

# Manassas Journal Messenger

DATE 6-5-97

## Historic church condemned

*County aims to preserve Brentsville district*

By DAVE MARINO-NACHISON  
*Journal Messenger Staff Writer*

In order to preserve a piece of Prince William's heritage, the county may condemn a historic Brentsville church.

The Board of County Supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday to offer \$25,000 for the 1872 Brentsville Union Church on Bristow Road. If the offer, made to Tayebe Nagmeh and Parto Hadian of Fairfax Station, is not accepted, the county will condemn the church in order to take possession of it.

"It's part of our history," said County Executive Henry B. "Bern" Ewert II, "and we wanted it to stay on the courthouse complex. It's hard to find little historic churches."

The church is just west of the complex which includes the historic courthouse, the jail and a one-room schoolhouse.

The Friends of the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, a group headed by county historical commission member Jan Cunard, is working to develop the site as a tourist attraction, and the county's vote is intended to help that push.

"I'm thrilled to have a county executive and a board of supervisors who appreciate the value of this quaint church," said Cunard. "There aren't many old wooden churches of the type that are still standing.... It could become an integral part of the Brentsville historic complex."

BY KATHARINE CARLON

Development of a 1.1 million square foot retail shopping center will be approved by the county board of supervisors Tuesday. The project, located on the east side of the county, will include a 1.1 million square foot retail shopping center, a 1.1 million square foot office building, and a 1.1 million square foot parking lot. The project is expected to be completed by late 1997.

The county board of supervisors Tuesday approved a \$25,000 offer to purchase the 1872 Brentsville Union Church on Bristow Road. The church is located just west of the courthouse complex, which includes the historic courthouse, the jail and a one-room schoolhouse. The offer was made to Tayebe Nagmeh and Parto Hadian of Fairfax Station. If the offer is not accepted, the county will condemn the church in order to take possession of it.

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