

# Swansfield Elementary School PTA News

## Give Market Day a Try!

Thank you to all of Swansfield's loyal Market Day customers! We profit 10% on every order.

Check out [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) <<http://www.marketday.com>> to learn more about this great frozen food delivery program with restaurant-quality meats, vegetables, desserts and great convenient meal ideas. Their wonderful pies are available this month for you to store for Thanksgiving! Order once or order every month. Orders for our next delivery are due online by Thursday Oct. 22 or you call 1 (877) 632-7753 to place your order.

### **One additional savings idea!**

New online shopper coupons are available! For \$20, you will receive a coupon worth \$25 when you place your first order! Contact Kristy Virostek at (410) 884-3639 or [virostek5@verizon.net](mailto:virostek5@verizon.net) to purchase your coupon.

## After School Classes Parent Night

Please mark your calendars for **next Wednesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm to register** for after school classes! We have had many interest forms returned and are looking forward to officially registering students for the after classes. **Bring your checkbook, as payment is due that evening.** In order for most classes to run, we will need to reach a minimum enrollment. If that minimum is not met, the classes will be cancelled. So if you are interested, it is very important that you attend the registration meeting. On the other hand, several classes have had an overwhelming interest and we may need to employ a lottery system to fill those classes. We still need volunteers in several classrooms. In return for your commitment to be present in every class for the session, we are offering significant discounts for your child to take the class. If you have any questions or cannot attend the registration meeting, please contact Jen Whiddon 410-997-5691 or [jennifer\\_whiddon@hcpss.org](mailto:jennifer_whiddon@hcpss.org).

## Announcing the 8th Swansfield Swings Island Night!

Reserve seats now for this year's Island Night with Wentworth Richardson and Joyy, a D.C.-based group full of Caribbean flair! Island Night is Wednesday, November 18 from 7-8:30 PM at the Bain Center in Harpers Choice. Enjoy a great family evening of calypso, steel drum, soca, and reggae! The concert benefits Swansfield's Music Department and always fills to capacity. Don't miss some of Swansfield's finest singers, dancers, and talented limbo artists who will get to perform one number along with the band! Reservation forms are in the Monday folder. Please send your form along with cash or check to Swansfield PTA back to school soon!

### Tropical Duds Needed!

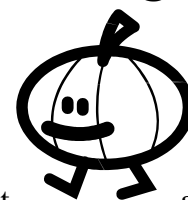
Do you have tropical, Hawaiian-style shirts on hand that Mrs. Greenman might borrow for Island Night? Several student performers will sing a song and dance with Wentworth Richardson and Joyy on Nov. 18th. Please bring in shirts or let her know what you have to loan! Thanks!

## Introducing the Family Pumpkin Run @ Swansfield!

Thursday, October 15th

5:30 - Walk or jog the Striders

Course - earn points on your walking log and get a special prize for completing at least 4 laps! Adults may win one too!



6:00 – Family Games with a Pumpkin/Fall Theme

6:30 – Hot cider and snacks served

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## ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Our 4th and 5th grade students have had a great start working with artist-in-residence Tara Holl. After brainstorming and sketching ideas for the Chesapeake Bay/environmental stewardship mural, they started creating elements from a wide variety of materials, most of them recycled -- wire, wood, mesh, raffia. They're learning that all kinds of things can become art and they're learning to work together in teams to create something that belongs to everyone and that is shaped by everyone's input. If you have a 4th or 5th grader, ask them what element they're working on and how it relates to saving the Bay!

**If you have odds and ends of materials you'd like to donate -- wood scraps, latex paint, or miscellaneous things -- please bring them in to school (they can be placed in the room next to the art room) or contact Jean Boone ([jboone10@msn.com](mailto:jboone10@msn.com), 410-997-7845) or Jenny Bonilla (410-730-7641) for assistance in getting them to school. Also, parent volunteers are welcome during the art sessions -- mornings, from 8:45-10:30 or M-W afternoons from 1:45-3 PM. Contact Jean or Jenny to sign up for a slot.**

This project has been funded in part by a grant from the Howard County Arts Council, through a grant from the Howard County Government, the Maryland State Arts Council, the Columbia Foundation and Target. Each year the Arts Council works with local PTAs to place professional artists in County Schools to work with students, faculty and the larger community.

## Recommended Reads – check it out

Audrey Salazar likes....

The Word Eater by Mary Amato and

The Tale of Despereux by Kate Di Camillo

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to Jennifer Whiddon for putting together a fantastic fall line up of After School classes for our children to choose. What a great way to expand their horizons!



Thank you to Panera Bread for their donations of coffee and treats for the Coffee with Administration on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Please remember to say thank you the next time you visit one of their stores!

## Swansfield PTA Thanks You!

We appreciate all of the time and effort families have put in to help us profit from this year's Innisbrook fundraiser! We sincerely thank you for your donations as well.

As a result of this program, our PTA has raised \$8,700 for this year's PTA activities. Mrs. Barron's 4th grade class had the highest participation level and will receive an ice cream party.

Also, 19 students sold at least 25 Innisbrook items and will be invited to a special pizza/dance party later this month. Innisbrook orders will arrive at Swansfield Tuesday, October 20th for pick up between 3 and 6 PM. The prizes that Innisbrook supplies will be packaged with each order.

Tax-deductible donations to Swansfield PTA will continue to be accepted and appreciated! Please send your check to school in an envelope marked PTA Donation.

## Spirit Wear Orders

Swansfield Spirit Wear orders have been placed. We sold more than 130 shirts! Stay tuned for a delivery date!

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## **PTA BY THE NUMBERS....**

We have 258 PTA members so far this year! Thank you to all the families that have joined. And remember – you can join at any time. It is \$6 per person, and you don't have to volunteer. You can pay your dues and let your money start working for you. Of course, if you can volunteer – great! We can always use the help.

## **Only Available Nights?**

We have the perfect opportunity for you. Swansfield PTA needs to send two representatives to the county-level PTA council. The PTACHC meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm. We would like to have the representatives attend these PTACHC meetings and then come to PTA meetings to share what is going on at the county level. PTACHC serves 71 Howard County PTAs who, through advocacy, support the mission of PTA. Can you spare one night a month to represent Swansfield and all our great PTA endeavors? Please contact Jen Mallo at [jenmallo@verizon.net](mailto:jenmallo@verizon.net) or 410-884-1938.

## **Don't Forget!**

Hispanic Heritage Month runs from Sept 15th through Oct 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **After School Class Registration 7 pm**

Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

### **Family Fun Run**

Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

### **Market Day Pickup at 5-6 pm**

Wednesday, October 28th

### **Third Grade Parent Night at 6:30 pm**

Thursday, November 5th

*To learn more about our PTA and the wonderful events planned this year, come to the next PTA meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup> 2009 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. and bring a friend! Childcare for children 4 and older is provided for free.*