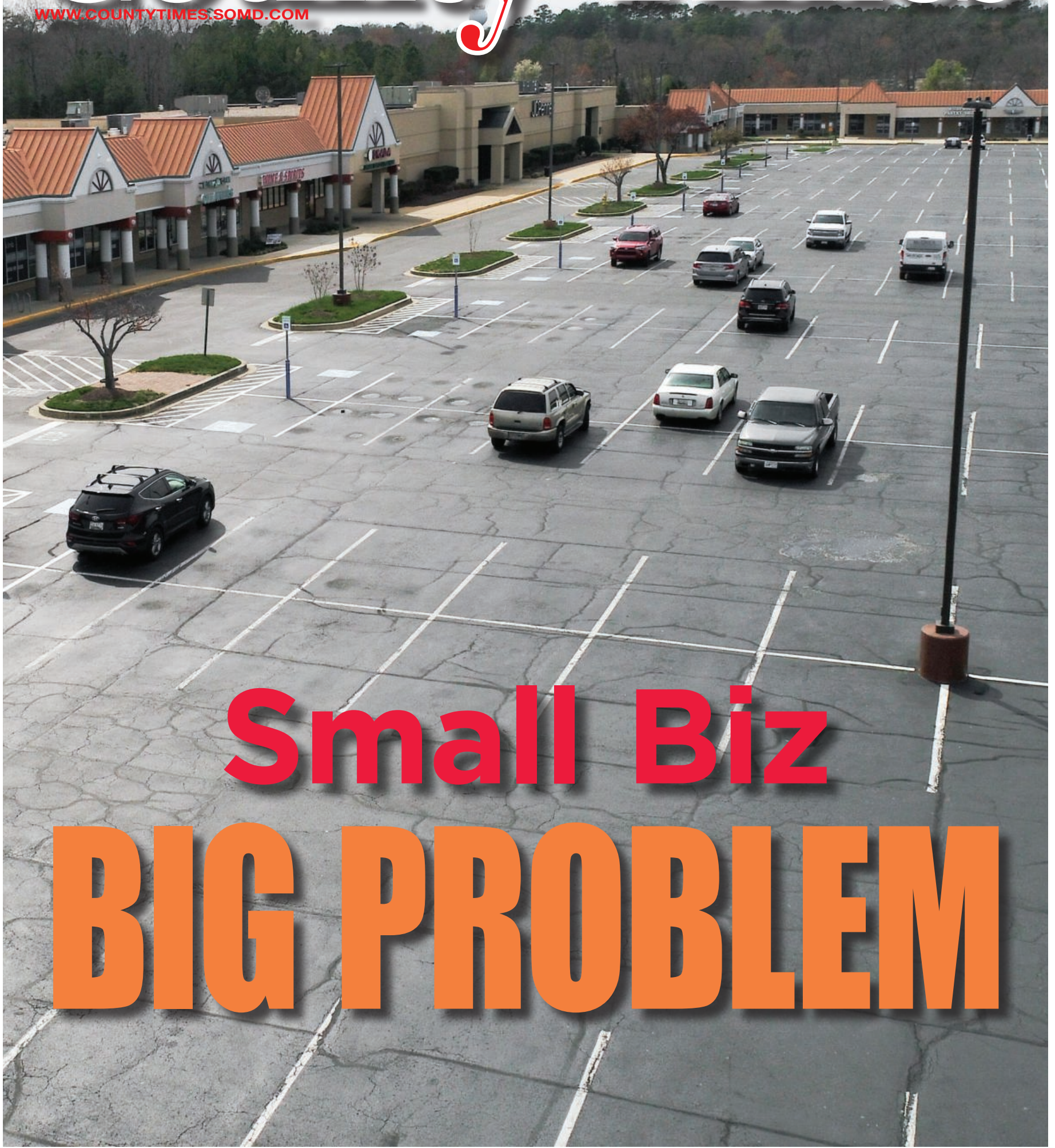


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# The County Times

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

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## Small Biz

# BIG PROBLEM

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**“WALKING THROUGH A HALLWAY IS NOT PUBLIC EXPOSURE. IT’S JUST GOING TO INFLAME PANIC WHEN THERE REALLY IS NO RISK.”**

DR. MEENA BREWSTER, COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER, ON WHEN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT RELEASES COVID-19 COMMUNITY EXPOSURE INFORMATION.

## WEEKLY FORECAST

<b>Thu 3/26</b> 63°   51°F 	<b>Fri 3/27</b> 71°   50°F 	<b>Sat 3/28</b> 60°   54°F 	<b>Sun 3/29</b> 71°   51°F 
<b>Mon 3/30</b> 63°   45°F 	<b>Tue 3/31</b> 61°   45°F 	<b>Wed 4/1</b> 63°   45°F 	<b>Thu 4/2</b> 61°   46°F 

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# Schools Closed Four More Weeks

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

State School Superintendent Karen Salmon announced March 25 that public schools would remain closed an additional four weeks to help combat the spread of the novel coronavirus, which has caused more than 400 COVID-19 cases in Maryland to date.

The closures of all public schools will continue through April 24, Salmon announced after Gov. Larry Hogan spoke at length about all the steps his administration had taken in a short time to combat the virus, which continues to spread rapidly.

"This crisis continues to accelerate at a rapid pace," Hogan said from Annapolis. "This crisis is really just beginning."

"It's not going to be over in days or even weeks."

The governor said it was critical for residents to practice social distancing and remain out of the public.

"It's important to stay in place at home, so we can break the back of this virus," Hogan said.

Hogan, who is also the head of the National Governors Association, said he would continue to press the federal government for a presidential disaster declaration that would provide the state with more funding for long-term unemployment, emergency protective measures and hazard mitigation, among other services.

Salmon said she had directed school systems in each county to enact a continuity of learning plan to ensure students could get instruction over the next month; before the action taken by Salmon and the state Board of Education this week schools were set to reopen March 30.

"We do not make this decision lightly," Salmon said. "However, ... we have a responsibility to ensure the health and safety of our school communities and our communities at large."

Salmon said her department was working with all jurisdictions to solve the issues they were having providing education to students and they would work diligently to ensure disabled students also received instruction.

Salmon also said the state was working to find space throughout the state to provide childcare for thousands of essential workers who have families; about 1,200 have been identified, she said, and she was seeking to get an additional 1,300.

Space for this initiative would include YMCA's, public libraries and parks and recreation facilities for example, Salmon said Wednesday.

She said the state may consider enacting an extended school year, but that was still under discussion.

"We're just trying to get geared up for the continuity of learning," Salmon said. "Then we can start planning for other things."

Citing the need to further contain the spread of the novel coronavirus, which causes COVID-19, Gov. Larry Hogan ordered the closure of all non-essential businesses and facilities throughout Maryland by 5p.m. March 23.

"Sadly, a Montgomery County woman in her 40s became the third Marylander so far to have died because of the coronavirus."

Since then a fourth Marylander, from Prince George's County, a man in his 60s with underlying medical conditions, has also died.

In recent weeks Hogan has issued executive orders closing restaurants, bars, gyms, libraries, movie theatres, enclosed shopping malls and restricted gatherings of people down to just 10 people.

Restaurants are still able to provide carry-out and delivery service under Hogan's orders; only sit-down service has been restricted.

Businesses considered as critical infrastructure, such as grocery stores, pharmaceutical manufacturer and their distributors, motels and hotels laundromats and dry cleaners, convenience stores, critical manufacturing, emergency services, energy production, financial services, farms and even veterinary hospitals and kennels can all remain open according to a guidance document from the Hogan administration.

Many more are included in the exemption list across many sectors of the economy.

He expressed frustration at people who continued ignoring the directives aimed at halting the spread of the virus.

"Unfortunately, many people are still not taking it seriously," Hogan said. "There were crowds of people visiting the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C. and large gatherings on the beaches on the Eastern Shore and the board walk and many of the parks in counties across the state."

"You are breaking the law and literally endangering the lives of your family, your friends and your fellow citizens."

Hogan said law enforcement officers around the state would be more aggressively enforcing his social distancing orders.

"We are not issuing a shelter in place order or forcing people to stay home," Hogan said. "We are telling Marylanders to follow all of the directives we've issued and to obey state law... unless you have an essential reason to leave your house then you should stay in your homes."

The governor said the state had to fight the pandemic as well as severe strain on the economy.

"We're facing a huge battle against potential tremendous economic harm," Hogan said. "Both of these battles will take all of us at the federal, state and local levels and the private sector rising up and working together."

Hogan said that state leaders would continue to press the federal government for greater levels of economic assistance.

"We're still pushing hard for major economic stimulus and for money to go directly to the states," Hogan said. "All of the federal assistance is critically needed."

Hogan said, however, the state would not wait solely for the federal government to act.

Last week Hogan signed emergency legislation allowing for tapping into the state's "rainy day" fund and allow workers to collect unemployment if their place of employment had been shut down due to COVID-19.

Hogan also announced a state-sponsored \$175 million business relief program, from departments of commerce and labor, to help workers and small businesses cope with the COVID-19 economic downturn.

Hogan also issued an order against price gouging on household goods by retailers.

"Any retailers who attempt to exploit this crisis for financial gain will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," Hogan said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

# County Times Editorial

## Remember Small Business

"These are the times that try men's souls." Thomas Paine wrote that on December 23, 1776, but he could just as easily have written it this week.

With so many local, small businesses now closed, it is our urgent plea not to forget about them when this crisis passes. They are the backbone of our community. Many of them have national names above their doors, such as Ace Hardware, Hallmark, and Subway, but they are owned by your neighbors.

The County Times, like many in our community, is also a small business and we too have had to adjust to continue to survive and continue to provide you with the information that now more than ever you need and have come to expect from us. To ride out the temporary hard times we have decided to consolidate our Calvert and St. Mary's editions into one. This will allow us to have our small staff of veteran journalists continue to keep you informed.

We are dedicated to you, our readers, just as those now-shuttered small businesses are dedicated to you, their customers. Keep them in your prayers and remember them when they reopen. They are a part of what makes this such a great place to live.



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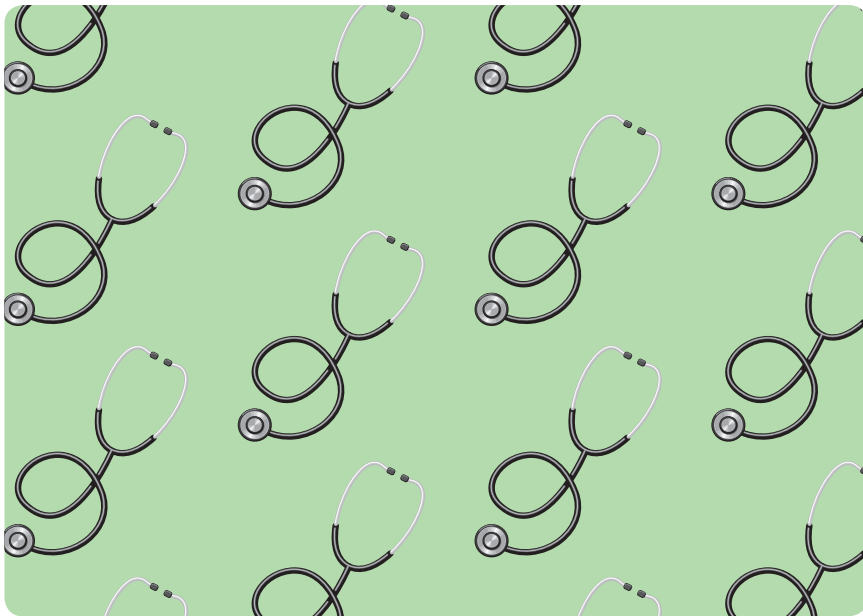
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; margin: 0;">Breakfast</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Platters • Sandwiches</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Creamed Chipped Beef</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sausage Gravy</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">* * * * *</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Hot &amp; Cold Subs</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Sandwiches - Wraps</p> <p style="margin: 0;">"Our Own" Homemade Burgers</p> <p style="margin: 0;">French Fries • Onion Rings • Curly Fries</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Chicken Tenders • Rockfish</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Daily Lunch Specials</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Rotisserie Chicken</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; margin: 0;">Salads &amp; Sides</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Chicken Salad • Potato Salad</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Macaroni Salad • Coleslaw</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Watergate Salad • Pasta Salad</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Cucumbers &amp; Onions</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Macaroni &amp; Cheese • Baked Beans</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Broccoli Salad • And More</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; margin: 10px 0 0 0;">Soups</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Vegetable Beef • Bean &amp; Ham</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Chicken Noodle • Chili</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; margin: 10px 0 0 0;">Desserts</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Dirt Cake • Banana Pudding</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Rice Pudding • Bread Pudding • More</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Cherry • Blueberry • Apple</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Cheese Delights</p>
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# Southern Maryland Battles COVID-19

## Four Cases in Calvert, Four in St. Mary's

By Guy Leonard and Dick Myers  
Staff Writers

The map produced every day by the Maryland Department of Health shows as of March 25, eight COVID-19 cases in Charles County, three in Calvert and two in St. Mary's. Local health departments have reported a fourth case in St. Mary's and a fourth in Calvert. There have been four confirmed deaths in the state, none in Southern Maryland.

Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer, said specialists in her agency are continuing to investigate the possible exposure to the community of the four confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The health department has issued two warnings to the community about possible community exposure this week, once at the bar area at the Outback Steak House that health officials believe could have occurred on March 10 and again between March 12 and March 17 at the Weis Markets in Callaway from 5:30p.m. to 6:30p.m., at the Wal-Mart Super Center on March 16 from 10:15p.m. to 10:45p.m. and at the Family Care Pharmacy at Lexington Village Way in Lexington Park on March 17 from 2p.m. to 2:30p.m.

Anyone who was in these areas at the specified time might be at risk for developing the COVID-19 disease, which is caused by the novel coronavirus, according to the health department's statements.

The first three cases are county residents who are all in their 20s, according to the health department, two are women with one of them self-isolating and the other who may have contracted the virus while on domestic travel.

The third patient is a male, and health officials are still unsure as to how he contracted the virus.

The latest case was announced March 25 as a male in his 60s who likely became infected through international travel.

Brewster said these investigations are time consuming and require interviewing the infected person and getting them to remember who they were in contact with for at least 30 minutes and at six feet apart or closer over a period of many days.

If the infected person identifies being in a place where these criteria are not met, then the health department will not make a statement about public exposure, Brewster said, because



County Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster

it effectively did not occur.

"Walking through a hallway is not public exposure," Brewster said. "It's just going to inflame panic when there really is no risk."

Unlike St. Mary's, Calvert has not provided any details on where the infected persons may have frequented, except to say in an online post that in the second case, "This person did not have any travel outside of the Southern Maryland region over the past month, reinforcing the potential that anyone can become infected through routine contact within our state. This person has had no contact with vulnerable populations such as those in nursing facilities or daycares. Within one hour of being notified of the diagnosis, the Calvert Health Department staff was able to reach each individual who could have been potentially exposed to coronavirus by this individual. Everyone who may be at risk of infection as a result of this exposure is under isolation for a full 14 days."

The mother of that affected person did however post on Facebook that her son worked at a Dunkirk restaurant. She said, "He has had limited exposure to people and places but he has been to the doctor's office at the hospital, the drive through CVS pharmacy in Dunkirk, Bayside Toyota Used Car office in Prince Frederick, Carmax in Waldorf last Saturday, Wawa in Dunkirk, and the CSA Fieldhouse two weeks ago. This just shows that limited exposure means nothing. I cannot stress enough for everyone to STAY HOME and WASH YOUR HANDS and DISINFECT regularly."

The mother called the impact on her family: "Our worst nightmare." The Facebook post had hundreds of visitors.

Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Larry Polsky has criticized the Facebook postings. In the health department's most recent website post, he wrote: "This morning (March 25) the 4th Calvert County case of coronavirus infection was confirmed. This person is currently recovering at home. As with previous cases, Calvert Health Department nurses have obtained detailed health and contact histories from this person within one hour of notification from the testing laboratory. Our nurses have already reached out to those who had sufficient contact to put them at risk of becoming infected."

"Regardless of time of day or day of the week, our staff is immediately responding to all positive test results. Our ongoing goal is to notify those at elevated risk of infection as quickly as possible, so those people take appropriate precautions to isolate themselves per CDC guidelines. Along with everyone in the general public limiting contact with others, washing their hands frequently, and staying home if they develop any respiratory symptoms or fevers, we will minimize the spread of coronavirus and prevent severe illnesses and deaths."

