

Woodson junior Tommy Stepka scored 24 points, including a career-high six 3-pointers, during the Cavaliers' 73-70, double overtime victory against T.C. Williams on Jan. 24.

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PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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WINTER FUN
inside

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Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2013 Proposed Budget News

Coming in February: School Nutrition News

January marks the beginning of the budget process for the Fairfax County School Board. Superintendent Jack Dale released the FY 2013 Proposed Budget based on priorities set by the School Board. The \$2.4 billion proposed budget is a 9 percent increase (\$202.3 million) over the FY 2012 budget.

This Just In:

The total number of FCPS students taking AP and IB exams continues to rise. More than 16,100 students (5.4 percent increase) took AP exams and more than 2,600 students (2.1 percent increase) took IB exams in 2011.

The proposed budget includes 721.3 new positions, most of which are being added to address rising enrollment -- projected to be 181,608 students in FY 2013. In addition to increased

enrollment, the proposed budget also takes into consideration changes in student demographics, including an increase in the number of students receiving English for

Speakers of Other Languages services and the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Extended learning time for students and extended time for teachers are also included in the budget.

"We continue to dedicate the majority of our budget, 85.9 percent, and the majority of our positions, 94.6 percent, directly to instructional programs," said Dale. The proposed budget includes a 2 percent market scale adjustment and a step increase for eligible employees as well as a salary adjustment for custodial positions. "It is imperative FCPS stay competitive in the marketplace in order to attract the best employees to support student success," said Dale.

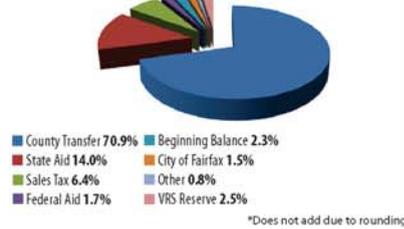
FCPS receives the majority of its funding from Fairfax County and this year will request an increase of 8.4 percent over FY 2012. The FY 2013 Proposed Budget includes an increase in state funding due to increasing enrollment and the state's update to the Local Composite Index. However, federal revenue is decreasing due to the loss of

one-time Federal Education Jobs funding.

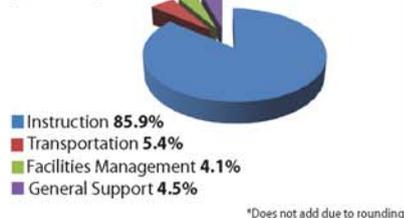
The projected cost per pupil for FY 2013 will be \$13,654, an increase of 6.5 percent over FY 2012. FCPS ranks fifth among 10 area school systems in cost per pupil and has the lowest percentage of leadership team and management positions in relation to total positions of all Washington area school systems for FY 2012, according to the Washington Area Boards of Education.

FCPS operates 196 schools and centers including 139 elementary schools, 23 middle schools, 3 secondary schools, 24 high schools, and 7 special education centers. Two new schools will open in FY 2013, an elementary school at the Lacey site in Annandale and a middle school at the South County site in Lorton.

FY 2013 Proposed per Pupil Base (\$ in millions)*



FY 2013 Proposed Operating Expenditures (\$ in millions)*



Getting To Know Us

FCPS Budget Coordinator
Matthew Norton

Determining an operating budget for a school system the size of Fairfax County is a lengthy and detailed process. A critical component of the budget is calculating the number of staff needed at each school based on student enrollment and the services provided.

Matthew Norton, a coordinator for budget services, works closely with the schools to determine appropriate staffing levels for each school and its programs.

"My job involves collecting large amounts

of data from various sources including enrollment, free and reduced-price meals eligibility, special education services and enrollment, square footage of

buildings, and other information and assimilating it so we can determine the number of teachers, instructional assistants, special education assistants, assistant principals, administrative, custodial, and other positions that will be budgeted for each school building," said Norton.

He also works with the Department of Special Services to calculate how many students will need special services and what will be the cost of providing those services.

Norton has worked for FCPS for more than 12 years. He says his greatest challenge is working with the large volume of data and helping schools understand the process and the calculations used to determine staffing.

"One of the challenges is that the budget process is very fluid from the time Dr. Dale proposes the budget, through finding out how much the county government will transfer to the school system, to the time the budget is actually approved by the School Board," said Norton. "But it's a detailed process I enjoy being a part of."

Upcoming Important Dates

January 30, 31	School Board Budget Public Hearings (Jackson Middle School)	April 10	School Board Presents Budget to County Board of Supervisors
February 2	School Board Budget Work Session (Jackson Middle School)	May 1	County Board of Supervisors Approves the FY 2013 Adopted County Budget, Transfer Amount to Schools
February 9	School Board Adopts FY 2013 Advertised Budget	May 10	School Board FY 2013 Approved Budget Presented for New Business
February 21	County Executive Releases FY 2013 Advertised County Budget	May 15, 16	School Board Public Hearings (Jackson Middle School)
February 21	County Board of Supervisors Advertises Tax Rate	May 17	School Board Budget Work Session (Jackson Middle School)
April 10-12	County Board of Supervisors Budget Public Hearings	May 24	School Board Adopts FY 2013 Approved Budget
		July 1	FY 2013 Begins



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Want to Get Involved?

- Learn more at the FCPS budget website at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2013.shtml>
- Attend School Board meetings or watch live on Red Apple 21.
- Speak at a School Board public hearing (http://www.fcps.edu/schlbd/meetings/request_speak.shtml).
- Speak at a Board of Supervisors public hearing (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm).



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Moderate Mutiny

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

With the sluggish economy at the forefront of voters' minds this year, former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine hopes to put fiscal issues at the top of his campaign to fill the seat vacated by Democratic U.S. Sen. Jim Webb. In an interview on Thursday, Jan. 19, Kaine said he hopes to promote a "talent economy" in Washington. It's a reality the former governor says has become evident in the last few decades, when Virginia moved from being one of the lowest median income states to being one of the wealthiest.

"How did Virginia move from sluggish economy to strong economy?" asked Kaine. "I would argue that the main thing that moved it for us was that we decided to become a talent economy."

For Kaine, the key to pursuing the talent economy and fixing the broken economy is education reform. One example would be creating accountability reports for every state's public education system, an effort he said would create a

labor and Pensions Committee to push his talent agenda.

"Kaine's agenda sounds like a very classic Democratic argument," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "It's aimed at improving people's prospects without endorsing socialism."

KAINE'S CAMPAIGN is aimed solidly at budget issues and the economy, hoping to capitalize on lingering uncertainty from the global economic crisis and persistently high unemployment figures. Kaine says balancing the budget will involve tax increases and

cent for months on end and high fuel prices continuing to hurt Virginia families and businesses, we need a voice in Washington that will represent Virginia values," said Del. Ron Villanueva (R-21). "George Allen will fight every day to unleash our energy resources for jobs and security and that's why we need him in the U.S. Senate."

KAINE'S OPPONENTS are also focused on the economy, although they're attacking the former governor from the right. Last week, Kaine's decision to back President Barack Obama's decision to reject an application to build the Keystone XL oil pipeline

"I'm not going to be a senator telling Nebraska, 'You've got to have this whether you like it or not,'" said Kaine. "I frankly think in terms of energy policy that there are a lot more immediate and likely successful strategies."

ASIDE FROM TRYING to help the sluggish economy by pushing a talent economy, Kaine hopes to find common ground in the Senate, which he calls a "broken institution." If elected, Kaine said he wants to find a Republican senator elected at the same time and join the bipartisan and moderate Gang of Six, potentially making it a Gang of Eight. By casting himself in this role,

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION



Former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine discusses his goals if elected to U.S. Senate.

"How did Virginia move from sluggish economy to strong economy? I would argue that the main thing that moved it for us was that we decided to become a talent economy."

— Former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine

sense of competition between the states that would improve education nationwide. He would also invest more money in career and technical education, and he's critical of the Obama administration for failing to take action in this area. Kaine's vision of the talent economy also expands beyond education reform, encompassing a broad range of economic policy including everything from workforce development to comprehensive immigration reform. And he hopes to land a spot on the Health, Education, La-

budget cuts. Kaine said he would let the massive tax cuts created by former President George W. Bush expire at the top end. Specifically, Kaine said, he would propose eliminating the Bush tax cuts for those who make more than \$500,000.

