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Residents voice opinions on rifle hunting

By Christina Lopes
Reporter

MILFORD—To allow hunting with a high-powered rifle or not to allow it—that was the question facing the Caroline County Board of Supervisors on Dec. 9.

Supervisors conducted a public hear-

ing on the proposed repeal of Chapter 56 of the code of Caroline County in favor of state codes on rifles for hunting.

Earlier this year, Bowling Green resident Garry Gray came before the board and requested an amendment to the county code to allow hunting with rifles larger than a .22 caliber. The current

county ordinance that governs hunting does not allow the use of rifles larger than .22-caliber. Muzzle-loading rifles are permitted for deer hunting.

At the time of Gray's original request, it was too late to consider an amendment to the code in time to be submitted by the deadline of May 1 to

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'One gala a year is not enough'



Photo by Eric Miller

Dressed in costumes, workers from Ground Keepers present gifts to seniors at the Gala.

Seniors served dinner and a dance



Photo by Mark Svare

County Supervisor Calvin Taylor dances with a guest at the Caroline Rotary's Senior Citizens Gala.

By Eric Miller, Editor

Caroline County senior citizens said they enjoyed Thursday night's annual Senior Citizens Gala so much that they want two a year.

On Thursday night, 590 seniors attended the annual free supper, complete with wrapped gifts for everyone, as well as entertainment. Bobby Hebert, an advertising sales representative for the Free Lance-Star, was the master of ceremonies for the event in the gym at Caroline High School.

This was the 14th annual gala, which features free admission for seniors and is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Caroline and supported by other businesses and individuals.

"This whole event is magnificent," said Shirley Stevens, 75, who lives in the Dawn community of Caroline. "This is something the seniors really enjoy. It lets them know the world hasn't forgotten them. It gives them that Christmas spirit. If they could afford it, twice a year would be nice." She especially enjoyed the dancing.

"I love it," Ruby L. Harris, 75, of Ruther Glen said dur-

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Construction blues continues at BG Elem

By Scott Richards

MILFORD—Problems and concerns continue with the Bowling Green Elementary School as related to the contractor who handled the expansion and upgrades.

David McConnell, the clerk of the works for Caroline County Public Schools (CCPS), addressed the Caroline School Board at a regular meeting on Dec. 9 and reported that Loughridge & Company LLC, the general contractor, was cited for issues required by the construction contract:

-Not attending biweekly progress meetings.

-Submitting pay applications incorrectly and untimely or not submitting them at all.

Concerning change orders and payments due to the CCPS, it was noted that:

-A credit of \$192,214.72 is due CCPS for food service equipment purchased outside of Loughridge's contract.

-Loughridge owes CCPS for reimbursement of utilities used during construction for a credit of \$7,031.28.

-Liquidated damages

(missing the school project completion deadline) continue to accrue at \$500 per day for a total of \$57,000.

-The total credits owed CCPS add up to \$329,394.

-The change orders requested totaled \$33,371.

-The estimated total project change orders amount to \$100,000 with the original project contingency for change orders equal to \$190,000.

The change orders were approved only as a change on paper and no actual payment made due to the credit situation between CCPS and Loughridge.

The punch list of tasks completed is another concern, McConnell told the board. While CCPS stated that only 75 to 80 percent of the list was complete, Loughridge representatives say they believe they have completed 98 percent.

The School Board voted unanimously in November to withhold over \$1 million from the general contractor until work is finished and problems are corrected. Loughridge submitted a low bid of \$10,187,000 for the

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Child MOLESTATION IN CAROLINE

Caroline has a broad range of molestation cases

By Eric Miller
Editor

Caroline County's cases of child molestation have ranged from a 25-year-old father who molested his 3-year-old daughter to a 57-year-old therapist who molested elementary school boys who came to him for counseling.

Another case in Caroline involved an uncle who repeatedly molested his teen nieces, said Diane Abato, the deputy commonwealth's attorney for Caroline. "The

This is part 2 of a 3 part series on child molestation in Caroline County. This article focuses on actual child molestation cases in the county. The next article will focus on victims and what motivates offenders to molest children.

girls were 13 and 15. He put his finger in their vagina and showed them pictures of his penis. He got 12 years (of prison time) and he deserved every minute of it."

The members of the uncle's immediate family were "angry with the teen girls for telling on him and angry

at the parents of the girls," Abato said.

