contract signed for track betting site

Tom Flanagan was selected as the off track betting site in Colonial Beach. Although Flanagan had the choice of having it held in Maryland, "I am not going through the back door," he said, indicating that he wants people in Colonial Beach to be aware of the process. Off track betting, he said, "can't help but help the Beach. People have gone over and looked at it and been impressed." Several people have taken the trip to Urbanna, Maryland to see the site.

See Off-track, page 10

King George rail to trail?

By Phyllis Cook
Staff Reporter

Flanagan said that the time lapse from that time until the signing last week has been due to contract negotiations between the parties.

That hearing will be held in Colonial Beach, although Flanagan had the choice of having it held in Maryland. "I am not going through the back door," he said, indicating that he wants people in Colonial Beach to be aware of the process. Off track betting, he said, "can't help but help the Beach. People have gone over and looked at it and been impressed." Several people have taken the trip to Urbanna, Maryland to see the site.

George school board student problems

By Phyllis Cook
Staff Reporter

worrying concern in the King George community about drugs, alcohol and weapons, and bringing them to the recent space of students coming before the King George Board for discipline hearings, some resulting in suspension. John Stewart, a man in the school, began his remarks at the last meeting with a plea to the community. "I'd like to say a few words about drugs, alcohol use, and stress that they don't belong here. I hope that a lot of students don't realize how serious this is for the schools. I would like to ask the principals to students about this subject, and also emphasize the reasons that having this stuff in school entails." School Superintendent Dr. Ralph Johnson told students regarding student use and possession of alcohol and weapons.

Steward continued, saying, "I want to be sure that this is a growing problem all over the county and that we need to consider this a serious problem."
residents as a recreational hiking/biking trail. He is proposing county acquisition of the land for public ownership.

The former railroad line runs from the Stafford county line in Sscalston to B Gate of the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) in Dahlgren. It is 100 feet wide at its narrowest and 300 feet at its widest portions. The land was originally acquired by the federal government by condemnation. It was used for transporting guns, munitions and workers to and from the Dahlgren Weapons Laboratory during the Second World War.

The line was then acquired by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railway (RF&P). It is now owned by CSX Transportation, Inc. and is for sale, listed with Stan Palivoda of Battlefield Century 21 Realty for $945,000. Gorder says that the price is twice what CSX has settled for in similar sale situations.

Planning Commissioner Robert Clare says that about 30 years ago the rail line was offered to the county for $1, but it was turned down. Gorder has heard similar anecdotes, and speculates that it may have been turned down by the county to keep the annual taxes coming in as revenue. The tale has not been corroborated.

Planning Commissioner Ray Morissette raised questions about the possible safety of residents on isolated portions of the line. Gorder’s opinion was that, “Certain kinds of people don’t get too much exercise. Walk by the parking area, and you might get in trouble. But walk a few miles and most of the riff-raff falls behind.” This opinion is a commonly-held idea that has been borne out by many hikers, bikers and back packers.

Gorder became interested in the land in September when he heard about “Rails to Trails”, a

Col. Beach Treasurer’s

By Betsy Ficklin
Staff Reporter

Following the reading of prior minutes and other documents by Treasurer Jim Shaffer, (see article page 9) Councilman Andy Saulnier asked if the new auditing firm had delivered the services delineated in the documents of record by the stated June 30, 1993 deadline. Shaffer replied in the negative.

“Well,” Saulnier commented, “if that’s the way they do their work, I think we should be looking for somebody else. I don’t think we should continue with

KG School looks for capital in

Phyllis Cook
Staff Reporter

“We were told by county staff that they don’t expect to have funds for capital improvements for next year,” said School Superintendent Dr. Ralph Johnson. He was reporting to the school board on the capital improvement plan prepared for submission to the county on their behalf.

Notwithstanding that information, the school capital improvement plan calls for an expenditure of $612,000 out of next year’s county budget and a total estimated cost of $25,257,000 over the next five years.

A five year capital improvement plan is prepared and up-

questions of style...

By Betsy Ficklin
Staff Reporter

eral members of the public advantage of the public portion of last week’s Beach Council meeting and questions relating to current issues and recent initiatives in the riverside.

Ayers was the first to pose a question on behalf of one of the town residents asking to attend Tuesday evening meeting. She said her associate had been looking for how much the Town had paid for a playground equipment placed in the vicinity of the former Rock’s Motel late this summer.

“She was told it was twenty thousand dollars, and it cost seven thousand dollars to put it up. She wants to know why the Town crews didn’t do that work,” Ayers explained, adding that Town Hall had given her friend a copy of a catalog showing six thousand dollar playground equipment. “Was this equipment equivalent to that or not?” she queried.

