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Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

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Classroom Crisis?

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President of Calvert Education Association (CEA) Dona Ostenso (left) and President of Calvert Association of Education Support Staff (CAESS) Stacy Tayman at the Oct. 10 Calvert County Board of Education meeting. The poster shows pictures of trashed classrooms and injured staff members.



LOCAL 4

Breakout session at Kindness Summit



COMMUNITY 23

Church holds Octoberfest



SPORTS 26

They are still biting.

“AS THE ASSAULTS ARE MOUNTING, THE SEVERITY IS INCREASING AT AN ALARMING RATE.”

CALVERT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT DONA OSTENSO ON TEACHER SAFETY CONCERNS

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 10/17 63° 46°F Partly Cloudy	Fri 10/18 64° 45°F Mostly Sunny	Sat 10/19 66° 51°F Sunny	Sun 10/20 71° 59°F Showers
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Plans for Beach Elementary Scaled Down Based on Lower Population Projections

By Dick Myers
Editor

A smaller, new Beach Elementary School is now on the drawing boards. The Calvert County Board of Education, at their Oct. 10 meeting, agreed with a staff recommendation to reduce the size and the cost based on projected enrollment when the new school is scheduled to open in Fiscal Year 2023.

The original proposal had been for four classrooms for each grade. Under the new proposal there will be three classrooms per grade, plus three overflow classrooms if any of the grades requires a fourth because of the number of students in that grade.

The proposed cost is estimated at \$25.6 million, Director of School Construction Shuchita Warner told the board. That would be split with \$12.3 million coming from the state and \$13.4 million from the county. Warner said the new price would be almost \$4 million less than current projections for the larger school.

Warner said the cost projections for the smaller school would be more in line with what the county has in their Capital Improvement Plan, which also includes monies this year for design and construction. The state has been asked to advance their approvals so the design can begin early next year.

The change in the size came about because Warner said that even with about 70 additional students projected for Beach Elementary School from new devel-



Existing Beach Elementary School

opment in Chesapeake Beach, there would be further offsetting declines in the overall school population, mirroring what is happening elsewhere in the school system.

The state and the county use different figures to de-

termine the capacity of a school, with the county number larger because the county uses a higher pupil/teacher ratio than does the state. The scaled-down version would have capacity for 100 fewer students, or 490-505 based on state calculations, and 545 based on county figures. The existing school has a 370 state-rated capacity and the school currently exceeds that.

Apart from the population capacity, the county is telling the state, "The existing facility is well beyond its useful life and is unable to provide adequate core and instructional space."

There are five elementary schools adjacent to Beach Elementary. Some are under capacity, like Plum Point, and others, like Windy Hill are over capacity. The schools' Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the state last week, however, says, "The overcrowding at Mt. Harmony Elementary requires that Sunderland and Windy Hill Elementary, both adjacent schools to Mt. Harmony, be considered to relieve overcrowding. However, Mt. Harmony's overcrowding cannot be analyzed in isolation as Beach Elementary is projected to add students that will exceed its current capacity. Since both schools share Sunderland and Windy Hill as adjacent schools, all five schools must be analyzed in any school boundary adjustment analysis."

Warner will now share the board's revised plan for Beach Elementary with the county commissioners.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Aircraft Has Fitful Takeoff at Chesapeake Ranch Airport



A plane abruptly crashed at Chesapeake Ranch Estates over the weekend.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

An airplane carrying its pilot and a young person engaged in an open house event at Chesapeake Ranch Estates Airport abruptly landed almost immediately after takeoff on Oct. 12, the airport manager reported.

Bernie Wunder told The County Times that he did not see the aircraft strike the ground – he was in his own aircraft at the time during the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles program over the weekend.

"I was in my airplane and saw a cloud of dust," Wunder said.

While the exact cause of the mishap is not yet known, Wunder said, according to witness reports, that the plane banked left and then right, with the tips of the wings striking the ground, before coming back to the taxiway and stopping.

There were no injuries to either the pilot or the 15-year-old male in the aircraft, Wunder said.

The pilot of the airplane was Paul Gambacorta, based at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport, said Wunder.

Gambacorta's aircraft was a home-assembled model that he had acquired from another owner, Wunder said, and was not built by a manufacturer.

Gambacorta's aircraft was FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) certified, said Wunder.

The FAA completed its on-site investigation and the plane remains at a Chesapeake Ranch Estates hangar, Wunder said.

"It puzzles us all really," he said regarding the cause of the crash.

The aircraft suffered significant damage.

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Schools Hold Kindness Summit

By Dick Myers
Editor

In the past it's been called the Anti-Bullying Summit. On Oct. 11, for its ninth year, it got a name change to "Kindness Summit."

Supervisor of Student Services – School Psychologists and Social Workers Dr. Melissa Moore explained, "We wanted to change the name to the Kindness Summit in order to direct more positive attention to the act of prevention. We did not want to give accolades to bullying anymore. We are more interested in promoting kindness and positive actions for students."

The summit was held at St. John Vianney Family Life Center in Prince Frederick and was attended by representatives of all of the county's public schools – elementary, middle and high.

Before the speakers, clips were shown of public service announcement videos that were produced by the students from the last summit.

Director of Student Services Kim Roof noted that the surveys the students take, for both the state and county, help the school system assess the level of the problems that would be addressed at the summit.

The question asked was were principals, teachers and students respectful to them. While the adults fared well, the survey respondents report that a majority of their classmates are not respectful to them, with middle schoolers showing only 34 percent being "caring and friendly with each other."

Roof asked, "Is that a kindness issue? Could be. Is it a perception issue? Could be, but what other things play into that? What other things cause people to feel the way they do? Is it a comment? Is it how we look at each other? Is it our body language? Is it what we say or is it what we don't say?" She added, "Do people sometimes feel invisible, that nobody understands. Nobody knows them. Nobody respects them."

She went on to ask, "Then what's the point? The point is we all want to be better people than the people that we see. Sometimes actions are not appropriate. We all want to be good people. Each and every one of you that are sitting here today are good people on your own right. Sometimes we make not very good decisions. That's okay because you know what, we have to learn from our mistakes. That's what school's about. It's about the learning process. That's what



A breakout session at the Kindness Summit.

living is about. It's about the learning process. Even older people make mistakes, but it's what you do with it when you make them that counts."

Roof challenged the students to take the day's lessons back to their schools. "I want you to think about this whole act of kindness, about how we treat each other, about how the expectations you have as an individual, but also what is it that you can do as an individual"

Guest speaker for the morning session was Kayla Woehlke, who is a social work intern in the school system. She is a 2015 Northern High School graduate who currently attends Salisbury State University. When she graduates, she aspires to do mental health work in the schools. And, she was bullied beginning in the 7th grade.

She said the bullying changed her. "I'm a lot different now than I was 10 years ago," she said, adding, "Mentally and emotionally I stand up for myself and for others. My confidence has increased, and my attitude is a lot more positive."

Her second message was, "Bullies can change too. I believe we can learn from our past mistakes and grow." She noted "I also believe in forgiveness. It helped me to pass what's happened growing up. My life is super easy."

She said the happy child she was up until the 7th grade changed dramatically when her best friend started to call her "gay."

Woehlke said, "Remember that this was also 10 years ago before people started to become more educated and accepting of people's different sexual orientations. The people who bullied me did it to hurt me and isolate me from others. I knew people were talking about me behind my back and it felt like no matter what I did, people continue to call me names. I tried to act like it didn't bug me, but it did."

Her friend's rumors spread, and others turned against her. She said, "I soon realized that bullies like to have other people involved because that helps them to feel more powerful and that made me feel more weak."

She explained the effects of bullying: "I was terrified of going outside of my home, going on the bus and going to school. My grades suffered and I started

to isolate myself from everyone. I felt like I had this big target on my back that I could never seem to get rid of."

She started skipping school and eventually told her parents what was going on. "My parents were lifesavers because they introduced me to my school counselor who helped me with bus arrangements. My counselor was a lifesaver too because she talked to me and listened to me."

The experience left her bitter and insecure. "The minute anyone was saying anything to you or even disagree with me I took that as an attack on me and I would lash out. I had little patience and we'd go off on people for the little things. I thought that I might need a protection even when it didn't. Overall, I was an unhappy and negative person to be around. My parents feared me to some extent because of how explosive and unpredictable I was in my head. All I kept thinking was how I was never getting bullied again, but in the process of putting everyone else down, I ended up becoming what I feared."

Bullying almost got her suspended. "I ended up seeing a counselor and she gave me strategies to use. Whenever I felt defensive, we talk about forgiveness and how I can stand up for myself, but not in a hostile way."

Because of the counseling she reached out to one of the girls who had bullied her. "We ended up meeting and we were older and more mature. We talked about the bullying. I let her know how she impacted me, and I have forgiven her. She apologized and little did I know that her parents were going through a nasty divorce at the time and she took that out on me."

She concluded by saying, "I was finally able to make peace with my past. My last message to everyone here, it's not be afraid to stand up for yourself and if you don't feel like you could do it alone, then it's okay to go to your parents, a teacher you trust or a counselor."

After hearing from the speakers, the students adjourned to the gymnasium for breakout sessions facilitated by adult leaders to give the students an opportunity to share their own experiences.

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Northern Middle Tennis Courts Repair OK'd To be Used by High School Tennis Team

By Dick Myers
Editor

After a full court press by parents, students and coaches for more tennis courts at Northern High School, they will be getting some of what they wanted. The Calvert County Board of Education at their Oct. 10 meeting approved the repair and refurbishment of two tennis courts at Northern Middle School for use of the high school tennis team.

At a public forum this past summer, the board was criticized for only providing four tennis courts at the new Northern High School, compared to eight at Huntingtown High School. While construction is underway at the new high school, the team is practicing at Dunkirk Regional Park, which they say is inadequate for them to prepare for meets, forcing them to use a pickleball court for additional practice time.

The school board approved a

contract for up to \$107,659 for the work. Staff said it was possible to save some money if the work at the middle school was done in conjunction with the tennis court construction at the high school.

