

FREE

Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

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INSIDE

McConkey in as President

Vernon Horsmon Passes

Chesapeake Beach Man Critically Injured

Shannon Leaves Her Mark

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Terry Shannon in her courthouse office days before her retirement.



LOCAL 8

County hosts social services meeting



COMMUNITY 14

Community rallies behind little girl



COMMUNITY 16

Chesapeake Beach is all lit up

“I’M JUST GLAD YOU SURVIVED THAT FIRST YEAR.”
 COMMISSIONER MIKE HART ON TIM HUTCHINS’ PRESIDENCY

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 12/19	Fri 12/20	Sat 12/21	Sun 12/22
32° 25°F	37° 28°F	40° 30°F	46° 34°F
Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Mon 12/23	Tue 12/24	Wed 12/25	Thu 12/26
49° 35°F	49° 35°F	48° 38°F	50° 36°F
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy

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On Split Vote, It's President McConkey

By Dick Myers
Editor

On a 3-2 vote, the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has a new president for 2020. The board elected Vice President Kelly McConkey to replace Tim Hutchins to lead the board into the new year. McConkey took over running the Dec. 17 meeting, the last of the year, after the vote.

Hutchins said before the vote, "As a matter of practice on an annual basis, the county commissioner president chair is rotated out." There have been, however, occasions in the past where the same commissioner was elected to fill the seat for a second consecutive year.

McConkey has been a lightning rod during his first year, largely over the vote on the update of the county's comprehensive plan. He was immediately criticized for voting on the boundaries of the Huntingtown Town Center which added land he owns to the area that had been recommended by the planning commission.

A challenge to the vote was filed with the Calvert County Ethics Commission by Calvert County Republican Central Committee Chairman Catherine Grasso and other members. McConkey is a Republican, as is the entire BOCC.

Then a new citizens group called Calvert Citizens United (CCU) filed a challenge to the adoption of the comprehensive plan, using McConkey's vote as part of their reasoning. The group is seeking a ruling in Calvert County Circuit Court that the entire comprehensive plan be overturned.

Neither that court request nor the ethics filing have been ruled upon, although the ethics commission was expected to meet this week.

McConkey has defended his vote, alleging that it really didn't do anything, that the zoning ordinance would implement the plan at a later date. He says he received a blessing from County Attorney John Norris before taking the vote.

McConkey's presidency was opposed by Commissioners Steve Weems and Buddy Hance, the two commissioners who voted against the comprehensive plan update. The motion to elect McConkey was made by Commissioner Mike Hart and seconded by Hutchins. Hart was unanimously elected vice president.

After the election, McConkey said, "I'd like to take a minute to thank Commissioner Hutchins for a tremendous job he did this past year. He worked very, very hard. He was in this office five days a week and he worked from home on Saturdays and Sundays. And the amount of hours that you put in and what you accomplished in a year is amazing." He added, "Thanks to all of you for this year of transition."

Hart added, "I'd like to echo that, as this is my fifth president or so. I've never seen anybody who works hard as you. I said, 'Tim, you have to slow down. You know, it is so encompassing. It is so hard, and transition is difficult.'"

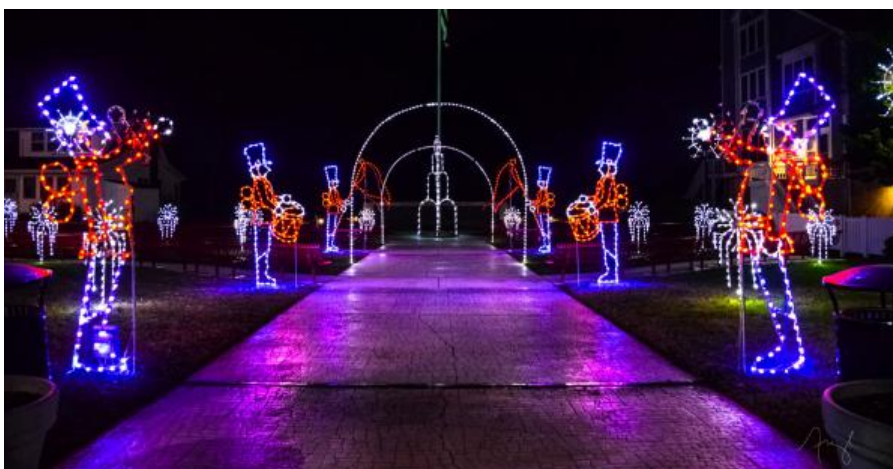
He added, "I'm just glad you survived that first year."

dickmyers@countytimes.net



New Calvert County Commissioner President Kelly McConkey

Chesapeake Beach Lights up the Bay



The Chesapeake Beach Town Hall is spectacularly adorned for the holiday season. It's part of a whole town lit up with holiday spirit. The Barbara "Jo" Finch Brightest Beacon on the Bay contest award winners will be announced at the Dec. 10 town meeting. Photo courtesy of Town of Chesapeake Beach.



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Prince Frederick VFD's Chief Emeritus Passes Away

Vernon Horsmon Amassed a Storied Volunteer Career



By Dick Myers
Editor

He was a legend within the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department (PFVFD) and indeed throughout the band of brothers and sisters who make up the ranks of the county's first responders. Vernon Horsmon, 93, the department's chief for 29 years, its chief emeritus and lifetime member for 76 years passed away Dec. 12.

Horsmon stepped down as chief in 1984 when he assumed the position as the county's emergency management director.

The department's president Pat Hassler told The County Times in an interview earlier this year that Horsmon was one of the department's leaders in the push for larger quarters. "Our department had, from our life-long chief Vernon Horsmon, started the process trying to go after federal grants for a new building or rehab the old building," Hassler said. That long and winding process is now coming to fruition as the new building is rising from the debris of the demolished old building. The new building's construction is draped with black ribbons in Horsmon's honor. The department's temporary quarters at the armory are similarly draped.

Horsmon attended the last meeting in the old building before it was demolished.

The Army veteran garnered a host of

accomplishments during his volunteer career, including PFVFD board of directors and as vice president and chairman for many fundraising events, past president of the Calvert County Fire and Rescue Association, past member of the Maryland State Fireman's Association Legislative Committee and Executive Committee, and the former vice chairman of the Maryland Fire Personnel Service Certification Boards. He was presented the Russell J. Strickland Award in 2016. He was also a past president of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Fireman's Association and a former fire and rescue instructor at the University of Maryland.

Horsmon was inducted into the Calvert County Volunteer and Rescue Association Hall of Fame in 1994, the Southern Maryland Volunteer Fireman's Association Hall of Fame in 1986 and the Maryland State Fireman's Association Hall of Fame in 1993.

Most of the apparatus and members of the county's volunteer service along with units from around the state are expected at his funeral on Saturday. Visitation will be at 10 a.m. at Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department where a fire department service will be held at 11 a.m. He will be buried as All Saints Episcopal Church Cemetery in Sunderland. A reception will follow back at Huntingtown VFD.

For Horsmon's complete obituary, see page 18 of this week's edition.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

School Board Asked to Define a Teacher

Upcoming Budget Seen as Critical

By Dick Myers
Editor

For the fifth straight Calvert County Board of Education meeting on Dec. 12 concerns were raised during the public comment section about disruptive students. This time only five people spoke instead of the more than 50 at the previous meeting, yet they left the board with much to ponder.

Calvert Education Association (CEA) President Dona Ostenso posed a question to them: "What exactly is the job of a teacher?" The head of the union that represents the teachers then concluded, "Based upon what we have seen and heard over the past few months, it appears that we really don't know."

Ostenso went on to clarify: "At the Board of Education meetings it has been shared that there is ongoing PD (professional development) to train teachers to use the 'Learning Focused' framework. Why? Because there's a belief that teachers lack the skills to plan rigorous lesson plans and that by using this framework, we will close the achievement gaps.

"But then how do we reach the stu-

dents who don't come to school ready to learn, who yell at the teacher, refuse to do their work, are aggressive in one teacher's class but not in another. We are told that we need to do a root cause analysis to figure out the why, deescalate the situation, be the counselor and the social worker and that PD has not been provided to staff on restorative practices and trauma informed care so that we may support the needs of the students whose learning is impacted by their social and emotional needs."

That brought her back to that definition question. "Your definition of a teacher has direct implications to the needs of your budget priorities for the upcoming school year. If you believe the role of a teacher is to be all about the academics, then you need to recognize that some students will struggle, and they will be able to comply with the academic rigors of the school day. This will result in the need for an increase in alternative settings so that their needs may be met as well.

"Or do you define the role of a teacher as one who teaches the whole child their academic, social and emotional needs.

