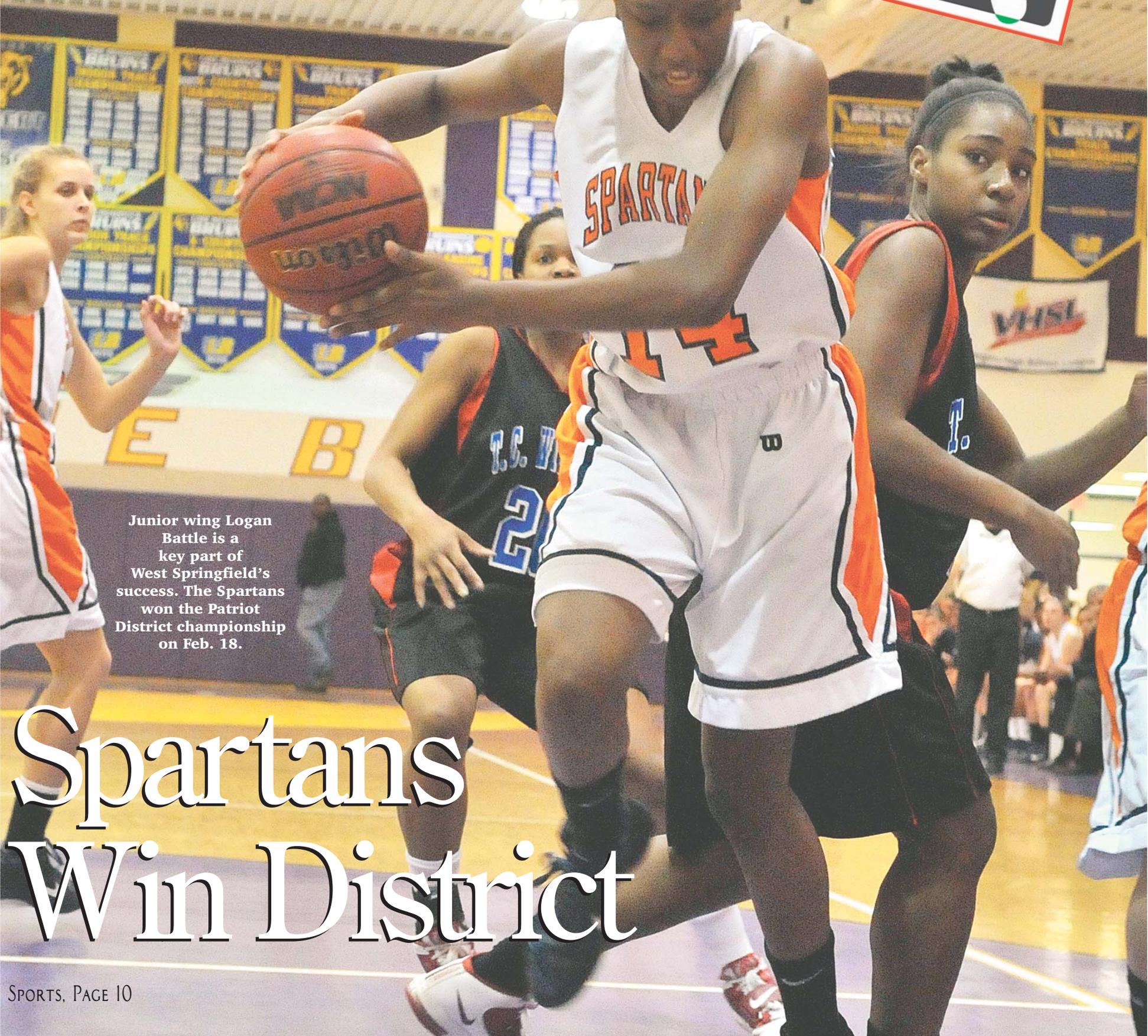
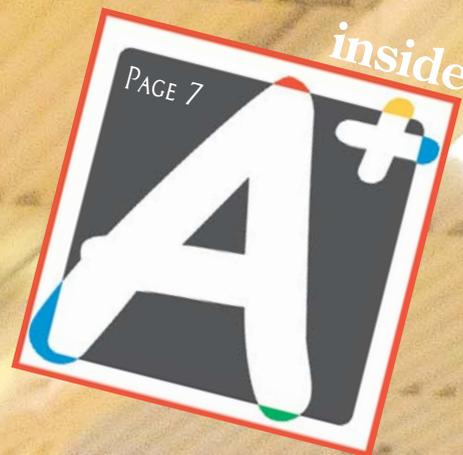


Springfield CONNECTION

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Junior wing Logan Battle is a key part of West Springfield's success. The Spartans won the Patriot District championship on Feb. 18.

Spartans Win District

SPORTS, PAGE 10

Renovation On the Horizon?

NEWS, PAGE 3

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ❖ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 17

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West Springfield High Renovation Moves Forward

SOAR wants school fast-tracked, seeks alternative funding strategies.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Lower construction costs and favorable market conditions have accelerated the timetable for many school renovations projects, including the \$88 million renovation of West Springfield High School, according to Fairfax County School Board officials.

"What's positive is that WSHS has a place in the queue and is scheduled to be renovated after Langley High School," said School Board member Liz Bradsher (Springfield). "It has been accelerated due to cost savings and capital decisions made by the School Board."

Renovation for WSHS is slated to begin in 2016, four years ahead of when originally anticipated in 2009, Bradsher said.

The closing of Pimmit Hills Alternative School and Clifton Elementary School, which the School Board approved last July, coupled with historically low construction bids, enabled FCPS to save \$31 million over the past three years and pushed up the renovation of many schools.

"One bright spot in the economic downturn is that we're seeing lower costs for con-



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Erik Hawkins, president of SOAR, stands in front of West Springfield High School with Monique Craft, a 1972 alumna, and Hawkins' children, Anya, 10, Luke, 8, and Ainsley, 5). Fifth-grader Anya and second-grader Luke attend Cardinal Forest Elementary and Ainsley attends Grace Weekday Preschool in Springfield.

struction, enabling us to speed up our renovations," said FCPS Superintendent Jack D. Dale. "This makes it possible for us to renovate our schools more quickly than originally planned while saving money."

On Jan. 20, the School Board approved the FY 2012-16 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which includes new schools,

renovations and additions over five years, totaling \$804.9 million — \$199.4 million is currently funded with approved school bonds. To complete projects as scheduled in the new CIP, the schools would require a bond referendum in November 2011 to cover the \$600 million shortfall.

Even with the accelerated renovation

schedule, some community activists and elected officials want to fast-track WSHS renovations so that the school is completely overhauled by its 50th anniversary in 2016.

"The renovation queue has been accelerated by a couple of years, but it's still unacceptable," said Erik Hawkins, who spearheads the community action group Spartans Organized for Action on Renovation (SOAR). "Even with the new timetable, a complete renovation of WSHS is still a decade away."

Current FCPS estimates are for the school to be refurbished and modernized by about 2018, and that's not fast enough for SOAR.

"To put that date in perspective, that means that no West Springfield child currently older than first grade would attend a renovated WSHS," Hawkins said.

Built in 1966, the 300,000-square-foot high school on Rolling Road currently enrolls more than 2,200 students in ninth through 12th grades and offers many Advanced Placement programs. Optimal capacity is approximately 2,100 students, and that number is expected to jump to 2,500 students in 2014. Like Herndon and Oakton high schools, WSHS is laid out on two stories with the library, planetarium, administration offices and cafeteria in front and auditorium and gymnasiums in the back.

In the summer of 2009, the school received \$2.4 million to fund repairs that included new carpeting, a new \$400,000 state of the art running track and \$55,000 for stadium improvements.

