

## Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

Recently Fairfax County's policies about ethical consequences have been discussed through several media outlets. I want to let you know that we at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology want to open the dialogue with parents and students about how we handle different violations to *Student Responsibilities and Rights* (SR&R). These policies are devised to keep students safe and maintain standards of integrity. This month I want to give our Assistant Principal, **Mrs. Mary Ann Bosley**, leader of ethics and social responsibility at TJHSST, the opportunity to share some words of wisdom.

May you all have a great start to spring.

Sincerely,

**Evan Glazer**  
**TJ Principal**

As Assistant Principal and administrator for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades, I supervise Safety and Security, and I'm responsible for the challenges presented to our students on a daily basis concerning integrity, honor, and ethics at TJHSST. We recently had an evening seminar about cyber behavior and, on April 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, we will be offering another opportunity to dialogue with parents and students about their ethical choices and responsibilities that affect character and their relationships in society.

There are many challenges facing our students today as a result of misuse of advanced technologies. These advances present opportunities for unethical choices and misconceptions related to integrity and ethics. In an effort to guide students to make good choices, each year we have an afternoon session for the junior class that focuses on ethics. As teachers and parents we have numerous opportunities to influence and inspire our children—our students—to make positive choices that reflect the characteristics we hope they will take forward with them.

In the spirit of honor and integrity each year at the beginning of school in September every student is required to read and sign a copy of the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Honor Code. Part of the Honor Code reads "As members of the Thomas Jefferson community, we honor academic and personal integrity. We uphold the values of honesty, integrity, respect and responsibility." It is the hope that students will practice these ideas, values and the rules of conduct. When students take responsibility for themselves individually, the worth of the Thomas Jefferson community is strengthened as a whole. The merits of honesty and integrity are critical to the development of character. Students should maintain and support academic integrity by understanding and abiding by the Honor Code; therefore, they should always seek the understanding and clarification of anything that may be unclear. Working together as a community of parents, faculty and administrators we can encourage and support students in maintaining the highest standards of conduct. With the efforts of many, we can continue to create a positive environment of academic success and "goodness."

Opportunities to reflect the ethical values of moral character and performance character are provided throughout the school year. Teachers are encouraged to articulate and remind students to maintain the respect for personal intellectual growth.

- Eighth period activities/speakers are provided to give students different points of view and additional voices.
- Opportunities for student leadership activities which stress commitment, character and trust are encouraged.

It is the goal of the administration to facilitate ongoing conversations with parents and students about the Honor Code and to supervise fair and consistent consequences for offenses. When there is evidence of a violation, established guidelines are followed to provide guidance through a process that maintains confidentiality.

I want to close with words of wisdom from our namesake:

*“Never suppose that in any possible situation or under any circumstances that it is best for you to do a dishonorable thing however slightly so it may appear to you...Encourage all your virtuous dispositions, and exercise them whenever an opportunity arises, being assured that they will gain strength by exercise...and that exercise will make them habitual...Though you cannot see, when you take one step, what will be the next, yet follow truth, justice, and plain dealing, and never fear their leading you out of [any difficult situation] in the easiest manner possible...”* Thomas Jefferson

If you have questions about how we teach ethics and integrity at TJHSST, or about consequences to SR&R violations, don't hesitate to contact me at [MaryAnn.Bosley at fcps.edu](mailto:MaryAnn.Bosley@fcps.edu). We will be sending out a reminder through Keep In Touch about the April 14 seminar on this topic. I look forward to teaming together in our efforts to maintain a safe community that supports high levels of character.

Sincerely,

**Mary Ann Bosley**  
**Assistant Principal**

## President's Message

On March 22, many parents of TJ and other FCPS students attended a meeting about “Stretching Kids Without Breaking Them: A Follow up to Race to Nowhere,” which featured Dr. William Stixrud, a clinical neuropsychologist with current and past affiliations to Children's National Medical Center, George Washington School of Medicine, Georgetown University Medical School, and the Division of Neuropsychology at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Stixrud explained how important it was for teenagers to get enough sleep, because sleep-deprived students learn less efficiently and become stressed. He noted the importance of providing students with the optimal level of academic challenges, where they have to work hard on challenging content but they aren't over-extended. He also focused on the often-causal relationships

between stress and depression, alcohol or drug use, self-mutilation, and/or cheating.

These issues have surfaced in the local press, including the question of how FCPS students should be disciplined, consistent with the overarching goal of maintaining a safe environment in the schools. Parents organized a group to reform current FCPS discipline policies. Virginia Delegate Kaye Kory introduced a bill to require schools to notify parents before their children are questioned. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors sent an open letter to the FCPS School Board suggesting that FCPS work with the county on these issues. In response, FCPS agreed on March 25 to reexamine its policies, and potentially revise the FCPS *Student Responsibilities and Rights* (SR&R) Handbook. Five days later, **FCPS Superintendent Jack Dale proposed changes to the FCPS discipline process** which take into account some concerns about the current process that were expressed by the community. These recommendations will be discussed at the School Board work session on Monday, April 4.

At TJ, we have an unusual mix of students, and a correspondingly unusual mix of student discipline issues. Our next PTSA meeting will feature a presentation by **Bob McCormick**, our school security and safety specialist, and **Mark Harrington**, our School Resource Officer. Mr. McCormick will explain key topics in the SR&R Handbook, with an emphasis on sections that have been relevant to TJ students and on infractions where the current SR&R limits the discretion of school administrators. Officer Harrington will discuss cyber-bullying. Then, both will answer parent questions. So, please pencil in Thursday, April 7, 9:00 a.m., on your calendar, and enjoy some coffee and light refreshments while we learn more about these topical issues.

On a brighter note, our music department has outdone itself this month. With one daughter in band, one daughter in orchestra, and my own participation in the new Faculty Parent Choir, I was privileged to hear all our fabulously talented students perform their pieces for the annual adjudicated music festivals. To see a photo of the Faculty Parent Choir, which provided parents with an opportunity to sing with a variety of faculty members and our hard-working principal, see page nine, below.

At our last two PTSA meetings, we also discussed the difficulties that some student groups are having finding faculty sponsors. The sacrifices made by our faculty sponsors to provide our students with these opportunities were driven home to me at the state chess tournament, where the faculty sponsor spent a weekend away from his three young children and wife so that the TJ chess team would be permitted to represent TJ in the state chess tournament. Our Academic Boosters met recently with **Shawn DeRose**, the Director of Student Activities, to discuss ways to allow TJ student groups to be sponsored by non-faculty, in accordance with FCPS regulations.

On April 7, our Nominating Committee will be announcing the names of the parents they've nominated to be next year's officers. Please come to the April 7 meeting, at 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria, to meet them! Finally, all TJ volunteers are invited to an appreciation luncheon hosted by the administration on Thursday, April 14, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (see the flyer at the end of the newsletter).

Thank you!

~~Louise Epstein  
TJ PTSA President  
[lepstein at cox.net](mailto:lepstein@cox.net)  
[ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu)

## PTSA Update

### TJHSST PTSA Reflections Program

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements in the Northern Virginia District PTA Reflections Program 2010-2011. Each student received the Award of Merit.

Photography: **Rachel Merriman-Goldring** (2013)  
Visual Art: **Emily Zhou** (2014)

### Government Relations Committee

Good News from Richmond!

The PTSA Government Relations Committee wants to thank all the TJ parents who contacted the State Senators and House Delegates to encourage them to

vote for increasing the student enrollment funding cap for Governor's Schools by 50 students, from 1,600 to 1,650. This moves us closer to receiving a Governor's School supplement for 100% of TJ's 1800 students. (Please understand that this does not increase enrollment at TJ by 50 more students.)

The TJ community is very grateful to Delegate Mark Keam for introducing the budget amendment in the Virginia General Assembly this session and working hard to see it through until it was adopted in the 2011 Conference Committee's budget report. In a year when many essential programs were cut, this is an especially important accomplishment. Delegate Keam is continuing to work to ensure that TJ receives all of the funds it is due resulting from the increased cap amendment.



Pictured left to right: **Hailey Johnson**, **Ian Ladner**, Cheryl Buford (Government Relations Co-Chair), Delegate Mark Keam and **Keegan Cotton**.

### Landscaping Committee

It's officially spring! The daffodils are blooming around campus, and the perennial beds are beginning to emerge from winter's nap.

The Cultivators of the Earth Club has been doing yeoman's work, cleaning up the gardens to help these spring arrivals—cutting back our massive grasses and raking up the last of fallen leaves. If you see **Mia Jimenez**, **Nita Takanti**, **Alison Yu**, **Emily Zhu**, **Robert Wharton**, and our faculty sponsor, **Milde Waterfall**, around campus please give them a shout out for all their work. One of Milde's favorite quotes is very apt--"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need" (Marcus Tullius Cicero).