"Social media continues to churn with posts about individuals who are supposedly infected with coronavirus and settings in which people could have been infected. Most of these posts have been wrong and are leading to unnecessary stress in our community. The Health Department is asking people not to propagate unfounded rumors."

The health and safety of everyone in Calvert is critically important to us. The Health Department staff, along with our families, are part of the Southern Maryland community. We have a professional, ethical duty to provide the most timely and accurate information to everyone. We will continue to personally contact those at increased risk as a result of exposure to confirmed cases of coronavirus infection. At the same time,

we have a legal obligation to protect confidential health information. As a result, information on specific cases that is not necessary to protect those at direct risk will not be provided via our website or social media posts."

Though the number of positive cases remains small so far in St. Mary's, Brewster has said that the more testing occurs the more people will be found to have COVID-19.

Testing is only effective, she said, when a patient exhibits symptoms such as fever, coughing and shortness of breath.

"At some point we will not be reporting public exposure," Brewster told The County Times. "That's because there will already be enough community spread."

That means that the virus had become so pervasive, that almost any activity would put residents at the risk of exposure.

"I think we're there already, we just don't have the testing data to back that up," Brewster said Tuesday. "I think people are generally at risk."

Brewster has said that most people who contract the novel coronavirus will experience mild to moderate cold or flu like symptoms.

Just having the novel coronavirus, Brewster said, did not necessarily mean that a patient would develop the COVID-19 disease.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, in speaking with the Commissioners of St. Mary's County Tuesday during a budget work session, said that he had six personnel who were waiting for test results to see if they were infected.

Brewster said her greatest concern was that residents honor the orders of Gov. Larry Hogan to continue social distancing and avoid any gatherings of more than 10 people as the best way to reduce the exposure to the virus and defeat it.

She said she believed most county residents supported those goals.

"We have good residents here who want to do right by their neighbors," Brewster said.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*  
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Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Larry Polsky with Nancy Pope, an RN with the disease surveillance and response unit within the health departments community health division



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# Town Halls Closed, Services Continue

## Meetings Held in Empty Rooms

By Dick Myers  
Editor

With social distancing the new norm and gatherings of more than 10 people prohibited, the town councils of Calvert County's two municipalities met anyway the last two weeks, albeit with eerily empty rooms. North Beach met March 12, with council members present but the public barred. A week later, things had gotten to the point where only Chesapeake Beach Mayor Pat Mahoney and Town Administrator Holly Wahl were in the room and the rest of the council were on conference call. Both meetings were streamed for the public to view.

### North Beach

The town posted the following messages on their website:

"...the majority of town staff will be teleworking to perform job duties. These staff members will be able to receive phone calls and emails during normal business hours."

March 22, 2020:

"The top priority of the Town of North Beach continues to be the safety of residents, staff and guests. As confirmed cases of COVID-19 Coronavirus increase, it is extremely important for all citizens to do their part in social distancing. The safest place for everyone is in their own home.

"Effective at sundown today, March 22, 2020, the entire boardwalk, Sunrise Garden and Wetlands Overlook Park will be closed to non-residents until further notice. Only residents who reside within the incorporated limits of the Town of North Beach will be permitted to walk on the

boardwalk or visit Sunrise Garden and Wetlands Overlook Park. We feel this closure is necessary to prevent the crowds we have witnessed in our town over the last few days.

"In addition, effective at sundown, March 22, Callis Park will be closed to residents and non-residents until further notice. We are following the guidance of Governor Larry Hogan that the public should avoid playgrounds and pavilions. Public parks contain benches, play structures, etc. that are high-touch areas and could potentially be a source of spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus."

"Lastly, because it was impossible to ensure surfaces were always disinfected, the public restrooms at the boardwalk are closed. Another reason for the restroom closures is to prevent additional supplies from being removed without permission.

The March 12 town meeting focused almost entirely on the effort to make parking more efficient by making signs more uniform.

Zoning Administrator Rick Crump showed slides of signs with a confusing array of shapes, sizes and messages. He has proposed standardized signs, with consistent colors. For instance, red will mean no parking zones and green will be for parking with restrictions. "It will make parking easier to use and understand," he said.

Mayor Mike Benton said, "There are signs that don't make sense" He added, "We just want to get some uniformity, so they do make sense."

Councilman Mickey Hummel, as did former mayor Mark Frazer at a recent meeting, urged some caution in making the changes because he said there were reasons why the signs were placed

the way they were.

Crump said that a new system to allow residents to make cellphone pictures of possible zoning violations and report them to the town could also be used to aid town parking enforcement so new personnel wouldn't have to be used.

Benton said the initial focus for the new signs would be the streets closest to the waterfront. He said a more detailed plan with the various proposed signs would be presented at a subsequent meeting.

### Chesapeake Beach

The following were posted on the town's website: "Closure of Bayfront Park: Effective at sundown March 18th, Bayfront Park's beach and parking areas will be closed to public due to COVID-19 public health and safety concerns."

"The Town of Chesapeake Beach's highest priority is the safety and well-being of our residents, staff and visitors. Consistent with expert public health guidance related to the spread of COVID-19, the following adjustments have been made to Town Hall operations beginning Thursday, March 12 and until further notice. The guidelines are being implemented on an emergency basis and in concert with Federal and State recommendations for controlling and containing the spread of COVID-19 for the purpose of protecting public health and safety.

"The Chesapeake Beach Town Hall is closed for walk-ins by the public. All contact with Town Hall should take place through phone at (410) 257-2230, email at [info@chesapeakebeachmd.gov](mailto:info@chesapeakebeachmd.gov) or our Town website at [www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov](http://www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov).

gov."

At the March 19 meeting, Mayor Mahoney said, "During this crisis our main focus is going to be clean water, toilets flushing, trash removal and public safety."

The council awarded a \$543,1809, three-year contract for trash removal to Evergreen Disposal. Prior to the award, Mayor Mahoney read an email from the town's current trash contractor, Southern Maryland Recycling of Owings, which lost the bid. The letter from company owner James Grainer, Jr. alleged Evergreen was ineligible to receive the contract. He said, "First, Evergreen Disposal is a Virginia corporation that does not meet the minimum qualifications because it has not performed these services for a municipality, local, or state government in the last five years."

Southern Maryland Recycling further alleges that Evergreen did not include a bid price in its bid.

The letter goes on to say that Southern Maryland Recycling "regrettably" has filed a lawsuit seeking to overturn the bid award. Mahoney, or any of the council members on the conference call, did not comment on the letter.

It is believed the suit has not yet been filed because of the closure of the courthouse because of the COVID-19 virus.

Also, at the meeting, ordinances were introduced establishing the proposed town budget of \$6.2 million for the next fiscal year. A hearing on the ordinances will be held at the April 16 town meeting.

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# Calvert Unveils Staff Budget

## Economic Outlook Shaky

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) held a public hearing March 24 on their staff's recommended budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. In keeping with the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, there was no public in attendance. Instead viewers of the streamed meeting were encouraged to call in their comments.

Director of Finance and Budget Tim Hayden said he is watching the impact on the economy that as of now "is not subject to measurement." Of particular concern is the impact on income tax revenue caused by layoffs and how the economy might be spiked by the stimulus package making its way through Congress. There also might be some aid to states that could be passed on to counties.

In the meantime, Hayden must go with what he now has, which is a \$322 million proposed staff budget that includes a property tax rate reduction from \$0.937 to \$0.932.

The staff started with requests for more than \$14 million more than is currently in the budget and during meetings that was whittled down to more than \$9 million. Those requests are not in the budget but what is in is a \$2.1 million temporary surplus that could be assigned to some of those staff requests.

Additionally, Hayden said the proposed budget includes fully funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), which is the pot of money set aside to fund future retiree costs. Also, in the budget is \$10.6 million to pay cash for part of the proposed \$30.5 million capital budget.

Hayden said some of the other highlights of the general fund budget are:

- County Employee salaries: one Step increase



Director of Finance and Budget  
Tim Hayden

- County Employee Cost of Living Adjustment: 1.42 percent

- Funding the OPEB Trust County \$3.4 million

- Board of Education \$3.9 million
- Board of Education Operating

Funding: increasing by \$4.1 million

Hayden said the capital budget includes feasibility/design of Beach Elementary School, completion of the new Prince Frederick VFD firehouse, planning for the Prince Frederick Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and \$3.8 million for public safety, including design for the new St. Leonard firehouse.

After Hayden's presentation, School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry discussed details of the school board budget which will be finalized at a meeting today (March 26).

Due to technical problems with the meeting streaming, The County Times was unable to hear the exchange between Curry and the BOCC nor the call-in comments. We will try to report on that aspect of the public hearing in next week's issue.

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)

# Food Bank Takes First Delivery



Food stocked at the Feed St. Mary's Food Bank.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Feed St. Mary's, the county's first food bank designed to give local food pantries a close source to feed the needy, announced it became fully operational this month as the county came to grips with the ravages of the COVID-19 disease's spread.

"We had our first shipment last Friday [Mar. 20,] said Charlie Wharton, spokesman for Feed St. Mary's, which has their food bank located on Signature Lane on Great Mills Road. "It allows local food pantries to order food at a discounted rate."

Before the formation of Feed St. Mary's, spearheaded by former local high school principal and head of the Lexington Park Rotary Club Linda Lymas, food pantries had to order from or travel outside the county to pick up food shipments and return for distribution here.

The process was time consuming and adequate amounts of food were not always available.

The Feed St. Mary's food bank was designed to eliminate this problem.

"It happened to come at a great time," Wharton told The County Times of the first food shipment. "Especially right now with some such uncertainty about what to expect."

The total amount of food the bank was able to gather, mostly shelf-stable items such as boxed and canned goods, was 6,000 pounds, Wharton said.

Feed St. Mary's also works with the Maryland Food Bank to bring additional resources here.

"In a collaborative effort to provide immediate relief to the escalating food crisis, the Maryland Food Bank added additional food to help jump-start food distribution in St. Mary's County, a statement from Feed St. Mary's said. "The donated food is made available to pantries and soup kitchens in need of extra food."

Organizations that provide food directly to people in need or anyone interested in monetarily supporting the partnership can contact Feed St. Mary's directly via [feedstmarys@feedstmarys.org](mailto:feedstmarys@feedstmarys.org) or by calling 240-237-8197.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

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# Transportation Plan Approved

## CALVERT COUNTY



By Dick Myers  
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has unanimously adopted the Calvert County Transportation Plan. The decision at their March 24 meeting came under unusual circumstances, since much of daily routine has been altered with the Covid-19 pandemic.

The meeting was held at the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center with only three commissioners in the room, spaced at least six feet apart. The other two commissioners (Steve Weems and Buddy Hance) were at separate remote locations as were planning staff, all joined by teleconference. The public could view everything via live stream.

Some changes were made to the plan since the Feb. 25 public hearing. But the plan still contains two controversial items brought up at the hearing. Staff took pains to assure the BOCC those items did not have the dire consequences predicted during hearing testimony.

Left in the plan were traffic predictions based on three growth scenarios. Concerns had been raised about two of those growth scenarios – hyper and aggressive. Language was added to address the contention that they were not growth predictions.

The plan now says: “This chart shows all options considered during the planning stages of the plan. Aggressive and Hyper growth are not the basis for the plan’s strategic transportation policy and investments for Calvert County. These two scenarios are what the county is trying to avoid.”

County Administrator Mark Willis, who was in the room with the three commissioners, added, “It’s not an objective to achieve. It is a highlight to stay away.”

Commissioner Tim Hutchins pointed out that the aggressive growth scenario was one that included a buildout under the exist-

ing zoning regulations. He said that buildout would be 176,000 people, compared to the county’s current 90,000.”

Hance was taken aback. He said that was the first he had heard that number. And Commissioner Mike Hart said, “We are not built to double the number.”

The BOCC was assured that number was only if every piece of property was developed to its maximum allowed. They were assured that the buildout number could be revised during the update of the county’s zoning ordinance.

The other major concern raised during the hearing was the method used by the consultant to determine if an intersection is failing. The consultant averages traffic volume at all four connecting points of an intersection while the state just uses volume on the most congested spokes. As an example, traffic may indeed back up in the evening at Routes 2/4 and Stoakley Road in Prince Frederick, but those numbers for north and southbound would be aggregated with Stoakley Road and the hospital entrance. The state could conclude the intersection is failing while the consultant’s method would provide a less dire message.

Staff insisted throughout the process that the consultant used an accepted way of measuring traffic volume.

Hance wanted to know if the county would be struck with using that more lenient method when determining improvements required by developers at those intersections. Planning Director Mary Beth Cook said that would be a local decision. That answer, Hance said, was what he wanted to hear.

The transportation plan will be used to help build the rewrite of the zoning ordinance and the town center master plan updates now underway.

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)

# Businesses Cope with Closures, Restrictions

## Help Available from Multiple Agencies



By Dick Myers  
Editor

Trish Weaver is in the midst of a self-described “balancing act.” The owner of Dream Weaver Catering and Café in Prince Frederick has been hit with a double whammy from effects of Gov. Hogan’s orders aimed at containing the spread of the coronavirus. The result has been that Weaver’s business is now 20-30 percent of what it was just a few short weeks ago. She has had to lay off about 16 part-time workers and several full-timers.

Weaver’s business is comprised of a sit-down café and catering. The café had to close when the order was given for all sit-down restaurants to temporarily shutter.

And, the catering business has been decimated by the order to ban gatherings of 10 people or more, the very definition of the special occasions such as weddings and dinners that she caters.

The catering business has completely evaporated, forcing the layoff of the part-time staff. Her restaurant business has been reduced to providing carry-out meals, which she was used to doing, from her storefront location in the Prince Frederick Shopping Center.

She asked her café staff to decide who best could weather the layoff and made the decisions accordingly. “There is a lot of distress,” she said about the tough decisions.

Weaver said she has yet to decide whether to apply for the small business loans that are being made available through the state and federal governments. She said she has never done that before and hates to put herself in a position of being in debt.

Weaver said the county’s Economic Development Department and the Chamber of Commerce have been there for her in providing assistance. “They have been very helpful,” she said.

Weaver is offering the carry outs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., including dinners in the afternoon hours for those wanting something different to take home.

While some sit-down restaurants have repurposed for carry outs, others have been unable to do so, putting them 100 percent out of business for the duration.

In an effort to mitigate hardships to local business caused by the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Calvert County Department of Economic Development has established a local business response team.

According to Director Kelly Robertson-Slagle, “The team includes the Cal-

vert County Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Development Center, Southern Maryland Workforce Services and Maryland Department of Commerce, and other members of the business community. The team will coordinate efforts to determine what resources are needed by local businesses and to make those resources available.

“The department is also working closely with federal and state agencies and other partners to determine what resources exist or are being implemented and to make that information known to business owners.

“Business owners are encouraged to begin documenting economic impacts now, to be ready to apply for recovery assistance when it becomes available. Business owners can stay informed through Calvert County’s virtual resource center at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus) and the Maryland Department of Commerce Business Express COVID-19 online resource at <https://BusinessExpress.Maryland.gov/Coronavirus>.

“Business owners with questions or in need of assistance may contact the Department of Economic Development at [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com) or 410-535-4583.

All business owners, employees and patrons are urged to follow aggressive precautionary actions that will reduce the risk of infection and limit the spread of COVID-19 from other areas.

The county continues to share the latest updates surrounding Calvert County’s response to COVID-19 through a virtual resource center on its website, including any precautionary measures, guidance and closures at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov), Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](http://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and Comcast Channel 6.

The Calvert County Chamber of Commerce has compiled a multitude of resources in response to the public health concern over the Coronavirus (COVID-19) for their members and the Calvert County business community. View: <https://www.calvertchamber.org/covid-19-information--resources-for-business-es.html>

Chamber Executive Director Lee Greely said his organization hopes to be the go-to place for information business owners need to navigate through the crisis.

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)



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McKay's is hiring at this time at all locations. Please see our store managers for details

## McKay's Markets

### Update: follow up to last week's announcement

#### To our valued community:

From all of our family of associates we would first like to share our concerns and prayers for all those who are suffering, both physically and financially from COVID-19 virus. Our dedicated staff has been doing all it can to provide our community with food in a safe and clean environment.