"Higher income earners are job creators," said David Logan, economist with the conservative Tax Foundation. "So Kaine is talking about taking money from people who are most likely to invest in the economy."

On the issue of cutting the budget, Kaine, trumpeting his time as governor, said he had a better record than Allen. When asked what kinds of cuts he would make in Washington, Kaine said he wants to allow the federal government to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies to reduce the price of drugs covered by Medicare. And he anticipates cost savings associated with a smaller military as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan draw down. He would also like to close some overseas bases, although he couldn't say which ones or how much money would be saved. Critics say it's a flawed agenda.

"With unemployment stuck above 8 per-

brought criticism from former Republican Gov. George Allen and Del. Bob Marshall (R-13). Both campaigns hoped to use the issue to tie Kaine to Obama and portray the Democratic Party as irresponsible.

"The Keystone pipeline could produce thousands of American jobs, reduce American dollars going to regimes with little sympathy for western democratic governments and increase America's energy security," said Marshall. "What is the real reason Tim Kaine and Barack Obama are in a rush to avoid constructing this pipeline?"

Kaine rejected criticism from Allen supporter Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) that his support of the Obama's decision on the pipeline shows that he is a "reflex liberal," citing his elimination of the estate tax and Forbes Magazine description of Virginia as the most business friendly state all four years he was governor. Kaine also said that the Keystone decision needed to be thoroughly analyzed, and he criticized Congress for trying to force a decision in a short period of time and tying it to the payroll tax extension. He was also critical of Kilgore and Allen for pushing the pipeline when Nebraska was opposed to it.

Kaine hopes to find what he calls "common ground" with Republicans rather than holding up nominations such as the administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, which has been vacant since 2006.

"Under both presidents under both parties, the advice and consent process in the Senate has fallen apart because they utilize secret holds and cloture," he said. "But more than that, they just don't work together."

He acknowledged that a freshman senator wouldn't be able to do much about secret holds and cloture, although he said something had to be done about excessive partisanship and an unwillingness to work together. Because of the dynamics of the House of Representatives, he said, that would not be the place where the culture of Washington begins to change. The Senate, on the other hand, operates more on personal relationships, and so it would be a more logical place to begin increasing bipartisanship in Washington.

"More senators want to work together, but their chafing under each of their respective sets of leadership," he said. "The president says this, that we're four or five votes away from a mutiny in the Senate, and that would be a good thing."

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WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Former Band Director Indicted

A Fairfax County grand jury last week indicted the former band director of Robinson Secondary School. On Aug. 31, 2010, police charged Michael Keith Cook, 43, of 14313 Climbing Rose Way in Centreville, with computer solicitation of a child under age 15.

They said that, last July, he allegedly offered online to perform a sex act on a person he believed was a 14-year-old boy. However, it was actually an undercover detective, and Cook was eventually arrested and then placed on unpaid leave by the school system. Following his indictment last Tuesday, Jan. 17, he's now slated to enter a plea, Feb. 28, in Circuit Court.

Police Look for Robber

City of Fairfax Police are investigating an armed robbery that happened Monday, Jan. 23, at Pupuseria El Buen Gusto at 10012 Main St. A man entered the restaurant around 8:50 p.m., drew a handgun and demanded money. The suspect, who was wearing a mask, tried opening the cash register himself, but couldn't. So he ordered an employee to do so and then grabbed an undisclosed amount of cash and fled on foot. No one was injured.

Police say he ran in the direction of Tedrich Boulevard. Police searched the area, but were unable to find the robber, who was described as a white male. Anyone with information about him or this crime is asked to call City of Fairfax Police at 703-385-7924 or Crime Solvers at (703) 591-9477. Callers to Crime Solvers may remain anonymous and are eligible for a cash reward if their information leads to an arrest. This is the second armed robbery reported in the City of Fairfax in 2012.

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, Jan. 29, from

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SEE WEEK, PAGE 7

NEWS

Politics of Notification

Father takes his plight for increased parental notification to Richmond.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Steve Stuban can't help but wonder if things could have turned out differently. Back in 2010, his son Nick was considered a model student at Woodson High School in Fairfax County. That is, until school officials caught the teenager with synthetic marijuana. Administrators didn't contact the parents until a decision had already been made to suspend the boy with a recommendation for expulsion.

"Nick had been questioned multiple times over multiple days and had been asked to execute multiple written statements," said Stuban. "They had already decided what the punishment was going to be. It was only then that they thought to perhaps contact my wife and I."

Nick Stuban committed suicide in January 2011. And ever since that day Steve Stuban has been fighting to increase parental notification. Last year, he waged an unsuccessful campaign for the Fairfax County School Board. Now, he's taking the fight to Richmond, working with a handful of legislators to create a legal requirement for school administrators to notify parents before they start questioning students in serious cases that might lead to suspension or notification of law enforcement.

"I find it troubling that school administrators have questioned students for hours at a time without parental knowledge regarding issues that could lead to the student's expulsion or incarceration," said Del. Tim Hugo (R-40).

WORKING WITH STUBAN and newly elected Fairfax County School Board member Elizabeth Schultz, Hugo has introduced House Bill 1080. The bill requires school principals to notify parents before questioning students in the case of a "serious violation." The bill defines a serious violation as a violation of School Board policy or a violation that could lead to a student's suspension. The legislation would also force parental notification before school administrators file a court petition.

"I would be concerned that schools might not have the flexibility they need to take swift action in a way



Steve Stuban



Nick Stuban

that would preserve the security of a school," said Arlington School Board member Libby Garvey. "Sometimes bad cases make bad law."

Last year, a similar effort introduced by Del. Kaye Kory (R-38) passed the House of Delegates but didn't make it out of committee in the state Senate. An array of groups lined up against the proposal, including the Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia Education Association and the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals. Supporters say things have changed over the course of the last year, as more and more parents have come to realize that parental notification is not required under the law.

"Once you finally get through to parents about how the law works, they are incredulous about this," said Schultz, who testified in Richmond as a parent last year and is now advocating for the bill as a School Board member. "We're having to compel people to do what they should already be doing anyway."

STUBAN SAYS he's fully aware that school administrators may try to push back on the legislation as they did last year. But he also pointed out that the bill has a great deal of support, including teachers unions and members of the Fairfax County School Board. And because the issue has received so much attention over the course of the last year, he feels momentum is on the side of the bill. More importantly, he said, the case for the bill is strong.

"You want schools and parents and students to work together as a team," he said. "But right now the process is adversarial in nature."

This week, Stuban appeared with Schultz in Richmond along with several Northern Virginia legislators to begin a public-relations campaign on the issue. Members included Hugo and Kory along with state Sen. David Marsden (D-37) and state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34). The coalition is hoping that Stuban's personal story and the growing chorus of support for the legislation will be enough to overcome opposition by school administrators. Opponents say the effort may cause more harm than good.

"This legislation sounds overly prescriptive to me," said Garvey. "You never want to impose something on school divisions that restricts how they can respond to situations involving safety."

Seniors Scammed, Police Educate

Police say con-artists "aggressively" targeting seniors.

An 86-year-old Springfield area woman was told last week she had won the lottery. But there was a catch; she needed to wire money to the "caller" in order to collect her winnings. She did as she was asked.

A 91-year-old Fair Oaks area man was upset and concerned when he got a call from his "grandson" who said he'd been arrested

and jailed in Peru a few weeks ago. Doing what any loving grandparent would, the man wired over \$13,000 in an attempt to help.

An 80-year-old woman wired \$4,800 to Bolivia to her "granddaughter" who was there for a wedding and had gotten into a serious accident; then sent \$5,000 more for medical expenses.

All three of these local victims

were recently duped by scammers who are aggressively preying on seniors. According to Tom Polhemus, a detective with Fairfax County's Financial Crimes Unit, these are just a few of the hundreds of cases detectives see each year. And once money has been wired, Polhemus said victims have

SEE SCAM ALERT, PAGE 9

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Scandal Highlights Child Sex Abuse

Fairfax County police say reports, concerns rose in wake of scandal.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The fallout from the Penn State child sex abuse scandal - arrests, firings and the disgrace of a sports icon - has also promoted a heightened awareness of child sexual abuse.

Since the scandal broke in November, national child abuse and neglect hotlines have reported steep spikes in calls from parents, educators and victims asking questions and seeking help.