SEE RENOVATION, PAGE 4

Fairfax County School Discipline: Broken or Perfect?

Jack Dale criticizes concerns linking recent teen suicides to suspensions.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

In the last 22 months, two Fairfax County students have died of suicide while coping with their removal from their local high school for disciplinary matters.

When the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Feb. 8 to "make outreach efforts" to the local school system about student disciplinary tactics, members hoped to begin a friendly and ongoing discussion about possible reforms to the schools' current system.

"I want us to come together and ask 'Can we find a better way to do this?'" said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), one of two sponsors of the county measure.

Hudgins is concerned that the school's current disciplinary process may have caused these students to feel more isolated and could have contributed to their deaths.

"Many parents and students are asking

whether the Zero Tolerance disciplinary policy of FCPS lacks the ability to recognize the emotional difficulties students experience," she said in a written statement.

Supervisors plan to invite the Fairfax Partnership for Youth and parent groups to put together a forum about student discipline, including how expulsions and suspensions are handled, for both county and school system officials.

THREE DAYS LATER,

Fairfax County Superintendent Jack Dale made it clear he had no intention of discussing the disciplinary system with the county. Dale said in a statement that Hudgins' resolution demonstrated a "serious misunderstanding" among the supervisors of the school system's current disciplinary policies.

Instead, he suggested a broader approach

of tackling teen depression in general.

"I believe our efforts would be far more productive if we focused on the incidence of depression among our county youth and how our agencies can work together to tackle this problem," wrote Dale in his statement.

Dale said Fairfax County schools do not have a "zero tolerance" approach to discipline and consider every proposal for ex-

"I strongly recommend that all members of the Board of Supervisors learn more about FCPS' practices and policies ..."

— FCPS Superintendent Jack Dale

pulsion or suspension on an individual basis.

"I strongly recommend that all members of the Board of Supervisors learn more about FCPS' practices and policies before making public statements that are misinformed and damaging to our students, families and community," wrote Dale.

Dale also objected in strong language to

Hudgins' link of two teenage suicides to the school disciplinary process.

"For Supervisor Hudgins to link the two tragic student deaths to their disciplinary processes for the purpose of furthering a falsehood is unconscionable and a blow to those who have already suffered great pain and loss," wrote Dale.

Dale and Hudgins did not speak to each other directly; each issued public statements.

Last month, sophomore Nick Stuban died a few weeks after he had been forced to leave Woodson High School for Fairfax High School because of an infraction. In 2009, South Lakes High School junior Josh Anderson took his life a few hours before he expected to be

expelled from the entire Fairfax County school system at disciplinary hearing.

According to last year's Fairfax County Youth Survey, 14 percent of local students had considered suicide and 3.6 percent had attempted suicide at least once. The youth survey shows that students who report abus-

SEE FCPS, PAGE 5

Elizabeth Bradsher To Become a Democrat?

Fairfax County School Board Member Elizabeth Bradsher (Springfield) is considering joining the Democratic Party and attended a recent meeting of the Springfield District Democratic Committee, she said in an interview.

The School Board office is nonpartisan, but the Fairfax County Republican Committee endorsed Bradsher when she ran for the School Board in 2007. Since then, Bradsher said she has had a fall out with some Springfield Republicans, particularly Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield).

Over the past two years, Herrity has questioned how the School Board allocates money within the Fairfax County Public Schools system. He has also fought the closing of Clifton Elementary School, a proposal that Bradsher backed.

Bradsher has repeatedly said that Herrity has spread misinformation to the public about Clifton's closing.

"I really don't like the leadership of the Springfield District at this time. It lacks integrity and courage," said Bradsher of why she was considering joining the Democratic Party.

Bradsher is contemplating a run against Herrity for the Springfield supervisor seat as a Democrat this year. She said she would make a final decision whether to jump into the race in the next two weeks, following the School Board's vote on the county's southwestern elementary school boundary study Feb. 24.

If Bradsher decides to run for School Board again, it may also be beneficial for her to join the Democratic Party.

A Republican Party activist, Clifton resident Elizabeth Schultz, has said she will run for Bradsher's School Board seat in November. Bradsher would likely have a fight with Schultz on her hands for the Republican endorsement for School Board.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Man Dies Following Crash

A 21-year-old Franconia man died Saturday, Feb. 19, following a single-vehicle crash on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 2:10 a.m. in the 5200 block of Franconia Road.

Fairfax County Police identified the victim as Adrian Cardozo of 3506 Elmwood Drive, who was a passenger in the car driven by a 21-year-old Alexandria man. Detectives determined the driver of a 2004 Suzuki Impreza was speeding on Franconia Road, near the intersection of Guilford Drive, when he failed to negotiate a curve, ran off the right side of the roadway and struck a large utility pole. Both the driver and passenger were ejected from the vehicle and transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital.

The driver was charged with driving under the influence and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. Additional charges are pending further investigation by Crash Reconstruction Unit detectives.

Chamber, Schools Team Up

The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and Fairfax County Public Schools have teamed up to launch a new non-profit foundation that supports initiatives to help students acquire 21st century skills. All donations go directly to the foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and are tax deductible. Among the opportunities for donations are programs in elementary, middle and high school that prepare underrepresented students for college; teacher grants and training; and support of an all-electronic learning environment, including 24/7 Internet access, for all students.

For more information about the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools or to make a donation, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/educationfoundation/index.html>.

Renovation Moves Up the List

FROM PAGE 3

"Other than a relatively minor 'patch and paint' touch up, WSHS has never received a structural renovation since it was built," Hawkins said.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who has been pressing for renovations to his alma mater since his first year in office in 2008, agreed with Hawkins, and said the school is in dire need of a complete overhaul.

"The school is in horrible shape," Herrity said. "Our senior staircase has fallen 6 inches, and you can see where they pumped in cement to keep it from buckling. The roof is sagging and there are still the old wooden light poles on the main athletic field that even the repair guys refuse to climb."

IN ADDITION to the escalating structural problems, the school has a 50-year-old HVAC systems, which frequently fluctuates from freezing to boiling and makes some classrooms — particularly computer, chemistry and music rooms — uncomfortable.

Both Hawkins and Herrity said they've been in the computer labs when the temperature has been above 90 degrees.

"The facility just does not provide optimal educational environments all FCPS high school students deserve, especially in science, technology and music," said Hawkins. "FCPS students in unrenovated high schools like West Springfield are placed at an unfair disadvantage among both FCPS student peers in new or renovated schools and also peers from other school systems like Arlington, Loudoun and Prince William."

Monique Craft, a SOAR member and 1972 WSHS graduate, said the conditions at the school make it untenable for faculty and students.

"West Springfield is not the time capsule I want to put my daughter in," she said.

Hawkins added that SOAR members are worried the conditions that have created a favorable financial climate for building projects may not last.

"Construction and financing costs have never been lower. Investing more money in the CIP now can help solve chronic CIP renovation timeline challenges," Hawkins said.

Herrity added that he is supportive of accelerat-

ing the construction timetable to take advantage of unprecedented low construction costs.

"Instead of having two or three construction companies bidding on a project, we now have 10 or 12, which drives the construction costs down considerably. That situation is not going to last," Herrity said.

Hawkins said group members met recently with Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), Bradsher and FCPS financial staff to pitch a proposal that would allocate more funds to leverage the favorable economic conditions.

Bulova said she and Bradsher had met with SOAR, and she has asked Len Wale, the county debt manager in the Department of Management and Budget and Dean Tistadt, chief operating officer of Facilities and Transportation Services, to collaborate on creative financial strategies that might push WSHS and other schools further along the queue.

"At our last meeting, we discussed several strategies for taking advantage of the unprecedented low construction costs right now to help clear some of the backlog for school renovations and construction," Bulova said, adding that she plans to bring a proposal for discussion and consideration at the joint Board of Supervisors and School Board Budget Committee meeting on March 15.