We understand the need to do more, therefore we are announcing the following changes until further notice:

- 1) **Food Bars closed:** all of our self-service food bars will be closed. We will provide additional packaged salads, sandwiches, entrée's and side dishes as an alternative.
- 2) **Senior Shopping Time:** Tuesday and Thursday mornings we will be open for seniors or those with a weakened immune system. Please schedule your shopping times appropriately. From the hours between 8 am and 10:30 am, seniors 60 years and older will have exclusive access to our stores. Additionally, we will offer a 5% senior discount during these hours.
- 3) **First Responders and Medical workers:** Special shopping times are now available from 7 am until 8 am Tuesday and Thursday. We appreciate the tremendous job you are all doing and wish to extend to you a 5% discount during these times.
- 4) **New Hours:** Our regular store hours will be from 8 am until 9 pm each day. (Except Tuesday and Thursday, general public hours will begin at 10:30 am. We will utilize the shorter hours to enhance our cleaning and sanitizing efforts.
- 5) **Hand Sanitizing:** We are asking that everyone entering our facilities please sanitize your hands. We are striving to provide sanitizer at our front doors as long as supplies are available.

**Our suppliers are working hard to make certain we have products available and our dedicated associates are committed to providing the most reliable food source for you. We look forward to serving you now and always.**

**Hollywood**  
23860 Hollywood Rd.  
Hollywood, MD 20636

**Phone:**  
(301) 475-9248

**Leonardtwn**  
40845 Merchants Lane.  
Leonardtwn, MD 20650

**Phone:**  
(301) 997-1828

**Charlotte Hall**  
37670 Mohawk Dr.  
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

**Phone:**  
(301) 884-5636

# Calvert Update on Services, Operations

Calvert County Government announces the following most recent changes to county services and operations.

Calvert County Government is taking precautionary measures to slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and limit the number of people infected, particularly older adults and those with chronic health conditions. At this time, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Calvert County.

County offices remain open. In order to protect the health of staff and customers, citizens are encouraged to conduct as much business as possible by phone, email or web. In accordance with federal and state recommendations and requirements, the following changes are effective March 19, until further notice:

## Public Transportation

Service reductions will be implemented. North Route will run 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; South Route will run 7:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; Prince Frederick Shuttle I will run 6:35 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Charlotte Hall Route, Dunkirk Route, Lusby Shuttle Route, Mid-County Route and Prince Frederick Shuttle II are temporarily suspended.

Paratransit routes are still in operation for medical and nutritional trips only.

## Department of Planning & Zoning

Fastrack service on permits for residential accessory structures, regularly offered weekly on Wednesdays, is suspended until further notice.

These changes are in addition to those previously announced:

## Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter

The animal shelter is closed to the public and volunteers.

Animal intake through the shelter will cease until further notice.

Owner reclaims and rescue transport will be conducted by appointment only.

The volunteer program is temporarily suspended.

Drop-off donations will not be accepted. Monetary donations can be mailed to the shelter at 5055 Hallowing Point Road, Prince Frederick MD 20678.

Adoption inquiries can be made by phone at 410-535-7387 or emailing [AnimalShelter@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:AnimalShelter@calvertcountymd.gov).

## Department of Public Works

Bulk pickup, mattress pickup, HELP Association pickup and Carol Porto Treatment Facility pickup are suspended until further notice.

The paper shredd event scheduled for March 21 is canceled.

All scheduled facility tours and events are canceled.

## Calvert Marine Museum

Calvert Marine Museum will close to the public until further notice.

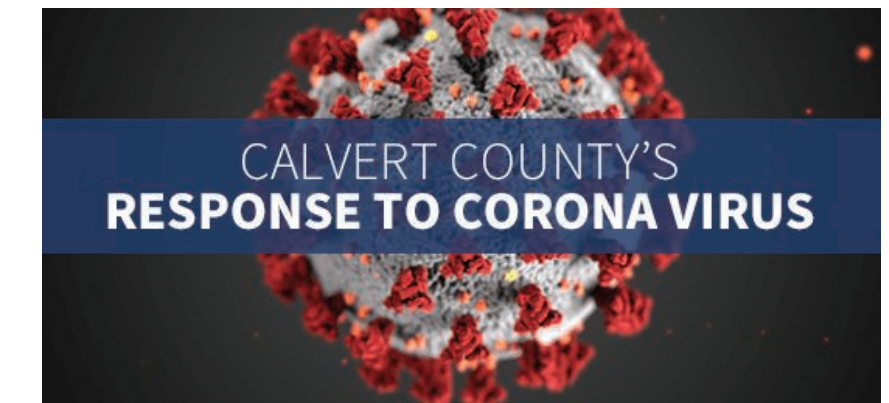
All museum programming and special events will be postponed or canceled. Information regarding rescheduling will be made available at a later date.

## Planning Commission

The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for March 18 is canceled.

## Department of Parks & Recreation

All community centers are closed. Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center is closed. County parks will remain open for passive



activities until further notice.

Organized sporting events at county-owned parks are canceled.

Indoor and outdoor recreational programs and activities at county parks and facilities are canceled until further notice. This includes sports, special events, aquatics, community center programs and rentals.

All large special events and gatherings, including private events, are canceled.

All Parks & Recreation programs at school facilities are canceled.

All Parks & Recreation events scheduled through April 30 are canceled.

Breezy Point Blast-Off scheduled for May 16 is postponed until September.

A flexible refund and cancellation policy has been enacted for Parks & Recreation programs and services.

## Office on Aging

All senior centers are closed.

Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue.

Congregate meal participants may request meal delivery through the Office on Aging at 410-535-4606 or [OOAmailbox@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:OOAmailbox@calvertcountymd.gov).

## Calvert Library

All branches are closed to the public but limited services will continue.

## Buildings and Grounds

Water fountains at all county-operated facilities, including dog parks, have been taken out of service.

The county continues to share the latest updates surrounding Calvert County's response to COVID-19 through a virtual resource center on its website, including any precautionary measures, guidance and closures at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov), Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](https://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and Comcast Channel 6.



## TO OUR TIDEWATER COMMUNITY OF FAMILIES AND PATIENTS:

For the coming few weeks we will be here for all of your dental emergencies and non-elective dental procedures. Our commitment is to your health and well-being and the safety of you and our staff.

For this reason elective procedures will be postponed until further notice. If you are experiencing a dental emergency or have a dental need that can not be put off, we are maintaining hours **Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 4:00pm** at **Solomon's Island, Charlotte Hall** and **Dunkirk** locations. No matter which location you are normally seen at, please feel free to contact us at one of these locations to make an appointment. We are also welcoming new emergency patients as well.

Be well. Be safe.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE WITH YOU.**

## TIDEWATER EMERGENCY SERVICE LOCATIONS:

**CHARLOTTE HALL**  
30320 TRIANGLE DRIVE • SUITE 4  
CHARLOTTE HALL • MD 20622  
301-359-1717

**SOLOMONS ISLAND**  
14532 SOLOMONS ISLAND RD.  
SOLOMONS • MD 20688  
410-394-6690

**DUNKIRK**  
10113 WARD ROAD  
DUNKIRK • MD 20754  
301-327-3314

# Help Available for Local Businesses

## State, Federal Programs Announced

In the past few days, the state and federal governments have announced a variety of loan and grant programs for businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Maryland issued the following press release on its COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund Programs for Businesses:

Maryland has authorized \$130 million in loan and grant funding for small businesses and manufacturers that have been negatively impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). This emergency assistance provides interim relief and proceeds that can be used to pay cash operating expenses including payroll, suppliers, rent, fixed debt payments and other mission critical cash operating costs.

If you are a Maryland-based business impacted by the Coronavirus with under 50 full- and part-time employees, or a Maryland manufacturer, check out the programs below to see if you qualify for assistance.

**Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund** - This \$75 million loan fund (for for-profit businesses only) offers no interest or principal payments due for the first 12 months, then converts to a 36-month term loan of principal and interest payments, with an interest rate at 2% per annum. Learn more.

**Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund** - This \$50 million grant program for businesses and non-profits offers grant amounts up to \$10,000, not to exceed 3 months of demonstrated cash operating expenses for the first quarter of 2020. Learn more.

**Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund** - This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) that is urgently needed by hospitals and health-care workers across the country. More details are expected to be announced by Friday, March 27, 2020.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is also offering disaster assistance to Maryland small businesses economically impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). They issued the following press release:

The U.S. Small Business Administration is offering low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to Maryland small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza has announced. SBA acted under its own authority, as provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act that was recently signed by the President, to declare a disaster following a request received from Gov. Larry Hogan on March 18, 2020.

The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in the entire state of Maryland; District of Columbia and the contiguous counties of Kent, New Castle, and Sussex in Delaware; Adams, Bedford, Chester,

Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Lancaster, Somerset, and York in Pennsylvania; Accomack, Alexandria (City), Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun in Virginia; and Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Preston in West Virginia.

“SBA is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist Maryland small businesses with federal disaster loans. We will be swift in our efforts to help these small businesses recover from the financial impacts of the Coronavirus (COVID-19),” said Administrator Carranza.

SBA Customer Service Representatives will be available to answer questions about SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and explain the application process.

“Small businesses, private non-profit organizations of any size, small agricultural cooperatives and small aquaculture enterprises that have been financially impacted as a direct result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) since Jan. 31, 2020, may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred,” said Carranza.

“These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can’t be paid because of the disaster’s impact. Disaster loans can provide vital economic assistance to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing,” Carranza added.

Eligibility for Economic Injury Disaster Loans is based on the financial impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The interest rate is 3.75 percent for small businesses. The interest rate for private nonprofit organizations is 2.75 percent. SBA offers loans with long-term repayments in order to keep payments affordable, up to a maximum of 30 years and are available to entities without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan is Dec. 21, 2020.

For more information about Coronavirus, please visit: [Coronavirus.gov](https://coronavirus.gov).

For more information about available SBA resources and services, please visit: [SBA.gov/coronavirus](https://SBA.gov/coronavirus).



THE MISSION

Helping the Community One Person at a Time



*"Helping the Community One Person at a Time"*

In coordination with the County’s recent health policies, the Mission will continue to serve the less fortunate and the homeless by supplying food, tent shelters, sleeping bags, toiletries, and COVID19 education skills to the extent that your donations make possible.

We are committed to meeting the needs of our families and individuals who may be hit hardest by the coronavirus outbreak. Through the generosity of your donations and the support of our county leaders, we address the needs of the forgotten in the name of Jesus Christ. By doing so, we make St. Mary’s County a safer and stronger community for everyone during this time of uncertainty.

Thank you for joining us.

To learn more about The Mission or to make a donation please visit:

[seekingshelter.com](https://seekingshelter.com)

Checks can be sent to: The Mission P.O Box 2011  
California MD 20619

For questions call Richard Myers, Director of The Mission  
at 562-822-8752 or Robert Myers at 240-587-0517.

# Youth Lunches Distributed at Lexington Park Elementary

Photos by: Ceandra Scott



# Local Restaurants Struggling, Adapting to COVID-19 Restrictions

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

COVID-19 continues to wreck havoc with the county's economy, particularly with locally owned and operated restaurants and eateries struggling to stay open on carry out and delivery service after dine-in services were restricted by Gov. Larry Hogan's executive order last week.

Jeff Lewis, the owner and operator of The Front Porch restaurant on Washington Street in Leonardtown, said he's had to rethink his entire business model just to try and keep his business operational.

"I make money on parties and I can't book any right now," Lewis told The County Times. "March is really where I start to make money.

"I feel like I'm back to square one when I took over here seven years ago."

With only two phone lines, he's had to adapt to taking carryout and delivery orders through e-mail, Lewis said, which meant that customers used to 15-minute waits for food would have to wait longer. "It's been an insane week of adaptation," Lewis said. "I can't employ as many people since I don't have as much business."

He's had to rapidly reduce his workforce at the Front Porch from about 25 to just 12 or 13 who have been with him the longest time, Lewis said.

"I'm just trying to not lose so much money," Lewis said. "Never mind mak-

ing any more money."

Lewis said he was pursuing loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration to help with critical expenses; the state has also opened funding to aid small businesses get through the rapid economic downturn but he was constantly thinking of ways to adapt to what seemed to be ever changing COVID-19 related rules.

"It's crazy," Lewis said. "It's absolute madness."

In Lexington Park, Paul Gelrud, owner and operator of Showtime Deli, said he was still able to keep his doors open with carryout service.

"I'm doing everything we can to keep everybody here," Gelrud said of his employees. "I've been doing enough to pay my employees.

"It's a rough business."

To limit exposure to the novel coronavirus, his employees are taking meals out to customers as they drive up to his storefront in the Millison Plaza Shopping Center on Great Mills Road.

"We try to wave them in," Gelrud said. "You have to watch the number of people coming into the store.

"We're doing as well as we can; my customers have been amazing."

Gelrud said he believed the character of the community would help it get through the COVID-19 crisis.

"Thank God we all care about each other the way we do," Gelrud said.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

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**All of the following auctions listed below have been POSTPONED.**

New dates to be determined and will be publicized here in the near future. Please be sure to pick up copies of this paper in the upcoming weeks to stay informed on the status of our auctions, as we use this paper as one of our main sources of community notice and advertisement.

### **Building Materials & Tool Auction**

Previously scheduled for SAT - MARCH 28<sup>th</sup>

### **Grocery Auction**

St. Michael's School - Previously scheduled for SAT - MAR 28<sup>th</sup>

### **Anne Arundel Co. Young Farmers Auction**

Previously scheduled for SAT, APR 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Dist. Fire Dept/Rescue Squad Aux. Auction**

Previously scheduled for SAT, APR 25<sup>th</sup>.

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AUCTION SERVICE

# Food Pantry Needs Help

The Ladies of Charity Food Pantry is in need of food/financial help to serve those in need. Serving a record number of 70 families last Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> and the numbers are increasing during this time of need. The food pantry is also preparing "Kids Kits" for children from Windy Hill Elementary and Windy Hill Middle schools along with providing food to the Senior Apartments in North Beach.

The immediate needs are canned baked beans, canned fruit, peanut butter, cereals and meals in a can such as ravioli, spaghetti or the like. Items **may be left at the Food Pantry, 8823 Dayton Avenue, North Beach, MD 20714, phone 410-286-7086. Someone will also be at the Pantry between the hours of 3 and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday if you would like to drop off at that time.**

Their mailing address is: **Ladies of Charity, P.O. Box 334, North Beach, MD 20714.** The Ladies of Charity Food Pantry send their deep appreciation for your generosity. For more information about the Ladies of Charity Food Pantry, go to <https://stanthonycal.us/ladies-of-charity>

# Superintendent Makes Impassioned Plea For More School Funding

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Schools Superintendent J. Scott Smith asked the Commissioners of St. Mary's County for an additional \$7.5 million over last year's schools operating budget as well as an extra \$2 million for a one-time expenditure to increase the system's on-line teaching capability with technology purchases.

The commissioners were quick to say that the money was not available to honor Smith's request; most of which was to pay for increases in health insurance costs and to fulfill the negotiated compensation agreement for school system employees.

Smith's budget also calls for more special education teachers, security assistants as well as other added employee billets.

About \$5.4 million was requested for the negotiated agreements and health insurance costs, while an extra \$974,151 was to go towards transportation of students; about \$700,000 of that was to boost pay for bus drivers and attendants, most of whom are employed by private contractors.

Commissioner Todd Morgan was quick to point out that the four-year negotiated agreement recently reached between unions and the school system amounted to about a 4 percent increase each year for the next four years.

"That would be similar to what you did for corrections officers in one year, for a 13 percent increase," Smith said, adding that sheriff's office deputies and county employees all recently received steep increases in compensation on the salary scale. "It still doesn't bring us to parity with any of our neighbors."

The negotiated agreement would also satisfy the demands locally of the recently passed Blueprint for Maryland's Future legislation, also known as the Kirwan Commission recommendations, to vastly increase education spending, particularly on teacher salaries.

For fiscal 2021, Smith said, system employees would receive just a one percent salary scale increase and a one percent cost of living increase, which he called "modest" before the COVID-19 crisis hit.

"We're very cautious about how we allocate dollars now as we don't know what will happen in the coming months," Morgan said.

Morgan said he would be willing to support adding \$3.7 million to the school budget; the proposed county allocation for the school system is \$117 million, with a total budget reaching \$263.5 million with state and federal funding combined.

Smith told commissioners that they had already committed more than \$6 million in salary increases to 790 employees of the county.

"You want to talk about fairness, I've got 2,300 employees... and the budget we brought before you asks for one merit step and one cost of living increase," Smith said. "That's all they're asking."

