



Black History Month

Author Sharon Draper to Visit Eastside

Thanks to the Alachua County Public Library Youth Services, author Sharon Draper will visit Eastside Feb. 20.

Draper is the author of more than 20 books for teens, as well as short stories, articles and poems. Her writing has been translated into 10 languages, and she has worked around the world encouraging excellence in education.

Draper was a high school English teacher for 25 years. Her writing career began when she won a writing contest after one of her students challenged her to enter.

EHS English teacher, Ms. Stryker, and media specialist, Ms. Faas, have coordinated the program. The only stipulation being that every student attending the presentation has read at least one of Draper's books.

Draper's book *Copper Sun* is used in Florida history programs. *Copper Sun* tells the story of two young slave women, one girl from Africa, and the other, a white girl who was sold into slavery to pay her parents' debt. The girls escape from South Carolina, and find freedom in Fort Mose, Fla., when Florida was still owned by Spain. Slaves from the United States who reached Spanish owned territory became free people. This book reveals aspects of history that are largely unknown, such as the fact that white people were also slaves, and Florida was not part of the United States until 1845.

The media center has a display of Draper's books and other material, including a life-size picture of Draper, for photo ops. Come in and get your picture taken with this famous author.

Pre-collegiate wants you to know that Friday Feb. 22 will be a day to remember. Eastside High students, and others will have a chance to showcase their hidden talents by performing in our annual Black History program. GO RAMS!!!

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Black History Month
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ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL

JEFF CHARBONNET

ASSISTANT

PRINCIPALS

SHERRY ESTES

JAMES SHEPPARD

ADELE TURNAGE

EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

1201 SE 43RD ST.

GAINESVILLE, FL 32641

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Eastside High School Black History Film Festival

Movies about little-known aspects of Black history will be shown on the big screen in the EHS media center during lunch times. Some of the movies include the biography *Percy Julian—Forgotten Genius*, *The Economic Life of African Americans Before the Civil War* and *Out of the Shadows* about the African-Americans who were instrumental in the horseracing industry in the United States.

Percy Julian was a chemist who developed synthetic hormones from soybeans. He invented medicines that helped millions of people, became very wealthy, yet has been forgotten.

Many African Americans in the South before the Civil War were freemen who owned businesses and factories, became financially successful, and even owned their own slaves. Their social status was complicated, as they had to constantly negotiate with other white businesspeople, yet did not have the full rights of citizenship. This extremely interesting class of affluent, successful, educated free blacks has been largely ignored by history.

And who knows that an African American jockey was one of the first winners of the Kentucky Derby, the most famous horse race in the world? Many of the original race horse breeders, trainers and jockeys were African Americans.

Some of them were sons of the plantation owners and enslaved women, and had a higher social status and more educational and career opportunities.

The original American breed of horses, the American Saddlebred, was designed for riding across plantations. These horses have a very smooth stride that lets people ride comfortably for many hours.

The famous boxer Joe Lewis was an accomplished equestrian who was a leader in the development of the American Saddlebred horse breed. Joe Lewis showed his horses and competed successfully at a high level in the sport.

And you thought that all he did was box. Come discover new things during the Black History Film Fest that will be held in the media center during A & B lunches.

If you think that you have your history down to a science, there will also be a little known Black History question posed daily. Hurry on over to the Media Center and drop your correct answer in a jar for a chance to win an awesome prize.

Come on in to the EHS Black History Film Festival and enjoy some new facts.



Joe Louis on a horse in 1935



**EHS Teacher of the Year
Lance Radford**

**EHS Employee of the Year
Saundra Scrivener**



STUDENT GROUPS

Brain Bowl

Eastside's Brain Bowl A team was very successful at the Montverde Academy tournament on Jan. 12. They won second place in the overall competition



after winning all six preliminary matches and the quarter and semi-finals. They lost the finals by only 15 points (about a one question difference), and each member on the team definitely played their part in answering many questions throughout the tournament. The A team is comprised of

Victoria Deal, Eli Barrett, Sage Max and Angela Acosta. Our B and C teams had an excellent time competing, and for many members this was their first competition. The C team was very proud to have defeated a very experienced team from another school. Congratulations Brain Bowl Team.

