



# Mantua PTA Alert News

December 9, 2003

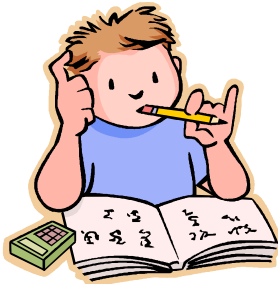
## ***Donations for Cameron!***

As many of you know, one of Mantua's first grader's, Cameron McClain, was diagnosed with leukemia in October. He is undergoing chemotherapy in preparation for a bone marrow transplant early next year. Unfortunately, insurance does not begin to cover all of the financial costs of treatment. A non-profit account at SunTrust called "Cameron's Cause" has been set up for those wishing to donate. If you are interested in a donation, please make a check payable to "Cameron's Cause," and send it to school in a sealed envelope marked, "Cameron's Cause, PTA Box." If there are any donations remaining after the family has covered the expenses incurred, they will go to organizations that support children with leukemia. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Promisel at [ppromisel@cox.net](mailto:ppromisel@cox.net) or 703-280-9812.

## ***Time to Order the***

### ***2003-2004 Mantua Yearbook***

It's time to order the 2003 - 2004 Mantua Yearbook so that your child is guaranteed his/her own copy! Although extra copies will be sold on a served basis. is the only way child a copy! book will be the be packed full of tion of photo-dids, groups, traits of all the and all your special friends having fun while they learn -- and all the events that helped to make up this great school year!



Although extra ordered, they'll first-come, first- Ordering ahead to ensure your This year's Year- best ever! It will the best collec- graphs -- can- individual por- students, faculty,

### **New This Year**

*Order your Yearbook online!* See the link on the PTA home page at [www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org).

## ***Book Fair Thanks***

The 2003 Mantua Book Fair was a great success, earning the library \$6775.58. We would like to thank all of the parents who volunteered their time to help run the Book Fair; we couldn't do it without you. Thanks also to all who purchased books at the Fair; the profits from your sales go directly to the library.

Teachers' wish lists will be available through December. The lists have been placed in a folder in the library office. If you would still like to buy a book for your child's teacher, consult the list and cross off your choice. Books are always appreciated by our teachers.

Next year will be our last year to chair the Book Fair. We would like to find 2 or more people who would be interested in taking it over and who could work with us next fall. If you are interested, please contact us by phone or email. Candy Xenos at 703-383-5168 or [cxenos@lerosnet.com](mailto:cxenos@lerosnet.com), or Sheri Bulger at 703-426-1837 or [bulgersheri@msn.com](mailto:bulgersheri@msn.com)

## ***Kids Care Club Holiday Project: Gift Giving***

The Kids Care Club has decided to adopt two local families and brighten their holidays. We are asking for your help to supply these families with a holiday meal and gifts for each member of the family. Our two families live in the local area. One has 8 children, and the other has one. We will accept donations until **Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. On that afternoon, the Kids Care Club will make 2 *special* deliveries, one to each family. See the flyer in the Tuesday folder for more information, and see the handy gift guide available from the PTA home page, [www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org).

## ***Recent Highlights from Mrs. Fernandez***

- Wednesday evening at our December PTA meeting, we had a very informative presentation regarding drug and alcohol prevention. It was eye-opening information, that I feel all parents need to hear. **(We will be setting up a parent evening on this topic sometime after the holidays. I would highly encourage you to make time to attend this event.)**
- Despite the two-hour delayed opening on Friday, our 14 sixth-grade student representatives participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual United Nations Student Conference on Human Rights. Two high school students from Broadneck High School in Annapolis, Maryland joined our students in the Distance Learning Center. The videoconference began at 9:15 and finished at 4:15. Our students did a wonderful job representing Mantua and working with students from around the world to develop an Action Plan that focused on this year's theme *Education For All*.
- On Friday afternoon, fifth grade students watched and participated in a planetarium presentation!
- Our new Ricoh copier was delivered this week. It was a big hit with the staff!

# Mantua PTA Alert News (Page 2)

---

## ***Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee***

Tuesday evening, December 9, is the next meeting of the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater at Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. Dr. Domenech will introduce the new acting chief academic officer, Dr. Brad Draeger, review the 2005-09 capital improvement program, talk about the latest budget developments, and preview the January session of the Virginia General Assembly. All in an hour and a half!

These are issues vital to the health of Fairfax County Public Schools. All are welcome to attend.

## ***Songs of the Season***

The W. T. Woodson and the Frost Middle School Choral Departments cordially invite you to attend their winter concerts. These are wonderful opportunities for the students, parents, staff and friends of the schools in the Frost/Woodson pyramid to get a glimpse of what their future music programs have to offer! On Thursday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m., director Michael Ehrlich and the five Woodson choirs will present a multicultural blend of songs sure to get you in the mood for the winter season and holidays. If you miss that date (or like what you hear!) you'll have a second opportunity on Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m., when director Jennifer Penserga and her three Frost choirs lead us joyously into the long winter break. Both concerts will be presented in the Joan Bedinger Auditorium at the W.T. Woodson High School. As always, both concerts are free of charge. See you there!

*Please see the other side for more Alert News*

## ***Helping Hands Holiday Bazaar***

We continue to collect items for the Culmore Area Kids Helping Hands Holiday Bazaar. New items needed are: mittens, hats, coats, Barbies, Hotwheels, arts and crafts kits, basketballs, soccer balls, and other sporting equipment. Items can be donated to this worthy cause until Dec 14. Please leave them in the box in the foyer. Thanks. *Jennifer Cooper*

## ***Providence Players Winter Production***

Providence Players will perform *The Good Doctor*, by Neil Simon, on January 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, and 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Frost Middle School. Mantuans Beth and David Whitehead direct the Good Doctor, and featured performers include many Mantua parents, as well as two Woodson HS students. This comedy has something for everyone to enjoy. Be prepared to laugh and be moved by some memorable characters, including a sneezing theatre-goer, an incompetent dentist, young innocents experiencing some of life's trials, and older folks finding pleasure in their unique friendship. Please call our ticket line at 703-425-6782 or email [providenceplayers@cox.net](mailto:providenceplayers@cox.net) to order your tickets today! Single show ticket prices are \$12.00/\$7.00 for youth/seniors. Group discounts are available, and we accept credit card orders. Proceeds benefit the Frost MS PTA. And an evening of theater makes a great holiday gift!

### ***Alert News Contributions***

Send via email to [brandman@erols.com](mailto:brandman@erols.com). Questions? Call 703-383-1005. Thanks to Jeriann Stone Mikesh and Donna Konigsberg for copying and distributing the Alert News.

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