“Also, she wanted to know if you took bids before you bought it.”

See Style, page 17

A school board has $257,024 cushion in its contingency fund

By Phyllis Cook
Staff Reporter

Board members heard they have wanted to have a high school for a long time, but only members were there to get a news.

Board Chairman John McNeil said the November 10 order to reschedule, shortened the scheduled time, after waiting for a quorum. Then Ayers, new director of facilities, presented his promised report of the King George budget to Steward, Dan and Bob Fuscaldo who then showed them how they have been for the last year. Missing were members Stevens and Isaac Hughes.

With a graph showing a 1.9% difference between projected revenue and projected expenditures, Lyon commented, “We are projecting revenue at exactly what we budgeted. We have $257,024 in our contingency fund, and it’s obvious to me that any fluctuation in our revenue wouldn’t take much to turn us negative with expenditures passing. Lyon took the job in the end of September, and has been working hard to get a handle on the financial status of the schools in the wake of the administrative turnover experienced with the resignations of former superintendent Dr. David Stuckwisch,

See Fund, page 17

1993.

Miller’s attorney, Alex Weimer, asked Judge John Scott to close the hearing based on the premise that “ adverse publicity might affect him and his business.” He said that, even if Miller were cleared of the charge, he could...
A. Saffier asked.
That is correct,” Shaffer re-
duclesman William Smith
made a series of almost in-
visible remarks in which he ac-
counted as defending the fi-
cial reports recently gener-
ated by Shaffer’s former staff and
September 30 emergency ac-
cess of Council.
But,” Shaffer continued after
he had ended those remarks,
the September 30 special
meeting of Town Council the
ors made a rather large point
indicating that material items
not been posted on a timely
As a result, there has been
x of controversy surrounding
office, and the latest report

ail to trail?
In Rail, page 1

uservancy program which sup-
er the King George
ard of Supervisors which sent
o the Recreation Advisory
mittee, where he presented
ideas in October.
that time he was directed
e a draft acquisition and
agement plan for the
He returned last week to the
ation committee for review
plan. It was accepted, and
committee voted to forward it
Board of Supervisors for
eration and endorsement.
gen is enthusiastic about hav-
the county acquire the land. He
ests, “Walking this line ought
prerequisite to holding pub-
ific in King George county.
bes a hiker a clear experience
re the breath-takingly beautiful
land that we have in King
age.”
addition to hiking and biking,
sees other possibilities for
line. He says, “It is not
ve that it could be
ed up to commuter rail traffic
Stafford and NSWC. It
parallel to an existing known
mer traffic route. And be-
it is up to 300 feet wide, it is

From Miller, page 1
partment, then picked her up and
took her to another site where she
began to clean the oven. It was
then, she said, the problem start-
ed. “He started massaging my
shoulders,” she said, just as she
started to clean the appliance.
How long did that happen and
what was your reaction, she was
asked? It lasted “about 30 sec-
onds,” she said, indicating that
she “didn’t say anything. I was
changing the subject to get him
to stop.”
What happened then, she was
asked?
“Then he put both arms around
me and touched the side of my
breasts. He asked me if that made
me feel uncomfortable.”
How long did he do that, she
was asked?
“About the same length of time
he massaged my shoulders.”

Then Mrs. Brooks said she
moved towards the sink and that
Miller, “Tried to kiss me.” She
said she moved her head and that
he ended up kissing her on the
cheek.
At that point, she indicated
Miller said he usually didn’t act
like that. She said he told her he
would be back in an hour and a
half. Then he came and put his

not inconsistent with recreational
uses as well.”
Another future possibility
Gorder suggests might be to use
the line to run a buried fiber optic
cable line for use as a high-capac-
ity data path.
Another less glamorous use
would be as a backbone to sewage
collection lines that will someday
be run throughout King George.
None of these uses are inconsistent
with recreational purposes.
Gorder noted that it is possible
that grant money may be available
from a Department of Transpor-
tation program enacted in 1991,
called the Intermodal Surface
Transportation Efficiency Act
which intends to award $30 billion
through 1997. Gorder says that
under this Act the county could
qualify for grant money to pur-
chase the rail line under at least
three criteria, including preser-
vation of rail beds, creation of hik-
ing/biking trails, and preservation
of scenic areas. A fourth criterion,
historical preservation, might also
apply.
Gorder will appear before the
King George Board of Supervi-
sors at an upcoming meeting to
present his plan.