

# The Journal Messenger

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## Buckhall 'Mall' on the market

By **BENNIE SCARTON JR.**  
JM Assistant Editor

A 50-year-old Prince William County institution is for sale.

The Buckhall Mall — actually a one-room store — is part of a tract that is on the market for \$295,000.

The store gained some fame and recognition several years ago when the county was flooded with bumper stickers saying: "You Can See It All at the Buckhall Mall."

It's one of the few "mom and pop" operations still existing in a county once covered by them, with two gasoline pumps on an unpaved lot in front of the store.

The store was once easily visible to motorists on Davis Ford Road just east of Manassas, but with the new Prince William Parkway attracting most east-west traffic, it is now off the beaten path.

Still, many residents of the Buckhall area continue to rely on it, much as residents in other parts of the county patronize 7-Eleven stores.

Joyce Bowles and Lucinda Karalow with Century 21 Champions are handling the sale of the property for Allorac Investment Corp., subject to the lease on the store.

According to Karalow, the one-acre site also contains a one-room schoolhouse that dates back to 1865 and an apartment building behind the store, which

has two apartments on the second floor.

"It's a charming old, country store," Karalow said. "There just aren't too many of them left anymore."

She said the store, built in the mid 1940s, still has regular customers who come in for homemade sandwiches, hunting and fishing supplies, live bait, cold beer and soft drinks, general merchandise and groceries.

Much of the merchandise is displayed on old counters or showcases stacked on squeaky wooden floors.

Karalow said the property is "grandfathered" into the county's land-use guide for commercial use, though she is not sure what potential buyers would do with the property.

The store is being leased, but Weichert Realty is handling the possible selling of it.

The building adjacent to the store was used for many years as a school, but was neglected for many years before the Buckhall Civic Association restored it about 20 years ago. The group used it as a meeting place for several years, when the organization was hotly involved in controversial issues around the county.

It is now being used by a construction company as storage space.

For information on buying the "mall," call Bowles or Karalow of Century 21 at 335-1944, or Miki Markoff at Weichert at 491-2101 or 573-8842.