Smith said the school system had just a \$6 million fund balance, while the commissioners had a \$30 million, unassigned fund balance with an overall fund balance of \$65 million.

"We are really trying to do the job, we are really trying to do the work," Smith implored. "We are not asking for anything more than we deserve."

The commissioners came to a consensus on adding \$3.7 million to the school budget and returning to the issue in May.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

# School Board to Hold Meeting Via Conference Call

As a result of the current state of emergency due to COVID-19, the Board of Education meeting scheduled for March 26, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. will instead be held via conference call at 10 a.m. The public may listen to the Board of Education meeting on the school system website at <https://bit.ly/LiveBOEMeeting>.

Agenda items include bid approvals, FY 2021 budget approval, and the Superintendent's update. Public comments should be emailed to Karen Maxey at [mmaxeyk@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:mmaxeyk@calvertnet.k12.md.us) by 7:00 p.m. on March 25.

*Press Release from CCPS.*



## Need help paying your utility bills? Do you qualify?

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. Office of Home Energy (OHEP) is accepting applications Monday through Thursday - 9am-3pm - We are located in Charles County at 8371 Old Leonardtown Road-Hughesville, MD.; in St. Mary's County at 21775 Great Mills Road-Lexington Park or in Calvert County at 3720 Solomon's Island Road-Huntingtown, MD. Applications may also be submitted online at [www.dhs.Maryland.gov/benefits](http://www.dhs.Maryland.gov/benefits). You must be income eligible to receive energy assistance.

Contact: OHEP, 301 274-4474, ext. 200

## Need help building a career?

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. offers a CDL Program. Get your CDL License and start a new career as a CDL driver! Contact us and find out how to enroll in the program.

Contact: Leo Hoffman, 301 274-4474, ext. 268

## Need help managing your finances or purchasing a home?

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. offers a Housing Counseling Program. Get assistance with money management and/or home ownership counseling and start a new life of financial freedom. Contact us and find out how our services can help you.

Contact: Martin Kane, 301 274-4474, ext. 274

*The Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc., is a nonprofit organization working in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties that provide services for eligible citizens that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty, promote upward mobility and enrich the quality of life. For information, visit [www.smtccac.org](http://www.smtccac.org).*

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# CALVERT SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME BLOTTER

During the weeks of March 9 – March 15 and March 16 – March 22, deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 2,380 calls for service throughout the community.

## Burglary: 20-14225

On March 11, 2020, Deputy Durnbaugh responded to Parkers Creek Road in Port Republic for the report of a burglary. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect(s) attempted to cut through the door by cutting the weather stripping to gain entry to their home. The value of damaged property is \$18.

## Burglary: 20-14925

On March 15, 2020, Deputy Keeley responded to Lore Road in Solomons for the report of a burglary. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect(s) had broken through the canvas cover of their boat, sprayed the cabin area with a fire extinguisher, and stole a comforter and pillow. The value of damaged property is \$14,000. The value of stolen property is \$100.

## Theft: 20-14655

On March 13, 2020, Deputy Anderson was notified of a theft that occurred during school hours at Barstow Elementary. The complainant advised an Apple iPhone 11 was stolen off of a desk while walking with the class to another room. The value of stolen property is \$1,100.

## Theft: 20-14922

On March 15, 2020 Deputy Ridgley met with a complainant at the Calvert County Sheriff's Office who was reporting a theft. The complainant advised that sometime between March 5<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect(s) stole their walker from the trunk of their vehicle. The value of stolen property is \$250.

## Arrests:

On March 10, 2020, Deputy Stevens responded to Stagecoach Circle in Lusby for the report of a suspicious person. Upon arrival, Deputy Stevens made contact with the complainant who advised a male suspect was walking on the back side of the property with a flashlight. Deputies located the suspect, **SuQuan Abraham Wiggins (21)**, and observed him to be consuming an alcoholic beverage. Wiggins was advised he could return to the beach but was not permitted to walk through the residents' yards. Wiggins then became disorderly with deputies and was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Disorderly Conduct and Intoxicated

## Public Disturbance.

On March 10, 2020, Deputy Mason was dispatched to the Giant in Prince Frederick for the report of a theft. Deputy Mason received information that a male suspect had also stolen a pair of shoes from Gordmans. Deputy Mason observed two males, one fitting the complainant's description, walking on North Solomon's Island Road at Traskers Boulevard. **Matthew Edward Dennis (22)**, was observed concealing three Angus rib steaks under his shirt. Additional Deputies on the scene also observed Dennis to be wearing shoes matching the description of those stolen from Gordmans, which Dennis later admitted to stealing. The second male suspect, **Randolph Joynes (59)**, was observed holding a plastic bag containing a black Champion T-Shirt and Renew shoes, both with tags and security locks still attached. Joynes was also carrying a brown and green tote bag containing two packs of Bic lighters, three 2 lb. bags of shrimp, and two strip steaks, all taken from Giant without being paid for. Also found in the tote bag was plastic baggie tear-off containing suspected cocaine, and copper wiring. A search of Joynes' person revealed suspected marijuana. Dennis and Joynes were both placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where Dennis was charged with Theft Less Than \$100.00 and Joynes was charged with Theft Less Than \$100, Theft: \$100 to Under \$1,500, CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana, and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

## Damaged Property: 20-15090

On March 16, 2020, Corporal O'Donnell took a report of damaged property on Calvert Towne Drive in Prince Frederick. The complainant advised that between 10:50pm on March 15<sup>th</sup>, and 11:00am on March 16<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect(s) keyed the driver's side of their vehicle and poured an unknown liquid the driver's side door. The value of damaged property is \$200.

## Damaged Property 20-15407



SuQuan Abraham Wiggins



Matthew Edward Dennis



Randolph Joynes



Raymond Francis Procopio Jr.

On March 18, 2020, Deputy Flynt took a report of damaged property on Maplewood Drive in Dunkirk. The complainant advised that between 8:00pm on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 6:00am on March 18<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect(s) sliced the sidewall of a tire, causing it to deflate. The value of damaged property is \$114.

## Damaged Property: 20-15564

On March 19, 2020, Deputy Kwitowski took a report of damaged property on North Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick. The complainant advised that between March 14<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect(s) tampered with a traffic sign board, damaging and removing two locks on the control compartment. The value of damaged property is \$10.

## Damaged Property: 20-15674

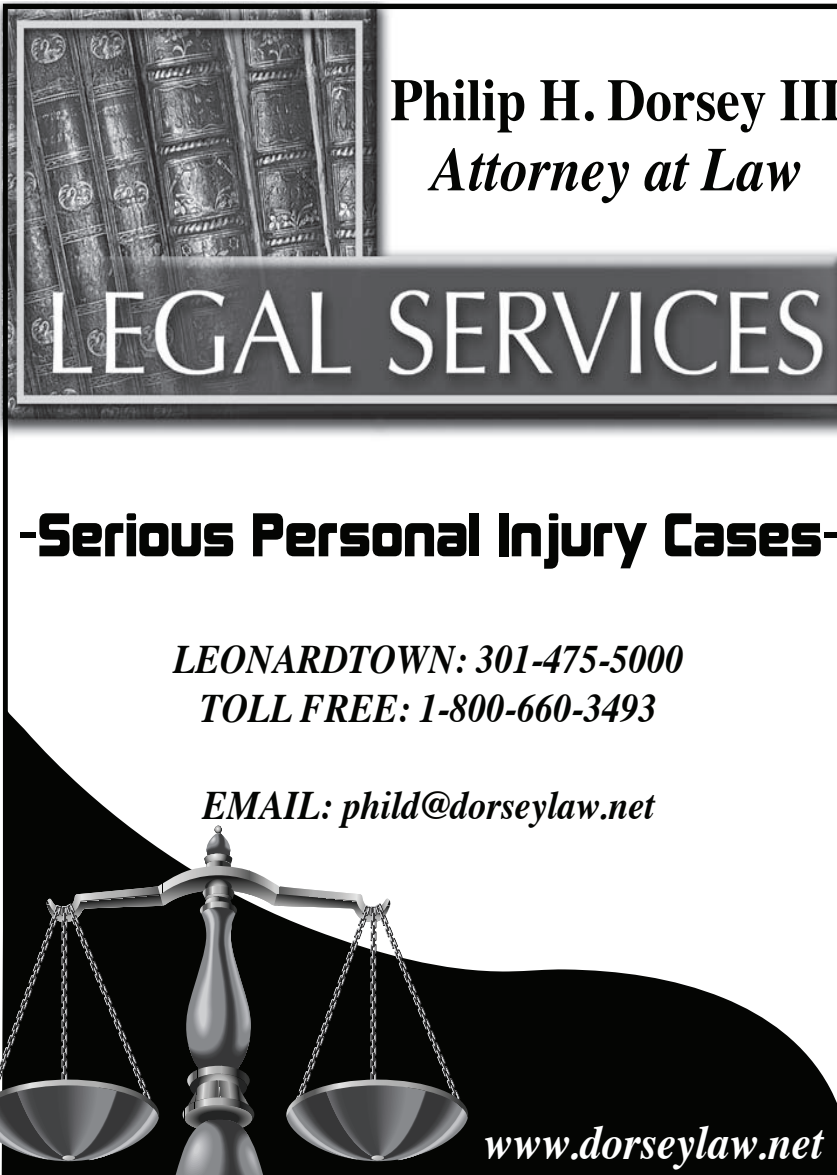
On March 20, 2020 Deputy Hardy took a report of damaged property at Harris Teeter in Dunkirk. The complainant advised that between 9:45am and 10:30am, an unknown suspect(s) damaged their vehicle while parked in the parking lot, leaving various black scuff marks on the hood. The value of damaged property is \$600.

## Theft: 20-15534

On March 19, 2020, Deputy Callison took a report of a theft that occurred on Curve Lane in Lusby. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect(s) stole an Echo PB-580H/T Backpack style leaf blower from the garage while it was unlocked. The value of stolen property is \$344.

## Arrests:

On March 20, 2020, Deputy Durnbaugh responded to Breezy Point Marina in Chesapeake Beach for a firearms complaint. Calvert County Emergency Communications advised that a shot was fired from a mobile home in the marina. While approaching the vehicle, Deputy Durnbaugh detected the odor of marijuana. The driver, **Raymond Francis Procopio, Jr. (48)** was removed from the vehicle and detained. A search of the mobile home resulted in a Browning Arms Medallion containing a spent shell casing in the chamber, as well as another live round on the passenger seat. A search of the rear living area resulted in one Henry Repeating Arms model H004AB, one Mossberg 835, one Benelli Ethos 12gauge, and one Savage Arms 12gauge. Procopio was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Reckless Endangerment.



**Philip H. Dorsey III**  
*Attorney at Law*

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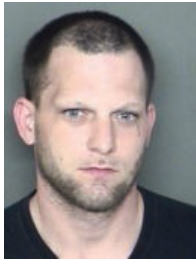
EMAIL: [phild@dorseylaw.net](mailto:phild@dorseylaw.net)

www.dorseylaw.net

# ST. MARY'S SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME BLOTTER

### Drug Arrest-

On March 10 Cpl. Knott conducted a traffic stop in the 46400 block of Midway Drive in Lexington Park, after a passenger was observed utilizing a suspected CDS smoking device. Mitchell Jay McKinney, 30 of Mechanicsville was identified as the passenger, and located in the vehicle was a suspected CDS smoking device containing suspected cocaine residue. McKinney was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession-Paraphernalia.



Mitchell McKinney

William Haggard, 49 of Leonardtown, assaulted the victim by striking the victim on both arms and also striking the victim in the head with his fist and hands. Visible injury to the victim was observed and Haggard was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Joseph Haggard

### Lexington Park Juvenile Charged in Robberies

On March 19 a male juvenile, 16, from Lexington Park, was arrested and charged as an adult for his involvement in two robberies that occurred in February of 2020. Through the course of the investigation information was obtained leading to the juvenile suspect being identified as a participant in the robberies. The suspect was charged with the following:

- Armed Robbery (two counts)
- Robbery (two counts)
- Assault First Degree (two counts)
- Assault Second Degree (two counts)
- Theft (two counts)

The suspect is currently incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no bond status. Due to a recent change in Maryland law the name and photograph of the juvenile will not be released until the court makes a finding at the waiver hearing to determine the jurisdiction of this case.

This is an active investigation and anyone with information on the identity of the second suspect is asked to contact Detective Taylore Nauman at (301) 475-4200 extension 78109 or by email at Taylore.Nauman@stmarysmd.com.

### Drug Arrest-

On March 12 Dep. Hill responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, to assist deputies with a wanted individual. Deputies made contact with Kесе Eman Lyles, 38 of Lexington Park. It was discovered Lyles was wanted on outstanding child support warrants. Lyles was arrested and located in Lyles' coat pocket was a suspected CDS smoking device containing suspected cocaine. Lyles was served the outstanding warrants and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession-Paraphernalia.



Kесе Lyles

### Assault-

On March 13 Cpl. White responded to the 21200 block of Hunting Court in Leonardtown, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Joseph

## Man Charged in Chesapeake Beach House Fire

Deputy State Fire Marshals charged a Calvert County man after determining he was responsible for intentionally setting a fire in the basement of a Chesapeake Beach home yesterday, causing an estimated \$80,000.00 in damages.

On March 24, 2020, at approximately 4:00 p.m., firefighters with North Beach, Dunkirk, and Huntington Volunteer Fire Departments responded to the 3600 block of 29th Street for a reported dwelling fire. Upon arrival, firefighters quickly extinguished a fire in a basement bedroom. During fire suppression and overhaul activities, firefighters found evidence that led them to believe the fire may have been intentionally set. Deputy State Fire Marshals were requested and, during the course of their investigation, identified Mark Adam Eckenrode, 41, as a suspect.



Mark Eckenrode

Eckenrode was located and arrested by Prince Georges County Police Department in a wooded area of Upper Marlboro. Eckenrode was transported to Prince Georges County Police Department 8th District Station where he was interviewed by investigators.

Eckenrode was later transported to Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with First Degree Arson and Malicious Destruction of Property. If found guilty on both charges, Eckenrode faces a maximum penalty of 33 years imprisonment.

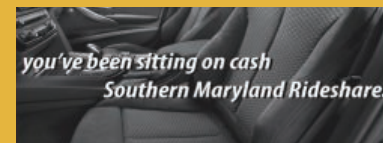


## TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR SOUTHERN MARYLAND



The Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland assist the Maryland 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.

**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 (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.



### 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 SchoolPool to get your children to school in a safe and secure manner.



**GEORGE CLARK • RIDESHARE COORDINATOR**  
**PO BOX 745 • HUGHESVILLE • MD 20637**  
**GCLARK@TCCMD.ORG**  
**01-870-2520 OR 1-800-SO-CLOSE**

**WWW.TCCSMD.ORG**

**WWW.COMMUTERCONNECTIONS.ORG**

## Animal Shelter Provides Service Updates

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter and Calvert County Animal Control facility are closed to the public and volunteers as a precautionary measure to slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). There has been no indication of COVID-19 at the shelter. The closure is in effect until further notice, with the following adjustments:

- Intake through the shelter will only occur through the Animal Control Division.
- Owner reclamations and rescue transport will be conducted by appointment only.
- Drop-off donations will not be accepted. Monetary donations can be mailed to the shelter at 5055 Hallowing Point Road, Prince Frederick MD 20678.
- The volunteer program is temporarily suspended.
- Adoption inquiries can be made by phone or email.
- Animal traps will not be serviced at this time unless the animal was involved in a bite/scratch or had contact with a rabies vector animal.
- Citizens who find stray animals are encouraged to make a report on the lost and found page of the shelter website, and post notices about the animals on lost and found animal, social media pages. If citizens are unable to safely hold the animal, an animal control officer will still respond for pick up. The caller should be prepared to meet the officer outside with the animal.
- Animal Control officers will be responding to the following limited calls for service:
  - Aggressive animals at large/aggressive animal impoundments
  - Bite reports for situations that are in progress
  - Stray animals that cannot be kept safely until locating the owner
  - Investigations of animal abuse/neglect



neglect

- Pick-up for specimens to be rabies tested
- Trapping animals that are involved in bite/rabies exposure
- Assisting partner agencies with animals

The animal shelter is holding a pet food donation drive during this time with the non-profit organization Give Me Shelter. The drive is to provide resources to local families struggling with the ability to feed their pets. Donations should be shipped to the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter at 5055 Hallowing Point Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. The donation plan is in effect until Calvert County government modifies operations or conditions, at which time updated information will be provided.

