

PAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL: Hearing on bond issue becomes argument over new school's location

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 supervisors' chair Carter Borden said, "We need to stay on the issue here ... At this juncture, we're going to have to build something somewhere."
 During the public hearing, York district resident Phil Bazzani asked supervisors to stand back, take a deep breath, and take a hard look at whether the residents of Gloucester want to pay the taxes on a new school project. "You're accountable to us taxpayers—not the school board," Bazzani told the supervisors. "It's unbelievable."
 Ware district resident Jim Sanford seemed outraged that a brand-new school is going to be built at a time when the economy is so uncertain. "I'm getting ready to leave this county," Sanford said. "You have a runaway train. Stop. Think. This is too much."
 Former county supervisor Teresa Altemus, who identified herself as a Gloucester Point resident, said it was her understanding that Page Middle School was insured for full replacement value of the portion of the school that was destroyed. "I'm of the opinion that if the school board had aggressively pursued the insurance company to fulfill its contract, the school board would have received full replacement value," she added, but said there are 90-plus acres of prime property. The wetlands that are on the property will become part of the instructional environment, Kiser said.
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the school across the road, Altemus said.
 Kiser said the \$8.2 million that the school board received from the insurance company was a fair settlement, and was reflective of the portion of the school that was lost. He also said the remainder of the school was a 60-year-old building with numerous structural problems.
 He also said several cost-comparison studies were done last fall of building on the old site and the new site. When it came down to it, the difference was on the order of only about \$1 million, Kiser said.
 Ware district supervisor Andy James, who has been vocal about keeping Page at its former site, said he has been around the county a long time, and remembers seeing water standing on the proposed new school site on T.C. Walker Road after a heavy rain before the trees grew. Calling the proposed site a "swamp," James said he estimated it would cost the county \$5 million just to prepare the land for the building to be placed there.
 Kiser said the land the school will be built on is "certainly not a swamp." "We do have wetlands," he added, but said there are 90-plus acres of prime property. The wetlands that are on the property will become part of the instructional environment, Kiser said.
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at Gloucester High School to see a more detailed architectural rendering of the proposed new middle school. Discussion of how to fund other costs associated with the new school project is also expected to take place at that meeting.
Other matters
 In other news, following a public hearing, the board voted 6-1, Abingdon district supervisor J.J. Orth against, to amend Gloucester's zoning map to reclassify just over 11 acres of land in Gloucester Point to allow for construction of duplexes rather than condominiums on the property. The area is located on the western side of Route 17 directly across from the Gloucester Point Shopping Center.
 The vote also amended the proffered conditions on the site, imposed by a previous rezoning, to remove the 55-years-or-older age requirement for residency.
 Following another public hearing, the board unanimously approved an ordinance authorizing the refund of surplus funds from the tax sale of a certain parcel of land in the county to heirs of the former owner.

OPENING DAY: Schools open for 2012-2013 year

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)
 which was not available at press time, would be a more accurate figure. School officials had anticipated about 5,674 students for the beginning of the school year.
 Open house sessions held last week at all eight Gloucester public schools were well attended, Kiser noted, with some schools reporting they had 100 percent parent attendance.
 Kiser urged parents to call their respective schools, or the appropriate school officials, if they have questions as students, parents and staff members adjust to new schedules and bus routes. "We want parents to be as informed as they can be," he added.
In Mathews
 Superintendent Dr. David Holleran said Mathews County schools got off to a great start Tuesday morning. "The teachers were excited; the kids were excited," he said.
 School board members were on hand to greet kindergarten students, said Holleran, then they walked the halls and greeted teachers, especially the new ones. The teachers had the students working from the day's start, he said.
 Holleran said board

members were particularly interested in the computer labs installed in each math classroom. Technology coordinator Bill Vrooman was able to use refurbished and donated computers to create the classroom labs so math students wouldn't have to go to the main computer lab to do their work.
 "That was neat to see," said Holleran.
 With a budget based on 1,135 students, enrollment was up to 1,197 before school started, said Holleran, although not every student showed up the first day. He said he would have more accurate numbers by next week.

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 That the Federal Government must preserve individual liberty by observing Constitutional limitations,
 That peace is best preserved through a strong national defense,
 That faith in God, as recognized by our Founding Fathers, is essential to the moral fibre of the Nation.

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Middle Peninsula could benefit from following agriturismo model

BY BILL NACHMAN

Middle Peninsula officials might learn ways to use public policy to protect family farms if they follow an Italian model, a regional planning official said.
 Lewis Lawrence, executive director of the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, said he recently took a two-week tour of Italy with a large family group. He took full advantage of the trip, staying part of the time at an agriturismo, a style of vacationing in a farmhouse that was codified into Italian law in 1985. An agriturismo, often an abandoned building or estate that's been restored into a large bed and breakfast operation, serves foods grown on its own lands or those nearby.
 The concept, which includes some tax credits and government regulation, promotes the conservation and environmental protection, Lawrence said, as well as traditions and cultural initiatives in rural areas.
 Lawrence and his family

vacationed for part of their trip on land of Etruscan origin, Cretaiolo, halfway between Pienza and San Quirico d'Orcia in the Tuscany region of Italy. The family that runs the estate previously had been sharecroppers and—with special government assistance—was able to purchase the land under a nearby property owner clause, he said.
 That farm operation housed 22 guests in seven apartments in one large building, Lawrence said, much larger than most bed and breakfasts. However, he said that local operators can learn from the Italian model, with the Cretaiolo estate producing popular items for sale, such as wine and extra virgin olive oil.
 Also, Lawrence said the Italian model demonstrates good stewardship of their lands. A release said the Moriccianis, who own Cretaiolo, "believe that running an agriturismo means living in and with nature, and that we are an integral part of nature and cannot possess it."

