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# School board names three new schools

Earlier this month, the Chesterfield County School Board selected names for three new schools scheduled to open over the next two years. They include:

- Elizabeth N. Scott Elementary School, named for a well-respected educator who worked as both a principal and assistant principal at Enon Elementary School, and later volunteered at the school after her retirement. She also taught at Bellwood Elementary and volunteered at Chalkley Elementary. The Elizabeth N. Scott Elementary School is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007 in the Bermuda District with a capacity of 900 students.
- Winterpock Elementary School, named after one of Chesterfield's oldest communities. The school is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007 in the Matoaca District with a capacity of 900 students.
- Tomahawk Creek Middle School, named after Tomahawk Creek, which flows through the community where the school is located. The school is scheduled to open in the fall of 2008 in the Matoaca District with a capacity of 1,200 students.

### Performing arts center seeks money

More than 100 Chesterfield residents attended a fundraising effort by the Virginia Performing Arts Foundation (VPAF) at Celebrations on Nov. 10 as the foundation tries to raise \$20 million by year's end. Jim Ukrop, VPAF chair and chairman of Ukrop's Super Markets, asked for pledges after several speakers updated guests on the status of building a new performing arts center in downtown Richmond.

Delegate Frank Hall, Clover Hill Supervisor Art Warren and School Board member Dianne Pettitt attended the event.

### Lockdown at Salem Church schools

Salem Church elementary and middle

schools were locked down on Nov. 15 after school officials were told a suspended student was on school grounds with a weapon. Police officers were called to the scene, but the student was not there. However, he had been at the school the previous day and is now facing trespassing charges.

### Killer of bank guard executed

John Yancey Schmitt, 33, was executed via lethal injection at Greenville Correctional Center on Nov. 9 for the 1999 murder of a bank security guard in Chesterfield County.

Schmitt was convicted of capital murder and received the death penalty for killing 39-year-old Earl Dunning. During a bank robbery, Dunning stood between Schmitt and the bank tellers, and was shot and killed while attempting to protect them.

Schmitt and an accomplice had robbed the same bank a month earlier.

"Come on with it" were Schmitt's final words.

### Police investigate three-vehicle crash

The Chesterfield County Police Department is investigating a three-vehicle crash that occurred at the intersection of Charter Colony Parkway and Tippecanoe Trail around 10:56 a.m. on Nov. 14.

Police said the driver of a 1998 Honda Prelude pulled out of the John Tyler Community College Midlothian campus into the path of a 1995 GMC pickup truck that was traveling south on Charter Colony Parkway. As a result of that collision, the Prelude then struck a 1989 Ford Mustang.

The driver of the Prelude was taken by helicopter to VCU Medical Center with severe injuries. The driver of the GMC truck was taken by ambulance to VCU Medical Center with injuries that were not life-threatening. The driver of the Mustang was not injured.

The crash remains under investigation.



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# Citizens oppose Beach Road development

By Greg Pearson

STAFF WRITER

Despite the rain and being scheduled on election night, about 150 citizens turned out at Spring Run Elementary School to voice their concerns about a proposed 53.7-acre rezoning located west of Pocahontas State Park and south of Hensley Road. Owners Yi Nan Chou and Wan Fen Chou are seeking the rezoning for a new development of single-family homes called Greenacres. Last September, the Chesterfield Planning Commission deferred the rezoning until Jan. 16, in part, because not enough neighbors had been contacted for an earlier community meeting. Only three neighbors attended that meeting.

At the community meeting held earlier this month, Matoaca Planning Commissioner Wayne Bass congratulated the residents for "the best turnout I've seen since being on the planning commission." The citizen effort was led by resident Rick Brindle.

The Greenacres rezoning request is adjacent to another 290 acres connected to Beach Road, which was rezoned to single-family in 1987 and 1989 prior to the county enacting the proffer system that requires developers to pay for the impact on county services.

Thus far, the planning commission has

focused on the road system within the parcels since many commissioners believe the rezoning will receive board approval whatever the commission recommends.

Existing residents were primarily concerned about the new community's impact on roads and schools. Some residents of Donegal Glen, adjacent to the north of the proposed community, didn't want traffic cutting through their neighborhood. But a county policy addressing connectivity requires at least two entrances to a community of 50 or more homes for safety reasons.

The planning department has recommended approval of the rezoning with qualifications. The development would pay almost \$470,000 in proffers and add another 16 children to public schools. The minimum one acre lot size would have public water, but private septic systems.

The rezoning case lies in the Matoaca District where numerous residential rezonings in recent years have angered local residents. All supervisor seats are open for election next year, and one declared newcomer—Kevin Salminen—was passing out bumper stickers for his candidacy at the community meeting. He is a member of the Chesterfield Republican Committee, but sources say party regulars are lining up behind former Fire Chief Steve Elswick.