But if that was done, the extra tennis courts would not be ready for the spring season, which prompted board President Dawn Balinski to question the delay. "I thought we were going to be able to institute this pretty immediately so that in the spring the tennis team might have options of using those two courts," she said.

School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry said, "Certainly it might save a couple of bucks, but we have to keep in mind also that the four new courts that are part of the final part of the construction of new Northern High School are not going to be ready in time for tennis season in the spring. They're going to be about the last thing done. The tennis team is looking at a Dunkirk



Shuchita Warner

Park, so I have no problem with going ahead and moving forward with finishing these two courts. That just means the tennis team is going to be split in two locations for practices and games."

Student Member of the Board (SMOB) Abigail Setzfand questioned the fairness of Northern having four courts (or six with the two at Northern Middle

School) and Huntingtown having eight. Director of School Construction Shuchita Warner explained, "The original education specs for the project did request eight courts. However, when the project was bid and then rebid and value engineered, we could really accommodate only four courts. There were a number of classrooms, team rooms and other items that had to be cut out of the project so we could not accommodate eight courts."

Curry also explained one difference between the Huntingtown and Northern situations: "It was empty ground when Huntingtown high school was built and designed and it wasn't a school built around a school. And here we have the complications of a school campus where we're trying to build a school around a school as well as provide a minimal number of required parking spaces. Folks have said you can just give up part of the parking lot and put in more tennis courts.

And that's not an option either."

Warner said they also looked at squeezing a fifth court next to the new four. She said, "Along that north-south orientation was the only space that we really had. In order to accommodate that, we would have to build an extremely high retaining wall. We would have to do some major underpinning and with all of the massive grading and changes to the storm water management, which is right around that area, that cost is estimated to be over \$400,000 just for that one court."

Board member Bill Phalen proposed that they investigate the possible purchase of adjacent land to construct a fifth court.

"I'm thinking also when we build a new Northern Middle School, it is a possibility that those tennis courts won't be there anymore," he said. The middle school project is slated to begin in fiscal year 2023.

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Raiders of the Lost Cause: Lecture on Last Confederate Bay Raid

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County author Don Shomette is about to release his 18th book, "Anaconda's Tale, the Civil War on the Potomac Frontier, 1861-1865." He will be discussing an intriguing episode captured in the book at a public lecture Sunday, Oct. 20, 2-3 p.m. at the North Beach Town Hall.

The Dunkirk resident told The County Times that Confederate raiders were intent on capturing Union ships on orders from Gen. Robert E. Lee for his army that was desperate for supplies. In the waning days of the war, Shomette said, "His men were starving, and they were out of every necessity of life."

Raids throughout the Chesapeake region were not uncommon during the war. Early in the conflict Richard Thomas of St. Mary's County, in an indication of the area's Southern leanings, dressed as a woman, boarded a steamboat bound for Baltimore and once there captured a ship called the St. Nicholas. "This terrifies the Union, because this is right in their backyard. So, efforts are sent out

to interdict him because he's got to do it again," Shomette said.

A group of detectives and policemen set out to find him. The trail leads to Fairhaven, where they find the ship he had captured heading back to Baltimore for another raid. "They go to arrest him, and he's disappeared, which is kind of the cool part of the story, which I'm not going to tell you," Shomette said. You'll have to come to the lecture to find out.

That all happened in 1861. Fast forward to 1865 and the raiding is still going on. One of the hotspots was a steamboat landing in Fairhaven.

Two raiders, Confederate naval officer John C. Brain and a cavalry officer named Fitzhugh, along with 20 other men launch a boat from the Rappahannock River in Virginia and work their way up the Bay through a heavy Union blockade of 42 ships. They pass Point Lookout Prisoner of War Camp, so close that they could hear voices from shore.

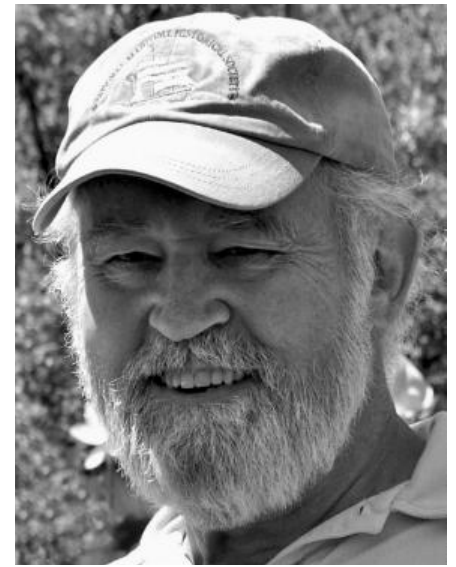
When they arrive in Fairhaven there's a fleet of oyster boats there and they capture one and make it their headquarters, intent on also capturing a steamboat. Dressed as artisans, they found the

steamboat in West River just in time to see it leaving the harbor.

They go back to Fairhaven and wait for another steamboat to arrive in the harbor, which it does. Shomette said, "They board making like they're citizens and then pull out their guns and they capture the ship. On board are 30 former slaves who are now freeman. There are a number of black crewman as well as white passengers. So., they let all the whites go and hold the black prisoners because they're going to sell them as slaves again, when they get back to the Confederacy. They get the people that they released to swear that they will not make a noise or cry help for two hours. And of course, the first thing they do is they call the federal authority." And Union boats are dispatched.

Meanwhile the raiders hear guns going off on shore and they asked the prisoners what was going on. Shomette said they responded, "Oh, you didn't know. Richmond has just surrendered."

Of his research, Shomette said, "My book is a big book with 700 some pages, with a lot of graphics, a lot of pictures that have never been published before."



Calvert County author Don Shomette.

Of the attack on Washington which was launched from Benedict, Shomette said, "that was actually a diversion to assist an amphibious operation, a land-sea operation, to free what they thought was about 20,000 prisoners at Point lookout, which would have created a whole new Confederate core." That failed to get off the ground.

Shomette in addition to his writing has been instrumental in the creation of the National Marine Sanctuary at Malloys Bay, home of the Potomac Ghost Fleet. The formal dedication will be Nov. 9.

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GOODYEAR

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High Tides Cause Flooding



A combination of a storm passing offshore and a full moon caused abnormally high tides and flooding over the weekend, including the boat basin at Calvert Marine Museum, which closed the area usually used for model boat building during Patuxent River Appreciation Day Oct. 12.

Lusby Woman Killed in Single-Car Accident

Deputies from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Patrol Bureau and Crash Reconstruction Team responded on Oct. 9 at approximately 9:04 a.m., to the area of northbound MD Route 4 just south of MD Route 765 (HG Trueman Road north entrance) in Lusby for a report of a single vehicle collision.

Upon arrival, it was determined that 2009 Toyota Corolla was traveling northbound on MD Route

4 and the driver lost control of the vehicle. The vehicle left the roadway and struck several trees on the east side of MD Route 4.

The operator of the vehicle was identified as Denisha Rashida Stephen, a 27-year-old female, of Lusby. Stephen succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased on the scene.

At this time, vehicle speed and driver error are major contributing factors

to this collision.

This collision is under investigation by Cpl. V. Bortchevsky of the Crash Reconstruction Team. Anyone with additional information about the collision are asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800 or e-mail Cpl. V. Bortchevsky at vlad.bortchevsky@calvertcountymd.gov

Press Release from CCSO

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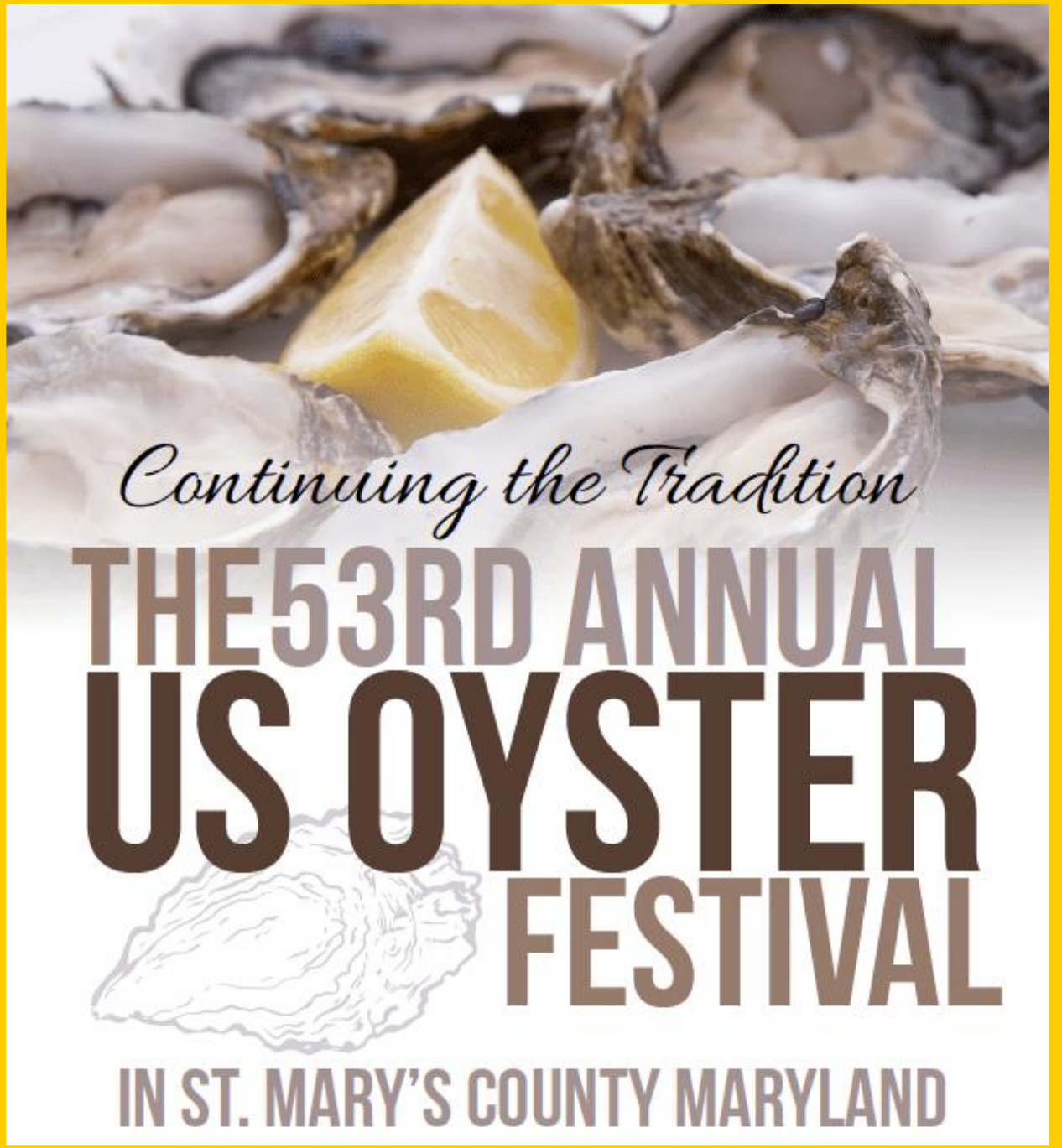