By the time you read this, we will have completed our first Weekend Gardening Effort, and the

gardens on the Native and Herb Hills should be looking tidier. We would love everyone to join us in our April efforts—you can watch for our flyers, log on to our [website](#), or contact me at [elenil at cox.net](mailto:elenil@cox.net) to find out the details.

Happy kite flying, and watch out for spring blossoms!



**Robert Wharton ('13), Mia Jimenez ('12), Emily Zhou ('14), Nita Takanti ('14), Alison Yu ('14)**

## Upcoming Events

**TJ PiMiler:** On Saturday, **April 2 at 9:00 a.m.**, there will be a Fun Run/ Walk of Pi miles (3.14159), sponsored by the Class of 2013, at TJHSST. This event is open to all ages. Come for Pies, Prizes, Food & Fun!

**Techstravaganza:** On **April 9, from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**, join us at TJHSST for Techstravaganza, a science, technology, math, and engineering exploration day. This event is intended for upper elementary and middle school students and their parents, who will have the opportunity to conduct hands-on science experiments, witness demonstrations, and speak to scientists.

Activities at this annual event are run by TJ students and faculty, and professionals from such sponsoring organizations as Exxon Mobil, SAIC, NASA, Powertek Corporation, and Women in Technology. Techstravaganza is free and everyone is welcome! Visit [www.tjhsst.edu/twist/tech.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/twist/tech.html) for more information or contact [twistcoordinators at gmail.com](mailto:twistcoordinators@gmail.com). Please spread the word and bring your family and friends.

**Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon:** All TJ volunteers are invited to an appreciation luncheon in the Career Center on Thursday, **April 14, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Ethics Discussion/Seminar:** **April 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.**

## Advanced Placement Exam Schedule

### Monday, May 2

8:00 a.m. Chemistry/ Environ Sci  
12 noon Psychology

### Tuesday, May 3

8:00 a.m. Comp Sci/ Span. Lang.

### Wednesday, May 4

8:00 a.m. Calc AB/ Calc BC

12 noon Chinese Lang.

### Thursday, May 5

8:00 a.m. Eng. Lit

12 noon Japanese Lang/Latin

### Friday, May 6

8:00 a.m. US Hist/German Lang.

12 noon European History

### Monday, May 9

8:00 a.m. Biology/Music Theory

12 noon Physics

### Tuesday, May 10

8:00 a.m. US Gov. & Politics

12 noon Comp. Gov/Fren. Lang

### Wednesday, May 11

8:00 a.m. English Lang. Comp

12 noon Statistics

### Thursday, May 12

8:00 a.m. Macroeconomics/World Hist.

12 noon Microeconomics

### Friday, May 13

8:00 a.m. Spanish Literature

*(See next page for an update on AP fees.)*

### Fairfax County School Board to Refund Fees for AP, IB Tests

The Fairfax County School Board has voted to refund approximately \$2 million in fees collected from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) families for Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) tests. The action is being taken in response to a January 28 opinion by Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli “that a local school board cannot impose a mandatory fee on students taking advanced placement courses for the required taking of the Advanced Placement Examination.”

A \$75 per test fee was adopted by the School Board for the FY 2011 budget in an effort to increase revenues in the face of a third consecutive year of requiring budget cuts.

Since exam fees will be paid by FCPS, students currently enrolled in an AP or IB course are still required to take the AP or IB exam related to that course.

Refund notifications will be mailed in early April to parents and guardians who have already made payments and all refunds are scheduled to be processed by the end of April.

### Free Money \$\$\$

Thanks to all who have registered their bonus cards and shopped at Giant, Harris Teeter, Safeway and Target, TJ has earned over \$8000 so far! The Giant A+ Program ended on March 24. The other programs continue, so keep shopping with your registered cards. If you haven't registered your cards yet, you can still sign up. If you have any questions, contact Stamo Georgiou at [stamog1@gmail.com](mailto:stamog1@gmail.com).

**Giant** – Program ended March 24. Sign up for next year begins in September.

**Harris Teeter** – Program ends May 31. Sign-up at [www.Harristeeter.com](http://www.Harristeeter.com) with TJ code 5534. Only Harris Teeter labeled products earn a contribution.

**Safeway/Escrip.** – On-going. Sign up at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) with TJ code 154534149.

**Target Redcard** – On-going. TJ's code is 119746.

**Office Depot** – On-going. Provide #70103076 at checkout.

Thanks to your support, the [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) shopping program is having a record year! Please remember to do all of your shopping through the PTSA's link – <http://amazon.com/?tag=tjhsst-20> – to earn free money for TJ! This link can also be found on the **Support the PTSA** web page. Bookmark it now

and use it every time you shop! Questions? Email [joe at ganley.org](mailto:joe@ganley.org).

## All Night Graduation Party (ANGP)



### All Night Grad Party (ANGP) – Ticket Deadline Approaching!

Senior Parents -- You've probably heard from colleges now, so start planning the graduation celebrations! Kick it off by sending your child to the ANGP. Usually, 95%+ of the senior class attends the ANGP. Tickets are \$115. [Click here](#) for the ticket form and other information.

### Be There, Volunteer!

The good news is we have lots of volunteers stepping forward to help run the party. The bad news is we don't have enough! We still need lots of senior parents to cover the Sunday, June 19, 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. shift. Have fun working the party and take your senior home with you at the end! [Click here](#) to volunteer.

### Baby Photo Contest

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in photos of their senior for the baby photo contest. If you have not yet had a chance to do that, please submit a 4 x 6 photo of your child when they were somewhere between 18 months and 5 years old. CLEARLY print your senior's name on the back of the photo. Note that photos will NOT BE RETURNED. For your convenience, the official baby photo contest mailbox is located in the front office. If you prefer to mail your photo, the address is: Keiko Fujiu, 8350 Greensboro Dr. #112, McLean, VA 22102.

### Donations to ANGP

The total cost of the ANGP exceeds \$50,000--ticket sales alone do not cover the costs. We need

donations! Financial donations can be made by check (payable to "TJHSST ANGP") or by **credit card**. Every donation of \$50 or more may include a 30 character dedication (e.g. "To the Senior Wrestlers" or "Great job Mary!" or "We are so proud Will!"), and will be recognized on the ANGP website by donor level of giving—Champion (\$500 or more), Benefactor (\$250), Patron (\$100), or Friend (\$50).

For donation forms and other information on donating, check out the **donations section** of the ANGP website.

### **2011 Graduation Lawn Signs On Sale Now!**

Show your pride in your TJ grad or the entire class! For only \$20, you can purchase a 2011 graduation lawn sign from Connie Valle at [vallefamily at cox.net](http://vallefamilyatcox.net) or you can call (703) 434-0181. Please include your email address, phone number and the sign or signs you wish to purchase. You will be contacted to arrange for pickup when the signs are ready. Order extras for grandparents, aunts/uncles and neighbors. Thank you for helping to make the ANGP a huge success!

## **Student Services Corner**

### ***Student Government Association***

The SGA has heard presentations from clubs applying for a fund allocation, held the Spring Sports Rally honoring all spring athletes, and successfully conducted the fourth annual Leadership Conference. We are also gearing up for J-Day. All items donated during the 10-Day Challenge have been delivered to Reston Interfaith. The SGA is also planning fundraisers, the proceeds of which will go to Japan.

On February 8, 2011, the Student Advisory Council to the Fairfax County school board elected Eugene Coleman III, a junior at Mount Vernon HS, to replace **Keegan Cotton** (2011) as next year's student representative to the school board. He will be the voice of all the students in the county.

Earlier in the year, the SAC participated in food tasting as changes are being made to school lunch

choices. And, at the end of the year, presentations will be given to Superintendent Dale regarding the benefits of technology in schools.

### ***Guidelines***

The latest edition (March-April) of *Guidelines*, the TJHSST Student Services Department newsletter, is posted under "**Publications and Resources**" at: [www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/dss/pubs.php](http://www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/dss/pubs.php).

## **Academic News**

### ***French News***

On March 15, all TJ French students took the National French Contest, Le Grand Concours. The French department wants to thank all the parent volunteers who helped on that day. Juniors who place in the top 10% on this national exam will be able to register for the Rotary/Alliance française club scholarship. The winners will be treated to a three-week stay in Paris, all costs paid! The selection is done by a lottery. Good luck to all our participants.

On April 2, 2011, French students will participate in the Modern Foreign Language Tournament at South Lakes HS. They will recite poetry, act in plays and demonstrate their ability and love of the language they are currently studying at TJHSST. French, German, Spanish, Japanese and Chinese students will participate.

### ***German News***

Congratulations to junior **Daniel Mares**, who has been awarded a free three-week summer stay in Germany. Daniel won the award from the American Association of Teachers of Virginia, based on his high score on the National German Exam, and a rigorous application and interview process.

