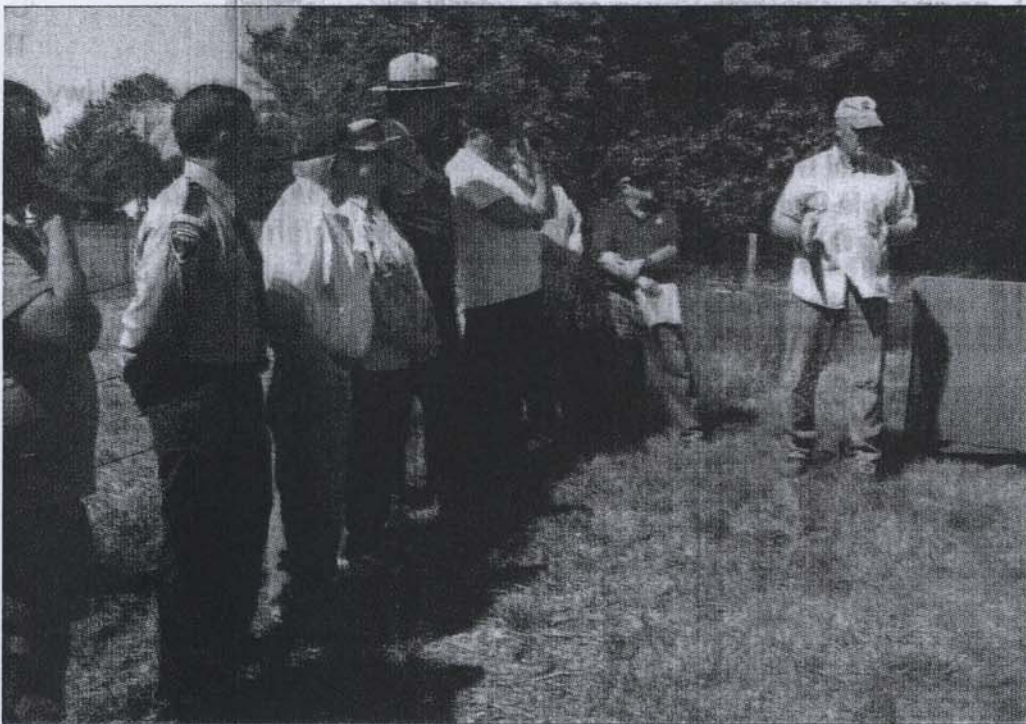


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# BULL RUN OBSERVER

WESTERN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY'S FAVORITE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Harry Leach / the Bull Run Observer

at the May 23 dedication of the Annie Snyder Hiking Trail and the Cary Jones Biking Trail connecting the Unfinished Manassas National Battlefield Park to the Conway Robinson State Forest section of the Unfinished Railroad.

## munity concerns overriding, says Stewart

MURPHY

It plants won't be compared near Innovation, "until both plants satisfy the county's concerns" about the plants, said May 27.

A public hearing set for June 2 for a special use permit (SUP) to let Finley Asphalt and Sealing, Inc., build an asphalt plant on Hornbaker Road near Innovation was postponed indefinitely, Stewart explained. He added he expects another SUP, this one for GRR Land of Virginia and scheduled for public hearing June 23,

also will be postponed.

Prince William County Planning Commission recommended the Finley SUP for approval at a public hearing May 6. The 8.8-acre site is designated industrial employment (EI) on the county's comprehensive land use plan. It is

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## In their footsteps..

By HARRY LEACH  
Observer staff

Two area women, Annie Snyder and Cary Jones, were honored in memorium on Saturday, May 23, when two new trails for public use were dedicated in Gainesville.

The Annie Snyder Hiking Trail and the Cary Jones Biking Trail connect the Unfinished Railroad in Manassas National Battlefield Park to the Conway Robinson State Forest section of the Unfinished Railroad.

The side-by-side trails, each one mile in length, begin at Pageland Lane, close to the farm entrance to the Manassas National Battlefield Park. They are about 90 percent finished. The late Annie Snyder and Dave and Sally Jones, parents of Cary Jones, donated the trail easements to the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club.

Approximately 25 people were on hand to enjoy the day and to honor the people who made this day possible. Among the people on hand were retired Maj. Peter Snyder, Annie Snyder's widower; Paige Snyder, Annie's daughter;

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## Hiking and biking trails now connect state forest, battlefield

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retired Lt. Col. David and Mrs. Sally Jones; retired Maj. Gen. John Hedrick, superintendent of trails for the Potomac Appalachian Trails Club; Ed Clark, superintendent of the Manassas National Battlefield Park; John "Bud" Cunnally, district manager of Potomac Appalachian Trail Club; and Terry Lasher, forester of the Conway Robinson State Forest.

The two women, Annie Snyder and Cary Jones, who were honored, were true giants.

Those of you who have moved to this area after Annie Snyder's death in 2002, missed living in the presence of a real giant. In the early days of World War 11, Annie Snyder became one of first female Marine Corps officers. She also was selected as one of five models for "Mollie Marine." If you

go to New Orleans, you will be able to see one of these statues on Canal Street. Closer to home, one of these can be seen at the Marine University in Quantico. In her later years, she was devoted to many other causes.

For example, in 1988, a developer was building many large homes just across the street from the western end of the Manassas National Battle Park. She went on a nationwide effort to save over 500 hundred acres.

When she died, the *Washington Post* led with an obituary that said, "Annie Snyder Dies at 80: Won the Battle of Manassas." In her life time, Annie won several other battles that helped to improve our lifestyle.

Ensign Cary Jones, the daughter of Dave and Sally Jones, was a Naval Aviator. Ensign Jones lost her life as the first female naval aviator to die in service to her

country. This pioneer was most interested in advancing the cause of women in all of the Armed Forces. Following in her dad's footsteps, Cary was appointed to the United States Naval Academy. A 1981 classmate described her as an enthusiastic cheerleader, gymnast, swimmer, track star and all American girl.

Cary was not only coordinated but also talented, shown in her lead in a musical. Her classmate considered her to be a natural leader who had great initiative as well as patience, and she also exhibited great responsibility. She felt that Cary knew exactly what she wanted and what she wanted was to fly.

As we enjoy our hiking and biking on these trails over the coming years, I think all of us who use these trails should take a moment to remember Annie Snyder and Cary Jones.