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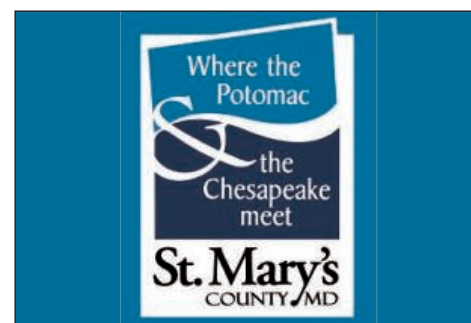
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Is There a Crisis in Calvert County's Classrooms?

Teacher's Broken Jaw Cited as Evidence of Violence

By Dick Myers
Editor

Mutual Elementary School teacher Michelle Hillyer is recovering from a broken jaw she received when a student head butted her at the school. Leadership of Calvert County's teachers and support staff had already planned to discuss the concerns about staff safety when the incident happened Oct. 8 at Mutual Elementary School in Port Republic.

President of Calvert Education Association (CEA) Dona Ostenson and President of Calvert Association of Education Support Staff (CAESS) Stacy Tayman had prepared a visual showing pictures of classrooms throughout the county that had been ransacked and staff injuries.

Hillyer's injury brought new urgency to their plea and it also brought out Hillyer's husband Will to speak along with the leaders at the Oct. 10 Calvert County Board of Education meeting.

During the public comment section of the meeting, Hillyer, a 24-year Army veteran, said, "During my time in the military, I have conducted counter-drug ops throughout central America, off the coast of Cuba and throughout the Bahamas. During that time, I've only gone to the emergency room once in the line of my duty. My wife has been to the emergency room twice in two years, so I kind of equate this to a fact that my wife's job teaching is more dangerous than what I did serving in the military, and I think that's unacceptable."

Ostenson reminded the board that they had been briefed before about classroom safety issues. She said, "Since then, the number of staff assaults has risen. As the assaults are mounting, the severity is increasing at an alarming rate. I do not want to be standing before you today delivering this message. I do not want to have to be telling you that evacuating classrooms is happening in our elementary schools daily. I do not want to come here with the news that a teacher's jaw was broken by a student, but this just happened Tuesday and it is heartbreaking. I do not want to show you pictures of bruises, bite marks, cracked teeth, and destroyed classrooms, but this is the price that your staff is paying for your changes to the Board of

Education Policy 3215."

The board recently changed its 3215 policy on seclusion and restraint under pressure from some parents. The policy now requires seclusion and restraint only to be used when there is imminent danger to the child or others. The education leaders say that is making it much more difficult to control unruly children.

The policy change was spearheaded by school board member Inez Claggett. She defended the policy change in an email to The County Times. She wrote: "I stand behind the revisions I recommended to Board of Education Policy 3215, which I encouraged my colleagues to support. The adopted revisions brought the policy into compliance with MSDE Technical Assistance Bulletin 19-02 and State Law. Challenging behaviors manifesting within Calvert County Public Schools are not the result of the adopted revisions made within Policy 3215. I also do not believe any injuries incurred by teachers within CCPS classrooms were a result of the adopted revisions. Testimony at yesterday's Board of Education meeting indicates these challenging behaviors, and the related injuries suffered by our teachers, have been in existence for the past few years.

"I support providing a safe and supportive environment for each staff member and each student of the School System. Therefore, I continue to advocate for appropriate funding for our schools, and the equitable allocation of those funding resources which supports addressing the physical, social and emotional wellness of our staff and students. Within the authority provided to me by state law, I will work collaboratively with my fellow board members to address the concerns raised by individuals who provided public comments at yesterday's meeting."

Ostenson also stated at the board meeting, "There are students coming to school having experienced intense trauma who cannot regulate their emotions or behavior and are regularly assaulting staff out of frustration. But now what is even more tragic is that these traumatized students are traumatizing other students and staff in a space that is supposed to be safe. When a classroom is evacuated because of a child's behavior, it leads to the classroom being ruined

and a loss of instructional time for every other student in that classroom.

"In addition, the other children are now terrified and no longer feel they have a safe place to learn because they are seeing their teacher, the person they love, being hit or harmed. A child in crisis also disrupts the surrounding classrooms due to the throwing of furniture, the screaming and pounding on walls, preventing learning from occurring."

Ostenson said a behavior development teacher has recently resigned and they cannot find a qualified replacement.

She said, "We need students who have experienced personal trauma or who have behavior disorders to have the SST IEP process expedited to determine their correct educational placement. I think we all would agree that there is a line in which a school system is no longer providing a healthy learning environment for all children and it breaks my heart to say that I as a 30-year teacher think we are sadly approaching that mark for some of our students."

Tayman said it was not only an issue of protecting teachers. "During this school year alone, just over a month, and we've had an instructional assistant sustain a broken nose by being struck in the face by a student, another ESP (Educational Support Person) opted for a lower paying position so that she could be transferred from the environment that was triggering stress-related anxiety issues. We've had another who was repeatedly struck on her back by an escalated student trying to shield another from being injured and recently an employee sought emergency medical attention for the work-related stress and blood pressure issues. These are not inclusive events. These are just a small sampling."

After the school board meeting, Ostenson and Tayman issued a clarifying statement to The County Times: "We want to make sure that people understand our BOE message was not about 'problem children,' but the lack of resources being provided to administrators, teachers, support staff, and students in the schools and that the BOE policy is restricting the adults from protecting themselves and others that are leading to the assaults and classrooms being destroyed."



Will Hillyer, husband of teacher whose jaw was broken by a student

Also speaking at the Oct. 10 school board meeting in support of the local education leaders was Cheryl Bost, president of the Maryland State Education Association, which represents 74,000 educators state-wide, the fourth and fifth grade teacher from Baltimore County said, "I'm here to support their efforts and asking you decision makers here in Calvert County to take immediate action to provide a safe working and learning environment for all students and educators and to fulfill the oath that you have taken as board members. They are asking each of you to go to the schools, meet with the staff and the administration, see the conditions firsthand and work side by side to find remedies. The conditions that allow students to be put in danger are not acceptable." Bost added, "There also appears to be a different interpretation of whether or not adults can take action when students are violent and destructive. The need to physically touch a student to keep the student and others safe is allowable under Maryland statute. In fact, we believe to not do so when needed is intentionally allowing an unsafe learning and working environment. It is not acceptable to tell staff members that it's okay to be hit, kicked, bitten, or harmed in any way."

Bost also said, "This is a cri-

sis that is happening under your watch. If you believe it is acceptable, then we demand you issue protective gear to the staff members you were placing in this unsafe, dangerous condition. We are asking that you immediately expedite proper student supports in placements and provide extra hands on deck as you determine sustainable fixes. We will be advising staff members on a case by case basis that if assaulted to press charges against the student and hold the system legally responsible for not providing a safe working environment. We hope we will not have to take this action. We need a safe learning and working environment."

After the four speakers, School Board President Dawn Balinski said she would be visiting Barstow Elementary School this week and planned to discuss the problem while there. "We would definitely be discussing this as we go forward," she said.

As is board policy, the members did not comment at the meeting on what the speakers had to say.

School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry said the problems usually occur in special needs classrooms and are "a manifestation of their disability."

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PREPARE YOUR DECK FOR WINTER

Homeowners often take steps to winterize the interior of their homes in the weeks before winter's arrival, but such efforts should extend to the outside of a home as well.

Decks make for great gathering places when the weather permits. Decks are where many people spend their free time and eat their meals come spring and summer, when the temperatures climb and the sun sets well into the evening. But as summer turns to fall, homeowners must take measures to protect their decks from potentially harsh winter weather.

- Inspect the deck for problems. Decks tend to be used more often in summer than any other time of year. That makes fall and early winter an ideal time to inspect for wear and tear and any additional issues that may have cropped up throughout the summer. Damaged boards and loose handrails should be fixed before winter arrives, especially for homeowners who plan to use their decks in winter. Fixing such issues in winter and even into spring may be difficult thanks to harsh conditions, so make good use of the relatively calm autumn weather to fix any issues on the deck.
- Clear the deck of potted plants. Even homeowners who intend to use their decks in winter should remove potted plants from the deck in the fall. The home improvement experts at

HGTV note that moisture can get trapped between deck boards and plastic, wood or ceramic containers in cold weather, and that can contribute to mildew, discoloration or decay.

- Store unnecessary furniture. Homeowners who like to sit on their decks in winter will no doubt want to leave some furniture out over the winter. But those with lots of furniture for entertaining guests can likely move the majority of that furniture into a garage or shed for the winter. HGTV notes that doing so will prevent the potential formation of blemishes on the deck that can result from inconsistent weathering.
- Remove snow, but do so carefully. Prolonged contact with snow and ice can damage a deck. As a result, homeowners should clear snow from their decks when accumulation is significant. HGTV recommends using a snow blower on the deck to avoid scarring. If a shovel must be used, push snow with the planks to reduce the risk of damaging the deck.

