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Mantua PTA Alert News

November 29, 2005

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library. A special thank you to the volunteers who made it work so seamlessly this year. Hope everyone is enjoying their books! - Claire Fritzinger and Carrie Clawson

Would you like to be a Substitute Teacher?

Mantua would be happy to have more substitute teachers! Flexible schedule, casual dress, great kids and you get a paycheck, too. Check out http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/DHR/applicants/subs/ If you have a day or more a week with nothing to do (ha!) then we have the job for you! The teachers leave lesson plans for the day and everyone is very helpful! If you have any questions, please call Melissa Hochberg at 703-591-1944 or e-mail mash5@cox.net.

KIDS CARE CLUB

Our next meeting is this Thursday, December 1st. We have been asked by FCPS to use the permission slip that is in your Tuesday Folder if you have a child who is going to attend the meeting.

Lost and Found items will be donated at the end of the week. This is your last chance to check everything out for anything your student may have lost in school.

Through December 9th, we will be collecting nonperishable food items and new hats, scarves, and gloves for Bailey's Elementary School in Falls Church. Please leave your items for adults and children in the boxes in the front hallway. Thanks for helping to make this holiday season easier on those who are in need.

Hands On Science Winter Registration Due Friday, December 2

Registration forms (bright blue) for the Winter HOS session, Mechanical Energy, were sent home in the November 15, Tuesday folder. The classes are:

- K-1 Spinners
- 2-3 The Toymaker
- 4-5-6 Bright Ideas

Last day to register is this Friday, December 2, 2005.

Questions, please contact Randi Kirkland at 703-208-2262 or via email to randi_kirkland@yahoo.com .

Auction Merchandise and Entertainment Bidding Categories to Close Wednesday!

Check out all of the incredible merchandise that has been donated for Manuta's on-line auction. Time is running out, so be sure to bid. We would love for everyone to participate in some way. If you'd rather just give a tax deductible donation there is a form available at the auction website.

The **Merchandise** Category has some lovely art work, an extraordinary collection of sports memorabilia, home theater and stereo systems, tennis raquets and tennis bags, furniture, toys, and books. Browse it to believe it!

The **Entertainment** Category has ski packages, opera at The Met, theater tickets, amusement park tickets (Disney and King's Dominion), golf, sporting events, and much more.

Auction is closing soon!

- Entertainment and Merchandise: Wednesday, Nov. 30th
- ullet Getaways and Services: Wednesday, December 7^{th}

Faculty Fun and Restaurants: Wednesday, December 14

Go to http://auction.mantuapta.org to help your child's school fundraising efforts and make your gift giving shopping just a little bit easier!

Please see the other side for more Alert News

Mantua PTA Alert News, continued



More classes offered by the FCPS Family Services and Involvement Section (FSIS)

All are held at The Brown Building, 9735 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22031.

When Families Get Angry/Conflict Resolution Two 2 ½-hours sessions; cost: \$40 per person/\$60 per couple

Thursday, December 8 and Thursday, December 15; 7:00 – 9:30 pm

Take Back Your Kids (Tech Awareness) One 2-hour session; cost: \$15 per person Tuesday, December 20; 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Positive Discipline Strategies/Setting Limits and Boundaries for Children

(Toddlers – Sixth Grade)

One 3-hour session; cost: \$25 per person/\$40 per couple Thursday, January 5, 2006; 6:00 – 9:00 pm

How to Talk so Kids Will Listen and Listen so Kids Will Talk

One 3-hour session; cost: \$25 per person/\$40 per couple Monday, January 9, 2006; 6:00 – 9:00 pm

For details and to register, contact Bernadette Malamud at 703-277-2622.

STEP (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting) – for parents of 12-18 year olds

Six 3-hour sessions; cost: \$85 per person/\$125 for two people (fee includes one book)

Tuesdays: 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31 and 2/7; 7:00 – 9:00 pm

For details and to register, contact Susie Johnson at 703-277-2666.

Mantua 6 th Graders win Top Honor in FIRST LEGO League Regional Tourn.

A team of six Mantua sixth graders won the top award for their age group in the FIRST ("For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology") LEGO League Virginia Regional Tournament on November 20. The 2005 challenge, Ocean Odyssey, involves brain storming ways in which robotics technology can be used to help preserve the health, diversity, and productivity of the world's oceans. The "Aqua-Bobs" presented their design of a GPS satellite system that would alert scuba divers and boaters when they come too close to the coral reefs. The team won the Director's Award for performing well in all four judging categories: robot design, robot performance, teamwork and project presentation. The team also won an award in the category of robot performance. The "Aqua-Bobs" team consists of Mantua sixth graders Robert Campion, Bradley Eshelman, Naveen Gupta, Nathan LaPierre, Michael Schneider, and Keiran Snow-Dawson. They will advance to the Virginia State Tournament in Blacksburg, Virginia on December 4th.

Don't Forget to Recycle your old Printer Cartridges!

Earn Money for Mantua - Save the Environment too.

Recycle Empty Printer Cartridges...

125 million lbs are dumped into landfills annually, let's reuse them instead.

Raise Funds for our School!
We earn from 25 cents to \$8.00 per cartridge

It's easy to do! Just bring your empty ink jet or laser cartridges from home or work and place them in the gray rubber maid container in the front lobby of Mantua school.

Or, if you use more than 6 laser cartridges in a month period, I could help you set up a program at your home or office. Sponsoring a cartridge recycling program will cost nothing (OK, a little time, a box or two, and shipping tape) and Mantua receives the funds directly! Interested? Call Karen Pollard at 703-280-5854 (h), 703-308-3948 (wk) or send an email at pollard.karen@epa.gov.

They take old cell phones, PDAs and laptops too.

Social Skills Workshop presented by The Parent Resource Center, Fairfax County Public Schools

The Parent Resource Center and the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) will be presenting two workshops for parents and educators about improving children's social skills. JSSA therapists Andrew McGahan, LCSW/LICSW and Kathleen Fort, LCSW/LICSW, have extensive experience working with children and teens with social skills issues. Mr. McGahan and Ms. Fort will discuss specific strategies and activities focused on improving a child's ability to understand social cues and nonverbal communication as well as outlining action plans for improving individual social interaction.

Please choose the time that is more convenient for you and register in advance so we will know how many handouts to prepare. To register, or for more information, call the PRC at 703-204-3941 or email Tia.Marsili@fcps.edu.

Thursday, December 1, 2005 from 7:30 to 9:15 pm. The Parent Resource Center

2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA Or

Friday December 2, 2005 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The George Mason Library 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.
Submissions are appreciated by the Friday before distribution.

www.mantuapta.org