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## **Developer Donates New Concession Stand**

For 29 years, the Arundel High School Boosters have struggled to cope with the shortcomings of a cramped, worn-out concession stand.

Volunteers and their helpers have carried water for washing up, put up with flickering lights and trekked outside to portable toilets.

That will all come to an end by next fall, when Koch Homes of Annapolis builds a 2,000 square foot building to house a modern concession stand and restrooms.

Bernie Walter, longtime athletic director at the school in Gambrills, calls the \$80,000 gift "a miracle."

This is something the boosters have worked for a long time and have not been able to do," he said.

Annapolis-based Koch Homes is developing Two Rivers, 1,900 homes for seniors that are planned in an area bordering Patuxent Road, west of Crofton. The company is one of the most active home builders in the county.

As part of an effort to build community support for the project, company president Gary Koch asked Greater Crofton Council if there was anything the community needed.

Council President Torrey Jacobsen responded with a resounding yes.

From those negotiations arose the idea of replacing the crumbling concession stand at the high school.

The brick and concrete structure will be built by Koch Homes.

The school board has promised to foot the bill for installation of water and sewer lines to the building and to hook up the electrical systems.

In an arrangement similar to other high schools that desperately needed improvements to their athletic fields, the board has already set aside a budget of \$200,000 to make the concession area fully operational.

Once the new facility is complete, the boosters hope to build more bleachers for spectators and relocate the entrance to the field, moving it closer to the new concession stand.

John Puglise, president of the Boosters Club, and his wife Kathy have spent a lot of time in the aging building. They are there for every game, elbow to elbow with the 10 or so volunteers who man concessions for home games.

Three hasn't been a night this year when the electric didn't go out," said Mrs. Puglise. "It takes a lot of power to run the microwaves, stove, fryers, refrigerators and warmers. It just wasn't built for that."

Having a new building will be a godsend, Mrs. Puglisi said, loudly echoed by her husband.

"It was like Christmas coming early when we got the news," he said.

The old structure will remain, to be used for storage and additional sales.

"It won't be wasted," said Mr. Jacobsen.