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ON THE COVER

At the Dec. 7 North Beach Pat Carpenter Holiday Parade



.OCAL Santa visits county commissioners



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WEEKLY FORECAST

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The Calvert County Times Local News Thursday, December 12, 2019

Legislators Briefed on Town Centers

Sen. Bailey Calls It 'Very Defensive'

By Dick Myers Editor

Calvert County's legislators thought they were attending the yearly meeting with the county commissioners to receive the county legislative wish list. Instead, at the Dec. 10 meeting at the College of Southern Maryland, they were blindsided by a second agenda item -- a briefing on the Prince Frederick Town Center and the county's comprehensive plan and zoning update processes.

Sen. Mike Miller (D: Calvert, Charles, Prince George's) wanted to know what the legislators had to do with local zoning matters. Director of Planning and Zoning (and about to be county administrator) Mark Willis said he had been asked to make the presentation and that it was strictly informational.

20-minute presenta-After the tion Sen. Jack Bailey (R: Calvert, St. Mary's) wanted to know if it was being made because there was some public 'push-back" on the process. He told Willis he was "very defensive in your argument."

Willis said he didn't believe that was the case. He noted, "I will say I'm passionate about it. There's nothing that I said here that's not actually in the law. So, it's not my agenda."

Commissioner Mike Hart came to his defense by admitting the item had been put on the agenda at his request. Hart said, "I wanted you guys to be involved because we do come to you with legislative requests. We are part of the same team. So, even though you don't affect zoning, what I wanted to do is make sure that we all work together. I value all of your opinions."

Hart said he wished that Del. Mark Fisher (R: Calvert) had been at the meeting. Fisher, who was the only member of the county's delegation not to attend, has been a frequent critic of the county's growth policies.

During his presentation, Willis explained that the updates of the town center master plans and the zoning to implement them, and the county zoning ordinance were now on the agenda. Prince Frederick is first to the plate beginning next month.

Willis pointed to a slide that showed the potential buildout of the Prince Frederick Town Center would more than double with the area added during the comprehensive plan update: 1,056 units now to an additional 1,394 in the expanded area. Additionally, there are 525 dwelling units under construction or approved in the existing town center.

Willis said of the chart: "So this is the slide that everybody's tight about because I think for the most part, they don't understand the slide. The slide talks about acres up front, but it also talks about units. But here's what you have to understand about this. These are hypothetical numbers. They're based on today's zoning, not the comp plan, not tomorrow's zoning, because we haven't done the update." He added that some of the land included in the expansion just isn't buildable.

As to the legislative package portion of the meeting, there was very little comment. Del. Jerry Clark (R: Calvert. St. Mary's) questioned the proposal to tie the commissioners' salaries to those of the legislators, instead of review by a local committee. Sen. Miller said the legislators' salaries were similarly reviewed by a state committee. Clark said he would rather have the review at the local level, but he would consider the request

Clark also questioned why improvements to the Stafford Road/Route 231 intersection were in the local \$45 million bond request instead of the work being done by the state, since Route 231 is a state road

Public Works Director Rai Sharma said the state didn't believe traffic at that intersection warranted a light. He said the work would be done on the county's Stafford Road. But Clark said he still hoped the state would contrib-

Del. Michael Jackson (D: Calvert, Prince George's) said concerns had been raised at the League of Women Voter's legislative forum about Route 231. Commissioner President Tim Hutchins assured him the county was working with the state on a plan to improve the road's safety.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

(I to r) Del. Jerry Clark, Sen. Jack Bailey, Sen. Mike Miller and Del. Michael Jackson at the Dec. 10 legislative meeting with the commissioners.

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Correction

In the story titled "Are Major Developers Eyeing Calvert?" in the Dec. 5, 2019 issue, we reported that Myra Gowans of Calvert Citizens United "has regularly attended meetings of the Small Business Interest

Group." Gowans reports to The Calvert County Times that she actually only attended two of their meetings but has followed the group by securing and reading the minutes of every one of their meetings.

4 Local News The Calvert County Times Thursday, December 12, 2019

Tri County Commissioners Reach Consensus on Mutual Aid, CSM Budget Bill

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Members of all three Southern Maryland county commissioner boards met Tuesday afternoon and came to an agreement, at least initially, on supporting a key piece of legislation that would unify the budget of the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) and, in the case of emergency services, renew the mutual aid agreement between Calvert, St. Mary's and Charles counties.

Commissioners met at the Prince Frederick CSM campus.

Currently the College of Southern Maryland may only spend operating funds in the county which initially provided those funds; each county provides a share of funding to the college's operating budget each year.

Changes to allow the budget to be unified, and thus more flexible, would require legislative changes in the General Assembly; commissioners from the three counties came to a tentative agreement that a memorandum of understanding had to be finalized before the legislation could move forward to receive their final support.

Rueben Collins II, Charles County commissioner president, said the three counties also needed to come to an agreement on ensuring equitable funding for CSM campuses to include numbers of students on campus.

Under the proposed changes to the law for CSM budgeting, each county commissioner board would review and then approve the budget for the entire college, instead of the single campus in their county.

"It will take a great deal of time to flesh that out," Collins said of the work ahead to change the law.

County leaders from Calvert, Charles and St. Marys' also agreed that the mutual aid system they share for fire and emergency medical response should be re-



Calvert Public Safety Director Jacqueline Vaughn, Charles EMS Chief John Filer and St. Mary's Emergency Services Director Steve Walker supported continuing the mutual aid agreement between the three counties.

newed, though upon review of the current aid agreement they found that language had to be standardized in the text before making a final vote in support.

Data presented to the commissioners by Steve Walker, director of emergency services in St. Mary's County, showed St. Mary's was receiving more mutual aid from both Charles and Calvert counties than it was providing.

In prior years the roles had been reversed, noted Calvert public safety director Jacqueline Vaughn.

"[The mutual aid agreements] do need to continue," Vaughn told Southern Maryland leaders. "The tides have turned... but it does come in cycles."

For 2019, data showed that Calvert responded to 103 fire calls in St. Mary's, while St. Mary's aided in 72 fire incidents across the

Patuxent River.

Also, St. Mary's aided in 337 medical calls but received aid from Calvert for 499 such emergencies.

Charles County responded to St. Mary's 724 times for EMS calls, while receiving aid in just 47 such calls from St. Mary's, the data showed.

"I believe our BLS and ALS (basic life support and advanced life support) are at a critical mass," said St. Mary's commissioner John O'Connor. "At some point Charles County is going to say 'We've had enough.""

Charles County's EMS Chief John Filer said the mutual aid should continue.

"In Southern Maryland we all get along," Filer said. "I would not recommend cutting off mutual aid.

"We should all help when we can."

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Thursday, December 12, 2019 The Calvert County Times Local News

Animal Control Regulations Modified

Creates Safety Alerts for Bad Weather

By Dick Myers Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has enacted changes to the county's animal control regulations aimed at protecting pets left outside in bad weather.

A new section has been added to create "Animal Safety Alerts." According to information supplied to the BOCC by Director of Public Safety Jacqueline Vaughan and Deputy Director of Animal Services Crystal Dowd, the alerts "would allow additional provisions to be required to protect animals when the National Weather Service has issued weather alerts for Calvert County, Maryland.' The alerts could apply for extreme cold or hot weather, or high winds.

Currently the animal control regulations have provisions against tethering an animal outside without shelter in extreme weather conditions. The new regulations would apply to all domestic animals left outside, and not just those tethered.

The provisions require animals to be removed from harsh weather conditions "that endanger their health, safety, or well-being."

The regulations on tethering say, "A person shall not confine, tether, or otherwise allow an animal to remain in outside areas without access to proper shelter." There are also prohibitions on use of certain tethering devices.

Dowd said the emphasis would be on education, but there are fines for failure to comply -- \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second and \$400 for the third



Photo courtesy of People for the Ethical

No one testified at a public hearing on the proposal at the BOCC's Dec. 10 meeting prior to the adoption of the ordinance changes. Vaughan said she had received comments on the proposal, and they were all positive.

The BOCC enthusiastically embraced the changes. Commissioner Mike Hart, who was not at the workshop session in which the proposal was originally presented, said, "I am very happy to see this."

Hart said he would turn a deaf ear to anyone who complained about the regulations. "Their comments are immaterial to me. It's just cruelty."

Hart added, "Barking is just their way of speaking that they are in trouble."

Commissioner Vice President Kelly McConkey urged staff to get the word out about the changes so the public could notify them if they see any animals in danger.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Miller Leads North Beach Parade



Senator Thomas V. "Mike" Miller was Grand Marshal of the annual Pat Carpenter Holiday Parade Dec. 7 in North Beach.



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6 Local News Thursday, December 12, 2019

Santa Comes Down Courthouse Chimney



Santa paid his annual visit to the county commissioners at their Dec. 3 meeting. President Tim Hutchins had a three-word wish — "Peace on Earth."

State Releases School Report Card Website

Five Calvert Schools Earn Five Stars

The 2019 Maryland School Report Card, released today, provides an enhanced and comprehensive picture of school and school system performance, with new indicators about achievement among student groups, input from students and educators, and information about whether schools have improved since last year.

Available now on the Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) School Report Card website, MdReportcard.org, updated data includes 2018-2019 school assessment results, percentile rankings, Star Ratings, newly released state science assessment results for elementary and middle school students, and indicators of school improvement.

The Maryland Report Card website features individual school report cards, which measure a wide range of factors. In addition to achievement on state assessments, each Maryland School Report Card looks at factors such as growth in achievement, high school graduation rates, student access to a well-rounded curriculum, progress in achieving English language proficiency, and readiness for postsecondary success. The Report Card for the school district is also available on the site.