Fairfax County has also felt the impact. According to statistics kept by Fairfax County Police Department's (FCPD) Child Abuse Unit, reports to the department's seven-member Child Abuse Squad have doubled since December 2010 - from 19 to 39 reported cases.

During 2011, officers investigated 329 cases covering child rape, sodomy, aggravated sexual battery and indecent liberties with a juvenile.

Fairfax County's Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence also reports an increased number of calls asking for advice and counsel since the scandal broke.

"Child sexual abuse is more common than many people think, but there is also a lot of shame and a hesitancy to come forward and talk about it," said Lucy Caldwell, an FCPD officer who spearheaded an online forum to the topic on Wednesday, Jan. 18. She said national attention surrounding the Penn State allegations coupled with the rise in local reports and concerns provided the impetus for the online discussion.

"We felt it was important to reach out to tell people that they are not alone. There are resources available," Caldwell said. "In some cases, victims can take police action against their offenders... We do suspect, however, that many cases go unreported for many, many reasons."

According to the National Children's Advocacy Center, sexual abuse is the nation's most under-reported crime. Various studies show 40 to 60 million Americans have been sexually abused, and national experts estimate that nearly one out of every three girls and one out of every six boys will be sexually assaulted by age 18.

The online discussion was originally scheduled for one hour, but there were so many questions from posters - all of whom chose to remain anonymous - that the discussion continued for more than 90 minutes.

Kathleen Kelmelis, program manager for the county's Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services and 2nd Lt. Josh Laitinen, supervisor of the FCPD child abuse squad, answered a wide range of questions from those who identified them-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, Fairfax County held an online forum to address the topic of child sexual abuse. For 90 minutes, 2nd Lt. Josh Laitinen, supervisor of the FCPD child abuse squad and Kathleen Kelmelis, program manager for the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services answered a wide range of questions from about 20 posters.

Where to Get Help: Fairfax County Resources

- ❖ For information on child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment, call the Childhelp Hotline at 1-800-4-A-CHILD.
- ❖ To report abuse, call the Child Protective Services (CPS) hotline at 703-324-7400. If you are under 18, and want to make a police report, you can also call CPS, and report anonymously.
- ❖ For information and support, call the 24-hourline with the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services at 703-360-7273.
- ❖ To make a police report on the FCPD non-emergency line, call 703-691-2131.
- ❖ For information on counseling and mental health services, call Fairfax County's Victim's Assistance Network at 703-360-7273.
- ❖ For information about a wide range of counseling services, call the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services at 703-324-5730. The office recently started a support group for men who were sexually assaulted as children. For more information, call Chris Davies at 703-704-6727.
- ❖ For more information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/sexualbehaviorchildren.htm#final

selves as victims, as well as parents and educators seeking information about how to help children and when to report suspected cases of child sexual abuse.

One poster asked: "Why do you think children don't tell their parents or the police when bad things happen to them? How should they handle these situations? What should we be doing as parents to ensure their safety?"

"In 93 percent of cases of child sex abuse, the abuser is someone the child knows. Nearly half the time these abusers are family members," Kelmelis responded, adding that abusers are masters of manipulation.

"They manipulate in many ways, through threats such as, 'If you tell, I will kill your family or your pet.' Or through promises - 'If you do this for me, I will take you out to the arcade,'" Kelmelis said. She also gave tips on guiding a child through the conversation.

"Give the child a safe environment in which to talk to someone with whom trust has been established. When talking with a child, try to guard against displaying emotions that would influence a child. Reassure the child that they have not done anything wrong and they are not to blame for what happened to them," she said.

Another poster wanted to know who, in addition to doctors and teachers were "man-

dated reporters."

Laitinen responded that anyone employed in a public or private school, child care employees, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers, hospital professionals, emergency medical personnel are required to report suspected cases of abuse or neglect to child protective services.

He noted that there are several pieces of legislation before the Virginia General Assembly that would require coaches and others involved in youth organizations to be added to the list. He also advised parents not to rely solely on organizations to prevent child sexual abuse.

"Parents need to be involved, know what adults their children are with. For example, consider becoming a leader or volunteer; take the time to stay at the music lesson or sporting event/practices. No amount of concern is too great for the welfare of your child," he said.

Another person asked what efforts are currently underway between Fairfax County police and other agencies to address the recent rise in cases?

Laitinen said the police department and Fairfax County's Department of Family Services are working together to address this increase.

The level of shame, discomfort and fear surrounding the issue was apparent in many

of the questions. Several questions were from adults who said they were abused as children, asking how they could cope as adults with the residual effects of abuse, such as depression, self-loathing, guilt and shame.

Kelmelis said the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services provides no-cost counseling and support for people whenever the abuse occurred.

"Often people find that the effects of the sexual abuse can impact them at different times during their life. Triggers such as reading a news report or knowing someone who has been sexually assaulted will sometimes cause feelings of anxiety and depression or will cause flashbacks to be triggered," she said.

One question was from someone who identified herself as an illegal immigrant:

"I am illegally here, but I'm being sexually abused. What will happen to me if I report it? Will me or my family be deported?"

Laitinen urged the poster to report the abuse, and said an undocumented immigrant does not lose his or her rights as a victim. "The Fairfax County Police Department does not consider immigration status when any crime is reported to us. There are laws that protect undocumented immigrants in the U.S.," he responded during the discussion.

Another question came from an elementary school counselor, who said that making a claim with CPS that is later determined to be unfounded often damages the relationship between the school and the family. "Sometimes, the child's story doesn't really make sense, or there is not a visible injury... Any advice for handling these types of situations?"

Laitinen acknowledged the "difficult situation," but said that a "mandated reporter" could face serious consequences for failing to report suspected abuse. "The child's welfare is paramount," he responded.

Both Laitinen and Kelmelis repeatedly urged victims to call the CPS hotline or 911 when posters said they or their children were currently being sexually abused.

"We urge you to report this to police at 703-691-2131 first. (If there is an immediate matter of safety, contact 911!) The police will work hand-in-hand with Child Protective Services in conducting an investigation. If you would like to contact CPS as an anonymous caller, call their hotline at 703-324-7400 anytime day or night. Whomever you decide to call first, your situation will be addressed and you will get the help you need. Please call," Laitinen said.

Caldwell said the team was very pleased with the response, and more outreach efforts are planned.

"It's a sensitive subject, but one that parents, educators and all those who come into contact with children need to know more about," Caldwell said.

To review the transcript from the online discussion, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/askfairfax/Archive/ArchiveDiscussion.aspx?roomid=28.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 4

10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Fair Oaks CAC to Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. It's at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

Meeting Set for I-66 EIS

A Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being developed by VDOT, the Federal Highway Administration and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to study potential transportation needs and improvements in the I-66 corridor from Route 15 in Prince William County to I-495 in Fairfax County.

Toward that end, a public meeting is slated for Thursday, Feb. 2, from 5-8 p.m., at the VDOT North-

ern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive (off West Ox Road) in Fairfax. (Snow date: Feb. 15).

It's intended to gather additional public input to further define the transportation problems in the corridor and refine the purpose and need for the study. Those unable to attend may go to www.helpfix66.com for further details and project updates.

Comments may be emailed to the study team's leadership (reference "I-66 Tier 1 EIS: Public Comments" in the subject line). Send them to CG.Collins@VDOT.Virginia.gov or Stephen.C.Walter@Parsons.com.

Noise Wall Construction to Cause Noise

Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, Virginia Department of Transportation, Fairfax County, and Shirley Design-Build/Dewberry would like to notify the Barkers Village Community of the upcoming Noise Wall construction. Residents should expect typical construction noise while this installation occurs.

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February is African American History Month

February 8

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February 15

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Deadline Feb. 9

February 22

Pet Connection • Deadline Feb. 16

March 7

Wellbeing • Deadline March 1

March 14

HomeLifeStyle • Deadline March 8

March 21

A+ Education, Learning, Fun • Deadline March 15

March 28

Easter I (Easter is April 8) • Deadline March 22

April 4

Wellbeing • Easter II (Easter is April 8)
Deadline March 29

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

OPINION

School Board Needs Your Input

BY JANIE STRAUSS
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY
SCHOOL BOARD



COMMENTARY

Recently, Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Dale presented the School Board with his proposal for next year's budget. The proposed \$2.4 billion budget outlines programs and services for our growing student population, which is projected to be 181,608 students for the school year 2012-13. It also includes funds to give eligible employees a step increase and a 2 percent market scale adjustment.

