

FREE

Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

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New Voice In Annapolis

INSIDE

**Covid Data
Improving**

**Armory
Performing Arts?**

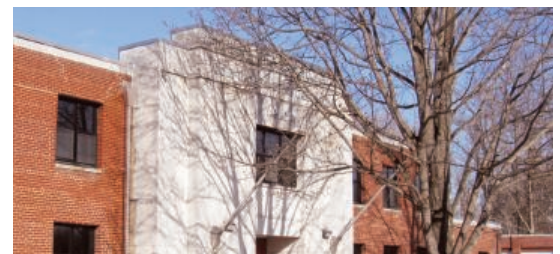
**State of
Chesapeake Beach**

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FEATURE 12
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LOCAL 4
Armory eyed as performing arts center.



COMMUNITY 15
Destined for Naval Academy.

“IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE MORE CONTROL LOCALLY OVER THE VACCINES.”

CALVERT COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER DR. LAURENCE POLSKY.

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>Thu 2/25 46° 31°F</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Mon 3/1</p>	<p>Fri 2/26 42° 35°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Tue 3/2</p>	<p>Sat 2/27 50° 42°F</p> <p>Rain Wed 3/3</p>	<p>Sun 2/28 48° 42°F</p> <p>Showers Thu 3/4</p>
<p>53° 36°F</p> <p>AM Showers</p>	<p>42° 33°F</p> <p>Rain/Snow Showers</p>	<p>45° 36°F</p> <p>AM Rain/Snow Showers</p>	<p>48° 37°F</p> <p>Mostly Sunny</p>

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COVID-19

As of February 23 Positive Cases | Deaths
Calvert 4942 | 62

Information provided by Calvert Health Department

Calvert COVID Data Improves

Vaccine Supply Still Short

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky came bearing mostly good news at his regular briefing with the county commissioners on Feb. 23.

“The number of cases in the county continued to decrease since we had that enormous surge, during the holiday period,” he said. “I will just mention as a little bit of caution that even though we are in much better shape than we were a month or so ago, that we’re still looking at over a hundred documented cases every week in the county. If we go back to summertime, if we knew we were going to have a hundred cases in the county, that would seem like an enormous amount of virus transmission.”

Polsky observed that with school opening they have seen a drop in infections in the youngest group, under age 14.

“We have very few cases in what would equate to high school and community college age. The only age demographic that went up a little bit this past week was the 20 to 27. And that was only a modest increase,” he said.

Polsky noted that at the other end of the age spectrum, “the 60, 65 plus and 75 plus ages, we’ve seen a dramatic decrease down.”

Improvements are being seen not only in the number of cases, Polsky said, but “go back about a month ago, there were over 35 people in our local hospital admitted with COVID, and I think eight at the peak in the ICU with several people having to be transferred out to other hospitals. As of yesterday, we had a total of five people in the hospital admitted for COVID one in the ICU, four on the general ward. So, it’s not just number of cases, but the severity of illness we’ve seen dra-

matic decreases down as well.”

Polsky said the county is still getting shortchanged in vaccination dosages, with 500 coming to the health department and 200 to the pharmacies.

He said, “We know that currently we have close to 1500 people, 75 and over, still on our county registry. And certainly, if you do the math, it’s going to take us at least three weeks to get through.”

Commissioner President Buddy Hance observed, “We can only give out vaccine based on what the governor has allocated to us.”

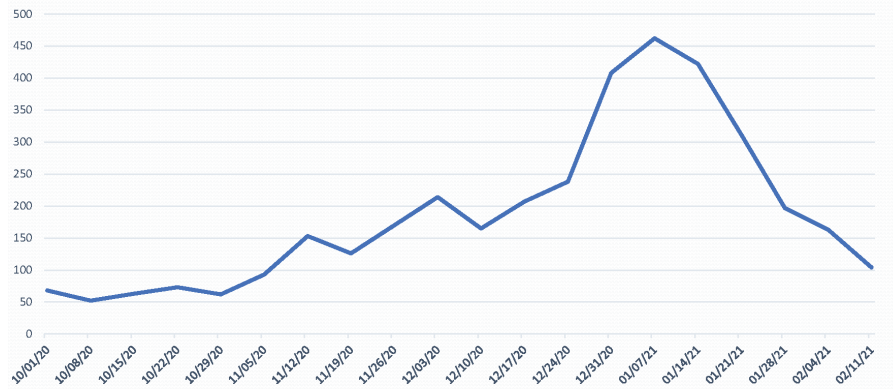
Hance said, “I did get a complaint last Friday. An individual was in line at the CVS in Dunkirk and in his conversations with the other people there, he found out that they were from Prince George’s County, Baltimore County, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, which didn’t make him very happy. He was the only county citizen in line that day for a dose at the CVS. And then when he got up to the counter, the person there didn’t ask for any identification, the girl basically said we don’t care. Our job is to give out shots. So, it’s creating all this confusion.”

Hance said for people frustrated about others getting shots and they not being able to: “The only thing I tell them is what we’ve been consistently saying is that Dr. Polsky and his staff are doing the best job they can with the doses. They get to go down that list and there’s just not enough vaccine to go around and you just have to be patient.”

The health officer reminded everyone that after they get their first shot they have to go back to the same place to get the second dosage.

He said, “Every vaccinator is being allocated a first dose. And then there was a companion second dose

COVID Cases per Week- Calvert



specifically for them. What we can’t have is somebody that goes to CVS for their first and then tries to come to the health department for the second, because we get a specific number of second doses for those we’ve already vaccinated.”

As to the rampant confusion, Polsky said, “There is no centralized registry and I’ve seen bits and pieces of information from the mass

vaccination clinics, which is also whoever could grab them first. And apparently the two counties with the highest number of residents getting vaccinated at Six Flags in Prince George’s are coming from Montgomery and Howard counties. It would be nice to have more control locally over the vaccines.”

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Armory Eyed as Performing Arts Center

New Alliance to Make Bid to County



Old National Guard Armory building in Prince Frederick. Photo by Rick Thompson.

