



Then and Now: Reflections on Martin Luther King, Jr.

In 1961, my family and I were stationed in Georgia as my father was in the Navy. At the time he was up for a promotion to become chief petty officer and had to take an oral as well as a written exam. He was told there were no right or wrong answers. One of the questions in the oral exam was, "Would you let your children play with Negro children?" Now remember, this was the South in a very volatile time in our nation's history. My dad probably could have taken the easy way out

by saying "no" but he had the courage to say "yes." He said that he didn't think children should be involved with the ignorance of adults. Since I was only three years old at the time I didn't hear this story until years later.

My father doesn't think of himself as courageous for giving the answer he did, but for me it speaks to the very heart of what Martin Luther King Jr.

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Shoreline School District Ballot Measures — February 9!

Communities that value their citizens and neighborhoods also value their educational systems. Shoreline has a long history of supporting our schools. Indeed, the schools are the foundation of our city in many ways.

Voters in our community have a strong and consistent tradition of approving Shoreline School District ballot measures. Shoreline citizens understand that our children deserve great schools. The upcoming election on February 9 provides citizens an opportunity to show their continued support for students and schools!

The Shoreline School District is putting three ballot measures before Shoreline and Lake Forest Park voters on February 9, 2010:

1) A four-year replacement of expiring levy for educational programs, maintenance and operations levy. The maintenance and operations levy, which replaces the four-year levy passed by voters in 2006, will provide the district with about 20 percent of its general operating budget.

2) A \$150 million bond for the modernization/ replacement of Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools. The 2006 bond approved by voters included funds for the planning and design for the two high school projects, but not for the actual construction costs. In order to build new high schools, funding must be approved.

3) A four-year capital levy for technology improvements and support. This levy would provide a funding source for technology in all aspects of the district's program. Currently, the general fund is required to support approximately \$2 million in expenses annually. The technology levy would support the district's technology program and services, as well as fund replacement equipment that students need for today's learning.

If all three proposals are approved, the school tax bill for the average resident of Shoreline and

Lake Forest Park would remain stable at current levels. Visit www.voteyesforshoreschools.org for more information, to donate and to get involved! Any questions? Contact your representatives Dale and Beth Lydin (206) 363-7034 or dblydin@juno.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

January 13, 7 PM

Kickoff Event at the Shoreline Center

January 22, 4 to 6 PM

Parent Sign Waving at Intersection of 205th and Meridian Avenue N.

February 2, 6:30-8:30 AM & 4-6 PM Sign Waving at Intersection of 205th and Meridian Avenue N.

February 8, 6:30-8:30 AM & 4-6 PM Sign Waving at Intersection of 205th and Meridian Avenue N.

CONTACT: Beth Lydin, (206) 363-7034, dblydin@juno.com

**Echo Lake PTA
2009-2010
Executive Officers**

**President
Jocelyn Hudson**

**Co-VP Socials
Susie O'Donnell
Heidi Triesch**

**Secretary
Michele Hamilton**

**Treasurer
Kathy Lynn**

**Contact us:
echolakepta@hotmail.com**

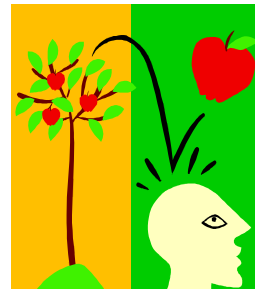
**Don't Miss PTA Family Science Night
Thursday, January 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Come see bats, robots, snakes, earthquakes, rocks, chemical reactions, bugs, lizards, and more! Get ready to get your hands dirty and jump right in!

Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known. — Carl Sagan

Bring your whole family and form a discovery team. Parents, please plan to stay with your children and join in the fun! NO DROP-OFFS ALLOWED.

It's not too late to volunteer to help! We need set up help and people power for some hands-on exhibits. No scientific knowledge required — all training will be provided.



Contact Terry Stevens-Ayers at (206) 542-9938 or jtsayers@pacifier.com

AUCTION CHAIR!

The PTA is in need of a person to run our annual auction in May. Interested persons should contact Jocelyn Hudson at (206) 650-2503 or jlhudson7@hotmail.com.

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tried for many years to convey — we are all in this together and there is no sense in separating or judging each other based on our race. As Echo Lake celebrates Dr. King this month at the Eagle Assembly we can commemorate how far we have come in ending our prejudices. But we still have a ways to go.

If Martin were alive today he would be the same age as my dad. Martin never got to see the fruits of his labor, which gives special poignancy to the continuation of the story.

Whether we are involved in issues and challenges at the national, state, community or PTA level we each can do our part to change the climate of cynicism and powerlessness by taking the kind of risk that my father took.

EVENT CALENDAR

January

- 5: PTA Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 18: No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 19-22: ADK-6, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal 11:50
- 28: PTA Science Night

February

- 1: No School, Teacher Work Day
- 2: PTA Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 5: Multicultural Fair
- 15-19 No School - Midwinter Break
- 26: PTA Ice Skating Night

Our children look to us for hope when we face questions that demand the best we have to offer. One way of honoring Martin's legacy is to pass on to our children his vision that "It all really boils down to this: that all life is inter-related. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

By the way, my dad was promoted.

— *Jocelyn Hudson, Echo Lake PTA President*

Emergency Kits Restocked by PTA

PTA has restocked the classroom emergency kits for the year. What does that mean? This is another of those behind-the-scenes projects that PTA funds are used for. In case of an emergency, lock-down, earthquake, etc, we have put provisions in each classroom to make your kids a little more comfortable until you are able to get to them.

PTA has supplied: water, juice, granola bar, cheese and cracker pack, and fruit snacks for each student and teacher to offer a little food and comfort during what could be a scary (and hungry) time.

Many thanks to the parent volunteers who purchased the supplies, sorted, and distributed it all out to the classrooms: Lisa Bockelie, Pinky Quesada, Kristie Brown, Michelle Hageland, Kathy Lynn, Beth Lydin, Michelle Holguin, and Deb Brooks.