If so, then you need to provide teachers with a curriculum for ELA (English), math, science and social studies. Provide smaller class sizes, more counselors, social workers, school psychologists, reducing the caseload of our service providers because the crisis is real.

"The Learning Policy Institute estimated in 2018 that there was a shortage of 112,000 teachers. There is a national, state and local teacher shortage and it is going to continue to grow right here in Calvert County if we do not address these needs in the upcoming budget."

Based on comments from the school board members, it will be during the budget deliberations that the issue will continue to be addressed, although there have been some ongoing actions to attack the problem.

One issue plaguing the school system is the inability to hire school psychologists. Fifteen are budgeted but only seven have been hired, supplemented by two contract positions. The school board at the Dec. 12 meeting approved transferring monies so that additional contract positions can be hired.

There is considerable support among

the members for the hiring of additional counselors, social workers and psychologists, along with more teachers in general to reduce classroom sizes. But School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry told the board members he needed more direction on exactly what class sizes they were talking about. He is due to release his recommended budget at the board's second meeting in January.

Giving teachers training in de-escalation, called "Restorative Practices," has been touted as a way to address disruptive students. But at the Dec. 12 public comment session, Siobhan Tedtsen said, "At the start of the school year, teachers and staff received less than one hour of training on restorative practices." Also, she said teachers were given a book to read.

But she said, "According to the International Institute for Restorative Practices, the basic training for implementing restorative practices in a school is a four day training. Four days was broken down into less than an hour. That doesn't make a lot of sense."

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Help Sought for Larger Beach Elementary County to be Asked to Split Cost

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of Education will be asking the county commissioners to split the cost of a larger Beach Elementary School than the state will pay for. The cost for building a 578-student school versus one with 525 students will be \$1.4 million more than the state will approve, Director of School Construction Shuchita Warner told the school board at their Dec. 12 meeting.

Warner had previously briefed the commissioners on the decision for the larger school after previously scaling it back based on enrollment projections.

Warner at the Nov. 19 commissioners' meeting said projections were revised upward from below 500. "The current

seven-year enrollment projections anticipate a maximum state funding participation of about 525 students," she said. The difference in state approved and school system requested size will allow the school to accommodate a bubble of students projected to go through adjacent schools, particularly Windy Hill, which "right now is at 92 percent and is projected in five years to be at 111 percent."

Warner also noted the potential implications of the Kirwan Commission recommendations for universal pre-K and the space requirements for that.

A larger school will allow four classrooms for each grade, plus several to handle overflow.

Total price tag for the larger school would be \$21.2 million, Warner said.



Light the Future

Calvert County Public Schools

School Board member Bill Phalen noted that there was precedent for the commissioners equal-

ly sharing the cost of a school larger than the state would fund. Northern High School, which is now

under construction, was one example, he said.

Warner did say that some of the additional space in

the larger school would be for "cooperative use," which the state would fund at 53 percent. That space can be used either for classrooms or offices, she said.

Warner will present the school board's request at a meeting with the commissioners next month. At the earlier meeting, Commissioner Buddy Hance had questioned the enrollment projections and asked Director of Planning and Zoning Mark Willis to provide them with a report on population projections.

It was Hance's suggestion that if the school board wanted a larger school, they should pay for it out of their own reserves. The compromise the school board hopes the commissioners will buy into is an even split of that extra cost.

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County Hosts Social Services Conference



Dunkirk-based business PATRIOT receives state recognition as Maryland Association of Social Services Boards (MASSB) Community Partner of the Year. Pictured from left is PATRIOT Owner John Gilmore, Calvert Family Advocates Board Chair Karen Lane, MASSB Chair Chris Cummings, PATRIOT Owner Matt Timbario and Calvert Department of Social Services Director Amye Scrivener.

Poverty is tough and the cold winter months make it even tougher – a challenge the Maryland Association of Social Services Boards (MASSB) explored during its two-day annual conference held in Solomons in late October.

Calvert County experiences its share of poverty: 32% of Calvert's families live at or below the minimum income level necessary to live self-sufficiently, known as the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold. Females and adults without higher education are disproportionately impacted.

During the conference, members of local boards from across the state participated in a poverty simulation led by Susan Coppage, MAASB liaison to the local boards. The exercise illustrated the kinds of tough choices people in poverty face every day.

A 2015 U.S. Department of Energy study found that 25 million American households reported skipping food and medicine to pay for energy, with 7 million reporting that they did so every month.

Nonprofit partners are essential for bridging the gap between residents' needs and government assistance programs so residents won't have to choose between heating their house or having a warm meal.

"Finding lasting solutions to pov-

erty is challenging and complex work," Board of County Commissioners President Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins said in his welcome address. "It will take strategic collaboration across the public and private sector."

Karen Lane, board chair for Calvert Family Advocates, discussed best practices in working with social service partners and gaining support from local businesses that are willing and wanting to tackle some of the issues experienced by the working poor in our community.

"Our government does not have programs to meet every need, so we are grateful for the local companies that support our programs that fill the gaps," said Lane. "The companies know that some of their own employees are facing challenges with transportation, housing and healthcare. We have seen that collaboration across the public, private and nonprofit sectors can begin to address these issues."

One such business, based in Calvert County, was presented with the MASSB Community Partner of the Year award. PATRIOT, a commercial construction company headquartered in Dunkirk, received state-level recognition for its role in supporting Calvert Family Advocates, the non-profit fundraising arm to Calvert's Social Services Board that addresses self-sufficiency needs for partici-

pants of Department of Social Services programs.

MASSB Foundation Chair and Calvert County resident Chris Cummings said financial support from PATRIOT has helped address barriers that can lift someone from vulnerability to independence.

As a result of \$340,000 donated to date, according to Cummings, "more than 100 families have been saved from eviction or were assisted with funding needed to move from shelter into stable housing," and "barriers to self-sufficiency such as job training, transportation or childcare were eliminated for more than 60 individuals, including veterans."

Calvert County government's Department of Community Resources serves as the government liaison to the Calvert County Social Services Advisory Board, and responds to inquiries from citizens needing assistance. Individuals struggling to make ends meet are encouraged to visit www.OurCalvert.org to learn about local programs and resources to address their needs, and contact Calvert County Department of Social Services at 443-550-6900 to get screened for their eligibility for Social Services programs

*Press Release from
Calvert County Government*



Greg James, Deputy Secretary for Operations at Maryland Department of Human Services, delivers the keynote address on generational poverty.

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Calvert Man Struck in St. Mary's by Vehicle

On December 14 at 6:15 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the area of Three Notch Road and Pegg Road in Lexington Park, for the reported motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Upon arrival deputies determined a single vehicle had struck a pedestrian causing injury. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Preliminary investigation determined a 2004 Scion xB operated by Kyle Deven Shelnett, 20 of Drayden, was traveling southbound on Three Notch Road, and entered the right turn lane for Pegg Road. A pedestrian, later identified as Brandon Wayne Johnson, 28 of Chesapeake Beach, entered the vehicle's path of travel as he attempted to cross the southbound lanes of Three Notch Road. Johnson sustained incapacitating injuries

and was transported via helicopter to an area trauma center and remains in critical condition. Shelnett and his passenger, Jordan Michelle McLaughlin, age 21 of Ridge, were not transported from the scene.

Sheriff's officials say Johnson is in stable but critical condition.

At this time circumstances surrounding the collision remain under investigation. Anyone who witnessed the collision or events leading up to the collision is asked to contact Corporal Brian Connelly at (301) 475-4200 extension 8031 or by email at Brian.Connelly@stmarysmd.com.

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301) 475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Calvert Man Charged in Federal Court for Distributing Fentanyl

A federal grand jury has indicted Robert Steven Wagner, 28, of Lusby, on the federal charge of distributing fentanyl, resulting in the user's death. The indictment was returned on December 4, 2019, and was unsealed late on December 12, 2019, at Wagner's detention hearing.

The indictment of Wagner was announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Robert K. Hur; Special Agent in Charge John Eisert of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Baltimore; and Colonel William M. Palozzi, Superintendent of the Maryland State Police.

"Drug traffickers are on notice that dealing in fentanyl increases their odds of federal prosecution under the fentanyl SOS program," said United States Attorney Robert K. Hur. "The cooperation of the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, the DEA, and the Baltimore Police De-

partment in reviewing every fentanyl case to determine those cases appropriate for federal prosecution is just one example of the efforts we are making to reduce the number of opioid overdose deaths in Maryland."