For the first time, the Report Card also includes the results of a statewide School Survey, which was taken by students in grades 5 through 11 and educators in every school. It provides a composite score based on input about safety, community, environment, and relationships, all of which are important factors in supporting a positive learning environment for all students. There is also detailed information about the performance of student groups, since schools are accountable for serving all learners.

In Calvert County Public Schools, three schools earned three stars, four-



teen earned four stars, and five earned five stars. Statewide, 74% of schools earned three or four stars.

Dr. Daniel D. Curry, superintendent, said, "We are looking forward to reviewing this new look at data, much of which we are already familiar, to better plan for the future."

The new Maryland School Report Card was an important component of Maryland's detailed plan to implement ESSA by addressing accountability and innovation. The plan, written over the course of 18 months with unprecedented input and support of stakeholders, was approved by the United States Department of Education in early 2018.

State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen Salmon stressed that the new features of the 2019 Maryland School Report Card are significant in charting school improvement and equity, which are two of the highest priorities of MSDE.

"When we unveiled the new Maryland Report Card last year, we envisioned that this tool would evolve to remain relevant and important in school improvement efforts statewide," Dr. Salmon said. "We hope this will help everyone gain a better understanding of how each school is doing and provide inspiration about how we can work together to make our schools the best they can be for all students."

Press Release from Calvert County Public Schools

Housing Task Force Issues Update

Market Trend Analysis Proposed

By Dick Myers Editor

The county's Housing for All Task Force has presented a preliminary report to the county commissioners with four recommendations. Task force Chairman Rev. Dana Jones and Director of Community Resources Jennifer Moreland made the report at the commissioners' Dec. 10 meeting.

The first recommendation was development of a "Market Trend Analysis that will project future population trends and estimate housing needs," according to Moreland. She said the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments recently completed a similar analysis, albeit on a much larger scale.

Moreland said, "The reality is that though we have current population/housing data, we do not have detailed projections for planning purposes."

One recognized trend is the aging population. Moreland said senior citizens would make up 30 percent of the county's population by 2030, a more than 50 percent increase. Will they age in place or choose to downsize, creating more available housing stock?

It is envisioned the Market Trend Analysis would take a year to complete. Monies for it have not yet been budgeted. The other recommendations were:

• Educate community on existing

- workforce housing shortage;
- Use market trend analysis to begin incentives to meet the need; and
- Several options involving allowing planned unit developments with more flexible zoning.

Moreland said it is believed Calvert is the only county in the state that doesn't have planned unit development provisions in its zoning ordinance.



Commissioner Buddy Hance wanted to know the definition of affordable housing in Calvert. Jones said Calvert is under the influence of the DC metro area. "Calvert County has changed significantly," he said, so the figure for affordability was probably a \$50,000 income, noting there were many jobs here that make less than that.

Hance said the goal should be jobs that paid more than Chick-fil-A or Home Depot.

Jones, who is the former director of Tri-County Community Action Committee, said the ideal would be to have an 80 percent upper income population in the county. Those people live in nice brick houses, he said. But he observed that some areas have such residences that look the same on the outside but are fitted out to house four families inside, creating workforce housing.

Providing jobs for young people to stay requires also providing housing for them. Jones observed, "There is not a lot of housing for them."

The trend is away from public housing, Commissioner President Tim Hutchins said. "Isolated communities are not the answer."

He said the answer was providing the incentives for the private sector to fill the need.

The Housing for All Task Force will present a final report to the commissioners next March.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Thursday, December 12, 2019 The Calvert County Times Cops & Courts

IF YOU HAVE A LIVING TRUST, PLEASE READ THIS

If you have created a living trust, you have already taken steps to avoid the probate process. The concept of the living trust is to retitle all of a person's assets into the name of their trust so that when they die they are not holding any assets into their sole name and therefore there is no probate. But, beware. A living trust is just what it says—a living document. If you have a living trust you must make sure you have (1) placed all your assets into the name of your trust; and (2) kept your trust and beneficiary designations up to date.

Placing your assets into your living trust.

So many times clients have come to see me proudly holding their binders for their living trusts. Upon review, I have found that the client's assets are not in the trust and, without that, the assets must go through the probate process to get to loved ones.

Unfortunately, many people who have living trusts die without realizing that they have not funded their trusts and their loved ones then have to go through the probate process—something their living trusts are intended to prevent.

For example, you must re-title your house into the name of your living trust through filing a new deed to the house. The house will not technically be moved into the trust by simply saying so in the trust document. The same holds true for your other assets. Each asset is different, but the approach must be the same—fill out al required forms to technically re-title the asset.

How does it happen that some clients have no assets in their trusts? Some attorneys that create living trusts require that their clients take all the steps necessary to re-title the assets into the name of the trust. I recommend you do not obtain a living trust without assurances that the attorney will prepare all transfers of your assets into the trust. This is not something you should try to do yourself. First, life often intervenes in plans and clients do not have the time or knowledge to figure out how to re-title their assets. Second, moving assets can be complicated with various forms to fill out that are confusing. The clients should not have to do work to fund their trusts. They attorneys should do that work for the clients. The practical effect of having the client do the work to

fund the trust is that clients do not re-title the assets.

Don't let this be your reality. If you already have a living trust, make sure all your assets have been re-titled into the name of your living trust. And, don't forget. If you acquire a new piece of real property, acquire it in the name of the trust so that you do not need to file a separate deed to re-title it. Most attorneys will provide you with an affidavit of trust to enable you to provide a document to the title company so that they can title the property in the name of your trust.

Keep Your Living Trust Up to Date

In our practice, we meet with clients every few years to update their trusts. Why? We want to make sure that the clients have not purchased an asset (like a house, for example) in their sole name. If they have, we will take steps to prepare a deed to transfer the house into the name of their trust. Often, clients' wishes will change over time. Clients that have named certain beneficiaries for their estates may wish to change the names of beneficiaries. Beneficiaries may die and precipitate a change. Investments and brokers may change. Retirement funds may change, etc. Whatever it is, you must keep on top of the changes in your life by including the changes in your living trust package. If you do not, there may be terrible consequences.

For example, one married couple prepared a living trust and the wife died leaving her share to the husband. The husband remarried but the trust was never changed to reflect this. On the death of the husband, part of the estate went to the relatives of the first wife.

It isn't difficult to amend a trust to make changes. The concept of a living trust is to avoid the hassles of the probate process and create a very easy transition for loved ones when you die. But the transition is only going to be an easy one is the trust is up to date. If you have not reviewed your living trust in more than three or four years, do it now.

If you would like to learn more about living trusts and other estate planning matters, join me at 11am on the third Wednesday of each month at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue, North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

Lyn Streigel

Calvert County Sheriff's Office Crime Blotter

During the week of November 25 – December 1 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,287 calls for service throughout the community.

Burglary: 19-69087

On November 28, 2019, Deputy Barger responded to Little Cove Point Road in Lusby for the report of a burglary. The complainant advised that sometime between 3:00pm on November 27th and 12:20am on November 28th, an unknown suspect(s) broke into their home and stole their black RCA Cambio W101 V2 2 in 1 computer, as well as a Husqvarna chainsaw, the black chainsaw case, and a Craftsman impact wrench from their vehicle parked behind the residence. The total value of stolen property is \$375.

Damaged Property: 19-69486, 19-69489

On November 30 2019, Deputy Deleon responded to two residences on Chippingwood Drive in Port Republic for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised that sometime between 2:00am and 7:30am on November 30th, an unknown suspect(s) drove through their yard and damaged their mailboxes. The value of damaged property is \$100 per mailbox.

Damaged Property: 19-69629

On December 1, 2019, Deputy Burggraff responded to Flag Harbor Boulevard in St. Leonard for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised that sometime between November 29th and December 1st, and unknown suspect(s) burned or melted four locations on the cover of their motor home. The value of damaged property is \$500.

Theft: 19-68552

On November 25, 2019, Deputy Wood took a report of theft from a vehicle. The complainant stated that sometime between December 25, 2018 and October 15, 2019, an unknown suspect(s) broke the passenger side window of the vehicle and stole jewelry from the center console. Items stolen were a 10" Gold bracelet, a gold 1966 class ring, and a gold ring with a cat's eye stone. The total value of stolen property is \$3,725.

Arrests

On November 25, 2019, Deputy Rzepkowski conducted a traffic stop on North Solomons Island Road at Walnut Creek Road in Huntingtown. Upon making contact with the driver, **Crystal Kay Sweeney**



(38), Deputy Rzepkowski was advised by Calvert County Emergency Communications that Sweeney had an active warrant through Anne Arundel County. Sweeney was placed under ar-

rest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was asked if she had any drugs on her person, Sweeney advised she did not have drugs. A search of Sweeney upon entering the detention center resulted in a clear plastic baggie containing suspected marijuana, as well as a brown plastic bag containing two suspected Amphetamine and Dextroamphetamine pills. Sweeney was charged with CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana and Possession of Contraband in a Place of Confinement.

On November 26, 2019, Deputy Parks conducted a traffic stop on South Solomons Island Road at Parran Road in St. Leonard. Upon making contact with the driver, he detected a strong odor of marijuana was emanating from the vehicle. The driver and passenger were removed from the vehicle and a search was conducted, which resulted in a .40 Caliber bullet found on the passenger side floor board. After briefly resisting, the passenger, **Daquan Gregory Holden (24)**,



was detained by deputies and a search of his person was conducted resulting in a .40 Caliber extended magazine holding 18 rounds of ammunition. Holden was placed under arrest and transported to

the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Resisting/ Interfering with Arrest, Obstructing and Hindering, and Illegal Possession of Ammunition.