Even if SOAR is successful in its efforts to move the renovation queue forward, a school bond referendum is the most likely financial solution to cover the shortfall in the current CIP.

A detailed list of the renovation projects, along with a firm price tag, could be up for voter approval later this year. Bradsher said she believes the prospects of passing those bonds are good.

"Fairfax County voters have not voted down a bond for well over 35 years," she said. "These bonds are most important and provide a vital funding stream for our many capital needs, most of which pertains to the renovations of our older schools."

"Plainly speaking, our school system sells this county and as such is a promotional tool used to encourage companies to move to Fairfax County and to stay in Fairfax County. Whether we want to believe this or not Fairfax County schools play a key role in providing a stable and strong county economy," Bradsher said.

Griffin Unveils \$3.38B Budget

Does not include raises for county employees, cuts funds for school raises.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Executive Anthony H. Griffin proposed a \$3.38 billion budget to the Board of Supervisors Tuesday which if adopted would bar pay raises for county employees and school teachers for another year and could cost an average home owner some \$110 a year in increased real estate taxes.

Griffin told the supervisors that the budget still has a shortfall of some \$50 million, but this far less than the \$350 million shortfall in the current 2011 budget and was designed to maintain "the quality

of life" in Fairfax County, he said.

The board voted Tuesday to "advertise" the tax rate at \$1.09 in the 2012 budget, beginning on July 1, which on a home valued at \$443,511 (the mean assessed value in the county) would cost the tax payer an additional \$110 a year.

Three members of the board refused to back the \$1.09 figure, offering an amendment to advertise a figure of \$1.065, which would further tighten the amount of money the county would have to spend.

The board's three Republican supervisors John Cook (Braddock), Michael R. Frey (Sully) and Pat Herrity of the Springfield District said the lower rate would force cuts in services rather than an actual increase in county revenue. Herrity said it was time to drop the tax rate. "We doubled people's taxes between 2000 and 2007, and its past time we give them some relief."

But Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) said the \$1.09 figure gives the people of Fairfax a chance to present

SEE BLEAK, PAGE 11

FCPS Disciplinary Policies

FROM PAGE 3

ing substances also tend to report considering suicide and attempting suicide at a higher rate, according to Dale.

"There is no link between the tragic suicides that we have had and the disciplinary process. ... I have knowledge of both cases that I can't share with you and there is zero evidence to support that. None," said Dale in an interview.

JOSH'S PARENTS disagree with Dale's assessment.

"Honestly, the superintendent's response was very mystifying to me," said Tim Anderson, Josh's father. "To say there is nothing that connects the suicide and depression to the disciplinary procedure, we believe it is unconscionable to say that. We believe it is unconscionable to not look [at the disciplinary process]."

Tim Anderson said his family and other people close to Josh believe the emotional strain of the disciplinary hearing and facing expulsion from all Fairfax schools contributed to the teenager's death.

"Obviously it happened on the eve of his second hearing. Whether it was the number one cause or the number five cause, I don't know. But it got him closer than he needed to be to that place. I don't think it is by coincidence that it happened the day before his second hearing," said Tim Anderson in an interview Feb. 15.

The Andersons wonder how Dale might have acquired enough "knowledge" about their son to make any conclusion about the impact of the disciplinary process on Josh's suicide.

"No one from Fairfax County [schools] has ever talked to us about Josh's death. No one from the superintendent's office has ever discussed it with us. If you are really concerned about kids and families in Fairfax County, wouldn't it be the right thing to at least send a condolence card in these cases?" said Tim Anderson.

He added that Dale appears to be more concerned with protecting the school system from liability or a class action lawsuit than addressing the shortfalls of the disciplinary process.

The Andersons' limited contact with the county board on this issue has been a much more positive experience. Hudgins contacted the family before she made her proposal to the county board, asking for input on the issue from Tim Anderson and to make sure he was comfortable with a reference to Josh's death in her written statement.

"Cathy Hudgins — I really appreciate all the things

she said. I don't appreciate the approach that Jack Dale took," said Tim Anderson.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Tina Hone (At-large) started pushing for a detailed examination of the process last October.

Hone said it is difficult for her to even deduce what problems might exist in the current system because the administration has never provided her with comprehensive data related to student suspensions and expulsions. Other school board members have also been reluctant to spend time looking potential reforms until they have more information about the effectiveness of the current system, she said.

"We need to see the data. But what I have gotten is stonewalling and stalling on this [from school staff]," said Hone.

Hone first started focusing on disciplinary policies and procedures when a parent contacted her to say that her son had been removed from his base school and placed on "long-term suspension" at an alternative high school for over 400 days.

"That student wasn't suspended. He was reassigned to a new school. He received the exact same penalty he would have gotten if he had been expelled from his base school. ... I had hoped to achieve an agreement that no child would be reassigned to one of our alternative high schools for more than 365 days unless he had been expelled from his base school," said Hone.

Among the data that Hone requested was a count how many students receive five-day suspensions, 10-day suspensions, and longer-term suspensions. She also wanted to know what, if any, the suspensions had on students' academic achievement when they returned to class.

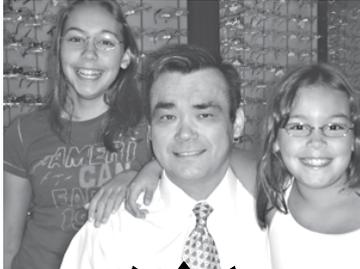
Hone also wants evidence that transferring a student from one general education high school to another, which is done often for minor drug offenses, has any discernable positive effects.

"Kids get shuffled a lot and we have no idea what it does for them. We don't know what it does for their base school. It might even be better to have the student come back. We don't know," said Hone.

Technically, many students who are expelled are able to reapply and potentially attend their original school the following year, though Hone knows of no cases anecdotally where this has occurred.

Hone would also like to videotape or otherwise monitor disciplinary hearings, which are conducted by special hearing officers. A few families have complained to Hone and others about hearing officers badgering students.

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OPINION

Time to Talk about 'Discipline'

Schools need to consider the best interests of the student.

Our hearts go out to the parents of Nick Stuben, a student at Woodson who died of suicide last month after an ordeal of navigating a suspension and disciplinary process that clearly has gone awry.

Nick was not the first local student to suffer from the process. In March 2009, Josh Anderson, then a junior at South Lakes High School, died of suicide the day before he was to face expulsion from the Fairfax County school system at a disciplinary hearing.

It is true that a teenage suicide never has only one cause; the students' deaths are not the "fault" of disciplinary policies. But no one can deny that the disciplinary process contributed to the unhappiness that these two students experienced.

We have heard now from many parents whose teenagers (and even younger children) have suffered through an inflexible and adversarial process that separates students from support systems and healthy activities and even schoolwork at exactly the moment that they need them the most.

Students who have not been in serious trouble before suddenly find themselves isolated at home, unable to participate in sports or clubs, unable to interact with peers or teachers on a regular basis. The results have been

devastating for many families.

Many people are seeking a dialogue to understand and hopefully modify the current approach.

Del. Kaye Kory introduced legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates that would have required schools to notify parents if their student was in trouble that might lead to suspension. The bill failed, but the idea that such legislation might be needed is eye-opening. Fairfax schools opposed it.

Caroline Hemenway founded Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform, a community group that advocates for changes to Fairfax's approach to disciplinary matters, years ago after her family's ordeal with suspension years ago.

School board member Tina Hone (At-large) has been asking for data about suspensions and expulsions from schools staff, but reports that she has been unable to get good answers, leaving open questions about minority students being over-represented in students who have been suspended, among other issues.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Feb. 8 to "make outreach efforts" to the local school system about student disciplinary tactics, hoping to begin a friendly and ongoing discussion about possible reforms to the schools' current system.