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) wants ideas for what to do with the old National Guard Armory in Prince Frederick once it is vacated by the fire department. They will be soliciting proposals for use of the building and money has been budgeted for asbestos abatement of the structure.

A new group called The Calvert Performing Arts Alliance has an idea and is committed to submitting a proposal for it — a new Calvert Performing Arts Center.

A letter was recently sent to supporters of performing arts that says:

“We are writing to you on behalf of Twin Beach Players and New Direction Community Theater — both 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations — seeking support for our new endeavor: The Calvert Performing Arts Alliance. Calvert County Government will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Armory Building in Prince Frederick, and we are collectively committed to submitting a proposal to the county which would benefit performing arts groups and local businesses. We will submit a proposal to convert it to a new Calvert Performing Arts Center. We believe this is financially viable through a combination of live theater and by providing classrooms, rehearsal space, and storage facilities for other groups.

“Initially, it will primarily service our two theater companies, but this will expand to allow other arts organizations to utilize the facility as well. The RFP will be forthcoming any time from the county, at which time we will be able to tour the building and finalize our plans.

“In the immediate future, we will need financial support and volunteers to help us with the process of submitting our proposal. Responding to the RFP requires us to have architectural plans and have a qualified team of trades-

people ready to execute the plan should the county award us the building. In addition, due to the costs we will incur, we are also seeking corporate business partnerships and support for our collective alliance.

“We are appealing to our Calvert community for help in making this happen! We want to hear from arts organizations interested in utilizing the building, businesses who would support our cause, and citizens and business owners who can help rally the Commissioners and other county officials on our behalf.”

New Direction Community Theater Artistic Director Didi Olney said her group is committed to finding a permanent home for a performing arts center even if the armory proposal falls through because the need is there. She admits, however, of not knowing of any other existing building that could serve the purpose in the county.

Olney said her group is “homeless,” operating out of whatever space is available. They currently use the Long Beach Community Center in St. Leonard and also have performed in the Solomons firehouse, “wherever we can find space,” she said.

The challenge for her group and others is finding affordable space in which to perform. She feels the armory could be an answer to that problem.

“We certainly need community involvement,” Olney said of the mission for the alliance to make the armory idea a reality.

A first step would be signing the petition that is available at <http://chnng.it/HDYML7j6R5>

To volunteer or to provide financial assistance you can email Olney at ndc-theater@gmail.com or Twin Beaches Players President Audra Vernier at avernier@twinbeachplayers.com

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Town Center Plans Include Both Expansion Tiers

Workshop Set for Feb. 25

By Dick Myers
Editor

The updated Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the county commissioners in August of 2019, included a two-phase approach to expanding the Prince Frederick Town Center. The first phase involved areas to the north and south of the town center and included several subdivisions which already have been built out.

The second phase included a much larger expansion area to the west along Route 231 all the way out to the College of Southern Maryland.

At the time, then Planning and Zoning Director (and now county administrator) Mark Willis assured folks concerned about the town center expansion that the second tier would have to occur with a positive vote from the commissioners and may never happen.

Now, the Prince Frederick Town Center Master Plan update process is more than a year old and the first draft is close to being released. The consultants working on the plan have expressed disdain for splitting the expansion into two phases and instead have presented to the planning commission several growth scenarios that combine the two phases.

At a Feb. 17 planning commission meeting, consultant Jamie Kendrick, with Sabra and Associates, the same consulting firm that helped the county with the comprehensive plan update, presented three growth concepts within the broad category of “Target a few specific development areas to achieve a ‘sense of place.’”

Within that choice were:

- Establishing two or three key areas for high-quality development, public investment and targeted redevelopment should be the focus of plan regardless of whether they fall in “Phase 1” or “Phase 2”.

- Consider raising the base zoning density in areas where better form, and sense of place, are desired and maintain lower density elsewhere in the Town Center.

- The zoning regulations should encourage the mix of uses but not set artificial conditions on doing so; focus on the built form rather than the use.

Under that choice, Kendrick presented three buildout scenarios. The first is generally reflective of current



Rendering of Choice 1 -- “Target a few specific development areas to achieve a ‘sense of place.’”

zoning. The second follows recommendations of the 2013 Prince Frederick charrette, and the third includes maximum density of 14 units per acre. Kendrick emphasized that total buildout is unlikely because of consumer demand and environmental issues such as terrain and wetlands.

The total number of new households under the three concepts are: 843; 1,205; and 1,882.

Kendrick said the most likely scenario would be somewhere between the first and second concepts. He said he would next be working on a transportation component for the plan update which would show how the road system will be able to handle all of those new people in Prince Frederick.

The public will have a chance to comment on the process so far at a virtual public workshop on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

According to a press release on the workshop, “Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on scenario planning exercise to propose and envision where to place new residential and commercial development to create a vibrant town center and protect the rural landscape.”

Those wishing to participate in the workshop must register in advance. The registration link is <https://us-02web.zoom.us/j/8121212121>

Registration closes at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25, or when capacity is reached.

The workshop will also be broadcast live on Comcast Channel 6 and 1070 HD.

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County Prevails in Master Plan Suit

Plaintiffs Pledge to Appeal Verdict

By Dick Myers
Editor

In an order filed Feb. 17, a visiting circuit court judge has ruled in favor of the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in a suit seeking to overturn their adoption of the update of the county's Comprehensive Plan on Aug. 6, 2019.

In her order, retired Anne Arundel County Circuit Court Judge Michelle Jaklitsch stated, "...the 2019 adoption of the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan by the County Board of Commissioners was legally implemented."

The order came after a court hearing Jan. 22 in Prince Frederick at which the judge verbally ruled in favor of the county.

The suit was filed Dec. 24, 2019 in Calvert County Circuit Court by attorney G. Macy Nelson on behalf of Susan Dzurec and Myra Gowans of Huntingtown, Phyllis Sherkus of Dunkirk and Michael King of Prince Frederick, members of a newly formed citizens group called Calvert Citizens United (CCU).