Staff will remain on site to care for animals and to sanitize and disinfect the facility. For questions, about animal control matters please contact 410-535-1600 extension 2526. For animal shelter matters contact them during normal business hours at 410-535-7387 or [AnimalShelter@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:AnimalShelter@calvertcountymd.gov).

The county continues to share the latest updates surrounding Calvert County's response to COVID-19 through a virtual resource center on its website, including any precautionary measures, guidance and closures at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

*Press release from Calvert County government.*

## Substance Abuse Prevention Mini-Grants Available

The Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse (CAASA) is a grassroots coalition whose mission is to "involve the entire community to promote a healthy environment free of alcohol and other drug abuse." In an effort to help local community groups provide alcohol and other drug-abuse prevention activities/programs, CAASA is making a number of prevention mini-grants available.

The 2020-2021 mini-grant application is available by contacting the CAASA Office at 410-535-3733 or by printing the application directly from the CAASA website at [www.calvertcountymd.gov/caasa](http://www.calvertcountymd.gov/caasa). Click "About CAASA" to be directed to the link for the mini-grant page. Once there "click on" 2020-21 application to download and print the document. Completed applications are due in the CAASA Office by July 31, 2020.

*Press Release from CAASA.*

## St. Mary's County Library Expands Access to Digital Materials and Online Resources

In order to help address current COVID-19 health concerns, temporary cards will now be valid for 90 days to access all Library ebooks, eaudiobooks, downloadable movies, TV shows, music, and online resources.

March 16, 2020 – Leonardtown, Md. – The St. Mary's County Library offers an option for all citizens to sign up for a free Library Card through the St. Mary's County Library website, [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). Simply click on 'Get a Library Card' under 'Library Services' on the homepage. When you apply online, you will receive a temporary Library Card number that can be used to access the Library's online resources and digital materials which include thousands of ebooks, eaudiobooks, emagazines, downloadable movies, TV shows, music and more.

The Library has extended all temporary cards to be valid for 90 days. Once the Library is open again, you can come in to verify your address and receive your permanent physical Library Card.

Browse thousands of digital items available for free without ever leaving your home! Find easy to use instructions on accessing items on the Library website [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org) under 'Read, Listen, Watch.'

Maryland's Digital eLibrary Consortium

<https://maryland.overdrive.com/maryland-southernmarylandregional/content>

Download eBooks, digital audiobooks, and magazines to a smartphone, tablet, eReader, laptop, or computer.

Hoopla Digital  
[www.hoopladigital.com](http://www.hoopladigital.com)

Borrow up to 5 titles per month from thousands of movies, TV shows, music albums, eBooks, comics, and audiobooks using a smartphone, tablet, laptop, or computer.

RBdigital  
<https://smrla.rbdigital.com>

Download eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines in one app.

Tumble Book Library  
[www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org) and click on 'Tumble Book Library' under 'Kids'

A collection of electronic, animated,

talking books, games, and puzzles.

Looking for homework help, learning activities, or something fun to do? Find online resources under 'Research and Learn' on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

Check out the Library Homework Help page, [www.stmalib.org/kids/homework-help/](http://www.stmalib.org/kids/homework-help/)

Creative Bug  
[www.creativebug.com/lib/stmalib](http://www.creativebug.com/lib/stmalib)

Creativebug is the number one inspirational resource for DIY, crafters and makers, with thousands of award-winning art & craft video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists.

Mango Languages

[https://connect.mangolanguages.com/southmaryland\\_regional/start](https://connect.mangolanguages.com/southmaryland_regional/start)

Mango Languages courses are offered in 71 languages, including 20 ESL courses and specialty courses focused on specific subjects. You can try Mango as a guest, but to save your progress, create a profile with your email address, a password, and your St. Mary's County Library card number.

Lynda.com

<http://lynda.com/portal/sip?org=cosmos.somd.lib.md.us>

We are pleased to offer our library cardholders access to lynda.com's library of instructional videos. Normally, using lynda.com requires a paid subscription, but as a St. Mary's County Library cardholder you can access Lynda.com content from any computer with an Internet connection simply by visiting the library's lynda.com site and entering your library card number and password/PIN (usually the last four digits of your telephone number).

Kids InfoBits

<https://galesupport.com/sailorgeo?loc=stmaryscentyl&db=itke>

Provides authoritative, age-appropriate, curriculum-aligned digital content covering a broad range of educational topics including Animals, Arts, Geography Literature, Social Studies, Technology, and more. With a modern design and simple navigation, Kids InfoBits makes it easy for young users to explore content and gain comfort with database searching.



# Coping with Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for some people – everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. Older people, people with chronic illnesses, children, teens, health care workers and first responders, and people with mental health conditions may be particularly vulnerable to stress due to the outbreak.

“Feelings of fear, anxiety, sadness and uncertainty are normal during a pandemic. Fortunately, being proactive about your mental health can help to keep both your mind and body healthy,” said Tammy Loewe, Behavioral Health Director for the St. Mary’s County Health Department. “People with pre-existing mental health conditions should continue with their treatment plans during an emergency and monitor for any new or worsening symptoms.”

There are things community members can do to support themselves and their loved ones to alleviate stress. Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage of COVID-19. Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories. It can be upsetting to hear about the crisis and see images repeatedly. When you do read news, turn to information sources that provide reliable information about how to protect yourself. Try to do some other activities you enjoy to return to your normal life.

Most people that do get sick with this

illness will experience mild or moderate symptoms similar to the common cold or flu, and will recover well. Stay grounded, exercise, and meditate. Talk to friends and family via phone or video to maintain connection. Try to get regular sleep, follow a healthy diet, and avoid alcohol and drugs.

If you or a loved one are feeling overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression or anxiety, please call 2-1-1, text your zip-code to 898-211, or visit 211md.org. These resources are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is also available 24/7 and provides free and confidential support for people in distress and crisis. Call 1-800-273-8255 or CHAT online with counselors for emotional support. Help is also available en Español and for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Locally, behavioral health providers have continued to offer needed treatment and support services in the community through telehealth services and appointment based scheduling. Visit [www.smchd.org/bhtreatment/](http://www.smchd.org/bhtreatment/) for more information.

For local COVID-19 updates and resources, including information on mental health and coping, please visit the St. Mary’s County Health Department’s website at [www.smchd.org/coronavirus/](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus/).

# Due to COVID-19 County Offers Appointments

In accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance and Governor Hogan’s executive order issued March 19, 2020 prohibiting social gatherings of more than 10 people, St. Mary’s County Government is offering appointments to reduce walk-in customers beginning today, March 19, 2020.

A limited number of onsite appointments are available through the online appointment request portal. Appointment requests should be made through county department websites or, for the complete list of department appointments visit: <https://www.stmarysmd.com/Appointments>.

For matters not requiring an appointment, citizens are encouraged to contact all St. Mary’s County departments by phone at 301-475-4200 with any requests for information or services.

For information on additional St. Mary’s County Government COVID-19 response efforts, please visit [www.stmarysmd.com](http://www.stmarysmd.com)

*Press Release from St. Mary’s County government.*

## Pet OF THE WEEK MEET OLLIE



A dog is like a person  
He needs a job and a family  
To be what he’s meant to be

Hi there folks, my name is Ollie. I’m a Level 10 on the SWEET ADORABLE CHART! If you’re looking for a 6 year old gentleman that really enjoys an evening stroll, then I’m the guy for you. I LIKE EVERYONE and I’m so hoping to find my FOREVER HOME soon. I know I can put a SMILE on your face every day. You can HUG me and I’ll give you KISSES. I’ll always take care of you if you give me a chance! Give my friends here at TCAS a call to come meet me and I’ll be waiting for you to BE MY MIRACLE! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life. PLEASE CHOOSE ME!

And remember if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house.

Come meet me and the wonderful gang at Tri-County Animal Shelter (6707 Animal Shelter Road, Hughesville) or call 301-932-1713. To meet more of my amazing friends available for adoption, “like” us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD.

**TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

## Pet OF THE WEEK MEET KUBO



Kubo has stolen the hearts of shelter staff and volunteers! Kubo is a 2 year old Cane Corso Mastiff with lots of energy. He is a gentle giant that loves to play and will play all by himself too! Some say he looks like a big cat when he pounces on toys. His favorite game is “tug of war”! After a long game of tug, this big pup will get sleepy and lean on you for some affection. Snuggling up with your personal teddy bear would be the perfect way to end a long day! Kubo would do best in a home with children ages 15 or older. As Pet of the Week, Kubo’s adoption fee is waived for all qualified adopters. If you think Kubo is a match for your family, contact the shelter at **410-535-7387!**

PLEASE CHOOSE ME!

And remember if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house.

Rebecca Barnette  
Customer Service and Adoption Specialist  
Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter  
410-535-7387 ext 8000  
<https://calvertcountyanimalshelter.com/>

**LINDA L. KELLEY ANIMAL SHELTER**  
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

**100% LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS**  
SERVING ST. MARY’S COUNTY

ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT [COUNTYTIMES.NET](http://COUNTYTIMES.NET)

*St. Mary’s County Times*

## Call for Donations: Supplies for Long Term COVID-19 Preparedness

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) and St. Mary's County Government are collecting the following unopened medical supply items:

- Universal Viral Mediums
  - Nasopharyngeal swabs
  - Facemasks (handmade masks may also be accepted - pattern and information here)
  - Nonsterile disposable patient examination gloves, latex-free, all sizes
  - Nonsterile disposable isolation gowns
  - Surgical gowns (ANSI/AAMI PB70 Levels 1-4)
  - International gowns and coveralls
  - Single use or reusable face shields
  - Powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs) or full-face elastomeric respirators
  - Medical eye shields and reusable goggles
  - N95 respirator, including surgical N95 respirators
  - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60-95% alcohol
  - Protective suits such as Tyvek suits
  - Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers
- Local medical providers, dental providers or community members who have these items and would like to do-

nate them for local reserve may do so by contacting the St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at: 301-475-4200, ext. 72120 to arrange a drop off time and location.

This call for donations is for long term planning and preparedness - to ensure that our local healthcare workforce and emergency medical services have an abundance of stock to pull from in the future, if needed. Supply stock is present for current needs and supplemental stock has been ordered - however, we would like to ensure that all possible resources for local preparedness have been collected in case of a medical surge related to COVID-19.

Community members, including any healthcare professionals, who want to volunteer to assist with the COVID-19 response should register through the Medical Reserve Corps Network - Road to Readiness initiative at: <https://mdr.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Road-toReadiness.aspx>.

For more ways that Marylanders can help, visit the Maryland Unites webpage at: <https://governor.maryland.gov/marylandunites/>.

## Regional Agency Launches New Website

The Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) recently launched a redesign of their website, [www.tccsmd.org](http://www.tccsmd.org). The new website is a comprehensive overview of all TCCSMD programs and divisions, providing users with a complete picture of the resources and opportunities available from the council.

The new website includes sections devoted to workforce development, agriculture, transportation, regional planning and heritage. Users can find information about TCCSMD's different divisions, including the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), the Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board and the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium (SMHAC). Users can also view council meeting times and minutes, get updates on TCCSMD news and contact each division.

"The website redesign is an extension of our mission to serve the people and communities of Southern Maryland," says John Hartline, TCCSMD executive director. "The new design is simple and easy to navigate. Viewers can use the new site as a platform to discover more about our resources and reach out to our

team members."

Discover the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland's programs and explore the redesigned website at [www.tccsmd.org](http://www.tccsmd.org).

About Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland

Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) was formed in 1964, as a cooperative planning and development agency to foster the social and economic development of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties. The purpose of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland is to serve as a forum for the resolution of region-wide issues and the attainment of regional goals.

*Press release from TCCSMD.*



## Video Highlights Local Horse Industry Second in "Farms in Focus" Series



The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, has announced the launch of the second video in their "Farms in Focus" series, which showcases Southern Maryland's vibrant agricultural profile. SMADC's latest video, "Find, Ride, Thrive", focuses on the region's equine (horse) industry, with the goal to inspire public appreciation for the many economic, recreational and health attributes that horses and horse businesses contribute to the area's quality of life.

According to a 2018 impact study by the American Horse Council Foundation, Maryland's horse industry is a dynamic agricultural entity that keeps thousands of acres of the state's farmland in production, and is integral to the States' economy with an economic impact of more than \$2.1 billion supporting 28,000 industry jobs, and 16,000 horse enterprises with over 101,000 horses.

"Horses and horse-related activities are an important part of Maryland's history and way of life. Here in Southern Maryland there are hundreds of horse barns and stables to choose from offering lessons for all ages and abilities, in every discipline from English riding to Western, as well as farms that focus on breeding, boarding, training, and therapeutic riding programs for adults and children," explained SMADC director, Shelby Watson-Hampton.

The "Farms in Focus" series highlights overall agricultural industry products, not specific producers or farms, so the videos may be used industry wide. Each video is approximately five to six minutes long and features a combination of educational information and promotional marketing to help bridge the knowledge gap between consumers and their local farmers and encourages consumers to purchase products or services from local Southern Maryland farms.

The videos are free to view on the SMADC YouTube channel and are available to use by farms, school systems, economic development and tourism offices, libraries, and the general public. Stay tuned for more editions coming soon through 2020 featuring Southern Maryland's key agricultural industries: agri-tourism, seafood, forestry, fruits/vegetables/row crops, livestock, nursery/cut flowers, and value-added products.

The videos are made possible by a grant awarded to SMADC through the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF).

*Press Release from SMADC.*



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# MetCom Raises Funds for 7th District Optimists ACTS Group



ACTS Vice President Bruce Maryland receives a check in the amount of \$2515.25 from Dwayne Potter on behalf of the 95 Metropolitan Commission Employees who raised this money throughout the year.

# Patuxent Habitat Announce 21st Home Build!

Patuxent Habitat for Humanity is in the beginning planning stages of our 21st new home build. Patuxent Habitat for Humanity builds home with a no interest mortgage, and with volunteer labor and gift in kind donations, thus making it affordable.

The organization is seeking a builder, contractors, and volunteers and of course funding. They are hoping to make this a Woman Build Home with help from Habitat International. They are working to make this home as energy efficient as possible, so will be making "green" choices for this home!

Please go to [www.patuxenthabitat.org](http://www.patuxenthabitat.org) or <https://patuxenthabitat.org/homeownershipcriteria-and-applying> email [laurie@patuxenthabitat.org](mailto:laurie@patuxenthabitat.org) or call 301-863-6227x16 for more information.

Patuxent Habitat for Humanity is looking for families to apply for this home in St. Mary's County. They will be having an application workshop February 8th 10-12. You must register to attend.



# COVID-19 Hotline Established Offers Language Interpretation

A COVID-19 Community Hotline has been opened in St. Mary's County to provide information about the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Live interpretation services are available for those who speak Spanish, Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Language line interpretation services are available during all hotline operational hours for Spanish and other languages, including Punjabi, French, Arabic, Mandarin, Neali and more. Community members can call the center Monday - Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to speak with staff, obtain information about the disease, or get their questions answered at: 301-475-4911

Community members should address their personal health questions with their primary care physician. However, the call center may help with other questions about COVID-19 and Health Department nurses are available to speak with individuals who do not have a primary care provider or family doctor.

While the virus that causes COVID-19 is a new respiratory virus, daily precautions recommended to prevent

respiratory illnesses are the same: Follow social distancing guidance from national, state and local government officials

If you are sick, stay at home (except for necessary medical evaluation) and away from others in your household

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; if soap and water is unavailable use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and throwing the tissue in the trash

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Community members, healthcare providers, and local business owners are encouraged to visit the SMCHD website for local updates and information at: [www.smchd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus).