According to Wagner's indictment, on October 7, 2018, Wagner distributed fentanyl to a victim, who subsequently died as a result of using the fentanyl obtained from Wagner. If convicted, Wagner faces a minimum mandatory sentenced of 20 years in federal prison and a maximum sentence of life in federal prison for distribution of fentanyl resulting in death. At the Dec. 12 initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Greenbelt, U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas M. DiGirolamo ordered that Wagner be released under special conditions.

U.S. Attorney's Office Press Release

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Calvert County Times

The Knowledge from 12,000 Dental Implants Placed Leads Marylanders to Healthier Smiles

BY: JEFF TOMCSIK
Research Reporter

General dentist, Wayne L. O'Roark is one of the leading providers of comprehensive implant dentistry in Maryland. He is a clinical graduate instructor at the dental school at the University of Maryland. He is a Diplomate in both the American Board of Oral Implantology and the International Congress of Oral Implantologists. He has dedicated the past two decades to placing and restoring implants. Dr. O'Roark has successfully placed well over 12,000 implants since focusing his practice on this area of dentistry. Since 2006 he has been practicing out of Tidewater Dental in Lexington Park, Maryland and Tidewater Dental Solomons Island, Maryland.

Tomcsik: How did you get your start in Implant Dentistry?

O'Roark: Early on, when I got out of school I realized that the traditional prosthetics were not very good and I had the opportunity to listen to a lecture by one of the leaders in implant dentistry. From that I did extensive studying and incorporated implants in my general practice. I had experience in removable partial dentures, full dentures, crowns and bridges but I found none of them satisfied the need for replacement of a missing tooth or missing teeth, whether that be one tooth, a section of teeth, or a whole arch of teeth. The point is, it is important for these teeth and roots to be replaced to prevent bone loss. If you take the function away from bone by extracting a tooth, and you do nothing about it, you will lose bone and it will continue for a significant amount of time. If I can put that root back and keep the bone in function we will preserve the bone very nicely.

Tomcsik: What are you replacing the root with?

O'Roark: Most people don't have a good idea about what an implant is. So I like to call them root replacements. When you lose or remove a tooth you remove the crown, which is the part you see and the root which is under the gum and goes into the jawbone. What I do is

replace the root with my root; and my root is made out of titanium. Titanium has the incredible capacity to stimulate the bone to not only grow around it but to bond to it. Once you have integration, and bone biology requires ninety days for that to occur, you have a platform on which to build teeth or a tooth. This keeps the bone in function and helps to prevent loss of bone.

Tomcsik: Why replace a tooth with an implant rather than a bridge?

O'Roark: Conventional dentistry says, when you have a missing tooth, you put a cap on each tooth on either side of the open space and form a bridge over the gap where the missing tooth was. Well, in order to do this you must cut each healthy tooth down so that a prosthetic crown can fit over the existing teeth on each side of the space. You then have a fixed prosthetic bridge attached to each cap, filling the gap. So you've now involved two more teeth in the problem area by cutting them down to support the bridge. So what happens if one of the teeth used in making the bridge fails? Now the bridge fails and you have two missing teeth.

Tomcsik: So what you're saying is you now have two healthy teeth that you are compromising to fill the space of the one missing tooth...

O'Roark: Exactly. Now that's not wrong, but you must keep in mind that those teeth are being compromised and if something should go wrong with either of those teeth supporting the bridge you will lose the bridge too and now your problem is larger.

Tomcsik: So let me understand something. In a single tooth replacement you've given me two options. One is a single root replacement called an implant with a crown that integrates into the system. The other option is a bridge where you've cut two teeth and you've bridged the gap between them with just a crown with no root replacement. Give me, if you will, a ten year prognosis of the patient in both scenarios. What does the patient look like in scenario 1 and scenario 2 in ten years?

O'Roark: The life expectancy of a fixed bridge can be anywhere from ten to fifteen years. On the other hand, since you've not replaced the root the bone underneath will continue to deteriorate. If the bridge is lost or one of the abutments (teeth that hold the bridge) is lost or damaged then your problem gets bigger. In the case of the root replacement, I have implants that have been in function for well over thirty years.

Tomcsik: So those people don't have bone retention problems. The implant is enough support to keep the bone from disappearing?

O'Roark: It's not so much that the implant is a support for the bone. Bone doesn't like to be put out to pasture. It doesn't like to have nothing to do. And when its function has been taken away from it, it will disappear. And it will disappear rather dramatically. With an implant the bone remains in function and has the potential to last indefinitely. The first implant I ever put in place in 1971, remained in function, in the patient's mouth until she passed away in about 2004. I will not put a timeframe on how long they'll last because they literally have the potential to last indefinitely.

Tomcsik: When you talk about putting an implant into the jaw bone that sounds like a pretty elaborate surgery. Can you elaborate on that?

O'Roark: Actually, the surgery to place the implant is very nominal. It's relatively painless. I operate under local anesthesia and oral sedation if you wish. If I put the root replacement in this morning, you can go back to work this afternoon. There will be no stitches. There is virtually no swelling. There's generally no pain. There's no bleeding and the procedure is quite innocuous.

Tomcsik: The other major concern I imagine people having about implant dentistry is the cost. How does that compare to other options?

O'Roark: The simplest thing to do is compare one missing tooth implant to a three unit bridge as discussed earlier. The cost of the implant/crown combi-

nation is very comparable to the price of the three unit bridge. This amplifies the fact that the value of replacing that tooth with a root replacement, not only does not involve adjacent teeth but it is comparable to the cost of a three unit bridge. I consider that as a number one advantage of doing the implant over the bridge.

Tomcsik: I see a lot of ads for periodontists, oral surgeons, general dentist that all claim to place implants. How does one decide who to go to if they need to get an implant?

O'Roark: You can ask for referrals from your friends and family. You can ask your general dentist for a referral or you can go to The American Board of Oral Implantology. They are the premiere source for finding highly experienced doctors doing implants. They will list for you the board certified doctors doing implants today. It's important to know the specialist cannot do the restorative work, whereas the general dentist that restricts their practice to specializing in implants will place the implant and restore the prosthetics for the implants.

Tomcsik: So when a specialist provides a quote, they are just quoting the root replacement or implant and not the tooth replacement or crown?

O'Roark: That is largely true. That's a very good point. If you get a quotation from a specialist you must make sure that he is being clear that the price he is giving you is for the implant and not the prosthetic part. One of the things that I have tried to do is restricting my practice to placing implants and providing the prosthetics for about 15 years now and have incorporated into my general practice for at least 35 years now. The important thing is that the continuity from the implant through the placement of the prosthetic is all done by the same person. There is a lot to be said for that because I can design your implant placement to accept the prosthetic results that we want as an end result, especially in complex cases.

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Terry Shannon: Retirement in the



Terry Shannon gives her wishes to Santa at the Dec. 3 commissioner meeting

By Dick Myers
Editor

When Santa paid his annual visit to the county commissioners at their Dec. 3 meeting, County Administrator Terry Shannon sat on his knee and wished everyone a “Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Roaring 20’s New Year.” Her New Year’s wish could have been anticipatory, as she is retiring officially on Jan. 3 after 32 years in Calvert County government.

At a going away party last week, a proclamation from the governor was read which stated that she had become the first female county administrator in the state’s history. She was unaware of that distinction until the proclamation was read.

At one point during an interview this week with *The County Times*, Shannon admitted, “I’m not a political person, you know,” which may attest to her longevity under six county administrators and several boards of county commissioners since becoming county administrator herself.

Shannon’s career started in the then Department of Administration and Finance on Nov. 2, 1987. She had become deputy finance director and then finance director when she was asked to add the duties of county administrator in then Administrator Doug Parran’s absence due to illness. When he was unable to return, she was appointed to the position 12 years ago.

She fell in love with the job while filling in. “I love this job. I love the county in general. I feel I just have deep roots. I have very big appreciation for the people here and the area and I just couldn’t believe I was in this job to be honest with you. I remember two or three years into the appointment, I kept waiting for someone to come to the door -- ‘what are you doing in there? Get out.’ You know, it was just like a dream come true.

It really was. It was phenomenal.”

When Shannon accepted the position, she understood there had been quite a bit of turnover and she hoped to bring some stability. She knew it would be at least 10 years until her retirement and she promised to give her all until that happened. And now the time has arrived.

Those roots that Shannon was talking about run deep in her family’s farm in Huntingtown, and also in the hardware store and lumber yard her parents owned nearby, Trueman Lumber Company.

She said of her childhood, “To me it was a very simple lifestyle. My parents were hard workers. We had a farm and they grew tobacco. We had a vegetable garden that was probably about an acre in size. I don’t know who they were feeding because at that time we had four people in the house, but we had enough food in the garden that would feed probably almost all of Huntingtown at the time. They gave a lot away.”