Our population is projected to grow by more than 3,900 students, and many of these students face great challenges. In addition, we are opening two new schools: a middle school

at the South County site in Lorton and an elementary school at the Lacey site in Annandale. To meet our enrollment growth and other critical needs, the budget proposes to add 721.3 positions, the overwhelming majority of which are school-based positions.

Superintendent Dale has included in his proposal a request to the Board of Supervisors for an increase of 8.4 percent, or \$135.8 million, in the transfer of funds over the FY 2012 level. This reflects costs associated with student growth and state requirements, and a compensation increase for staff, and small increases in some programs that we cut during the recession.

The Fairfax County School Board has shown

great fiscal responsibility during these tough economic times. During the past four years (FY 2009-FY2012), we took reductions and cost avoidances totaling more than \$475 million and eliminated more than 1,400 positions.

Now the School Board needs to hear from you as we consider the Superintendent's proposal over the next few weeks, then move to adopt the advertised budget on Feb. 9. Here's what you can do to get involved. First, learn more about the budget by visiting www.fcps.edu where you'll find details on all aspects of the budget and the process. Second, sign up to speak at the board's public hearing on Jan. 30-31. Or third, send your school board member an email with your comments.

The quality of our public schools is important to our children's well-being and the economic strength of our county. We look forward to hearing from our citizens.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Signs Needed for Burke Amtrak Station

To the Editor:

On Jan. 18, Burke Centre celebrated its two-year anniversary of being an Amtrak Station after a 42 year gap of being an intercity train stop. Over the past year, Burke has been Virginia's fastest growing passenger station: up 125 percent for Nov. 2011. However, Burke is also the only station lacking Amtrak signs alerting potential customers along nearby roads of its existence and location. In order for even more visitors and residents to enjoy the huge benefits of Northeast passenger rail service, Fairfax County needs to push VDOT to speed up erection of the free signs that Amtrak has supplied.

These signs would increase riders and revenue and reduce subsidies for the high performing state-sponsored Lynchburg Train, take traffic off the nation's most congested highways, and save individual visitors and residents hundreds of dollars in lower transportation and lodging costs. Visitors to DC can save hotel costs by staying at cheaper Fairfax lodgings. Residents can also save big bucks. For example, minimum travel costs round trip and one way travel times for an individual traveling from Fairfax to Roanoke (Southwest Virginia's largest city and a great train holiday destination) are as follows: cheapest plane via Philadelphia (\$473, 5.5 hrs); car (\$242, 4.25 hrs), and 14 day train/new connecting bus (\$66, 5.75 hrs). A single or couple could save enough travel costs via

the train/bus to cover all or most of the lodging costs for a two night stay! Because the combo train/bus has wi-fi, this option is also the most productive one.

So, two years is long enough. Fairfax County needs to push VDOT to erect Burke Centre's Amtrak signs now.

Dan Peacock, Member
Virginia Association of Railway
Patrons
Manassas

Welcoming the FBI

To the Editor:

As a high school senior there are many things that I am concerned about. Primarily, the anxiety associated with transitioning to college life. Second, are my future employment opportunities after college. When I heard that Pat Herrity was fighting to bring the FBI Headquarters to Fairfax County, I was elated. Having lived in Fairfax County for the majority of my life, this is great news for me. Knowing that there will be 12,000 new jobs is so reassuring, especially as someone who wants to remain in the region.

I'm sure that many other students like me will appreciate the job growth in the Fairfax County area. Pat Herrity is definitely making progress in our area that will affect my generation in amazing ways. With the new FBI building I feel like I won't have to move away from home to build a career for myself. I am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead.

Kelly Plescow
Lake Braddock Secondary School

Battles to Preserve Voter Access

BY CHAP PETERSEN
STATE SEN. (D-34)

The 2012 General Assembly is in full swing. The committees are selected and legislation filed. Some of the sharpest battles are forming on the issue of voter access.

Before reviewing these bills, it's important to know the background of voting in the Old Dominion:

Even as the New World's oldest democracy, Virginia has historically limited its franchise. In colonial times, voting for the House of Burgesses was limited to white male freeholders who paid land taxes.

In the early days of statehood, our Constitution limited voting rights to landowners holding at least fifty acres. (The "reform" constitution of 1828 dropped that requirement to twenty-five acres). Only white men were allowed to vote.

After the Civil War, legal rights theoretically expanded as the Commonwealth, like all Southern states, adopted the Fourteenth Amendment which guaranteed equal protection of the laws to all citizens. However, there was little change in voting patterns.

The "poll tax" still kept out thousands of voters, mostly black. Local registrars were hard to find — and had no mandate to enroll new



voters. Elections were a closed affair.

Fast forward to 2012. We live in a democracy in which enrollment at the DMV takes a few minutes. Polling locations abound. Election information can be found on-line. Voting

has never been easier.

Is this a problem? Apparently. In 2012, the Assembly is seeing numerous bills to limit participation at all levels of voting:

Some limitations are fundamental (SB 1 — requires voter to show a photo i.d. and removes ability to sign affidavit affirming identity), some are intrusive (SB 62 — requires voters to declare a party when they register and restricts their rights to vote in primaries), and some are pernicious (SB 63 — criminalizes the solicitation of absentee ballot applications in nursing homes).

Selling Ocean City time shares at a nursing home? Legal. Handing out absentee ballot applications? Illegal.

That makes no sense.

We've fought hard to establish an open system in Virginia, from our primaries to our local races. Under that system, every person has an opportunity to vote and participate in choosing the best candidate. Registration rates have never been higher.

The current system works. Let's not change it.

Fairfax CONNECTION

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FAITH

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 following is a list of events at **Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, 4325 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax:

- ❖ Bible study and Prayer Service every Tuesday starting at 7 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., except for the fourth Sunday of the month, when Sunday School is at 9 a.m.
- ❖ Sunday morning service at 11 a.m.
- ❖ Commonwealth Care Center ministry every first and third Thursday night. Call 703-273-1455.

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Scam Alert

FROM PAGE 5

very little recourse and the cases rarely get prosecuted.

"Education is key. We need to get the word out that people should not wire money to people they speak with on the phone," Polhemus said. "The amount of fraud in this area is of great concern to us."

In an effort to help educate seniors, and the community at large, detectives from the FCPD Financial Crimes Unit are available for group presentations. As the scams change from year to year, police are aware of particular details and want to help raise public awareness as well.

"Our detectives are committed to getting the word out about how seniors can protect themselves against con-artists," said Lucy Caldwell, an FCPD public information officer. "They've spoken at community meetings, retirement communities, churches and other places, but as the scams change, and as residents age, we need to continue with the education process."

Caldwell said detectives are also interested in giving presentations to those close to seniors - adult children or grandchildren - who can help spread the message.

"Certainly, these scams are not limited to seniors; there are many others that are duped and wire money overseas. Once the money is gone; it's gone and there is no way to retrieve it. In this tough economy, every dollar matters to most folks; we hate to see these crimes continue," Caldwell said.

To learn more about financial crimes and scams or to report a crime, visit the Financial Crime Online Reporting site of the FCPD website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/financialcrimes/>. To request a group presentation, contact Lucy Caldwell, Public Information Office, at 703-246-3271.

—VICTORIA ROSS

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WINTER FIN

When the Weather Outside is Frightful...

...Check out Lorton Workhouse Arts for winter fun.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

After the hoopla of the holiday season, your instinct may be to hibernate until spring.

But Lorton Workhouse Arts has a variety of programs, events and classes to chase away the winter blues.

"The Workhouse is offering lots of new, fun and exciting activities for people of all ages this winter," said Scott Fridy, Director of Performing Arts. "The Workhouse is the place to visit when looking for a memorable and creative outing to escape the cold weather."

Events and workshops include everything from an art lottery at the Collector's Showcase, to ballroom dancing and film screenings as well as the new glass blowing hot shop and other working studios.

For children, the Workhouse offers a wide range of winter visual and performing arts classes, including Adventures in Art; Painting Made Easy; Vocal Lessons; Drama Tots; Portfolio Prep for High School Students; Dramaginatio!

This winter, the Workhouse is also accepting registration for its summer visual and

performing arts camps.

