program's continued expansion in Ward 8 thanks to funding from the American Beverage Association.

DC SCORES Expansion in Ward 8

With support from the American Beverage Association and the DC Beverage Association, DC SCORES announces an expansion of its after-school programming to more schools in Ward 8. DC SCORES uses the combination of soccer, poetry and service-learning to help students stay active and engaged in their education. DC SCORES builds teams through after-school programs for over 800 low-income DC youth at 27 schools by instilling self-expression, physical fitness, and a sense of community. Learn more at DC-SCORES.org.

Notebook

BY KATHLEEN DONNER

Kids Euro Festival

Kids Euro Festival, the largest performing arts festival of its kind in the United States, once again brings together the European Union (EU) community to transform metro-Washington into a European adventure for children and their families. For the fourth year in a row, from Oct. 14-Nov. 10, Kids Euro Festival will present more than 200 free events in and around DC. Talented European entertainers for children converge on Washington for Kids Euro Festival, providing a cultural bridge and offering an opportunity for artistic exploration, with no passport required. Puppetry, dance, music, theater, storytelling, and more are all part of the live magic of Kids Euro Festival. Designed for children, 2-12, Kids Euro Festival is again being staged through the cooperation of

the 27 EU embassies in Washington and more than twenty major local cultural institutions. Kids Euro Festival will partner with the DC Public Library system. Workshops featuring stories and activities will be presented at each of the 25 branches.

Some performances require reservations, which can be made at kidseurofestival.org. For information on specific performances and schedules, contact 202-944-6558 or visit kidseurofestival.org.

Ford's Theatre Lincoln Legacy Project Teen Discussion

On Oct. 24, 7:00 p.m., Legacy Project Partner Operation Understanding DC, a youth organization that brings together Jewish and African-American high school students, hosts an open discussion for

their peers. Free tickets may be reserved at the Ford's Theatre Box Office, through Ticketmaster at 800-982-2787 or at fords.org. Tickets must be picked up by 6:45 p.m. to guarantee admittance. Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW. 202-347-4833. fords theatre.org

Teen SOS at THEARC

Teen SOS is a program designed to give teens the opportunity to come together, talk about real issues and facts in confidence and get adult input from people they can trust. There are also retreats, outings and other exciting things. Sessions take place every Wednesday from 3:30-5:00 p.m. starting Oct. 5. For more information or to register, call or text 202-0360-9182 or contact Ellen Wiggins at 202-436-3076. THEARC, 1901 Mississippi Ave.

SE. 202-889-5901. thearcdc.org

National Gallery of Art Family Workshops

Family Workshops are designed for children (ages 8-11) and adults to participate in together. Taught by artists and museum educators, each two-hour workshop includes an interactive tour in the galleries followed by a hands-on studio session. See the complete listings below for topics, required age range, dates, and times. All workshops begin in the Education Studio, located on the East Building Concourse. Workshops are free, but preregistration is required. Explore 19th-century American landscape paintings and learn about the Hudson River School artists. Then, experiment with monotype printmaking to create colorful autumnal designs. Oct. 1, 8, 15 and 22, 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 1:00 p.m. Register online at nga.gov.

High School Essay Contest Focuses on Constitution

High school students and their teachers are invited to participate in the Bill of Rights Institute's sixth annual Being an American Essay Contest. The largest contest of its kind in the country, the Being an American Essay Contest explores the founding principles outlined in the Constitution. The contest is administered by the Bill of Rights Institute, a non-profit educational organization in the Washington, DC area devoted to educating young people about the Constitution and founding principles. The 2011-2012 contest is sponsored by the History Channel. Submission deadline is Dec. 15. For contest guidelines, visit BillofRightsInstitute.org/Contest.

Gifts for the Family Caregiver

If you are a family caregiver, caring for an elderly parent, or a spouse or child who is ill, come to the National Cathedral on Sunday, Oct. 9, 1:00 p.m., for an



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afternoon retreat to explore the gifts we can access in difficult times. These include gifts of quiet and prayer, humor and joy, friendship, and faith. Come to learn new forms of prayer and meditation, walk a prayer labyrinth, receive a chair massage, and more. Additionally, practical resources for care-giving will be shared. \$15. To reserve your space, please send your registration fee (checks payable to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, with "Mini-Retreat" on the memo line) to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Attn: The Rev. Andrea Martin, 4700 Whitehaven Pkwy, NW, Washington, DC, 20007.

Eagle Academy's Clean Sweep Yard Sale

On Saturday, Oct. 22, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Eagle Academy PCS is having their 2nd annual Clean Sweep Yard Sale fundraiser at the school located at Eighth and M sts. SE (Blue Castle across from the Navy Yard). It's a great opportunity to find some bargains and support Eagle Academy in its efforts to help children "start early and soar high." Vendors may participate for a nominal fee. For more information, call 202-459-6804.