Of her parents, she said, “They worked hard and they expected us to work hard.” She had four sisters and a brother who died of leukemia at the age of seven. Two of her sisters were older and had moved away when she was growing up. “They didn’t make us. We worked hard side by side and it was just something you did, like around the end of the calendar year, they would take inventories and I would help them.”

But, she added, “I’d work out in the field right alongside her, cutting tobacco. It was hard, dirty work, but that tobacco is what paid for my education truthfully.”

She observed, “I was used to hard work; everybody talks about how hard it is working in the world today. Try working in the fields of tobacco.”

The store was part of the community. “They were open five and a half days a week. It was very normal because people knew we lived next door. So, people would come on a Saturday afternoon or a Sunday knocking on the door. ‘Do

you think, all I need is this one little part to finish my job.’ And they wouldn’t hesitate. They’d go and grab the key for Trueman’s and walk next door and they’d help them find it. My dad would dig and dig and dig, or my mom until they found that one little part so they could finish their job. And that’s just the way it was then.”

She attended Huntingtown Elementary and then Calverton School where she graduated. She loved math and when she went to York College of Pennsylvania at first that was her interest, but a counselor got her interested in accounting, which became her major. It was a man’s world then. She wasn’t the only female, but she was definitely in the minority, she said.

Her first jobs were with banks including as an auditor at Suburban Bank in Rockville. The commute eventually got to her.

She and her husband met through church and later they worked together at a bank. She said, “I have two daughters and our first daughter had some health issues, she was born six weeks premature. I remember distinctly one week leaving when she was asleep, came home and she was asleep. So, she didn’t see me for the whole week and thank goodness I have a very supportive husband who (also) had a full-time job”

She saw an ad in the *Calvert Independent* for a staff accountant in county government and she took it for lower pay to be closer to home. Her first boss was Joe Allman, who would later become county administrator.

Her first day on the job, her office was on the first floor of the courthouse. She had a desk but no computer. “So, they ordered me a computer.”

She was the county’s first internal auditor. The county’s annual audit contained several pages of recommended changes. “So, I just started chipping away at those items. And, you know, I had a lot of support (from Allman) and a



lot of flexibility to do what I felt needed attention.”

She explained, “The first few years were really focusing on getting the internal controls in place, the tracking measures, working closely with the treasurer on investments because she was handling all the investments for the county.” Eventually she started doing the revenue estimates for the county, forecasting and going with the commissioners to New York to meet with the bond rating agencies.

Her next advance occurred when her second daughter was born. “I was on maternity leave and I got a call from Mr. Allman. ‘I just wanted you to know you’re deputy director now.’” When Allman became county administrator in 1999, she became finance director.

Shannon was asked about the vagaries of having had so many bosses, and five

Roaring '20's



at a time. She responded, "I'm very, very fortunate, very blessed to have been able to do this job for 11 years. And for the life of me, I've been racking my brain trying to figure out how has it worked because I've really wanted to share that with Mark (Willis, her replacement). And well you know, it still boils down to really two main things: hard work and do the right thing."

Of course, there are also the many routine responsibilities. "One of the main things that I focused on obviously is the board's agenda. Every week their agenda information that's in that packet has to be clear, concise because they don't have a lot of time. It can't be too overly technical. It has to, because they're making decisions on such a multitude of items. It can be budget, it can be zoning, it could be a contract. It's got to be spot on, clear, concise. They have to be able to grasp a concept because they have to make a good decision. I focus a lot of energy on that information."

She also praised her administrative support which Willis, who comes from being planning and zoning director, will inherit.

Shannon agreed that learning when to give advice and when not to is an essential lesson. "It is a good point. But that is spot on and you do have to kind of understand what this position does and you do have to know when to interject." She said not being a political person has helped her in that regard.

She said the county is much better prepared to deal with issues now than when she started and even when she became administrator. "I believe so. But I don't want to attribute that to me. I believe we've matured. Financially we're solid. We have our AAA from all three ratings agencies. I'm extremely proud of that. We have decent reserves. We have great people in place as department heads with good succession plans and we have a great organization."

They also have become more diverse. From being one of two female department heads to having more than 50 percent female. "I think that's a lot of people's stamp and think that's an effort that has been made county-wide and people are very conscientious of that's the direction we wanted to go in."

About having five bosses, she noted, "I think one of the things that's important in this job, probably any job, is reaching out to different people and getting different perspectives. And I think that's one very positive thing about having a board of five county commissioners is everybody comes to the table with different experiences, different backgrounds. And I think that's why I love a good debate. One of the things I said to the department heads is I love it when they agree with me, but I also love it when they don't agree with me because I feel like if we had that debate, we end up with a better result."

So, what's in the future for the new retiree? Her husband Jeff also recently retired from a career in banking. One daughter and two grandchildren live in Newport, RI where her son-in-law is stationed at the Navy War College and the other daughter is engaged and lives in Las Vegas, so some trips are in their future.

Will she stay retired? She said, "I love working. There's something invigorating I think about working." But she says she has nothing specific in mind. "I'm going to take a few months and then, I don't know."

She added, "I haven't reached the point where I'm saying I'm retired. I might get there. And people who are retired and loving it, they say, I'll get it. They say you'll get to retirement too. That might be ideal."

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A Little Girl's Big Battle Caution Urged for Pets During Holiday Season



Photo of Benefit Ball for Princess Malaun by Joshua Herbert

By Ceandra Scott
Contributing Writer

One word...Beautiful! According to Marvin Briscoe, president of Pyramid Society Entertainment, "A community that came together as one for a little Princess who just beat cancer! Keep ringing the bell Princess Malaun! You are a hero to many people that are young and old. No matter what you face in life, keep ringing the bell!"

As I followed Malaun's story for the past two years battling cancer and seeing what the parents were going through, I pictured my daughter's going through the same thing. I thought to myself "What can we, as a community do to contribute to Malaun and her family?" She lives in Pittsburg but has family in

Calvert and St. Mary's counties,

Yes, we know what the parents showed, but what about the things that were going on behind the scenes? The heartaches and the sacrifices that they had to make for their little Princess.. I prayed on it and God gave me a vision. I thought to myself 'We should have a Benefit Ball for Princess Malaun to show the community that if she can ring the bell with one of the hardest battles in life, they can too!'

With faith and love, you can overcome anything in life. Malaun already had the faith, but we just showed her that we cared as a community and we are glad that she is still with us. She is our real life superhero.

The benefit ball was held Dec. 8 at Southern Community Center in Lusby.



With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, the Calvert County Department of Public Safety reminds pet owners to be extra cautious. Extra sights, sounds and people can cause pets to become over-stressed and may prompt them to act out.

To prevent stress to pets and ensure the safety of guests, it is advised to secure pets during gatherings. Pets may not react well to large crowds or young children and may become confused, scared or overprotective, causing them to bite unintentionally. If a pet does bite, please secure the animal immediately and seek medical attention.

Pet owners should ensure gates stay latched and doors remain closed when pets are outside to keep them from potentially escaping. If an animal does become loose, citizens should fill out a lost pet report online at www.calvertcounty-animalshelter.com/lost. The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter will not take lost-and-found reports over the phone.

It is also important for pet owners to remember that certain holiday foods, flowers and plants can cause harm and, in some cases, can be deadly. Guests

should be cautioned not to feed pets table scraps because foods that vary from the animal's normal diet can make them sick. If you suspect your pet may have ingested something and is acting differently, contact your veterinarian or the nearest emergency veterinary hospital right away.

For a list of foods and plants that can be harmful to your pet, visit the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals online at www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control.

The mission of the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is to provide compassionate, humane care and treatment to the shelter population and responsibly find new homes for animals in the community. Shelter hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information about the animal shelter, please call 410-535-7387 or visit www.CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com.

*Press Release from
Calvert County Government*

Pet OF THE WEEK

MEET CHARLOTTE

Charlotte is the sweetest cat ever and is a staff favorite! She loves attention and isn't shy about giving you a head bump for more attention. Charlotte just finished up her Christmas wish list and said she wants a furrever family and a scratching post too! As Pet of the Week her 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.



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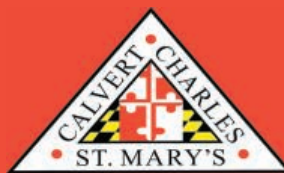
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SMECO Seeks Applicants for 2020 Contribution

Those addressing opioid crisis to receive donation



Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO), through its charitable foundation, is inviting local organizations that are working to end the opioid crisis in Southern Maryland to apply for the charitable funds that will be raised in 2020.