The girls spoke up one night all because their parents sat them down and had a discussion about not keeping secrets. The parents said, "If someone is bothering you, you must tell us." "Intra-familial sex offenders tend to control their victims more through their private access and family authority," says a 2010 report titled, "Child Molesters: A Behavioral Analysis," which was written by Kenneth V. Lan

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Ruther Glen man was found guilty of malicious wounding

By Christina Lopes
Reporter

Ricky Alan Heinbaugh Jr., 21, of Ruther Glen, was found guilty of malicious wounding on Dec. 5 in connection with an attack on another Caroline County man this past summer.

This was an attack in which the victim reportedly was left beaten and unconscious at the scene. His injuries included a separated shoulder, a broken nose, a broken cheekbone, and a broken jaw, according to court records.

Circuit Court Judge Patricia Kelly found

Heinbaugh guilty of the beating of his half sister's boyfriend on June 11.

Two other men were charged in connection with the same incident: Nicholas Andert, of La Plata Maryland, who was found not guilty of malicious wounding during a jury trial on Wednesday, and Clarence "Trey" Limbrick of Woodford, whose case had not gone to trial by press time.

On the day of the incident Heinbaugh, Andert, and Limbrick were reportedly drinking at the home of Heinbaugh's half-sister in the Lake Land'Or subdivision. Things turned ugly when Limbrick touched

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Officials accept SunTrust bid for \$25M school loan

By Christina Lopes
Reporter

MILFORD—County officials took steps on Dec. 9 toward borrowing \$25 million to expand and renovate Caroline High School and Madison Elementary School.

The Caroline County Board of Supervisors approved the 15-year fixed rate/20-year amortization with SunTrust Bank, as

suggested by Davenport & Company to finance the \$25 million school bond referendum approved on Nov. 5.

The county got two bids, and the county took the SunTrust bid in which the rate is fixed at 3.17 percent for 15 years. After 15 years, the county must refinance the final 5 years of principle.

County residents voted to approve the \$25 million referendum by a margin of

81 percent. The county is now authorized to spend \$26.3 million. About \$21 million will go to Caroline High, and \$4 million will be spent on Madison Elementary School.

At a Board of Supervisors meeting in November Courtney Rogers, a financial consultant for Davenport & Company, told the board that tax rates would increase by 7 cents to pay

for the bond. This tax rate increase will mean that the average Caroline resident will pay less than \$100 extra annually in taxes.

During the November meeting, Rogers outlined several options for financing to the board. Rogers noted that the county had the option of borrowing \$25 million all at one time, or in pieces. He also told the board that most Virginia lo-

calities repay construction costs for renovations and repairs over 20 years.

The options for financing were securing bonds through a bank, going through Virginia Public School Authority pool financing, or issuing general-obligation bonds through public sale.

Rogers discussed with the board at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Dec. 9 the results of the county's request for proposals. Rogers explained the benefits of choosing the proposal for the 15-year fixed rate with SunTrust:

Lock in a 15-year rate of 3.17 percent.

Rate is lower than a stand-alone public issuance in the current market.

County has complete prepayment flexibility.

Save nearly \$125,000 of debt service annually when compared to the estimated amount of the public market issuance in the current market.

-In order to break even with the current public issuance, the rate would have to be reset at 11.80 percent,

well above historic 5-year interest rates for the final 5 years

Save nearly \$190,000 of debt service annually when compared to the current public market issuance assuming a 50 basis point (0.5 percent) increase in public market interest rates.

"My recommendation is to go with the 15-year rate," Rogers told the board. Floyd Thomas, chairman of the board, told Rogers that he had made a compelling case. Supervisor Jeff Sili commented, "I'm just looking for a line in the sand, that's all. If they're willing to do that, that's great."

Rogers also briefly outlined Caroline County's five-year financial plan for fiscal years 2015 through 2019. He mentioned an additional 3 cents for the county's new emergency radio system.

The next steps as outlined in the presentation are for the county's bond counsel, Sands Anderson PC, to prepare closing documentation, and for the county to close on financing on or before Dec. 20.



Photos by Mark Svare

At left: Event organizer L.J. Moyer enjoys a dance with Roy "Roster" Ruess, a guest at the gala and resident of Bowling Green Healthcare and Rehab. Right photo: Heather Dyson holds up three fingers to indicate that Charlie Claytor (in photo) has won the \$100 dance contest three years now.

Seniors from page 1

ing the gala. "I couldn't wait to get here. This is my fourth year."

Stanley Quash, 66, of Dawn said, "The food was excellent. That chicken was so good. The Lord willing, I'll be back next year. This is the Lord's season. This is a place where we can show our love for one another."