Owney the Dog Family Day at the Postal Museum

In the 1880s, a mutt fell in the love with the mail. After touring the country on railway mail trains, Owney is now the subject of his own postage stamp and two exhibits. On Saturday, Oct. 15, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., stop by to make an Owney puppet, learn about other animals in the mail service, and enjoy an Owney storytime. Free. National Postal Museum, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE. 202-633-5555. postalmuseum.si.edu

Kids' Day at the Horse Show

Located in a tent outside Verizon Center, Kids' Day offers children a chance to get close to horses with free pony rides, a horse grooming station, a miniature horse, a book nook and crafts. Plus, there'll be photo opportunities with Major, the WIHS mascot, and lots more fun and interactive activities. Free. Sat. Oct. 29, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 202-525-3679. wihs.org

coollikepie.com

Cool Like Pie, a blog started by two DC teachers, is a kid's guide to the internet that features the best of the internet everyday. It makes you laugh, makes you think and has fresh posts daily. At Cool Like Pie, the mission is to provide a fun website for anyone 9 or older. They keep it clean by following these rules: #1-no hatred, #2-no violence, #3-no funny business (wink wink) and #4-no foul language.

An American Girl Experience at Mount Vernon

On Nov. 13, American Girl fans of all ages are invited to bring their favorite dolls to Mount Vernon for a chance to meet the book series' creator and one of its authors, Valerie Tripp. Guests enjoy a special presentation and book signing with the author plus a tour of the Mansion and grounds with Nelly Custis. The event also includes a colonial craft project, refreshments, plus a discount in the Shops. Share an audience with "Martha Washington"! This event is limited in capacity; tickets are \$50 per person. Ticket Sales Begin at on Oct. 3, 10:00 a.m., at MountVernon.org or at the Mount Vernon Ford Orientation Center. 703-780-2000. MountVernon.org

NSO Family Concert: Peter and the Wolf Live

The NSO's newest take on Peter and the Wolf will have kids baring their teeth in grins. After an introduction to the key characters, the Orchestra plays Prokofiev's classic alongside an Oscar-winning film from Suzie Templeton. Stay after the concert for a Kids' Chat. Young audience members can ask questions and hear engaging stories in an up-close-and-personal talk with the concert artists. Oct. 16, 3:00 p.m. Kennedy Center Concert Hall. \$15-\$18. 202-467-4600. kennedy-center.org

read.gov/kids

Read.gov/kids presents a listings of suggested books for kids and teens that will spark the imagination and transport readers to new and exciting places.



Early childhood education expert Katie Kissinger and her grandchildren. Photo: Jerry Magee

Families Are Talking About Race at the Smithsonian Family Day

Because racial identity is often a strong component of how children perceive themselves and others, these family-friendly activities encourage the development of a child's positive self-identity: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., activity to be determined; 1:00-2:00 p.m., Katie Kissinger leads a reading activity; 2:00-3:00 p.m., Katie Kissinger leads a poetry and writing activity; 3:00-4:00 p.m., Sushmita Mazumdar leads a handmade book activity and teens from the Hirshhorn Museum's ArtLab+ conduct interviews with families to discuss race. Free. Saturday, Oct. 22, 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Evans Gallery (between Museum Stores), ground floor, Natural History Museum, at the intersection of 10th St. and Constitution Ave. NW. 202-633-1000. mnh.si.edu

Operation Undercover: Secrets of Disguise KidSpy Workshop

Go deep undercover for a mission too secret to divulge in print. The intricacies of creating a cover identity complete with "pocket litter," documentation, and disguise will be shared in this workshop where recruits will be transformed—you'll learn to look like a different person, and think like one too. Professional make-up artists, hair stylists, and spy experts will help as recruits prepare to take on the ultimate challenge: a mission to retrieve top secret intelligence while undercover. Will your disguise withstand the test? For ages 8-11. No grownups allowed! Sunday, Oct. 9, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$30, advance registration required. International Spy Museum, 800 F St. NW. 202-393-7798. spy-museum.org

Family Dessert: Chocolate and a Child's Education

While most kids (and parents) would like to believe that biting into a chocolate bunny will do wonders for their IQ, that fact hasn't yet been proven. But a new book is putting chocolate on a whole new level for families. In his new book *Trouble in Sugarland*, author Harold Krakower brings young readers and parents alike a traditional lesson centered on the importance of friendship and compassion--and it's embedded in the setting of Chocolate Lake. An entertaining and engaging read best enjoyed over family dessert, *Trouble in Sugarland* provides children an outlet for creativity, and families a new rule for eating sweets: Only during reading times. This is the second in the series of *Sugarland* stories. In this episode Sarah is getting

ready for her birthday party, not knowing that there is trouble in Sugarland. In *Sugarland*, Chocolate lake has all dried up and Arnold the Bear has to get help. And so once more Sarah is awakened in the middle of the night by Alice the butterfly who flies her back to Sugarland to help her friends. Reading level is ages 4-8.

Asian Elephants at the Zoo

March to the Homer and Martha Gudelsky Elephant Outpost for a celebration of elephantine proportions! Watch Ambika, Shanthi and Kandula romp on the Elephant Exercise Trek and learn how National Zoo scientists are saving these endangered pachyderms in the wild. This family-friendly event offers educational and fun activities for children and keeper talks. Free. Oct. 29, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. nationalzoo.si.edu ●

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