As part of its commitment to the community, each year SMECO raises money for a different local charity. For 2020 SMECO is focusing on organizations working to end the opioid epidemic in Southern Maryland. Across the nation, small town life has been turned upside down by opioid use, and SMECO understands that successful programs require an engaged community to help save lives.

Local non-profit organizations are invited to apply for consideration to be selected as the SMECO Foundation's 2020 corporate charity. To be considered, organizations must be located in

SMECO's service area and working to address the opioid epidemic through education, prevention, or treatment. To submit an online application, go to smeco.coop/charity.

Natalie Cotton, SMECO's Government Affairs and Community Relations Director, said, "If we can raise funds to help save lives, we will have succeeded in our mission to make a valuable contribution to the Southern Maryland community." The cooperative's main fundraisers are the SMECO 75 Bike Ride held in June and the Annual Charity Golf Outing held in October. Both events are supported by volunteer employees, the SMECO executive team, and vendors. In 2018, the SMECO Charitable Foundation contributed more than \$55,000 to local organizations.

Press Release from The SMECO

Garden in Lights Continues Through Holidays



Annemarie Garden's annual Garden in Lights continues nightly through Jan. 1, except Christmas Eve and Christmas day, 6-9 p.m. Admission is free to members and \$7/person for non-members., kids 2 & under free. Photo courtesy of Annemarie Garden.

First Allied Health Recognition Held' Event Celebrates CSM Graduates



2019 MLT graduates pose after they have received their white coats and professional pin. Graduates then took the ASCLS Oath to the Profession. Pictured from left are CSM Associate Professor Tiffany Gill, Jenna Campbell, Loubna Depew and Lee Adrian Tengco.

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) held an inaugural recognition ceremony to applaud its Allied Health students achieving degrees and certificates during its 2019 Spring Commencement. Eleven students successfully completed their programs of study in the fields of Health Information Management (HIM), Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) and Pharmacy Technician.

"It is really important for our students, and the public, to recognize the critical work and role that allied health professionals have in the overall care of a patient," said CSM MLT Program Coordinator and Associate Professor Tiffany Gill. "Too often, people only consider doctors and nurses when it comes to their care – but there are so many other wonderful, talented experts involved who are ensuring a proper diagnosis and executing the appropriate treatment. Many patients never even realize all the many members of their health care team."

Awareness, coupled with a growing shortage of qualified professionals in the fields of health care, often worries professors involved in teaching tomorrow's health care providers, shared Gill.

A competitive analysis of the future of health care staffing conducted by Credence Research showed that globally, the healthcare staffing services market will undergo steady growth as the existing shortage of health professionals meets an aging population and all the demands that come along with them.

"According to the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Health Workforce Alliance, 83 countries fall short of acceptable criteria of 22.8 skilled healthcare personnel per 1,000 population," the analysis found. "Moreover, the WHO states that expected global need-based shortage of skilled healthcare providers stood at a 17.4 million in 2013. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 50 percent of healthcare jobs were vacant in 2016, an increase from 30 percent in 2015."

Gill said that is why CSM set aside May 14, three days before the May 17 Spring Commencement ceremony, to celebrate its allied health students.

"We want them to realized how very important they are – as are the professions they are all about to enter," Gill said.

In December 2018, CSM forged another new tradition when it held its first recognition and pinning ceremony for students

completing their Continuing Education and Workforce Development Healthcare program. The event celebrated students who received certifications to become clinical medical assistants, nursing assistants, geriatric nursing assistants, dental assistants, electrocardiogram technicians or phlebotomy technicians.

"There is no better time to be in healthcare," said CSM Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Dr. Dan Mosser, at the December event. "The U.S. will need to hire 2.3 million new health care workers by 2025 in order to adequately take care of its aging population, and according to research by global health care staffing consultancy Mercer, a persistent shortage of skilled healthcare workers translates into hundreds of thousands of positions that remain unfilled. And the industry needs you now, more than ever."

The following students were recognized at the Allied Health Recognition event:

- Health Information Management
- Jeanette Borries, of Lexington Park
- Abiodun Bowen, of Waldorf
- Jessica Hartmann, of Lusby
- Katherine Mayers, of Lusby
- Kathy Watson, of Lexington Park
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Jenna Campbell, of Lusby
- Loubna Depew, of Faulkner
- Lee Adrian Tengco, of Waldorf
- Pharmacy Technician
- Kelly Burroughs, of Hollywood
- Stephanie Thomsen, of Prince Frederick
- Samantha Walzel, of Waldorf

To view and download photos from the recognition event, please visit <https://csm-photo.zenfolio.com/19alliedhealth>.

About CSM's Health Guided Pathway Encompassing credit degree programs like Health Information Management, Nursing, Massage Therapy, EMS, Medical Laboratory Technology, Personal or Athletic Training, Pharmacy Technician and more, and continuing education workforce training certificates in a variety of specialties like Phlebotomy, CNA/GNA, and ECG/EKG Technicians, the Health Pathway at CSM is a broad swath of medical training for a number of different careers.

Learn more about Health Sciences Division online at <https://www.csmd.edu/programs-courses/pathways/health/>.

Press Release from CSM

St. Mary's to Switch Athletic Conferences



St. Mary's College of Maryland will join the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC), beginning the 2021-22 academic year. Founded in 2004, The NEAC is an intercollegiate athletic conference affiliated with the NCAA's Division III. Member institutions, comprised of public and private institutions, are located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States.

"We are excited to welcome St. Mary's College to the NEAC as a full member beginning Fall 2021. Throughout the application process, it was evident that St. Mary's College of Maryland is dedicated to providing its student-athletes with a well-rounded, high-quality Division III experience. We felt strongly that the ideals of St. Mary's College and its vision for the future aligned with that of our membership. The addition also allows our league to solidify a southern anchor with Gallaudet University and we are confident St. Mary's College will play a key role in our continued efforts to elevate the profile of the NEAC," said NEAC Interim Commissioner Stephanie Dutton.

The NEAC's Presidents' Council and Board of Athletic Directors voted unanimously to approve the application for conference membership from St. Mary's College. The Seahawks will join core members Gallaudet University, Lancaster Bible College, Penn College, Penn State Abington, Penn State Berks, Penn State Harrisburg, SUNY Morrisville, and Wells College in 2021-22.

"I am excited about this opportunity and believe our high-quality student-athletes will make an exceptional addition to the league," said Tuajuanda C. Jordan, president of St. Mary's College. "Academically, we will be among the strongest schools in the conference. Athletically, our student-athletes will be in the upper echelon of the majority of the sports we play. And, philosophically, the schools align very well with the core values of our athletics department: excellence, humility, legacy, teamwork, and integrity."

Davie Gilmour, president of Penn College and of the NEAC presidents' council chair, said "The NEAC is very pleased to have St. Mary's College of Maryland join our conference. The College's level of dedication from Dr. Jordan and the athletics staff, combined with the strong focus on the student-athlete and the values of Division III athletics make them an ideal member for us."

"St. Mary's College looks forward to renewing rivalries with schools such as Gallaudet University and Penn State Harrisburg and forging new rivalries with additional schools in the conference," said Scott Devine, director of athletics and recreation at St. Mary's College.

Joining the NEAC will allow St. Mary's College student-athletes to continue to compete for conference championships and automatic bids into the NCAA Tournament, while expanding the geographic footprint of the St. Mary's College athletics' program into new areas. The Seahawks will compete in 15 of the NEAC's 18 sports.

Dutton added, "I'd like to thank Dr. Tuajuanda Jordan, Scott Devine, Jim Cranmer and the entire athletics staff for their sincere commitment throughout the membership process. We look forward to a future that includes St. Mary's College and are eager to begin collaborating with the Seahawks staff as we continue to chart a new course for the NEAC."

Press Release from SMCM

Best Christmas Gift is Travel

Are you missing that WOW gift to give someone special this Christmas? They say memories last a lifetime, so this holiday why not give your special someone or your family a trip they'll never forget? Vacations produce memories that last a lifetime, which makes the gift of travel one of the most meaningful ones you can give.

The gift of travel will last way longer than anything you might buy. Just think back to when you were a child and try to remember every toy you were given at Christmas. Can you remember each one? I have a feeling that you do remember the family vacations.

This year, you can give a vacation instead of Christmas gifts! It's something your whole family will remember forever. You can give your spouse or special someone the WOW gift of travel when you plan a romantic trip for two to a couples-only, all-inclusive resort in the Caribbean. Imagine the excitement when he or she finds out that you planned this especially for her! It will not matter that the trip is several months away because they will have time to prepare and plan every detail. The anticipation of such a trip will keep them remembering that WOW gift under the tree for months.