*Press Release from St. Mary's County Health Department.*

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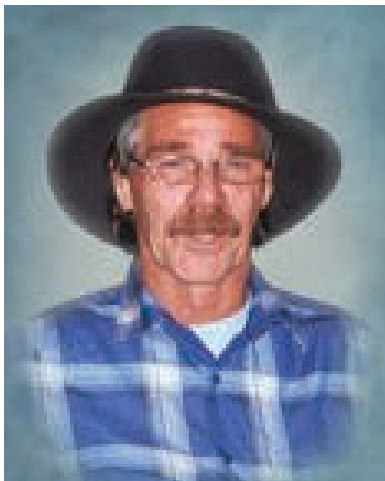
With purchase of second Pho Noodle Soup (\$8.45 Value)

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The 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 [guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net) after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

## In Remembrance

### Calvin Linburg Morgan



Calvin Linburg Morgan, 66, of Hollywood, MD passed away on March 16, 2020 in Leonardtown, MD. He was born on July 26, 1953 in Leonardtown, MD. He was the loving son of the late Cecelia Hope Jones and Lewis Matthew Morgan, Sr. Calvin is survived by his wife Patricia Rebecca Quade Morgan whom he married on October 19, 1974 in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Mechanicsville, MD. Calvin is survived by his children Calvin Duane Morgan of Lexington Park, MD, Wanda Marie Morgan of Hollywood, MD, Jacqueline Rebecca Morgan of Hollywood, MD, Tam Van Nguyen of Hughesville, MD 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. As well as his siblings Robert E. Morgan of Lexington Park, MD, Charles Donald Morgan of Calvert County, MD, David Andrew Morgan of Hollywood, MD, Joseph Morgan of Mechanicsville, MD, Donna Ray Abell of Leonardtown, MD, and Tony Wheatley of Hollywood, MD. He was preceded in death by his sibling Lewis Morgan, Jr, James Morgan, Marilyn Morgan and nephew

Lewis Morgan, III.

He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Chopticon High School. Calvin was a Farm Manager for Tranquility Farm for 42 years, retiring on March 6, 2020.

Calvin enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing cards, and had a strong passion for tractor pulling.

All funeral Services will be private at this time.

### Francis Leroy "Bubba" Nelson



Francis Leroy "Bubba" Nelson, 78, passed away peacefully on Monday, March 16, 2020 in Venice, Florida, with his wife, daughter and son by his side. He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Lori; his daughter Katherine (Rahoul Ghose), son Tom (Erin) and four grandchildren, Ben (20), Lucy (17), Libby (14) and Sophie (9).

Bubba was the third of 15 children born in Chaptico, Md. to the late James Andrew "Toots" Nelson and Beatrice Tennyson Nelson. He was a loving brother to the late James Maguire "Mop Jack" (Dorothy, decd.), surviving siblings Jo-

seph "Freddie" (Mary), Charles Bernard "Banjo"/"Manzie", John Ira "Dink", Mary Janet "Jody" Nelson Gray (Elmer, decd.), Thomas Allen "Sam" (Carolyn), Sylvia Nelson Gainey (Bill), Brenda Nelson Caywood (Charles, decd.), Kenneth "Ken" (Betty Lou), Robert "Wayne" (Gloria), Wallace "Wally" (Ellen), Rita Nelson Buckler (Robert), Rose Nelson Roth and Tina Nelson Bowles (Tommy). He was very close with many of his nephews and nieces – of which there are almost too many to count.

A career police officer, Bubba was one of the original Prince George's County, Md. motorcycle officers. There, he served as an instructor and mentor to countless motor officers not only across Maryland, but the country. He participated in the torch run for the 1984 Olympics, rode in President Richard Nixon's inaugural parade, and provided escort to numerous national and global dignitaries, including U.S. Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton; U.K.'s Queen Elizabeth II; and the King and Queen of Jordan. He competed in police motorcycle competitions nationwide, and was particularly known for his prowess in the slow ride category. Earlier in his career, Bubba served on the Hyattsville, Md. police force, was a mounted officer for the Maryland Park Police, and after his retirement from PG County, served as a civilian for the Maryland State Police.

Bubba was a man of many names. Throughout his lifetime he was known as Frank, Bubba, Leroy, Cleo, Yo-Yo and likely a few others that can't be printed!

A true St. Mary's County native until the end, he ate crabs and drank some Coors Light just a few days before he passed, alongside his sister, nieces, wife, son, daughter and friends.

Bubba was a guy who would do anything for anyone... and did. He leaves a lasting legacy that spans his large extended family, his police officer brotherhood, the many charitable organizations he actively supported, and legions of friends in Maryland, Florida and beyond.

Enjoy your 24/7 in heaven, Bubba. You will be missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Tidewell Hospice (Philanthropy Department, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238) or The Benedictine Foundation (14299 Benedictine Lane, Ridgely, MD 21660)

### Mary Elizabeth Frey



Mary Elizabeth Frey, 95, of Great Mills, MD died March 21, 2020 at Chesapeake Shores Nursing Center in Lexington Park, MD.

She was born on November 17, 1924 in Reading, PA to the late Grandville LeRoy Garber and Katherine Hammer Garber.

Betty was married for 51 wonderful years to Charles Frey before his passing in 2004. After the passing of her husband she moved to St. Mary's County to be near her son and grandchildren. In her younger years she was enjoyed roller skating and gardening. She was an excellent cook and delicious baker. She was a talented organist and also enjoyed listening to southern gospel music. She was a long-term caregiver for her mother and husband. She was a strong woman who loved and cared for her family unconditionally. She also loved her apricot poodles. She attended Leonardtown Baptist Church.

Mary is survived by her sons, Larry Weaver of Reading, PA and David Garber of Great Mills, MD; her granddaughter, Janet Cooper (Alan) of Park Hall, MD, her great grandchildren, Andrew Cooper of Great Mills, MD and Hannah Turpin (Shane) of Solomons, MD; and her great-great grandchildren, Liam and Charlotte Turpin of Solomons, MD. She is preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Interment will be private at Sinking Springs Cemetery in Sinking Springs, PA.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD

### Roy Howard Bowman

Roy Howard Bowman, 87 of Valley Lee, MD passed away March 19, 2020 at his home with his loving family by his side.

He was born on November 6, 1932

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in Fairbolt, Ohio to the late Howard William Bowman and Evelyn Frances Blaisdell Bowman.

Roy enlisted in the United States Army in June 1953 and proudly served his country until his honorable discharge in May 1955. On June 8, 1954, he married his beloved wife, Lenora "Jean" Lab Bowman. Together they celebrated over 65 wonderful years of marriage. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Montana in Business Administration in 1957. He spent his career working for the Department of Transportation for many dedicated years before retiring as a Supervisor in 1986. Roy was an avid fisherman and loved to spend time boating, especially in Ocean City. He was a gourmet cook and prepared many delicious dishes for his friends and family. He was an aficionado of fine wines and wine making. Roy loved to listen to music but his favorite was opera. He crocheted afghans for the Veterans home in Charlotte Hall and Project Linus of St. Mary's County and supported programs that were close to his heart. Most of all Roy loved spending time with his family.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is survived by his children, Melissa Jean Riner & her husband Duffey Riner of La Plata MD and Paul Howard Bowman of Valley Lee, MD; and extended family and friends. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by his brother, Thomas Richard Bowman.

All services will be private.

In lieu of flowers a contribution to Hospice of Saint Mary's County P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown MD 20650 would be appreciated.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Jack Allen Grubber

Jack Allen Grubber died on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2020, at his home in Great Mills. He was 89.



Jack was the son of Michael J. Grubber and step-mother Jean Elaine (Jones) Grubber, and Sara Ellen (Allen) Bennett and step-father Joseph H. Bennett. He was born on May 13, 1930 in Moundsville, West Virginia. After graduating from Moundsville High School in 1948, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy for one year. After his honorable discharge, he attended Marshall College (now Marshall University) in Huntington, West Virginia, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in General Engineering in 1953. Jack received a Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1959 and a Master of Management Science from the U.S. Navy Post-Graduate School in 1976.

Jack was employed by the Naval Air Test Center at Patuxent River for 40 years. During his career, he worked in electronic warfare and reconnaissance working on projects such as enemy fire control. When he retired as the Technical Deputy of the Aviation Board of The Board of Inspection and Survey in 1992, he was awarded the U.S. Navy Civilian Superior Service Medal.

Jack's long tenure at Pax River was not expected. Seeing, in 1953, the very rural nature of Southern Maryland while enroute to Pax to start his job, he wondered how he had gotten into "this fix". He planned to stay only a few years and then transfer to a more urban government facility; however, he changed his mind in 1958 when he met Ann Hewitt. They were married on June 18, 1960 at Holy Face Church in Great Mills.

Jack was a life-long fan of the Marshall University Thundering Herd. He "bled green." His daughters endured many long car rides with static-filled AM radio broadcasts blasting at full volume—the better to catch one or two plays of a Herd game. Jack also collected postcards from his hometown and St. Mary's County. His postcard collection spawned two books: "Postcard History: Marshall County, WV" and "Postcard History: St. Mary's

County."

Jack was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, and served at various times as a lector, Eucharistic minister, and parish council member. He also was a member of the St. Mary's County Elks Lodge #2092 and the Association of Old Crows.

Jack is survived by his wife, Ann; daughters, Janet Marie Grubber of Durham, NC and Karen Lynn Grubber of Arlington, VA; son-in-law, Dan Kane; and grandson, Jack Tyler Kane, as well as many in-laws, nieces, and nephews.

Jack is also survived by a brother, Michael Jay Grubber, and his wife, Wendy, of Ormond Beach, Florida; a sister, Mary Jean (Grubber) Ramirez and her husband, John, of Denver, Colorado; and a sister-in-law, Toni Bennett, of Denver, CO. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-parents, brother Larry Bennett, and an infant sister, Joyce Ann Grubber.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Marshall University Foundation, Inc.—Jack Allen Grubber Endowed Scholarship, 519 John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25703 or you can raise a glass to Jack

and toast his good and happy life.

### Dr. Chester LeRoy George

Dr. Chester LeRoy George, 85 of Hollywood, MD passed away on March 13, 2020 at Johns Hopkins Bayview Hospital with his loving family by his side.

Dr. George was born on May 27, 1934 in Idaho to the late Chester George and Thelda Ent George.

He married his loving wife, Anita George on August 19, 1974 in Utah. They spent 45 wonderful years to-



gether. Dr. George was a retired Naval Commander. Dr. George practiced dentistry in the Southern Maryland Community and Willow Grove, PA for his entire career of 63 years. During his career he made many lasting relationships with his patients, staff, and the dentistry community while providing exceptional work. Dr. George was a caring doctor, husband, father, and grandfather to his family. In his spare time, he enjoyed gardening, boating, and traveling but most of all loved spending time with his family. He was a member of the United States Power Squadron, the local Elks Lodge, Lions Club, Rotary Club, Southern Maryland Dental Society, Patuxent Dental Society, and Solomons Island Yacht Club.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Daniel M. George, of CO, Patrick J. George (Ronald), of SC, and Renee M. George, of MD; siblings, Pati Jo George and George Norman George, and his two grandchildren; Nicole L. Tillman and Kathleen G. George. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Genise M. George and his brothers, Ronald and Gerry George.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Dr. George's memory to the American Cancer Society, 405 Williams Court Ste. 120, Baltimore, MD 21220, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 750



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## In Remembrance

East Pratt Street, 17th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 or Hollywood United Methodist Church, 24422 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood, MD 20636.

Services are pending.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Lora Marie Violette

Lora Marie Violette, 32, of Cali-



fornia, MD died on March 17, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on October 19, 1987

to Kim Milo Mabery and Yong Hui Won Mabery of Great Mills, MD.

On May 24, 2012 Lora married her beloved husband, Jack Christopher Violette in Fairfax, VA. Together they celebrated over 7 wonderful years of marriage. Lora loved her family, especially her son. She enjoyed spending her time doing stuff for and with her family. She had an infectious laugh that made everyone around her happy. She loved spending time on the beach and swimming whenever she got the chance. She was very photogenic and took many pictures so she could hold on to the memories for a lifetime. She was thoughtful and kind, always putting other's needs before her own. She was a loving daughter, wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend.

In addition to her parents and beloved husband, Lora is also survived by her son, Jack Christopher Violette II of California, MD, her sister, Sandra Bryant (Husband James) of Tampa, FL; her nephew, James Bryant IV of Tampa, FL; her niece, Mia Bryant of Tampa, FL; and her extended family and friends.

All Services will be private due to new state regulations

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, PA

### Dawn Allison Rock

Dawn Allison Rock, 56 of Mechan-



icsville, MD passed away on March 14, 2020 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD.

Dawn was born on December 19, 1963 in Camp Springs, MD to the late Harley L. Lawrence and Jean L. Tefft Lawrence.

Dawn is a 1981 graduate of Suitland High School. She is a 2019 graduate of Penn Foster College where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management; graduating with a 3.96 GPA.

She was employed for over 17 years with KBR supporting PMA-265 F/A-18 Program Office at NAS Patuxent River for her first 16 years. As Project Manager, Dawn directly supported PMA-265's Executive Leadership as the Graphics and PowerPoint expert and later expanded her career into a more technical and Programmatic roll. Over her 16 years in PMA-265, she supported multiple Program Managers; which meant developing a new working relationship on multiple occasions. On each occasion, Dawn was an overwhelming success in quickly building that repour with the new PM. Dawn would take raw ideas from the PM and turn them into a refined product that were often presented and briefed at the Pentagon and to Congressional Staffers. Dawn took the lead in coordinating major Program Office events such as the Program Managers Review, annual Industry Dinners and Dining Outs. Her attention to detail coupled with her fun and welcoming smile made these events first class occasions.

Dawn transferred to the Advanced Development group of KBR in September 2019 as a Program Management Analyst supporting PMA-231. She was eager to help the Advanced Development team in her new position; while at the same time was always there for her PMA-265 teammates to pass on her vast knowledge and expertise as KBR trained her replacement. In Dawn's

short time supporting PMA-231, she was recognized as a go getter and willing to take charge. Dawn quickly gained the respect from her customer and will be remembered for her energy, initiative, and attention to detail. Dawn was always motivated and prepared and brought a positive energy to her team.

On May 30, 2014, she married her beloved husband, Robert Spencer Rock in St. Inigoes, MD. Together they celebrated over 5 of the happiest years of marriage. She and Rob planned trips and vacations and simply enjoyed the bliss of being together. Dawn beamed when she spoke of her life with Rob, they shared a very special love. Dawn enjoyed hosting parties, family gatherings, dinner parties, Women's Wii night and Ladies Pool Day. She was warm hearted and always made everyone feel welcomed. Her cooking abilities were second to none. Dawn loved to cook and enjoyed sharing cooking tips with friends and family.

Dawn was a devoted mother to her two children guiding them into adulthood with her knowledge and compassion. She took great pride in watching them grow and turn into two wonderful adults. They maintained a beautiful relationship throughout and could always call on one another in good times and bad. Dawn loved being a mother and having children that grew up into two of her best friends.

In her spare time, Dawn enjoyed coordinating events and worked as a part-time wedding consultant. She also enjoyed going on tropical vacations, most recently to the Riviera Maya, Mexico. Dawn always lit up a room with her smile and energy. Her outfits matched her personality with a shoe collection that would knock you off your feet. Even though she loved all of her 300 plus shoes, she was happiest barefoot with her feet in the sand on a tropical beach.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son and daughter, Ryan Cole of Mechanicsville, MD and Kacy Kirk (Mallory) of Daphne, AL; sister, Kim Lawrence of Sterling, VA; brothers, John Lawrence (Laura) of Franklin, TN and Richard Lawrence of Owings, MD; nephews, Jason and Brandon Lawrence; nieces, Kelly and Hayley Lawrence; great niece, Jaycee Lawrence; mother-in-law, Sandra Rock of California, MD; and many extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

All Services will be held at a later date. They are temporarily postponed due to COVID-19. Interment is private.

Memorial contributions may be made to SMAWL, P.O. Box 1232, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622.

Condolences to the family may be



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**Jan Catherine King**

Jan Catherine King, 65, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on March 14, 2020 at University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center in LaPlata, MD.

Born on September 20, 1954 in Yokehama, Japan, she was the daughter of the late Eleanor Janet Nunn and William Badey.

On April 25, 1992 Jan married the love of her life, Lawrence W. King, in Charlotte Hall, MD and together they spent 27 wonderful years of marriage.

Jan worked at 27 Naval Air System Command at Patuxent River as a Tech Info Specialist until her retirement in 1999. When she wasn't working, Jan loved to spend her free time outdoors. She especially loved the water and often went fishing and crabbing.

In addition to her loving husband, Jan is survived by her two siblings: William Badey of Myrtle Beach, VA and Michele Badey of Fairfax, VA.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

All services will be private. Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com). Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.

**Richard Loren Sparrough, Jr.**



It is with great sadness, we announce the passing of Richard Loren Sparrough, Jr., on March 21, 2020, months after an operation that did not go well. Rich was born on December 26, 1940, in Washington, D.C., and was a lifelong resident of Maryland, attending Bladensburg High School and graduating from the University of Maryland. He was a journeyman electrician with Local 26 during his career and worked for the same contractor for his entire career.