**Frau Vaden** also heard very positive reviews from the interviews of four other German students, who went through the application process: **Andrea Lorico, Andrew Draganov, Elisabeth von Spakovsky** and **Kate DeWeese**. All underwent an oral interview with German professors from around

the state, where questions (in German) included comparisons of political situations in the U.S. and in Germany.

## Class News

### 2011 – Seniors

#### Spanish News

Congratulations to the 51 new members of the Spanish Honor Society. The induction ceremony will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 3:00 p.m. Parents of new inductees are welcome to attend.

Seven students studying Spanish will be representing TJ at the Foreign Language Oratory Contest to be held Saturday, April 2 at South Lakes High School. And, during the first week of April several hundred Spanish students will be taking the National Spanish Exam during their Spanish class. Our TJ students historically have excelled at this rigorous, national exam.

Bulería, our annual salsa dance, was a smashing success with over 100 attendees. It included dance lessons by a professional from Joy of Dance Studio, a special dance presentation by Sra. Peggy Gendive and Mr. Carlos Gutierrez and fun for one and all. ¡Siempre de fiesta!

#### Latin News

On March 15, at the Ides of March celebration, all 251 Latin students wore black to honor Caesar and celebrate his death!! During lunch, a procession was held as students marched through the hallways following the Roman standards (held by the student officers). Caesar's death was re-enacted in the Millenium Courtyard, where it was observed by over 150 Latin students!!



Latin students celebrate the Ides of March.

**Haven't paid your student's senior dues?** The senior dues pay for the cap, gown, and part of the costs of graduation. Write a check for \$30 payable to TJHSST with a memo line including the student's name and "Senior Class Dues." The check can be mailed in or brought to Room 238 in an envelope addressed to **Jen Pierce**.

#### Schedule for Graduation Activities:

\* Senior Final Exams - Friday, June 10 - Wednesday, June 15.

\* Prom - Friday, June 10, at the Hilton in Mark Center Alexandria, VA.

\* Graduation Rehearsal and Cap & Gown Pick Up - at TJ (date to be announced).

Note: if your student has not paid all of his/her financial obligations (including missing books, calculators, sports equipment) as well as \$30 in senior dues, then he/she will not receive their cap and gown.

\* Senior Class Picnic (date to be announced).

\* Graduation - Saturday, June 18, 7:00 p.m. at the Patriot Center (students arrive at 5:30 p.m.; doors open to families at 6:00 p.m.).

\* All Night Graduation Party - Saturday, June 18, post graduation at TJ.

#### Senior parents: have you sent in baby photos?

For information, go to

<http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/babyphotos.html>.

**Have you volunteered to help out?** You will not be able to enter the party unless you have signed up for a volunteer shift. ANGP particularly needs senior parents for the second party shift: 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m., Sunday, June 19, 2011. A benefit to working this shift is that you can pick up your student at the end of the party and go home!

**Sign up:** <http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>

**Contact:** Bernadette Saperstein or Jean Skolnik at [tjangp2011volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp2011volunteers@gmail.com).

**Buy a graduation lawn sign to support ANGP!**

**Contact:** Connie Valle at [vallefamly at cox.net](mailto:vallefamly@cox.net).

Please let us know if you have any questions.

~~ Connie Valle (703) 434-0181;  
([vallefamly at cox.net](mailto:vallefamly@cox.net))  
Jane Hsu (703) 748-0689;  
([dogstar3 at msn.com](mailto:dogstar3@msn.com))  
PTSA Class of 2011 Representatives

### *2012 - Juniors*

Mark your calendar, the Class of 2012 will be taking a trip to Six Flags on Saturday, May 14. All members of the classes of 2012 and 2013 are invited. The trip is optional and will cost about \$50 per student. The cost includes admission to the park, lunch, a t-shirt, and transportation to and from TJ. Buses will leave TJ in the morning and return in the evening (exact time to be announced later). This is a great opportunity for the students to decompress after AP exams!!! Some parent chaperones are needed so please e-mail us at [TJClassof2012 at cox.net](mailto:TJClassof2012@cox.net) if you can chaperone.

Our next class event will be the Junior Camp Out, from the evening of June 20 to the morning of the last day of school, June 21. We will need a lot of parent volunteers for this event.

**Help Needed for ANGP:** About 90% of this year's All Night Grad party (ANGP) chairs will not have students at TJ next year. Therefore, it's more important than ever for this year's Junior parents to get involved in the ANGP. There will be ANGP committee meetings at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12 in the Career Center and Tuesday, May 17 in the library. The meetings are open to all; please stop by and see what the ANGP is all about!

Junior parents also are needed to volunteer for Wrap Up at 6 a.m. on Sunday, June 19. That way you will know where everything is stored for your ANGP the following year. You can sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

Parents are needed to shadow the following ANGP committee chairs: Security, Logistics, Casino

Decorations, Decorations, Wrap Up and more. Please consider "shadowing" one of the ANGP committee chairs so that you are ready for senior year; you can get in touch with us at: [tjangp2011volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp2011volunteers@gmail.com).

~~ Ann Nguyen ([ann.h1.nguyen at cox.net](mailto:ann.h1.nguyen@cox.net))  
Janet Tasker ([jtasker at cox.net](mailto:jtasker@cox.net))  
PTSA Class of 2012 Representatives

### *2013 – Sophomores*

At press time, the Inaugural TJ PiMiler is about to take place! After months of planning and preparation, we have more than 100 participants signed up to run, walk or stroll around our clever "Pi"-measured course of 3.14159 miles. The day promises to be filled with exercise, fun, entertainment and of course, PIES! We will provide a full report on the event in the May issue of *Techcetera*. However, we would like to thank our wonderful class sponsors **Mrs. Lewis, Ms. Campane** and **Mr. Lewis** who provided support and encouragement. Special thanks also to a very dedicated group of parents who worked tirelessly over the last several months to make the event a success. Finally, a "shout out" to DC Road Runners and Brian Danza who provided both guidance and expertise in preparing for and running the race.

Spring break is also upon us and we hope that you and your children will take some time away from studies and work to enjoy the amazing transformations that Mother Nature undertakes at this beautiful time of year. Cherry blossoms, new green grass, tulips, daffodils and longer and warmer days remind us that summer time is not that far off! Only one more quarter of sophomore year remains and our students will have reached the half-way point of their high school careers. It is hard to believe how fast it goes!

The All Night Grad Party (ANGP) is in desperate need of non-Senior parents to help while senior parents are attending graduation with their students. Please help by signing up for the Saturday June 18, 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. shift. Sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

~~Yun Pang ([yunjungp0201 at gmail.com](mailto:yunjungp0201@gmail.com))  
Pam Cooper ([cooperlaw at verizon.net](mailto:cooperlaw@verizon.net))  
PTSA Class of 2013 Representatives

## 2014 – Freshmen

More Lock-in Details!

Thanks for marking your calendars for the Lock-In on May 13. We now have shift times and are ready to start signing up volunteers! The packet of information from the Class Council is in the works; if you haven't already received it, it should be sent home soon.

Lock-In is an all-night event, exclusively for the Freshman Class, from 7:00 p.m. on May 13 to 7:00 a.m. on May 14. It is one of the highlights of the Freshman year, as well as a main fundraiser. There will be activities throughout the school – video game tournaments, dance parties, sports, movies, moon bounces and food – each one needing parent volunteers to supervise. We will need volunteers for the following shifts:

- Shift A: Friday, May 13, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Shift B: Friday, May 13, 9:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.
- Shift C: Saturday, May 14, 12:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m.
- Shift D: Saturday, May 14, 3:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m.

If you are able to volunteer, please sign up for one shift, and list two alternate times. We will need at least 20 volunteers for each shift, with more for shifts A & D.

The All Night Grad Party (ANGP) is in desperate need of non-Senior parents to cover for senior parents while they are attending graduation with their students. Please sign up for the Saturday, June 18, 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. shift at <http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions.

~~Amy Shaw ([wyoamy at gmail.com](mailto:wyoamy@gmail.com))  
Anita Rezazad ([arezazad at orchidtech.net](mailto:arezazad@orchidtech.net))  
Vicki Ruitter ([theruiters at verizon.net](mailto:theruiters@verizon.net))  
PTSA Class of 2014 Representatives

## News Round-up and Awards

### TJ Faculty & Parent Choir

The *TJ Faculty & Parent Choir* had its inaugural performance on St Patrick's Day, performing seasonal choral pieces including *Long Time Ago*, *Now I See Thy Looks Were Feigned*, and the hand clapping *Mairi's Wedding*. If you missed your opportunity to join in the fun, watch the Choral Boosters website for the next opportunity to perform.



Choral Director **Molly Khatcheressian** and the TJ Faculty & Parent Choir.