Homeowners who take steps to protect their decks throughout the winter months can ensure these popular areas are ready once entertaining season returns in the spring.



DID YOU KNOW?



One way to improve curb appeal and set a property apart from others is to add decorative effects to walkways, patios and driveways. Although many homeowners turn to materials such as pavers, flagstone or brick for these purposes, a versatile and often cost-effective idea is to rely on stamped concrete. Stamped concrete, often called textured or imprinted concrete, is textured,

patterned or embossed to mimic the look of other materials, notably brick, slate, flagstone, stone, tile, and wood. Stamped concrete can be used on patios, sidewalks, driveways, pool decks, and even interior flooring. The concrete is poured and then patterned using special tools. Installing stamped concrete is best left to concrete design specialists with extensive experience in this difficult craft.

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MAKE YOUR FRONT DOOR POP



Visitors' impressions of a home are often dictated by the home's entryway. Much as one may judge a book by its cover, the same can be said about the impression that a front door and entryway can create, regardless of how accurate that impression is.

Making certain changes to an entryway can go a long way toward improving curb appeal. Entryways also can set the scene for a home's interior. Whether one chooses to be classic or bold, modern or traditional, there are various ways to quickly transform a home's entryway.

- Bold front door color. Color can dramatically enhance an entryway. Painting an existing door or replacing it with a more vivid option can do the trick. The DIY Network says certain colors stand out as favorites. These include turquoise,

yellow, red, indigo, orange, and black. The door color should complement the other shades of the home, such as those on siding and trim.

- Custom walkway. Guide guests right to the front door with an attractive (and safe) walkway. Stamped concrete or decorative paver blocks may fit the bill. This walkway can extend to the street or to the driveway.
- Contain plants. Landscaping around the entryway should be neat and well-tended. Overgrown plants or shrubbery may give off an air of neglect. Container plants and carefully curated shrubs can create a neat and inviting aura.
- Highlight the address. Make sure the home can be found easily with bold and decorative house numbers. Consider two different address signs:

one illuminated and easily viewed from the curb, and another closer to the front door.

- Utilize high-end materials. The relatively small area of real estate by the front door enables homeowners to splurge on more opulent materials that can really add a feeling of luxury. These can include colorful tiles, ornate planters, decorative wooden doors, or elaborate knobs and lighting fixtures.
- Add architectural details. Find out which architectural elements will meld with the style of the home and then incorporate them. Moldings, columns, shutters, and trim are areas to consider.

The entryway to a home garners a lot of attention. Homeowners can enhance their spaces with entryways that really make a statement

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SMALL KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS THAT MAXIMIZE FUNCTIONALITY

Many homeowners wish for expansive kitchens. Modernized kitchens that include sought after features and showcase the latest trends go a long way to improving the overall value of a home.

As desirable as such kitchens may be, some homes simply don't have enough space for a centerfold-worthy kitchen featuring an island, wine refrigerator and walk-in pantry. However, homeowners with small kitchens can still improve the form and function of their existing spaces.

- Reconfigure and revamp cabinetry. Homeowners whose kitchens are small often lament their lack of storage. Redesigning the layout of cabinets, and possibly adding some more cabinetry, may take care of certain storage issues. The experts at Merit Kitchens suggest utilizing corner space with LeMans units, lazy susans and other gadgets to make access to these areas easier. Going vertical with wall cabinets that extend to the ceiling also can

add more storage, as can roll-in work carts.

- Work with the walls. Small kitchens require clever usage of vertical space. Vertical storage units, hooks, shelving, and more can move items out of drawers and off of counters. Consider an under-the-cabinet toaster oven and microwave to create more counter space.
- Use scaled-down appliances. Shop with size in mind when looking at new appliances if you have a small kitchen. Compact versions won't take up as much space as larger alternatives. Homeowners should consider the ultimate function of the kitchen and then think about which appliances will serve them well. Homeowners with small kitchens may not need a large stand mixer or an oversized commercial stove.
- Add some glass. The DIY Network recommends incorporating glass to improve the perception of



space in small kitchens. Glass lets you see through the objects, thereby enhancing the feeling of spaciousness or what designers call "negative space." Glass also can be reflective, visually expanding the space.

- Embrace high-end materials. It costs less to renovate small spaces than bigger areas, so

homeowners may be able to afford high-end materials that really add personality to a kitchen. Flooring, counter materials and quality fixtures can really set small kitchens apart.

Small kitchens can be culinary havens with the right improvements to maximize the space.

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ADDING MORE EXTERIOR LIGHTS

Homeowners are increasingly realizing the benefits of improving the exteriors of their home, which can be just as valuable as improving the interior spaces. As individuals design picturesque garden beds and cultivate lavish lawns or revamp exteriors with architectural features, they probably want to spotlight these improvements. This is where exterior lighting can be put to great use.

Exterior illumination can cast a glow on various features, but there are many other reasons to increase lighting around the exterior of a home.

- Safety. Trips and falls can occur at night when trying to traverse walkways and landscapes in the dark, as it can be difficult to see rocks, stairs and uneven pavement. Outdoor lighting can illuminate pathways, entryways and other areas for safer access for homeowners and their guests.
- Extend outdoor entertaining. Ample lighting can increase the amount of time one can use outdoor spaces and make them the perfect gathering spot. As autumn arrives, days become shorter. However, patios, porches and more can get extended use with lighting.
- Safeguard security. A well-lit home may be less likely to be targeted by burglars than one swathed in darkness and shadows. Lights can remain on all evening or be motion-triggered. Setting lights on timers also ensures that the home is illuminated whether residents are home or not.



- Create drama. Landscape lighting designers can establish focal points around the landscape and highlight the best features of a property. Uplighting in trees, silhouetting techniques to showcase plants and spotlights to show off architectural features are all options for homeowners to consider.
- Add value. The experts at Parker Homescape, a landscape design service, say that exterior

lighting can add roughly 30 percent to the value of a home. They also indicate that 50 percent of all home buyers say that outdoor lighting is important when buying a home. If current residents are thinking about selling, now may be the time to invest in exterior lighting.

Improving a home's exterior may be as simple as adding more lighting to improve functionality and beauty.

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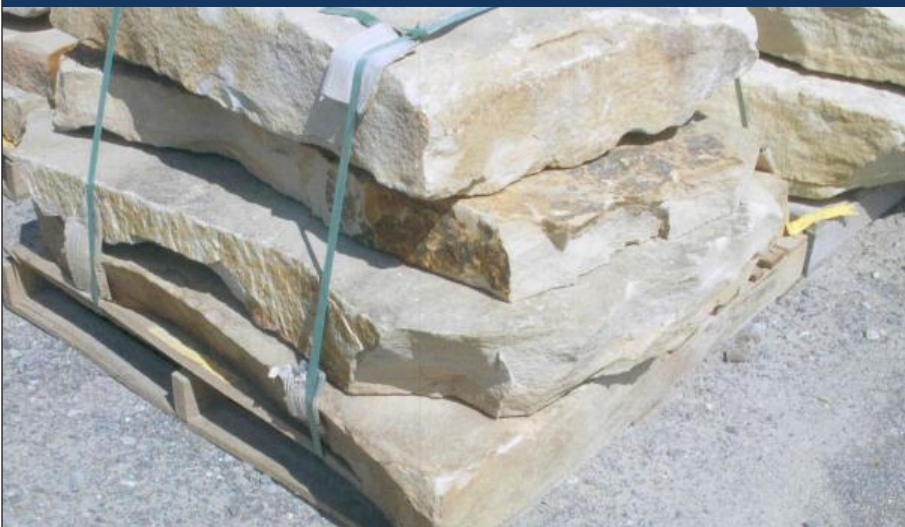
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WARMING UP NEXT TO YOUR FIRST FIRE THIS WINTER

A warm fire can make even the coldest winter day more enjoyable. Fireplaces may not get much use in spring or summer, but come late fall and throughout the winter, the fireplace can be a great place for families to gather.

Before fireplace season hits full swing, homeowners might want to brush up on a few fireplace facts so they can safely enjoy nights spent sitting by the crackling flames.

The Chimney Safety Institute of America advises homeowners with fireplaces to hire a CSIA-certified chimney sweep to clean their fireplaces. After a lengthy period of non-use, various issues could be affecting the chimney, many of which might not be noticeable to an untrained eye. Professional, certified chimney sweeps have extensive knowledge of fireplaces, making them valuable resources who can let homeowners know if any safety issues developed since fireplaces were last used. The National Protection Agency recommends that chimneys be swept at least once per year.

A full inspection of the chimney might be in order as well. Chimney service technicians will conduct thorough examinations of readily accessible portions of the chimney exterior and interior and accessible portions of the appliance and the



chimney connection. The CSIA recommends that homeowners who plan to use their chimneys as they have in the past request a Level 1 inspection, which will examine the soundness of the chimney structure and flue as well as the basic appliance installation and connections. Technicians also will verify if the chimney is free of obstruction and combustible deposits.

Homeowners also should inspect their chimney dampers before lighting their first fires of the season. Dampers should open and close smoothly. If not, a service technician can help fix or replace the damper.

Firewood is another thing homeowners must consider before lighting their first fires of the season. The CSIA says that well-seasoned firewood works best, noting that wood that is not well-seasoned will produce more smoke than heat. In addition, the home improvement resource This

Old House recommends using dense wood that's been split and stored in a high and dry place for at least six months. Oak is an example of dense wood that, when stored properly, can make for an enjoyable fireplace experience. Avoid softwoods like pine. Pine can produce a lot of creosote, which is a byproduct of wood combustion. Creosote is highly flammable, and as it builds up in a chimney, the risk for a chimney fire increases. Choosing the right wood, making sure it's well-seasoned and having a chimney professionally cleaned can reduce the risk of a creosote-related chimney fire. A Level 1 inspection should determine if there are potentially dangerous levels of creosote deposits in the chimney.

Before nestling up to a fireplace this winter, homeowners should consider a host of factors and safety measures to ensure their fireplaces are safe and ready for the season ahead.

