



# Mantua PTA Alert News

February 10, 2004

## **Community Dialog on Gang Activity**

Local gang activity is a concern to us all. On Wednesday, February 11, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., there will be a meeting on this topic at Braddock ES, 7825 Heritage Drive, Annandale. Featured speakers will be Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova, MPO Kenny Compher of the Fairfax County Police Gang Unit, and Clarence Jones, the FCPS Police-School Liaison.

## **Respond.com**

Respond.com is a line of business at TEOCO Corporation, a Fairfax based company founded by a Mantua Elementary School parent. Respond.com connects purchase-ready buyers with local professionals who have registered to get sales leads through the Respond.com network. Examples of categories that Respond.com supports include Home Services (e.g., bathroom remodeling, pest control), Wedding and Events (e.g., photography, catering, limos), Elective Surgery (e.g., cosmetic surgery, laser vision), and many more. A complete listing of various categories can be found at <http://mantua.respond.com/>.

For every request submitted and processed via [mantua.respond.com](http://mantua.respond.com), Respond.com will make a contribution of \$1 to the Mantua PTA. Give Respond.com a try!

## **Seventh-Grade Orientation**

The 7th grade Parent Orientation will be held at Frost on February 26, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. The snow date is March 4.

## **Ice Skating Party**

Please join us at Skate Quest in Reston on Sunday, February 22, from 3:10 - 5:00 p.m. for a skating good time. Discounted rate is \$4 per person, and must be paid in advance. Look for the fliers in your Tuesday folders. For more information, call Sabrina Pagkalinawan at 571-226-8558. See you there!

## **Roller Skating Party**

Mark your calendar now! Mantua will host a skate night at Skate-N-Fun Zone in Manassas on Sunday, March 28. We'll have the place to ourselves, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.! Watch for details, coming soon.

## **Mantua Night with the Globetrotters**

Come join Mantua families and friends for a fun-filled night with the **Harlem Globetrotters** on **March 20** (not March 8 -- that was a typo) at 7:30 p.m. at the Patriot Center at George Mason University. Discount tickets are available to us for \$18.50 (regularly \$22.50). Don't wait -- tickets sell fast! Contact Bridget at [bkapcar@washsports.com](mailto:bkapcar@washsports.com) or 202-628-3200, x698.

## **Galaxy Quest Update**

### **The Raffle is Coming Soon**

Get ready to buy your Carnival raffle tickets! We have great prizes again this year thanks to our terrific donors. Judy Wonus is again donating the cash grand prize of \$500. In addition, Judy has generously offered to make a direct contribution of \$500 to the PTA, so that all of us at Mantua are winners! Our other generous donations include:

- Carolyn Wilson of Long & Foster: a cool Mountain Bike
- Bill Rakow of RE/MAX Xecutex: a great portable DVD player
- Mary Thyfault Clark of Weichert Realty: a Leapfrog Leapster or GameBoy Advance with a game (winner's choice!)
- Sarah and Anne Harrington: a complete Play Station 2 Combo Pack, including 2 controllers, a memory card, 2 games, and a network adapter
- Gayle Yates and Adele Aiken of RE/MAX Allegiance: a beautiful watercolor rendering of your home along with 50 matching note cards
- The Washington Redskins: a Patrick Ramsey autographed jersey!

Look for details on how to buy tickets online soon. We'll also be selling tickets before school on the days just prior to the Carnival and at the big event, of course. Don't miss your chance to win one of these great prizes, and join us in thanking our great donors! For up-to-date Carnival information, visit [www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org).

## **Young Writers' Workshops**

The Northern Virginia Writing Project will hold three one-day workshops for interested students and motivated writers in grades 4 - 12. Classes are run by NVWP Teacher/Consultants. Class ratios are expected to be 12 students to one Teacher/Consultant. The workshops are scheduled for 9:00 - 1:00 p.m., February 14, March 20, and March 27.

Parents are also invited. At each workshop, both a paid writing session and a free discussion on writing at home with your children are offered. For more information, contact Mark Farrington at 703-993-1168, or go to [www.nvwp.org](http://www.nvwp.org), click Conferences and Programs, then click Young Writers Workshop.