On November 28, 2019, Deputy Naughton conducted a traffic stop on Southern Maryland Boulevard at Camaleer Pass in Owings. Calvert County Emergency Communications advised the tags on the vehicle were reported stolen through Virginia. Upon making contact with the driver, **Reginald Ramael Datcher (49)**, the



strong odor of marijuana was emanating from the vehicle. Calvert County Emergency Communications advised Datcher's driver's license was revoked in 1996 and the vehicle he was driving was

not registered. Datcher was removed from the vehicle and a search was conducted resulting in numerous green flakes and several small stems of suspected marijuana, as well as a Stinger P30T Airsoft pistol. Datcher was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Theft Less Than \$100 and Concealed Dangerous Weapon.

On December 1, 2019 Deputy Rzepkowski responded to Prince George's County Police Department to arrest **Brandi Lynn Kelley (36)**, who had two active



warrants through Calvert County. While transporting Kelley to the Calvert County Detention Center, Deputy Rzepkowski asked if Kelley had anything on her person, to which Kelley advised she

did not. Upon entering the detention center, a search of Kelley was conducted which revealed a silver folding knife. Kelley was charged with Possession of Contraband in a Place of Confinement.

Calvert County Rescue Dive Team: There When Needed



By Dick Myers Editor

They are a small group with a small number of yearly calls for service, yet they fill a big need in a county surounded by water. Calls to the Calvert County Rescue Dive Team (CCRDT) usually involve life or death situations with drowning the dire consequence.

The dive team was founded in 1988. According to their website: "The CCRDT responds

to all water rescue calls in Calvert County and we are capable of conducting dive rescue and recovery operations, ice rescue, swift water rescue, surface and underwater Class A HAZMAT operations, and high-risk rescue with Personal Watercraft (PWC). In addition to responding to calls within the county, we also support local, state, and federal governments and charitable organizations in water rescue/recovery operations and public safety."

The unit had its genesis in several volunteer companies that saw the need, most notably North Beach, St. Leonard and Prince Frederick, according to past chief Kenny Gray, who served in the leadership role for a total of 13 years in two stints. Gray filled in for this interview for current chief Dan Furth, who is away on vacation.

Compared to the county's other volunteer fire and rescue companies that

have been featured in this monthly series, CCRDT is the smallest, averaging about 20 and currently at 22 members. But its yearly call volume, thankfully, is equally miniscule. Gray said, "We will average 25 calls per year. That fluctuates a little bit. I think the highest in my time as chief, when I was paying attention to the statistics, we were 33 calls in one year. We've had as few as 10."

When the unit was formed initially, many of

the members belonged to other volunteer companies as well, but that is not currently the case (only four do and Gray still runs with the North Beach VFD&RS). Most members live in Calvert, although four are from St. Mary's and one is from southern Anne Arundel.

Gray explained, "Everybody that has joined in the last 15 to 18 years has been just from the community as a recreational scuba diver and most of the time they've been recruited at one of our public functions where we sit at an open house during the Fire/Rescue/EMS Week. We set up at a table to show that we're part of the community and people come up and talk to us. And that's where most of those numbers have come from."

As to training, he said, "We adhere to the training standards for the In-

ternational Association of Dive Rescue Specialists." But he added, "Anyone who comes into the team who wants to be a scuba diver already is asked to have their basic recreational open water scuba certification. The team does not provide for that."

As for the county's other emergency services personnel, the training is rigorous. He explained, "We have a 40-hour training course on top of your basic open water that you have to go through."

The basic open-water scuba training, he said, goes "through a course that involves some classroom and some pool sessions and a couple of open water sessions before you can get your certificate."

Gray was asked if they had such a thing as a typical call. He said, "They're all very unique types because there's such a variety, like there's not really





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Former Calvert County Rescue Dive Team chief Kenny Gray.

a typical car accident other than a fender bender."

Gray explained what happens when a call comes in. "All the individual members go to the scene. We have three vehicles for the dive team, one in the north end, one at Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad, which is where our home base is, and one in the south end, currently at the Solomons fire department. Members will go in the direction of those vehicles. They have to pass it to go to a call and they go to the scene and we keep all of our equipment that we need to operate on those vehicles."

He added, "If we have a call in Prince Frederick. I live up near North Beach. If the vehicle that's already in North Beach is on the air, like any other fire department vehicle, then I head straight to the scene. And so, most of our guys will show up to the scene in their personal vehicles."

Like all other departments they have regular monthly business meetings, on the second Wednesday. They belong to the county fire-rescue association.

But, in addition to the monthly business meetings, they have regular drills plus dive training sessions at least six or seven times a year.

He said, "We try to train in as many situations that we can, that we would have to work at. Sometimes we'll meet at a pond up in the north end of the county, or we'll meet at a boat ramp or we'll meet at a boat. So, then we go out and we train off one of the fire boats in the county."

About their current manpower level, he said, "We're comfortable. A couple more folks wouldn't hurt, as every other organization in Calvert County. We're all volunteer. So, we have times

of the day where it's very challenging to get members to respond to a call. Weekends and evenings when people are home from work, it's easier to get people to respond to a call. We've never failed to respond to our request for service."

Still, he added, "Having some more folks is always helpful because people will fluctuate and change. And like me, I have a busy season and an off season, where I'm more available and less available. So that occurs with every one of us."

But he doesn't see anywhere in the future where the unit will have to be supplemented with paid staff, as is now happening in the county's EMS service. The call volume just doesn't support it.

With water, everywhere in Calvert, the dive team is big on encouraging young people to take swim lessons. He said, "We help out with the other companies and other public outreach programs such as St. Leonard does a fire camp with its kids each year and we help them with a component in there that's involved with water safety, boat safety, personal safety when you're in or around open water."

He said, "I have good communication with the parks and recreation staff here in Calvert County and we every day, everywhere we're at, we encourage parents when they come up to meet us to put their kids in swim lessons."

Gray, who is currently the unit's safety officer, observed that even though the calls vary, most are related to boat accidents.

Gray loves diving and when he goes on vacations, diving is always a part of it. "When I get the chance to go scuba dive somewhere around the world, I do." His favorite dive is on a cargo vessel wreck in Aruba. "It was just incredible to stand there on the scene and look up to corals that were extending 20, 25 feet up off the bottom of the ocean."

A note of caution for recreational divers; "Never dive alone. Only time I am alone is in a swimming pool."

Gray was asked why he continues to volunteer. He responded, "It's my way of being able to provide something back to the community that I live in because I have the ability to do so. This is not some-

thing everybody's cut out to do. Not everybody can handle dealing with dead people. Not everybody can handle dealing with family members who are in one of their worst situations that they've experienced in their lives. And I've got to have the ability to just manage and mitigate those things myself personally. That's why I also run as an EMT and a firefighter. And so, it's a way for me to give to my community of the abilities that I have."

He said anyone interested in the dive team "can contact us through the county's website and applications are there or our website, www.ccrdt. org."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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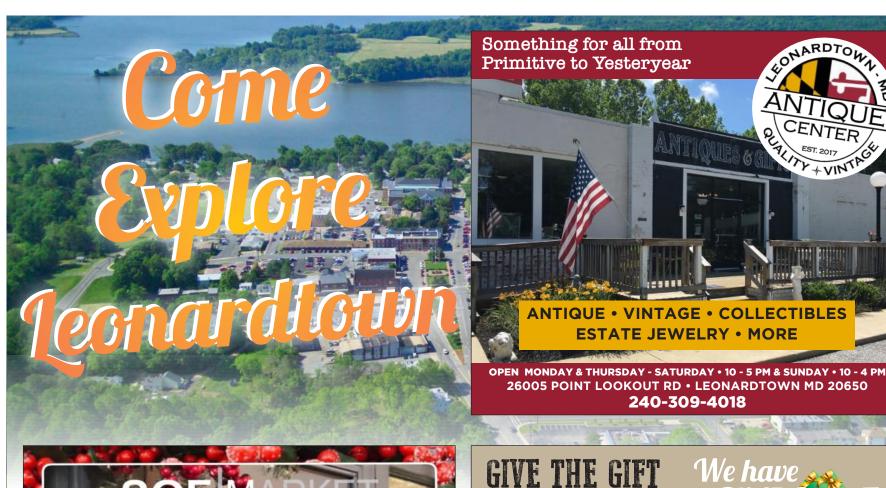








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A Look Inside

STORE MIXES HISTORY WITH THE HOLIDAYS

SHEPHERD'S OLD FIELD
GEARS UP FOR CHRISTMAS

Nurseries Transformed into Winter Wonderlands

THE APPLE BASKET

GEARS UP FOR CHRISTMAS

PAT CARPENTER
HOLIDAY PARADE

HOSPICE OF ST. MARY'S FESTIVAL OF TREES





Store Mixes History with the Holidays



Grandmother's Store is lit up for the holiday season.

By DICK MYERS EDITOR

If you are looking to shop this holiday season in a place with a story to tell, Grandmother's Store is just right for you.

The building on Dowell Road in Solomons, just down the street from Annemarie Garden, dates back to 1904. It lived a good long life as a general store and post office before being converted into its current role as an antique, collectable and gift store operated by Brenda Dowell and her partner, who

also own a store called the Harmon House Shoppes on Solomons Island.

Brenda's husband Bucky, who is retired and now helps out at the store, is the grandson of the store's namesake, who was Sadie Garner Dowell. She had become postmistress after the death of her husband, Wilson, who had been postmaster there since 1913. The town was named after him. Before that it had been called Frazier's. The post office was moved to a trailer down the street in recent years, but now has closed, having been



Brenda and Bucky Dowell stand in front of this year's themed Christmas tree at Grandmother's Store on Dowell Road in Solonons.

consolidated with Solomons.

The building was added onto several times, the last being in 1935, including the addition of a second floor. All of it was used by the general store and post office but in later years antiques were added until the complete conversion in 1983.

Brenda and Bucky have been married for 53 years. They met at Our Lady Star of the Sea school. She grew up on Solomons but later moved to Dowell near Bucky's family home. Both rode the bus to school and that bus dropped off the kids in the neighborhood outside the store for candy and ice cream.