The suit alleged two flaws in the



commissioners' 3-2 decision to adopt the plan update. It said that Commissioner Kelly McConkey should have recused himself on the 3-2 vote that placed two pieces of property he owns in Huntingtown into an expanded Huntingtown Town Center. The suit said that violated the county's Ethics Ordinance

and the county Ethics Commission subsequently ruled that in fact it did violate that code. McConkey has appealed that decision to the circuit court and that appeal is still pending.

The suit also alleged a second fatal flaw in the commissioners' vote. After the final public hearing,

the BOCC voted to add a provision in the plan which stated individual town center master plans were subsumed by the overall master plan.

Judge Jaklitsch in her order said the county complied with adequate notice requirements and there were no illegal amendments to the plan. She wrote, "The 'supremacy' or superseding clause in the enacting ordinance was not a substantial change because it simply made explicit what is already implicit, i.e., that the mandatory master plan would be controlling over the discretionary other plans, to the extent that they are consistent with the master plan."

The judge in her order made no mention of the allegations of an ethics violation in McConkey's vote on the plan. She did, however, write, "...the amendments to the ordinance were not substantial."

A Letter to the Editor elsewhere in this issue from plaintiff Myra Gowans says the group plans to appeal the decision to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals.

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Chesapeake Beach Issues State of the Town

Theme: 'Protect, Preserve, Proceed'

By Dick Myers
Editor

The theme of Chesapeake Beach's 2020 State of the Town report is "Protect, Preserve, Proceed." The report was presented by Mayor Pat Mahoney and Town Administrator Holly Wahll at the town's Feb. 18 meeting and is now available in both video and written form on the town website.

Mahoney said, "As we began 2021, it is important to reflect on the events of the year; 2020 provided the opportunity for us to observe and demonstrate acts of kindness and courage while persevering through a tough year together. Community is more important now than ever. And community is what sets Chesapeake Beach apart. Thank you for checking in on your neighbors and taking the measures required to stay safe."

Regarding the theme, Mahoney added, "The town council unanimously took the necessary measures to protect the health and wellbeing of residents by restricting access to town amenities while continuing to expand the service levels. The town continues to review and implement legislation

to preserve our small-town charm and move forward with innovative ideas to improve the quality of life for citizens while making a positive impact on our natural resources."

Mahoney thanked staff for their efforts during a trying year. "I want to share that these efforts would not be possible without the hard work and perseverance of our town staff."

He added, "We are positioned well and look forward to continuing to serve the great citizens of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland in 2021."

Wahl said, "During this time, the town took the opportunity to strengthen our ability to reach town citizens with multiple forms of communication." She said the town intends to continue with the virtual measures implemented.

Wahl gave as an example of the town's community spirit: "In the neighborhood of Chesapeake Village, organized by a local family, the community gathered to post words of encouragement for health-care providers, first responders and emergency personnel."

Some of the financial accomplishments listed in the report include:



- Reduction of property taxes for the fourth year in a row during this Administration.

- Debt reduction of approximately \$575,000 with total debt reduction of \$4.1million during this administration.

- Reduction of expenses by \$1.9 million.

- Balanced budgets with sufficient reserves.

Some of the town's infrastructure accomplishments during the year were:

- Replaced aging storm water infrastructure.

- Adoption of revised Water and Sewer manual.

- Maintained over 50 miles of water and sewer lines with over 35 pumps required to be online 24/7, 365 days.

- Maintained over 2,300 water laterals, meters, pit, MXU's and over 2,300 sewers clean out and laterals;

- Maintained 3 water towers, 13 sewer pump stations, 1 storm water pump station, 17 generators, and 4 back up pumps.

- Implementation of remote water reading software with the ability to identify water leaks on the Homeowners side in real time, reducing waste and resident costs.

- Listed town assets were: boardwalk, Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail, public boat ramps, Kellan's Field Complex, Bay Front Park, the water park, and Veteran's Memorial Park.

The town is proud of its sustainability efforts and attention to the environment:

- Awarded Sustainable Maryland Re-Designation for the years 2020-2023.

- Installed buffer gardens and rain gardens throughout public spaces to reduce impacts of stormwater runoff and provide an educational opportunity for the community.

- Updated Exterior lighting fixtures to LED in public spaces.

- Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station installed at no cost to the Town.

- Recycled approximately 450 Christmas trees.

- Salvaged 5 tons of recyclable

metals / materials through Department of Public Works infrastructure improvements.

- Recycled approximately 500 Tons of Household Material.

- Recycled approximately 2 tons of oyster shells.

- Publicly accessible annual Chesapeake Beach Oyster Cultivation annual meeting.

- Movement of 150,000 oysters directly to the bay.

- Added 15 plus new, large reef balls to assist oyster growing on the Old Rock Reef.

- Recovered a long-lost buoy that has been wandering around the bay for six years.

- Hosted the 3rd annual Sea Life Mural painting by Beach Elementary and Windy Hill Elementary school students.

- CBOCS observed the creation of the new Chesapeake Beach Oyster Hatchery at Abner's Boat Yard, providing the opportunity for CBOCS to access oyster larva to create spat on the shell.

As to economic development, the report lists:

- Opening of the new 1936 Bar and Grill.

- Implementation of a Temporary Outdoor Seating Application (TOSA) process to assist businesses with expanding their footprint to safely offer additional outdoor seating.



- Coordinated with county, state, and federal agencies to share information related to grants and reopening guidance.

- Facilitated virtual resource sessions on various assistance programs available to support town businesses. Funded gift cards to local businesses as awards for Brightest Beacon on the Bay winners.

- Coordination with Calvert County Economic Development Advisory Commission and the Town of North Beach in support of local businesses.

- Looking ahead for safe ways to hold various town events including Stars & Stripes Festival, 4th of July fireworks, Taste the Beaches. and others.


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Bill Would Reimburse Liquor License Fees

Fisher Proposal for Restaurants, Bars

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County Delegate Mark Fisher (R: 27C) has introduced a bill aimed at providing relief to bars and restaurants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill (HB 1016) would reimburse the establishments for license fees paid during the current licensing period.

