



Mantua PTA Alert News

January 13, 2004

Basketball Schedule

The schedule of Mantua Basketball games and practices for January is available on the PTA web site. Go to www.MantuaPTA.org, click the Activities tab, and click the Basketball link. The February schedule will be posted the **moment** it's published, so check back!

Architect Presentation on Woodson

The Woodson renovation will be the topic of a presentation by FCPS planners and architects on Tuesday, January 13 at 6:45 p.m. at Woodson. Our children will be attending classes at Woodson during the renovation, so this presentation is of interest to all of us.

Wizards Half-Price Nights ...

The next half-price night is January 19, with a game against Chicago. Contact Jen Seidel at 202-628-3200, ext. 3867, or jseidel@washsports.com. Tickets can be mailed or picked up at the will-call window. Questions, contact Julia Margulies, 703-978-7156 or margfam2@aol.com.

... And Two Special Wizards Nights!

We have another great offer of discounted tickets for two upcoming games! These are \$90 seats on the 200 level -- and they're available to us for \$25 each! The first game is on Friday, January 30, against Phoenix, and the second is on Sunday, February 22, against Milwaukee. To purchase tickets, contact Bridget Kapcar at bkapcar@washsports.com (preferred) or 202-628-3200, x6986. The tickets will be mailed to you or, if necessary, can be picked up at the will-call window.

Talent Show News

Auditions for *Share to Care -- A Talent Show*, dedicated to Cameron McClain and Cameron's Cause, will be complete this Thursday. Performers will be notified of their rehearsal time -- Thursday or Friday, February 5 or 6, from 3:30 - 5:15 in the gym. The Talent Show is on February 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Principal's Coffee

For those of you who made a New Years Resolution to attend a Principal's Coffee, now is your chance. Our first Principal's Coffee of 2004 will be on Thursday, January 22, starting at 9:30 a.m. Come meet new friends and principal Jan-Marie Fernandez. The topic for this month is "Developing a Life-Long Reader." We will be discussing how kids learn to read and how to keep them interested in reading as they get older. We are hoping to have a reading specialist join Jan-Marie.

Just two more opportunities for Coffees this school year!

- Wednesday, March 24 -- SOL testing
- Thursday, May 13 -- Topic to be decided. If you have an idea or area about which you'd like to learn more, contact Barb Suidikas.

All of the Principal's Coffees are at Barb's home, 3819 Acosta Rd. Contact her at 703-385-0358 or Suidi-barb@aol.com.

FCCPTA Meeting

The next general-membership meeting of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs will be on Thursday, January 29, at 7:30 p.m. at Jackson Middle School. For more information, see their web site, www.fccpta.org.

Please see the other side for more Alert News

Raccoon Run

All are invited to the next planning meeting on Tuesday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Next Kids Care Club Meeting

The Kids Care Club will meet on Thursday, January 22, from 3:30 - 4:30 in the cafeteria. We will plan and advertise the Talent Show. Please contact Jennifer Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com or 703-426-2490 to say you'll attend.

Blood and Fund Drive for Cameron McClain

Mantua first grader Cameron McClain was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL), Philadelphia Chromosome positive (PH+), late last year. He is currently undergoing chemotherapy in preparation for a bone marrow transplant in February. As part of his treatment, Cameron requires frequent blood transfusions.

To show our support to Cameron and his family, Mantua Elementary and Annandale Preschool are co-sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, January 22, from 11:00 - 5:00 in the social hall of the Little River United Church of Christ, at 8410 Little River Turnpike (across from NOVA). If you would like to donate blood, please contact Pam Promisel at ppromisel@cox.net or 703-280-9812 to schedule an appointment. **Information and a sign-up form are available in the "Blood Drive for Cameron" item on the PTA web site at www.MantuaPTA.org.**

If you are interested in contributing to the "Cameron's Cause" fund set up to offset costs not covered by insurance, send a check made out to "Cameron's Cause" to school in an envelope marked: "Cameron's Cause, PTA Box." If you prefer, send your check directly to Pam Promisel at 8938 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax, VA 22031. For more information, see the PTA web site. Thank you!

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Mantua Band and Strings Concerts

The Mantua Band and Strings Ensembles announce their Winter and Spring Concert dates as February 3 and May 18. Both programs will be held at Woodson High School at 7:00 p.m. The students have been working very hard and are progressing very well! Dress code is a white dress-style shirt or blouse and black pants. Dress-style black shoes are also needed. Parents are asked to place these two dates on their calendars now in order to avoid any last-minute conflicts.

Reflections Council-Level Results

Congratulations to the following students who received special recognition at the Council level of judging:

- Sarah Smoot, grade K, Award of Merit, Photography (57 entries were submitted from students from other Council level schools)
- Emily Cox, 2nd grade, Award of Excellence, Literature (of 87 entries)
- Johannah Gehman, 5th grade, Award of Merit, Visual Arts (of 87 entries)

A job well done!

Summer Enrichment Fair

There will be a Summer Enrichment Fair on January 22, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Oakton High School. This event is free and open to all interested students and parents! Learn about summer camps that offer academic and other enrichment programs, such as art and music. Representatives from the camps will be on hand to meet with you and answer questions about their programs. Come find out about a variety of camps and find a camp that is right for you. Oakton High School is located on 2900 Sutton Road. The fair is sponsored by the Fairfax County Association for the Gifted. For more information, visit www.fcag.org.

Hands on Science Starts Soon

The winter session of Hands on Science is due to start the week of January 19 -- Monday classes will start on February 2. Your child's class leader will contact you to confirm location before his/her first class. Questions? Contact Randi Kirkland at 703-208-2262 or randi_kirkland@yahoo.com.

Alert News Contributions

Send via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org, or call 703-383-1005. Thanks to Jeriann Stone Mikesh and Donna Konigsberg for copying and distributing the Alert News.

www.mantuapta.org

3rd Annual Kickstart:

Soccer Clinic for Girls 6-13

The FPYC Hotshots, a U-13 girls travel team, is once again holding its annual girls soccer clinic run by GMU Women's Soccer team. This year it will be held indoors at Thomas Jefferson HS on Sunday, February 29. It is open to all girls aged 6 - 13, but limited to the first 100 enrollments. Please visit our website at www.fpyshotshots.20m.com, or call clinic chairperson Monica Romig at 703-385-5710 for more information. This is a great way to get back into the soccer season!

Seventh-Grade Registration

Counselors will be registering rising 7th-grade students the last two weeks of February. Students will have an opportunity to review registration materials and participate in a question/answer session. The 7th-grade Parent Orientation will be held February 26 (snow date is March 4).

Please see the other side for more Alert News

Providence Players Winter Production

Providence Players will perform *The Good Doctor*, by Neil Simon, on January 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 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.

Woodson Baseball Camp

WT Woodson Baseball will hold a Winter Youth Training Camp for students ages 7-13. It will be held in the Woodson gym, and there will be 3 Sunday sessions: January 25, February 1, and February 8. Ages 7-9 will go from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., and ages 10-13 from 10:30 a.m. - noon. Campers will work on hitting, base running, fielding, and throwing. The cost is \$48, and the registration deadline is January 17. For more information or to get an application, contact Varsity Baseball Coach Chris Warren at 703-250-9597.