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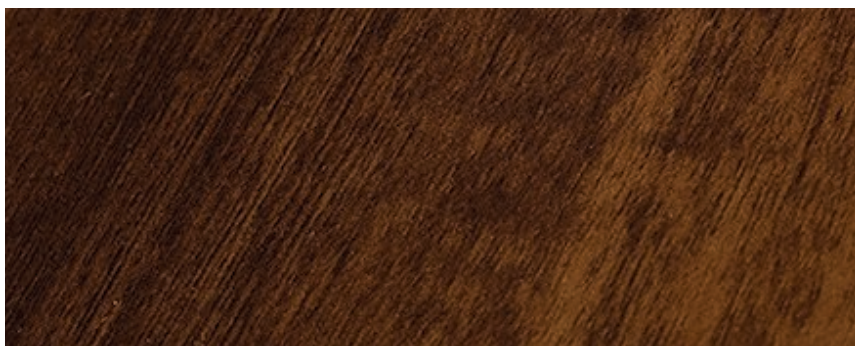
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PROTECT WOOD FLOORS FROM INCLEMENT WEATHER



Wood floors are a worthwhile investment that can improve the beauty and function of just about any room in a home. Even though wood floors are durable, and new protective treatments help seal out many of the things that may have damaged floors in the past, homeowners still need to prioritize protecting their hardwood floors.

Certain seasons of the year can be more harsh on wood floors than others. For example, seasons characterized by moisture and precipitation, particularly the early spring, winter and fall, can be hard on wood floors. The experts at ServiceMaster Clean say that cold, snowy days can damage wood floors, and Lumber Liquidators agrees that winter weather can be harsh on flooring.

Homeowners need not give up on hardwood if they live in an area that sees all four seasons. They just need to take a few steps to keep floors looking beautiful.

- Clean up the salt. Salt that keeps sidewalks and streets clear of snow and ice inadvertently gets tracked inside a home. Hard chunks of salt can scratch wood floors, and, if left to sit, that salt can eventually cause white marks and other stains. Routinely vacuuming and sweeping up salt is necessary to protect wood floors.
- Invest in shoe storage. Wet or snowy boots can create puddles around the house. Have a special mat or tray by the front door where wet shoes can be kept. A nice bench in the entryway makes it easy for residents and guests to remove

their shoes until it's time to go back outside.

- Use water-wicking mats. Homeowners will probably need a few extra mats around to tame errant drips and wipe shoes. Any entrance that might be used by people or pets should be protected. Try to avoid petroleum-based, rubber-backed mats, as they could discolor the wood floor.
- Control humidity indoors. Cold, dry air in a home can be problematic because the moisture in the wood can eventually evaporate into the air. The heat will suck that moisture from the flooring, causing it to shrink, creak and splinter and become more brittle. Think about investing in an in-line humidifier for the home's HVAC system that can keep a moderate amount of humidity in the home. Hardwood floorboards are installed to accommodate minor temperature and humidity fluctuations. This is typically a range of between 60 and 80 degrees F with a relative humidity range of 35 to 55 percent, advises ServiceMaster.
- Use the right cleaning products. Avoid excessive water to clean wood floors, and select soaps that are specially designed for wood flooring. Consult with the flooring manufacturer for a list of detergents that are safe to use.

With proper care, hardwood flooring can survive rain, snow and cold weather.

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Stay safe around power lines

As we slide into fall, many people are finishing projects around the house and yard in preparation for the coming winter months. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

- Never climb power poles or trees near power lines.
- Keep equipment away from overhead lines when carrying ladders, pool skimmers, and pruning tools.
- If you are doing work close to power lines—such as trimming trees, working on your roof, or doing exterior renovations—keep yourself, your ladder and anything you are handling a safe distance from the power line.

Most neighborhoods have underground electric lines. Call **Miss Utility** at **811** before you dig.

- Contact SMECO to disconnect power if you are doing work that requires close contact with overhead lines attached to your home.

- Use a licensed electrician for all electrical work.
- Plant trees away from overhead and underground power lines.



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4 SIMPLE WAYS TO TRIM YOUR ENERGY BILL THIS WINTER

The cost of home ownership can be considerable. One of the expenses that hits first-time homeowners the hardest upon moving into their new homes is the monthly energy bill. While utility bills for apartment dwellers rarely break the bank, those bills grow considerably when men and women are suddenly lighting, heating and cooling an entire house.

Come winter, utility bills can be especially harsh on homeowners' budgets. But there are some simple ways to trim utility bills no matter how low the mercury dips in the coming months.

- Embrace technology. Technology can help homeowners control energy costs in various ways. A programmable thermostat allows men and women to determine when their homes' thermostats turn on so they are not paying to heat an empty home. In addition to programmable thermostats, homeowners can purchase real-time electricity monitors that allow them to track usage and monitor individual rooms and circuits so they can determine where in their homes, if anywhere, they are needlessly wasting energy. In lieu of a porch light you need to leave on all night, install motion-detecting lights so you aren't paying to light porches and walkways that are not being used.



- Inspect windows and doors. Windows and doors are often to blame when energy bills start to skyrocket. As homes age, cracks can develop around windows and doors, allowing precious and expensive heat to escape. Caulk around any windows that have cracks (you may feel a draft around such windows) and replace ineffective weatherstripping around doors, which is noticeable if light is visible around doors' edges.
- Cover the water heater. Water heaters can quickly lose heat, and that can contribute to higher heating bills as winter temperatures plunge. Water heater blankets are an inexpensive yet effective investment, as they can help water heaters retain heat longer, producing lower heating bills as a result.
- Lower the water heater temperature. Speaking of water heaters, changing their temperature

is another simple way to lower utility costs during the winter. According to Energy.gov, homeowners can save between \$12 and \$30 for each 10° F reduction in water heater temperature. Many manufacturers set water heaters at 140° F, but setting the heater to 120° F can lead to considerable cost savings without sacrificing comfort. An added and cost-effective benefit to lowering water heater temperature is that a lower temperature slows mineral buildup and corrosion in water heaters and pipes, reducing the likelihood of costly repairs while extending the life of the water heater.

Winter temperatures can be harsh on homeowners and their wallets. But there are many ways for homeowners to reduce their energy bills no matter how cold it may get this winter.



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Calvert Remains Above State Composite SAT Average



The composite average SAT score of the Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) class of 2019 remains above the Maryland mean score. Calvert students averaged a composite of 1115, a 9-point drop from the previous year. The composite average for graduating Maryland public school students was 1041 for the class of 2019, dropping from 1066 for the class of 2018. Participation remained similar in Calvert, with 66% of the class of 2018 taking the test and 65% of the class of 2019.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel D. Curry, said, “We recognize that taking the SAT opens doors, and, to further support our students, CCPS is joining several other districts in Maryland and paying for all juniors to take the SAT in March of this school year. We hope both to ease the financial burden on families and help our juniors—whether or not they currently plan

to attend college—across this milestone as they make decisions about the future.”

Calvert students scored an average of 563 on the evidence-based reading and writing (ERW) section and 552 on the math section, both of which are above the state and national average.

Statewide, Maryland graduates scored above the national average for public school students. The composite average nationally among public school students was 1039, which was below Maryland’s score of 1041. The mean score for the evidence-based reading and writing section for Maryland public school students in the class of 2019 was 526, compared to the national public school mean of 524. The average math score for Maryland public school graduates and national public school SAT takers were the same, with both at 515.

Press Release from CCPS

Church Holds First Oktoberfest



Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church in Lusby held its first ever Oktoberfest on Oct. 12 with many showing up in traditional German garb. Photo courtesy of Joan Hoerning for the church.

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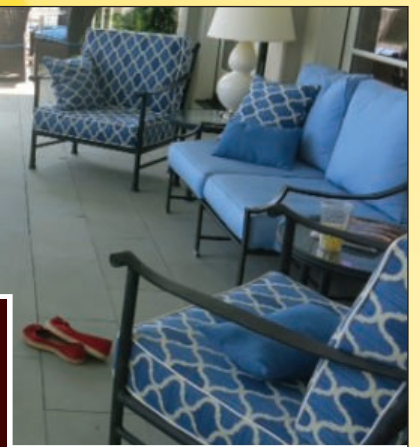
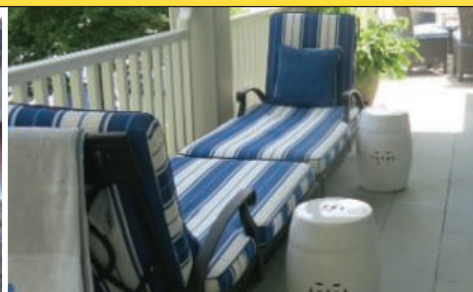
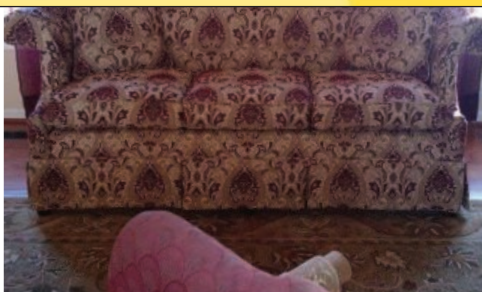
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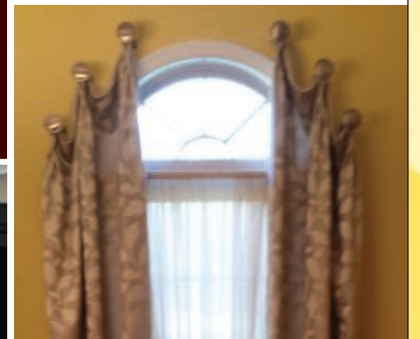
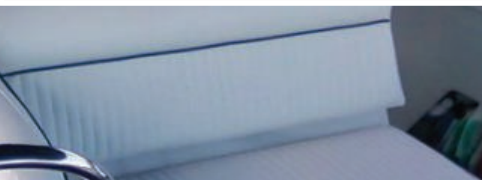
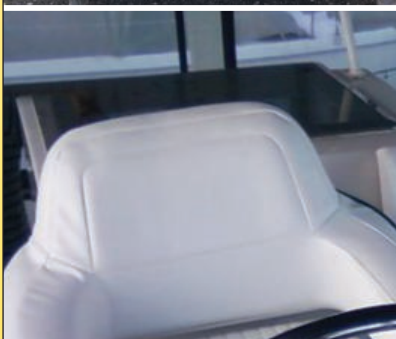
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A View From The **BLEACHERS**

A Letter to Younger Fans

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

If you were born after 1983 and before around 2000 and are an ardent supporter of Washington D.C.'s football team, you have my condolences. You grew up hearing of Super Bowl championships and sustained excellence, but, sadly, you have no conscious memory of it. You also were born into a fervent football atmosphere – a still passionate, win-drunk fan base in the afterglow of a glorious decade and confident that the next great era would arrive soon. That is the two-fold curse of your date of birth. I'm sorry. You were done wrong. But then again, what was the alternative?