Fairfax County Superintendent Jack Dale made it clear he had no intention of discussing the disciplinary system with the county. Dale said in a statement that the resolution demonstrated a "serious misunderstanding" of the school system's current disciplinary policies.

Note that this exchange involved dueling

Read On

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE: BROKEN OR PERFECT?

Jack Dale criticizes concerns linking teen suicides to suspensions.

MONDAY, FEB. 21, 2011

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=348482&paper=72&cat=104>

MANTUA TEENAGER REMEMBERED

Nick Stuben, 15, participated in Woodson football, Boy Scouts.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 2011

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=347811&paper=63&cat=104>

ONE STRIKE, THEY'RE OUT

Some families call the school system's polices on marijuana punitive and ineffective.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17, 2010

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=344330&paper=82&cat=104>

"statements," not discussion.

Dale is correct when he suggests a broader approach of tackling teen depression in general, but this must be in addition to grappling with the challenges in the disciplinary process.

"I believe our efforts would be far more productive if we focused on the incidence of depression among our county youth and how our agencies can work together to tackle this problem," wrote Dale in his statement.

In the meantime, if you have a teenager in your family, it might be worth letting him or her know that they shouldn't sign any statements admitting they've done anything wrong at school without having the school call you first.

—MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Big To-Do Over Hotel Tax

BY DAVE MARSDEN
THE CONNECTION

The late Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina once declared, "All farm subsidies were a waste of money ... except for the ones for tobacco because they really help people." Needless to say, North Carolina was a leading tobacco state.

A similar situation was occurring in Virginia this past week. A number of state senators were voting against other senator's requests to establish a "Transient Occupancy (Hotel) Tax" in their districts. They were secure in the knowledge that their localities already had these taxes authorized, so they could appear fiscally conservative at someone else's expense. Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw (D-35) decided enough was enough. He put in an amendment to remove authority for these taxes from the districts of those senators that had voted to deprive others from receiving their fair share. Well, you should have heard the howling from one senator. He was put in a situation where he had to either vote to remove revenue from his district or vote not to eliminate \$300 million in taxes statewide. He has always maintained that we pay too many taxes. We gave

him a chance to do something about it and he wouldn't do it.

In the end, the amendment and bill were approved and sent back to the House of Delegates where I am sure it will be rejected. The matter will then be taken up in the budget conference held between the Senate and House to resolve differences. The taxes will be restored but a number of senators will have been shown that you can't be that blatantly hypocritical.

In other news, my bill to require drivers involved in fender benders on the Beltway during HOT Lane construction to advance their vehicles to the next available shoulder or pull off area to exchange information or wait for police was passed in the House Transportation Committee was then referred to the House Courts of Justice Committee because it involved a fine. It died there in a close vote because most members felt it was already covered by the hit and run statute that requires drivers to get their vehicles off the road after an accident. Most people would not think they were authorized to move their vehicle a half-mile to accomplish this. This is what I was trying to clarify to get our traffic moving in Fairfax County. But the committee members did not

Marsden's Beltway safety bill dies in committee.

want to tinker with the hit and run statute. They do not have to drive the Beltway.

I was also disappointed that my and Del. Eileen Filler-Corn's (D-41) bill to allow the Burke Centre Conservancy to install "flashing yellow lights" at Terra Centre School at their own expense was defeated. The school system would not do it for a variety of reasons and I disagreed. Del. Joe May (R-33), who chairs House Transportation, offered to write a letter to Fairfax County Public Schools in an effort to resolve the matter. I really appreciated that and I hope it is effective.

It looks like I will pass seven bills this year with my bill allowing tax deductions for trusts established for disabled children to be referred to the Disability Commission. Del. Bobby Orrock (R-54), the commission chairman, will explore the proposal in greater detail this summer to see if it is an idea the commission can sponsor next year. Proposals from commissions have great weight with legislators. Four other bills of mine were resolved by committee chairs in the House and Senate by writing letters to state agencies to ask that they take action to accomplish the purpose of my bills.

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
springfield@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael O'Connell
Editor / 703-778-9416

Victoria Ross
Community Reporter
703-778-9436
vross@connectionnewspapers.com

Nick Horrock
County & Projects
nhorrock@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor
703-778-9410
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com

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Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editors
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Louise Krafft,
Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
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Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,
L.L.C.
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
Special Assistant to the Publisher
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com

Young Musicians Compete

Nine middle and high school students compete for prize money.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

When Brian Hong talks in casual conversation, he says things that many 17-year-old boys in high school might be expected say.

He is a self-professed “metal head,” who frequents heavy metal music message boards on the Internet. “My favorite band of all time is Dream Theater,” said Brian, mentioning an all-male group whose members have shoulder-length hair, bushy goatees and perform in a variety of black T-shirts, judging from pictures on the group’s website.

Heavy metal is fairly typical for teenage boys but it does seem a little odd for Brian, an accomplished classical musician who plays the violin. When he steps onto a stage to perform as concertmaster of the American Youth Philharmonic, Brian is likely to be wearing a pressed tuxedo and black dress shoes.

BRIAN, who lives in Fairfax Station and attends Robinson Secondary School, won the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra’s 2011 Dorothy Farnham Feuer string competition Feb. 20. The competition for middle and high school students had nine finalists.

“He had a wonderful musical refinement and a beautiful musical presentation,” said Katherine Murdock, one of the competition’s judges, of Brian’s performance. Murdock, who plays the viola, is a professor of music at the University of Maryland.

“It was one of my stronger run-throughs,” said Brian, who played music by Russian composer Alexander Glazunov for the competition.

Brian first started playing the violin when he was 4 and tries to fit in about three hours of practice every day. The student takes some of his high school classes over the Internet to give his schedule more flexibility for music practice, he said.

“I would like to have a career in music or something in the sciences, like physics or chemistry,” said Brian.

Though he is just a teenager, Brian has already worked professionally. He played on a recording for a local pop musician and a “progressive metal” group from Boston that he met over a message board.

As the Feuer competition’s winner, Brian received \$1,500. The student said he hopes to use the money to commission a custom bow from a Miami-based instrument maker. The special bow will cost about \$3,000 and Brian has already saved up “quite a bit

of money” for its purchase, he said.

Even when they don’t win money, young musicians benefit from participating in competitions like the Feuer.

“It is motivational for a lot of students. A lot of them will work harder if they know they are going to be in a competition,” said David Salness, a judge and the concertmaster of the Fairfax Symphony. Salness is also professor of violin and director of chamber music at the University of Maryland.

“It teaches them how to speak to an audience and entertain,” he said.

Arman Nasrinpay, another student finalist, said he works harder when he knows he will have to perform in a competition.

“I did a lot of practicing this month. When you are competing, you just get a lot better. It puts a fire



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Michael Romans, 15, has played the viola for two years.

under you,” said Arman, who is a sophomore at McLean High School.

JUDGES AND FINALISTS alike were impressed with the level of talent in this year’s competition.

“I was very impressed but I am kind of used to being impressed at this point,” said Evelyn Elsing, another judge and music professor at the University of Maryland.

Michael Romans, a sophomore from Lake Braddock Secondary School, said he was surprised to place third in the competition, given the number of excellent musicians participating.

“I am really surprised to have done as well as I did because everyone here is really, really good. I was just very impressed,” said Michael, who was the only student to play the viola in the competition. Michael, who also plays the violin, took up the viola two years ago at the recommendation of his private teacher, who told him it was a “scholarship instrument” that might help get into college.

Michael tries to practice at least once per day for one to two hours, though he can only play one instrument per day. He also runs track at Lake Braddock.