FORT NONSENSE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)

received in 2003 and 2006 that indicates that the earthworks were erected by several hundred men and slaves under the supervision of W. Dawson Soles to defend against a landing of Union soldiers at New Point Comfort.
 Soles allegedly gave the fort its unusual moniker. After forces under Union Gen. Isaac Wistar approached the earthworks from the Gloucester side, Soles is reported to have said, "My! What a piece of nonsense!"
 Bids for the project will be accepted until 10 a.m. on Sept. 27, according to the advertisement. A pre-bid conference will be held on Sept. 13.
 For more information, call 725-7172.

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school lunch menu

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 10-14

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
GLOUCESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS				
3 Choices with Milk & Juice Toast, Crn. Toast, Grilled Cheese, Corset, Saus. Bis., Chick. Bis., Saus. & Pancake, Pizza, Eggs, Ham, Egg & Cheese, Crossant, Muf. or Pop Tart & Yogurt	3 Choices with Milk & Juice Toast, Crn. Toast, Grilled Cheese, Corset, Saus. Bis., Chick. Bis., Saus. & Pancake, Pizza, Eggs, Ham, Egg & Cheese, Crossant, Muf. or Pop Tart & Yogurt	3 Choices with Milk & Juice Toast, Crn. Toast, Grilled Cheese, Corset, Saus. Bis., Chick. Bis., Saus. & Pancake, Pizza, Eggs, Ham, Egg & Cheese, Crossant, Muf. or Pop Tart & Yogurt	3 Choices with Milk & Juice Toast, Crn. Toast, Grilled Cheese, Corset, Saus. Bis., Chick. Bis., Saus. & Pancake, Pizza, Eggs, Ham, Egg & Cheese, Crossant, Muf. or Pop Tart & Yogurt	3 Choices with Milk & Juice Toast, Crn. Toast, Grilled Cheese, Corset, Saus. Bis., Chick. Bis., Saus. & Pancake, Pizza, Eggs, Ham, Egg & Cheese, Crossant, Muf. or Pop Tart & Yogurt
Cheeseburger Sandwich Chef Salad Corn Peaches Milk	Spaghetti Chick. Nug. Chef Salad Side Salad Fruit Milk	Chicken Fajita Cheese Toast & Yogurt Taco Salad Black Bean Salad, Milk Cantaloupe	Beef Shepherd's Pie & Roll Corn Dog Nug. Chef Salad Yams, Fruit Milk	Pizza Turkey, Ham & Cheese Sub Chick. Salad Broccoli Apples Milk
MATHEWS HIGH SCHOOL				
Chicken O's Grilled Chick. Spinach Wrap Tater Tots Fruit Pears Milk	Baked Pot. Turkey Bacon Club Broccoli Fruit Apricot Milk	Soft Taco Cheese Toast & Yogurt Cucumber & Carrot Sticks/Dip Black Bean Salad, Milk, Fruit	Chick. Salad Chick. Cheddar Wrap Cantaloupe Yams Applesauce Milk	Pizza Bake Cheeseburger Orange Wedges Salad Sherbet Milk
LEE-JACKSON/THOMAS HUNTER				
Hot Dog Sloppy Jo Tater Tots Fruit Pears Milk	Baked Pot. Chick. Nug. Broccoli Fruit Peaches Milk	Soft Taco Grilled Cheese Cucumber & Carrot Sticks/Dip Black Bean Salad, Fruit Milk	Chick. Nug. Sub day Cantaloupe Yams Applesauce Milk	Pizza Chick. Spinach Wrap Orange Salad Sherbet Milk

Salads Available Daily. Available Daily: **Breakfast:** Cereal, Toast, Cheese Toast, Fruit, Milk/Juice.
Lunch: Milk served with all meals. One entrée and two sides.

Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society
 P O Box 385 • 6620 Jackson Lane • Gloucester, VA 23061
 804-693-5520 • www.gmhumane.org
 Shelter Hours: Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat 11 to 4 • Wed 11 to 6 • Closed Sundays



My name is Kickstand.
 I've only been around 5 short months but I've dealt with a lot. When I was very young, I lost one of my legs. That's why the shelter staff named me Kickstand. Then I got a virus and lost part of the vision in one of my eyes. Some people might think my name should be Lucky since I have 3 legs and only one really good eye but I like Kickstand. I have a huge fan club and they have raised enough money to sponsor my adoption fee and to provide me with a gift basket of stuff that I can have when I get adopted. Please adopt me. It's time for me to have a "turn for the better" in my life.

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