NHS

The Eastside National Honor Society is currently helping with the outreach program that places food in backpacks for needy families. This is a weekly service project. As a reminder, the need for food is a constant, and donations are always gratefully welcomed.

The week of Jan. 22-25 was designated a toiletry drive in support of our local St. Francis House. An assortment of toiletry items including soap, combs, razors and toothbrushes was collected. NHS wishes to thank faculty, staff and students who provided these items for Gainesville's homeless.

Looking ahead, the club will be creating and delivering Valentine's Day cards to the elderly on Feb. 14, and participating in the spring beautification day here at Eastside. Sometime before Spring Break in March, NHS will hold its annual spring fundraiser by sponsoring a variety of game booths in the green space outside of Building 15.

Dr. Schmidt would like to thank the continued community and scholastic efforts of all the club's members but particularly the officers under the leadership of President Kathryn Horter.

Thespians

Eastside High Thespians troupe 6380 rakes in the superiors at Districts in Jacksonville on Dec. 10. Ms. Meyers was particularly proud of the 14 Superiors in light of a harder grading scale that was adopted this year. Her thespian troupe now advances to STATE on 3/20-24 to participate in workshops, compete and to be a part of the biggest high school theatre conference in the world.

Earning Superiors at districts were:

Solo Music: Jose Brooks, Brittany Bennett,

Chris Shaw, Kyle Tapley,

Monologues: Mary Kate Mulligan, Oscar Becher, Sam Hagen, Flo Fernandez,

Duet Music: Chris Shaw and Kyle Tapley, Dayo Nunn and Loren Terry, Terrance Williams and

Florence DeAsis

Ensemble Music: Brooks and Company (Zach Bennett, Sam Hagen, Brandon Mc Kenzie, Patric Mann)

Ensemble Music: Tapley and Company performing *Gold* from the play *Once*

Ensemble Acting: Oscar Becher, Evan Robins, Mary Kate Mulligan, Janke Mains- Mason, Flo

Fernandez, John Jepson

Runner Up For Best In Category:

Brooks and Co for Ensemble Music/Shaw and Tapley for Duet Music.

EHS Chamber Singers Perform at Disney

The Eastside High School Chamber Singers traveled to Disney World on Nov. 30 to perform for the Disney Candlelight Processional in Epcot Center. They participated in a rehearsal with students from five other schools in Florida and then performed a concert of 16 songs at the American Pavilion



along with a full orchestra and Disney's Voices of Liberty. Narrating the night's performance was Oscar-winner Whoopi Goldberg. The students performed beautifully and had a wonderful weekend at Disney World. Congratulations Chamber Singers.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Attendance and Credits:

Report cards came out on Jan. 28. It is important to look at the credit column. A student can lose credit if they have six or more unexcused absences in any class if they failed the final and/or the semester. There will be a N in the flag field to indicate this. Also if a student fails outright, then of course there will also be no credit awarded.

Students have a few ways they can earn credit back. They can sign up for CROP after school. They can sign up for Adult Ed in Science or Math after school. They can also sign up on Florida Virtual School at www.flvs.net. Don't wait to earn back credit.

If a student does not have a cumulative unweighted GPA of a 2.0 they cannot graduate or participate in any Spring Sports.

Registration for next year's classes:

In February, Guidance will start the process of registering students for the classes for next school year. It is helpful for students to know ahead of time what they think they might want to take. We build the master schedule from the requests. As some students found out this year, schedule changes can be difficult. To prevent issues, students should select carefully. There are some classes that are required and some that are dictated by State Tests like the FCAT, EOC, and PERT. If a student does not score a Level 3 on the Reading FCAT they will be placed into Reading automatically.

For any student who is here on a ZONING Exemption, they MUST reapply each year unless they are here in a magnet program like IB or Culinary Arts. We do those for you. Students can pick up a form in Guidance or they can access online at the School Board's website. Until the Zoning Application is granted we will not be able to register the student.