The Workhouse also offers guided tours for groups on a year-round basis – arts groups, garden clubs, singles clubs, schools or any group of 10 or more. Tour groups can enjoy lunch in the Gallery W-16 café and spend the day exploring the artist studios and the special exhibitions. Group tours are free.

The popular "2nd Saturday Art Walk," a free, campus-wide event, is another opportunity to view the art of more than 100 artists. It takes place monthly, and visitors can meet featured artists, experience ever-changing exhibitions and enjoy light refreshments and music. Upcoming dates are Feb. 11 and March 10 from 6 to 9 p.m.

For more information on any of these events – including show times, registration and ticket information – visit www.WorkhouseArts.org or call 703-584-2900.

Below is a summary of upcoming events:

Workhouse Theatre Presents ART

The inaugural season of Workhouse The-

atre debuts with ART, a play that raises questions about art and friendship among three long-time friends, Serge, Marc and Ivan. Serge buys a large, expensive and completely white painting. Marc is horrified, and their relationship suffers as they debate the nature of art, beauty and friendship.

It's no mistake that ART was chosen as the inaugural show for Workhouse Theatre.

"ART always seemed to be absolutely the right choice to produce for our inaugural season of performances at the Workhouse," said director Joseph Wallen. "Not only does the subject matter give a nod to our origins as a visual arts center, but it also opens the discussion about the nature of art, beauty and worth."

Wallen said the play presents the perfect opportunity to highlight the diverse offering of arts that lies within the Workhouse community. "Workhouse studio artist and seasoned professional scenic designer, Joe St. Germaine even offered technical guidance on the production," Wallen said.

The production will be performed in the Workhouse Arts Center's newly renovated building W-3, one of only three professional theater companies in Northern Virginia, through February 26. Friday and Saturday

evening performances are at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee performances take place at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors, students and military. For more information, call 703-495-0001.

Visit Glass-blowing Hot Shop

The only glass-blowing hot shop in the metro area is open to visitors during normal Workhouse hours. Starting in January, the Workhouse Institute offers an Introduction to Glassblowing class taught by the Glass Program Director, Rick Sherbet. The class is designed for the novice student, who will learn the basics of working with molten glass using traditional glassblowing tools and techniques.

Collector's Showcase

On Saturday, Feb. 25, guests can attend an evening filled with fine art, hors d'oeuvres and music. Featuring original artwork by Workhouse artists, the event will include a lottery for the works. The artwork presented in the Collector's Showcase is donated by the artists to support the Workhouse and will be on display in the Workhouse Gallery from Feb. 9-25. Seats and the number of works



PHOTO BY VINH NGUYEN

Workhouse Theatre's inaugural production of Art runs through Feb. 26, and features actors (from left) Carl Bowman, Ron Curameng and David A. Schmidt

of art for this event are limited and range from \$85 - \$300.

Ballroom Social Dance – It Takes Two to Tango

So you think you can dance? Ballroom Social Dance – featuring Tango, Fox Trot and other ballroom dances - takes place every third Saturday of the month in the Workhouse Gallery and is led by instructor Bobbi Brennan. There are ballroom mini-lessons

as well as general ballroom open dance sessions. Guests will enjoy complimentary refreshments, and a cash bar is available in the Workhouse Gallery. Dress code is casual. All skill levels are welcome.

Date Night? Head to the Chef's Table

Chef's Table features an evening of romance, cooking and fun. It takes place every third Saturday of each month from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Vulcan Gallery. Each month a new dish is featured. Guests can also make



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

Students fire their glass-blown art in the new hot shop at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center.

it a night of dinner and dancing. Guests who arrive early at 7:30 p.m. can take a 30-minute ballroom dancing lesson at an additional cost of \$5, and go to the ballroom upstairs and dance for free until 10:30pm.

About The Workhouse Arts Center:

A program of the Lorton Arts Foundation, The Workhouse Arts Center aims to enrich the lives of all within its reach by creating a vibrant cultural community that fosters a diverse offering of arts, education, social, and entertainment experiences. Set on 55



Hula classes are just one of the popular dance classes offered at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center.

acres of land in the former D.C. Workhouse and Reformatory, the Workhouse provides a home for more than 100 of the region's finest professional and emerging artists, classes and arts education programs for people of all ages and artistic abilities, cooperative studios, performance and theatre venues, dedicated gallery and exhibition space, and event facilities. For more information, visit www.WorkhouseArts.org.

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6010 Shiplett Blvd. \$419,950 Sun 1-4 Kathleen Quintarelli Weichert 703-862-8808
9952 Whitewater Dr. \$325,000 Sun 1-4 Jane Wilson PenFed 703-550-7653

Centreville

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14304 Rosy Ln #23 \$189,900 Sun 1-4 Maureen Amendola Long & Foster 703-437-3800
5821 Rockdale Ct. \$309,000 Sun 1-4 Barbara Blumer Coldwell Banker 703-405-5993

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5006 Ethel's Pond, Lot #7 \$849,500 Sun 1-4 Marilyn Lyren Long & Foster 703-930-2813
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5844 Robeys Meadow Ln. \$899,000 Sun 1-4 Carrie Newcome Weichert 571-217-9549
9330 Tovito Dr. \$650,000 Sun 1-4 Hayley Sterling Keller Williams 571-334-7992
9640 Black Maple Dr. \$575,000 Sun 1-4 Liane Carlstrom MacDowell Stone Properties 703-395-2828
9901 Commonwealth Blvd. \$469,900 Sun 1-4 Patricia Cummins Exit 703-980-0702
12530 Sweet Leaf Terr. \$419,700 Sun 1-4 Carol Hermandorfer Long & Foster 703-503-1812
12814 Holly Grove Ct. \$1,195,000 Sun 1-4 Scott Koval Samson Properties 703-625-3446
3965 Valley Ridge Dr. \$429,900 Sun 1-4 Miranda Dedja Keller Williams 703-786-2952

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11020 Clara Barton Dr. \$710,000 Sun 1-4 Betty Barthle Long & Foster 703-425-4466
7951 Kelly Ann Ct. \$1,090,000 Sun 1-4 Carol Hermandorfer Long & Foster 703-503-1812

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4717 Poplar Dr. \$899,900 Sun 12-3 Rachel Carter Coldwell Banker 703-851-4207
5708 Glenwood Ct. \$489,999 Sun 1-4 Doris Crockett Weichert 703-615-8411
5767 Bush Hill Dr. \$865,000 Sun 1-4 Brian Hong Long & Foster 703-518-8738
6116 Stegen Dr. \$475,000 Sun 1-4 Gary Eales Long & Foster 703-609-4331
5333 Lake Cove Ct. \$419,238 Sat 1-4 Mike Malferrari PenFed 703-399-5774
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16451 Boatwain Cir. \$439,900 Sun 12-4 Bob Frazier Samson Properties 703-407-4053

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.



Alex Jones, 3, and friend Sarah Mace, 4, of Springfield, snuggle in their blankets to listen to librarian Twyla Turner read winter-themed books during Twilight Tales at Kings Park Library in Burke Tuesday, Jan. 24.

Good Night, Sleep Tight

Library program helps preschoolers settle down to read.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

They came dragging their favorite blankets and clutching their favorite stuffed toys to hear librarian Twyla Turner read enchanting tales of sleepy trains, trucks and a menagerie of animals.

Wrapped in a robe dotted with polar bears, Turner asked the group of 12 pajama-clad preschoolers to pick a spot on the alphabet blanket. For an hour, she had them transfixed with several read-aloud bedtime and winter-themed stories during Twilight Tales at Kings Park Library on Tuesday, Jan. 24.

"They love to wear their pajamas. That's part of the fun," Turner said, adding that the program, which is at several county libraries, is perfect for winter, when parents need something to do with their cooped-up little ones.

A librarian for 30 years, Turner said she liked the interaction with children. "They certainly like to ask questions," she said.

"Why is the moon so yawny?" said four-year-old Brice Bartley, Jr. of Fairfax, when Turner opened one of the books.

"Did you know the moon would get tired?" Turner asked the group, who shouted back their opinions, everything from "Everyone knows that moons get sleepy," to "This is a silly story."

Sheila Bartley said she brought her son, Brice, as a reward for being good at the dentist's office. "I didn't want to get him sweets, so I told him he could wear his pajamas to the library. He loved that," she said.

Neala Jones of Springfield, who brought her twins



James Rinard 4, of Burke, snuggles with his Dalmatian puppy and his mom, Meg.



