



Heards Ferry Herald

▼ A weekly publication of the news and events of Heards Ferry Elementary School ▼

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FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENTS

This past week, we marked the 8th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, now recognized as "Patriot Day." While we often spend September 11th and July 4th reflecting on how special our country is, we usually spend the rest of the year taking it for granted. We rarely give any real thought to the frightening reality that many countries in this world still do not believe that all men and women are created equal. We forget that there are parents in far corners of the globe who cannot tell their children that all dreams are possible with hard work, because in their circumstances, it is not true. We forget that the freedoms we enjoy every day are not enjoyed by the whole world. In other words, we usually spend 2 days per year being patriotic and thankful to be Americans, and 363 days per year too busy to appreciate it. When we don't take time to appreciate it, our children won't either.

While no one needs to spend an hour each day reading the Constitution to their kids, we should all take a few minutes now and then to remind them that the things that make America great can be seen in our daily lives. With that goal in mind, we would like to share with you a poem written by a Heards Ferry mom as part of a September 11th lesson in Ms. Reed's 4th Grade Class. This poem is kid-friendly, and a great way to get your children thinking about all the magnificent things America has to offer them.

I Am America

I am America. My birthday is July the 4th, and I have reached the wonderful and amazing age of 233! Many people worked very hard and sacrificed a great deal to help me get started, and many do the same each and every day to keep me going. I am a very special place, and I welcome all to come and make their dreams come true.

I am exciting places to visit that remind me of the great history I hold. Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota, the monuments of Washington DC, amazing museums in most of my cities and Centennial Park and the Martin Luther King Memorial right here in Atlanta.

I am schools where people of all ages are able to go to learn and work to make me an even better place. Colleges and Universities, training centers, high schools too many to count, and Heard's Ferry Elementary – the best School of Excellence around!

I am sports that get my fans going crazy. Falcons, Hawks and Braves – Bulldogs and Yellow Jackets, and our very own Riverwood Raiders right next door.

I am also fun sports for all of my children. Community soccer, little league baseball, games of all kinds in backyards around the country, and Atlanta's newest hero, Melanie Oudin, who teaches us all about grace and what we can do when we believe!

I am music of all types that keep my people dancing and smiling. Church choirs and school choruses. Marching bands and rock bands. The Black-Eyed Peas with their Boom-Boom Pow and Myley Cyrus singing "Party in the USA"

I am yummy food that fills us all. Family dinners around the kitchen table, pizza from Mellow Mushroom, burgers from Five Guys, and those crazy cows that keep reminding us to "Eat More Chicken"

Most important, I am the spirit of my people. Giving, serving and supporting my communities around the land. That is what makes me most proud.

I am America, and through my people, I will continue to shine bright.

By Lee Daniel, with inspiration from Don Harp

[New Articles](#)

Hoedown
October 2, 2009
5:30 – 8:00 pm

Giddy up partners and turn in those wristband forms (in an envelope marked "Hoedown") and git yerself a free homework pass! Yep, a free homework pass. Please contact Kimberly Oliver if you have any questions. (Kimberly.oliver@speakeasy.net) Please contact **Tricia Andrews** (pka675@comcast.net) to giddy up and volunteer for a shift at a station.

Wade Ford Business Partner:

Wade Ford is happy to be HFE's business partner for 5 years!! We want everyone to be reminded that @ Wade Ford all HFE parents, and staff members get HUGE discounts on all cars/suv and trucks, both new and pre-owned- domestic and foreign. We also discount on all service needs (including oil changes), and auto body work! This is how it works... when you buy @ Wade Ford we give back to our students @ HFE- it's that simple! Whether it's a new/used car/truck or suv, service, or a simple auto body job- WE ALWAYS GIVE BACK to the school-because we love all of our kids! We are only 8 miles from the school and would love to have your business. Please call Terri Ewing for VIP service @ 678-644-1105.