If you want to plan something right away, there are several "last minute options" with huge savings during the first three weeks of January. For instance, Sandals Resorts (couples-only) and Beaches Resorts (for families), is offering last minute deals on three to four-night vacations with ONE NIGHT FREE. You can easily extend the vacation to more nights. Plus, there are some great deals this year on cruises in January that you can still take advantage of.

If you are worried about how you are going to pay a trip now, Dream Vacations has a brand-new financing option to help you pay for the trip.

This new option is just like a credit card and once approved, your entire trip is completely paid, and you will have twelve months to pay for the vacation! If you are giving the gift of travel later next year or even next Christmas, you can make a small deposit now and make the final payment forty-five days before your travel.

When you give your family/spouse the surprise gift of travel, you give them a Christmas to remember. The absolute best part is unveiling the surprise and there are so many creative ways to give them the vacation of their dreams. You can give them gifts that they can use while on the trip. That will surely leave them puzzled when they unwrap gifts like new luggage, sunglasses, beach towels or suntan lotion. You could also wrap their passport, a puzzle, pocket size calendar with travel dates or simply wrap up the travel documents that your travel agent has prepared for you. There are so many clever and fun ways to unveil this big surprise and I suggest having your phone close so that you can videotape their reaction.

As a Travel Agent, I have enjoyed hearing the stories about unveiling the surprise gift of travel. My favorite story from 2019 is for a "couples-trip" in 2020 that the husband planned for his wife over two years ago. He told me that his wife had always wanted to go to a Sandals Resort and that this would be their first vacation in 20 years without the three children. The anticipation of the surprise reveal was making me anxious since I helped him plan this so long ago. I prepared their travel documents and gave him suggestions on the romantic ways that he could reveal this "once in a lifetime" celebration. In August, they celebrated their 19th Anniversary so he took her to dinner at one of the restaurants in

Solomon's Island. As she explored a beautiful decorative box with sea-shells with the words, "all you need is love", she was curious about the gifts of sunglasses, flip flops, beach towels and a bottle of wine. When she picked up the folder that contained their travel documents, he bent down on one knee and asked her, "will you marry me again?" He opened a box that contained a new diamond ring for her. She opened the folder with the travel documents to see that he was taking her to Sandals Royal Caribbean in Montego Bay, Jamaica for their 20th Anniversary! She was thrilled beyond belief and there was one more surprise. He had already scheduled a "Retie the Knot" (vow renewal) at the resort! Most of this reveal was captured on video and it heart-warming for me to be able to see this surprise reveal.

My favorite surprise "family" vacation story is the family who was taking their two boys to Disney just after Christmas. They had both children open a huge cardboard box and inside were Disney balloons with a sign attached that announced the upcoming trip in two weeks! They were two happy and surprised little boys. Of course, all of this was captured on video.

The happiest people may be the ones who understand that experiences and memories are greater than things. Not only are vacations good for your physical health, but you will have time to bond and grow together as a couple or as a family. There's more and more evidence that people who vacation feel healthier and happier. It makes us feel alive again, which is exactly what they're meant to do.

By Jeneva Lucianetti
 Certified Sandals Wedding Specialist
 Owner & Vacation Specialist at
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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.

Janet Eugenia Tuma



Janet Eugenia Tuma died peacefully on December 14, 2019. Janet was raised in the Washington DC metropolitan area and she later moved to Cheltenham, MD. She drove a school bus for Prince Georges County MD. until her retirement. Upon retirement she moved to Lavale MD to be close to her grandchildren. She enjoyed solving all types of puzzles, going to the beach, and simply sitting at the window and looking out at the mountains in Lavale.

Janet was preceded in death by her mother Anne Hayden of Dunkirk MD. In death she is survived by her stepfather Thomas Hayden, two brothers, Ronald Griese and Steve Griese, three sons, Shawn Tuma, Jason Pare, and Theodore Tuma III, and six grandchildren, Kassie, Shawn Jr., Kyler, Theodore IV, Delilah and Cheyanne.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 21, 2019, 10-11 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. A funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Interment will be at Southern Memorial Gardens, 10155 Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754/

Rose Elizabeth Leach

Rose Elizabeth Leach, 92, of Owings passed away December 14, 2019. She



was born July 14, 1927 in Washington, D.C., to James Martin and Violet E. (Purcell) Bauer. Rose was raised in the suburbs of Southeast D.C., and graduated from Anacostia High School. She married Charles William Leach on August 19, 1947 and they were married for over 50 years before his passing in 2004. Rose was a lifelong member and the oldest living member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro, where she played the organ until she was 90 years old. Rose enjoyed playing piano and organ, baking, cooking, shopping, and going to lunch with her friends.

Rose was preceded in death by her husband Charles William Leach and brothers David, Martin, and Sterling Bauer. She is survived by her children Glenn Leach and wife Debby of Tracy's Landing and Cindy Leach and husband Stan of Ocean Pines. Also surviving are her grandchildren Jeremy Leach and wife Amy of Owings and Heidi Leach of Annapolis, great-grandchildren Jani and Ryan Leach as well as many cousins.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 21, 2019, 11 a.m. to noon at Fellowship Baptist Church, 8011 Rosaryville Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Funeral service will follow at noon at the church.

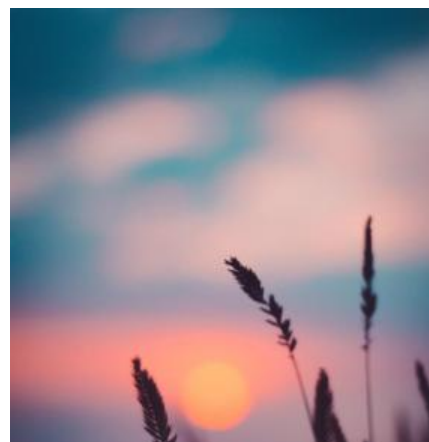
Interment will be Monday, December 23, 2019, 11 a.m. at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fellowship Baptist Church, 8011 Ro-

saryville Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 or Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

Vernon Leo Quesenberry



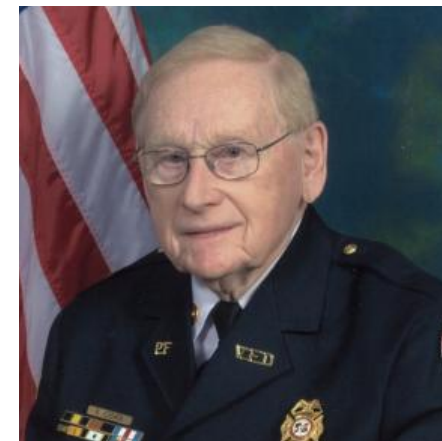
Vernon Leo Quesenberry, 78, of Owings passed away December 14, 2019 at his home with his children by his side. He was born May 19, 1941 in Willis, VA to Walter Wilson and Virginia Marie (Cox) Quesenberry. Vernon was raised in Willis, VA and moved to Owings in the late 1950's. He joined the U.S. Army as a military police officer and was honorably discharged following his service. He lived the remainder of his life at his home on Chaneyville Road where he raised his two sons from his first wife Barbara Jane Chaney. He was later remarried to Susan Carol Maio who preceded him in death. He was employed with Morgan E. Russell, Inc. as a heavy equipment operator for over 40 years, retiring in 2009. While working for Morgan Russell, he also owned and operated Vernon L. Quesenberry General Contractors which specialized in building and selling homes as well as managing rental properties. Vernon truly enjoyed working and also tinkering and fixing things and restoring old cars.

Vernon is survived by his children John W. Quesenberry of Atlanta, GA and Vernon "Mickey" Quesenberry of Chesapeake Beach, and grandchildren Elizabeth and Emily Quesenberry. Also surviving are sisters Marlene Dickerson, Joan Harman, and Brenda Griffin, and brother Sammie Quesenberry. He was preceded in death by brothers Moncue, Paul and Dale Quesenberry.

Visitation will be Thursday, December 19, 2019, 6-8 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736.

Funeral service will be Friday, December 20, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Southern Memorial Gardens, 10155 Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754.

Vernon Delmar Horsmon, Sr.