Will Fedor, 2 1/2, of Burke brought his stuffed panda and duck to listen to winter-themed stories read by librarian Twyla Turner.

Aubrey and Alex, 3, said her twins love stories. "This is a fun way to get them involved in reading," she said. Before the one-hour program, Turner told the preschoolers they could borrow any of the 30-plus books she had arranged around the room. The children were especially enthusiastic when Turner read "Good Night, Good Night Construction Site," a fanciful rhyming story of hardworking trucks who get ready to say goodnight.

"Does the bulldozer need to sleep? How about the crane?" Turner asked.

"Look. They get to sleep on dirt pillows. That's cool," Brice said.

Turner wrapped up the evening with a Ladybug that shoots starlight on the ceiling. "Sleep tight, everyone," Turner said as the children thanked her and gave her hugs. "I will miss them," she said.

For more information on children's programs and activities at Fairfax County's public libraries, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library and select a branch.

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CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

FRIDAY/JAN. 27

River North Dance Chicago. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Jazz-based contemporary dance ensemble. \$21-\$42. www.gmu.edu.

Choo, Choo! 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories and activities about trains. Age 2-3 years with adult. 703-249-1520.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice English conversation skills. Adults. 703-978-5600.

Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. An eclectic blend of rock, country, blues, western swing and California honky-tonk \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

"A Winter's Gift" - Sovereign Grace Church Co op Drama, 5200 Ox Rd, Fairfax, 7 p.m. - play set in medieval Canterbury, with minstrels, Vikings, royals, peasants, monks, nuns, and a gift far more valuable than gold. Tickets-\$2 students, \$5 adults, Proceeds benefit orphanage in Juarez, Mexico. 703-691-0600

SATURDAY/JAN. 28

"A Winter's Gift" - Sovereign Grace Church Co op Drama, 5200 Ox Rd, Fairfax, 11 a.m. Matinee - play set in medieval Canterbury, with minstrels, Vikings, royals, peasants, monks, nuns, and a gift far more valuable than gold. Tickets-\$2 students, \$5 adults. Proceeds benefit orphanage in Juarez, Mexico. 703-691-0600

Aquila Theatre: Macbeth. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Shakespeare's classic tragedy. \$20-\$40. www.gmu.edu.

Enduring Battle: American Soldiers in Three Wars, 1776-1945. 2 p.m. The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Talk and book signing by Dr. Christopher H. Hamner, Assistant Professor of History at George Mason University, on the changing experiences of ground combat from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War to World War II. Free. 703-591-0560.

Merrifield Records Presents: An All Ages Afternoon Show at 1 p.m.; 3MTs at 6:30 p.m.; **The Highballers, The Resistance EP Release and The WeatherVanes**

BULLETIN BOARD

MONDAY/JAN. 30

Blood Drive. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. NVAR Fairfax; 8407 Pennell St., Fairfax. Bring your donor card, driver's license or two other forms of identification, plus the names of medications you are taking. Free lunch provided to all donors by Outback Steakhouse. Make an appointment, contact 703-207-3200, gkruchko@nvar.com or redcrossblood.org.

Teen Panel Discussion for No Name Calling Week. 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble, Fairfax, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Student leaders from GLSEN's Northern Virginia Chapter (the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) lead an interactive discussion on how local school districts are combating name calling.

at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Theatre for Young Audiences: "Miss Electricity." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. camelaspeer@lortonarts.org, 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

Anvil "Monument of Metal" Tour, Division, Rome In A Day and Defending Cain. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 30

Puppet Theatre Workshop. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn how to improvise with puppets and make a mouse finger puppet to take home. Age 6-12 years. 703-249-1520.

Gabe Dixon, Lelia Broussard and Kayte Grace. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/JAN. 31

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

Down with Webster, FreeSol and Zak Downtown. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 1

Panel of Experts, A Hero Poetic and The Duskwhales. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 2

Aaron Crawford & The Badcards, We Were Kings, DJ Drew and A Raven On The Rosary. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 3

Atrium, Panic Manor and Us & Them at 6 p.m.; **Bloodlines and Overdrive Superthruster** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 4

Tschaikowski St. Petersburg State Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With Roman Leontiev, conductor. Compositions by Vivaldi, Bach, and Handel, Stravinsky,

Poulenc, Rachmaninoff, Shostakovich, Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky. \$25-\$50. www.gmu.edu.

The Kennedys. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

The Grunt Padre in Vietnam: The Story of Father Vincent Capodanno, Missionary, Chaplain and Candidate for Sainthood. 6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Presented by the Italian Heritage Lodge (OSIA) at its general membership meeting and potluck supper. Free, guests welcome. 703-978-7896 or www.italianheritagelodge.org.

MONDAY/FEB. 6

Jake Barkley, Nate Good, The Squid and Bumbles. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 8

Civil War Forum: Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County. 7:30 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Presented by Don Hakenson, Past President of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and History Commissioner for Lee District in Fairfax County. Free and open to the public. www.fairfax-station.org or 703-425-9225.

Andy Grammer, Ryan Star and Action Item. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 10

Virginia Opera: Orphée. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Virginia Premiere of Philip Glass's Orphée, based on Jean Cocteau's reimagining of the myth of Orpheus and Euridice. Sung in French with English supertitles. \$44-\$86. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu.

Rocknoceros Happy Family Hour at 7 p.m.; **Big O and Dukes Live** at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Jimmy Lange Boxing. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$35-\$500, available at www.ticketmaster.com and 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available at 703-993-3035. www.jimmylangeboxing.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

Members. 9:30-10:30 a.m. My Gym, 9566 Burke Road, Burke. A nonprofit organization designed to support stay-at-home parents or parents with flexible schedules. burkesouthmoms@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/FEB. 28

Dementia Care Givers Support Groups. 12 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Learn and share with others experiencing similar challenges. Meetings at 12 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, as well as 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday. eileen.thompson1@gmail.com or www.fairfax-burkesc.org.

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.

www.nonamecallingweek.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 18

4th Annual Family Reunion Workshop. 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. A one-day seminar with a keynote presentation by Reunions Magazine Editor-in-Chief, Edith Wagner, as well as helpful tips in planning a reunion. Free, pre-registration required at dmiller@fxva.com.

TUESDAY/FEB. 21

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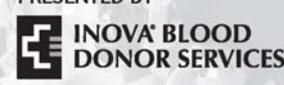


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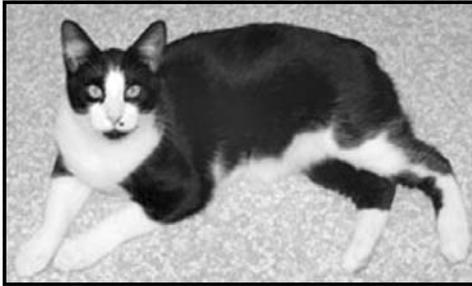
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SPORTS

'Team Concept' Going a Long Way for Fairfax Girls

Senior McNaughton leading Rebels basketball as Liberty schedule heats up.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax High girls' basketball team did not stay down for long following a 58-46 Liberty District loss to first place Madison High on Monday, Jan. 17. The setback, which snapped a three-game win streak for the Rebels, hardly had a lingering affect for Fairfax, which came back to win its next two district games on the road.

Fairfax, three days following the loss to Madison, won at Marshall High, 62-54, last Friday night. Then, in their following game this past Monday night, the Rebels won at Jefferson, 66-42, to improve their overall record to 10-6 and district mark to 6-3.

"We're a team starting to hit our stride," said Fairfax High head coach Marcus Konde.

Fairfax had a huge game from Liz McNaughton in the win over Jefferson, scoring a career and game-high 33 points. The versatile senior forward, who will be attending the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) next school year on scholarship, is leading the Rebels this season with 16 points and 12 rebounds per game. McNaughton, who is an affective player both inside and outside of the paint, is shooting an impressive 46 percent from three-point territory.

The Rebels, in the win over the Colonials, also received scoring contributions from freshman center Jessica Daguilh (8 points), junior guard Taylor Intermill (7), and sophomore guard Christina Williams (6). Alysha Berry, a sophomore guard, and senior guard/forward C.C. Howard both added four points.