Bucky Dowell quipped, "I am now officially not working, however, I need a full-time job so I can have time off because she keeps me busy here." His work life included the Air Force, Maryland State Police, and hospital and court security.

Shelves from the store, lined with some items from it, and the customer window from the post office share space among the items for sale in the old building's eight rooms, packed with what Brenda estimates are tens of thousands of items.

Mrs. Dowell explained that the store's merchandise is a mix of old and new, a perfect selection for holiday giving. She said, "We try to go for unique every year. For 30 some years we've had a theme tree and this year it's wildlife. One of our vendors does handmade ornaments. They're hand painted with crab shells, oyster shells, and other nautical items."

Some other gift ideas, she said: "We have a full line of china sets and furniture. I do have depression glass. We sell jams and jellies made in Maryland and a full line of teapots and teas and things that ladies might be interested in."

Dowell said, though, that for someone who really knows the likes and dislikes of the person receiving the gift, antiques can be a viable option. For instance, she said, "We keep a table here with predominantly men's stuff and tools and I do sell antique tools and wood planes."

For women, she said, "There's just about anything they want to get interested in. For a person that you are having a hard time picking something out for, an arrangement with jellies and so forth makes a good gift. Teapots and teas are a good gift or that special teacup that all ladies like to have. We have those."

Grandmother's Store is open Friday through Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the holiday season.





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Shepherd's Old Field Market Gears Up For Christmas



TREATS LIKE HOT CHOCOLATE ARE THERE TO GREET VISITORS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



THE INTERIOR OF SHEPHERD'S OLD FIELD MARKET IS DECORATED FOR CHRISTMAS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

This will be the second Christmas season for Shepherd's Old Field Market (SOF), the combination mall for boutique shops and food and drink vendors in downtown Leonardtown, said SOF owner Gerrie L'Heureux, but the community gathering place is even more festive than last year.

The major event for SOF this Christmas season will be Dec. 15 for an open house featuring caroling, a barbershop quartet and visits with Santa Clause.

The open house also includes a photo booth for visitors to take pictures of themselves in a holiday theme; hors d'oeuvres and drinks will also be provided free to guests at SOF, L'Heureux said.

"Each vendor has their own sales," L'Heureux said. "A lot of them are getting their spaces stocked."

"They're decorating and getting in the Christmas spirit."

SOF is a place where the products are unlike any others in St. Mary's, L'Heureux said.

"A lot of the items are already unique, specialized or handmade," she told The County Times.

The exterior of SOF is decorated like Whoville in the Dr. Seuss book The Grinch Who Stole Christmas.

The entire entry space of the marketplace has already been decorated to honor the Christmas season.

More than just a shopping experience, SOF also has food and drink available for visitors and their Brüdergarten offers alcoholic beverages in an upbeat bar atmosphere with games.

SOF is still growing, though it has far surpassed its occupancy and community interest from just a year ago, L'Heureux said.

"This Christmas there are a lot more vendors and a lot more variety," L'Heureux said. "We're still looking for more vendors and food court opportunities.

"You can't rest on your laurels."

L'Heureux wanted SOF to be more than just a gathering of boutique shops but a gathering place for the residents of Leonardtown as well, uniquely located to be accessible on foot as well as by vehicle.

"There are exciting things coming to SOF," L'Heureux said. "We want people to make it a hangout, especially in bad weather."

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Nurseries Transformed into Winter Wonderlands



Display inside the Charlotte Hall Wentworth's store with owner Richard Wentworth.

By DICK MYERS

If you're not yet in the holiday spirit, Wentworth Nursery locations in Charlotte Hall and Prince Frederick are the places to go to transform you.

And transform is a perfect word

to describe what happens there every year. "We pretty much tear the whole store down and put it back up as Christmas," said Brittany Simpson, who oversees decorating the Charlotte Hall store.

Simpson has a team of store helpers. She said, "We usually



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Poinsettias grown by Dawn and her team at their Charlotte Hall greenhouses. Photo by Rebecca Sherman.

pick nine to 10 themes. We have a couple of new themes this year, but we do the theme sections where we put up the whole Christmas tree and then have all the trees priced separately and the ornaments to sell."

She added, "Then we do the big bows and tree toppers and everything. So, I'm trying to give a little bit of variety to everyone when they're looking for something."

New this year, she said, is "technically we've been calling it Regal; it's essentially that old-fashioned white and blue, kind of like you would see on china. So, we have a whole section based off that that is blue and the red with the poinsettias.

Also new this year is "a Buffalo plaid section, which has all of the black and white plaid and the red and black plaid.

Every year, she said, the nautical theme and the candy land section prove to be the most popular.

The trees at the Prince Frederick store are also themed, according to store manager Rebecca Sherman. "We have a fully-decorated, 12-foot tall tree when you walk in and it's flanked by other decorated trees as well. And it's all inspiring," she said.

Sherman added, "We have the huge tree that is a Woodland theme, with a lot of animals

with wood textures and a little bit of metal texture. We have a multicultural tree, which is actually teal with some exciting succulent stems tucked into it and some really funny and interesting ornaments. We have things with traditional look to them, which are your red and green Santa and some retro kind of feel, and some more metallic gilded kind of a look."

Of course, The Prince Frederick store is also filled with wreaths and ablaze in red from the poinsettias. But Sherman noted that a flower called anthurium is also an alternative. It's a tropical flower and "some actually have kind of a kid candy-came kind of a stripe to them."

It's fun to watch the reaction when customers enter. Sherman said, "This year I've actually personally seen several people walk in and just say, 'Wow!' When kids are in, they walk around, and they look at all the trees. We actually have one tree that has ballerinas and unicorns and rainbows on it and kids really seem to love the trees."

Simpson in the Charlotte Hall store said, "The whole store kind of just screams Christmas right now. So as soon as you walk in you kind of get bombarded with the lights. Typically, it's an overall good reaction from all the customers."

 ${\tt DICKMYERS} @ {\tt COUNTYTIMES.NET} \\$

The Apple Basket Gears Up For Christmas

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Visitors to The Apple Basket antique and gift store in Mechanicsville this Christmas season will be greeted with spaces crammed full of holiday gifts and house accents.

But store manager Jason Chiarizia says what customers find is not nearly as much as was brought in before the season even began.

"We started putting Christmas stuff out since the beginning of October," Chiarizia said. "In one day we can sell \$1,000 worth in items.

"[The amount of items] has thinned out, believe it or not."

Christmas is the biggest time of the year for The Apple Basket, which has been in business for more than 35 years; customers come from Southern Maryland and even farther away.

"People just come in here to get ready for the holiday season," Chiarizia said. "They get ideas to decorate their own houses when they come here.

"We have people who will bring family and friends here when they come in for the holiday," he said. "There are people who will travel hours just to come here."

The ebb and flow of items coming into the shop consists in large part of antiques from estates as well as items that are specialty products; quite a few are hand made, Chiarizia said.

"We're always buying stuff from estates," he said. "Everything's changing."

The focus at The Apple Basket for the Christmas season, or any other time of the year, is finding unique items that are not likely to be found anywhere else.

"We're always looking for something special," Chiarizia said. "We're looking for something that a homeowner really wants."

Jewelry is an important product line in the store as are home goods and decorations; furniture is also in high demand.

Years ago, customers wanted furniture that was primitive and rustic in appearance, but years



CHRISTMAS NUTCRACKER DOLLS ARE PLENTIFUL AT THE APPLE BASKET FOR HOLIDAY DECORATIONS



THE EXTERIOR AT THE APPLE BASKET IS DECKED OUT FOR CHRISTMAS

later, Chiarizia said, customers are looking for furniture that is painted with cleaner lines.

No matter the product, whether antique or newly made, Chiarizia said, nothing is brought into the store without being inspected and carefully considered.

"We hand pick everything in the store," Chiarizia said.

Though interest in antiques, gifts and curios changes with the times, The Apple Basket hopes to provide St. Mary's with the best the region has to offer.

"Good pieces will always be in style," Chiarizia said.

The Apple Basket is located off of Route 235 on Mt. Zion Road.

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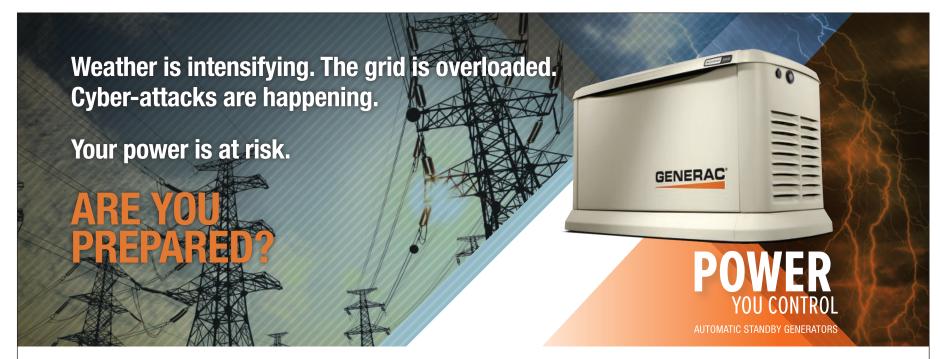












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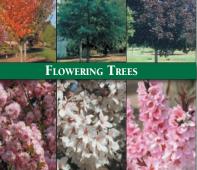


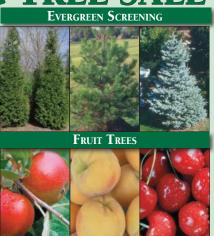
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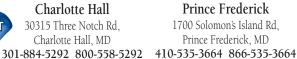
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The Calvert County Times

In Our Community

SMECO Employees Raise \$57,450

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) employees held two fund-raising events and recently donated \$57,450 to three organizations in Southern Maryland: The Arc Southern Maryland in Calvert County, Spring Dell in Charles County, and Bay Community Support Services in St. Mary's County. Each organization will receive \$19,150. "We selected these three organizations that assist intellectually and developmentally disabled people as this year's recipients because they provide services to individuals and families who need support for everyday living," said Natalie Cotton, SMECO's government affairs and community relations director.

