

Overcrowding has impact on the county's students

Editor:

This is to express support for the general proposition set forth in the commentary by Dan Walsh that appeared July 8 in the Northern Virginia Daily.

Northern Virginia
The Daily

Mike Gochenour, *Publisher*

Linda Ash, *Editor*

Wm. E. Kelster, *Publisher, 1972-1996*

E. Earl Kelster, *Publisher, 1932-1972*

Submissions policy

www.nvdaily.com/submissions

We welcome letters that are well written, thoughtful and thought-provoking on a variety of topics.

Upload letters and commentaries online at <http://tiny.cc/nvdaily>. Email letters to news@nvdaily.com or mail them to:

Editor

152 N. Holliday St.,
Strasburg, Va. 22657

The school children of Shenandoah County are the future. They deserve the best available opportunity to acquire the necessary skills and training which will permit them to compete when they reach adulthood. The school system has many dedicated and skilled teachers, but in order for them to be able to provide their students with the best education, they require the best facilities and tools available.

Having had the opportunity to tour the schools on the northern campus as well as W.W. Robinson Elementary School and to have spoken with the principals or assistant principals as well as many of the teachers, I have been made aware of serious overcrowding, particularly in the two elementary schools.

The lunch period at the elementary schools starts for some at 10:30 and continues until 1:30. Those students who finish lunch at 1:30 are certainly hungry before they eat, and those who eat at 10:30 are probably hungry well before classes end for the day. It is doubtful that hungry children are able to learn at their full capacity.

Further, because of space limitations, in many instances classes must be held in areas that were obviously not designed to serve as classrooms, and, because of the layout at Sandy Hook, some teachers are unable to function at full efficiency.

In addition, as Mr. Walsh points out, the

quality of the school system has a substantial impact upon economic development and the ability to those businesses that will provide quality high paying jobs and increase the county's tax base.

Robert "Bob" Baker, Strasburg

Consider alternative power sources now

Editor:

I am presently on tour of several of the countries bordering the Baltic Sea.

In Norway, wind turbines are now providing 35-40 percent of the country's electric power with a goal of 70 percent by 2020.

In Germany, we drove past mile after mile of wind turbines along the "big roads" and saw a huge number of homes on the "back roads" with solar panels on their roofs. Even the really old farmhouses had solar panels.

State Sen. Mark Obenshain wants Virginia to "consider" alternative energy sources in 20-30 years. By that time, the rest of the industrialized world will not be laughing at our lack of renewable energy initiative. Instead, they will be pitying us as we continue to pollute the atmosphere in the name of business.

April Moore will begin working on alternative power sources next year if we elect her to replace the bad vision of Mr. Obenshain.

Lee Jette, Maurertown