

Spartan Echo

THE VOICE OF THE SPARTAN COMMUNITY

VOL. 61, ISSUE 7

700 Park Avenue, Norfolk, Va. 23504 | SpartanEcho.org

01.24.14

TOP STORIES INSIDE



Employment Weekly is a weekly paper listing available jobs in the area. This may be useful for students looking for part-time employment. Photo was taken from a news stand in Norfolk Va. Photo by Ciara N. Simmons.

See page 6

QUIET STUDY

A quiet room is put in most libraries and is used for studying. Photo was taken at Indian River Library in Chesapeake Va. Photo by Ciara N. Simmons.

See page 7



Gov. Terry McAuliffe delivers his first speech before the General Assembly at the state Capitol in Richmond, Va., Monday, Jan. 13, 2014. (AP Photo/Richmond Times-Dispatch, Bob Brown)

Political gifting subject to influence ill-informed

By Danielle Kirsh

During his campaign, Terry McAuliffe campaigned to sign an executive order giving himself and his family a \$100 gift cap because of the "Gift Gate" scandal during McDonnell's term as governor.

At an ethics forum on Dec. 4 in Richmond, state Delegate Bob Marshall insisted that it is going to be hard for McAuliffe to keep his gift limit of \$100. The state currently requires all politicians to disclose all gifts that are more than \$50.

Marshall said that if McAuliffe was to go around the country during Hillary Clinton's

anticipated presidential campaign, how could he not violate his own executive order?

Because of McDonnell's family gift scandal, where his daughter received \$15,000 as a wedding gift from the head of Star Scientific, there is a lot of debate about what can be considered a gift.

"You can't stop [gift giving], but you can report it," said Marshall.

Marshall also said that some gifts are harder to track than others. He said if former president Bill Clinton received a golfing tip from a professional

who would otherwise charge, would it still be considered a gift?

Washington Post reporter Rosalind Heldman said the ethics laws in Virginia are "vague" and "lack uniformity," but that the tip from a professional golfer is considered a gift.

Marshall said most gifts are hard to track, especially those that McAuliffe may receive if he goes around the country campaigning with Hillary Clinton.

"The public needs information to understand influence," said Marshall.

NSU mourns passing of Dr. Murray

By Danielle Kirsh

Norfolk State University's Director of Theater Dr. Clarence William Murray, Jr. passed away on Jan. 6, after serving the English and Foreign Languages and Theater departments for over 20 years.

Dr. Murray was born in Catholic Hill, South Carolina on June 30, 1951. He attended public schools in Colleton County, and went on to study at South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, South Carolina in 1972 and Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas in 1978.

In 1988, Dr. Murray received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Dr. Murray is survived by his wife of 39 years, Mrs. Betty Abrams Murray, who is also a professor at NSU, his four children, his sister, in-laws and 17 nieces and nephews.

Dr. Murray touched many lives outside of his family, especially those he worked with in the English department at NSU.

Professor of English Dr. Annie Perkins said Dr. Murray "never met a stranger."

"He had a sense of humor that was infectious," said Dr. Perkins, "and he was truly a gentleman and an artistic genius. His personal afflictions never interfered with his work. He was one of the most courageous people I knew."

See *Passing of Dr. Murray*, page 3