"Contributing to these groups that help Southern Maryland families enjoy meaningful lives is an honor," said Richard Jarboe, SMECO supply chain director. "Our annual charity golf outing has become an extraordinary fundraising event because we are able to work with our vendors, who make big-hearted contributions. It means a great deal to us to be able to provide a donation that will help make our community even better."

SMECO employees raised the money through the SMECO Annual Charity Golf Outing in October and the SMECO 75 Bike Ride held in June. The events are supported by SME-CO vendors, the cooperative's board and executive team, and employees who volunteer. The cooperative selects different organizations each year to benefit from its fundraising events. In seven years, SMECO employee fund-raisers have contributed \$328,100 to local organizations. Contributions, which may be tax deductible, can be made to the SMECO Charitable Foundation.

The Arc Southern Maryland is dedicated to their mission: creating opportunities for independence and personal success for people with different abilities in inclusive communities. "We believe everyone deserves a good quality of life and that small steps to independence empower each person and their family. Opportunities don't just happen; they have to be created," said Renee Seigley, Director of Development. "We are so thankful to SMECO and their event participants for supporting our work. We will utilize these funds, in part, to enhance



Pictured from left are Carolyn Robinson, Spring Dell program participant; Catherine Raines, R.N., Chief Executive Officer of Bay-CSS; Renee Seigley, Director of Development of The Arc Southern Maryland; Stephanie Raines, Bay-CSS Director of Marketing and Development; Angie, Keesee, Director of Marketing and Development of Spring Dell; Melanie Dutton, Spring Dell program participant; Natalie Cotton, SMECO's government affairs and community relations director; Denise Chalmers, senior buyer at SMECO; and Austin J. Slater, Jr., SMECO president and CEO.

our vocational training and career placement programs."

Bay Community Support Services (Bay-CSS) assists individuals in St. Mary's County with increasing their participation in the activities of daily living and promotes independence. "Our clients want to be included in the workforce and the community. We help them with obtaining and keeping jobs, and we encourage them to enjoy their interests, such as attending worship services and participating in other activities," said Catherine Raines, R.N., Chief Executive Officer. 'Our organization plans to use the SMECO contribution to create an adaptive and inclusive music therapy program led by a board certified music therapist. Additionally, Bay-CSS plans to create adaptive computer labs at our day activity centers for employment, learning, and recreation."

For more than 50 years, Spring Dell in Charles County has supported adults with disabilities. "We are committed to helping the people we support achieve independence and find gainful employment. There are so many opportunities for them in our community, and it's our job to assist them with finding out what they enjoy doing, no different than anyone else, said Angie Keesee, Director of Marketing and Development. Spring Dell plans to use the contribution from SMECO to supplement funds designated for their Work Readiness Program, which assists people in developing job skills to be ready for the workplace by teaching them interpersonal skills, teamwork, and customer service. Keesee added, "Improving the lives of others is important work, and we are grateful for the support and opportunities we receive from the community."

Cotton added, "We are already planning our ninth annual bike ride for June 6, 2020. Next year, our contributions will go to organizations concerned with preventing and treating individuals and families affected by the opioid epidemic."

Cyclists who want to participate in the SMECO 75 Bike Ride can register online at Active.com beginning January 1, 2020. The SMECO 75 Bike Ride is open to the public. Participants can choose among three routes of 29, 47, and 75 miles that start at the co-op's headquarters in Hughesville and go as far as Colton's Point in St. Mary's County. According to Cotton, "Our employees and vendors make the SMECO 75 bike ride successful and fun. The community atmosphere and enthusiasm of the participants make the event a great experience. Raising funds for deserving organizations is a bonus."

Cotton said, "We are especially thankful for business partners who help raise funds by providing donations and participating in the event. Major contributors include ABB, Adams Jenkins and Cheatham, Booth and Associates, CGI, Cigna Health, Community Bank of the Chesapeake, CW Wright Construction, DLA Piper LLP,

Duncan Weinberg Genzer Pembroke, Glen and Barbara Ives, Hafets and Associates, ICF International, IP Datasystems, Keller and Heckman, McNees Wallace and Nurick LLC, MSI Inc., New River Electrical Corporation, Prudential, Schiebel Construction, Sensus USA, TRC, UDC, Venable Foundation, and VFP, and we thank them for their support."

them for their support."

Jarboe added, "We are grateful to our Golf Outing sponsors for their generous contributions. Platinum Sponsors include Altec, Anixter, CDW, Brandywine Power, ICF International, Irby Utilities, Lawrence Abell & Associates, New River Electrical Cooperation, PJ Martini & Associates, Sargent & Lundy LLC, The Okonite Company, TRC Solutions, and Wesco Utility. Gold Sponsors include Bradley Electrosales Corp., Itron, Meridian Imaging Solutions, SMO Energy, and Super Salvage. We rely on them for their donations and appreciate their assistance."

Press Release from SMECO

Minority Business Alliance Elects New Board Members

The Calvert County Minority Alliance (CCMBA) starts its 14th program year with newly elected board members and officers. CCMBA's 2019-2021 officers and board represent various industries.

The officers include President Bryant Parker, Elite Martial Arts Academy, Inc.; Vice President, Roseanna Vogt, the Circle of Angels Initiative; Secretary Shanae Gray, the Gray-Brown Productions; and Christine Coates, CC Professional Tax Services.

The board members include Gayle Reid, Reid and Reid Bus Service, Inc.; Andrea "Chris" Banks, Exit 1 Stop Realty Dunkirk MD; Joel Hill, Berean Employment Screening Solutions; and Dawn L. Tucker (Membership Chair), Lord and Tucker Management Consultants, LLC.

CCMBA's program year runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Activities for the year will focus on marketing and developing its members and providing opportunities for the overall business community based in Southern Maryland.

The first power packed event on September 19, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. features speakers Donald Anderson of Taylor and Anderson and the Edsel M. Brown, Jr. of Edsel M. Brown, Jr. Group who will discuss strategies to build wealth, financial planning options, strategies to exit their business, and options for retirement.

For more information on Calvert County's Minority Business Alliance, including updates on all planned activities and events visit www.ccmba.org or email info@ccmba.org.

Leadership Class Experiences Economic & Workforce Development

Maryland's Class of 2020 held its first of nine program sessions n Oct. 3 to learn about economic and workforce development in the tri-county region. The program was sponsored by the Calvert County Department of Economic Development and the Charles County Economic Development Department. Ruthy Davis LSM '14, director of regional workforce and business development for Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland was the advocate for the session and planned the day's events.

The day opened at the Charles County American Job Center in Waldorf, Maryland where the class toured the mobile career center and heard from job service specialist supervisor, Cheryl Thorne of the Maryland Department of Labor. The group then moved to Regency Furniture Stadium where they were welcomed by Southern Maryland Blue Crabs general manager, Courtney Knichel. This was followed by a panel discussion on economic development current hot topics with the economic development office representatives from Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties (Kelly Robertson-Slagle LSM'10, Marcia Keeth LSM'18, Chris



Members of the Class of 2020 worked on their nonprofit projects while enjoying the view and fall weather at Regency Furniture Stadium during Leadership Southern Maryland's Economic & Workforce Development session on October 3rd

Kaselemis).

The class then explored the topic of diversifying the local economy followed by a presentation on creating entrepreneurial communities by Wynne Briscoe, acting director for the southern region of the Small Business Development Center. The day concluded with Davis along with Pam Wilkerson LSM'19 from the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland briefing the class on meeting the region's workforce development demands and soft vs. hard skills.

At the conclusion of the program day, the class traveled to the home of LSM board president, Sam Baldwin LSM'16 where they joined graduates and friends to celebrate LSM Homecoming.

Leadership Southern Maryland is a nine-month program tuition-based and is designed and dedicated to educate and inspire a diverse group of current and emerging leaders to create collaborations and partnerships to impact the community needs of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties and incorporates a crosssection of the region to include diversity of geographic location, profession, ethnicity and gender.

Press Release from LSM

Annmarie Garden Hires Development Director

New Position Expands Fundraising Effort

The Koenig Private Foundation, Inc., and Ann's Circle, Inc., the two non-profit organizations that cooperatively operate and support Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, are pleased to announce that Pamela Shilling has been hired as the first full-time Development Director for the garden. This new position reflects the need to broadly expand public and private support for Annmarie and develop a comprehensive strategy to ensure the long-term sustainability of the beloved Southern Maryland park.

"We are thrilled to welcome Pam to this new position at Annmarie. In the short time she has been with us, I have been struck by her thoughtful consideration of the opportunities and challenges we face as we ramp up our fund-raising efforts. She is an exceptionally creative and resourceful addition to the Annmarie team," said Stacey Hann-Ruff, director, Annmarie Garden.

Annmarie Garden was donated to the people of Calvert County in 1991 by Francis and Ann Marie Koenig, as a testament to their love of the county, with the intention that the thirty-acre property be developed into a sculpture and botanical garden. The property is owned and partially supported by the Calvert County Government and is operated by two non-profit organizations - the Koenig Private Foundation, Inc. and Ann's Circle, Inc. - with a mission to connect people to art and nature through a wide variety of activities and programs. Since 1991, the garden has grown into an important community asset and popular tourist destination, with more than 75,000 visitors annually. The garden display numerous sculptures on loan from the Smithsonian Institution, but is not managed nor funded by the Smithsonian.