Vernon Delmar Horsmon, Sr., 93, of Solomons passed away December 12, 2019. He was born November 9, 1926 in Prince Frederick to Tony and Helen (Jones) Horsmon. Vernon was raised in Calvert County and was one of ten children. He joined the United States Army in 1945 and was honorably discharged in 1946 after serving in The Philippines and Korea. Vernon married Jean Jarvis on July 29, 1950 and they were life long residents of Calvert County. Vernon worked at his father's car dealership, Prince Frederick Motor Company, for many years before going to work as an emergency management director for Calvert County. Vernon was a life member of Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department, joining in 1942 as a junior member. He served as Chief from 1956 to 1984 and earned the title of Chief Emeritus. Vernon also served on the board of directors and as vice president and chairman for many fundraising events. He was the past president of the Calvert County Fire and Rescue Association, a past member of the Maryland State Fireman's Association Legislative Committee and Executive Committee, and the former vice chairman of the Maryland Fire Personnel Service Certification Boards and presented the Russell J. Strickland Award in 2016. Vernon was also a past president of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Fireman's Association in 1962 and 1976 and a former fire and rescue instructor at the University of Maryland. Vernon was inducted into the Calvert County Volunteer and Rescue Association Hall of Fame in 1994, the Southern Maryland Volunteer Fireman's Association Hall of Fame in 1986 and the Maryland State Fireman's Association Hall of Fame in 1993. He was an honorary member of the Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs since 1973, the Association of Fire Chiefs of Maryland and the Chesapeake Society of Fire Service. In 2003 the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department dedicated "The Tower" in his honor. In his spare time, he enjoyed playing golf and spending time at the firehouse.

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www.RauschFuneralHomes.com



Vernon is survived by his wife of 69 years Jean Jarvis Horsmon, son Vernon D. "Del" Horsmon, Jr. and wife Carla Barrett of Solomons and granddaughter Jennifer Horsmon of Huntingtown.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 21, 10-11 a.m. at Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department, 4030 Old Town Road, PO Box 482; Huntingtown, MD 20639. Fire department service will follow at 11 a.m. at the firehouse.

Interment will be at All Saints Episcopal Church Cemetery, 100 Lower Marlboro Road, Sunderland, MD 20689.

Memorial contributions may be made to Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department, 450 Solomons Island Road South, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Link: <https://www.pfvfd.com>.

Carolyn Fox



Carolyn Fox, 74 years old, passed away December 10, 2019

Carolyn (Bargewell) Fox was born at Washington Adventist Hospital on June 22, 1945 and was raised in Virginia. She was the spouse of Tom Fox Jr., sister of Gail Aikens, mother of James Lee [Liz] and Tom Fox III [Monica], and 'Grand' of two granddaughters, Sophia and Katerina Fox.

Carolyn worked as a receptionist most of her career but frequently took on office administrative management support roles due to her exceptional attention to detail and 'can do' attitude. She had fond memories of many she worked with, and especially enjoyed her time at The Cohen Group – her final place of employment prior to retirement.

Trips with her aunt, Gloria Sanford (Bubbles), were some of her fondest memories in recent years along with time spent at the Outer Banks and other locations associated with recent Gambrinus Stein Club conventions, visiting Jimmy and Liz Lee in Indiana, and any opportunity to see her granddaughters – Sophia and Katerina Fox, which she adored.

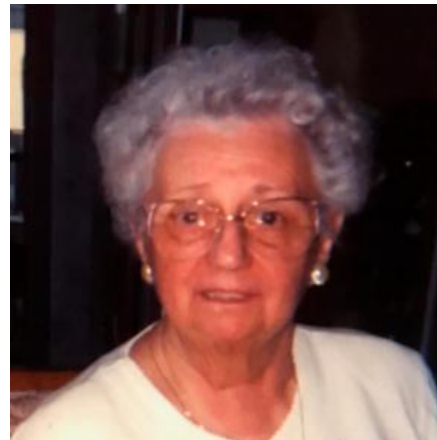
Carolyn was well loved and surrounded by family, friends, and neighbors in the days before she passed away – she will be missed by many.

In lieu of, or in addition to flowers, a page for Carolyn Fox has been set up at the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PANCAN) non-profit. You can make a donation to PANCAN in memory of

Carol while also helping future pancreatic cancer patients and families at the following page: <http://support.pancan.org/goto/CarolFox>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Betty Jean Bresnahan



Betty Jean Bresnahan, 93, of Huntingtown passed away peacefully at home on December 10, 2019. She was born May 5, 1926 in Washington, D.C. to Theodore and Helen (Clementson) Kettner. Betty was raised in D.C. and later moved to Suitland, Camp Springs and then to Calvert County in 1973. She owned and operated Country Plaza Liquors in Dunkirk until 2006 as well as Calvert Village Liquors in Prince Frederick. She was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Thomas Bresnahan, Sr., son Edward T. Bresnahan, Jr. and sister Margaret Reeves. She is survived by children Sharon Bowen of Huntingtown, Michael Bresnahan and wife Cookie of Huntingtown and Paul Bresnahan of Churchton and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Patricia Dorothy (Shaeffer) Payne



Before we had commercially available sliced bread, before Henry Ford released the Model A and before penicillin was discovered, Joe and Mary Shaeffer brought the ever spunky and unstop-

pable Patricia Dorothy (Shaeffer) Payne into this beautiful world. She was known as Pat or Patsy by those who knew her, known as Mom, Nanny or Aunt Pat by those who loved her and known as Patricia only by those who wanted to make her mad. That group of people who called her Patricia often included the love of her life, William Payne, who she loved dearly. Bill and Pat met at the young age of 16 and 17 and married one another 4 short months later. That marriage lasted 72 years until Bill preceded his wife in death 2 years ago. Patsy left this world to join Bill on Monday, December 9th.

Pat was a strong-willed soul that would do anything possible for her family. She had the most pride for her daughter, Vicki (Payne) Weaver and her son-in-law, Jim Weaver. She was an exceptional Nanny who knew how to spoil her two granddaughters, Michelle Weaver and Ashley Hanglitter. But the light in her eyes truly ignited when she spent time with her great-grandchildren, Lucas and Emersyn.

Pat was a hard worker her entire life. She worked along-side her husband building boats, building houses, building whatever she could and then remodeling it again and again. She loved boats, RV's, Miller Lites and undercooked meat. She loved riding in the car and would accompany Bill to drive 3 hours just to grab lunch or save 30 cents on a can of string beans. Her 92 years of life were split between Washington DC, Walls Lane, Rockhold Creek, Melbourne FL and wherever else they decided to park the RV.

Patsy's mind was taken from us long before her body so in lieu of flowers, the family requests you visit your elderly relative and chat with them before they can't remember. If a donation is in your favor, please consider the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research, PO Box 220m New York, NY 10150; Link: <https://www.alzinfo.org/>

Visitation will be Friday, December 27, 2019, 2-4 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane,

Owings, MD 20736. A Life Celebration will follow at 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

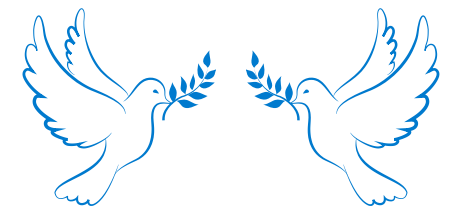
Bex "Butch" MacDonald Kennard, Jr.



Bex "Butch" MacDonald Kennard, Jr., passed away on Monday, December 9th, 2019, at Calvert Health Medical Center in Prince Frederick, MD. He was preceded in death by his wife of 36 years Janet "Jeri", son Bex "Butch" III and his parents Bex Sr and Oleta Kennard. He is survived by his two daughters, Deborah Carter and Dawn Murvin (Kenneth); his grandchildren Robert Sr., Heather and Bex "Brandon" IV; great-grandchildren Kaitlin, Robert Jr., Hailee and Dellaray; and his childhood friend John H. Pearson.

In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in his name to the American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood Street, 11th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; Link: <https://www.heart.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.



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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.

Upcoming

Charcuterie Workshop with Meredith Leigh

February 7 at 9 a.m. & February 8 at 3 p.m.

Westham Butcher Shop

SMADC and Southern Maryland Meats are thrilled to bring author and butcher Meredith Leigh to Westham Butcher Shop, the Amish owned and operated meat processing facility, in Mechanicsville for a two-day charcuterie intensive workshop focused on value-added pork production. In this two-day workshop, Meredith Leigh will introduce value-added meat products, from sausages and pates to fermented hams, and teach participants to confidently cure meats via salt, smoke, and dehydration.

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.

Annamarie Garden in Lights

November 29th - January 1st

Annamarie Sculpture Garden & Art Center; 6 - 9 p.m.

Annamarie 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 19

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 <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/admissions/laplata/FAFSA-Workshop-12.19.19>.

Friday, December 20

Membership Meeting at the Legion

American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206; 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

All members of the American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206 are encouraged to attend the regular meeting in the upper-level meeting hall. For more information, call 410-257-9878 or visit www.MD-post206.org.