### Jewish Culture Club Rocks the Kitchen!

On March 16, the Jewish Culture Club (JCC) made hamentaschen, the traditional three cornered cookie in celebration of Purim. The kitchen bustled with close to thirty teens, including a number of our wonderful Japanese exchange students, happily rolling dough, spooning pastry filling, and pinching cookies into triangles. Thanks to **Ms. Spencer** and **Mr. Connelly** for overseeing this delicious occasion!



Students celebrate Purim by making hamentaschen.

## TJ Students Earn Awards at 2011 Fairfax Regional Science and Engineering Fair

For winning individual Grand Prizes, congratulations to: **Venkat Iyer** for *Crystallization of a Novel Malarial Protein Celts*; and **Shreyas Mahapatra** for *Efficacy of Valproic Acid as a GSK-3B Inhibitor*. For winning team Grand Prize, congratulations to **Rithvik Prasannappa** and **Sameer Singh** for *Using Nanoparticles to Diagnose Tularemia*. Congratulations to **Caelan R. Garrett**, and **Divya Madhusudhan** who were awarded as the Grand Prize Alternates. The Grand Prize winners will compete at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in May.

TJ had 18 projects in 14 categories that won the Category First Place. These winners will compete at the VA State Science and Engineering Fair to be held on April 2. Congratulations to:

*Animal Sciences:* **Andrea S. Li**; Team: **Yash Bhatnagar** and **Suhas Gondi**  
*Behavioral and Social Sciences:* Team: **Michael V. Nguyen** and **Kevin C. Zhou**  
*Biochemistry:* **Venkat A. Iyer**  
*Cellular and Molecular Biology:* **Choong-Seoup Youn**  
*Chemistry:* **JeeIn Seo**; Team: **Sang Min Han** and **Jin Kyung Kim**  
*Computer Science:* **Caelan R. Garrett**; Team: **Craig M. Saperstein** and **Michael Y. Wu**  
*Engineering: Materials & Bioengineering:* Team: **Vidya Ganesh** and **Rafa Rahman**; Team: **Rithvik R. Prasannappa** and **Sameer K. Singh**  
*Engineering: Electrical & Mechanical:* **Victor Youk**  
*Energy and Transportation:* **Kevin Sun**  
*Environmental Analysis:* **Darwin H. Li**  
*Environmental Management:* **Jun Hong Kim**  
*Mathematical Sciences:* **Archis R. Bhandarkar**  
*Medicine and Health Sciences:* **Divya Madhusudhan**; **Shreyas Mahapatra**  
*Physics and Astronomy:* **Pranava K. Raparla**

Complete results from the 2011 Regional Science and Engineering Fair can be found at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/sciengfair/2011web.html>.

## Scholastic Writing Awards Competition

**Rachel Kim** (2011) has been named winner of a Silver Medal in the 2011 Scholastic Writing Awards competition. Kim's work, "Motherhater," won acclaim in the poetry category. The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, an 88-year old program of the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, will honor the winners at a special ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City on Tuesday, May 31.

## Team Tiki at the FIRST PA State Robotics Championship

On February 19, Team Tiki (**Leah Gonzalez** (2011); **Jenny Tobat** (2011); **Gene Gonzalez** (2013); **Varun Kripanandan** (2013); and Sarafina Gonzalez (7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Longfellow MS) competed in Erie, PA in the FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) Pennsylvania Qualifier tournament. Teams compete in a "two robots on two" format that includes both an autonomous mode, where the functions/navigation of the robot are controlled by their computer program, and a tele-op mode where two student drivers control the robot. Team Tiki won both the robotic competition and the prestigious Inspire award. This granted Team Tiki an invitation to the PA State Championship, which was held March 5 in Weatherly, PA. Team Tiki again performed well. They were awarded the top honor of the "Inspire" award. While their robot design was among the best, Team Tiki truly shined in their ability to effectively communicate the math, science, and engineering of their robot while promoting a gracious spirit of professionalism representative of FIRST in assisting their competitors.

Team Tiki is now preparing to compete at the FIRST FTC World Robotics Championship in St. Louis, MO from April 24 - May 1. The top 100 teams from around the world will be attending. Team Tiki is no stranger to this event as they competed at the 2010 World Championship and won the second place alliance.

## Conrad Foundation Spirit of Innovation Awards

Congratulations to three TJ teams advancing as finalists in the Conrad Foundation (in honor of astronaut Pete Conrad) Spirit of Innovation awards program! Sophomores **Min Cheol Kim** and

**George Wang** (Team BEHD) and Juniors **Meredith Burkle, Sam Girvin, Daniel Jang,** and **Usnish Majumdar** (Team CIRPSICSR) are competing in the Green Energy category. Brother and sister Team Lambda 2.4, **Kevin Sun** and **Carrie Sun** (senior and sophomore, respectively) are competing in the Cyber Security category. Each finalist team received a \$2000 grant to travel to NASA Ames Research Center in California for the April 28-May 1 Innovation Summit, where they will vie for the final awards. **View each team's video to learn more about the projects, and vote for your favorite during the online voting period, April 13 - 27, 2011, People's Choice Award competition.**

For more about the competition, go to:  
<http://conradawards.org/competition>.

For the TJ finalists' videos, go to:  
<http://conradawards.org/teams/45-behd/videos>;  
<http://conradawards.org/teams/27-cirpsicr/videos>;  
<http://conradawards.org/teams/127-lambda-2-4/videos>.

### Camp Rising Sun

Four freshman students from TJHSST have been accepted to a Leadership program, Camp Rising Sun (CRS) for the summer of 2011, which is a fully funded Scholarship by the Louis August Jonas Foundation, Inc. Applicants from more than 30 countries applied and 120 teenagers were selected to attend a seven week Leadership camp in New York during the summer of 2011. Congratulations to the following students: **Nithin Bala, Nita Takanti, Virginia Wordsworth** and **Zartosht Ahlers**.

For more information about the program, please visit [www.lajf.org](http://www.lajf.org) or speak with the school counselor.

### Two TJ Students Presented at The Keys to Leadership Conference at American University in March

**Mia Jimenez** (2012) and **Janie Willner** (2011) were panelists for a discussion on inclusion at The Keys To Leadership conference at American University on March 12. Both girls presented their Gold Award projects and shared their experiences

on leadership to girls in middle school and high school. Mia's project, entitled "Sow To Grow," involves teaching kids how to plant their own organic garden in order to live a healthy life. One of the community organizations that will be benefiting from this project is the Phillips Programs on Braddock Road. Janie presented on having studied American Sign Language in night classes and at Gallaudet University (the university for the deaf in D.C.) For her Gold Award project, she hosted a workshop to educate the youth in her community about ASL, the needs/concerns of the deaf community, technology used by people who are deaf, and careers involving ASL and deafness.

The objective of the conference is to help girls recognize their own abilities and to become advocates for inclusion in their schools and in their communities. This is an annual event and is sponsored by the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation and the Girl Scout Council of the Nations Capital. For more information, visit [www.gscnc.org](http://www.gscnc.org).



**Mia Jimenez and Janie Willner** at The Keys to Leadership Conference.

### U.S. Department of Education Presidential Scholar's Program

Several students were inadvertently omitted from the article regarding invitees in the U.S. Department of Education's Presidential Scholar's selection process (page 9 in the March Tech cetera). The correct list of names is: **Meghan Anand, Thalia Aoki, So-Hyun Baik, Jacob Baldwin, Kevin Boehm, Zach Brunt, Connor Cheong, Stephanie Colen, William Dalton, Kevin Dodd, Manna Fujiu, Divya Garg, Alisha Geldert, Akaash Gupta, Kelly Ivins-O'Keefe, Clint Johnson, Stefani Karp, Bianca Kim, Anna Knight, Karthik Krishnan, Monica Liu, Alexa Lowman, Vivian Lu, Kathryn McAtamney, Olivia Murton, Jeremy Owen, Eugenie Quan, John Sununu** and **Jeremy Weller**.

## TJHSST Partnership Fund

**PF Math: There are many variables that go into the TJ funding calculation. Be a constant in our equation. Give every year.**

**JUNIOR LAB APPEAL IS IN MOTION:** Thirty-four Lab Captains have contacted 433 junior parents to tell each of them what the Junior Lab Appeal means for their kid's lab. Though only just getting started, the JLA has already raised \$18,000 toward its goal of approximately \$52,000. Come on parent class of 2012, let's outdo the class of 2011!

**FRESHMAN & SOPHOMORE PARENT-TO-PARENT PHONATHON RINGS IN SPRING WITH NEW DONORS:** On Sunday, March 6, Partnership Fund volunteers called freshman and sophomore parents who had not made a contribution this school year to tell them how important it is to support the PF. We could not have done it without these hard-working callers: Jennifer Fan, Yuzhen Ge, Cindy Hann, Hyun Hee Hong, Hilde Kahn, Mark Kodama, Alan Krishnan, Jae Kyung Lee, Ellen Malka, Kyounghee Milawi, Yori Okuda, Yun Pang, Helen Park, Jeong Park, Linghua Peng, Meg Pickering, Daniel Wang and Min Yan.