“It is really very difficult to balance track, music and school,” said Michael.

SCHOOL NOTES

On Saturday, April 2, children and adults will be competing in a **Speed Stacking tournament at North Springfield Elementary**. Students grade K-6 and adults (parent/child event) are invited to bring their best

skills to the table where they can compete in three rounds of single stacking and pair up later in the day for doubles stacking. Registration is \$3 at the door. Light snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase. Doors open at

8:30 am. Awards will be handed out at the end of the tournament and each participant will receive a certificate. North Springfield Elementary is located at 7602 Heming Court, Springfield. To learn more, e-mail semetz@fcp.edu.

Countries are well cultivated, not as they are fertile, but as they are free.
—Baron de Montesquieu

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COMMUNITY

A Little Love and Charity

Business leaders team up to fight poverty and homeless in Fairfax County.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County may be among the wealthiest counties in the country, but that achievement has not trickled down to a small but significant segment of the population: the county's 200-plus homeless families.

"It's not acceptable to have a community with this wealth, to be this affluent, and not take care of our most vulnerable population," said David Pijor, chairman and CEO of First Virginia Community Bank. "The business community has an obligation to help those individuals and families who are less fortunate."

To highlight the issue, First Virginia Community Bank teamed up with Commonwealth Real Estate Information Services (CREIS) on Wednesday, Feb. 16, to host a Valentine's Day-inspired reception called Falling in Love with FACETS.

Based in Fairfax, FACETS is a nonprofit that assists the homeless and those in poverty by helping people find housing, jobs and other necessities, as well as coordinating assistance from volunteers and faith-based groups.

More than 100 business leaders and government officials attended the event at the Bridgewater Corporate Center in Fairfax, including Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and City of Fairfax Councilmember Jeff Greenfield.

"We want to introduce the business community to FACETS and educate them about how they can make long-term investments by giving back to the community," said Michelle Haley, a vice president at First Vir-



From left, John Martin, vice president of L.F. Jennings, Inc. and FACETS board chairman and Larry Morris of Axiaware smile for the camera.

ginia Community Bank and board member of FACETS.

"Support and leadership from the busi-

"It's not acceptable to have a community with this wealth ... and not take care of our most vulnerable population."

— David Pijor, chairman and CEO of First Virginia Community Bank

ness community is vital for helping us solve issues affecting people struggling to make ends meet in the area," said FACETS Executive Director Amanda Andere.

With a population of more than 1 million people, Fairfax County has 1,500 homeless



First Virginia Community Bank donated \$1,000 to FACETS at the Feb. 16 Fall in Love with FACETS event. Shown here, from left, are Ben Hankins, president of Commonwealth Real Estate Information Services; Michelle Haley, vice president of First Virginia Community Bank; Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large); Amanda Andere, executive director of FACETS; and L. Burwell Gunn, president of First Virginia Community Bank.

individuals, Andere said. In 2010, Andere noted that FACETS helped more than 5,000 people who were homeless or living in poverty by offering a variety of services, such as financial assistance, counseling and outreach, housing and educational programs.

"We believe in long-term solutions, not a temporary fix," Andere said.

Ben Hankins, president of CREIS, said the business community can play a pivotal role in helping the homeless. "Homeless people are not invisible," he said. "They are people who check out our groceries, or take care of our children at preschool. When we help an organization like FACETS, we are helping the homeless break that cycle."

According to Dean Klein, director of

Fairfax County's Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, more than 60 percent of homeless adults in families are employed.

"That statistic may shock people, but even though people have jobs, it's difficult to access affordable housing in such an affluent area," Klein said.

Bulova told the group of business leaders that "Fairfax County can be successful in its goal of ending poverty and homelessness by 2017 by partnering with organizations such as FACETS. ... Fairfax County is the kind of place we can all live, work, play, and be good to our neighbors."

Larry Morris, who works for Axiaware in Vienna, said the event helped him understand the need for the business community to play a role. "When you find out more about the homeless issue, and realize how many children are living in shelters, how can you not want to help?"



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ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THURSDAY/FEB. 24

Friends of Burke Centre Blizzard of Books Sale. 3 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stock up on great books. 703-249-1520.

Practice Your English. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. Adults. 703-339-4610.

Chinese Scrolls from the Dr. Chi Wang Collection. Mason Hall Alumni Atrium Gallery at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive in Fairfax. Panel discussion at 5 p.m., and Opening Reception 6-8 p.m. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/FEB. 25

Workhouse Film Institute: "Herb and Dorothy." 7:30 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The story of Herbert Vogel, a postal clerk, and Dorothy Vogel, a librarian, who managed to build one of the most important contemporary art collections in history with very modest means. Free. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

Sex Slaves, Cab Ride Home and more. 6:30 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. All ages. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

"Gianni Schicchi." 8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The GMU School of Music presents the Mason Opera & Chamber Orchestra performing Giacomo Puccini's satirical one-act opera. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors, and a limited number of tickets are free for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/FEB. 26

TobyMac Winter Wonder Slam Tour. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. With Brandon Heath and House of Heroes. Tickets \$15-\$50, available through www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT.

Simple Gifts. 7 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The trio performs Irish jigs, American reels, Klezmer frailachs, Gypsy melodies, Balkan dance music and more. \$15-\$20. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

Battle of the Bands with Halcyon,

Crash Concept, Amethyst Heart, Katabasis and more. 12 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$1000 Grand Prize. All ages. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

VITA Tax Assistance. 10 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. IRS-certified volunteers help taxpayers who earned up to \$49,000. Adults. 703-451-8055.

"Gianni Schicchi." 8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The GMU School of Music presents the Mason Opera & Chamber Orchestra performing Giacomo Puccini's satirical one-act opera. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors, and a limited number of tickets are free for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Get Abuzz About Bees at Huntley Meadows. 4 p.m. Huntley Meadows Park and Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Learn about the lives of our native bees, how they contribute to the human world and how to attract them to a garden. Discuss plans for a bee box including how to build and care for them. \$6 per person. Register at 703-222-4664 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

SUNDAY/FEB. 27

Disney Live! presents Mickey's Magic Show. 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Featuring magic from legendary Disney films. Cinderella's rags turn into a beautiful ball gown in a split second, Aladdin's Princess Jasmine levitates into the air and the enchanted dancing brooms in Fantasia help sweep Minnie off of her feet. Mickey Mouse performs illusions along with Cinderella's Fairy Godmother, Alice in Wonderland's Mad Hatter and professional illusionist Brad Ross. Tickets \$22-\$50, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.disneylive.com.

Eluveite, 3 Inches of Blood, Holy Grail, System Divide Ethereal Genocide and more. 6 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$17 advance, \$20 at the door. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

Drumline Live. 7 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A 39-member cast in a percussion-driven performance. \$23-\$46, youth through grade 12 half-price when accompanied by adult. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Explore the World of Bones. 2 p.m.

Huntley Meadows Park and Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Search the clues left behind in animal skulls, teeth and bones. For ages 9-12. \$6 per person. Register at 703-222-4664 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

TUESDAY/MARCH 1

Straight Line Stitch, War of Ages and more. 5 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 2

Ensiferum, Finntroll, Rotten Sound, Barren Earth and more. 6:15 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$22 advance, \$25 at the door, \$50 VIP tickets with a Meet and Greet with Rotting Christ. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 3

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Moms Club of Springfield Fund Raiser. 7:30 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Pampering, shopping and food for moms, with proceeds benefiting the Fairfax Hospital for Children NICU, PICU and children's cancer center. tjwilson0720@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Epitome of the Weak, All Out Chaos, Upper 90, The Chuck Fenech Band, Rising Chaos, Silence the Blind, Abandoning Arborland and Proper Addiction. 5 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

Tango Buenos Aires: "Fire and Passion of Tango." 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Dancers, vocalists and instrumentalists trace the history of the Argentine Tango. cfa.gmu.edu.

