



## Mantua PTA Alert News October 11, 2011



### Mantua's 50th Anniversary Celebration is Less Than One Week Away!

Mantua Elementary's 50th Anniversary Fall Festival Celebration is less than one week away! In order to make the day run smoothly and offer lots of fun activities, we are looking for the following:

Volunteers: Sign up for one or more 45-minute or 1-hour shifts here:

<http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/752345634521864081> or email

Teresa LeMair at [teresalemair@aol.com](mailto:teresalemair@aol.com) to let her know when you can help! It is especially helpful if volunteers sign up earlier rather than later so we know where we may need help!

- **Canopies Needed:** We are in need of 10x10 or 12x12 canopies for this event! If you have a canopy you can loan us, please email Teresa LeMair.
- **Balloon Animal Makers:** Do you know how to make balloon animals or are willing to learn? We are looking for some balloon artists! Adults or older children are welcome. Please sign up at the link above, or contact Teresa LeMair.

**Old Cars:** If you own a car built in the 60's, 70's or 80's (or know someone who does), and would be willing to be a part of a car show, please contact our coordinators at [Mantua50th@hotmail.com](mailto:Mantua50th@hotmail.com).

### Your Family's Student Directory Information Available for Your Review

Mantua's Student Directory is in the process of being updated. You should have received an e-mail recently that displayed your family's information. Please either confirm or correct your information. If you don't respond either way, your data will be printed as shown in the e-mail. Families without an e-mail address will receive a paper copy of their information with further instructions. Contact [WebParent@MantuaPTA.org](mailto:WebParent@MantuaPTA.org) as soon as possible if your family has an e-mail address and you didn't receive the directory e-mail, or if you have questions. You have until

[Don't Miss Mantua's 50th Celebration](#)

[Student Directory Information Available for Review](#)

[Human Relations Committee](#)

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#### Quick Links

[PTA Website](#)

[Parents Info Center](#)

[Alert News Articles](#)

[PTA Webmaster](#)

Thursday, Oct. 13, to confirm and/or correct your information. If you have chosen for your family to 'opt out' of all publications and you still received a system email, please let the Web Parent know. Thank you!

### *Human Relations Committee*

Mantua sponsors a Human Relations Committee, which is appointed by the principal to represent the school community, and includes staff and parents of different backgrounds. The committee is a forum to discuss any issues related to human relations in the school, and to promote a climate of positive relations for all. The committee meets four times during the school year.

During the past 3 years the committee has discussed various topics including: ways to promote welcoming and acceptance for all student and families, including various minority groups; sensitivity to various religious backgrounds related to seasonal decorations in the school; and considerations for families facing economic hardships. The meetings are open to all. The committee is seeking any concerns or issues you may have pertaining to human relations at the school. Our first meeting will be held Friday, Oct. 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15a.m. in the school library. Contact Teresa McConnel, who chairs the committee, at [Teresa.McConnel@fcps.edu](mailto:Teresa.McConnel@fcps.edu), with questions or if you would like to offer a topic for discussion.

### *Help Mantua Earn Cash by Recycling*

Send in your used ink jet or laser printer cartridges, cell phones, PDAs and laptops from home or work to earn money for school programs and materials. Accessories such as chargers, extra batteries, cases, headsets, etc., also can be donated. Please place all items in the gray Rubbermaid container in the school's front lobby. Mantua earns money by recycling these items through the Cartridges For Kids program. It pays to be green!

### *Destination Imagination, Odyssey of the Mind Meeting*

Learn about Destination Imagination and Odyssey of the Mind during an informational session on Monday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. These two extraordinary, creative, problem-solving programs invite student teams from all over the world to solve mind-bending challenges and problems. These extracurricular activities require cooperation between students and volunteer adults. Students learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to

problem solving. This informational session is for both students and parents! Contact Lesley Kowalski at [mantuaptaprez@gmail.com](mailto:mantuaptaprez@gmail.com) with questions or for more information.

## Fall Box Tops/Labels for Education Contest Runs Through Oct. 28

Fall Box Tops Contest starts from Monday, Oct. 3 through Friday, Oct. 28. Our goal for this year is to raise \$1,500. Please send in Box Tops labels and Labels for Education UPC labels in a plastic zip bag with the teacher's name and the grade on it. Please don't send in expired labels. Labels should be dropped in the collection box by the front office.