Rich left behind his beloved wife

of 43 years, Ann R. Sparrough; sister Mary Srnecz; nephew Richard Heath and wife Catherine; more family and many friends, especially several high school buddies, who are still close.

There will be no visitation at this time due to the virus threat. A funeral service and interment will be held for the immediate family, by invitation. A memorial party with a celebration of his finer moments will be held later. Please do not send any flowers, give to: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, American Red Cross, Care or a charity of your choice instead.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home

**Emily Mae Dixon**



Emily Mae Dixon, 93, a lifelong resident of Calvert County, passed away on March 19, 2020. She was born on February 8, 1927 to Harry J. Klein and Ella Mae Grierson. She was born and raised in Chesapeake Beach, MD when it was a waterfront resort town with slot machines, hotels, boardwalk and amusement park much like it is becoming today. Emily worked at the Rod N Reel Restaurant in Chesapeake Beach, MD for over 50 years where she loved interacting with the patrons. She enjoyed shopping and traveling throughout the Chesapeake Bay Area and the Pennsylvania Amish Country with her twin sister Evelyn.

Emily was preceded in death by her husband Samuel Mason Dixon in 1967, her twin sister Evelyn Hardesty, sister Theresa Reid, and brothers Herbert Sr., Harry "Chuck", and George Klein and grandson Kevin Hall. She is survived by her children, Linda Salazar (David) of California, MD, Olivia Deyette (Mark McLynn) of St. Leonard, MD, Sharon Rooney of Riva, MD, Marsha Long (Tom) of Benedict, MD, Samuel "Skip" Mason Dixon, Jr. (Bertha) of St. Leonard, MD and Lisa Denton of Chesapeake Beach, MD. She is also survived by grandchildren Steven Tucker, David Salazar, Shawn Tucker, Erin Denton, Brittany McAlwee, EJ Wilson, Angie Croson, Billy Jones, and Jesse Jones and 14 great-grandchildren.

Services and interment will be private. Serving as pallbearers will be Steven Tucker, David Salazar, Shawn Tucker, and EJ Wilson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Emily's name to the Dementia Society of America, PO Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901; 800-336-3684; Link:

<https://www.dementiasociety.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

**Brett Eldred Morrison**



Brett Eldred Morrison, 59, of North Beach passed away March 19, 2020. Born in West Virginia on November 21, 1960 to Michael P E Morrison and Miriam Phoebe Newton. Brett is survived by his loving wife Amy (Johnson) Morrison and their two children Anna Morrison and her significant other David Zoerman and son John Carl Morrison. Brett is also survived by his three brothers Duane Newton Morrison, (and his two sons Benjamin and Joshua), Ward Ellis Morrison and Samuel Dunn Morrison, father Michael Morrison and his wife Elizabeth Hornyak Morrison, and mother Miriam Newton. Brett enjoyed a career at Goldin & Stafford Inc. as a Demolition/Excavation specialist. Most recently becoming a General Superintendent. Brett was a devoted employee and worked for Goldin & Stafford for 26 years. Brett was an avid hunter and fisherman. All that knew Brett knew that family was everything. Brett adored his wife and children —the world was a better place with such a wonderful man in it. He will be deeply missed. The family would like to thank Goldin & Stafford Inc. for their love and support.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

Funeral arrangements were made

**Frankie Bowles**  
 10/8/89-3/25/17  
 Your Life was a Blessing  
 Your Memory a Treasure  
 You are loved beyond words,  
 Missed beyond Measure.



by Rausch Funeral Home.

### **Emily Gantt Bourne Hyde**



Emily Gantt Bourne Hyde, 90, passed away March 17, 2020 at the Hermitage in Solomons. She was born May 11, 1929 to Edna L. (Kemp) and Thomas J. Bourne at the original Calvert Memorial Hospital, which is now the Calvert County Sheriff's Department. Emily and her sister Catherine were raised on their family farm in Chaneyville. She attended Fairview Elementary School and Calvert County High School, graduating in 1946 as the Valedictorian of her class. Emily then attended Salisbury State Teacher's College and graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor's Degree in Teaching and would later obtain her Master's Degree from the University of Maryland. Shortly after graduation, Emily married her roommate's brother, Louis S. Hyde, Jr. of Charles County. They later moved to Prince George's County so Emily could teach and Louis could work in the construction industry. In 1969 they built a home and moved back to the family farm. Emily also returned to her home church, All Saints Episcopal in Sunderland, where she was a dedicated and active member, and was the first Female Senior Warden of the church, as well as a member of the altar guild and vestry. She also taught kindergarten at the church for

several years. Emily was a member of The Daughters of the American Revolution, a board member of Calvert County Nursing Center, and was involved in judging history fairs. Following her retirement, Emily tutored many young people in reading, and her family would often hear people say "your Mama taught me how to read". In 1976 she had the family farm deemed a Bicentennial Farm and it remains in the family to this day. Emily enjoyed working on the farm, planting and growing tobacco, family dinners and picnics, and celebrating holidays and birthdays. She moved to the Hermitage in Solomons on March 17, 2017 and was lovingly cared for by the "family".

Emily was preceded in death by her husband Louis S. Hyde, Jr. in 2009. She is survived by her sons Louis Hyde III (Evelyn) of Fairhaven, Thomas Hyde (Martha) of Owings, Gary Hyde (Carla) of Italy, and Joseph Hyde (Melissa) of Owings, grandchildren Jeffrey Hyde (Brigitte) of Glenwood, Bonnie Hyde of Silver Spring, Emily (Matthew) Gilcrest of Prince Frederick, Allison Hyde of Prince Frederick, Amanda (Daniel) Carver of Huntingtown, Samantha Hyde of Mebane, NC and Louis and John Hyde of Italy, great-grandchildren Brooklyn and Ryan Gilcrest and Andrew and Alexander Carver, and her sister Catherine Bourne Grover of Solomons, MD.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy in Emily's name may be made to All Saints Church Cemetery Fund, PO Box 40, Sunderland, MD 20689.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

### **Pamala Jane Riston**

Pamala Jane Riston, 66, of Chesapeake Beach passed away March 16, 2020. She was born January 8, 1954 in Cheverly, MD. Pamala moved to Chesapeake Beach when she was



teenager and competed in local beauty pageants. She was employed as a hairdresser at Hair It Is Salon and Hair Pair. She also worked as a housekeeper and caregiver for many years. Pamala enjoyed gardening, plants, jewelry, butterflies, teddy bears, music, and dancing.

Pamala is survived by her children Thomas M. "Tommy" Robertson and his wife Theresa of Woodbridge, VA and Raymond F. "Frankie" Jones of Hughesville, grandchildren Thomas M. Robertson Jr. and Tabitha M. Robertson, mother Mary Louise Hilton, brother Mark E. Riston, stepsiblings Starlene Hilton, Harry Lee Hilton III, and Edgar L. Hilton, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father Harry Lee Hilton, Jr. and siblings Mary Irene Riston, George Richard Riston, Jr., and JoAnn Riston.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

### **Cynthia Verda Butler**



Cynthia Verda Butler, 68, of St. Leonard, MD passed away on March 20, 2020 at George Washington University Hospital.

Born March 29, 1951 in Mt. Clemens, MI, she was the daughter of the late Darwin McCormick and Dorothy (McMahon) McCormick. Cynthia moved to Calvert County from

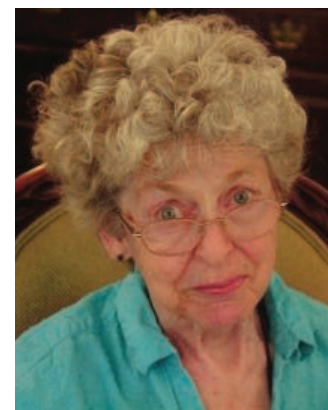
Hartley, DE in 1980.

Cynthia is survived by her husband, Dewese P. Butler whom she married on September 12, 1970 in Dover, DE; her children, Kimberly Libby (Gene) of St. Leonard, MD and Kevin Butler (Sarah) of Virginia Beach, VA; grandchildren, Kaylee Libby, Claire Libby and George Libby; and sister, Deborah Muir of Dover, DE. She was preceded in death by her sister, Sandra England.

All services are private. Condolences to the family may be made

[www.rauschfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rauschfuneralhomes.com).

### **Margaret A. Huibsch**



Margaret A. Huibsch, 86, of Solomons, Maryland, and formerly from Joplin, Missouri, passed away on Wednesday, March 16, 2020 at her Hermitage apartment in Solomons.

Born June 11, 1933 in Fort Dodge, Iowa, she was the daughter of the late John Fitzgerald and Margaret (Doyle) Fitzgerald. Growing up on the family farm, she graduated from St. Matthew's High School and was married to Francis Huibsch at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Clare. Margaret was a life-long mother and housewife. Originally from Clare, Iowa, she moved from Joplin, Missouri to Fayetteville, North Carolina in 2014, and then to Maryland in 2016.

Margaret is survived by her son, Colonel (US Army Retired) Joe Huibsch and his wife Polly, and immediate grandchildren, Pamela, Richard, Amanda, and Alexander. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Maggie (Doyle) Fitzgerald and her husband Francis Huibsch who passed away at their Joplin, Missouri home in 2013.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.rauschfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rauschfuneralhomes.com).

**To Place A Memorial,  
Please Call  
301-373-4125  
or send an email to  
[info@somdpublishing.net](mailto:info@somdpublishing.net)**





# Lent Seafood Savings

February 26th Through April 11th, 2020



King Crab Clusters  
**13.88** Lb.



Dungeness Crab  
**11.68** Lb.



Fresh Salmon  
**6.98** Lb.



Iceland Cod Fillets  
**6.38** Lb.



16-Oz. Captain Bob's Imitation Crab  
**2/4.00**



16-Oz. Bantry Bay Whole Mussels  
**2.58** Lb.



41/50-Count USA Raw Shrimp  
**5.98** Lb.



20/40-Count Peeled & Deveined Argentina Shrimp  
**6.98** Lb.



21/30 Count Peeled & Deveined Raw Gulf Shrimp  
**8.98** Lb.



41/50-Count Cooked Shrimp  
**5.88** Lb.



41/50-Count EZ Peel Shrimp  
**4.38** Lb.



10-Oz Shrimp Rings  
**4.58** Ea.



2/3-Oz. Lobster Tails  
**3.98** Ea.



10/20-Count - IQF Dry Sea Scallops  
**10.68** Lb.



2-Lb. Bag, 41/50-Count Sea Best EZ Peel Shrimp  
**10.98** Lb.



1-Lb. Bag Sea Best Tilapia  
**3.58** Ea.



16-Oz Shrimp Rings  
**6.98** Ea.



12-oz. Dockside Crab Cakes  
**6.98** Ea.



10-Lb. Retail Box Nature's Best Whiting  
**2.98** Lb.



2-lb. Nature's Best Catfish Nuggets  
**4.98** Ea.



1-Lb. Bag Sea Best Cod  
**5.98** Ea.



8-Oz. Margaritaville Island Lime Shrimp  
**8.98** Ea.



**Leonardtwn**  
40845 Merchants Lane  
Leonardtwn MD  
7am to 10pm  
Mon-Sun  
(301) 997-1828

**Hollywood**  
23860 Hollywood Road  
Hollywood, MD  
7am to 9pm  
Mon-Sun  
(301) 475-2531

**Charlotte Hall**  
37670 Mohawk Drive  
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622  
7am to 10pm  
Mon-Sun  
(301) 274-4122

# Metropolitan Commission COVID-19 Operational Status

CALIFORNIA, MD (March 25, 2020) - The health of everyone in our community is of paramount concern to us. In an effort to help prevent the further spread of COVID-19, protect the health and safety of our employees, customers, and our community, the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission would like the public to be aware of the following:

- **Water Turn-offs.** Until further notice, no Metropolitan Commission customer will have water turned off due to lack of payment. Those, whose water was turned off prior, will be temporarily restored.

- **Bill Payment Options.** We encourage all customers to take advantage of the variety of options available to pay their water/sewer bill; the U.S. Mail, online, e-check/auto pay, night depository, and by phone. Find out more at [www.metcom.org](http://www.metcom.org) by selecting "Payment-Options" under the FISCAL draw down tab.

- **In-home Maintenance Requests.** All in-home, non-emergency requests, including meter readings, are cancelled and/or postponed.

- **Administrative Offices.** Metropolitan Commission administrative lobbies and offices remain closed to the public at this time.

- **Deliveries & Drop-offs.** MetCom's 23121 Camden Way, California, Maryland office has limited access for deliveries, plan review drop off, and has a drop box available for customer payments. Our 43990 Commerce Avenue, Hollywood, Maryland facility has maintained water meter pick-up services, upon request.

- **Public Events.** All bid openings and Commission Meetings will either be postponed or may be observed via our MetCom Connection live stream link found at [www.metcom.org](http://www.metcom.org) under Latest Announcements.
- **Capital Projects.** Unless, determined to be mission critical, all capital construction projects will be handled under a force majeure event and work may be temporarily suspended.

- **Inspection Services.** Construction inspection, plan/plat review services, and non-emergency Miss Utility locates have been scaled back, with only essential requests being processed on a priority basis. As always, emergency requests will be honored.

- **Acceptance of Septage.** Effective 3-23-2020, septage hauling operations at Marlay Taylor Water Reclamation Facility were discontinued at noon, daily. In the event of an emergency, haulers may contact our Wastewater Superintendent at 240.298.4451. Weekend service will continue to be provided.

- **Teleworking.** All non-essential MetCom employees that can work from home are encouraged to situationally telework.

- **Core Functions.** We are maintaining all our core critical functions at our treatment and water distribution facilities, labs and in our field maintenance operations, with social gathering and distancing protocols. Crews will continue to remain available and are always on stand-by to address emergencies 24/7. For emergencies, please contact us at 301.737.7400.

We appreciate the understanding and support of our customers and thank you for your patience. These were difficult decisions for our team, but ones we feel were both necessary and appropriate. Anyone with questions about COVID19 may visit the SMCHD website, [www.smchd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus) for local updates and information or call the St. Mary's County COVID-19 Community Hotline, Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at 301.475.4911.

For More Local COVID 19 Updates

facebook



[www.facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert](http://www.facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert)

# 2020 Carson Scholars Announced

The Carson Scholars Fund is pleased to announce that Emma Cox, a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Huntingtown High, has been named a first-time 2020 Carson Scholar. In addition, ten Calvert students are repeat winners.

Dr. Daniel D. Curry, superintendent, said, "It's always a happy time when we get the latest list of Carson Scholars. Congratulations to all."

The repeat winners are:

Sara Bevard, 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Southern Middle School; has won four times

Alycia Council, 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Southern Middle School, has won two times

Molly Galdieri, 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Plum Point Middle School, has won four times

Koy Greenwell, 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Huntingtown High School, has won five times

Caleb Leach, seventh grade at Southern Middle School, has won three times

Nevaeh Martin, 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Calvert High School, has won five times

Tory Ridgeway, 12<sup>th</sup> grade at Northern High School, has won eight times

Hayley Spicknall, eighth grade at Calvert Middle School, has won five times

Ashley Whicher, 11<sup>th</sup> grade at Calvert High School, has won seven times

Kyle Wojciechowski, 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Calvert High School, has won seven times

Due to the restrictions currently in place due to the (COVID-19) pandemic, the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Carson Scholars Fund banquet, which was to be held in Maryland on May 3, 2020, has

been cancelled. This banquet celebration included scholars in Maryland and surrounding states. Other festivities are being planned to celebrate the 215 new and 437 recognized students who were named 2020 Carson Scholars. These young scholars are exceptional, not only in the academic setting, but in their communities and globally.

Carson Scholars are individuals in grades 4-11 who display outstanding academic achievement (at least a 3.75 GPA) and humanitarian qualities. New scholars receive a \$1,000 college scholarship and the coveted honor of being named a Carson Scholar.

*Press release from CCPS.*



## Legal Notice

### THE COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The Commissioners of Leonardtown will hold a public hearing on Monday April 13, 2020 at 4:15 p.m. at the Town office at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD.

**The purpose of the hearing will be to receive comments on the Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2021.** Copies of the recommended budget will be available on April 1, 2020 online at <http://leonardtown.somd.com>

The public is invited to attend or send written comments by 4:00 p.m. on April 13, 2020 to:

[leonardtown.commissioners@leonardtownmd.gov](mailto:leonardtown.commissioners@leonardtownmd.gov)

or

The Commissioners of Leonardtown

P.O. Box 1

Leonardtown MD 20650

# SMECO Sponsors 31st Computer Bowl



Second-place team: Huntingtown High School, Calvert County  
From left, Evan Fee, Quintin Hilton, coach Tom Currier, Ethan Hilton, and Grayden Hays.