Senior Highlights:

Guidance has met with all Senior English classes. We have helped the students sign up for their FAFSA pin for Financial Aid and fill out their Florida Financial Aid and Bright Futures Applications. Parents will need to go to www.fafsa.gov to apply for their own pin. Financial Aid must be applied for in order to get grants, scholarships from schools, and loans. It must also be filled out perfectly in order for a student to get their Bright Futures if they qualify for it.

Guidance will hold two help sessions for parents to fill out Financial Aid. Representatives from UF and SFC will also be present at one of them to help as well. Parents need to have already filed their taxes before you can apply for financial aid. We highly suggest that this is done as early in February as possible. Most schools make their financial aid packets and offers in March.

The first Financial Aid help session will be Thursday, Feb.21 from 5:30PM to 6:30PM. The second will be on Sunday, Feb. 24 from 2pm – 3:30pm.

Santa Fe College Scholarships applications are due Feb. 28. Alachua County School Foundation Scholarship applications are due March 1. These are all local scholarships.

Seniors should really know where they stand at this time for graduation in regards to grade point averages, credits, and test scores needed. Students can still sign up for the ACT at www.act.org and the SAT at www.collegeboard.org. The next SAT is March 9, and the next ACT is April 13 that they can sign up for now.

FCAT Retakes will be the week of April 8.

Grad Bash tickets are on sale now for \$115. Seniors can purchase them from Ms. Thames. Prom tickets go on sale Feb. 4. They start at \$35 and go up \$5 each week.

Graduation Speech try-outs will be April 25th at 2:45pm in the Auditorium. Speeches should be no longer than 3 minutes and 2 copies must be provided.

Senior Exams are May 22nd – 24th. Seniors last day on campus is May 24th. Awards and Scholarship Night is May 28th at 6pm. Cap and Gown pick up is May 30th from 3:30pm – 4:30pm outside the Hungry Ram. Graduation Practice is May 31st at 3pm at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. Graduation is June 1st at 2pm. Seniors must be there at 12:30pm. It is the O'Connell Center. Seating is first come, first serve.

Chef Emeril Lagasse

Eastside High School culinary students were asked to travel to Orlando where they met with Chef



Emeril Lagasse. Students Johnny Zokovitch, Abby Gilkey, Sean Ahern, Mike Hill, Holli Manchi, Kiyana Reed and Jamal Hendricks traveled to Orlando and

watched as part of a program about chocolate was filmed then had a tasting with Chef Emeril and enjoyed unbelievable chocolates.

After talking about 30 minutes and having jackets signed the students made a commercial that is airing throughout Florida about the ProStart Culinary Arts programs offered throughout Florida.

Chef Emeril is an American celebrity chef, restaurateur, television personality and cookbook author. A regional James Beard Award winner, he is perhaps most notable for his Food Network shows Emeril Live and Essence of Emeril as well as catchphrases such as “Kick it up a notch!” and “Bam!”

The link below will take you to the Emeril ProStart commercial. This link is for the video that we uploaded to our YouTube channel. <http://youtu.be/7JHu7KIVr4o>

Guest Chef and Alumni Shares His Love of Pork

Noam Bilitzer, Eastside alum (2011) and more recently a Johnson and Wales alumni, visited the Institute of Culinary Arts and brought along a friend of sorts. If you want to call a 100 lb. pig a friend. As an ICA alumni, Noam is very aware of the time and dedication it takes to make a difference, and he was more than thrilled to have an opportunity to give back to a program that helped him in his chosen career field.

Chef Bilitzer gave a demonstration on pork fabrication. He lectured about sustainability, farm to table dining and the responsibilities future chefs and restaurateurs owe their dining public. They were able to identify the different cuts of pork and were taught different

recipes to best utilize the specific cuts of meat. Students were hands on with the fabrication process and even got to taste some of the end results.



Are you an artist or a writer?

Aries Literary Magazine has extended the deadline for submissions to Feb. 12. Submit any works of art, short stories or poems. It is accepting submissions on any subject, but the magazine is looking for works centered around youth and childhood or adolescence. The top submissions will win prizes.

Submissions can be dropped off in Mrs. Reynierson’s room 09-003, or in the submission box located in the library to the left of the main door. IB juniors can receive CAS hours for their submissions.

