

Petition calls for board member

Manassas women cite negligence by four who voted against superintendent,

Greenwich Presbyterian Church
HISTORIC SITE FILE: PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas, VA

School Board members Scott M. Albrecht, Patrick D. Linehan and Edward W. [unclear] [unclear] from office.
The School Board voted 4-2 on Sept. 27 to renew former Superintendent Sidney "Chip" Zullinger's contract.
Since then, several parents and teachers have asked the School Board to reveal their reasons behind the vote, but the

School Board has made no public statements to do so.
Zullinger left his previous job, as superintendent of the Denver, Colo. school system, early under a contract buyout. When hired by Denver, Zullinger was on paid administrative leave as superintendent of the



Albrecht



Linehan

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Church marks place in Civil War history

Trail sign commemorates site of Army encampment

By JACLYN PITTS
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The sun broke through the clouds Friday morning just long enough to shine on a celebration of history at Greenwich Presbyterian Church in Nokesville.

During a ceremony outside the church, the Prince William County Historic Preservation Division celebrated two new Virginia Civil War Trail signs.

One sign is at Greenwich Church at 15305 Vint Hill Road and the other is at the former site of Ewell's Chapel off U.S. 15 north of Va. 234.

"It would not dare rain this morning," said Mitch Bowman, executive director of the Virginia Civil War Trails program.

Although many churches were burned during the Civil War, Greenwich withstood the battles, according to Mark Trbovich, a citizen who wrote the Greenwich sign and helped with initial efforts to establish the signs.

And at Ewell's Chapel, a poorly executed ambush plan resulted in one Union casualty, Sgt. Martin Aumiller, on June 22, 1863, as noted on the new Ewell's Chapel sign.

"Along this colonial thoroughfare, where Gen. Richard Stoddard Ewell's ancestors likely traveled, Greenwich Presbyterian Church stands as a silent witness to the movement of both Union and Confederate troops through western Prince William County during the Civil War," said Prince William County Supervisor Wally Covington, R-Brentsville.

Covington also thanked the county's Historical Commission for contributing some funds for the signs.

Supervisor John Stirrup, R-Gainesville, also attended the ceremony, noting the importance of preserving historical landmarks in the area.

He said he thinks it's important for future generations



Mark Turney/News & Messenger

Roxanna Adams, Mark Trbovich, John DePue and Mark Knowles talk of the history of the area near the grave of Capt. Bradford Hoskins, who was killed during the Civil War.

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Suspect in VCU student's death says it was accident

BY JIM NOLAN
Media General News Service

Amateur photographer Ben Fawley has admitted to being with Virginia Commonwealth University freshman Taylor Marie Behl when she died, but he says her death was accidental, according to a jailhouse statement he has given to police.

Fawley, 38, has told police that Behl died during an intimate encounter he had with her in her car the night she was last seen, sources close to the investigation told The Times-Dispatch last night.

Fawley, over the objections of his lawyer, summoned police to the jail

to talk Wednesday night. Sources said he described the 17-year-old girl's death as an accident that occurred when he restricted her breathing during the encounter.

Fawley said they were near a beach in rural Mathews County, about 70 miles east of Richmond in the early hours of Sept. 6, the sources confirmed.

Behl was last seen by her roommate at her VCU dormitory around 10:20 p.m. on Sept. 5.

The sources said Fawley also told police he panicked after Behl died and later placed her body in a ravine off a dirt road on property that adjoins land owned by an ex-girlfriend's family.

CIVIL WAR

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to understand the county's significance in the Civil War and why county government would honor these landmarks.

"When I stopped here, I could just feel the history here," Trbovich said about his first trip to Greenwich in 2004.

The inside of the chapel is a testament to history, with a sign dedicated "in loving memory of Charles Green" at the front.

Green was a member of the church during the war, and his home, known as "The Lawn," served as a Union camp in 1864, according to the National Register of Historic Places Web site.

Don Meeks, Greenwich's pastor, said there was "no hesitation" about placing the sign at the church.

"It's really an honor to be the pastor of a historical church and to have a historical marker here," he said.

