

The RamGram

Award Winning Newsletter of Robinson Secondary PTSA

March 2009

March at a Glance

Detailed information regarding many of these events can be found inside the RamGram ♦ See Robinson's website: <http://www.fcps.edu/RobinsonSS/> for more information including club event dates.

Tuesday, March 3	RBOPO MS Pre-Festival Concert – Russell Theatre
Friday, March 6	TheatreSports – Russell Theatre – 7:30pm
Saturday, March 7	RBOPO MS Band Festival – Lake Braddock
Monday, March 9	Academic Boosters – Principal's Conference Room – 7pm
Tuesday, March 10	RBOPO HS Pre-Festival Concert – Russell Theatre
Thursday, March 12	Annual Legislative Breakfast – Recital Hall – 7:25 – 9am
Thu – Sat – Mar 12 – 14	RBOPO HS Band Festival – Westfield HS
Monday, March 16	PTSA General Membership Meeting – Media Center – 7pm
Mon – Mon Mar 16 – 23	Visit Washington Caps Website and Vote
Tuesday, March 17	RBOPO Orchestra Pre-Festival Concert
	ANGP Cold Stone Creamery Fun – 6 – 8pm
Thu – Sat, Mar 19 – 12	RBOPO Orchestra Festival – Westfield HS
Saturday, March 28	Crew Regatta – Sandy Run Park
	ANGP Annual Mulch Sale – Oak View ES Parking Lot – 9am – 12pm
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Help Your School's ANGP



Robinson All Night Graduation Party (ANGP) keeps teens off our streets and in a drug and alcohol free environment on Graduation Night. There has never been a teenage death at any ANGP throughout the United States. Please help keep our kids and streets safe. Go to <http://www.ramsangp2009.com/> for more information on how you can help

PTSA News

Parent Volunteers Needed for PTSA Board Positions

The Robinson PTSA will have a number of parents whose last child will be graduating from Robinson in June and will not serve next year on the Board.

The PTSA is beginning its search now committee chairs and members for the 2009-2010 school year. We are looking for self-motivated volunteers to head many committees. If you are interested the PTSA Reflections Program, membership recruitment, health and safety issues, education, fundraising, or public relations, we can find a place for you to either head or serve on a committee. If you are interested in serving Robinson Secondary as a PTSA Committee Chair or Committee member, please contact Terry Matlaga Bell at tmatlaga@yahoo.com.

PTSA 2009-2010 Nominating Committee Formed

If you are interested in being a candidate for President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer, please contact Karen Floyd at kfloyd@rcn.com.

Robinson Secondary PTSA is always looking for energetic, dedicated parents who want to work to ensure a quality and equal opportunity education for Robinson students.

Don't Forget the PTSA's New Parent Service

The PTSA is creating a frequently asked question (FAQ) Robinson Parent Page on our PTSA website. Please visit the website <http://robinsonptsa.org/> and post a question about Robinson or the PTSA you would like to have some clarity on. The PTSA will attempt to answer all questions posted. Questions and answers will follow this format:

Question: Can I join the Robinson PTSA anytime during the year?

Answer: Yes, you can join the Robinson PTSA anytime during the school calendar year (End of August to Mid-June). The membership form can be found on our website. Just complete the form and mail it in. Your membership will be greatly appreciated.

Open Invitation to the Robinson Community Robinson PTSA's Annual Legislative Breakfast: Report from Richmond Thursday, March 12, 2009 7:25 AM – 9:00 AM

You are invited to attend Robinson's Annual PTSA Legislative Breakfast, sponsored by the Robinson Secondary PTSA. This legislative forum will be held **Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 7:25 AM – 9:00 AM** in the Recital Hall at Robinson Secondary School. Our delegates and state senators will be part of the notable panel moderated by two distinguished members of our Robinson Community.

Legislators will be given approximately 5-8 minutes to share with the audience their achievements in the 2009 General Assembly. Following their presentations the floor will then be open for questions from the audience. If you would like additional information on this event, contact Terry Matlaga Bell at tmatlaga@yahoo.com.

2009 People's Choice Awards

Each year, the Robinson PTSA honors members of the Robinson school community who have done an outstanding job promoting positive human relations in the school. Award recipients are acknowledged at a reception in April and receive a certificate for recognition and an engraved paperweight. A plaque commemorating all previous award winners can be found in the Main Office at Robinson. A listing of recipients can also be found on the PTSA website.

