

Cancer survivors get fresh, new look

Thurs., Jan. 10

Books & Bites Book Discussion Group, 10:30-11:30 a.m., LaPrade Library, 9000 Hull Street Rd. "Into the Wild" by Jon Krakauer will be discussed. For more information, call 276-7755.

John Tyler Community College board meeting, 3 p.m., 1051 Johnston Willis Dr., room J110 (in the nursing program facility). The public is invited to attend. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the board meeting. Persons interested in addressing the board may sign up at that time.

Fri., Jan. 11

Second Fridays at the Art Annex, 7-9 p.m., Art Annex, 825 Grove Rd., Midlothian. Featured this month are Pam Connolly's "Paintings on Silk" and Carolyn Schallmo's "Polymer Creations." Meet the artists and enjoy complimentary drinks and appetizers. For more information, contact Amy Barr, 379-2600.

Calendar

Mon., Jan. 14

"Virginia at the Turn of the 20th Century," 11 a.m.-noon, Springdale Model Cottage, 6800 Lucy Corr Blvd. Virginia Historical Society staff will use photographs to present a look at industry, lifestyles and the social climate in Virginia at the turn of the century. Program is free and open to the public. For more information or to reserve a space, call 425-8280.

Advanced Conversational Spanish Class, 5:30-7:30 p.m., weekly through Mar. 17, Lloyd C. Bird High School, 10301 Courthouse Rd. Sponsored by the Chesterfield County Chamber of Commerce. Ideal for students who have completed the chamber's Beginners' Conversational Spanish Class. The cost is \$200 for chamber members and \$225 for non-members and includes the textbook if necessary. For more information or to register, call the chamber at 748-6364.

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The first, HB29, amends the current budget (set to expire on June 30, 2008) and the second, HB30, contains the governor's proposed spending priorities for the next biennium. The two-year biennial budget (HB30) includes spending for fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Gov. Kaine's budget follows the trend in recent years of increased state government spending. His proposal would spend \$4 billion more than the last \$74 billion, two-year budget - an increase of about 5.5 percent over the biennium. This would be on top of the double digit increases reflected in the current budget.

As expected, the governor's budget reflects a blend of mandated requirements as well as spending on new programs. The budget includes roughly \$950 million in additional aid for K-12 education, increased health insurance assistance to lower-income families, a pilot

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In The Spotlight

Look Good...Feel Better Workshop, Mon., Jan. 14, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Hawthorne Cancer Resource Center, CJW Medical Center, 1459 Johnston Willis Dr. This workshop will help women cope with the appearance-related side effects of cancer treatment. Conducted by volunteer cosmetologists, it includes a skin care and makeup program, as well as a demonstration on how to use wigs, turbans and scarves. Patients must be undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment or recently finished with their treatment to participate. A free gift of cosmetics is given for use during and after the workshop. Session registration is required. For more information or to register, call 527-3778.

Beyond Divorce, 6:30-8 p.m., weekly through Mar. 3, Chesterfield Prevention Services, 9842 Lori Rd., suite 101. This is an evening course for recently separated men and women who are focusing on managing the emotional impact of divorce and setting new directions as single people. Fee is \$55. Sponsored by the Chesterfield County Department of Mental Health Support Services. For more information or to register, call Karl Kalber, 717-6635.

Southside Area Mothers of Multiples (SAMOM) monthly meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Medical Center, 13710 St. Francis Blvd. For more information, call Brenda at 986-5790 or visit www.samom.com.

program for his pre-kindergarten program, increased mental health spending and a new state-funded medical insurance program for small businesses.

As with any budget proposed by a governor, there will be many items on which the legislature concurs. However, genuine concerns about the overall soundness and long-term fiscal integrity of the proposed spending plan have been voiced by senior lawmakers.

The governor proposes to withdraw \$261 million from the Rainy Day Fund, the maximum allowed by the Virginia Constitution, to balance the current budget. The biennial budget includes a proposal to divert \$180 million from the Transportation Trust Fund in Fiscal Year 2008 to fund new or expanded non-transportation programs. The budget also includes \$3.2 billion in new debt, taking the commonwealth to the upper limit of its debt

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Tues., Jan. 15

MOMS Club of Midlothian North monthly meeting, 10 a.m., Bethlehem Baptist Church, 9600 Midlothian Tnpk. Support group for stay-at-home moms. For more information, call 403-3829 or mleetjeffs@peoplepc.com.

Planning commission annual meeting, 3 p.m., Public Meeting Room, 10001 Iron Bridge Rd. For information, call 748-1050.

Conversational Spanish for Business Professionals, 5:30-7:30 p.m., weekly through Mar. 18, Lloyd C. Bird High School, 10301 Courthouse Rd. Students will learn practical phrases to help them better understand and communicate with customers, employees and members of our growing community. Sponsored by the Chesterfield County Chamber of Commerce. Cost is \$200 for chamber members, \$225 for non-members and includes the textbook. For more information or to register, call the chamber at 748-6364.

Parenting series, 6:30-8 p.m., weekly through Mar. 4, St. Mark's Church, 11551 Lucks Ln. This course, "Coping with Your Child's Behavior: The Preschool Years," teaches parents practical ways to deal with the challenging behaviors of young children. Fee is \$50. Sponsored by the Chesterfield County Department of Mental Health Support Services. For more information or to register, call Whitney Kern, 717-6547.

Bon Air Book Talks, 7-8 p.m., Bon Air Library, 9103 Rattlesnake Rd. "Behind the Scenes at the Museum" by Kate Atkinson will be discussed. For more information, call 320-2461.

Have a special event coming up? Please e-mail your calendar items to calendar@chesterfieldobserver.com, mail them to P.O. Box 1616, Midlothian VA 23113, or fax them to 744-3269. Please include a contact name and number with your announcements.

capacity limit.

Some have questioned the soundness of a budget that diverts revenues promised to roads and rail to new programs, like pre-kindergarten education. This runs contrary to the "lockbox" proposed by the governor and adopted as part of HB3202 - that no funds may be diverted from transportation. Also, tapping into the Rainy Day Fund at a time when revenues are still growing is not financially responsible.

The General Assembly should exercise fiscal prudence and avoid launching new programs that require long-term sustained spending commitments. That said, honest disagreements will emerge concerning Virginia's spending priorities and how best to fund them. Considerable compromise will be required by the General Assembly and the governor between now and when the session adjourns in mid-March.

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