



Mantua PTA Alert News

January 20, 2004

Mantua Carnival: Hold That Date!

The annual PTA-sponsored Carnival will be held on Saturday, March 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The theme this year is "Space Quest." There will be lots of Galactic games, a cake walk at Cake Canaveral, a Galaxy Trading Post (garage sale), a selection of Space Provisions (food) at the Cosmic Cafe, and more. As in the past, there will be a poster contest, a cake-decorating contest, a raffle sale, and lots of prizes. Watch for more information on opportunities to assist in the Voyage. Questions? Contact Carnival Coordinators Pam Promisel at 703-280-9812 or ppromisel@cox.net, or Laura Mead at 703-876-2688 or lauramead@cox.net.

Mantua Night with the Capitals

The Caps will be playing the Vancouver Canucks on Saturday, January 31, at 7:00 p.m. -- and it's Mantua Night! The special Mantua rate for upper-level mezzanine ends seating is \$25 (regular price is \$39). For more information, see the order form at www.MantuaPTA.org/info/Mantuaelementaryschoolcapitalsnight.pdf.

GT Program at UVA

Gifted and talented students rising into grades 5-8 or 9-11 are eligible to apply for a two-week residential program at UVA. More information and applications for the program are available from Mantua counselor Miss Jones or online at <http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/enrich>. They are due to UVA no later than February 14, 2004. Students do NOT have to be enrolled in the FCPS Gifted and Talented Program to apply for this exciting opportunity.

Raccoon Run

Please come to the planning meeting on Tuesday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Contact Jennifer Cooper if you would like to help plan this special event.

Principal's Coffee

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 Principal's Coffees are at Barb's home, 3819 Acosta Rd. Contact her at 703-385-0358 or Suidibarb@aol.com.

Share to Care -- A Talent Show

Auditions are complete -- and what a great show it is going to be!! Extra special too, as we dedicate it to Cameron McClain in hopes that he gets well soon as he fights leukemia. There is so much talent at Mantua -- you don't want to miss this opportunity: Saturday, February 7, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale the week of the show and at the door -- adults \$3 and students (6th grade and under) \$2. We will also be selling **pizza** before the show and refreshments at intermission. If you'd like to donate baked goods for intermission treats or can help during the show, please contact Jennifer Cooper, jalcooper@aol.com or 703-426-2490.

Next Kids Care Club Meeting

Hope to see everyone at this Thursday's meeting in the cafeteria at 3:30. We will be working on the Talent Show: making posters, assigning jobs for show night, and scheduling announcements for Good Morning Mantua. If your child would like to attend, please contact Jennifer Cooper.

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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Regarding Web Page Error Messages

A few people have commented that error messages appear when they go to the PTA web site. If you are using Internet Explorer, it may be possible to turn off the messages:

- Click the Tools menu, and select Internet Options.
- Click the Advanced tab.
- Find the line item "Disable script debugging," and ensure it is checked.
- Find the line item "Display a notification about every script error," and ensure it is NOT checked.
- Click OK

Error messages are a great help to web developers, but no use at all to other users. Feel free to turn them off!

Please see the other side for more Alert News

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.

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.

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

Wizards Half-Price Nights ...

The next half-price night is February 22, with a game against Milwaukee. Contact Jen Seidel at 202-628-3200, ext. 3867, or jseidel@washesports.com. Tickets can be mailed or picked up. 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 for \$25 each! The games are January 30 against Phoenix and February 22 against Milwaukee. Contact Bridget Kapcar at bkapcar@washesports.com (preferred) or 202-628-3200, x6986. Tickets can be mailed or picked up.

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!

Providence Players Winter Production

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

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.