All members of the Robinson community may submit nominations or be nominated: students, teachers, aides, counselors, secretaries, coaches, cafeteria staff, principals, school bus drivers, parents, custodians, librarians, sponsors, etc.

Suggested criteria: Who are the people who make you feel respected and welcomed? Who do you feel most comfortable approaching for help, support or information? Who is notable as an individual whose enthusiasm, kindness or caring attitude makes it more pleasant here at Robinson? Who has done something special to bring people together? Previous award recipients are ineligible to be nominated again. Nominations may not be made by family members.

Forms are available in: 1) all sub-schools, 2) the Main Office, 3) the Administrative Office and 4) the PTSA website, <http://robinsonptsa.org/>. Please complete the nomination form and 1) place it in an envelope that can be found in each sub-school office, 2) place it in the PTSA mailbox in the Administrative Office, or 3) mail to: Robinson PTSA, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032.

Winners will be notified in writing and invited together with their nominators, family, and colleagues to attend an award presentation to be held after school in April. **Deadline for nominations is 3pm, Tuesday March 31, 2008.** For more information please contact: Terry Matlaga Bell, PTSA President, tmatlaga@yahoo.com or Vicki Kagen, HS Director of Student Services Vicki.Kagen@fcps.edu.

ROBINSON PTSA ELAINE HEENAN MEMORIAL AND "FRIENDS" SCHOLARSHIPS

The Robinson Secondary School PTSA is pleased to announce the availability of the Elaine Heenan Memorial Scholarship for Volunteerism and the "Friends" Scholarship for Involvement in Activities at Robinson. The PTSA will be awarding \$1,000 to the scholarship recipients.

The Elaine Heenan Memorial Scholarship is given annually in memory of Mrs. Elaine Heenan. Mrs. Heenan was a long-time, extremely dedicated volunteer at Robinson Secondary who died of cancer in June of 1985. Five of her six children are Robinson graduates. Her youngest daughter graduated in 1985 just a few days prior to Mrs. Heenan's death. This scholarship, which the PTSA has awarded every year since 1985, will be awarded based on demonstrated exemplary achievement and an ongoing commitment to provide volunteer service to the school and/or the community.

The "Friends" Scholarship is presented annually in memory of all Robinson students and graduates whose lives ended before they had the opportunity to realize their full potential. The "Friends" Scholarship will be awarded based primarily on a student's involvement in activities at Robinson throughout grades 9-12.

Both scholarships are to be used to fund post-secondary education, including four-year, two-year, or vocational programs. Applications forms and additional information are available in the Robinson Career Center and on the Robinson PTSA website. All applications are due no later than the end of the regular school day on Friday, April 10, 2009. The names of the winners will be announced at the Senior Awards Ceremony in June. Questions regarding the Robinson PTSA Scholarships should be directed to Pam Ryan, PTSA Scholarship Chair, at pamelagryan@aol.com, or (703) 795-1494.

PTSA Student Directory Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone (in case there are questions): _____

Please send me:

_____ Middle School Directories @ \$5/each + \$1.50 S&H = \$ _____

_____ High School Directories @ \$6/each + \$1.50 S&H = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Return this form, along with your check made payable to **Robinson PTSA**, to:
Robinson PTSA Directories, 5308 Esabella Court, Fairfax, VA 22032. If you have any
questions, please contact Deb Bush, PTSA Directory Sales Chair, at 703-239-0478 or
bushbrood@cox.net.

Robinson Secondary School

PTSA
everychild.one voice.

www.robsonptsa.org

2009 People's Choice Awards Rules and General Information

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Suggested criteria: Who are the people who make you feel respected and welcomed? Who do you feel most comfortable approaching for help, support or information? Who is notable as an individual whose enthusiasm, kindness or caring attitude makes it more pleasant here at Robinson? Who has done something special to bring people together?

Items to note:

- Previous award recipients are ineligible to be nominated again.
- Nominations may NOT be made by a family member.

Forms are available in

- Each sub-school,
- The Main Office
- The Administrative Office, and
- The PTSA website (www.robinsonptsa.org).

Please complete the nomination form and place it in a letter-sized envelope labeled, Robinson PTSA Peoples Choice Awards Nomination. Completed nominations can be either 1) placed in an envelope that can be found in each sub-school office, 2) placed in the PTSA mailbox in the Administrative Office, or mailed to: Robinson PTSA, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22032.