Contact Lauren Strickland, Bushra Guenon, or Rain Pritchett for more information.

ORDER YOUR RAMCOUNTRY YEARBOOK TODAY!

Time is quickly running out to order your 2012-13 Eastside yearbook!

First Come, First Serve Basis
Don’t miss out on your chance to capture the memories that will last a lifetime!

Order online at
Smart-pay.com
(75\$)

Thank you for your support of the Ram Country yearbook staff

Spanish

Mrs Zelaya's IB Spanish II students wrote bilingual fairy tales, made puppets, and then they presented their stories to the Spanish I students. Visitors from Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Torres and Mr. Thiam rotated among the different puppet theaters and listened to the stories, first in Spanish, and then in English. The authors read and used the puppet theaters to present. Students practiced oral and listening skills in a foreign language, made use of computers and their creativity to come up with original fairy tales. Approximately 250 students were involved.



The best stories will be selected to be presented during story time at the downtown library during National Hispanic Heritage Month in October-November.

Supplies for this project were provided by SAC and PTSA grants.

Thank You

Dear Parents,

Teacher Appreciation kicks off the week of April 22nd. Ninety-four teachers and 40 staff members will be honored. Given the number of wonderful teachers and staff members we are honoring, we thought it might be a good idea to start planning for the big week, especially since we are operating on a shoestring budget.

One of the festivities we are planning is a raffle where every teacher, staff member, and administrator receives a small gift as a token of our appreciation. We are hoping that you may be able to help by donating a small gift card for the raffle. Gift cards from local restaurants, ice cream shops, Starbucks, Regal Cinema, Publix or any other local store are abundantly appreciated. If you prefer, you can simply contribute money in the form of a check made out to EHS PTSA with Teacher Appreciation on the subject line, and Sue Berg and I would be more than happy to purchase a teacher gift on your behalf.

Donations can be dropped off with Mrs. Reedy in the front office with a note that includes your name and the words "Teacher Appreciation" on the envelope.

Thank you so much.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sue Berg at jsgkberg@windstream.net or Cindy Naranjo at cnaranjo@coe.ufl.edu.

Dear EHS Families,

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of the EHS PTSA. This year our membership exceeded 200 families.

We are excited to report that our grants program has funded five teacher mini-grants with another cycle pending in February. We have sponsored one Beautification Day and another is scheduled for April 20 from 9:00 - 12:00; be sure to bring your rakes and gloves.

With the help of our guidance department, we were able to put on a very successful College Night program in the fall. This spring we have two more scheduled events, Teens in the Driver Seat on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. featuring speakers from the Alachua County Sheriff's Department and The Florida Farm Bureau, including demonstrations from the seat belt convincer. We will also provide a Resume Writing and Interview Skills Workshop on April 9, at 6 p.m. We hope these two events will benefit all our families.

We are currently seeking board members for next year, and we always welcome fresh ideas. Please contact us at ebsayeski@yahoo.com if you are interested in serving on the board or if you have any ideas to pass along. We appreciate all your support that allows us to provide our teachers with classroom items and show them our appreciation for all they do for our children.

Eileen Sayeski – EHS PTSA President

A heartfelt thank you to all the wonderful parents who contribute to the monthly faculty and staff breakfast. We couldn't do it without your support and generous donations. Thank you.

Sue Berg and Cindy Naranjo,
Faculty Breakfast Coordinators

Breakfast Team: Janis Acosta, Rosemary Bakker, Rajshree Bhosale, Sara Burks, Kristin Burns, Amilda Clark, Suzanne Cockey, Allison Cunningham, Veronica Donoso, Ann Eisenstadt, Cheryl Gehrke, Karen Griffis, Amy Kellerman, Tomiko Kutyna, Susie Kuykendall, Bin Liu, Mary Markham, Shaun Merolle, Sandra Murphy-Pak, Beth Newsom, Jagruti Patel, Sonja Reeves, Monica Rollins, Michelle Ropp, Lisa Stanton, Jean Theurer, Claudia Vega, Geraldine Weinstein, Jay Whitehead, Edith Williams and Lisa Worthy