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Spartans Win District Championship

Girls basketball team defeats Westfield in opening round of region tournament.

The West Springfield girls basketball team defeated T.C. Williams 64-50 on Feb. 18 at Lake Braddock Secondary School to capture its second consecutive Patriot District championship.

Three days later, the Spartans defeated Westfield 45-27 during the opening round of the Northern Region tournament, improving their record to 24-1.

— JON ROETMAN

The West Springfield girls basketball team captured its second consecutive Patriot District championship on Feb. 18 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The Spartans beat T.C. Williams, 64-50.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Lee's Koroma Finishes Fifth at State Wrestling Meet

Bruins' Renzi also earn fifth place medal.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

While the Robinson Rams' first place showing was the top storyline at last weekend's Virginia State AAA wrestling championships event, held last Friday and Saturday (Feb. 18-19) at Robinson Secondary, there were numerous other local wrestlers who put together strong showings at the postseason extravaganza.

Lee High's Kombeh Koroma, this year's Northern Region champion at 152-division, worked his way to a fifth place finish at states. The Lancer senior won his first two matches on Friday — a 10-9 decision over Hampton High's Tony Leonardi, and a 14-8 victory over Dalton St. Clair of L.C. Bird (Chesterfield). The latter win advanced Koroma into a semifinals match on Saturday early afternoon versus Justin Spyres of Green Run (Virginia Beach). Koroma lost a 5-1 decision to Spyres to slip into the loser's bracket.

"I was trying to push the pace in the semifinals match and I think that got me because I got into some trouble," said Koroma, of the loss to eventual second place finisher Spyres.

In the loser's bracket, Koroma lost to Tevin Cook of Battlefield (Haymarket), 9-2, pre-

venting Koroma from advancing to the consolation finals for third place. Instead, Koroma competed in the match for fifth place where he was a 3-2 winner over Zach Morris of Albemarle (Charlottesville).

"It was a good tournament but not where I wanted to be," said Koroma, of finishing fifth. "It hurts because [as a senior] this was my last chance to get it."

Also finishing fifth at states was Lake Braddock's Rory Renzi, who competed in the 135-weight class. Renzi, the third seed from the Northern Region, won his first match over Jerry Ronnay of Midlothian, 7-2, before falling into the loser's bracket with a 12-8 loss to CJ Jablonski of Cox High (Virginia Beach). Renzi then defeated both Emmitt Kelly of Freedom High, 5-1, and Omar Maknassi of T.C. Williams, 5-3, in loser's bracket matches. A 9-0 loss to Gabe LaVey of Hanover (Mechanicsville) prevented Renzi from going on to the consolation finals. Instead, in the match for fifth place, the Bruin sophomore closed his state

"I was trying to push the pace in the semifinals match and I think that got me because I got into some trouble."

— Kombeh Koroma

tourney showing out with a pin victory over Johnny McClanahan of Great Bridge (Chesapeake).

Hayfield's Nathan Coburn finished sixth place at 130-weight class. After a first round loss, Coburn won three straight matches in the loser's bracket before closing out with two setbacks. His loser bracket wins came over Greg Nelson of Woodbridge, Ross Benzel of Kellam, and Dillon Knight of Atlee (Mechanicsville).

South County received place finishes from Christian Merino (seventh place at 160 division); Scott Blackstone (eighth at 189); and Hunter Manley (eighth at 103).

Merino, a senior, defeated Brandon Terry of Patrick Henry High (Roanoke), 6-3, before falling into the loser's bracket where he earned wins over Mark Darr of C.D. Hylton (Woodbridge) and Ryan Buchanan of Denbigh (Newport News), the latter a 7-2 win for seventh place.

Blackstone (189), a senior, won matches at states over Trey Purnell of Woodbridge, 5-2, and Ben Yeaman of Hermitage (Richmond), 4-0, on way to finishing eight.

And Manley, a freshman at 103-division,

recorded state wins over Matt Molloy of Midlothian, 9-0, and Eric Merriam of Great Bridge, 3-0, on way to finishing eighth. Overall, he was pleased to earn a medal at states.

"It was a good experience," said Manley (46-9), of competing at states for the first time. "I think I could have done a little better. I think it will be a good preparer for next year. There are lots of kids here who are not on the medal stand."

ROBINSON SECONDARY captured the team championship on Saturday, marking the first time since 1985, when Robinson also won it, that a team from the Northern Region has won a state title. The Rams also won the state crown back in 1981. Like this year, Robinson Secondary was the host site for the '81 state tournament. Robinson's individual state champions last weekend were Brooks Martino (135-division) and Jake Smith (119). Rams who reached the finals before losing were Dallas Smith (112), Jack Bass (125), and Jake Pinkston (heavyweight).

Robinson won the team title with 155.5 points, besting runner-up Cox High (125) of Virginia Beach and third place Colonial Forge (98.5) of Stafford. Forest Park (76) of Woodbridge took fourth place and Westfield High (69) from the Northern Region was fifth. Annandale High, also from

SEE WRESTLING, PAGE 13

Bleak Economic Times Ahead

FROM PAGE 4

their ideas of what programs they want in public hearings and budget meetings over the next two months. "The lower figure looks like we have already decided," he said.

When the Board votes to advertise a rate, it can lower the rate in the final adopted budget, but it cannot raise the tax rate without starting all over. Board chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Supervisors McKay, John W. Foust (D-Dranesville), Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), Penelope Gross (D-Mason) and Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence) voted to advertise the \$1.09 rate. The Board may still vote to lower it on April 12.

The total recommended 2012 budget of all funds is \$6.1 billion.

Fairfax County can anticipate less money from Richmond. Staff analysis showed that the Virginia Senate might approve a package with a \$6.9 million loss for fiscal 2012 and that the House of Delegates version could mean a \$10.2 million reduction.

Though the Board of Supervisors does not control the school budgets, it can effectively veto increases the school board seeks. The Fairfax County Public Schools has sought a county "transfer" of \$1,659 billion, an increase of \$48.8 million, and most of which would go to increase school salaries. But Griffin said that the county cannot have school employees getting an increase when county employees are not and he has proposed \$1.61 billion for schools.

Griffin said his budget plan results in an "available balance" of \$30 million, which the board of supervisors can utilize in several ways including pay increases for county employees or a reduction in the real estate tax rate. Griffin said it could be "saved" for the "critical needs" in 2013.

Both Griffin and Bulova see continued bleak economic times in Fairfax. Though the average price of homes sold through the Multiple Listing Service increased 8.9 percent in 2010, the number of homes sold declined some 7.8 percent to 14,100. Foreclosures in Fairfax totaled 842 in December 2010, a 5.8 per cent increase over December 2009.

Even though the Department of Defense transfer of some 19,000 workers to Fairfax in 2011 will increase revenues and investment, several members of the Board see budget tightening in Washington as ominous for Fairfax.

Gross said the county will have to learn more about a crisis in Virginia's ancient system of institutional care for people with mental or developmental disabilities.

The Department of Justice found Virginia needlessly institutionalizes many people with intellectual disabilities and provides too little community based care. The state has 40 days to address the Justice Department report.

Gross wants to find out whether Fairfax and other counties will be called upon to provide community based care. The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the budget in March.