Winners will be notified in writing and invited together with their nominators, family and colleagues to attend an award presentation to be held after school in mid-to-late April.

For more information please contact:

Terry Matlaga Bell, PTSA President, tmatlaga@yahoo.com, (703) 802-1496
Vicki Kagen, HS Director of Student Services, Vicki.Kagan@fcps.edu

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS 3:00 PM, TUESDAY, March 31, 2009

General Robinson Secondary News



High quality hardwood, pine, cedar & color.

Saturday, March 28, 2009 .

* Orders of 10 bags or more will only be delivered to driveway edge by house or garage.
 * Orders under 10 bags are "pick up" only on Saturday, March 28 between 9am and noon at Oak View Elementary School (on Sideburn Rd., across from Robinson's campus).

Don't need mulch? Please consider donating below.

The Class of 2009 and their parents THANK YOU for supporting a fun and safe graduation celebration.

For more information call: Jennifer Lloyd (703) 222-6790.

For your records: I bought _____ bags of _____ for \$ _____

All profits support the All Night Grad Party and are tax deductible.

 (Mail portion below dotted line with check or money order. Keep top portion for your records.)

Robinson ANGP Mulch Sale

Mail orders by: **Friday, March 20, 2009**
 Make checks payable to: **Robinson ANGP**
 Mail form and check to: **ANGP Mulch Sales**
8324 Knights Forest Drive
Clifton, VA 20124

Mulch type	Price/Bag	Quantity	Total
Double Shredded Hardwood Mulch (3cu. ft. bag)	\$4.50		=
Color Enhanced Hardwood Mulch (blk) (2 cu. ft. bag)	\$4.75		=
Pine Bark Mini Nuggets (3 cu.ft. bag) Note: 1 bag of mini nuggets cover 2/3's the area of a bag of hardwood mulch.	\$5.25		=
Cedar (3cu. ft. bag)	\$5.25		=
Donation <i>(thank you!)</i>			=
Delivery: \$15 (10-25 Bags) \$10 (26-50) \$5 (51-75) Free (75 and Over)			
Grand Total			

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Subdivision: _____ Senior Sales Rep _____
 Please check one:
 Please deliver my order (10 bag minimum; Robinson School District area only).
 I'll "pick up" at Oak View Elementary Parking Lot between 9am and noon on March 28th.



5705 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015, (703) 250-3002

&

Robinson Secondary ANGP

want to celebrate **SAINT PATRICK'S DAY** with you!



Join in the festivities and bring your family and friends to:
Cold Stone Creamery @ Burke Centre Shopping Centre
March 17, 2009
6pm to 8pm



Help keep our children and streets safe by enjoying super-premium ice cream made fresh each day!
Or, just come to hear us sing!
Cold Stone has something for everyone!

10% of all purchases will go to Robinson Secondary ANGP!
Any Questions, Contact the Robinson ANGP Representative @ findkelli@aol.com



THANK YOU!!!



The All Night Grad Party would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following businesses/individuals for their wonderful support for the Class of 2009's upcoming graduation party. Without community involvement, this undertaking would not be possible. If you would like to be a sponsor for our event (you DON'T have to have a senior this year), **Please visit our website for more information at: www.ramsangp2009.com**

Broker's Title Insurance Agency

Fritz & Co CPA

Olde Creek Elementary PTA

Town Center Orthopaedics of Reston

Robinson Drama Booster Club

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Java

Swart, LaLande & Associates

Commonwealth Orthopaedics

Matthew Miller – CPA

Carol Hermandorfer – L&F Realty

San Vito Restaurants

Remodel America

Metro Silver Diner

Drs. Lawrence Murphy & Stacey Staats

Mr. & Mrs. John Baer

Oakview Garden Club

Drs. Susana Raygada & Richard Schneider

Burke Sporting Goods

Mr. Gregory Meadows

Stuart Graves, DDS

ProTech Pest Control

The Honorable David Bulova

Thank you for keeping our community and our children safe.