Look for the large bar graph by the collection box to show which class is ahead. There will be a special prize for the class brings the most labels. Please check these websites for the list of participating products: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com).

Ask your neighbors, co-workers, church members, and community/business members to help you collect the labels. Contact Christie Choi at [choichristie@yahoo.com](mailto:choichristie@yahoo.com) for more information.

## Reflections Art Program

Create a piece of art, literature, photography, music, film/video, dance/choreography to the 2011-12 theme: "DIVERSITY MEANS..." Entries will be due to the PTA on Friday, Oct. 28, by 4 p.m. (deposit entries in the designated box near the PTA mailbox in front office). Please refer to the official Reflections entry rules. Additional entry forms are available at the front table in the lobby. PLEASE BE SURE TO FOLLOW RULES exactly for entries or entry cannot be sent up to the district level. All participants will receive a ribbon. All forms required for entries and rules for each category can be found on the Mantua PTA website at <http://www.mantuapta.org/activities/reflections.php> Contact Jackie DeScisciolo at [jdescisciolo@gmail.com](mailto:jdescisciolo@gmail.com) with questions.

## Test your Mantua Elementary School Knowledge

This weeks 50th Trivia question:

*Q: In what year did Fairfax County Public Schools begin offering kindergarten? And in what year was P.E. first offered at Mantua, and only to 6th grade students?*

See answer below.

## Important Upcoming Events

Thurs. Oct 13: PTA Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 15: Mantua 50th Anniversary Celebration, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 28: Fall Spirit Parade

## PTA Members: Please Vote on Issues Related to Your Children

There is an upcoming vote on three items from the Virginia Proposed Legislative Program. A description of these items can be found on the PTA website. You may now vote on these items [HERE](#) (this link is also on Mantua's website). Your ballots are confidential, but we do require your name to verify PTA membership. Paper ballots will be available at the October PTA meeting, and voting will close the day after this meeting. Thank you for your support!

## Trivia Answer

*Fairfax County Public Schools began offering kindergarten and P.E. to 6th grade students in 1968.*

## Fairfax Education Summit

You are invited to join parents, students, community members, business leaders, principals, teachers, and PTA leaders at the second annual Fairfax Education Summit hosted by the Fairfax County School Board on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at Woodson High School. The summit will engage participants in a rich discussion on the topic of customizing public education. Dr. Jack Dale, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, will lead a panel discussion about the changing landscape of education from a parent, student, teacher, higher education, and business perspective. In this lively summit, all participants will be exploring critical questions and discussing how FCPS can better prepare our students for the future. Visit <http://www.fcps.edu/news/summit.htm> for more information and to register for the summit.

## Woodson Varsity Precisionettes Dance Camp, Nov. 7-8

Want something energetic and fun for your kids to do during the upcoming teacher workdays? Let the Woodson Dance Team provide a fun, safe and healthy experience for them! Come learn some dance moves from the award winning W.T. Woodson Precisionettes. The participants will learn dances, play games, make crafts, and

most of all, have fun! Participants will be divided by age during dancing to provide the most meaningful experience for all. Space is limited so register early. All participants receive a t-shirt and crafts made at camp. The camp will be Monday and/or Tuesday, Nov. 7 and 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fee is \$45 for one day or \$65 for both days. Register early. The fee goes up after Oct. 28. Download a registration form [HERE](#). Contact camp coordinators Madelyn Weaver, at [madelynweaver@yahoo.com](mailto:madelynweaver@yahoo.com), or Anne Foster, at [dancecamp11@yahoo.com](mailto:dancecamp11@yahoo.com), for more information.

## Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to [alertnews@mantuapta.org](mailto:alertnews@mantuapta.org).

Submissions MUST be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系雷晓春女士。电话：703-425-1097

电子信箱：[sabrina.lei@yahoo.com](mailto:sabrina.lei@yahoo.com)

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 [choichristie@yahoo.com](mailto:choichristie@yahoo.com).

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt, xin liên lạc [sonha60@hotmail.com](mailto:sonha60@hotmail.com)

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriella Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a [ganumbela@hotmail.com](mailto:ganumbela@hotmail.com).

For more information, please visit our website:

[www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org)

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