Of course, results are what really motivate our volunteers. To date, we have received \$7,000 in Phonathon donations, and they're still coming in. Thank you parent classes of 2013 & 2014!

**ENTIRE TJ COMMUNITY SUPPORTS YEAR-END APPEAL:** Our final Year-End Appeal total of over \$127,000 includes these amazing statistics:

- There were 38 gifts of \$1000 or more;
- The average gift from current parents was \$450;
- There were 67 gifts from "alumni parents," parents with no students now enrolled.

All Back-to-School and Year-End donors appear on our mid-year Donor List, which is posted on the PF bulletin board in the main entrance. Is your name on the list?

**DOUBLE YOUR GIFT THE EASY WAY:** Thank you to those of you who remembered to seek matching gifts from your employers. To date, we have received over \$12,000 in corporate matching

gifts. If you need help with your employer's paperwork, just contact the PF Office.

### **RECENT PURCHASES YOU MADE**

**POSSIBLE:** In February, over \$42,000 in donations to the PF's Science & Technology Fund and individual lab funds were used to purchase several pieces of equipment, including:

- \*An environmental growth chamber for the Biotechnology Lab, which ensures constant conditions for plant, yeast, algae, bacteria and animal studies;
- \*A precision multi-mode interferometer for the Optics & Modern Physics Lab, which is used in precision experiments of resonance and interference effects;
- \*10 multimeters for the Microelectronics Lab, to replace 20-year-old multimeters; and,
- \*An extreme operating environments camera for the Oceanography Lab, for documenting studies that take place under harsh conditions.



**Karishma Popli, TJ '12** demonstrates how to use a micropipette and smile at the same time.

**OFFICE ASSISTANCE NEEDED:** If you and a friend or two can help out with some occasional clerical work, the PF would really appreciate it.

**CONTACT:** For all Partnership Fund information, including more information about when and how you can help out, please call Ellen Smith, PF Office Manager & Development Associate at 703-750-8317 or email [Ellen.smith@tjhsst.edu](mailto:Ellen.smith@tjhsst.edu).

**Thank you for helping to MAKE TJ EVEN BETTER!**

## TJHSST Boosters

### Academic Boosters



The Academic Boosters were pleased to welcome our guest speaker, **Mr. Shawn DeRose**, director of TJ Student Activities, to our March meeting. Mr. DeRose discussed the rules that govern academic teams and teacher sponsors. We agreed to continue to work together in search of innovative concepts to address the requirement. The next Academic Boosters meeting will be on April 26, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 106. All are welcome to join us.

**Certamen (Latin):** On March 12, TJ sent 5 teams to the Woodson Certamen, hosted at Frost Middle School. Woodson has not held a Certamen for several years, but revived it this year. All of the TJ teams earned top rankings in their respective levels!

The Level 1 team played in the 1 Advanced level, and still won a resounding first place victory! The team consisted of **Hannah Pho, Jay Devanathan, John Wilkes** and **Emma Hastings**. The Level 2 A team earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The team consisted of **Molly Hemenway, Hyae-In Seo, Sienna Lotenberg** and **Katie Hough**. Our second level two team, the B team, earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place: **Tommy Lunn, Bruce Bland** and **Anwar Omeish**. The Level 3 team earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place in well-played matches. The team consisted of **Morgan Cheatham, Kevin Zeng, Patrick Maribojoc** and **Lucia Lee**. The Upper Level team earned 4<sup>th</sup> place. The team consisted of **Zach Seid, Akhila Ananthram, Luke Gessler** and **Philip Meyers**.

**Chemistry Olympiad:** Congratulations to: **James Bradbury, Kalki Seksaria, Sam Sohn, Zhereng Zhang, Alex Yang, Hope Flaxman, Victor Shao, Stefani Karp, Min Cheol Kim, Adam Hood, Chris Seok** and **Raynor Kuang**, our top 12 semi-finalists for the Local Chemistry Olympiad. These students took the Local exam on March 19 to compete for two seats at the national exam in April.

**Chess:** A strong TJ team competed in both blitz chess and the main event at the Virginia State

Scholastic Chess Championships in Yorktown, Virginia, during March 18-20 and came home with the big prizes.

On Friday night, the Blitz team defended its title and took home first place. The team roster (including individual place finishes) consisted of **Quentin Moore** (9/10, tied for first), **Aravind Ponukumati** and **Craig Saperstein** (8/10, tied for third), and also strong finishes by **Arman Khojandi, Kiffa Conroy, Parth Chopra, Kartik Gupta** and **Daniel Li**.

TJ continued its long-standing tradition by comfortably defending its title in the main event by scoring 19.5/25, well ahead of the second place team score of 14/25. Several TJ players earned trophies by placing in the top 15, including **Yang Dai, Aravind Ponukumati** and **Craig Saperstein** (5/6, tied for second), and **Adam Hood, Arman Khojandi, Kun Liu, Quentin Moore, Katherine Wu** and **Ashley Xue** (4.5/6, all tied for sixth). Close behind were **Parth Chopra, Hari Devanathan, Jayanth Devanathan, Daniel Fontenot, Vivek Gorijala, Kartik Gupta, Daniel Li, Jeremy Loffredo, Ronit Malka, Stephanie Marzen, Rahul Ramraj** and **Roshan Sajjad**. Yang Dai was also honored by winning the top female finisher, allowing her to compete in the US Girls Junior Open.



Members of the 2011 TJ Chess Team at the Virginia State Scholastic Chess Championships.

**Computer Teams:** The three TJ Computer Teams placed one, two, and three at the 23 team, 8th Annual VCU High School Programming Contest on March 11, 2011. The Intermediate Computer Team of **Alec Grieser, Albert Gural, Kun Liu** and **William Qian**, solved 9 problems and was first.

The Frosh 'Puter Team of **Ryan Jian, Abraham Kang, Thai Co Nguyen** and **Victoria Xia**, solved 8 problems and were second. The Senior Computer Team of **Saketh Are, Andrew Cheong, Daniel D. Kang** and **Sin Kim**, solved 8 problems and placed third.

**Forensics:** Correction: Last month's Forensics piece (page 12 of the March Tech cetera) should have read "Congratulations to our Forensics team. On February 2, the TJ forensics team placed second in Districts. **Nita Takanti** and **Nidhi Gandhi** were 1st in Dramatic Duo; **Rachel Kim** was 2nd in Poetry; **Kyle Angelotti** was 1st in Extemp.; **Leif Bakke** was 1st in Original Oratory; and **Emily Ji** was 2nd in Original Oratory."

**Lincoln Douglas Debate:** At the February tournament, the Lincoln-Douglas team qualified new competitors for Metro Finals. In Varsity, the teams of **Peter Ahnn** and **Sam Luo; Akshay Deverakonda** and **Sulan Zheng; David Gao** and **Akshay Murthy; Johnny Kim** and **Max Wang; John Chae** and **George Liang;** and **Chris Lee** and **Isabella Liu** qualified. In JV, the teams of **Neil Jassal** and **Kun Liu; Yana Kaplun** and **Jamie S. Kim; Rishi Khanna** and **Nicolas Kim;** and **Avinash Ramesh** and **Richard Wang** qualified for various tournaments.

At the VHSL Liberty District tournament, TJ grabbed the Sweepstakes award, with **Akaash Gupta** and **Ashneil Jain** winning first and second places, respectively. **Tushar Kamath** was the top-seeded LD debater coming out of the preliminary rounds. He ended up debating with Akaash in the elims!

At the regional NCFL tournament, the Varsity Lincoln-Douglas debaters were very successful. Of the six Northern Virginia LD debaters who will go on to compete at the NCFL Grand Nationals tournament, five are from TJ: **Akaash Gupta** (1st place), **Ashneil Jain** (2nd place), **Kevin Boehm** (3rd place), **Natasha Torrens** (5th place), and **Omeed Maghzian** (6th place). In JV Lincoln-Douglas, **Aditya Chaudhry** made it to the semifinal round and placed seventh overall.

On March 19, at the VHSL Northern Region tournament, TJ qualified two Lincoln-Douglas

debaters for states: **Akaash Gupta** and **Ashneil Jain**. **Akaash** placed second and **Ashee** placed fourth

**Policy Debate:** At the VHSL Liberty District competition, the Policy Debate team of **Peter Ahn** and **Samuel Luo** took first and the team of **Nick Kim** and **Rishi Khanna** took second place.

At the regional NCFL tournament, the varsity team of **Chris Lee** and **Isabella Liu** won a slot at Nationals and the JV team of **Rishi Khanna** and **Nick Kim** placed third. At the VHSL Northern Region tournament in March, the policy team of **Rishi Khanna** and **Nick Kim** took first place and also qualified for the VHSL state tournament, which will take place in April.