- Angie Marquis, April Dougherty, Karen Baxter, 2009 ANGP Tri-Chairs

Middle School and High School Class News

Class of 2009

Buy your ANGP Ticket! Send in your check for \$100 and with a completed ANGP ticket form and your student will be all set for the ANGP party on graduation night. These forms are on the ANGP website as well as the 12th grade office. Please mail your checks & forms to the PO Box on the ANGP ticket form or drop off your check & form at the 12th grade office. **Get your tickets now before you forget!**

**Class of 2009 All Night Grad Party Ticket Order Form
June 16, 2009 * Immediately Following Graduation
ESPN Zone - Washington DC**

www.ramsangp2009.com



Student's Full Name: _____

Ticket price \$100: \$ _____

Additional donation: \$ _____
(ANGP is a 501(c)(3) so your gifts are tax deductible)

GMU Seat Raffle ticket \$5 each \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

ANGP 2009 Rules are located on the website @ www.ramsangp2009.com. My student and I understand the rules of the 2009 All Night Graduation Party. We further acknowledge and agree to abide by these rules during the All Night Grad Party.

Parent Signature: _____ Student signature _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

A physical ticket will NOT be issued right away; however, a detailed list of students that have paid will be maintained and will be viewable on our website.

Make check payable to: RANGP

Send form and payment to:

ANGP 2009

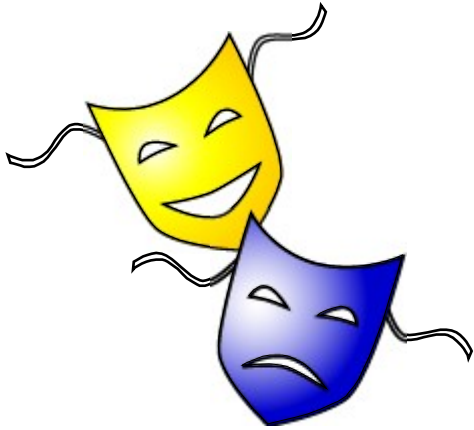
PO Box 424

Fairfax Station, VA 22039

GMU Front Row Seat Raffle

Try for your chance to be one of 4 winners to EACH have 8 **RESERVED** front row seats at George Mason University the night of graduation. Raffle tickets are \$5 a piece.

Name: _____ # of tickets _____



Robinson Theatre News

Robinson High School is hard at work on their Spring Musical, the popular “Fiddler on the Roof.” It promises to be another fine production, with high energy and superb performances. Buy your tickets early—these excellent shows sell out! Performances will be April 30, May 1-2, and 8-9. Tickets can be purchased on-line, at www.RobinsonDrama.org.



Congratulations to the Middle School for their amazing production of “Oliver!” in February. What a fabulous job by Ms. Hard, Ms. B., and the cast and crew!



Make your *NEW* [KeepInTouch](#) profile! Be sure to click the **Fine/Performing Arts** box!

- Mariana Vervena, Drama Boosters

SGA

The Robinson Student Government Association is happy to announce that we have successfully completed several major projects over the past month. We sponsored several popular events, including the annual Gatorball tournament, our first karaoke night, as well as the first Halo 3 tournament. In addition our students sponsored PRAK (Practice Random Acts of Kindness) week as well as Fitness week; both of these campaigns included daily announcements as well as lunchtime activities. One of our groups promoted counselor appreciation, media center librarian appreciation, finance office technician appreciation, and clinic workers appreciation. We also have students who advertised for the SGA applications (they were due February 20) as we begin the competitive process to select students for next year's class. Finally, our annual ping pong tournament will be February 28. Our class has been busy! We are now busily preparing for the upcoming Class Council and Student Advisory Council election process. A minor change this year is that there will no longer be official class officer positions; in doing away with titles such as "president," "vice-president," "secretary," and "treasurer" we recognize that the elected leaders are actually asked to complete the same tasks. There is no division of labor along titular lines, so the new system will simply have all interested students run against each other. The four students who earn the most votes on April 16 & 17 will comprise the Class Council for each grade. The Student Advisory Council elections have always been conducted this way, and these students represent Robinson at monthly meetings with students from all other FCPS high schools. The campaigning preparation will begin in just a few weeks! Have a great March, and look for more news about upcoming projects soon.

- Eileen Noon, SGA Co-sponsor



ROBINSON CREW
www.robinsoncrew.com



Robinson crew began water practices on February 23rd.

The boy's and girl's crew teams will have their first regatta at nearby Sandy Run Park on Saturday, March 28th.