For the past twenty years, Annmarie Garden has enjoyed annual financial support from two charitable trusts distributed through the Koenig Private Foundation. These trusts were established by Francis and Ann Koenig and were designed to distribute funds for twenty years to their favorite charities, including Annmarie Garden. Over the years, these funds have helped further the development of Annmarie Garden and supported the general operating budget.

In addition to the trusts, operating funds have been derived from the Calvert County Government, grants, rental fees, admission and membership fees, event revenues, private donations, and business sponsorships. Collectively, these support streams have ensured the annual operation of the garden, as well as the gradual enhancement of programs and activities, the sculpture collection, the buildings, and the lovely grounds.

With the cessation of the two charitable trusts this past March, the garden must find new revenue sources for about 10% of

its \$1.2 million operating budget. The hiring of Ms. Shilling marks a crucial step in closing this funding gap, which will require greater public and private investment in the garden



Pamela Shilling

and its mission. Working closely with the Annmarie staff and the boards of both the Koenig Private Foundation and Ann's Circle, Ms. Shilling will lead the creation and implementation of a comprehensive development strategy. The strategy will include a push for increased financial support from public and private sources, as well as seeking out new grant opportunities and identifying and cultivating new donors.

With a track record of impressive service to the community that includes art and nature programs for both young and old; rotating exhibits showcasing the artwork of both local and national talents; and well-known events such as Artsfest, MLK Days, Artists In Action, Halloween in the Garden, the Maker's Market, the Insectival, and Garden in Lights, both boards are optimistic that sufficient financial support will be secured to sustain the garden and continue its service to the community.

"Annmarie Garden would never have been able to grow into what it is today without the long-term support of the charitable trusts. We are humbled by the faith that Mr. & Mrs. Koenig had in the garden and are eager to carry their vision forward into the future," reports Lee Woodfin, President, Ann's Circle, Inc.

Shilling brings a wealth of experience in marketing, development, and communications to the position, including many years working at the American Chestnut Land Trust, the National Defense University Foundation, and the Phillips Collection, to name but a few. Although she was quickly thrust into the busy Annmarie event schedule, Ms. Shilling is carving out time to meet with existing donors and supporters to discuss the very exciting future of Annmarie Garden. Expect to see her out in the community meeting with community philanthropists along with leaders from the government and business community.

To learn more about how you can support Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, please contact Pamela Shilling, Development Director, at 410-326-4640 or donor@annmariegarden.org. To learn more about Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center stop by or visit www.annmariegarden.org.

Press Release from Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center



WWW.TCCSMD.ORG







Assist your employees with their Commute to Work. You will Reap the Benefits...

Area businesses that encourage and support the use of vanpools and public transit services may be eligible for commuter tax credits. The Maryland State Legislature created an income tax credit (House Bill 646/ Chapter 560 and Senate Bill 390/ Chapter 559 of the session laws of 1999) for employers who provided commuting benefits to their employees.

The Council's Regional Rideshare Coordinator/Employer Outreach Specialist will assist your business with a FREE evaluation of the commuting needs of your employees.

TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL for SOUTHERN MARYLAND

ST. MARY'S



The Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland assists the Maryland Transit Administration's (MTA) operation of a large number of express commuter bus routes from the Southern Maryland Region into numerous areas of the Metropolitan Washington Region.



Free Instant Ridematching Services. Sign up today!

The Council's Commuter Assistance Program also assists with introducing residents, employees and employers to other drive alone alternatives such as: carpools, vanpools, subscription bus, local public transit, and tele-work options.



SchoolPool

We understand the safety of your children is of the utmost importance to you. For this reason SchoolPool only shares the parents' contact information and never information about your children. Take advantage of School Pool to get your children to school in a safe and secure manner.



to four times each year to get you home

Contact:

George Clark - Rideshare Coordinator
PO Box 745 • Hughesville, MD 20637
gclark@tccsmd.org • www.tccsmd.org
301-870-2520 or 1-800-SO-CLOSE



WWW.COMMUTERCONNECTIONS.ORG

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The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Fishing is still good in the cold weather.

By Ken and Linda Lamb Contributing Writers

The striper fishing is excellent in the bay from the HS Buoy south to Smith Point. There are miles of breaking rockfish under vast flocks of gulls and gannets most every day. The truly hot spots shift daily, but the most consistent area is straight out the center of the Potomac River about three miles.

Bigger fish are from 72A to the HS Marker. Many of the rockfish in the mid-bay have sea lice and are skinny

compared to the fat, sleek domestics.

Trollers and jiggers are catching fish in the 19-to-32-inch range.

The rockfish activities up the rivers has slowed. There are fish, but you have to work for them and many are undersized,

Some hardy souls fishing after dark under the dock lights around Solomons Island and the Navy Recreation Pier have hooked some huge fish up to 40 inches and in the 25-pound range.

There are still some bass, pickerel, and crappie in the ponds and St. Mary's Lake

Pet of the WEEK MEET VERONICA

A beautiful, spunky kitty with lots of love to give! She has been at the shelter for 20 weeks anxiously awaiting her forever home! Veronica's

piercing green eyes will have you fall in love with her! If you think Veronica might be the girl for you then come on in for a meet and greet! Being Pet of the Week Veronica's adoption fee has been waived for all qualified adopters!

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is located at 5055 Hallowing Point Road in Prince Frederick. We are open for adoptions Tuesday through Saturday. For more information about this week's

Pet of the Week or any of our other adoptable pets please check out our website www.calvertcountyanimalshelter.com or give us a call at 410-535-PETS (7387). Please follow us on our Facebook page @Calvert County Animal Shelter & Instagram @CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.



A View From The BLEACHERS Fighting Dictators

By Ronald N. Guy Jr Contributing Writer.

In the 1980s, Michael J. Fox was one of pop culture's biggest stars. For young boys he was a cool as it gets; for adolescent girls, his posters occupied prime real estate on bedroom walls.

Fox rose to prominence playing the right-leaning, Ronald Reagan loving Alex P. Keaton in the hit television series "Family Ties." His on-screen charm quickly transcended the small screen via the role of a lifetime: the DeLorean-driving, time-travelling, guitar shredding Marty McFly in the iconic "Back to the Future" trilogy. Somehow avoiding the Keaton/McFly typecast, Fox successfully returned to television in the 1990s on the show "Spin City".

Life, of course, is never only about adoring fans and blockbuster films, literally or figurative. And it certainly hasn't been for Fox. Notso-great news arrived in 1991: Fox was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. The actor would now have to figure out how this curve ball would impact a role he had been playing his whole life – that of Michael J. Fox.

Fox's 2009 autobiography, "Always Looking Up: The Adventures of an Incurable Optimist" offers a powerful window into this evolution. The title is a humorous play on Fox's modest 5'4" stature and a direct introduction to the essence of the book - an inspirational story on coping with challenging circumstances. Fox addresses many topics - his youth, career milestones, alcoholism, family life, parenthood, religion and his political fight for stem cell research - but the book is centered on a brutally honest account of his daily and progressive struggles with PD.

I just finished the book and am not ashamed to say that it stirred considerable emotion. One excerpt, among many, that resonated was how Fox talked about fighting the progression of PD tooth and nail so that it did not dictate how he lived his life.

The concept of a life-dictating force – and resisting it - is powerful. The dictators are everywhere - some realized, some anticipated others inevitable. They arrive early, onschedule or by complete surprise. No one avoids them all.

The connections with sports are obvious. There are many reasons for sports' broad appeal; one that

transcends teams and rivalries is an underlying appreciation for the journey each athlete took just to make it and the challenges all face in dodging dictating forces - day to day, week to week and year to year - to remain on the field, the ice or the court

In the ever-present battle between athlete and dictator, there are many inspiring stories of human achievement. Let's start with a trio of quarterbacks. Tom Brady's battle against age is redefining paradigms. Russell Wilson, all 5'10" of him, successfully overcame the naysayers who labeled him too short for the NFL. Lamar Jackson, "cursed" by elite athleticism, was once now infamously dismissed by former NFL executive Bill Polian as nothing more than potential NFL wide receiver. When considering athletes who have defeated the dictation of injury, I think of our World Series champion Nationals: Ryan Zimmerman (shoulder, foot), Howie Kendrick (Achilles), Trey Turner (broken hand/finger), Stephen Strasburg (elbow) all fought their own battles against serious injury to make October magic. NBA players DeMarr DeRozan and Kevin Love have braved struggles with and removed stigmas attached to mental health. Washington Mystics All-Star Elena Della Donne persevered through chronic Lyme disease. Former Washington defensive tackle Tony McGee, one of "The Black 14" – 14 African American players kicked off the 1969 University of Wyoming football team for seeking a way to protest the prejudice policies of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints - made it to the NFL despite the overt racism present in a desegregated America. For years, female athletes fought for equal access and equal institutional support; the US Women's National Team has renewed the fight for equal pay. And so many athletes have made it despite seemingly insurmountable social and/or economic conditions.

Age, injury, illness, racism, sexism, un-even access to opportunity, unconventional and misunderstood talent – these are just a few of the dictators that threaten what we do, how far we go...fundamentally how we live our lives. Encounters are inevitable; as Michael J. Fox and the sports world prove, capitulation is not.

 $Send\ comments\ to \\ RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com$

Thursday, December 12, 2019 The Calvert County Times Obituaries 27

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.

Douglas Stuart Harry



Douglas Stuart Harry, 65 of Lusby, MD passed away on December 8, 2019 in Prince Frederick, MD. He was born on July 5, 1954 in Baltimore City, MD to the late Edith Sue and Donald Murphy Harry. He is the father to Jeremy

Harry of New York, NY and Derek Harry of Lusby, MD.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 14, 2019, 1-4 p.m. at The Pier Restaurant, 14575 Solomons Island Road South, Solomons, MD 20688. A Life Celebration Visitation will be at 1 p.m. at the restaurant. Interment will be private.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Rausch Funeral Home.