**Public Forum Debate:** On March 4 and 5, TJ Public Forum teams competed at the WACFL regional tournament, the Metro Finals. The varsity team of **Darwin Li** and **Eashan Kaw** qualified for Nationals. The JV team of **Saloni Chaswal** and **Kevin Cao** made it to the final round and placed second. The JV team of **Zartosht Ahlers** and **Varun Jain** made it to the semifinal round and placed third. The JV team of **Keven Zhang** and **Lauren Huang** made it to quarterfinals and placed fifth. (JV teams don't go on to Nationals.)

Congratulations to all participants!

### *Band Boosters*

The Thomas Jefferson Bands recently participated in the VBODA State Assessment at Centreville HS. Each group prepares 3 pieces for their stage performance, and then also must sight read a piece they have never seen before. They only have 7 minutes to look over the sight reading before they must perform. The Symphonic Band received an overall rating of Excellent (with a Superior in sight reading). The Symphonic Wind Ensemble achieved a Superior rating from all 4 judges (including sight reading) performing the top difficulty of music. In addition they received straight A's from each of the prepared judges in all captions!

Come out and hear our Spring Concert on May 25!

Please visit the Announcements page on the <http://tjbands.org/> website for information about upcoming events.

**Colonial Athletic Boosters (CAB)**  
[www.colonialathletics.org](http://www.colonialathletics.org)

The spring season is in full swing and our teams are enjoying the warm, if somewhat soggy, weather! Please go out and support your team!

**\*SPRING MEMBERSHIP CONTEST UPDATE\***

The first team to reach 90% membership earns \$500 for the coach to spend on the team! We have a few leaders right now, but all are in the running. Join now and get that prize for your team!! The top teams as of 3/22 are:

*Varsity Baseball – 79%*  
*JV Baseball and Varsity Softball – tied at 71%*  
*Varsity Girls Soccer – 62%*  
*Both Girls and Boys Varsity Lacrosse are tied at 50%*

CAB would like to thank our supporters for making the following two new purchases possible. We can't do all we do for the TJ athletic program without the generous contributions of our members!

~ New Windscreen Banners at the Stadium: Our stadium is now adorned with bright, welcoming new banners – one on the back of each set of bleachers.

~ New Freezer: We've purchased a brand new freezer for the outdoor concession stand! Those who have worked as volunteers there will appreciate a door that actually stays closed without strapping it in!

**New Wish List Item:** CAB plans to launch a major capital campaign to raise funds to install indoor bathrooms at the stadium. Unfortunately, such a luxury is NOT included in the school renovation plan, so we are determined to make it happen on our own! There are other groups within the TJ community that may join us in this effort. *Please watch for more information, or contact us if you want to get involved.*

**Millenium Courtyard Bricks!** Please fill out your order form ASAP. Forms can be found on the CAB website or in the rack in front of the DSA office.

You must place your order by the end of March for installation this May.

**Scholarships!** ATTENTION SENIORS - CAB awards four \$1,000 scholarships each spring (two girls and two boys). The revised application form is now available on the CAB website and the deadline for submission of applications is May 24.

**FundsOn - New Fund-Raising Program:** Click on the "**FundsOn**" tab on the website home page of the website to take advantage of great offers. CAB gets a percentage of each purchase.

Please note the following important CAB spring events:

April CAB Meeting..... Mon, April 11, 7:00pm (\*Note date change)  
May CAB Meeting..... Wed, May 11, 7:00pm  
Spring Sports Banquet..... Mon, June 6, 6:00pm  
Scholarship Applications Due **Tue, May 24**  
Sports Physicals..... Wed, June 8, 7:00pm

Finally, a big thanks to Namaste, who have graciously donated the proceeds of International Night to our athletic department to cover the cost of painting the eight outbuildings surrounding our athletic fields. The \$4,000 contribution will take care of the entire bill. THANK YOU!!!

**SPORTS PHYSICALS-SAVE THE DATE!!**

Get out your planners and book your appointment now for Wednesday, June 8, to get your student's annual sports physical at TJ. The Colonial Athletic Boosters and the Athletic Trainers are coordinating this popular at-school event to ensure that our athletes are ready for the 2011-2012 season.

Medical professionals will perform the comprehensive physicals. The screening will check height, weight, body fat, vision, posture, vital signs, and upper and lower body assessments. Everyone will see the medical professional for clearance. Every athlete needs a new physical EVERY SCHOOL YEAR, so save a trip to the doctor's office and come out and support TJ Athletics. Call (703) 750-8387 with any questions.

**Volunteers Needed for Physicals!**

We need medical and non-medical parents to help make the sports physicals a successful event! If you

are a TJ parent and a physician (MD or DO), physician's assistant (PA), physical therapist (PT) or nurse practitioner (NP), please consider helping out with physicals on June 8. We also need non-medical parents who want to help with working a station or check-in/out desk. Last year this fundraiser provided over \$10,000 in support of our various sports programs. Your expertise and a few hours of your time will greatly benefit our TJ athletes! **Free advertising for medical professionals that help!** If you are willing to volunteer, please email Heather Murphy at [heather.murphy at fcps.edu](mailto:heather.murphy@fcps.edu).

*And now for the team news...*

**Varsity Baseball:** Colonial Nine Score First Win!! The team kicked off the 2011 spring season by scoring their most runs in a game in years, defeating Lee High School 19-9. After falling behind 4-0 after the first four batters, the Colonials struck back by sending 15 batters to the plate and scoring 10 runs in the 3rd inning to go up 10-4. After Lee scored 5 in the top of the fourth, the Colonials once again found their hitting sticks, sending another 15 batters to the plate and pushing 9 runs across in the bottom of the inning. They closed out the game in the 5th inning. Led by senior **Pat Still**, (3 hits, home run and 7 RBIs) and sophomore **Michael Chan** (2 hits, home run, pitching save), nine players contributed hits and three others reached base. **Robbie Clark** celebrated his birthday with 3 hits and **Thomas Woodruff** and **Jason Schwartz** contributed two each. **Jack Brown** started on the mound for TJ and picked up the win as Chan entered the game with the bases loaded and struck out two batters to end a Lee rally.

**Boys Varsity Lacrosse:** The team welcomed their new coaches with victories in both pre-season scrimmages. Head Coach and Offensive Coordinator, **Nick Worek**, who played at VMI and coached for 4 years at Chantilly, has poured countless hours into preparing the team and has invested in much-needed new equipment and uniforms. He is ably supported by Assistant Coach and Defensive Coordinator, **Michael Britt**, a high school All-American who went on to play for 4 years on UVA's National Championship team. The team includes 11 seniors, 8 juniors, 4 sophomores

and 1 freshman. Captains are seniors **Sungwon Byun** and **Jake Brooks**. The regular season began with an 11-7 win at home against tough district rival McLean! Other home games are April 8 (Langley), April 14 (Marshall), and April 26 (Stone Bridge), which is Senior Night.



Junior **Tom Hillenbrand** eludes a McLean defender in the home varsity opener, which TJ won 11-7.

**Boys JV Lacrosse:** The team had a strong start in their preseason as they opened with a tie in the scrimmage against Mt Vernon, then defeated McLean 11-7 in the season opener. The team is privileged to have two well-known faces leading the program. The head JV coach is **Tom Hay**, a TJ grad and 4-year lacrosse player who went on to play for 4 years at MIT. And Coach **Jim Condon**, longtime coach and parent of two TJ grads who played on the lacrosse team, returns to contribute from his many years of lacrosse expertise. The JV squad includes 6 juniors, 13 sophomores and 9 freshmen, who are all excited to play the "fastest game on two feet."

The lacrosse program is off to a fantastic start this spring. The coaches and all of the players have committed to being "ALL IN" this season and so far the guys have been just that, as the Colonials have started strong. You won't want to miss the team when they take the field - the lacrosse will be fast, fierce and far more exciting than you can imagine! GO Colonials!!

*(photo on next page)*



Face-off in the scrimmage against Mt Vernon.

**Girls Varsity Lacrosse:** The team, under Coach **Lindsey Linden**, faced challenges early on in the season. The rain made the fields too wet to play on, so the girls (JV and varsity) started the season with early morning practices. Although it was difficult to wake up earlier than normal, this helped the girls bond as a team. The team traveled to Centreville and Herndon for their first scrimmages. Play improved from the first to the second scrimmages as the team started to find their groove. At the first official game against Washington-Lee, Thomas Jefferson was down but fought back with 3 unanswered goals in the first minutes of the second half. Captains **Katy Burgio**, **Marta Moore** and **Caroline Woods** look forward to helping fellow team members **Allison Chou**, **Hunter Clark**, **Karen Clark**, **Jackie Duong**, **Kleo Greenwood**, **Molly Hemenway**, **Connie Huang**, **Lydia Hylton**, **Candice Kaplan**, **Katie Morley**, **Rachel Nissen**, **Sonica Saraf**, **Molly Shannon**, **Allison Smedberg** and **Toni Stapleton** this season.

