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Celebrate Read Across America

The Kids Care Club and Mantua School announce an evening of stories to celebrate Read Across America.

When: Tuesday March 2nd, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Where: The Mantua Library

Admission: One new or gently used book All donations of books will be given to some very needy readers. Come join the Kids Care Club, Mrs. Sottolano and many guest readers for an evening celebrating reading in honor of Dr. Seuss. Guest readers and storytellers have been invited to share their favorite stories and books. We encourage all to come, listen and be a part of the celebration. All we ask is that you bring a new or gently used book.

Please contact Jennifer Cooper, jalcooper@aol.com or Mrs. Sottolano, janet.sottolano@fcps.edu if you would be interested in being a guest reader or storyteller.

WT Woodson Community Coalition Meeting: Thursday, February 19, 6:00 p.m.

This meeting of the Coalition will be held at Pizzeria Uno on Gallows Road. Ten percent of purchases will help fund future Coalition Events.

All are welcome to attend this monthly meeting to discuss ways we can influence a safe and drug free environment for our children. We will discuss the Frost after-school program initiaitve and several upcoming programs at Woodson for our community. Please contact Jennifer Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com or 703-426-2490, or Leanne Stynchula at stynchula@cox.net or 703-273-5742 if you have questions.

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. **Register online** at the PTA web site, www.MantuaPTA.org, or via the flyer sent home last week. For more information, call Sabrina Pagkalinawan at 571-226-8558. See you there!

Mantua Night with the Globetrotters

Come join Mantua families and friends for a fun-filled night with the **Harlem Globetrotters** on March 20 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 or 202-628-3200, x698.

Galaxy Quest Update - Cakes

We need **cakes!** The cakewalk is one of the most popular Carnival events for kids of all ages. But to make this event great, we need over 200 cakes! Your donation of a storebought or homemade cake is greatly appreciated. If you or your child would like to try out your artistic talents for cake decorating, bring your cake decorated in the "Galaxy Quest" theme -- you may win a prize generously donated by one of our local restaurants. All cakes should be brought to the cafeteria between 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 12. Judging for the cake-decorating contest will begin promptly at 7:30 that evening. For complete details and contest rules, download the flyer from the PTA web site at www.MantuaPTA.org.

Volunteers are still needed!! We still need volunteers to:

- Assist with the judging and hanging of the posters on Wednesday, February 25, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.,
- Be booth coordinators for the following classes: Ariail, Kruse-McConville, Churchwell, Hawryluk, and Duryea
- Assist the individual class booth coordinators with manning the booths during the day on Saturday, March 13.

Spring HOS: The Great Outdoors

Hands on Science registration forms (bright blue) are in the Tuesday folder! These sessions in earth science are:

- K/1- Layers
- 2/3 Rocky Road
- 4,5,6 Terra Quest

The registration form has more details. But don't forget, registrations come in quickly, and **classes are filled on a firstcome, first-served basis.** Questions? Contact Randi Kirkland at 703-208-2262 or randi_kirkland@yahoo.com.

Seventh-Grade Orientation

We're having a bit of difficulty getting all the facts on this orientation. It's definitely at Frost, and it's definitely for parents of rising 7th graders, and we're assured that it will be on February 26. We still lack other details. If we get them, you'll read about it here!

An Eagle Scout Project

While you are doing your spring cleaning you can also support at-risk children in need of sports equipment! For his Eagle Scout Project, former Mantua student Michael Romais is collecting "gently used" sports equipment to distribute to students at Weyanoke Elementary, a Title I school in the Fairfax County portion of Alexandria. On March 20, Troop 1533 scouts will leave bags at your door to be filled with sports equipment, and on March 27, scouts will pick up the sports equipment. Please contact Michael Romais at 703-280-8127 or deromais@aol.com with questions.

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Frost Family Bingo - February 29

Have fun playing bingo while supporting student activities at Frost Middle School! The PTA fundraiser will be held from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Sunday, February 29, in the Frost cafeteria. Prizes include Longaberger baskets and gift certificates to local merchants. Tickets at the door will cost \$15 per person for 20 rounds of bingo, or \$45 for a family (parents and children) of three or more. There's also a raffle! You could win a Longaberger umbrella basket and stand (a \$208 value) or another raffle prize. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Refreshments and bingo card dabbers will be for sale.

Save money and buy tickets in advance for \$12 per person or \$35 per family. Mail orders to Frost Bingo, c/o Cindy Wilson, 8804 Southlea Court, Fairfax, VA 22031, or phone 703-764-2798. Make checks payable to Frost PTA. Please specify the number of bingo and raffle tickets you wish to buy, and include an email address or phone number. Questions? Contact Patti Gibberman at pgibbermanmsw@cox.net (subject: Frost Family Bingo) or 703-425-8523. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Snow date is March 7.

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.

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.fpychotshots.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!

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, Respond.com will make a contribution of \$1 to the Mantua PTA. Give Respond.com a try!

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.

FCCPTA General Membership Meeting

The next meeting of the FCCPTA is on Thursday, February 26, at 7:30 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School. The discussion topic will be *Helping Kids Gain Solutions That Lead to Success: Both In and Out of the Classroom*. Several local experts will present. For more information, see the February issue of the FCCPTA newsletter, at www.fccpta.org.

A Social to Support Cameron

Enjoy a night socializing and supporting Cameron's Cause! Friends of Cameron's Cause are planning an adult social at the Mantua Swim and Tennis Clubhouse (thanks to the generous donation of the clubhouse by the pool's Board of Directors) on Saturday, February 21, at 8:00 p.m. We have dubbed the event Hearts for Cameron. The cost of admission is a donation to Cameron's Cause, but bring some extra cash, too. We are planning a few extra amusements. If you are feeling especially generous, consider donating a good or service which we can raffle or auction off, but please give us advance notice. We will provide music, décor, and paper products. Bring your own beverage and, if you would like, a dish to share.

Donate to Cameron's Cause and enjoy socializing with your Mantua neighbors! Funds not used by Cameron's Cause will be donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. If you would like more information on Cameron's battle with A.L.L., go to www.supportcameron.com. To RSVP or donate an item contact Cheryl Dickison at Cheryl.Dickison@cox.net or 703-352-3026.

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