The bill says, "That, notwithstanding any other law, for the 2020-2021 licensing period, the Board of License Commissioners for Calvert County shall reimburse each license holder in the county the entire amount of the annual fee for any alcoholic beverages license issued by the county that authorizes the holder to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only at a bar or restaurant."

The bill was heard by the House Economic Matters Committee on Feb. 19. The cost to the county would be \$120,000.

Fisher's bill was one of three bills discussed by the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners at their Feb. 23 meeting in a review presented by County Attorney John Norris.

Commissioner Mike Hart said of the proposal, "Bars and restaurants have either been closed or so damaged that they may never come back."

Hart, who owns and operates a liquor store in Lusby, wanted everyone to understand that liquor stores were not covered by Fisher's bill.

The commissioners were also given an update by Norris on their bond bill request, which this year is for \$25.4 million.

Norris wrote in a briefing to the board: "As of this writing, the bond request, HB1173, has been assigned a hearing date of February 25, 2021. The delegation bill submits the county's request in the full amount of \$26,453,345 to support Capital Projects with significant public benefit, including: Beach Elementary School; fire and rescue apparatuses; Twin Beach Library; Stafford Road project; and the St. Leonard Fire Department and Rescue Squad facility.

"As is tradition in Calvert, the board seeks authority for a complete project, then only sell bonds necessary to fund the progress of projects. This ensures projects that are started have the finan-



Delegate Mark Fisher

cial capacity to attain completion. Not selling bonds until the funds are required for the foreseeable 18-month future ensures that principal and interest are not paid before the funds are needed. This model can create a perception of underutilized bond authority. However, this model is also a part of the network of fiscal procedures that earned the County AAA bond ratings from all three rating agencies."

The other bill discussed was Delegate Jerry Clark's HB801: "Calvert County - Public Safety - Buildings Used for Agritourism."

Norris said, "The purpose of this legislation is to add Calvert County to the list of counties where an existing agricultural building used for agritourism for up to 200 persons is not considered a change of occupancy that requires a building permit. This is a change from the 50-person capacity currently in place and will not eliminate the requirement for a use permit to verify:

"(1) the primary use of the building as being agricultural;

"(2) egress must meet or exceed Code;

"(3) the use is limited to floors where ground-level exit is located;

"(4) the use must meet regulations adopted by the department, including: adequate parking and Critical Area regulations; and

"(5) the properties subject to preservation easements like APD, or MALPH, must comply with those limitations."

He added, "This bill does not apply to a new building being constructed to hold events."

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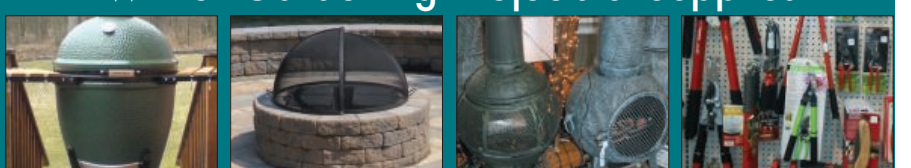
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Regency Stadium Will Be Southern Maryland Mass Vaccination Site

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The home of the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs minor league baseball team, Regency Stadium off Billingsley Road in Charles County will be the state's fourth mass COVID-19 vaccination site, Gov. Larry Hogan announced Feb. 22.

Hogan said the facility would open to Maryland residents "in the next couple of weeks" with the assistance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

He confirmed it would be open no later than March 11.

"Like the other mass vaccination sites, it will be capable of administering thousands of shots per day as soon as more supplies become available," Hogan said.

Maryland continues to press on with administering doses, Hogan said, despite delays from the federal government and recent winter weather.

More than 1.1 million doses have been doled out statewide so far, he said, but supplies remain short.

"We are using every single dose allocated to us," Hogan said. "There simply are not enough vaccines."

Hogan announced the state was instituting a pre-registration system for vaccines as well as greater sequencing efforts to track mutations of the virus in partnership with University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins.

The pre-registration system, launching in March, will be used towards the state-run mass vaccination sites, Hogan said.

All key health metrics related to COVID-19 continue to improve, Hogan said, with the statewide positivity rate dropping below four percent for the first time since October.

Also, the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations have dropped from approximately 2,000 last month to 978 as of Hogan's press conference in Annapolis.

The number of nursing homes in Maryland with active COVID-19 cases has dropped by 47 percent as well, Hogan said, though the virus continues to claim lives.

So far 7,580 Marylanders have succumbed to the disease, Hogan said.

The state remains concerned about variants of the virus, such as the South African and Brazilian strains, which have been identified here;



though they are not known to cause greater harm they are believed to be more contagious, Hogan said.

Hogan was hopeful that Johnson and Johnson, which is also working on a single-dose vaccine being made at the Emergent BioSolutions plant in East Baltimore, might receive emergency use approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as early as next week with vaccine allocations to follow immediately thereafter.

Hogan also clarified an executive order that all people over the age of 5 years old must continue to wear face

masks while in a school setting where close interaction is likely as they begin to return to classrooms and in-person instruction.

Fraud schemes related to COVID-19 vaccines continue to surface, Hogan said, with scammers attempting to extract personal information and payment in exchange for a dosage.

"No one can sell you a vaccine, the vaccine is free," Hogan said. "No social security information is required."

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Harris to Keynote Hoyer Black History Month Celebration



Vice President Kamala Harris

Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) announced that the 40th annual Black History Month Virtual Celebration will take place on Saturday, February 27, and Vice President Kamala Harris will serve as this year's keynote speaker. The theme of the this year's Black History Month Celebration is "The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity."

"I am honored to welcome Vice President Harris to Maryland for the 40th annual Black History Month Celebration," said Congressman Hoyer. "Although we cannot gather in person, I'm looking forward to joining together with hundreds of Marylanders to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black individuals in our state and across the nation. I can think of no one better to serve as our keynote speaker for this year's celebration than Vice President Harris."