Riverwood High School Future Raider Night is Friday, September 25

Come experience Friday Night Lights and Riverwood Football. Game Time is 7:30pm. Game Sponsor, Flying Biscuit Cafe of Sandy Springs, will be distributing Biscuit Bucks at the game along with other giveaways. This is always a special night with fun activities for the elementary and middle schools in the Riverwood district. Future Raider Night flyers with Free Student Admission will be distributed in student book bags the week of the game.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Fulton County School Board is scheduled to vote on next year's school calendar at the second meeting in October. If you want to express your opinion to Gail Dean, please email her at (deang@fultonschools.org). Please also email the rest of the School Board with those opinions. It is essential that the entire Board understand the opinions of our parents before they make their decision. Their emails are Linda Bryant bryantlp@fultonschools.org
Julia Bernath bernath@fultonschools.org
Linda Schultz schultzl@fultonschools.org
Katie Reeves reevesk@fultonschools.org
Ashley Widener widenera@fultonschools.org
Catherine Maddox maddoxc@fultonschools.org

HUGE INCREASE IN PTA MEMBERSHIP FOR AUGUST!

This week, the North Fulton PTA Council recognized Heards Ferry for a **104% increase** in PTA membership sign-ups compared to last August. This was the highest increase in North Fulton this year. (In fact, the second place school recognized for increase in membership had only a 19% increase.) This speaks volumes about the dedication of our parents and teachers to supporting our PTA! Thank you to Caroline Mangrum, Vanessa Fleming and John Davidson, our Vice Presidents of Membership, for working so hard to get everyone signed up right away. Great job!

Sally Foster

We're half way through our Sally Foster Fundraiser but we're not anywhere close to our goal !!!! This year we have been charged with raising \$14,000, an increase from last year that corresponds with our 20% increase in enrollment. This reflects a minimum sale of \$60 per student or \$100 per family if 100% participation were achieved. Click this link to register & order now!!!!

<http://www.fundraising.entertainment.com/esale2.cfm?CI=500149&SI=680392&LI=1>

One reminder, please remember to enter a parent's name instead of homeroom teacher when registering!!! Questions: Margaret Brown Abbott brownabbott@mindspring.com 770-390-3099

>>>>>>>>> SAVE TIME ORDER ONLINE <<<<<<<<<<<

WIN

10 items per child = 1 fuzzy monkey

\$100 order/child or \$150 order/family = invitation to banana split party

Most Internet Sales

\$200 - 1st prize \$150 - 2nd prize \$100 - 3rd prize

Discover Your Inner Librarian!

The Good News: We're moving to a Universal Accelerated Reader (AR) Program, so HFE students will have access to thousands more AR tests. The Bad News: We now have to research each book in our HFE library collection to determine if there's currently an AR test, and then label the book with the appropriate reading level. The Ugly News: We don't want Mrs. Marrin and Mrs. Marsh to be stuck with this monumental task alone!

If you're interested in discovering your inner librarian, or just nosing through our expansive book collection, we need your help! We're planning to have a small group gather on Thursday mornings to work on this project. If you can commit to a few dates, we'd love to have you. Or we can even train you to work on this project on your own time. Contact Amy Frederick, PTA Media Center contact to sign up, or for more information, atlantafreds@gmail.com.

Reminders

Hoedown Sponsorships: A Perfect Way to Help Heard's Ferry

Sponsor a game or an Inflatable Ride at the Hoedown on Friday, October 2, 2009 and we'll do up a nice poster with your or your company's name proclaiming your generosity. "Big ticket items" such as the Mechanical Bull, Obstacle Course, Slide, Moonwalk go for \$100.00 a sponsor. Bingo, Putt-Putt, Bean Bag Toss, Bowling each go for \$50.00. **Please contact Melanie Sprung (Melanie.Sprung@comcast.net) if you would like to sponsor a station. The deadline is Friday, September 25, 2009.**

Dates to Remember	
	September
9/21-9/25	Norm Referenced Test, Grades 3 & 5
9/25	Progress Skills Checklists go home
9/30	Picture Day
	October
10/2	School Council-8:00-9:00
10/2	Hoedown 5:30
10/9	Teacher conference day-No school for children

The breakfast and lunch menus for the month are posted on the Heard's website / School Information page and can be found on the FCBOE Nutrition website http://www.fultonschools.org/dept/schoolnutrition/menu_cal.shtml

Please note that the menu is subject to change

Equal opportunity employer and service provider.
Reasonable accommodations and modifications made for the disabled.
Contact 404-763-4585 TTY 1-800-255-0135

To submit articles for the newsletter
Please email Ms. Dorenkamp dorenkamp@fultonschools.org with the subject: Newsletter.... by each Wednesday at noon