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) held the 31st annual Southern Maryland High School Computer Bowl on March 7 at North Point High School in Charles County.

The event helps students prepare for careers such as software development and cybersecurity. Computer skills are vital for students who plan to become proficient in technical and industrial fields. With information technology firmly embedded in daily life, electric utilities depend heavily on computerization to help keep the lights on for their customers.

This year's Computer Bowl featured approximately 70 young computer enthusiasts in a test of their coding skills and technical knowledge. Sponsors for the annual competition are SMECO, the College of Southern Maryland, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the public school systems of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.

Nineteen teams from nine high schools in Southern Maryland faced the challenging literacy and programming tests in the Computer Bowl. In the first round of the competition, students took a written test of their knowledge of computer history, hardware, and software. In the second round, teams of three to four students created computer programs to solve specific problems, writing code in programming languages such as Java and Python.

An all-girl team from Great Mills High School in St. Mary's County won first place this year. Team members were Zoe Coughlan, Venzah Hamilton, Maya Lee, and Emme Staats, coached by Nora Blasko. Huntingtown High School won second place; Tom Currier coached Ethan Hilton, Quintin Hilton, Evan Fee, and Grayden Hays. North Point High School had a team take third place, with Melody Stahl coaching Ishaan Chada, Eric Fotang, Maxwell Stine, and Gabriel Alleyne. In fourth place was another Great Mills High team, made up of Holland Henderson-Boyer, Leanna Eldridge, Daniel McLawhorn, and Ryan Rex.

Winners received plaques and trophies, and SMECO awarded gift cards to the top four teams. The College of Southern Maryland also provided the first-place winners with performance awards.

Booz Allen Hamilton provided 11 judges for the Computer Bowl: Rachel Aaron, Alan Cooper, Janet Cooper, Carrie Dalton, Amber Dull, Shannon Katulich, Stephen Katulich, Laurie Lawrence, Cailean Parker, Doug Sanborn, and Jennifer Sanborn. Other judges were Tom Inscore and John Stine of Charles County Public Schools; Joe Burgin, Eugen Leontie, and Brian Warnecke of the College of Southern Maryland; and Steve Nixon of Small Satellite Alliance. Lora Bennett and John Stine with Charles County Public Schools developed the literacy and programming tests used in the competition.

*Press Release from SMECO*

## Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann  
Contributing Writer



### “Just A Little Bit of This and That”



So, I imagine everyone is now caught up on their laundry, has baked (and eaten) a ton of comfort food, and frozen all the rest for future meals. I am sure many of you are catching up on long-needed home projects. I saw a funny meme (funny photos and sayings if you are not on Facebook), well lots of funny ones on Facebook about staying at home, and one said something to the effect that now we have all the time in the world to finish all those home projects, but we realized that we don't feel like doing them anyway. It is a constant battle isn't it to get that motivation, especially when there is a general feeling of anxiety and uncertainty in our lives.

Well, I am going to tackle the simple things here and there to get that feeling of accomplishment. Right after I finish writing, and let's be honest, maybe playing on Facebook a little more I am going to tackle my purse. I'm at that "just in case" point in life now. When we go anywhere (of course, no one is going anywhere now) my purse is filled with all the essentials of life that I, or anyone else, may need. I carry Tums, Beano, Pepto, Excedrin, Prednisone, emergency meds, a whole section of coupons and gift cards, three pair of emergency earrings, a pair of readers, and at least 4 or 5 Avon chap sticks because I always worry there isn't one in my purse and keep throwing them in. Also, I feel it is important to have all emergency contact and medical information for both of us, and 30 pens at minimum. I have also been known to have a small wine opener tucked in my purse. You never know when it is the perfect time for wine, or rather, when it isn't the perfect time. Because of the present state of the world, I now carry alcohol wipes, masks, and blue hospital gloves (left over from my hospital and home health care time in January).

This explains why my shoulder muscle is hurting all the time. And also, why, when I went to the ear, nose, and throat doctor a few years

ago with fears about a large lump at the base of my neck collarbone area, she immediately asked how heavy my purse was. After an x-ray, it was revealed that my purse was indeed too heavy. Apparently this is a common medical complaint by women.

When we went on our one and only cruise together in 2002, one of the fun events was a scavenger hunt, but it was a scavenger hunt for what you had on you or with you. I was on a roll; I don't think there was anything that they called out that I didn't have. When the announcer got to the more intimate item requests there were actually women bringing them out to show. No, I didn't.

Every few weeks, I dump out my purse, and refill it with all the best of intentions of going light. Yeah, that works for about two days. Then the receipts, and other items start to slowly add the weight back in. When I dump it today I am going to really be strict with the "no overfill" rule. My shoulder will thank me later I know.

The next big project for today is to cut and trim my hair. Might not be a good idea, and then again it might make feel light and reenergized, and no, I do not have any training in this area. There is a good chance that it will be a disaster, but I always have hats. It's not like I have anywhere to go. I would just like to look presentable for my husband and myself. Oh, and for my rheumatologist, since I have a televisit scheduled in place of my normal JHU appointment. Maybe I should pluck my eyebrows too, if only I could see where to pluck. Maybe once I cut my hair I will do that. Well, wish me luck, and drop me a line if you have found any fun projects to do on yourself or in your home.

To each new day's adventure, and to good health and blessings for all of you, Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: [shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com](mailto:shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com) or find me on Facebook

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*St. Mary's*  
**County Times**



# Letters TO THE Editor

## Corona – What’s Good About It?

To the Editor:

CORONA, what’s good about it? Here are some quirky observations! I ventured out of the house last Thursday to acquire Orville Redenbacher Theatre Popcorn. I’m addicted; I tried to give it up for Lent and didn’t make it to day three after being anointed with ashes on my forehead. For this fabulous blend, Walmart has the best price. No surprise there. I hang my head in shame as I grab the twelve pack. I also learn this virus has been around for some time. Unbelievably, the only Corona I’d heard of comes from Mexico and includes a slice of lime.

I digress. As I leave my Huntingtown domain and venture out to Rte. 4 this thought strikes me, “I’ve entered a time warp and it’s now early 1970 in Calvert” So few autos. My first stop was the bank (just to see if anyone was guarding the cash). As it turned out, the branch would commence lockdown (till whenever) two hours after my departure. Holy mackerel, maybe I should pick up a bottle of Champagne in case we don’t get released from lockdown by New Year’s Eve. Meanwhile, the polite, and might I add, charming young male employee opened the door for me. There were no other customers; we started chat-

ting right away. He asked how I was feeling! and I inquired about his parents and grandparents. He was very concerned about ‘Nan and Pop.’ They are in their early 60’s; I decreed they are just SPRING CHICKENS.

I informed him people 60 and older come from hardier stock: living through an assassinated president, tanks in Lafayette Park during Nam demonstrations, gas rationing, hostages and yellow ribbons, a run on Cabbage Patch dolls. I even mentioned my uncle was a Marine who survived the “Bataan Death March.” (You know, just light and lively conversation prior to lockdown.) He’d never even heard the name Bataan in school or college; but thought it would be an interesting read. I felt I’d accomplished my duty to pass on American History.

Here’s the kicker, he was barely three on fateful 9/11 and really doesn’t know much about it. Evil tragedy is like having a suicide in the family. You want to stop reliving it. Gone in the blink of a text message. Have we come to believe and enabled our children to believe, reality only happens on television? Maybe a better motto for our loved ones, Don’t Believe Everything You Think!

Leaving the bank, I moseyed over for the Champagne. The friendly own-

er recently purchased the store. We chatted about how well her sales were going, she meeting such nice customers, plans for “dressing up the store.” A gentleman over 60y joined the “check-out banter” and he was definitely giving up smoking due to Corona. (The Chinese virus not the Beer.)

Heading north on Rte. 4, I shared the road with about 10 cars, all of us going under the speed limit. The reason there were no cars on Rte. 4, they were all sitting in Walmart’s lot. Exiting I was closer to Rte. 4 than the front door of Walmart. Abiding by social distance protocols, five of us shared how simply charming the perfect pots of pansies were at the front door. And only \$9.98. Something to take our minds off toilet paper. Inside, a few of us ganged up on the cereal aisle only to witness complete brain-freezing emptiness. With no possible selection, each of our little band inquired how the other was feeling? We actually laughed and agreed to meet back when the stock was in! Walmart employees, all ages and shapes, were looking after us forlorn shoppers who reminded me of salmon swimming upstream. Thankfully it was nothing like Thanksgiving Madness. Exiting, customers were telling each other, STAY HEALTHY. I never once heard the “F Bomb” slip from

customer lips. People were patient and polite. Waiting in line to check out at the grocery store, the cashier had a unique name and I asked about it and where he was from. To his delight, I pronounced it perfectly after he said it in his delicious patois. He’s from Zimbabwe. I asked if his mother was still there? Yes. Did he talk to her often? He replied “oh yes, every day”! All I could think was WOW!

So what’s good about Corona? We’ve slowed down! Most likely we are regaining some semblance of sanity even though everything seems insane. e seem happy to discover the storeowner’s business is great, that a young gentleman has now heard of the Bataan Death March and the courage of those men, some younger than he is now! It’s stopping to linger over pots of pansies with strangers and getting the feeling we’re happy to be with one another. It’s thanking the stocking crew for relentlessly stocking shelves only to see their efforts evaporate. Or, maybe we’re just discovering an Attitude of Gratitude and we feel good as we pass it on.

Stay healthy neighbors.

*Editor’s Note: The writer from Huntingtown asked to remain Socially Distanced, and Anonymous*

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# St. Mary's & Calvert

## Community Calendar

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

### Ongoing

#### Calvert Marine Museum Closing

The museum will be closed until further notice in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to keep the community safe. While the museum is unable to serve you in person, we hope you will enjoy our collections and exhibitions online at [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com) and on social media. The CMM family looks forward to welcoming guests back to the museum soon and will continue to provide updates as they become available.

#### Calvert County Government Closings

Calvert County will be closing some public spaces due to the spreading of COVID-19 throughout Maryland. Notices are as follows:

Water fountains at all county-operated facilities, including dog parks, have been taken out of service.

#### Department of Parks & Recreation

-All community centers are closed.

-Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center is closed

-County parks will remain open for passive activities until further notice.

-Organized sporting events at county-owned parks are canceled.

-Indoor and outdoor recreational programs and activities at county parks and facilities are canceled until further notice. This includes sports, special events, aquatics, community center programs and rentals.

-All large special events and gatherings of 250 people or more, including private events, are canceled.

-All Parks & Recreation programs at school facilities are canceled.

-All Parks & Recreation events scheduled through April 30 are canceled.

-Breezy Point Blast-Off scheduled for May 16 is postponed until September.

-A flexible refund and cancellation policy has been enacted for

Parks & Recreation programs and services.

#### Office on Aging

-All senior centers are closed.

-Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue. Congregate meal participants may request meal delivery through the Office on Aging at 410-535-4606 or [OOAmailbox@calvert-countymd.gov](mailto:OOAmailbox@calvert-countymd.gov).

#### Public Transportation

-Regular route service will continue until further notice.

-Specialized service appointments are limited to medical or nutritional trips only.

#### Calvert Library

-All branches will close to the public beginning Monday, March 16, but limited services will continue.

#### Planning and Zoning

-Inspections of occupied residential dwellings will be suspended until further notice.

#### St. Mary's Metropolitan Commission Notice

The health of everyone in our community is of paramount concern to us. In an effort to help prevent the further spread of COVID-19, protect the health and safety of our employees, customers, and the citizens, the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission would like the public to be aware of the following additional measures being implemented:

As a part of the phased scaling back of operations, effective Monday March 23, 2020, construction inspection, plan / plat review services, and non-emergency Miss Utility locates will be discontinued until further notice.

Unless determined to be mission critical, all capital construction projects will be handled under a force majeure event and work may be suspended.

Septage hauling operations at Marlay Taylor Water Reclamation Facility will be discontinued at noon, daily. In the event of an emergency, haulers may contact our Wastewater Superintendent at 240.298.4451.

We will maintain all our core critical functions at our treatment and water distribution facilities, labs and in our field maintenance

operations, with social gathering and distancing protocols. Our field professionals remain available and are always on stand-by to address emergencies 24/7. For emergencies, please contact us at 301.737.7400.

#### St. Mary's Government Meetings Notices

All St. Mary's County Government meeting spaces are closed until further notice. St. Mary's County Government and St. Mary's County Health Department have partnered to open a COVID-19 information call center. Community members can call the center Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. to speak with staff, obtain information about the disease, or get their questions answered: 301-475-4911. For more information, visit the St. Mary's County Government website.

#### St. Mary's City Notices

Due to ongoing concerns about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) will delay the planned March 17 opening to March 31. As a state agency, HSMC must follow the orders from Maryland Governor Hogan who directed "the Department of Budget and Management to implement a period of mandatory telework. This includes HSMC staff. All Historic St. Mary's City events and programs also are canceled until further notice. Historic St. Mary's City walking trails remain open. Please check the Maryland Department of Health website and HSMC social media accounts for additional updates.

#### St. Mary's Court Notices

The Circuit Court of St. Mary's County is open. All jury trials, both civil and criminal scheduled between March 16 - April 3 are canceled. All nonessential judicial activities have also been postponed. For more information, <https://www.stmarysmd.com/circuit-court/> or call 301-475-4200, ext. 74163.

#### St. Mary's Recreation and Parks Notices

All recreation programs and events are cancelled and all facilities are closed until further notice. This includes Margaret Brent, Leonard Hall, Hollywood and Carver Recreation Centers. This also includes the Great Mills Swimming Pool, St. Mary's Gymnastics Academy and Chancellors Run Regional Park indoor facilities. All organized practices and games

are cancelled in St. Mary's County parks until further notice. Maryland Day event at the St. Clement's Island Museum on March 25 has been cancelled. The St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Lighthouse and Museum are closed and events are cancelled until further notice. The Wicomico Shores Golf Course Pro Shop is open for golf from 8:00am-4:00pm Wednesday-Friday until further notice. The Riverview Restaurant will be closed. County parks, open spaces and the Three Notch Trail continue to be accessible to the public for passive recreational use. Please practice proper social distancing guidelines provided by the CDC for outdoor recreation. For complete St. Mary's County information related to the COVID-19 Operational Status, please review the latest press releases at [www.stmarysmd.com](http://www.stmarysmd.com).

#### St. Mary's Transit System Notices

St. Mary's County STS Bus System will implement service reductions on all parts of the STS System modes effective Monday, March 23, 2020.

Local Fixed Route Bus - to minimize operator contact, passengers must place fare or ticket in the fare box or show their monthly pass or daily pass while boarding the bus.

No more than 10 passengers are allowed on the bus at a time, passengers must wait until the following hour to ride the bus, first responders and medical service workers will be given priority boarding.

Saturday service schedule will be followed plus the supplemental schedule:

Rt. 3 Great Mills Route (Supplemental) Tulagi Place to Callaway and return Every hour 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. (see attached)

Rt. 6 Northern Route -Every other odd hour 7 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Rt. 7 Southern Route- Every other odd hour. 7 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Rt. 11 Great Mills/California Route- Every hour, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 12 Leonardtown Route- Every hour, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 14 County Span Route-NB/SB Every other even hour.6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday Service

Rt. 11 Great Mills/California Route - 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Rt. 12 Leonardtown - 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Leonardtown & Charlotte Hall

# NEW STORE HOURS

Until further notice

We appreciate your trust in our ACE family which has been your neighbor for over 40 years. In these most difficult times, Leonardtown and Charlotte Hall ACE Hardware stores are changing our hours of operation. Effective Monday March 23, 2020, our hours will be as follows until further notice.

**Monday through Saturday**  
8am to 5pm  
**Sunday 9am to 3pm.**

## Curb Side Service

We are offering Curb Side Service for your convenience. Call ahead to order. Credit card only 9am to 3pm daily.

We will continue to be your full service, friendly Hardware store with experienced Hardwarriors to help you with your "Do It Yourself" supplies. Our shelves will carry all products available that are necessary for your health and well being. We are your Helpful Hardware Place. Remember to keep your social distance, wash your hands, and keep your hands away from your face.



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