**Girls JV Lacrosse:** The team is off to a great start this season! Many new players came out to tryouts, joining returning players and Coach **Vivian Tan**. Although rain forced all teams inside for the first weeks of tryouts and practice, the girls pushed through and faced Centreville and Herndon in their first scrimmages. The team beat Herndon 9-6. The players then continued to their first official game at Washington-Lee, where they tied the Generals 8-8. The players, **Pritty Dwivedy**, **Emma Gee**, **Betsy Goodwin**, **Tara Gupta**, **Jung Huh**, **Ellen Kim**, **Tessa Muss**, **Lilly Nowlakha**, **Madison Phillips**, **Sarah Sam**, **Priya Seetharaman**, **Sarah Shan**, **Florencia Son**, **Quinnlan Sweeney**, **Christine Xu** and **Ashley Xue**, look forward to the rest of the

season under the leadership of captains **Katie Ho**, **Brittany Peck** and **Sharon Zhao** and Coach Tan.

**Boys Varsity Soccer:** The team opened its season on March 19 with a scoreless tie against Washington-Lee on a balmy, moonlit evening. The team's best chances came in the second half on a crossing shot by sophomore **Andrew Freix** and a breakaway run by senior co-captain **Chinmay Patwardhan**. Junior **Andrew O'Shea** challenged to score from up front and in midfield, and senior **Jonathan Spitz** provided holding skills and a strong aerial presence all over the field. The defense held despite a late flurry from W-L, anchored by senior co-captain **AJ Swoboda** and senior **Nick Babyak**. Goalkeepers **Salil Gupta** (senior) and **Alex Park** (junior) stopped every W-L chance, including several sliding interceptions high in the penalty area. Strong tackling from **Eric Kim**, **Samy Singh** and **Nick Johnson** limited W-L wing play. Senior co-captain **Brendan Corbett** and junior **Victor Weiss** fought a tough battle all night against a talented W-L midfield. Taking advantage of the non-District match, Coach **Sean Burke** gave several more players significant minutes, including **Ian Ladner**, **Dan Park**, **Michael Serron**, **Eric Li**, **Joseph Yoon** and **Ji Hun Kim**. The team's next three opponents are Stone Bridge, Yorktown and McLean.

**Girls Varsity Soccer:** In keeping with their motto, "Go Hard or Go Home," the team has been training hard in preparation for the upcoming season. Their commitment has been evident in early morning practices and intense workouts. A preseason scrimmage against Wakefield on March 4 resulted in a 9-0 win. On March 9, the girls lost 1-0 in a scrimmage at Herndon.

This is Coach **Luis Gendive**'s fourth season with TJ and he has high hopes for the team this year. Familiar and well-loved TJ alumna, **Kayley Sullivan**, will be working with the offense two days a week. With numerous soccer honors throughout her career, Kayley played four years of varsity soccer at TJ and currently plays for George Washington University.

This year's roster includes freshmen **Alyssa Bruce** (for), **Miranda Callahan** (mid) and **Mary Forburger** (for); sophomores **Laura Brouckman** (for), **Lucy Bullen** (mid), **Katie Lang** (gk) and

**Ceci Vollbrecht** (gk); juniors **Jackie Dallaire** (for), **Emily Gale** (mid), **Anastasia Georgiou** (mid), **Allie Ivener** (mid), **Adrienne Ivey** (for), **Sarah Nielsen** (mid), **Ashley Paek** (def), **Ashley Park** (mid) and **Sarah Rachal** (def); and seniors **Natalie Cauley** (def), **Erin Corey** (for), **Brianna Kim** (mid), **Maren Leibowitz** (def) and **Christina Popp** (def). Senior captains are **Christina Popp** and **Brianna Kim**, and **Allie Ivener** is the junior captain. Good luck ladies! LET'S GO TJ!!

**Girls JV Soccer:** The team, under Coach **Othmane Benkhallouk**, is off to a great start. Many new players came out to tryouts, joining returning players. Although the rain forced the team inside for practice, it pushed the girls to come together and get through the obstacles. The girls faced Wakefield and Herndon for their first scrimmages. The team beat Wakefield 2-0, and then went on to beat Herndon 2-0. At the first official game against Washington-Lee, Thomas Jefferson was down, but fought back quickly with a goal. The players, **Iman Abdikarim**, **Annie Burch**, **Carolyn Carrithers**, **Gloria Cho**, **Christine Galloway**, **Shayna Hume**, **Namita Kansal**, **Rena Mazur**, **Krista McGuigan**, **Lauren Mostrom**, **Carrie Murton**, **Arusha Reghu**, **Meena Rezazad**, **Isabel Roscoe**, **Tabitha Timm**, **An Ton** and **Elizabeth Woods**, look forward to the rest of the season under the leadership of captains **Julia Arthur**, **Sam Hoegle**, and **Katie Valery**, and Coach Othmane.

**Varsity Softball:** The TJ varsity softball season is off to a roaring start, after two scrimmages and a victory in the first regular-season game. Leadership comes from the team captains, seniors **Barbara Lantz** and **Allie Brouckman** and junior **Helen Hastings**. The infield has looked rock-solid, with Barbara at third base, Allie at first, sophomore **Charlotte Sheridan** or freshman **Jacqueline Szilagyi** at short, and sophomore **Maggie Engler** at second. The Colonials are blessed with two fine catchers in sophomore **Rachel Dymont** and freshman **Clara Pitts**. The pitching is well handled by Helen and Charlotte. Ably patrolling the outfield are junior **Vicky Kelley**, sophomores **Crystal Calderon**, **Julia Anderson**, **Marilyn Arwood**, and **Stephanie Levin**, and freshman **Ellen Mule**.

In one pre-season scrimmage, the Lady Colonials crushed Stuart, 19-0. Charlotte pitched superbly,

holding Stuart hitless in six innings while walking only three. Meanwhile, the TJ bats were booming. Charlotte, Barbara, and Helen each clobbered three hits, while Clara had two hits and three walks. Julia had two hits and two walks while driving in three runs, while Ellen worked three walks.

TJ then triumphed in its first regular-season game, defeating T.C. Williams, 8-2. Helen pitched strongly, striking out ten while limiting the Titans to four hits and no walks over seven innings. Barbara, Helen, and Charlotte led the attack with two hits each, while Jacqueline crushed a triple to the fence to drive in one run, Clara smashed a double over the centerfielder's head to score two more, Crystal lashed a single to drive in another, and Allie also had a single.

The Lady Colonials seem primed for another fine season.



The 2011 Varsity Softball team, with Head Coach **Brian Fleury** and Assistant Coach **Ray Fleury**.

**JV Softball:** After a tough scrimmage against Chantilly on March 8, the team has been hard at work honing their skills for the season. A number of players are new to the sport, and are eager to show off their progress. Come out and see the team play! The season opened on March 22 with a game against Stone Bridge, which was quickly followed by their first home game against Langley on March 25. For a complete schedule of games, see <http://www.colonialathletics.org/index.cfm?action=main.teamschedule&id=18225>.

Who are these tenacious JV players, you ask? **Abby Biow**, **Jessica Choi**, **Ji Whae Choi**, **Megan Ganley**, **Amelia Griese**, **Katie Hough**, **Saehee**

**Jung, Ji Young Kang, Woo-Ju Kim, Terra Lee, Megan Man, Seema Mir, Vicky Moon and Lauren Revere.** Go Colonials!

**Boys Tennis:** The team began its season with a 9-0 win over visiting Stone Bridge. The team captains for 2011 are sophomore **Ian Lin**, junior **Ben Rosenblum**, and seniors **Bill Qu** and **Kyle Roney**. The team has had a strong influx of freshmen this year to fill in for the graduation of last year's six seniors. The top two new freshmen this year are **Stephen Hu** and **Jason Huang**, both of whom won their matches yesterday.

The season is now in full swing with matches the week of March 21 against McLean and Marshall. The team is trying to win its 11th District title and 3rd straight Regional championship, and position itself for another run at States.

**Track and Field:** Special thanks to Coaches **James, Grimsley** and **Withington** for a phenomenal Winter Track season! The team sent 9 team members to the Virginia **State AAA Championship** in Hampton, VA on February 25-26.

The girls 4x800m relay team (**Ronit Malka, Sarah Nielsen, Stephanie Marzen** and **Lisa Junta**) dropped 9 seconds from their Regional Championship performance (9:39.10) and finished in 6th place to earn ALL-STATE honors!!



TJ Girls 2011 AAA Indoor Track State Runners & Alternate.