*Please see the other side for more Alert News*

## **Memories on the Web**

Pictures from the PTA Auction and from the recent Drama Club performances are available on the PTA web site. Go to [www.MantuaPTA.org](http://www.MantuaPTA.org), click Activities/Events, and check out the Auction and Drama Club links. Enjoy the memories!

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## ***Frost Family Bingo***

Have fun playing bingo while supporting student activities at Frost Middle School! This PTA fundraiser will be held from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday, February 29, at Frost. Prizes include Longaberger baskets and gift certificates to local merchants. Tickets at the door will cost \$15 per person or \$45 per family. Buy tickets in advance for \$12 per person or \$35 per family. Mail orders to Frost Bingo, c/o Cindy Wilson, 8804 Southlea Ct, Fairfax, VA 22031. Phone 703-764-2798. Make checks payable to Frost PTA. Include your email address or phone number. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Snow date is March 7.

## ***TC Desserts Needed***

The Total Communication staff is volunteering their time and expertise to bring 10 consecutive educational and fun family nights for the TC families. The families enjoy dinner and instruction on communicating with their TC children. The PTA has volunteered to provide finger-friendly desserts to make the evening even more enjoyable. Please contact DeeAnn Jeremiah at classicconci-erge@netzero.com to offer 1-2 dozen cookies / brownies / cupcakes in disposable containers to the Mantua cafeteria on any Wednesday (through March 24) by 5:30 p.m. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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

- Monday, February 2, half of our sixth grade students enjoyed a field trip to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. The other sixth graders missed their field trip to the Gallery because of school being closed on Tuesday, February 3.
- On Wednesday, February 4 and Thursday, February 5, Ms. Tingler and four teachers attended a two-day conference to hear the DuFours present on Professional Learning Communities (PLC).
- On Thursday, February 5, Ms. Kruse-McConville's class and Ms. Goodrich's class enjoyed a field trip to the Kennedy Center to watch the Little Theatre of the Deaf perform.
- On Thursday, February 5, students involved in various clubs and activities had group pictures taken for the yearbook.
- Saturday, February 7, the Kids Care Club sponsored the *Share to Care Talent Show* where students and staff members shared their talents and raised money for *Cameron's Cause* to help Cameron McClain win his battle against leukemia!

## ***SPAC***

The Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council will meet Tuesday evening, February 10, at 7:00 p.m., in the theater at Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. Dr. Domenech will review the FY 2005 budget now before the School Board and talk about the School Board search underway for the new superintendent. Dr. Brad Draeger, the interim superintendent, will be there as well. There will be ample time for questions and answers.

*Please see the other side for more Alert News*

## ***Capitol Steps in Concert***

The Capitol Steps is coming to the Woodson Auditorium. The Capitol Steps, a nationally known musical political satire comedy troupe, will perform at Woodson on Sunday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22 in advance, or \$27 at the door. A limited number of reserved, block seating will be available for groups of 24 or more. For advanced purchase send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and check payable to the Woodson Band Patrons to: Capitol Steps, 10176 Red Spruce Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. Part of the price of each ticket benefits both the Woodson Band and the 2004 Cavalier Cruise Graduation Party. For additional information call 703-425-8014.

## ***A Special Wizards Night!***

We have another great offer of discounted tickets. These are \$90 seats on the 200 level -- and they're available for \$25 each! The game is February 22 against Milwaukee. Contact Bridget Kapcar at bkapcar@washsports.com (preferred) or 202-628-3200, x6986.

## ***PTA Minutes are Posted***

For your interest, copies of the minutes from each PTA meeting are now posted on the PTA web site. The archive extends back to the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year.

## ***Traffic Committee -- Be the Chair!***

This important committee is leaderless at this time. It has the potential to generate meaningful improvements in our current walking/driving situation. But it's in need of a new chairperson. For information and/or to volunteer, please contact Carole Thomas at caroleandjay@aol.com or 703-978-6159.

## ***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](http://www.mantuapta.org)