"As the first Black woman to serve as Vice President, Vice President Harris has broken barriers throughout her career," continued Congressman Hoyer. "Her extraordinary achievements have inspired countless Americans, and as Vice President, she is working tirelessly alongside President Biden to make life bet-

ter for Maryland families. It is fitting that as we continue to celebrate the contributions of Black Americans who stood up to injustice and fought for equal rights in our democracy, we recognize individuals like Vice President Harris, who adds her own groundbreaking legacy to our county and Black history. I look forward to showing Vice President Harris a warm Maryland welcome."

Congressman Hoyer has brought together community leaders, elected officials, and Fifth District residents at the Black History Month Breakfast each year for the past 40 years to celebrate the many achievements of Black Marylanders and Americans. Past speakers at the event include former President Barack Obama, Congressman John Lewis, Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Director of the Smithsonian Institution Secretary Lonnie Bunch, and Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year's celebration will be virtual. The event will take place on Saturday, February 27 at 10 a.m. To RSVP for the event, email RS-VPMD05BHB@gmail.com.

Press Release from Office of Rep. Steny Hoyer.

Library Staff Member Tests Positive for COVID

A member of Calvert Library Prince Frederick staff has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Deep cleaning of the building took place Sunday, February 21. The staff member worked in the public space on Tuesday, February 16, from 2-5 p.m. and on Wednesday, February 17, from 12-5 p.m.

The staff member worked with the public following library COVID-protocol and had no contact with customers greater than 15 minutes, maintained 6 feet of social distance, washed/sanitized their hands regularly and wore a mask covering their nose and face at all times while working with customers. Risk should be minimal to any library customers but please follow Health Department guidance or your physician's recommendations if you visited the library during the affected time period.

Staff members who have had close contact with the team member in the days prior to the positive test are quarantining per CDC guidelines. They are able to work from home providing phone and email refer-



ence, virtual programming planning and execution, training, etc.

Please know that the safety of our staff and the public we serve is our top priority. We will continue to take the proper precautions to promote social distancing and keep our workplaces and equipment clean and sanitized. Remember to wash your hands frequently with soap and water, avoid touching your face, wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth when in public spaces and make sure to practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet away from others. If you are feeling ill, please stay home.

We will continue to work together through this difficult time, and we will continue to keep you informed of any new information over the course of this pandemic.

More information call 410-535-0291.

Press Release from Calvert Library.

New, Expanded Businesses Announced

Calvert County is committed to fostering a dynamic and competitive business climate to ensure economic growth and sustainability. New businesses are a sign that the Calvert County economy continues to thrive. These new businesses help stimulate the economy and provide employment opportunities for local residents.

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Economic Development congratulate the following new and expanded businesses:

New Businesses

- JL Taxidermy
Huntingtown
443-336-0594
- Maryland Physical Therapy
20 Creston Lane, Suite D,
Solomons
410-231-2207
- Renaissance Tonsorium
430 Solomons Island Road,
Prince Frederick
443-295-8806
- SR Enterprises
1740 Perspective Place, Owings



202-207-5780

Expansions

- Avenues Recovery Center at Prince Frederick
125 Fairground Road, Prince Frederick
410-535-8930

The Calvert County Department of Economic Development works to help all businesses succeed, from small, local businesses to large, national enterprises. For information on the Department of Economic Development and the many services the county offers the business community, contact the department at 410-535-4583 or 301-855-1880, or by email at info@ecalvert.com.

Press Release from Calvert County government.

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CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

During the week of February 8 – February 14, deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,054 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 2021-7755 On February 14, 2021, Deputy Grierson responded to 500 block of Chisholm Trail in Lusby, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised unknown suspect(s) threw a large landscaping rock through a basement window of the residence shattering the glass. No property was stolen. The value of the damaged property is \$1,200.00.

Theft: 2021-7742 On January 14, 2021, Deputy Kwitowski responded to the Wawa located at 305 Market Square in Prince Frederick, MD for a report of theft. The complainant advised an unknown male suspect stole four cartons of 'Newport Regular' cigarettes from behind the counter. The value of stolen property is approximately \$320.00.

Theft: 2021-7097 On February 9, 2021, Deputy Denton responded to the EZ Thai restaurant located at 120 South Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, MD for a reported theft. The complainant advised at 5:30 p.m., an unknown black male entered the establishment, approached the front counter, took the glass tip jar containing approximately \$20.00 in U.S. Currency and fled the scene on foot. The value of stolen property

is \$25.

Theft: 2021-7780 On February 14, 2021, Deputy Freeland responded to a residence in the 12400 block of White Horse Road in Lusby, MD for a reported theft from a motor vehicle. The complainant advised that between 12 p.m. on Feb. 12th and 5 p.m. on Feb. 14th, unknown suspect(s) gained entry to two vehicles on the property and stole two Cookie Monster stuffed animals and a silver HP Elite Pro laptop. Both vehicles appeared to have been unlocked at the times of the theft. The value of stolen property is approximately \$550.00.

Theft: 2020-6835 On February 8, 2021, Deputy Gough responded to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office for the report of a theft. The complainant advised her prescription medication was stolen from a residence in the 4100 block of Summer City Blvd. in Chesapeake Beach, MD. Approximately 26 Ambien tablets, 78 Clonazepam tablets, and 26 Effexor XR capsules were stolen including the makeup bag the complainant kept the medication in. The value of stolen property is \$140.

Editor's Note: The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated.

MARYLAND STATE POLICE REPORT

The below incidents, investigations, and arrests are, in part, demonstrative of the Prince Frederick Barrack's effort to ensure that Calvert County is a safe place to live, work, and visit.

Motor Vehicle Theft: On 2-4-2021, Trooper Moorman responded to Eagle Restoration and Environmental LLC, in Prince Frederick, for a report of a stolen vehicle. The investigation revealed that a 2017 Ford Econoline E450 was stolen around February 10, 2021 from the business. The investigation is still ongoing. Anyone with information can call the MSP Prince Frederick barrack (410-535-1400).

