



Mantua PTA Alert News

October 14, 2003

There's an Election Coming! Oh, You Noticed?

Personally, our favorite part of an election season is when the candidates' organizations pick up the signs. At the Alert, we try to avoid editorializing, but we don't think it's *too* much of a stretch toward personal opinion to posit that it's every American's responsibility to educate him/herself on the issues of the day and then to vote their opinions on Election Day, Nov 4! There are plenty of issues -- for example, the bond referendum that will include funding for the Woodson renovation -- that affect us Mantuans, and as the Day draws near, several sets of candidate forums will be held.

Providence District Supervisor Debate

- Tuesday, October 21, 7:30 p.m.
- Dunn-Loring Area III FCPS Admin Bldg, NW corner of Gallows and Idylwood Rds, SW entrance
- Moderated by League of Women Voters

At-Large School Board Candidate Forum

- Tuesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.
- Luther Jackson MS Auditorium, 3020 Gallows Rd
- Sponsored by Fairfax County Council of PTAs

Candidate Forum for State Senate, State Delegate and Providence District Supervisor

- Wednesday, October 22, 8:20 - 9:30 p.m.
- Mantua ES
- Moderated/sponsored by Mantua Citizens Assoc.

School Board Candidates Forum

- Monday, October 20, 7:30 p.m.
- Thomas Jefferson HS Auditorium, 6560 Braddock Rd
- Sponsored by Fairfax County Association for the Gifted (info at www.fcag.org or 703-917-7960)

More details are available at the PTA web site at www.MantuaPTA.org.

Kids Care Club: Help Support our Troops

The Kids Care Club continues to collect "comfort" items for the many injured service men and women returning from overseas being treated in our area military hospitals. We will be donating these items to the American Red Cross at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. If you would like to help this charitable cause, please donate the following items, and place them into the box located inside the front entrance to Mantua Elementary School through October 21: note cards, stamps, phone cards, disposable cameras, candy, snacks (individually wrapped), clothing for guys and gals for physical therapy (T-shirts, shorts, sweat pants, sweatshirts, socks, boxers/briefs), college-logo T-shirts, flip-flops, books/magazines, other "comfort" items. Questions, contact Traci Fisher, at 703-280-9657 or cptsfish@aol.com or Jennifer Cooper at 703-426-2490 or jalcooper@aol.com. Thanks for your support.

Architect Presentation: Woodson Renovation

There will be a presentation by the architects regarding the renovation of Woodson at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, in the Woodson library. The renovation is slated to begin in fall of 2006 and be completed in 2011, so it continues to be a topic of much interest for us! Everyone is welcome.

Don't forget that the coming election's bond item includes money for the Woodson renovation!

Kids Care Club: Upcoming Meetings

The Kids Care Club will be busy this fall. Mark your calendars for our next meetings!

- Thursday, October 23, to make get well cards for the Troops and package up our donations. We will also discuss Sight Night collection for the Lions Club/Lenscrafters program of donating old eyeglasses. See the PTA Newsletter for more information.
- Thursday, November 6, to gear up for LEAF RAKING.

Sally Foster: The Home Stretch

Thank you so much for turning in your Sally Foster and Harry London order forms. Our trusty band of volunteers happily processed the orders this week to ensure that you will receive your products during the parent-teacher conferences on November 3 and 4. We are still looking for more volunteers to help with delivery on October 30, from 10:00 till noon. If you would like to volunteer or have any other questions, please contact Lynn Richmond at 703-280-0220 or lynnrichmond95@cox.net or Jeannine Davies at 703-383-1256 or j9davies@cox.net.

Help Us Create an Error-Free Directory!

This year's edition of the Student Directory is ready to go to press! Please help us make it error free. A draft copy of the directory is available in a password-protected library at the PTA web site. Please open the directory and find the entry for your child or children. Then check the entry for errors. **Report any errors** to Carole Thomas at MantuaPTA@aol.com or 703-978-6159 **by Friday, October 17**. The protected directory is at www.mantuapta.org/private/. Enter user name *mantuapta* and password *raccoon*.

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Online Auction Happenings

There's lots of activity at the Auction's web site, at www.mantuaPTAauction.org!

- Buy tickets for event night. After you enter the Auction site, just click the "Buy Tickets for..." pulldown, and choose "Auction Night." You'll be given the opportunity to buy tickets and pay securely by credit card.
- Buy raffle tickets. From the "Buy Tickets for..." pulldown, choose "Raffle Tickets." And of course, you need not be present to win!
- Bid online. An excellent sampling of Auction items has been put up for *online-only* bidding! Check the "Online Only" catalog, or simply go to "Bid and Check Status" to see current bids and to place your own. You'll need your bidder number to bid online. If you've already RSVP'ed for the auction, you should have received your bidder number by phone or email (if not, contact Mary Jo Kavjian at 703-280-5277 or mkavjian@goodwinhousewest.org). If you haven't RSVP'ed, you can request a bidder number on the auction web site.

All these online activities will end promptly at 9:00 p.m. on Friday, October 17, so we can prepare for the season's singular event, *The Taste of the Town Masquerade and Auction*.

See you online, and see you at the Auction!

SPAC

The Superintendent's Parent Advisor Council will hold its first meeting of the year today, Tuesday, October 14, at Falls Church High School. Superintendent Domenech will address a number of current issues and talk about his good news ambassador program. There will be coffee and cookies!

HOS -- One More Slot

If your second or third grader would like to be in HOS on Friday mornings, we've got one more slot! Please call Randi Kirkland at 703-208-2262.

FLEX to Begin Week of Oct 20

FLEX Classes begin next Monday, October 20. If you registered your child for a FLEX class, please check the 10/14 Tuesday folder for a confirmation notice. The notice will have the classroom assignment, starting time/date, and an emergency info form. Please complete the form and have your child give it to the instructor on the first day of class. If you registered for a class and did not receive this notice in the Tuesday folder, please contact Linda Halstead at 703-503-5175 or pajusihalstead@cox.net.

Please see the other side for more Alert News

Mantua Basketball

Info and Registration Available Online

Registration for Mantua basketball is in full swing. Detailed information and registration forms are available both in hardcopy and online on the basketball page of the PTA web site, www.mantuapta.org -- just click Activities, and then click Basketball. **New this year:** if you register online, you have the option of paying securely by credit card. Regardless of whether you choose to register online or on paper, or whether you choose to pay by check or by credit card, the deadline for all registration is October 30, and player-placement evaluations will be on November 8 and 9. For more information, contact Rob Mead at Mantua-Ball@cox.net or 703-876-2688.

Take Home Reading

Attention K, K/1,1, and 1-2 Parents! Training for the Take Home Reading program will take place on Wednesday, October 15, at 9:15 in the lower pod. If you have signed up to read with the students or would like to volunteer to read with the students, we look forward to seeing you there. Questions? Contact Judy Regan at JRegan04@cox.net.

Alert News Contributions

Send via email to 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