Debra Jo Littleton



Debra Jo Littleton, 67, of Lusby, died peacefully Friday, Dec. 6, 2019, in Georgetown Hospital, with family and friends by her side. She

was born June 26, 1952, in Washington D.C., and was a daughter of the late James Robert Sr. and Josephine (Tolbert) Littleton. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister Susan and father-in-law, Elton Smith. Debra Jo retired from the federal government where she worked on regulatory and international issues. She was a member of Olivet United Methodist Church, located in Lusby. She enjoyed the water, slalom water skiing, sailing, fishing, swimming, and loved to travel. Debra Jo is survived by her husband of 15 years, Dennis (Denny) N. Smith; her brother James Robert Littleton Jr.; her uncles Michael (Mike) Tolbert and Ralph Tolbert; mother-in-law, Lois Smith; brother-in-law, Gary Smith; her step daughters Anne and Tiffany Smith; godson Carl Thomas (CT) Walsh; and prayer partners Suzanne Tolbert, Patricia Hufford and Roxanne Arch. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends. The family will receive Friends at RAUSCH FUNERAL HOME, 4405 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, on Friday December 13, 2019 from 4 to 8 p.m. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday December 14, 2019 at Olivet United Methodist Church, Lusby, MD. Interment will follow in the Olivet UM Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Olivet UM Church, 13575 Olivet Road, Lusby, MD 20657.

Bobby Lee Viands



Bobby Lee Viands, 84, of Deale passed away December 5, 2019 in Annapolis. He was born July 11, 1935 in Luray, VA to Staige Arthur and Julia

Ann (Short) Viands. Bobby was raised in Virginia and moved to the D.C. metro area when he was 18 and has lived in Deale for the past 40 years. He was employed as a plumber with the Local 5 for 55 years. Bobby loved building and working on things and could make or fix almost anything. He also enjoyed watching politics, listening to country music and he loved his pet cats. He will be remembered as a fighter who wouldn't give up and for bringing a smile to your face whenever he entered the room.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Mary Josephine Viands, grand-daughter Tiffany Lynn Viands of Deale, who he shared a very special bond with and grandsons Bobby Lee Viands III of Martinsburg, WV and Robert Wiatrek of San Jose, CA. Also surviving are greatgrandchildren Bobby Lee IV, Tristin and Natalie Viands and Christian and Caydence Wiatrek, a nephew Leroy Breeden of Deale, who he raised as his own and a daughter Shirley Bolyard of Virginia. He was preceded in death by a son Bobby Lee Viands, Jr.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Grandison Greer "Buck" Allen, Jr.



Grandison Greer "Buck" Allen, Jr., 79, of Holland Point, MD and Honolulu, HI passed away December 4, 2019. He was born September 26, 1940 in

Washington, D.C. to Grandison Greer Sr. and Lillian (May) Allen. Grandison was a graduate of Penn State University and University of Southern California with Masters degrees in public administration and civil engineering. He was employed as a civil engineer, owning and operating Kaikor Construction. In his spare time, he enjoyed spending time with family, fishing, playing bridge and traveling.

Grandison is survived by his wife Kay Allen of Holland Point, MD and Honolulu, HI, children Kelly Griffin and husband Luke of Sacramento, CA, Kristi Nickols and husband Patrick of Long Beach, CA and Kari Greenwell and husband Robert of Honolulu, HI, grandchildren Brianna, Jenna, Alyssa, Tanner, Riley, Allison and Zachary, brother Gerald

Allen of Florida and sister Gay Duty of Virginia.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Thomas (Tom) Wayne Stahl, Sr.



Thomas (Tom) Wayne Stahl, Sr, 65, of Prince Frederick, passed away on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at home surrounded by his loving fam-

ily and his constant companion, Sadie. He was born on January 15, 1954 in Danville, PA to the late Charles and Onda Stahl.

He was a resident of Prince Frederick, MD and attended Hughesville Baptist Church. He loved old farm tractors and was an avid hunter; enjoyed being a Dallas Cowboys fan from the age of 6.

He graduated from Warrior Run High School in Turbottville, PA. Upon graduation, he entered the US Navy in January 1972, where he served as a Machinist Mate on the USS Sea Devil, after graduating from Basic Submarine course in October 1972. He received an Honorable Discharge on January 17, 1978. He worked at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant for 25 years, DynCorp for 2 years and Dominion LNG Cove Point for 10 years.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda L Stahl, son Thomas W Stahl II, sister Shelia Becht of PA and brother Ken Stahl of GA.; stepchildren Allan Harrison, Kelly Goelling and Daniel Goelling; grandchildren Skylar and Jenna Stahl, Breanna Grayson, Michael Swann, Samantha, Jordan and Lauren Harrison, and Jeffrey Burley.

In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions to be made to Hospice of Calvert County, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: https://calverthospice.or

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Lianne Robinson Mettam



Lianne Robinson Mettam, 55, of Huntingtown passed away December 1, 2019 surrounded by her family. She was born April 4, 1964 in Roches-

ter, NY to John Henry and Reda Marie (Bonito) Robinson. Lianne was raised in Upper Marlboro and married Douglas R. Mettam. She and Douglas have lived in Huntingtown for the past 18 years where she was primarily a homemaker and was previously employed with the US State Department. Lianne enjoyed watching classic movies and spending time with her family, especially her daughter. She was a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints, Calvert Ward.

She is survived by her husband, Douglas, daughter Veronica L. Mettam, parents John "Jack" and Reda Robinson of Baltimore and brother John H. Robinson III and wife Laura of Pasadena.

Visitation will be Friday, December 13, 2019, 9:300-11 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Southern Memorial Gardens, 10155 Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754.





Community Calendar

To submit your event listing to go in our Community Calendar, please email timescalendar@countytimes.net with the listing details by 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication.

ONGOING

Winter Wonderland

November 6th - January 5th CalvART Gallery

Visit the CalvART gallery to experience different types of art including; jewellery, paintings, photography, woodcraft, ceramics, glass, and more! Visit calvartgallery.com for more information.

Annmarie Garden in Lights

November 29th - January 1st Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Art Center; 6 - 9 p.m.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, in Solomons, Maryland, presents its' magical holiday light art show, Annmarie Garden in Lights. This dazzling light art show is a magical journey along a protected path featuring spectacular installations and "light sculptures." Each night, a different musical guest will be performing. Enjoy magical photo ops, holiday café, great shopping, and more! Admission at the door is \$7; free for children (2 & under); members free. For detailed information and a discount coupon, visit www.annmariegarden.org or call 410-326-4640.

Thursday, December 12th

Holiday Glasses

North Beach Fire Department Hall, Chesapeake Beach; 6 p.m.

This paint party is sponsored by the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department's Auxiliary, There will be door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, painting, food, drinks, and lots of fun! The cost is \$40 per person in which a portion of the proceeds will go to the Auxiliary. You will be painting with Debbie Powell, who's bringing all of the painting supplies for your Awesome picture (on a set of glasses)! Post email (ttbydebbie@comcast. net) with who's painting to save your spot and she will send you an invoice for payment. You can also pay her at: Paypal.me/ ttbydebbie.; Please put in notes which location and which painting. She can also be texted at 443-532-6944 or find her on Facebook at 'Painting with the Powell's'. No coupons are available for this event. Come join in on the fun!

Friday, December 13th

Lasagna Dinner

American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206; 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

This tantalizing dinner with all the trimmings, including salad and a beverage, will impress your taste buds. Hosted by the Sons of the American Legion in the lower-level dining room. This is a meal you won't soon forget for just \$12 and all are welcome. For more information, please call 410-257-9878 or visit www.MD-post206.org.

Saturday, December 14th

Paper Shredding Event

Appeal Landfill; 8 a.m. - noon

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, will be hosting a free paper shredding event for residents. The event will be held rain or shine and can help prevent identity theft by destroying sensitive or confidential documents. All paper must be removed from plastic bags and cardboard boxes prior to shredding, Paper clips and staples are acceptable, binders and binder clips are not acceptable. There is no limit per resident and proof of residency is required. Certificates of destruction will be provided if requested. Businesses are prohibited from this event. For more information, call 410-326-0210 or visit www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Recycle.

CSM Jazz Ensemble Solid Brass Concert

CSM LaPlata Campus; 8 p.m.

The CSM Jazz Ensemble invites you to come to the Fine Arts Center to listen to this wonderful concert. It will be held in the Brad and Linda Gottfried Theater, 8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata. \$10 adults, \$8 seniors/military with ID/youth of high school age and younger. For more information visit boxoffice@csmd.edu or call 301-934-7828. www.csmd.edu/community/the-arts/music/latin-ensemble/index.

Pet Adoption

Pepper's Pet Pantry; 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Pepper's Pet Pantry in Solomons will host a dog and cat adoption event with local Saint Mary's and Calvert County animal rescue groups. Pepper's Pet Pantry is located in the Solomons Towne Center behind CVS. For more information, please call 410-326-4006.

All Saints Christmas Market

All Saints' Episcopal Church Parish Hall; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Join us for expert craftsmen with sensational gifts for your holiday giving, homemade gourmet cocoa and Glühwein, music and home-baked goods that will make the 13th Annual Christmas Market the place to be. Bring your red or green boot mug from previous years to buy beverage refills. Rain, snow or shine! Free admission & parking. Proceeds benefit parish & community projects.

Tuesday, December 17th

CSM/Charles County Public Schools Scholarship Resource Fair

CSM LaPlata Campus; 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. The event will be held in the Center for Business and Industry Dr. John M. Sine Conference Room (Room 103), 8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata. Charles County Public Schools and the College of Southern Maryland are pleased to host the First Annual Scholarship Fair. The Scholarship Fair presents an opportunity for juniors, seniors and parents to connect with local scholarships available in Charles County. There will be parent workshops, application assistance. For more information, call 301-934-7314.