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703-866-4325
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- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints...
703-451-0631
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Springfield Christian Church...703-354-4994

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Community Covenant Church...703-455-4150
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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Springfield					
8121 Cliffcrest Dr.	\$324,900	Sun 1-4	Kathy Peters	Long & Foster	703-915-2165
9055 Northedge Dr.	\$579,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808
8294 Crestmont Cir.	\$230,000	Sun 2-4	Cecilia Molina	Fairfax	703-470-0927
7250 Hillmead Ct.	\$279,750	Sun 1-5	Steve Childress	Long & Foster	703-981-3277
7105 Red Horse Tavern La.	\$579,900	Sun 1-4	Kelly & Owen Thomas	Jobin	703-405-2222

Kingstowne/Alexandria					
5729 Independence Circle	\$275,000	Sun 1-4	Christina Wood	Keller Williams	202-714-9817
5924 Embry Spring La.	\$775,000	Sun 1-4	Barb White Adkins	RE/MAX	703-609-8950

Annandale					
7515 Pleasant Way	\$479,000	Sun 2-4	Shamein Qadri	Saab Realtors	703-861-6334
4725 Springbrook Dr.	\$499,950	Sun 12-3	B.J. Winar	Avery-Hess	703-402-5072
5020 Woodland Way	\$499,900	Sun 1-4	Chunhang Zhu	Libra	703-829-7788

Burke					
9638 Ironmaster Dr.	\$549,900	Sun 1-4	Doris Crockett	Weichert	703-615-8411
7007 Veering La.	\$569,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808

Fairfax					
3502 Mavis Ct.	\$1,300,000	Sun 1-4	Ingrid Barrett	ERA	571-216-2313
4664 Luxberry Dr.	\$474,900	Sun 1-4	Christi Kay	Long & Foster	703-385-9410
5403 Cheshire Meadows Way	\$330,000	Sun 1-4	Julia Johnson	Green Valley Realty	703-407-7160
13158 Quail Creek La.	\$379,900	Sun 1-4	Ryan Rice	Century 21	571-212-8339

Centreville					
14506 Sully Lake Ct.	\$374,500	Sun 1-4	Courtney Riley	Weichert	703-934-0400

Woodbridge					
4915 Enterprise Ln.	\$207,000	Sun 1-4	Linda Maxwell	Long & Foster	703-452-3912

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Erin Peck at 703-778-9449 or E-Mail the info to epeck@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

HOME SALES

In January 2011, 59 Springfield homes sold between \$675,000-\$130,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
7731 HUNTSMAN BLVD	5	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$675,000	Detached	0.26		LAKEWOOD HILLS
9063 NORTHEdge DR	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$577,000	Detached	0.43		SOUTH RUN FOREST
9102 RURAL PLAINS PL	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$575,000	Detached	0.33		LAKEWOOD HILLS
8923 ARLEY DR	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$542,000	Detached	0.23		ROLLING VALLEY
7710 CUMBERTREE CT	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$530,000	Detached	0.34		WHISPERWOOD
7709 WHITE WILLOW CT	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$525,000	Detached	0.20		WHISPERWOOD
7332 HAMPTON MANOR PL	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$500,000	Townhouse	0.05		TOWNES OF MANCHESTER WDS
8545 HOOES RD	5	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$496,000	Detached	0.20		INNISFREE
7713 RACHAEL WHITNEY LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$469,000	Townhouse	0.07		KINGSTOWNE
7914 SAINT GEORGE CT	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$460,000	Detached	0.20		SARATOGA
7519 IRENE CT	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$455,000	Detached	0.14		KNOLLS AT MIDDLE RUN
8225 ALVARADO CT	5	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$443,500	Detached	0.25		TERRA GRANDE
8600 LAUREN DR	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$440,000	Detached	0.16		KNOLLS AT MIDDLE RUN
6220 TYNER ST	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$433,000	Detached	0.35		KEENE MILL MANOR
7505 LONG PINE DR	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$430,000	Detached	0.34		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
5584 JOWETT COURT	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$429,000	Townhouse	0.05		KINGSTOWNE
5321 PILLOW LN	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$417,000	Detached	0.25		RAVENSWORTH
7236 LENSFIELD CT	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.03		KINGSTOWNE
7519 WESTMORE DR	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.05		WESTHAVEN
7526 MURILLO ST	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$385,000	Detached	0.25		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
7206 SQUIRREL RUN CT	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$382,600	Detached	0.06		WHITLERS CREEK II
8117 CARRICK LN	3	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$376,000	Detached	0.25		RAVENSWORTH FARM
8417 RAINBOW BRIDGE LN	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$369,500	Detached	0.15		NEWINGTON FOREST
7958 HIDDEN BRIDGE DR	4	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.04		COVERED BRIDGE
7714 NEWINGTON FOREST AVE	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$360,000	Detached	0.07		BURGOYNE FOREST WEST
6268 WALKERS CROFT WAY	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
6108 CLOUD DR	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$350,000	Detached	0.25		YORK MANOR
6602 WESTBURY OAKS CT	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.04		WESTBURY OAKS
6808 RUSKIN ST	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$345,000	Detached	0.50		LOISDALE ESTATES
6731 FRONT ROYAL RD	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$340,100	Detached	0.33		EDSALL PARK
7110 LATOUR CT	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$337,500	Townhouse	0.05		D EVEREUX WEST
7010 BRADDOCK MEWS PL	4	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.06		BRADDOCK MEWS
8708 CENTER RD	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$335,000	Detached	0.15		LEE-BROOKE
7716 BARTLEY WAY	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$334,900	Townhouse	0.04		ISLAND CREEK
7003 LEESTONE ST	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.04		LEEWOOD
6214 TYNER ST	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$310,000	Detached	0.27		KEENE MILL MANOR
7434 GRACE ST	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$305,000	Detached	0.26		SPRINGFIELD
7403 SPRING TREE DR	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$303,000	Townhouse	0.04		SPRING WOODS
5817 NORHAM DR	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$302,900	Townhouse	0.02		KINGSTOWNE
6203 APACHE ST	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$300,000	Detached	0.24		SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
8103 PARKDALE CT	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.03		NEWINGTON FOREST
8366 FERN LEAF CT	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.06		NEWINGTON FOREST
8532 BAUER DR	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03		WEST SPRINGFIELD MEWS
8554 TYROLEAN WAY	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$292,290	Townhouse	0.03		BURGOYNE FOREST WEST
7824 MARCONI CT	3	1	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$290,000	Townhouse	0.04		NEWINGTON STATION
5227 OLDCASTLE LN	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$289,900	Detached	0.25		RAVENSWORTH
7705 HARWOOD PL	3	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$285,000	Detached	0.25		WESTVIEW HILLSP-
6579 GRANGE LN #404	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$285,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CHANCERY OF KINGSTOWNE
7048 LEEWOOD FOREST DR	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.03		LEEWOOD FOREST
6703 EDSALL RD	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$270,000	Detached	0.25		EDSALL PARK
7917 PEBBLE BROOK CT	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$261,000	Townhouse	0.05		WOODSTREAM
7265 EVANSTON RD	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$258,000	Townhouse	0.06		SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
8097 BARCAROLE CT	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.03		SARATOGA TOWNHOUSES
6865 BRINDLE HEATH WAY #173	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$242,500	Garden 1-4 Floors			ETON SQUARE
6107 ASHLEY PL	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$220,000	Detached	0.24		SPRINGFIELD
7112 ITTE LN	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$199,900	Detached	0.07		BEVERLY PARK
7904 SPRING FOREST CT #1A	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$195,000	Townhouse			BENTLEY VILLAGE
7800 HARROWGATE CIR #D	2	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$162,500	Garden 1-4 Floors			RAMBLEWOOD AT DAVENTRY
7094 SPRING GARDEN DR #3	2	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$130,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			SPRINGFIELD GREEN

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FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

The Messiah United Methodist Church Festival Chorus will offer "Requiem" and "Revelations" by Bradley Ellingboe, on Sunday, March 27 at 3 p.m. at Messiah UMC, 6215 Rolling Road in Springfield. 703-569-9862, ext. 205.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive in Clifton, offers three levels of ESL Classes every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Cost for semester is \$35, including student book. To register, come to the next class. www.lordoflifelutheran.com or 703-323-9500.

Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax, will have a new Bible Study on Tuesdays through March 8 at 9:45 a.m. entitled "Discovering Who We Are in Christ." \$15. Child care available. Register at 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Classes will be held at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in the Guadalupe Room in the Parish Center, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, 7:30 p.m. every

Wednesday. Contact Carolyn Smith at carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com or 703-273-5369.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road in Oakton, offers services on Saturdays at 4:30 p.m., in addition to Sunday services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. www.uucf.org.

The Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726 Braddock Road in Annandale, Bible Study Fellowship will study of the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. The Day Women's Class meets at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, and offers a children's program for ages 6 weeks-6 years. rdmarotto@cox.net.

Congregation Adat Reyim, an independent Jewish congregation, offers services Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:40 p.m. Hebrew School is Sundays at 9:30 and Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Hebrew High is Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Preschool is Monday-Friday at 9:30 a.m. Adat Reyim is located at 6500 Westbury Oaks Court in Springfield. For more information, contact us at 703-569-7577 or visit www.adatreyim.org.

Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke, worship services are Saturday Coffeehouse at 5:30

p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. www.BurkePresChurch.org.

One God Ministry Church, 4280/4282 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, now has a Web site with news, events, training, conferences, fellowship programs and more. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m., and Wednesday Prayer Service at 7 p.m. Women, Men, and Youth Bible Studies are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. A Spiritual Gifts Service is the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. One God Ministry has ministries for youth, men, women, couples, music and singles. 703-591-6161 or www.onegodministry.org.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church presents Financial Peace University, a video-based small group study that teaches families how to beat debt, build wealth and better manage their finances. Contact Arlene K. Darke at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. 703-323-9500 or adarke@lordoflifelutheran.com.

New Women's Bible Study meets at **Jubilee Christian Center** on Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m. The study will focus on "Spirit, Soul, and Body" by Andrew Wommack. \$10 per person. Nursery provided for registered children. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

Wrestling

FROM PAGE 10

the Northern Region, finished 11th place at the 20-team meet.

Other individual state champions to come out of the Northern Region were Beau Donahue (140-division) of Westfield and Dane Harlowe (125) of Annandale. Henry Majano (130) of Wakefield High finished second.

Other top eight place finishers from the Northern Region included: Tyler DeLeon (eighth at heavyweight) of Westfield; Ali Musa (fourth at 215) of Annandale; Dusty Floyd (fifth at 171) of Mount Vernon; Tim Fitzpatrick (eighth at 171) of Robinson; Wes Jones (third at 160) of Robinson; Zaq Depasquale (eighth at 145) of Robinson; Omar Maknassi (seventh at 135) of T.C. Williams; Santiago Valdez (third at 130) of Robinson; Steven Aiello (eighth at 130) of Westfield; Derek Arnold (third at 125) of Westfield; Robert Dooley (fifth at 119) of Madison; Brett Campbell (third at 112) of Westfield; and Jon Le (seventh at 112) of Annandale.

Open Letter To President Obama

To the Editor:

As I sit here in my office chair built in Mexico, wearing my shirt made in Bangladesh, pants made in China and shoes made in India, I have been wondering why we have high unemployment in America. I decided to turn to my computer built in Taiwan, using the keyboard made in Indonesia, and reading the

monitor made in Japan, to compose this letter to ask you, after two full years in office,

LETTERS

why haven't you solved the unemployment problem?

Apparently, as the last election seems to indicate, many Americans approved of your predecessor's administration. They seem to have believed him when he said it was good for our economy when 8 million of our jobs moved to other countries, and his administration rewarded the companies involved with tax breaks.

So I repeat: Why hasn't your administration found a way to create eight million new jobs in America? Certainly, you've had the cooperation of the loyal opposition, who seem to have taken a page from an historical, but long gone political party of the 1840's. When we have asked your opposition if they will, and what they will do to help, they respond "No! nothing!"

Marvin Lautzenheiser
Springfield

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Chiropractic office in Fairfax. Duties include: Data entry, phones, patient scheduling, clerical duties. Part-time hrs. Mon, Wed., and Fri. 2:30pm-7pm. Email resume DRGMSB27@aol.com

COMMUNITY SVCS COORDINATOR, FT
Primary duties include events, scheduling facility rentals & managing pool memberships. Excellent cust svc & communication skills, strong computer w/graphic design exp. College degree and/or equivalent work experience preferred. Pay negotiable; flex work environment w/great benefits. Background check, valid driver's license and good driving record required. Resume w/cover ltr Attn: Jeannie Winslow, 6060 Burke Centre Pkwy., Burke, VA 22015.
Fax: (703) 978-1073
e-mail jeannie@burkecentre.org

Master Plumber
Northern Virginia HVAC Company is in search of a Master Plumber to manage a start up Plumbing division. Must have at least 10 years experience, submit to a drug test, have a good driving record and excellent customer skills. Benefits include top pay with 100% family medical coverage, matching 401k, holiday, vac and PTO. This is a great opportunity to get in at ground level of a growing division. Serious applicants email resume to Rmurphy@ssihvac.com.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER
P/T Teacher in 2 year old classroom. Kiddie Country, Burke, VA. 4 year degree required. Loving, caring, professional applicants only.
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e-mail: finance@burkecentre.org.
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Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
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The McLean Connection
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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

ABC LICENSE
Michael Rocco Juliano and Patricia Smith Juliano trading as Rocco's Italian Restaurant, 1357 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA. 22101. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a catering and mixed beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michael Juliano, Owner

ABC LICENSE
SL & HJ, LLC trading as Hunan Deli, 7200-V Telegraph Square Drive, Lorton, VA 22079. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer & Wine on and off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Hyun-Jung Yi, Vice President

ABC LICENSE
Pablo E. Perez trading as Pablito's, 10901 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22030. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Restaurant Beer and Wine License to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Pablo E. Perez, owner

ABC LICENSE
Tess, LLC trading as Tess, LLC, 7203 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Thomas Chay, member

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

Public Notice
Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for Implementation of the Privatization of Army Lodging Program at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, has prepared an EA that considers the proposed implementation of the Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL) program at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Implementation of the proposed action to transfer ownership and operation of Fort Belvoir's lodging facilities and to lease the land underlying the existing facilities, as well as other previously developed land where new lodging facilities will be constructed, to a private-sector development company is not expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required. Copies of the EA and draft FNSI are available for review and comment at the Fort Belvoir Van Noy Library and the following Fairfax County, Virginia libraries: City of Fairfax Regional Branch, John Marshall Branch, Kingstowne Branch, Lorton Branch, and Sherwood Regional Branch, and have been posted on the Fort Belvoir website: <http://www.belvoir.army.mil>. Comments on the EA and draft FNSI should be submitted to: Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Directorate of Public Work, 9430 Jackson Loop Suite 200, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116 (or by e-mail to environmental-fb-dpw@conus.army.mil). Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this Notice of Availability. Subject to review and consideration of comments submitted by individuals, organizations, or agencies during the comment period, the Army intends to issue the final FNSI at the conclusion of the comment period and to proceed with the proposed action.

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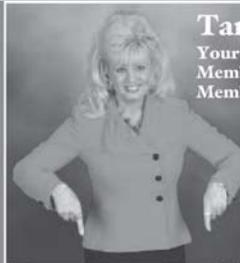
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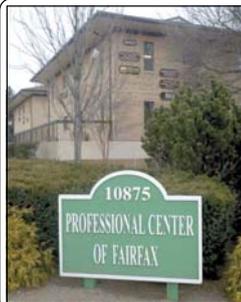
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