CDS Arrest: On 2-6-2021, Trooper Sheets responded to MD Route 4 at German Chapel Road, Prince Frederick, MD for a report of an unconscious subject inside of a vehicle. Tpr. Sheets arrived on scene and observed a silver Ford Taurus that was parked in the area. When Tpr. Sheets ap-

proached the vehicle and he observed the driver slumped over, leaning towards the driver's side door. The driver was identified as Christopher Williams, a 31-year-old white male from Mechanicsville, MD. A probable cause search was completed due to the odor of Marijuana emanating from the vehicle. The search yielded: Marijuana, Crystal Methamphetamine, Suboxone, and Pregabalin pills. Williams was placed under arrest for CDS -Not Marijuana and then transported to the Calvert County Detention Center.

All persons charged with a crime are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Press Release from Maryland State Police Prince Frederick Barrack.

Rachel Jones Goes to Annapolis

Calvert Native Sworn in as New Delegate

By Dick Myers
Editor

The appointment of Del. Michael Jackson of Prince George's County to fill the vacancy left by the resignation and subsequent death of legendary county resident Senator Mike Miller left Calvert with one less member in the legislative body. Gov. Larry Hogan rectified that disparity last week with the appointment of Calvert County resident Rachel Jones to fill Jackson's House seat.

In Jones, the governor found a true Calvert countian. Jones was born and raised in Prince Frederick and attended Calvert elementary, middle and high schools.

Jones is the daughter of Jessie and Marilyn Jones. "My dad was a union bricklayer, and my mom has been a seamstress and a caregiver. My dad was a blue-collar worker; he's semi-retired now, but construction is how he made a living and the union allowed them to raise five children and give us a middle-class lifestyle in Prince Frederick," Jones told *The County Times* on Feb. 20, two days after being sworn-in to her new position in Annapolis.

Jones has spent the last decade as a familiar figure in Calvert, representing first U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, and then after her retirement, U.S. Senator Ben Cardin as their Southern Maryland representative.

She grew up in a family that wasn't particularly political. "We'd all sit down for dinner together, but he was not, and still is not involved in politics. We'd sit down and talk about what's going on in politics, on the federal and the state and local level, but those are conversations that he has with me because he knows that I have an interest."

She remembers when her interest was first stirred. "I first started to want to know about politics during the Clinton impeachment trial." She was in the 6th grade. "And, you know, certainly due to the nature of the trial, I wasn't allowed to watch all of the proceedings, but you're watching the news and you're hearing that the president is being impeached. And so, it certainly piqued my curiosity."

She explained, "Throughout high school, I began to study history more and become a lover of history and reading more about the history of our nation and our government."

She went to Morgan State University. "Initially, I wanted to go to law school and there was no pre-law major or career path really at Morgan State. And so political science was sort of the closest thing, so I chose that, and my plan was to go to law school after undergrad. And I didn't pursue that. By the time I graduated, I just went right to work."

She had interned her senior year with Maryland Senator Nathaniel McFadden and went to work for him after graduating.

"He had been a Morgan alumnus and it just immersed me into the world of American politics and I really loved it and just stayed."



New Delegate Rachel Jones with her parents Jessie and Marilyn Jones

After a stint at the Federal Communications Commission and taking some time off to raise her two boys, she was ready for a return to the workplace.

Jones said, "At the time I was receiving the subscription for the Calvert Independent at home. And there happened to be an ad for Southern Maryland field representative in the paper. And I thought to myself, my goodness, this will be perfect."

The job was with colorful Mikulski and involved both being her representative in Southern Maryland, but also casework, helping constituents with problems with federal agencies. Senator Mikulski always prided herself in her staff's constituent service, and Jones had honed those skills in working in the General Assembly and at the federal agency.

When Senator Mikulski retired, Jones went to work with Cardin just doing outreach as his field representative.

But that time doing casework will be a benefit as she becomes a delegate with the responsibility of constituent service of her own. She said of her time doing casework, "You're listening to people's stories. You understand that people are calling in at some of the most desperate times of their life. They're very frustrated with something that's happening. They need help. And so, you learn to empathize with people, or you learn not to generalize."

Jones added, "And then the same thing happens when you were out in the field, you are working with people regardless of party. Getting to know them in the community, trying to help resolve issues with federal impact in the community. And you just learn all the folks who are doing things behind the scenes, in their counties to help the community."

She said people don't often realize the partners it takes for a community to succeed. "Getting to see these things firsthand and getting to work with the folks from county government to nonprofit agencies, the chambers of commerce and seeing what they're all doing to make sure the communities thrive."

Just doing outreach for Sen. Cardin put her into the community even more and "gave me an opportunity to build relationships with folks on a deeper level so that they knew we are a resource."

There wasn't always a federal connection in the outreach she did. But she said, "A lot of the time it is simply showing up to show concern, to show support, be supportive, to be informed and to know what's going on in the Southern Maryland region and in Prince George's."

The Calvert County Democratic Central Committee was impressed with the resume and recommended her to the governor. She said, "All of those things were sort of a springboard and prepared me when this delegate seat became vacant."

She said there were many qualified candidates, but "I knew that at this current moment, I believed that I was the person who knows best what the needs are for Calvert, for Prince George's and for the Southern Maryland region at large, to be prepared, to step up on the state level, to ensure that the projects and the communities that have been requesting state funding for years, are still able to get what they need, because I don't have to be brought up to speed on what the issues are."

"Whether it's the roads, whether it's broadband, funding for the Thomas Johnson Bridge, I already knew what the issues that folks were going to be concerned about."

In representing the senators, she didn't have to take stands; that was their job. Now it's up to her. But she explained, "I think what makes it a little bit easier is those of us who are on the outreach team field representatives, we are often asked to make a recommendation because we're the ones who attend the meetings with the local stakeholders. And so, when we report to the senators at the federal level, we're often asked to make a recommendation or to weigh in since we are essentially the boots on the ground."

So now she is prepared. "I welcome that challenge. I don't feel intimidated because I do believe that I know I'm going to strive to do what's best for each county, and for people across the state, because that's the job. I'm prepared to make decisions that I feel are best for the community at large here in Calvert and also in Prince George's."

Her bipartisan work with the senators paid dividends when she received the support of the other members of the Calvert House delegation, Delegates Jerry Clark and Mark Fisher, both Republicans.

