

Newspaper Messenger 27 Oct 2010 P. A1

School, 14000 Sudley Manor Drive in Bristow. Principal Michael E. Bishop will give an update on the school, which is set to open next year to serve students in the western end of the county.

CLASSIFIED OF THE DAY
WINDOW INSTALLERS NEEDED - Must be exp'd. w/ own insurance, truck & tools. Call 703-963-6512.
 See Classifieds, page B6

Public restrooms could be boon to historic Rippon Lodge property

WOODBIDGE » Added amenities will help draw events, such as weddings

By **KIPP HANLEY**
 jhanley@insidenova.com

Rippon Lodge has everything a bride could want.

A beautifully restored 18th century home, lush open fields for an outdoor ceremony and a distant view of the sprawling Potomac River below.

There is just one problem: There are no public restrooms. But, thanks in part to a

transfer of funding from other historical projects, Rippon will be acquiring water and sewer and installing handicap-accessible restrooms by next spring.

On Tuesday, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors approved the allocation of \$692,000, a portion of which also will help to restore the Brentsville jail and to renovate several buildings at Bris-

toe Station Battlefield Heritage Park.

At Rippon, according to Historic Preservation Division Chief Brendon Hanafin, the top complaint from visitors is the lack of restrooms.

He said the lodge received 10 requests to rent the property for events last year. However, because only one actually rented the lodge, that amounted to a net loss of \$9,000 for the county.

See **HISTORIC**, Page A9»

Connolly vs. Fimian: Interactive Game

With less than a week until the election, the battle in the 11th District is heating up. Not sure who to choose? Go to www.insidenova.com and take our interactive quiz to help make your decision.



WEATHER

Showers likely
 High 76, Low 53
 Details, B10

INSIDE

Classified....B6
 Comics.....B5
 Puzzles.....B4

Movies.....B4
 Opinion.....A6
 Lottery.....A5

DEATHS

B. Bowker, F. Rice.
 A5.



HISTORIC SITE FILE: RIPPON LODGE
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib, Manassas, VA

who saw anything suspicious," said Prince William

near the recruiting office on Metrotech Drive in Sully

editor Julie LeDoux contributed to this story.

HISTORIC

» From Page A1

Staffers use pressurized water from the on-site well in their current office setup adjacent to the lodge.

"We have portajohns, and that is not very appetizing to brides for weddings," Hanafin said.

The county purchased the lodge in 2000, started renovation in 2002 and opened it up for tours in 2007.

As part of the additional funding, the county also will improve the lodge's on-site trail system, which connects to the much-publicized Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail.

That segment will cost \$59,000 and could mean the construction of a blinking yellow light and crosswalk from the park across Blackburn Road into the entrance of the lodge property, Hanafin said.

The renovations at both Bristoe and Brentsville are scheduled to be done by the

spring of 2013. Initially, county staff did not anticipate enough money to design, stabilize and renovate the Brentsville jail, which dates to 1822.

However, leftover money from renovations at Ben Lomond Historic Site and the decision to hold off on land acquisitions and a renovation project at Bennett School will allow the completion of that project, Hanafin said.

The Brentsville jail is part of a complex that includes the courthouse, Union Church and Haislip/Hall farmhouse, all of which have been restored.

Funding for Bristoe will go toward the creation of a museum and to spruce up two homes that will be occupied by county police officers.

The officers will help maintain and patrol the property on their own time while paying inexpensive rent that will go into escrow for the purchase of workforce housing, Hanafin said.

In other business, the su-

pervisors passed a resolution Tuesday afternoon in support of the regulation of abortion clinics in Virginia. The vote was 6-0.

Democratic Supervisors Frank J. Principi of the Woodbridge District and John D. Jenkins, who represents the Neabsco District, abstained, saying the matter was a state, not a local, issue.

The resolution by Supervisor John T. Stirrup, R-Gainesville, comes on the heels of one passed by the Manassas City Council.

The impetus for both resolutions came after state Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli issued an opinion in August stating that Virginia has the authority to write regulations governing such clinics, one of which is in Manassas.

Del. Robert G. Marshall, R-Prince William, requested the opinion from Cuccinelli, who lives in Nokesville.

Staff writer Kipp Hanley can be reached at 703-530-3904.

If the odor is very strong, or you hear a blowing or hissing noise, vacate the building or area immediately, leaving doors unlocked as you go. Warn others as you exit if possible. Do nothing that could create an ignition source. Do not light a match or use any type of phone or battery-powered equipment. Do not turn electrical equipment or light switches on or off. Do not start a car or any type of motorized equipment. **Call 911** and the Washington Gas emergency numbers for your area, listed immediately above, only after you are a safe distance away from the building or area. Follow the same precautions if you are outside and smell gas; hear hissing or blowing noises; see dirt being thrown into the air; fire coming from the ground or appearing to burn aboveground; water bubbling or being blown into the air at a pond, creek or river; or if you see a dry spot in a moist field or dead or dying vegetation on or near a pipeline right-of-way.

Natural gas is distributed through a network of underground pipes and service lines. If a leak should occur it is possible for gas to migrate into buildings, including those without natural gas service.

RESPOND

Washington Gas responds around the clock to natural gas leaks and other emergencies. If a leak poses an immediate threat, the company takes quick action to make the area safe. Corrective action is scheduled for a later date if there is no immediate threat.

Prevent Pipeline Damage - Call 811 Before You Dig

Damage to any kind of utility line, including natural gas pipelines, can result in property damage, serious injury or worse. So, whether you are a homeowner or contractor, planting a tree in your yard or planning major excavation work, be sure to **call 811** to have underground utility lines in your work area located and marked before you begin digging. It's the law, and it's easy. Calling **811** starts the process of having the underground utilities located and marked for **FREE** with bright safety paint and/or flags. Always **call 811** at least two full business days - excluding weekends and holidays - before you are scheduled to begin any digging work. Do not begin any project - from gardening or simple home improvements to major construction - until you are sure the lines have been marked or confirmed as "no conflict." If in doubt, check back with **811**.

Visit washingtongas.com and click **Safety Information** to learn more.