Come out to the park and see what crew is all about! Visit www.robinsoncrew.com for the regatta schedule, directions to the park, and to learn more about crew.

Experience the thrill! Push yourself! Join Us!

Robinson Band and Orchestra Parents Organization (RBOPO)

District Band

Congratulations to all the Robinson band students who participated in the District 11 District Band concert on February 7. It was a fabulous concert! Good luck to the students auditioning on February 28 for the All – Virginia Band and Orchestra event.

Jazz Band

Thanks to all the Robinson Middle and High School Student Jazz musicians for a fun evening on February 12 at the 2008 Sweets and Swings Concert in the Gold Cafeteria. The audience was treated to a wonderful assortment of jazz classics and contemporary tunes under the direction of Judy Einuis and Michael Cook, while enjoying plenty of delicious home-made desserts. RBOPO would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who helped make this fun annual event such a success, including coordinators Sue Fisk and Joyce Gaul.

The next Jazz concert will be on April 16 in Russell Theatre.

Festivals are Here!

March is the season of Band and Orchestra Festivals. Pre-Festival Concerts are held in Russell Theatre to prepare for the festival events, which are performances played for evaluations and ratings by judges. All of these performances are open to audiences. Come enjoy the exciting music! The schedule is as follows:

March 3 MS Pre – Festival Concert

March 7 MS Band Festival at Lake Braddock

March 10 HS Pre-Festival Concert

March 12 – 14 HS Band Festival at Westfield

March 17 Orchestra Pre-Festival Concert

March 19 – 21 Orchestra Festival at Westfield

Gatlinburg Trip

Preparations for the 2008 Band and Orchestra spring trip to the Smoky Mountain Music Festival in Gatlinburg are in full swing! Details and itinerary updates are available on our website at www.robinsonband.org. If you have any questions, you can e-mail Pat McMahon at rbopovp@aol.com.

- Linda Brese, RBOPO

Robinson Academic Booster's

Lots of exciting projects are ongoing for Academic Booster's! Here's just a quick rundown of our events for the past couple of months:

- 1) Over 200 Freshmen were invited to a breakfast for earning A's & B's on their first quarter report cards-congrats!
- 2) Patti Barber and Gail Glover organized and fed all the "scientists" at the Science Fair
- 3) We earned \$190 from the Barnes and Noble Fundraiser during the holidays. We will be doing that event again next December, so please keep that in mind for your holiday shopping plans.
- 4) The German, Latin and National Math Exams were proctored by our wonderful volunteers! Thanks to Lorelei Allen and Tammi Jackson for organizing the tests as well as the supportive teachers of Robinson.
- 5) We were pleased that 130 students earned and turned in the BOOST coupons for 2nd quarter-thanks to Cathy Roth for organizing those efforts and many thanks to the kids who stood out from the crowd to earn the coupons.

As the demands for resources increase, in addition to using membership fees to support various projects, we decided to collect the "box tops for kids" that are on General Mills products. IF you are not already saving them for another group, we would love to have you donate them to Academic Boosters. Each box top is worth 10 cents each. Don't forget to ask family members, co-workers, neighbors to save them for us also.

Just collect the box tops and either drop them off in plastic baggies (which by the way also have the box tops for kids on them!) in our mailbox down in the Administrative Office, which is in the same hallway as the Career Center OR you can drop them off at our boxes in the 7th grade, 8th grade and Main Office. Thanks to Jacqueline Lehman for managing the collection. We earned \$100 just from the first half of the year, help us beat that for the second half!

Our next meeting will be held Monday, March 9, 7 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room. Our meetings are always open so we invite everyone to attend!

Please don't hesitate to contact Shari Bedker, President, sharimomcpa@cox.net on how you can get involved or if you have any questions.





Washington Capitals Care Click To Win!



Robinson Secondary School is competing to be selected as a winning school for March, 2009 through the Washington Capitals Care Click to Win Charities program.

*In order to win, we must display school spirit for the Capitals by wearing **RED!***

Our photo will be posted on the Washington Capitals website – please visit www.washingtoncaps.com from March 16-23 and vote for Robinson to WIN!

- Liz Spooone, Finance Technician

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Robinson Secondary School

PTSA[®]

everychild.one voice.

Robinson Secondary School
5035 Sideburn Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22032



www.robinsonptsa.org

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Permit #341