Eighty-two-year-old Ruby Midgett of Milford lost her husband in 2007. "It's kind of sad. We used to come to this together. But it's still wonderful to be here tonight."

Midgett noted that many other widows attended the gala. The widows "do live alone and they can get out and feel safe here." She said she especially likes the food and table decorations.

"There's nothing else like this in the county," Quash said. "The best part is the camaraderie. Everyone seems to be happy just to be here." The gala started with just 50 seniors 14 years ago and has grown to 590, he noted.

Florence Garnett, 71, of Shumansville found there was enough food on her plate for two meals. So she boxed up some of her supper to take home.

L.J. Moyer, chairperson of the gala, said attendance had grown from 532 last year to 590 this year. When told the seniors would like two galas annually, she smiled. The price tag for this year's gala was \$15,000.

"I was a bit apprehensive this year because some of the sponsorships had cut back," she noted. "But the Rotarians stepped up to the plate. This is a life-changing event. It is

about giving."

Dinner was prepared by Chef Jazz Morton and the CHS Culinary Arts Class and served by the culinary students, Caroline High Interact Club, Honor Society, Beta Club and Caroline Rotarians.

"We served 620 meals in 7 minutes," Chef Jazz said. Last year, it took a little over 8 minutes. So, Chef Jazz was proud of the students and the Rotarians for breaking the old record, especially with even more seniors to feed.

He noted that Tyler Williams, banquet manager, is in charge of the CHS cafeteria and he volunteered his time at the gala.

So how much food does it take to feed 620 people? For a start, Chef Jazz said, it took 620 six-ounce portions of chicken, 200 pounds of potatoes and 1,000 cupcakes. The seniors also had rolls and salads.

Ordinarily, Chef Jazz would buy icing for 1,000 cupcakes by the 5-gallon bucket, but none were available. So, he bought six 25-pound bags of powdered sugar and many gallons of milk and made the icing. The students iced 1,000 cupcakes on the day of the gala.

"There is no other event in the county that brings this many folks together to have a very, very good time at the holidays," said Jeff Sili, who represents the Bowling Green District on the Caroline County Board of Supervisors.

Sili and fellow supervisors Calvin Taylor and Jeff Black provided part of the evening's entertainment by participating in "Dancing with the

Stars." In addition, Caroline Public School Superintendent Greg Killough and Keith Marine, executive director of the YMCA, participated in the dance competition.

Gladys Barnett, a senior lady in a wheelchair, said dancing was special to her but she couldn't get out of the wheelchair. So, Marine danced and rolled her around to an appropriate disco song, "Y.M.C.A." In doing so, Marine brought down the house with laughter and clapping from the audience. His dance partner went on to win \$100 in cash. In addition, Charles Claytor, another resident from the Bowling Green Health & Rehabilitation Center, won \$100 during the dance competition. He has visual and auditory impairment, but still danced.

At the end of the gala, a senior lady won the grand prize of \$500.

"We had to raise money from the community businesses and other sources," Moyer said. "We bought poinsettias for each person and there were gifts for everybody. Folks from the Rotary Club bought gifts."

A Fredericksburg landscape company, Ground Keepers of Olde Towne, split the cost of the poinsettias with the Rotary Club. Groundkeepers also provide other decorations, such as a giant inflatable Santa.

Seniors went home with gifts. Kelly Sullivan and Lois Truelove, owners of Ground Keepers, purchased many gifts, which included blankets, gloves, wallets, scarves and pocketbooks. Ground

Keepers employees handed out gifts. A Santa's workshop was set up outside the gym with piles of gifts and seniors, many in wheelchairs, were allowed to take whatever was left.

Seniors came up to Moyer as they left the gala. "They thanked me, and I said, 'You do for me more than I could ever do for you.' To see them and how they appreciated everything, it just means a lot to me."

Attending the gala was Juanita Crawley, district governor for Rotary, which includes 57 clubs from Caroline to Washington, D.C. "She said she had never seen anything like this," Moyer said.

The Advent and Christmas schedule for
St. Asaph's Episcopal Church:

Sunday, December 15, at 5:00 p.m.:
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Tuesday, December 24, at 10:30 p.m.:
**Carol Singing followed by
Christmas Eve Service at 11:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, December 25, at
10:30 a.m.: **Christmas Day Service**

Frosty's Hometown Christmas

Town of Bowling Green's Annual PARADE

From Main Street and Broaddus Avenue to Main and Chase Street

Saturday, December 14th

Starting time 5 p.m.

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Businesses decorating Christmas trees and windows

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