Of her new colleagues, she said, "We've had big, great conversations. We've had a great rapport. All these years we realize we're on opposite sides of the aisle, but that has never caused major friction. There are things that we've discussed over the years where we know we completely disagree. Your position on that issue is completely different from how I feel, but the bottom line is I still treated people with respect."

She admitted, "I have a bit of a bleeding heart, so I'm going to vote like a Democrat, but I'm going to do it with integrity. My goal really is to make sure that people are taken care of, but people are treated equally, that we do what's right. And we do what's fair."

She describes herself as a Progressive Democrat. But she added, "I grew up in a very conservative Christian household. So, I consider myself a woman of faith, but I'm a progressive. I want to ensure that at the end of the day, we ensure that no one's civil rights are being infringed upon. I want to ensure that children who need to have early intervention, early education services have those. So that means universal pre-K. I support that."

"I do not believe in discriminating against anyone based on anything. So that is race, sexual orientation, age, creed, ethnicity."

"I believe we should absolutely be upholding what the U.S. Constitution originally intended because those words were there that we've seen throughout history." She added, "We've seen throughout history that the words in the constitution have not always been honored in the actions and in the policies that have been enacted."

Jones will have less than two years before she will have to seek voter approval for a return to office. She said her intention is to do just that.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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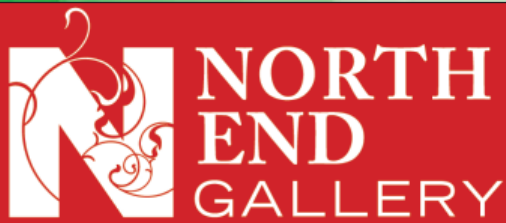


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2021

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April	2 nd	October	1 st
May	7 th	November	5 th
June	4 th	December	3 rd

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Maryland Day At St. Clements Island Museum

Thursday, March 25, 2021

10AM - 5PM

Celebrate the founding of Maryland and St. Mary's County with free museum admission and water taxi rides all day.

View Virtual Ceremony on Facebook at 12PM
More Info: [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum) or 301-769-2222

Democratic Central Committee Announces Two Vacancies

The Calvert County Democratic Central Committee (CCDCC) had originally planned to vote on a male gender balance candidate on their meeting on Thursday, Feb. 18. In the time between when the application window closed and the vote could be held, they had a resignation of a member of the committee. Due to this, they need to fill the resigned member's position and that posting must be available to candidates of all genders. This is why they now need to post a new opening to fulfil the committee's membership requirements. The candidates who applied for the original male gender balance vacancy are able to, and encouraged to re-submit their applications for consideration. Please read the following vacancy notice for further details:

Calvert County Democratic Central Committee has two vacancies to be filled.

The first vacancy to be filled is an At Large position open to all genders. If a woman receives the majority of votes to fill the At Large vacancy, then from the remaining candidates the Central Committee will hold a vote only for a male gender balance member. If a man receives the majority of votes to fill the At Large vacancy, then from the remaining candidates the Central Committee will



hold a vote only for a female gender balance member.

To be eligible for either vacancy an individual must be a registered voter in Calvert County, Maryland.

We would like you to show a history of volunteerism and your ability and enthusiasm to serve your community. We are seeking a leader ready to work and represent all Democrats here in Calvert County. This is an unpaid position. The successful applicants will serve out the remainder of the current term, which ends in June 2022.

Interested individuals may request an application by emailing CCDemOffice@gmail.com. The Deadline to apply is Saturday March 6, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. and the completed applications should be emailed to CCDemOffice@gmail.com

The Central Committee will vote to select the new members at its regular meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via a Zoom meeting. Candidates must be present for the election. For more information please contact CCDemOffice@gmail.com

Press Release from CCDCC.

Snacks Added to School Meal Distribution

The Department of Child Nutrition of Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) announces the addition of snacks to its Grab 'n Go meal kits. Due to waivers in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), CCPS is now eligible to participate and will start including snacks in its seven-day meal kits, beginning with distribution on February 5. Snacks will typically include items such as yogurt, cheese, granola, sunflower seeds, fruit, juice and graham crackers.

Kits continue to be available free of charge; however, parents/guardians wishing to pick up meals without their children being present must pre-register. Families may register by calling the Child Nutrition Office at 443.550.8680 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Any parent/guardian who is unsure if their child is already registered for the program may contact the Child Nutrition Office. Once registered, parents/guardians may pick up meals without their children being present.

Upcoming Grab 'N Go Meal Dates

February 26 (Friday)

Grab 'N Go Meal Locations

Windy Hill Middle School (bus drop-off area)
9560 Boyds Turn Rd. Owings, MD 20736

Calvert High School

(side parking lot):
520 Fox Run Blvd.
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
GPS Address:600 Dares Beach Rd.
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Southern Middle School

(bus drop-off area):
9615 H.G. Trueman Rd.
Lusby, MD 20657

Patuxent High School

(bus drop-off area):
12485 Southern Connector Blvd.
Lusby, MD 20657

Huntingtown High School

(student parking lot, right side of building):
4125 N. Solomons Island Rd.
Huntingtown, MD 20639

'In A Cook's Kitchen'

Video Series Empowers Home Cooks

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) has released "In a Cook's Kitchen," a video cookery series designed to inspire and empower home cooks.

The 15-part video cookery series is created by Craig Sewell, SMADC's Southern Maryland Meats Marketing Manager, who for 16 years ran one of the first locally sourcing restaurants to open in Annapolis, where he hosted numerous popular back-to-basics cooking classes through which home cooks learn foundation recipes that build and strengthen essential cooking and preparation skills along the way.

The inspiration for the 'In a Cook's Kitchen Series' originated from the observation that since the advent of COVID and shelter in place lock-downs cooking at home is becoming increasingly important, (evidenced by everyday pantry stocks flying off grocery store shelves), and people may need some basic cooking skills to expand their mealtime repertoires. As a result, we at SMADC decided to bring some of these skills into people's homes presented in a readily accessible (free to view) video package.