It's not your fault. Anyone would have been sucked in by the still-shiny Lombardi trophies and tractor beam of euphoria. When you were growing up, it was still cool to root for the 'Skins, wear the gear and attend games. You just happened to come of age in a bear market; the bull, the raging bull, would soon return.

But it hasn't and, the harsh reality is, it never will.

After a 0-5 start, head coach Jay Gruden was fired last week. This would normally mark a franchise reflection point, a chance to chart a new course and build a brighter future. For Washington, it doesn't matter – not in the least. Gruden is just the latest name added to the Norv Turner, Terry Robiske, Marty Schottenheimer, Steve Spurrier, Joe Gibbs, Jim Zorn and Mike Shanahan scroll of 1999-present unsuccessful Washington head coaches.

Say "1999" and I immediately think of Prince's classic song. I know, I'm showing my age, but check out this opening verse:

"I was dreaming when I wrote this, forgive me if it goes astray; But when I woke up this morning, could've sworn it was judgement day; The sky was all purple, there were people running everywhere; Trying to run from the destruction, you know I didn't even care."

Change "purple" to "burgundy" and Prince could have easily been issuing a warning to Washington football fans of dark times at the millennium's close. And as you know, 1999 was the year Dan Snyder became majority owner. Coin-

idence? Maybe...but consider this: Prince released "1999" in 1982, the year of the franchise's first Super Bowl victory. Creepy, eh?

Dan Snyder. He had me fooled. You? I was happy when he acquired the team. After years of ownership uncertainty, including the failed Howard Milstein bid, the team ended up in the hands of a young, aggressive, long-time fan of the team. What could be better?

Literally anything.

I'll spare you the painful details of Snyder's 20-year reign of terror. You lived it too. It's the macro-level concern that matters now. This team, the one you came to love based on its reputation and the promise of future Super Bowls to call your own, is fatally flawed. Snyder will never field a consistent winner. Never. Executives, coaches and players have changed. He is the constant. He is the culprit. And he, as the 54-year-old owner, isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

Snyder's profound incompetence has transcended sports; the 'Skins have become a case study in organizational rot – the one-time hottest ticket in town is now peddled online to opposing teams' fans. The primary causal factor of Snyder's failure is his astounding lack of self-awareness. He neither knows what it takes to win in the NFL nor does he recognize his franchise's fundamental flaws. His utter delusion is a cautionary tale on the misleading power of arrogance and an insular world where "yes-men" are promoted and dissenters are dismissed. Hmmm... that sounds familiar.

Wilhelm Stekel and Elie Wiesel identified the opposite of love, not as hate, but as indifference. Love and hate are emotional responses; indifference is a numbed apathy. I now watch what I once loved with indifference. Part of me is ashamed to admit that; another part of me is happy to have transcended Snyder's carnival. But I wonder about you. I have gotten to this point despite having lived the good old days - experiences you don't have. So do you still love them? Do you still care? If so, you have both my respect and deepest sympathies.

Send comments to
RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Ron Domaniecki with two of many rockfish from the shoreline at Goose Creek, NAS, Cedar Point.

By Ken and Linda Lamb
Contributing Writers

Some windy day, a little rain and some super high tides did not spoil the fishing this week.

The rockfish have schooled up in the bay and the mouth of the Patuxent, breaking and feeding on most moving tides.

The stripers are in mixed sizes with slightly undersized fish mixed with big hefty bruisers in the 28 to 32 inch range. You can catch these fish trolling or casting lures into the breakers that have vast quantities of birds diving into the bait fish driven to the surface.

This past weekend, there were acres of fish and birds off the O'Club and on around the mouth of the Patuxent to Hog Point and Fishing Point.

Lure casters using surface poppers and popping rigs caught stripers in big numbers on Saturday morning at Goose Creek. One angler caught 38 rockfish there on a red and white "Poppa Dog" surface lure until he lost it and switched to a Hard Head Custom Popping Rig. Others were there catching stripers on both sides of the bridge. On Friday night there were surf casters throwing Rattle-trap lures at Goose Creek and getting a fish on every cast.

Hog Point has been just as good in the Patuxent and across the mouth at Drum

Point there are plenty. Many of the fish are 18 1/2 inches in length, just short of the 19 inch minimum. However, there are some lunkers mixed in, and one fisherman landed a 12 pound, 32 inch fish off the beach in the midst of the smaller fish.

Those casting swimming plugs and sassy shad lures around structures in the Patuxent have found big rockfish eager at sunset and daybreak.

The spot are still in the creeks and rivers in excellent numbers. Big white perch are taking bloodworm pieces on bottom rigs in the 18 to 35 feet edges all up and down the Potomac and Patuxent.

Speckled trout are scattered with most of them very small, but there are some very respectable trout in the St. Mary's River. Trout and rockfish are mixed for trollers up the Patuxent working the oyster bars. They love little white bucktails.

Spanish mackerel and blue fish are active in the Bay, taking small spoons on planer rigs. The mackerel are doing their customary leaps out of the water. The mackerel, blues and rock are mixed in big schools all up and down the Ship's channel. The mid-bay rockfish are almost all under-sized, but the blues are decent, fat and sassy.

Fresh water fishing continues to be excellent. Some fine crappie are hitting live minnows in St. Mary's Lake.

PRE-NUPS

What are pre-nups? These are pre-nuptial agreements entered into by prospective husbands and wives that set forth how the couple wants to manage their assets in the event one of them dies or there is a divorce. Some people consider pre-nups to be anti-romantic. However, others recognize that these days, when so many people get divorced or whose spouses have died and then get remarried, pre-nups play an important role in taking care of children from a prior marriage and protecting the assets of those who have been previously divorced.

Not long ago, we were approached to create a pre-nup for a wonderful couple in their mid-80's. The couple met in an assisted living facility, fell in love and decided to get married. Both of them had been married and had adult children and grandchildren from their prior marriages. Rather than create controversy in the family about inheritances, the couple decided to make it clear in their pre-nup that each of their children and grandchildren from prior marriages would continue to receive the inheritances they were expecting from their parent or grandparent after marriage. With the pre-nup signed, the children and grandchildren of the couple were able to celebrate the new marriage with no concerns about what would happen when their mother/grandmother or father/grandfather died. In this case, both parties had assets to protect for their children and, by creating the pre-nup, both parties helped create family harmony with their new extended family members.

Pre-nups are commonly used to protect children from a prior marriage. What does a pre-nup involve? Primarily, each party exchanges financial information with the other. One of the primary assets a person has is their retirement account. When a person marries, their new spouse has a legal claim on the retirement account of the other spouse. Particularly in cases of a second marriage where children are involved, most parties want to preserve their retirement accounts for their children. The pre-nup makes that clear—each party agrees they will not claim against the retirement account of the other in the event of death or divorce.

Similarly, if one party owns a house, upon marriage the other may assert a legal claim to ownership of one-half of the house. Under the pre-nup, each party clearly states that when they marry they will not assert any claim to the house the other owns.

What about other assets each party might own individually? The pre-nup addresses those as well. For example, suppose one party has a valuable stamp collection that they have promised to a grandchild. The pre-nup will make it clear that the stamp collection is the sole property of one party and will not be distributed or divided up on the death of that party.

The pre-nup addresses property owned by each party individually prior to their marriage. But, what about property the soon to be married couple acquire after marriage? This too is addressed in the pre-nup. Ordinarily, the couple decides that they will split any assets they acquire after marriage, fifty-fifty. So, if they buy a house together as joint tenants with right of survivorship, and one of them dies, the other takes complete ownership of the house. In the event of a divorce, the other has a claim for 50% of the value of the house. Of course, there are lots of other factors that are involved, but you get the picture.

In a pre-nup, each party exchanges personal financial statements with the other. These financial statements must be complete and detailed so that one party can never accuse the other of hiding any assets.

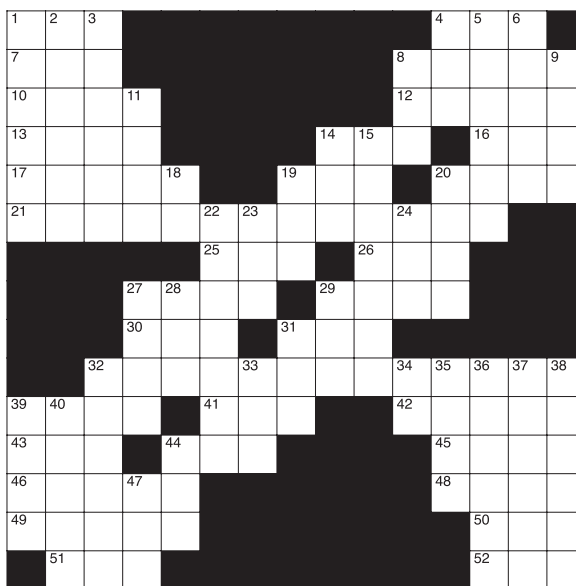
A pre-nup is a contract between the parties. As such, it is enforceable in a court of law. Some people think that their Will or a Trust has decided who owns what assets after death, but whatever you have decided in those documents is not enforceable because the surviving spouse can execute a new Will or Trust after the death of the other spouse that completely changes the distribution of the property. People that use pre-nups are concerned about this. Even if your potential spouse has an excellent relationship with your children from a prior marriage, when you die, how can you be assured those children will be protected? Not with a Will or a Trust—only through a pre-nup.