Wednesday, December 18th

Transportation Public Hearing

Harriet E. Brown Community Center; 7 p.m.

The Calvert County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider and receive comments on the proposed adoption of the Calvert County Transportation Plan, September 2019 Draft. The recommended plan would replace the current Calvert County Transportation Plan, adopted in 1997. Please call 410-535-1600 x2356 for more information.

Thursday, December 19th

CSM FAFSA Workshop

CSM LaPlata Campus; 2:30 p.m.

This workshop will take place in the Administration Building, Room 110, 8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata. The college's Financial Assistance Department provides one-on-one assistance to members of the community completing a Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA), the primary application for federal, state and institutional financial aid programs. This workshop is offered every third Thursday of the month. To learn what documents to bring with you and for more information, call 301-934-7531 or visit www.csmd.edu/calendar/admissions/laplata/FAFSA-Workshop-12.19.19.





ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT COUNTYTIMES.NET



Calvert Vents

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

Thursday, December 12

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support. 7:00-8:30pm. Get tips and support from other caregivers. Facilitated by Jeannette Findley & JC Hooker. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Friday, December 13

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, December 14

Gingerbread House Workshop. 10:00-11:00am. & 2:00-3:00pm. Come and celebrate the holiday season by building a small gingerbread house. Each child is asked to bring a bag of any edible item to share with the group to decorate all the gingerbread houses. For children of all ages. Please register. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Gingerbread Workshop. 10:00-11:00am. & 2:00-3:00pm. Come and celebrate the holiday season by building a small gingerbread house. Each child is asked to bring a bag of any edible item to share with the group to decorate all the gingerbread houses. For children of all ages. Please register. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch at Northeast Community Center, 4075 Gordon Stinnett Ave., Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Science Saturdays! 2:30-3:30pm. Join us for a STEM-based program series designed to get kids in K-3rd grade thinking like scientists. This month we'll have a scientific solstice celebration! Please register. Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Monday, December 16

Green Crafting. 1:00-5:00pm. Make crafts out of materials that would typically be thrown out. Crocheting, needlework, sewing, and simple tying techniques will be used. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Steampunk Crafting. 7:00-8:30pm. Join us for a fun night of steampunk inspired crafting. The library will supply all the materials, all you need to bring is yourself. Please register. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Tuesday, December 17

Board of Library Trustees meeting. 4:00-7:00pm. Calvert Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley

Wild Women Art Reception. 6:30-7:30pm. Drop by Calvert Library Fairview Branch to enjoy some light refreshments while you admire the beautiful and whimsical art created by the ladies of Wild Women Art! Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Wednesday, December 18

Book Discussion. 2:00-3:30pm. –The book for this month is Little Women by Louisa May Alcott. Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Thursday, December 19

Mobile Health Center from CalvertHealth. 10:00-1:00pm. The Mobile Health Center travels to under-served areas of the community to bring essential primary care services, dental, prevention and wellness programs to residents who may not have easy access to traditional health care. For more information, to view the full schedule, or view an online tour of the vehicle visit them online. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Asbury Book Discussion. 10:30-12:00pm. My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman. A lively book discussion every other month on the 3rd Thursday. Next book to discuss is decided by the group. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Teens DIY Snowglobe Workshop. 6:00-8:00pm. Want to walk in a winter wonderland?? Probably too early in Southern Maryland! Instead, you can join us for a fun-packed DIY Snowglobe Workshop! Bring your own mini-figurines or use ours. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Thursday, December 19: KnowBe4 Training. 7:00-8:30pm. Worried about phishing attacks, online banking safety, malware, protecting your children online, securing your home network? Take a class with us or on your own to learn some great tips to improve your family's online safety. If you'd like to take the class on your own, use the link below and call the library for the password. Link: https://www.knowbe4.com/Homecourse. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.



Centers Closing

Calvert Pines, Southern Pines, and North Beach Senior Center will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Friday, Dec. 27 for the Christmas holiday. Meals on Wheels will not be delivered.

Substitute Custodial Position Available

The Office on Aging is looking for a substitute custodian with reliable transportation who can work at all three senior centers in Calvert County. Call Ed Sullivan at 410-535-4606 for more information.

Healthy Gains 365 Program

A registered nurse is at each senior center once a week. Southern Pines, Mondays, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Calvert Pines, Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; North Beach, Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Ceramics

Make beautiful works of art with our instructor Pat Dinota. Southern Pines Senior Center, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.; North Beach Senior Center, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.; Calvert Pines Senior Center, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m.

Calvert Pines Senior Center

Enjoy a warm delicious cup of coffee and relax amongst friends and staff with Coffee & Coloring, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

Join us to dance the afternoon away with the musical group 2-4-U, Friday, Dec. 20, 12:30 p.m.

North Beach Senior Center

Let your creativity run wild creating beautiful works of art with Rock Art/Recycled Art, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 11 a.m.

If you have a sweet tooth and love cookies, enjoy Cookie Decorating with Karla, Thursday, Dec. 19, 10:30 a.m.

Southern Pines Senior Center

Be Santa's little helper this year responding to the many letters he receives from children in our community, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m. Enjoy a cup of eggnog.

Join us for fun and tons of laughter playing an exciting game of Christmas Charades, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1 p.m.

Eating Together Menu

Monday, Dec. 16

Salisbury Steak w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Brussel Sprouts, Dinner Roll, Brownie

Tuesday, Dec. 17

Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Seasoned Greens, Carrots, Dinner Roll, Mandarin Oranges

Wednesday, Dec. 18

Stuffed Shells w/Tomato Sauce,

Seasoned Spinach, Garlic Bread, Pears, Pineapple Chunks, Bread Pudding w/Vanilla Sauce

Thursday, Dec. 19

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Tuna Noodle Casserole, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Pears

Friday, Dec. 20

Turkey Chili, Brown Rice, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Green Beans

Lunches are served to seniors, aged 60-plus, and their spouses through Title IIIC 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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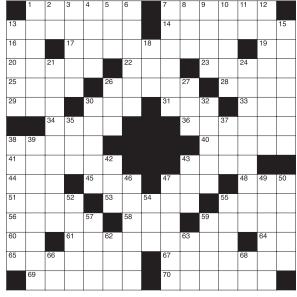
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Rope used as a lasso
- 7. Lomb's partner
- 13. North African nation
- 14. Rounds up cattle
- 16. Densest naturally occurring element
- 17. Home of the Brewers
- 19. Atomic #44
- 20. Vetches
- 22. Moved earth with a tool
- 23. Cavalry sword 25. Supplements with difficulty
- 26. Encouraged
- 28. Speech defect

4

1

2

29. Periodical (abbr.)

8

3

6

5

8

9

2

7

3

- _ Paulo, city
- 33. Former OSS
- 34. Approves food
- 36. Cars need them

- 40. Long lock of a woman's

- 47. More than one male
- 48. LOTR actor McKellen
- ownership plan

- 30. Very cold

- 38. Sweden's dominant
- phone company
- hair
- 41. North American natives 43. Fly high
- 44. One type is fire
- 45. Nocturnal bird
- 51. Employee stock

9

8

3

4

9

6

3

5

- 53. Tony-winning actress Daisy
- 55. Tennis star Kournikova 56. Pulitzer-winning composer
- 58. The opposite to pro
- 59. Safecrackers
- 60. Denotes past
- 61. Parrots
- 64. One quintillion bytes
- 65. Reduce the importance of
- 67. Stiffly
- 69. In a sensible way
- 70. Signs

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Capital of Zambia
- 2. Article 3. Country star LeAnn
- 4. Egyptian goddess 5. Afflict in mind or body
- 6. Showy but cheap
- 7. Belgian urban center
- 8. Short-winged diving
- seabird
- 9. Deploys
- 10. Ballplayers can legally do it
- 11. Centiliter
- 12. Contrary beliefs 13. Type of pole
- 15. Distinguish oneself
- 18.8th month of the year
- (abbr.) 21. One who monitors
- 24. Petty quarreling
- 26. Fiddler crabs
- 27. Touch lightly 30. American state
- 32. Pro wrestler Randv
- 35. Indicates spelling mistake
- 37. Macaws 38. Gradually narrowed
- 39. Installments
- 42. Female sheep
- 43. Politician
- 46. Servant
- 47. Said to facilitate concentration
- 49. California ballplavers 50. Once Toledo's tallest
- building 52. A type of pie 54. State of southwestern
- India
- 55. Principal member of Norse religion
- 57. Counterspy
- 62. __-de-sac: dead end street 59. Wellness practice
- 63. Used to cook
- 66. Type of hospital 68. Direct message

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

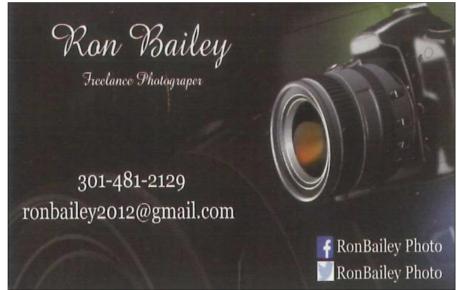
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2	6	5	7	8	1	3	9	4
3	8	9	4	2	6	5	7	1
7	5	1	2	6	4	9	8	3
6	4	8	3	9	5	7	1	2
9	3	2	8	1	7	4	5	6



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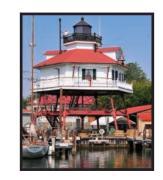
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To be considered for publication, articles and letters to the editor submitted must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. Submissions must be delivered by 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication to ensure placement for that week. After that deadline, the Calvert County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the Calvert County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The Calvert County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.





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