The other TJ athletes also had a great day: **Lisa Junta** and **Kelly Rogers** placed 9th and 15th in the 3200m, with times of 11:04.87 and 11:14.68. **Jonathan Phillips** ran a 9:50.42 in the 3200m for 15th place. **Jacob Zucker** ran the 1000m with a time of 2:39.51 for 21st place. **Jim Skehan** cleared

11'6" in the pole vault to finish in 17th place. **Ed Cai** ran 8.08 to place 24th in the 55m hurdle preliminaries. The team is looking forward to a great season of spring track!



Ed Cai competes at AAA State Indoor Track Meet.

### *Crew Boosters*

TJ Crew kicked off the spring regatta season with first place finishes for the First Men's Eight, the Second Men's Eight and the Men's Junior Eight at the appropriately-named Polar Bear Regatta at Sandy Run on Saturday, March 26. The First and Second Women's Eights finished second in their races. The season continues with regattas on April 2, April 9, and April 16. On April 10, the upper boats will travel to Philadelphia to participate in the prestigious Manny Flick Series Regatta, and on April 23 the whole team travels to Middleton, Delaware to participate in the St. Andrews Regatta.



Men's Second Varsity Eight at the Polar Bear Regatta.

*(second photo on next page)*



Women's First Varsity Eight at the Polar Bear Regatta.

### ***Choral Boosters***

The extracurricular choirs of *Madrigals*, *Sirens*, and *Manchoir* represented TJ at the **2011 SingStrong** a cappella festival at South Lakes High School. Each choir participated in workshops, performed, and were treated to performances by wonderful international a cappella groups. Congratulations to *Manchoir*, who took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the high school competition. Congratulations also to the *Sirens'* **Michelle Gahagan**, who won **Best Female Vocalist** and the *Sirens'* **Allison Chou**, who won **Best Vocal Percussionist**.

It was also a busy month for the curricular choirs, who kicked off their **District XI Performance Assessment** with a **Preview Concert**. Each choir, **TJ Men's Choir**, **TJ Women's Choir**, and **TJ Mixed Concert Choir** previewed three selections that they then performed for public adjudication at the March 26 District XI event at Woodson High School. All three performances were thoroughly enjoyable and demonstrated mastery of the complexities of the choral pieces.



Choral Director **Molly Khatcheresslan** and the TJ Mixed Concert Choir in the District XI Performance Assessment Preview Concert.

Now that spring is officially here, the spring events are just around the corner. Watch for **Les Misérables**, coming in May, and the **Spring Show** in June.

### ***Orchestra Boosters***

It has been a wonderful month for our TJ Orchestras!! First, congratulations to those who were selected for All-State Orchestra and who will participate in that event at Charlottesville High School, Charlottesville, VA on April 9. Representing TJHSST Orchestra will be: Violin - **Gabrielle Chen, Nate McLean, Sungmin Sohn** and **Ritchie Yein**; Viola - **James Heron** and **Shannon Smith**.

Much appreciation to all who assisted with the Pre-Festival Concert and who donated reception food on March 16 – those who helped coordinate student dinners, reception set up, service, clean up, stepped in as door monitors, and those parents who offered general support deserve special acknowledgement and recognition. It was a wonderful prelude to the Festival itself, held at Fairfax HS on March 19. Congratulations to all orchestra members – Concert, Sifonia, and Symphonic Orchestras received Superior ratings --and special appreciation to **Ms. Bailey** for her outstanding leadership and commitment to our students.

Please consider how you may assist the Boosters -- **we have an immediate need for a Co-Hospitality Chair to assist with the post-concert receptions or at least with the last concert on June 8**. There is only one concert remaining -- with so many committed orchestra parents supporting their students, we hope that one or two of you will feel motivated to step forward and give your time, your energy, and your talents to your student's orchestra experience.

Our next Booster's meeting will be **Tuesday, April 12**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room 1 at TJ. Please join us and on behalf of the Booster Executive Committee and active members, we appreciate your on-going support of the program.

## **Theatre Boosters** **(Shakespeare and Drama)**

On March 5, hundreds of middle school students participated in *Shakesperience!* at TJ and it was a great success. Thank you to all the students who created and ran the workshops for this event and to all the parent volunteers.

A student-directed performance of *The Merchant of Venice* was performed at Folgers Theater in Washington, DC. **Rishi Malhotra** and **Kate Sanders** did a wonderful job directing and four students were honored for their acting: **Samantha Schipani, Art Kulatti, Tim Yuan, and Malaika Murphy.**

*The Crucible* will be performed on April 8 and April 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. This is TJ's Cappie production, so please come and support the drama students.

Mark your calendar...Drama Banquet is set for the evening of June 9.

The next Theatre Boosters meeting is May 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

## **Announcements**

### **Update to TJeCycling Project**

The TJeCycling Project continues to accept materials, but the drop off location has changed. If you have old electronics (cell phones, computers, monitors, keyboards, radios, etc.) sitting around taking up space at your house, don't just throw them away with your regular trash! Many of the precious metals in some electronics are very harmful to the environment. Instead of simply tossing these old devices, recycle them through TJeCycle! **TJeCycle** is working with Fairfax County to recycle electronic devices and keep the harmful materials out of landfills. Bring these old electronics labeled "TJeCycle" and leave them outside of the TJ **Activities** Office. They will then be transferred to the TJeCycle closet and then taken to the County Transfer Station. Questions? Email [tjecycle at gmail.com](mailto:tjecycle@gmail.com) or contact **Michael Cooper** at (703) 450-0321. Happy eCycling!

### **Lions Club International Recycle for Sight**

Give others the gift of sight by donating your used eyeglasses to the Lions Club! Drop off any usable eyeglasses in the marked box in the Library hallway. Contact Pat Groves at [pggroves at fcps.edu](mailto:pggroves@fcps.edu), with any questions.

### **Relay for Life**

Relay for Life will be held this year on May 21, 2011 at TJ. Join in the fight against cancer, celebrate, and remember with the community the lives that have been touched or taken by cancer. Registration and fundraising have already begun! If you are interested, please sign-up at [www.alexandriayouthrelay.org](http://www.alexandriayouthrelay.org). If your company is interested in becoming a sponsor and receiving recognition at the event, please contact Katie Bailey at [tjrelayforlife at gmail.com](mailto:tjrelayforlife@gmail.com). Thanks!

## Noteworthy Dates

April 2011	May 2011
<b>1 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b>	<b>2- AP Exams (2 weeks)</b>
<b>4 Student Holiday -- Teacher Workday</b>	<b>13</b>
4 Driver Education Parent/Student Required Meeting, 6:30pm in Lecture Hall	9 Theatre Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library
<b>7 Presentation on FCPS Student Discipline Policy, 9am in Cafeteria</b>	9 Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Principal's Conference Room
<b>7 PTSA Meeting, 9:30am in Cafeteria</b>	11 Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library
8 Spring Show Performance, 7pm in Auditorium	12 Crew Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
9 Techstravaganza, 12:30pm in Gyms I, II	<b>12 PTSA Meeting, 7:30pm in Library</b>
9 Spring Show Performance, 7pm in Auditorium	13 Class of 2014 Lock-In, 6pm in Cafeteria/ Gym 2
12 ANGP Meeting, 6:30pm in Career Center	14 Class of 2010 trip to Six Flags, MD
12 Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Principal's Conference Room	15 Classes of 2012 & 2013 trip to Six Flags, MD
12 Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library	16 Class of 2013 field trip to Smithsonian, 8:45am
13 Freshman Review, 5pm in Auditorium, Gyms I, II	17 Driver Education Parent/Student Required Meeting, 6:30pm in Lecture Hall
14 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30am in Career Center	17 ANGP Meeting, 6:30pm in Library
14 Ethics Seminar, 6:30pm in Lecture Hall	18 Choral Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Choral Room
14 Crew Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	19- Choral Musical "Les Miserables," 7pm in Auditorium
<b>18- SPRING BREAK</b>	21 Relay for Life at TJ, 2pm at Stadium
<b>22</b>	<b>23- SOLs (2 weeks)</b>
26 Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Room 106	<b>5/3</b>
27 Choral Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Choral Room	23 Northern Virginia District PTSA Meeting, 7pm in Career Center
28 College Panel Night, 7:30pm in Auditorium	<b>24 TJ 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, 4:30pm in Auditorium</b>
30 Hands on Science Day, 10am in Gyms I, II	25 Band Concert, 7pm in Auditorium
	26 Jazz Cabaret, 7pm in Cafeteria
	<b>27 Modified Red Day-Dismissal at 10:50am</b>
	<b>30 Memorial Day, no school</b>
	31 Choral Performance, 4pm in Auditorium

*Thomas Jefferson  
High School for Science and Technology*

*Annual Volunteer  
Appreciation Luncheon*

*Please join us in the Career Center on  
Thursday, April 14 from  
11:30 am until 1:00 pm as we acknowledge  
our wonderful, hardworking 79 volunteers.*