Karaoke at the Legion

American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206; 8 p.m. - midnight

Join us for a good time in the lower-level lounge. No cover charge, public welcome. Please call 410-257-9878 or visit www.MD-post206.org for more information.

Saturday, December 21

Acoustic Music by Ross at the Legion

American Legion Stallings-Williams Post 206; 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

For your listening pleasure, join us in the lower-level lounge to hear music from Ross Crampton with the compliments of the Post. Public welcome. For more information, call 410-257-9878 or visit www.MD-post206.org.

Sunday, December 22

Christmas at the One Room School

One-Room Schoolhouse; 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The schoolhouse will be decked out for the holidays with period decorations. There will be period crafts for both young kids and older "young at heart" kids. Don't miss the great refreshments, plus a visit from the grand old man himself, Santa Claus! It's hard to find time for everything during the season, but we think you and your family will be glad if you came out to see what Christmas looked like at the schoolhouse about 100 years ago.

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Friendship United Methodist Church; 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m., & 11 p.m.

All are welcome for these all candlelight services to honor Christmas tradition. Please call 410-257-7133 for more information



Calvert LIBRARY Events

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

Thursday, December 19

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.

KnowBe4 Training. 7:00-8:30pm. Worried about phishing attacks, on-line 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.

Friday, December 20

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 21

Warm Up to Art. 12:00-12:00am. Today is the last day to turn in your completed Warm Up to Art Passport for a chance to win a basket full of family art supplies. Calvert Library all branches.

Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & More. 12:00-3:00pm. Want to learn Mahjongg? Hope to make your Scrabble skills killer? Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us! Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

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

Monday, December 23

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.

Manga Creator's Night. 7:00-8:30pm. Teen and tween fans of Japanese comics and anime are invited to come, draw and catch up with other enthusiasts! Registration is requested. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

istration is requested. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Thursday, December 26

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

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

Drop in, Hang Out Game Night. 6:00-7:30pm. Need a place to play? Come hang out and geek out with our tech toys like the Switch and VR headsets, play board games, and PS4 on the big screen! Bring your best gaming friend. If you have a game or toy you'd like to show & tell, bring it! Pizza & snacks. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Friday, December 27

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.

Monday, December 30

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.

Tuesday, December 31

Count Down to Noon Year! 11:15-12:00pm. Get ready to make some noise for the New Year! Ring in 2020 with stories, activities and more. It'll all end with a big countdown to 12 o'clock- noon, that is- and an apple juice toast! Fancy attire optional. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Library closes at 5pm for New Year's Eve. 5:00-9:00pm. New Year's Eve.

Young at Heart

By Office of Aging Staff

Centers Closing

Calvert Pines, Southern Pines, and North Beach Senior Center will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 25 –through 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. Our nurse is available to take your blood pressure and answer your questions.

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.

Living Well with Diabetes

Play an exciting game amongst friends and staff with CREATE! Bingo, Monday, December 23,

10:30 a.m.

Drink a warm cup coffee on a cold winter day and enjoy our Morning Movie: A Christmas Story, Tuesday, December 24, 9:30 a.m.

Calvert Pines Senior Center

Play an exciting game amongst friends and staff with CREATE! Bingo, Monday, December 23, 10:30 a.m.

Drink a warm cup coffee on a cold winter day and enjoy our Morning Movie: A Christmas Story, Tuesday, December 24, 9:30 a.m.

North Beach Senior Center

With the holiday season upon us it can become stressful. Join us, Tuesday, December 24, 10:45 a.m. for Breathe, Relax and Meditate. Meditation has been proven to reduce stress.

Start off the New Year right with our Noon Year's Eve Toast, Tuesday, December 31, 12 p.m. Write down your New Year's resolution and we will put it away for safe keeping until January of 2021.

Southern Pines Senior Center

Let's Move Exercise Class, Monday, Dec. 23, 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a 1946 holiday movie classic, It's a Wonderful Life, Tuesday, December 24, 1 p.m. An angel is sent from Heaven to help a man by showing him what life would be like if he had never existed.

Eating Together Menu

Monday, Dec. 23

Chicken, Shrimp, & Sausage Gumbo, Tossed Salad w/Dressing, Seasoned Kale, Dinner Roll, Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Pork Chop w/Cinnamon Spiced Applesauce, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, Black-eyed Peas, Brussel Sprouts, Pineapple

Wednesday, Dec. 25

Centers closed for Christmas. Meals on Wheels will not be delivered.

Thursday, Dec. 26

Centers closed for Christmas. Meals on Wheels will not be delivered.

Friday, Dec. 27

Centers closed for Christmas. Meals on Wheels will not be delivered.

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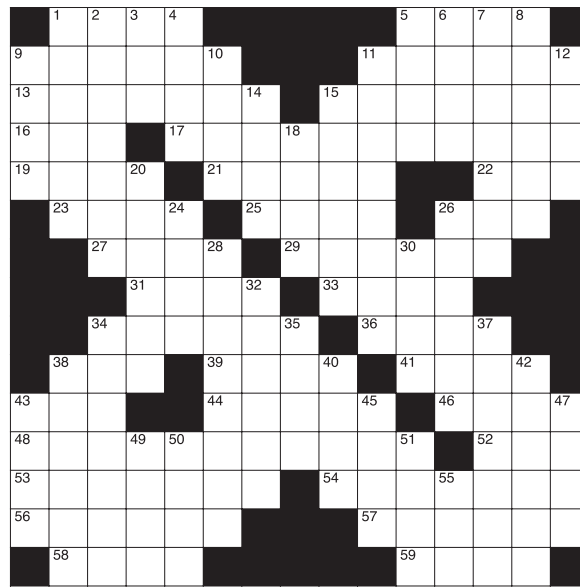
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. No longer on the market
- 5. W. African language
- 9. A way to open
- 11. A type of pigeon
- 13. Japanese warrior
- 15. Pelvic areas
- 16. No seats available
- 17. Not working
- 19. In a way, soaks
- 21. Growing outward
- 22. Ritzy local ___ Air
- 23. Telegraphic signals
- 25. Metric units

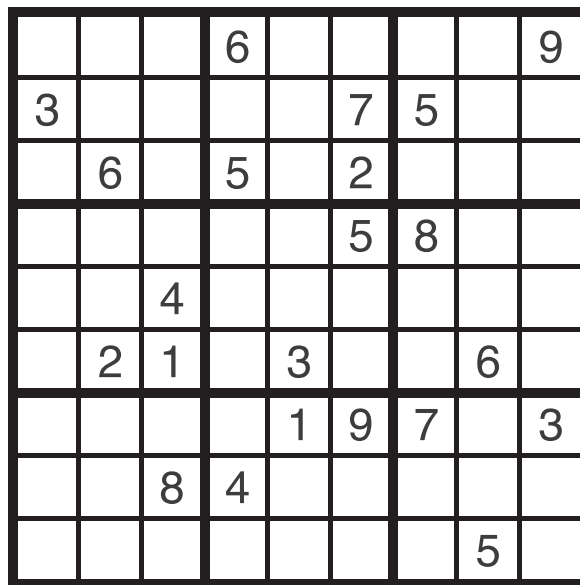
- 26. Large wine cask
- 27. Fiber from the husk of a coconut
- 29. Gets up
- 31. French river
- 33. Witnesses
- 34. They make great neighbors
- 36. The sun does it
- 38. Used to store ashes
- 39. First Chinese dynasty
- 41. Network of nerves
- 43. Word element meaning ear
- 44. Metric unit of length

(Brit.)

- 46. Tributary of the Danube
- 48. Off-limits
- 52. Appeal earnestly
- 53. It's good to have them
- 54. Commercial flying company
- 56. Acted out in protest
- 57. Took to the sea
- 58. Cuckoos
- 59. Drove fast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Trapped
- 2. About osmosis
- 3. Romanian monetary unit
- 4. Form of Persian
- 5. Cold wind
- 6. Leave out
- 7. Small vehicle
- 8. A little off
- 9. Soviet Union
- 10. A narrow path or road
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. One who speaks Gaelic
- 14. Private school in New York
- 15. Jackson and Townshend are two
- 18. Soldier in an airborne unit
- 20. Taken illegally
- 24. Capital of Valais
- 26. Male reproductive organs
- 28. State capital
- 30. One with supernatural insight
- 32. Starts all over again
- 34. Jai alai arena
- 35. Star Wars antagonist
- 37. Freestanding structure
- 38. The ideal place
- 40. The extended location of something
- 42. Made level
- 43. Distinctive smell
- 45. Greek goddess of discord
- 47. Got older
- 49. Type of monkey
- 50. Travels to
- 51. Geological times
- 55. Edge



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

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