Staff writer Jaclyn Pitts can be reached at (703) 369-5607.

PETITION

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Charleston County, S.C., school system, after months of conflict with the school board there.

Zullinger had informed the Manassas School Board of this at the time he was hired, school board members told the Potomac News and Manassas Journal Messenger in March 2001.

At Tuesday's School Board meeting, Teets and several other parents expressed frustration with the School Board's silence on the decision not to renew Zullinger's term.

At the meeting, several parents publicly asked Andersen, Albrecht, Linehan and Pratt to resign.

Teets said she would rather see those School Board members resign than take the matter to the circuit court.

"I have asked [Andersen] and will ask her again to resign," Teets said in a phone interview Friday.

Andersen and Albrecht will be up for re-election in 2008; Linehan and Pratt are up for re-



Zullinger

election next year.

According to the Code of Virginia, Section 24.2-233, petitions to remove an elected official from office must include the signatures of ten percent of the total number of votes cast at the last election for the office that officer holds.

Once those signatures are collected and certified, the petition is taken up by the circuit court.

In order for an official to be removed from office, the circuit court must rule that the petition states and proves that the official has demonstrated "ne-

glect of duty, misuse of office, or incompetence in the performance of duties," according to the code.

Teets says she will write petitions to remove all four members from office, but will focus her efforts on collecting signatures on the petition to remove Andersen.

"I'm going to focus on Mary Andersen because she has neglected her duty, and I can prove that," Teets said.

Andersen said that she has not neglected her duties as a School Board member.

"If I've neglected anything, I've neglected my family," Andersen said in a phone interview Friday evening.

"She's neglecting her duty by not making good decisions," Teets said. "Firing Dr. Zullinger was not a good decision."

Teets referred to accusations that Andersen used money from the Manassas school system to pay for a class she took as a Prince William County School employee in 2003 as evidence of her "misuse of office."

Andersen said that class, a "Reading in the Content Areas" course offered through the University of Virginia at Metz Middle School in 2003, was paid for with federal grants.

Andersen used no money from the Manassas school system to pay for that class, she said.

Teets also said that Andersen spoke to Manassas Mayor Douglas Waldron about the School Board's decision to not renew Zullinger's contract before that decision was made public.

Teets charged that Andersen

lating the closed session laws.

Andersen said she made that call after the vote was conducted in open session Sept. 27.

Teets also referred to an e-mail written by Andersen to a Manassas parent seeking explanation for the Sept. 27 decision.

In that e-mail, Andersen compared the situation to that of a parent making a decision in the best interest of a child, but not revealing all of the reasons behind that decision.

"That shows incompetence and misuse of her office," Teets said. "She's acting as if she's almighty or all powerful."

Andersen has said that she did not mean that e-mail to offend anyone. She called the analogy a "lighthearted" attempt at explaining the situation.

Linehan and Pratt did not return calls seeking comment made Friday afternoon.

Albrecht declined to comment for this story.

Teets plans to file her petition with the circuit court Monday, she said. The petition must be approved by the court before she can begin collecting signatures.

Teets plans to take the petitions to Osbourn High School's home football game to collect signatures next week, she said.

Linda Womack, general registrar for Manassas, said this may be the first time a citizen has petitioned for the removal of an elected official from office in Manassas.

"I've been in this position since 1990 and this is the first time some has contacted me about starting this process," Womack said.

Lotteries



These numbers were drawn Friday, Oct. 14:

Virginia	
Midday Pick 3	2-2-8
Midday Pick 4	9-6-4-2
Midday Cash 5	2-14-19-28-30
Pick 3	3-5-0
Pick 4	4-4-5-4
Cash 5	1-7-12-20-25

District of Columbia

Midday Lucky Nos	5-5-2
Midday D.C. Four	0-1-6-9
Lucky Numbers	8-1-9
D.C. Four	1-5-9-5
D.C. Hot Five	15-6-30-29-14
Daily Six	31-5-6-22-24-14 (26)

Maryland

Midday Pick 3	1-5-2
Midday Pick 4	3-2-9-6
Pick 3	2-4-5
Pick 4	7-4-9-3

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