To those who claim the pre-nup is anti-romantic because it addresses what happens on divorce or death, think again. Divorce may not be inevitable but death is. If you want to truly protect your children the second time around and preserve family harmony, both parties should welcome the opportunity to do so in a pre-nup.

Join me for a discussion of this and other matters on the third Wednesday of every month at 11 am at our offices at 8906 Bay Avenue, North Beach, MD 20714. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your seat. See you there.

By Lyn Striegel

Fun & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

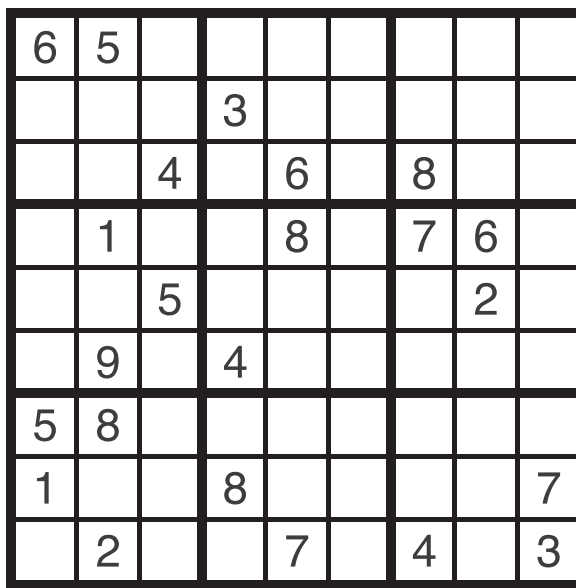
- 1. Computer key
- 4. Periodical (abbr.)
- 7. Hot beverage
- 8. Capital of Ghana
- 10. Shrek is one
- 12. Behemoth
- 13. Good friend
- 14. Form of "to be"
- 16. Where travelers rest
- 17. European country
- 19. Everyone has one
- 20. Pop

- 21. Feelings of anxiety
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Moved quickly
- 27. Common name for a type of frog
- 29. Free from psychological disorder
- 30. 8th month (abbr.)
- 31. Basics
- 32. Transcending national boundaries
- 39. Natives of Kashmir
- 41. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

- 42. Cigar wrapper
- 43. Brew
- 44. Popular video game series
- 45. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 46. Jewelled headdress
- 48. French cleric
- 49. Bizarre
- 50. Unit of measurement
- 51. Foul-mouthed Hollywood bear
- 52. "Partridge Family" actress

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of bomb
- 2. Smooth
- 3. Clothing pattern
- 4. Defunct phone company
- 5. Something to take
- 6. Type of piano
- 8. Consumed
- 9. "Pitch Perfect" actress Kendrick
- 11. Ray-finned fish
- 14. Heat storage stove
- 15. Shrink back
- 18. Yukon Territory
- 19. Connects words
- 20. Sound unit
- 22. Furniture with open shelves
- 23. Cool!
- 24. 007's creator
- 27. Source of the Nile River
- 28. Not safe, but ...
- 29. Helps little firms
- 31. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 32. Conceptualize
- 33. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 34. Integrated circuit
- 35. Evergreen trees and shrubs genus
- 36. Apprehended
- 37. Suitable for growing crops
- 38. Isolated
- 39. Footwear company
- 40. Electronic intelligence gathering
- 44. Political action committee
- 47. Free of



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

G D E P A L L S M U S S Y
 H A N A B A C K A N U R A
 E F T L E O D I C A P R I O
 E L I C I T M O R A E
 S A R O S O P P O S I T E S
 E R A S H D Y N E
 S O L E D C O L E T A D
 P A Y E M A N A T E U T E
 I T S I R E S R A P E R
 C E E S M E S A C
 A N N O T A T E S E R O D E
 G U I L E A N E M I A
 C H A R L I E R O S E I R S
 R A G E E M A N A S N A E
 U S E R S S T E P S G C D

5	1	7	9	3	8	4	2	6
8	3	2	1	6	4	5	7	9
4	9	6	7	2	5	3	1	8
1	2	5	4	8	7	9	6	3
7	8	9	6	1	3	2	5	4
3	6	4	5	9	2	7	8	1
2	5	3	8	4	1	6	9	7
6	7	1	3	5	9	8	4	2
9	4	8	2	7	6	1	3	5

In Remembrance

The Calvert County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to jenicoster@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

Charles Edward "Ed" or "Pops" Green, Sr.



Charles Edward "Ed" or "Pops" Green, Sr., 90, of Chesapeake Beach passed away October 10,

2019. He was born April 1, 1929 in Washington, D.C. to Cecil Guy and Beatrice (Hepner) Green. Ed was raised in Mt. Jackson, VA and moved to Washington, D.C. as a teenager. He enlisted in the United States Merchant Marines and served in the United States Coast Guard. Following his discharge in 1955, Ed was employed as a plumber and boilermaker for Thomas E. Clark, Inc. in D.C. Ed was married to Helen Virginia (Murvin) Green for 66 years and they lived in Washington, D.C. and Hyattsville before moving to Chesapeake Beach in 1975. He was member of the Landover Hills Volunteer Fire Department, Maryland Charter Boat Association, Blackwater Refuge Hunt Club, and the American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206. In his spare time Ed enjoyed fishing, crabbing, hunting, yardwork and gardening, country rides, family gatherings, and trips to Dover Downs. He was also an avid fan of the Washington Redskins.

Ed is survived by his wife Helen Virginia Green, daughter Jo Ann Gibson and her husband Donnie and son Charles Edward "Eddie" Green, Jr. (Sherri), all of Chesapeake Beach. He is also survived by grandchildren Donald Gibson III, Shawn Gibson, Emily Green and Rachael Wroble, great-grandchildren Cameron, Caleb, Layla, Alana, Madison, and Chloe. He was preceded in death by his sisters Hilma Burch, Joan Richardson, and Elva Nolan.

Memorial contributions may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838 Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/> or

North Beach Volunteer Fire Department, 8536 Bayside Road, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732; Link: <https://northbeachfire.com/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Francis Eugene "Ike" Eickhoff



Francis Eugene "Ike" Eickhoff, 92, passed away October 9, 2019 at his residence surrounded by family. He was born January 16, 1927 in Victoria Township, IL to Harvey Martin and Altha Mae (Johnson) Eickhoff. When

Ike turned 17, he left high school and joined the United States Navy. He served aboard the USS Monticello, the USS Blue Ridge, and the USS Remus during WWII. Ike was stationed in Brazil, New Caledonia, New Guinea, and the Philippines during the war and eventually sailed to New Orleans, LA following the war. Following his honorable discharge, Ike re-enlisted in 1947 and remained on active duty until his retirement on May 1, 1965. Ike married Nina May in 1948 and they lived in Upper Marlboro. Following his retirement from the Navy, Ike worked for Buffalo Concrete in Prince George's County and Joseph Smith and Sons, retiring after 28 years. Ike was a member of the American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206 in Chesapeake Beach and the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department. In his spare time, he enjoyed eating, watching Western movies, puzzles, and playing solitaire. He was also an avid fan of the Washington Redskins and Nationals.

Ike was preceded in death by his wife Nina May Eickhoff, daughter Diane Morris and 9 siblings. He is survived by his daughter Nancy Woodall of Upper Marlboro, grandchildren Stacy Thacker of Lusby and Jennifer Hunt of Chesapeake Beach, four great-grandchildren and a brother Gary Eickhoff.

A Graveside Service will be held Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 1 p.m. at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623. Interment will follow at the cemetery.

Following the services, a reception will be held at North Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122; 410-987-2003; Link: <https://www.hospicechesapeake.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

David Alan Holm



David Alan Holm, 66, of Calvert County, Maryland, beloved father and husband, passed on October 7, 2019 at home surrounded by his family. David was born on September 11, 1953 in Lincoln,

Nebraska, to Paul and Luella Holm. His father's work took the family from Nebraska to Virginia, where David graduated from Annandale High School in 1971. While in Virginia, David met the love his life, Eileen. They married in 1972 and were married for 47 years. They have three children, Mary Ellen Holm, Heather Mae Umsted, and Paul Leonard Holm, and five grandchildren. David joined the Navy in 1974, and served on the submarine USS Casimir Pulaski. In 1981 David began to work at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power plant. He graduated from UMUC in 2001 with a Bachelor's of Science. In his time in the nuclear power industry, David worked his way from Reactor Operator to Plant Manager. Later in his career he was able to travel throughout the United States and internationally as a consultant for nuclear power plant operations. He spoke often about how he enjoyed learning about the local cultures in all of the locations he visited. In 1981, David and Eileen purchased a small home in Prince Frederick, and he took to building additions to their house and landscaping with great zeal. David had numerous hobbies that he excelled in during his life. David was an avid azalea collector and owned a small azalea business. He was a self-taught guitarist and enjoyed playing the music of his youth. David loved to ski and was affectionately known in the family as "The Ski King". He loved to vacation with Eileen and family members, travelling all over the world. He discovered a love of running, completing numerous marathons and races with friends and family. David volunteered with the charity Christmas in April, where he helped to repair and build homes for members of the community. David enjoyed teaching his children about all of his hobbies and interests, and shared his philosophy of hard work and play. In 2014 David was diagnosed with a brain tumor. After fighting for five years, David passed in the home he built, surrounded by his loving family.