In the win over Marshall, Fairfax received a balanced scoring attack led by McNaughton's 23 points and 12 rebounds. Other Fairfax players in double figures in the win were Berry with 12 points and Daguilh (6 rebounds) with 10 points. Also, junior guard/forward Vania Irigoyen (4 rebounds) contributed eight points and sophomore guard Christina Williams six points. Howard brought down 10 rebounds for the Rebels.

FAIRFAX RECEIVED a tough blow in their final game of December when its' starting point guard, sophomore Kylie Murphree, was injured in a 57-42 district home win over Jefferson in the team's first meeting of the season versus the Colonials on Dec. 20. The solid backcourt player, who was averaging 12 points, four rebounds, and four steals per game, has been undergoing rehabilitation for her injury. "She's making good progress," said Konde.

The coach said he is uncertain whether the standout player will return this season. Murphree's best scoring games this winter came in her team's December home wins over both Centreville (25



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes High girls' basketball team, under head coach Christy Winters-Scott (pictured), will be visiting Fairfax High for a Liberty District game next Tuesday, Jan. 31.

points) and Marshall (23 points). Last year as a freshman, she averaged eight points and three rebounds and earned All-Liberty District Honorable mention honors.

"It was a major blow," said the coach, of losing playmaker Murphree to injury. "She's our leader on offense and defense. We had to look for a new identity [following the injury] and come together as a team."

With Murphree out of the line-up, Berry, also a sophomore, is handling a lot of the team's point guard duties. Berry, who is playing outstanding off the bench for the Rebels, is averaging 10 points and three assists per game.

Another sophomore backcourt player having a strong season is Williams, a starter averaging six points a game. She has converted 22 three-pointers on the season.

"She has been very consistent on both ends of the floor, and she is a leader too," said Konde, of Williams. "She did not play much last year but worked real hard in the offseason."

Fairfax has received an outstanding first season from freshman post player Daguilh, who is averaging eight points and 10 rebounds a game.

"She has been playing with confidence and realizes she can play with any center in the district," said Konde, of the ninth grader.

Fairfax's team captains this season are McNaughton and Intermill.

Coach Konde said a key to his team's good play thus far has been its team mindset of playing as a unit.

"I think if we continue to play together we should be able to contend with the rest of the district," he said. "We need to focus on ourselves [as a team] and realize it's going to take team basketball to win. I tell the [players], assists and rebounds will make us very successful."

On Thursday night, Jan. 26 of this week, Fairfax will be hosting Langley for a district contest set to begin at 7:30. Next Tuesday, Jan. 31, the Rebels will be at home versus district opponent South Lakes.

To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9422

Woodson boys' basketball head coach Doug Craig talks to the Cavaliers during a break in the action.



PHOTO BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

Sharpshooting Woodson Boys Beat T.C. Williams

Cavaliers knock down 13 3-pointers, including career-high six from Tommy Stepka.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The T.C. Williams boys' basketball team trailed Woodson by two points midway through the fourth quarter and was in search of a defensive stop when the Cavaliers passed the ball to Peter Murray, who was standing alone at the top of the arc.

Murray, a reserve post who had yet to score, let fly from long range, burying a 3-pointer that left TC head coach Julian King slumping forward in disbelief in front of the Titans' bench.

Murray's 3-pointer was one of 13 for the Cavaliers, whose sharpshooting lifted them past the Titans, 73-70 in double overtime on Jan. 24 at Woodson. The victory improved the Cavaliers' record to 14-3 and helped them retain sole possession of first place in the Patriot District with an 8-1 mark. It also gave Woodson a regular-season sweep against a TC program that has won four of the last five Northern Region championships.

"It's really big for our confidence," senior guard Brandon Stepka said.

The Titans fell to 5-5 in the district, including a 48-38 home loss to Woodson on Dec. 20.

"This was a big win because even though they don't have the best record in the district, they're one of the top teams in the district," Woodson junior Tommy Stepka said. "They're very tough to play. They'll be up there in the district playoffs."

Tommy Stepka stole the show early, knocking down six 3-pointers in the first three quarters, and his teammates contributed big plays down the stretch. TC held a lead in the final minute of regulation and both overtime periods, but each time Woodson found a way to fight back.

TC led 70-69 in the second overtime when fresh-

man point guard Eric Bowles, Jr. scored what proved to be the game-winner during a drive to the basket with 37 seconds remaining. Brandon Stepka added a pair of free throws with 12.7 seconds to play.

TC led by three late in the first overtime and missed the front end of a one-and-one with a chance to build a two-possession advantage. Woodson capitalized, tying the score at 64 when Alex Boock buried a corner 3-pointer with 12.4 seconds remaining.

The Titans led 57-55 near the end of regulation, but Brandon Stepka's putback helped force overtime. "We have a lot of respect for [T.C. Williams]," Woodson head coach Doug Craig said. "We knew they didn't really play their best game against us earlier in the year. We knew that and our kids knew we were going to get their best effort tonight — a championship-level effort out of them. ...

"I felt we really battled, especially in the overtimes. We were behind a lot of the first overtime and we still found a way."

While several Cavaliers contributed to the win, Tommy Stepka stood out with a career-best performance from behind the arc. The junior set the tone early, scoring Woodson's first six points with a pair of threes. His third triple pulled the Cavaliers within one at 29-28 prior to halftime, and Stepka connected on a trio of 3-pointers in the third quarter. He finished with a team-high 24 points.

"He's [6-foot-5, 6-foot-6], he's very long," Craig said. "He shoots the ball really well."

Brandon Stepka, Tommy's older brother, scored 12 points, including a pair of 3-pointers. Bowles, Jr. finished with 11 points and one 3-pointer, and Boock added eight points, including a pair of threes.

Simon Shim and Murray each made one 3-pointer. "We've got a lot of guys that can shoot the ball," Craig said.

T.J. Huggins led TC with 25 points and Landon Moss finished with 22.

Woodson has won six consecutive games. The Cavaliers will host Lake Braddock, the only Patriot District team to defeat them this season, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 27.

"We're playing real well right now," Craig said, "but we want to be the best team in February and March, not necessarily in January."



PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

Lee junior Leah Michetti finished third in the all-around during a meet at West Potomac on Jan. 23.

District Gymnastics Meet Approaching

With the Patriot District gymnastics meet scheduled for Feb. 2 at Lake Braddock, several teams participated in their final tune-up meet at West Potomac on Jan. 23.

Woodson, Lee, West Springfield and the host Wolverines competed, along with Hayfield, Marshall, McLean and freshman Grace Girard, who is T.C. Williams' lone gymnast.

McLean won the meet with a score of 141.8. Woodson finished second with 135.95, followed by Lee (131.05), West Potomac (128.8), Marshall (126.25), West Springfield (104.45), Hayfield (104.3) and T.C. Williams (33.7).

Lee junior Leah Michetti was the Patriot District's top all-around performer at the meet, finishing third with a score of 36.65. McLean's Abby Neuberger (37.4) was first, followed by Marshall's Morgan Stahl (37.35).

Michetti said she was shaky during warmups, but performed better during competition.

"Today was a pretty good day," Michetti said. "I was a little bit off on some things, but everything kind of worked out when I was actually competing. Warmup was a little bit nerve-wracking. ... I wasn't hitting all my skills very well. I think I was

pretty nervous for this meet, I don't really know why."

Michetti finished second on beam (9.5) and floor (9.45), third on bars (8.95) and eighth on vault (8.75).

Last season, Michetti won the district title in the all-around, placed seventh in the state and earned first-team All-Met honors. She said past success and accolades can add both pressure and confidence.

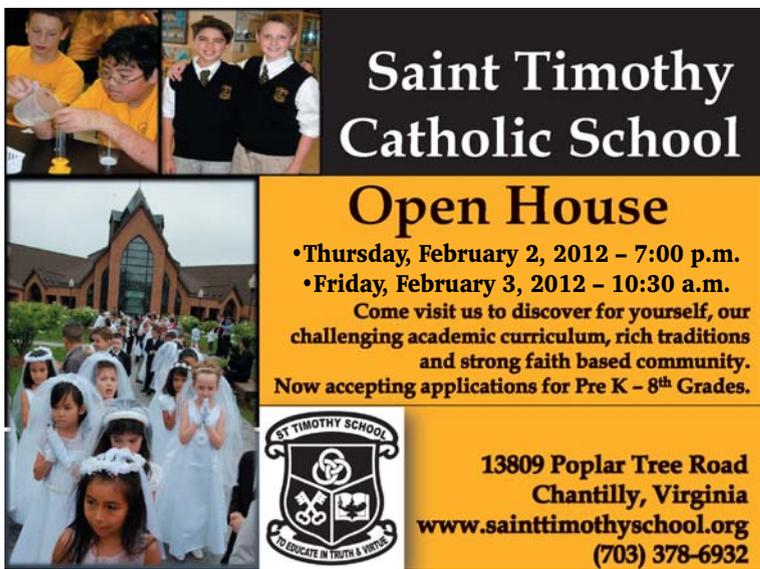
"I do feel a little bit of the pressure to keep on going and keep on doing well," Michetti said, "but also it's kind of one of those things that reminds you, you are good enough to do it, so you can do it."

West Potomac's Marien Voorhees (35.5) finished fifth in the all-around and Monica Thompson (34.95) was sixth. Lee's Katie Stewart (34.5) finished eighth. Stewart placed fourth in the all-around at last season's district tournament, earning her a berth to the regional meet.

Woodson's Annie Guidry (34.8) finished seventh and Shelly Morse (33.65) was 10th. Girard (33.7) finished ninth for T.C. Williams.

West Springfield's Kristin Falk and Rebecca Waldrop tied for 18th with a score of 25.5.

— JON ROETMAN



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Fair Oaks Mall Sets Lunar New Year Celebrations

Fair Oaks Mall will host its 9th annual Lunar New Year celebrations on Saturday, Jan. 28 and Sunday, Jan. 29 as it honors the Chinese year 4710, the year of the dragon. Ceremonies, performances and exhibitions will be presented from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. each day, with most of the events centered in the Fair Oaks Mall Grand Court.

One of the largest Lunar New Year events of its kind, Fair Oaks Mall's 9th annual Lunar New Year celebration is presented by the Washington Hai Hua Community Center. The celebrations will feature traditional Chinese dragon dances; music and dance performances; martial arts demonstrations; children's crafts; and a special lantern festival.

More than 200 performers will participate in this year's Lunar New Year festival, representing such countries and regions as China, Korea, India, Thai-

land, Vietnam, Mongolia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Polynesia and the 50th state of Hawaii.

Both days of the Lunar New Year celebrations at Fair Oaks will feature displays with Chinese knotting, Chinese paper cutting and paper folding; Chinese Calligraphy bookmark writing and Chinese Painting, face painting, and Chinese medicine with Dr. Peter Lee.

Fair Oaks Mall's Lunar New Year is sponsored by Long & Foster Realtors, which will offer its Ask-A-Realtor event in the Fountain Court during both days of the celebrations.

Fair Oaks Mall's Lunar year is presented by the Washington Hai Hua Community Center, which has been dedicated to working as a bridge between new Asian immigrants and American society since 1989.



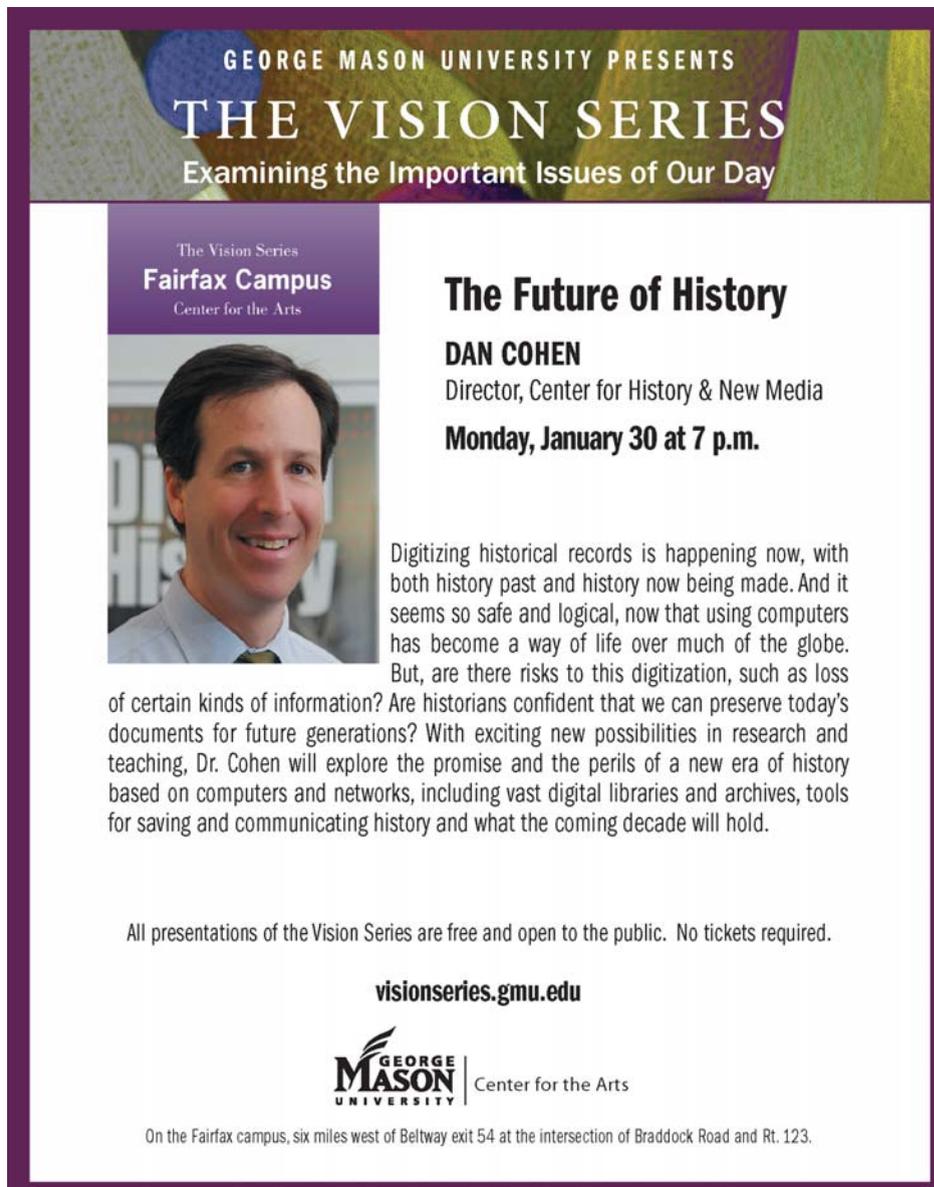
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Case No. 11-CV-016199
The Honorable Timothy M. Witkowski
Case Code 30404 (Foreclosure of Mortgage)
The amount claimed exceeds \$5000.00
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 3476 Stateview Blvd., Fort Mill, SC 29715, Plaintiff vs. Donna Michelle Peninger & John Doe Peninger, 12201 Lincoln Lake Way, Apt. 5102, Fairfax, VA 22030-7768 and Monticello Gardens Condominium Owners Association, Inc., 16535 W. Bluemound Rd., Ste. 120, Brookfield, WI 53005-5905, Defendants
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
To each person named above as a defendant: You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within 40 days after January 12, 2012 you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 901 N. Ninth Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233-1425 and to Gray & Associates, L.L.P., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 16345 West Glendale Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151-2841. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated this 29th day of December, 2011. William N. Foshag, State Bar No. 1020417, Gray & Associates, L.L.P., Attorneys for Plaintiff, 16345 W. Glendale Dr., New Berlin, WI 53151-2841, (414) 224-8404, (414) 224-8182. Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt.

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
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In execution of a Deed of Trust dated September 29, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$479,000.00, recorded as Deed Book 18817 at Page 0550, and re-recorded in Deed Book 19139 at Page 235, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned Trustee will on Friday, February 10, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., by the front main entrance to the Fairfax County Courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder the following property with improvements thereon commonly known as 3015 Dower House Drive, Herndon, Virginia 20171, and more particularly described as follows:
Lot Three Hundred Two (302), Section Three (3), Franklin Farm, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 5532 at Page 1099 among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia.
Tax Map No. 035-2-08-0302

This sale is subject to the restrictions, rights of way, conditions, easements, and mechanic's liens, if any, whether of record or not of record, to the extent any of the foregoing applies, and takes priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust. This sale is also subject to a 120-day right of redemption in favor of the Internal Revenue Service.

Deposit of \$15,000.00, or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check, shall be required to qualify as a bidder prior to the sale, except for the Noteholder.

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