To honor his memory, the family suggests making donations to David's favorite charities, United Way of Calvert County, P.O. Box 560, Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678; 410-535-2000, or Special Olympics of Calvert County, attn: Web Gifts, c/p Anne Harmon, P.O. Box 672, Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Ruth Marx



Ruth Marx passed away peacefully on October 4th at her home on the Chesapeake Bay with her loving family by her side. Ruth was born on December 28, 1944 in Baltimore, MD

to Norman and Ruth (Casey) Jensen, Sr. Ruth preceded in death by her caring parents and son James Marx (Dawn). She is lovingly survived by husband Johnny Holesapple; brother Norman Jensen, Jr. (Alice); daughter Karen Brown (Terry); sons Norman Marx (Michelle) and Jerry Marx and several nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

Ruth is best known for her love of family, friends, and living on the Chesapeake Bay. Ruth dearly loved her dog Cece, watching golf, Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy, The Hallmark Channel, Raven's games, vacation cruises, playing the machines in Chesapeake Beach and attending concerts. Ruth cheerfully hosted many fun parties over her 50+ years living on the Chesapeake Bay. She opened her heart to lend a helping hand when someone was in need. She enjoyed a long career at Sam's Club in Annapolis, MD until her retirement a few years ago.

Family and friends will gather for a Celebration of Life for Ruth Marx and James Marx on October 20 from 1-5pm at the Holland Point Civic Center 919 Walnut Ave, Holland Point, MD 20714. For Ruth Marx in lieu of flowers donations to Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 6 Herndon Avenue, Annapolis, Md. 21403.

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Calvert LIBRARY Events

For more information & to register for events visit <http://calvertlibrary.info>

Thursday, October 17

Teen Campfire Tales of Terror IV. 6:00-8:00pm. Come swap scary stories, play Werewolf, and eat s'mores around our "campfire!" Bring your own original story to share, read from one that is provided, or make something up on the spot. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Kids Just Want to Have Fun. 6:30-7:30pm. Kids in kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to this series of exciting events exploring topics from art to history to science. Each month will include fun activities, crafts and a snack! Please register. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Family Night Goes Inside the Body. 7:00-8:00pm. Nervous System. Please register. Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Mindful Eating. 7:00-8:00pm. Have you ever eaten even though you feel full? Do you have a favorite comfort food? Has your family ever rushed through a meal and not remembered what it tasted like? Do you or family members sneak sweets or feel guilty after eating favorite treats? Learn how to become a mindful eater with Erin Carney from the University of Maryland Extension. Discover hidden reasons why we eat food. Build a deeper appreciation for what you and your family are eating. Take away a tool you can use at every meal or snack time to truly savor your food and nourish your body and mind. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Friday, October 18

On Pins & Needles. 1:00-4:00pm. Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Saturday, October 19

Calvert Library STEM Day. 11:00-3:00pm. The Calvert Library STEM Day is a celebration of all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). All ages are invited to come to the library to participate in experiments, tech demonstrations, games, and more! For more information on other fun events held during the Maryland STEM Festival go to marylandstemfestival.org. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Teen D&D. 1:00-4:30pm. Meet up the 3rd Saturday of each month. Players of all levels and interest welcome. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Monday, October 21

Book Discussion - OMOB's "What the Eyes Don't See" by Mona Hanna-Attisha. 7:00-8:30pm. From the heroic pediatrician who rallied a community and brought the fight for justice to national attention comes a powerful firsthand account of the Flint water crisis--a dramatic story of failed democracy and inspiring citizen advocacy and action. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Tuesday, October 22

Flying Needles. 6:00-9:00pm. Knitting, crocheting and portable crafting group open to anyone wanting to join in and share talents, crafting time or learn a new skill. No registration. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Adult D&D. 6:00-8:30pm. Role playing game for adults of all experience levels. Fourth Tuesday of the month from 6-8:30. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Wednesday, October 23

Happy Crafternoon! 1:00-2:00pm. Children enjoy books and language through short stories and create fun art projects using a variety of techniques and mediums. For 3 to 5 year-olds. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Thursday, October 24

JobSource Mobile Career Center. 1:00-3:00pm. Stop by to visit the JobSource Mobile Career Center for your job search needs! Get job counseling and résumé help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. No registration. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Teen Book Club. 4:00-5:00pm. Drop-in book club that meets up on the fourth Thursday of the month - highlight your favorite parts, think of some discussion questions, or just come listen to what others think. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Reading Festival. 6:00-8:00pm. We all know that reading is the foundation of learning. Join us to learn how to turn your child on to reading despite challenges. There will be fun for the whole family plus cool door prizes! Sponsored by CCPS Parent Connections and Calvert Library. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Young at Heart

By Office of Aging Staff

Food Service Substitute Employment

The Office on Aging is looking for a Food Service Kitchen Substitute to work at our three senior centers. Centers are located in North Beach, Prince Frederick, and Lusby. Must receive food from caterer, take and record temperatures, serve lunch, wash dishes clean, and work well with seniors. Other duties as assigned. Substitute employment only as needed. Please contact Ed Sullivan, Program Manager, at 410-535-4606 if interested.

Become a Tax-Aide Volunteer!

The AARP Tax-Aide program, sponsored by the Calvert County Office on Aging, is looking for volunteers to serve as tax counselors to prepare, review and efile 2019 tax returns at each of the three senior centers in 2020. All Tax-Aide volunteers will be required to pass the IRS and Maryland certification tests. Training will be offered in late 2019 and/or early 2020. If this volunteer opportunity interests you, contact Patti Ryon at the Office on Aging, 410-535-4606.

Calvert Pines Senior Center

A music show by the Variety Players will take place, Friday, October 25, 10:30 a.m.

A presentation from the Calvert County Historical Society will be held. Friday, October 25, 1 p.m.

Get an early start on your costume for our annual Monster Mash Bash, Thursday, October 31, 11:15 a.m. Enjoy games, a costume contest, and spooky desserts after lunch!

North Beach Senior Center

Games and Texas Hold'Em will be played at North Beach Senior Center on October, 22, 9 a.m. No gambling, but prizes available.

Join us Thursday, October 31, 9 a.m. for an exciting game of Halloween Bingo Bash! Spooky fun, great prizes and breakfast. Breakfast at 9 a.m. and Bingo at 10 a.m.

Southern Pines Senior Center

Create your own Garden Art Project, Wednesday, October 23, 1 p.m. Your artwork will be displayed in our Native Garden to be enjoyed by all.

Join us for our Monthly Movie: Ghost, Thursday, October 24, 1 p.m. It's about the story of a man who passed, yet his spirit stays behind to protect his love from danger.

Eating Together Menu

Monday, October 21

Salisbury Steak, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Tossed Salad w/Chick Peas & Dressing, Spinach, Dinner Roll, Pears

Tuesday, October 22

Spicy Chicken & Rice Bake, Kale, Dinner Roll, Yogurt, Crushed Pineapple

Wednesday, October 23

BBQ Chicken Leg, Oven Roasted Red Potatoes & Onions, Roasted Carrots, Dinner Roll, Baked Apple

Thursday, October 24

Pork Roast, Gravy, Whipped Sweet Potatoes, Applesauce w/Cinnamon, California Blend, Dinner Roll, Fruit Cocktail

Friday, October 25

Lemon Chicken, Brown Rice, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Brussel Sprouts, Dinner Roll, Peaches

Lunches are served to seniors, aged 60-plus, and their spouses through Title IIIIC of the Older Americans Act. Suggested donation is \$3. To make or cancel a reservation call: Calvert Pines Senior Center at 410-535-4606, North Beach Senior Center at 410-257-2549, or Southern Pines Senior Center at 410-586-2748. Lunches are subject to change.

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Calvert County Times

Is Your Dental Office Safe?

Untreated waterlines in the dental office can affect your health.

The next time you go to your dentist's office, before you let them spray water in your mouth, ask them how, and where their water lines are treated.

The Problem: The flexible lines that go from the water pipes in your dental office to the delivery system at the chairside are made of materials that are the perfect environment for the growth of biofilm. Biofilm is made up of bacteria colonies that adhere to the inner walls of the dental hosing. When not properly treated, these water lines and valves become coated with bacteria that grows exponentially at room temperature and contaminates the water that is used to irrigate and rinse your mouth. This water can be unsafe!

City water, often considered to be safe for consumption, reaches the dental office in potable form. Dental offices, aware of the need for added water quality and safety may even have a water treatment system at the source where the water enters the building.

While this proactive measure helps reduce risk, what most dentists don't realize is that the water that sits in the lines for long periods of time, such as over a weekend, will still grow this dangerous bacterium.

The Risk: Microbacterium Abscessus, a bacterium with a distant relation to the ones that cause tuberculosis and leprosy, can cause infections in patients when contaminated water supplies are used to irrigate the mouth. A simple google search of "dental practice, water, illness" will result in many articles about lawsuits and unfortunate outcomes to patients including children in Georgia, New Jersey, Virginia, and California.

The Solution: It is not enough to treat the water lines in a dental office as the bacterium can still grow after the fact. Each dental operatory must be treated at the instrumentation that is used on the patients to ensure safety. One such company at the forefront

of treating water effectively, above and beyond the EPA, CDC and ADA minimum standard of water quality compliance is Sterisil, Inc. Using Sterisil's latest and best products a dental office can achieve results of < 11 CFU/ml HPC water purity. These are virtually the lowest levels achievable today, and they are well beyond the EPA's recommendation of less than 500 colony forming units (CFU) per milliliter (ml).

Sterisil's solution is a combination of treating the water at entry to the practice and at the dental chair where the instrumentation connects to the flexible water hosing. This takes virtually all risk out of the water supply, ensuring safe water while treating the patient.

Proof: It is your dental office's obligation to ensure all measures are being taken to assure your safety while in the care of your dental provider. Dentists are to follow guidelines on safety, sanitation, standard of care and product quality. It is your right to know what

your dentist is doing to assure your safety. Don't be afraid to ask your dentist how they treat the water in the office. Ask them where it is treated (at the chair and/or at the utility hookup). Ask them if they test their water for consumable quality and how often. They should be able to supply test results.

Tidewater Dental a leading provider of dental care in southern Maryland has made it their mission to ensure the safety of their patients through the use of quality equipment, systems, services and procedures that put the patient first. Yes, it costs more. Yes, it may take more time. But, patient safety and experience are paramount to ensuring our patients leave our offices healthy and happy. For this reason, Tidewater Dental has partnered with Sterisil, Inc. to provide the purest and safest water possible at all of our locations.

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