The In a Cook's Kitchen Series is expertly filmed by Remsberg Photography, Inc., in a no-frills 'real' home kitchen – no special cooking equipment or culinary knowledge required. Explains Craig Sewell, "We're not just demonstrating a one-off recipe we're bringing you everything you need to know to create delicious meals in your home kitchen." Each class builds upon the previous class starting with two introductory episodes that set the stage for the rest of se-



ries featuring knife skills, how to source a chicken and other farm-fresh ingredients, followed by 13 more episodes that demonstrate recipes and skills for perfect salad dressings, whipping and flipping techniques, foundation sauces and stocks plus other fundamental culinary building blocks that pave the way for endless variations and fearless experimentation.

Throughout the series Sewell shares insights about the local farms that provide his locally sourced ingredients and stays true to his principles about food, "To buy the best, freshest ingredients from places as close to you as possible with growing and raising practices that are respectful to the environment (and animals) as possible, and then, to the best of my ability stay out of their way and let them speak for themselves."

Explore all 15 episodes of a "In a Cook's Kitchen" cookery series available now on the 'Recipes' page at southernmarylandmeats.com. Southern Maryland Meats is a program of SMADC, (a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland).

Press Release from SMADC.

“

The County Times is one of the best methods for advertising my events – it is also the best source for me to catch up on all the local news and events, especially those related to our County's rural heritage.

Ronnie Farrell
Farrell Auctions

”

Joseph Lusby: Patuxent H.S. Student and Future Midshipman

By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

There are many young men and women today who seem capable of achieving greatness in a chosen field or pursuit while still in high school. Their talents may be primarily athletic, or purely scholastic, or possibly reveal impressive leadership traits or even exhibit a strong interest in the arts. They may have a strong ability to get along with people and make friends easier than most. Some gain a reputation for working well in their local community and taking care of others. Rarely, however, does a young individual naturally exhibit all of these traits while still a teenager.

One student has been able to manage his time so well he has had the uncanny ability to involve himself in several significant endeavors and accomplish great things despite his young age. Meet Joseph Lusby, known as Joey to his family and friends, an 18-year-old senior at Patuxent High School. He makes a favorable first impression on everyone he meets. At his age he has already established an impressive record of achievement. One has to wonder where he found time to devote to these many activities!

An outstanding athlete, Joey is a member of his school's soccer, swim, and track teams. He was a co-Captain in his Junior year and is the captain for this year's swim team. He has been a member of his school's Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Command (NJROTC) Unit for four years. He was squad leader for nine cadets his freshmen year and quickly advanced through the ranks and serves as the student commanding officer for his 100-men unit today. He serves on the Student Government Association (SGA) and has previously held the position as parliamentarian and is currently serving as president of the student body. Additionally, he was chosen to serve on his county's Executive Board as a student advisor for the past two years.

Joey is a member of the school's Honor Society and carries a 4.3 Grade Point Average (GPA) which reflects his completion of many Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Among many awards he has been the recipient of the AP Scholar Award, High Honor Roll member, Presidential Award, Biology Award, English Award, and Financial Literacy Award. He is a member of the school's Pop and Chamber Music Orchestra where he serves as section leader. Additionally, he has participated on his school's Drill Team and Academic Team and has served as commander for each group.

Yet, with fulfilling all of the requirements of these roles, Joey still found time to actively participate in the Boy Scouts of America for the past seven years. He held many positions within his troop including quartermaster, chaplain, patrol leader and senior patrol leader. He is currently a Life Scout. Significantly, Joey recently completed a project for a special education school to provide custom-made tables cer-



Joseph Lusby getting ready for Boy Scout meeting with Grandma Susan and younger brother Lucas

tified for use by special needs students. He organized a team to assist him and devoted more than 136 manhours of his own time to complete this effort. He will soon receive his Eagle Scout Award, the highest honor a Scout can attain.

He also volunteers to support many Southern Maryland charitable efforts including "Adopt A Highway," "Farming 4 Hunger," "End Hunger Food Drive," "Christmas In April," and more. He also gives of his time helping residents at the Asbury Retirement Home in Solomons. He also worked as a lifeguard at their pool last summer.

Much of what Joey has done with his life can be traced to the love and example provided by his parents Jason and Valeska Lusby. He is a first generation Brazilian-American; his mother Valeska is from Recife, Brazil. With his mother's coaching, he speaks Portuguese fluently. He is capable of conversing in most of the Latin languages. His father Jason is a Washington, DC firefighter and a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus in Solomons.

Recently, it was announced Joey will soon be initiated as the youngest Knight in his father's Council at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

Finally, Joey is proud of the fact he will be the first in his family to gain a college education. He has big hopes to become a Navy pilot and eventually a medical doctor. He has just completed a major hurdle to realizing his dreams with receipt of a long-awaited phone call. Five months ago, he commenced the arduous task of applying to the nation's military service academies in hopes of winning an appointment upon graduation from high school. He sought the counsel of many former military officers and received several Letters of Recommendation. Importantly, he received a strong nomination from Representative Steny Hoyer's office.

His years of hard work were recognized by his January phone call from Annapolis notifying him of his acceptance to the Naval Academy Class of 2025! He can soon add another title to his long list of positions successfully held, that of "Midshipman, US Navy!" And titles "Naval aviator" and "Navy doctor" are surely within his reach.

CCPS Students Selected as All State Musicians

Eighteen Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) musicians who were accepted by video audition into Maryland Music Educators Association (MMEA) 2021 All State Ensembles. Students were selected from applications from the entire state of Maryland.

Superintendent Dr. Daniel D. Curry said, "We are proud of these students who have continued to perform at a high level in this unusual school year. They represent the best of Calvert County Schools."

For the auditions for the All State Ensembles, students prepared video recordings of two musical excerpts. Students were evaluated on tone quality, performance accuracy and musicality.

Due to current health guidelines, the MMEA Executive Board will not host in-person 2021 All State ensemble performances.

All State Junior Band

Nathan Farley, Baritone Saxophone, Patuxent High School, Grade 9

All State Junior Chorus

Taylor Eversole, Soprano, Huntingtown High School, Grade 9

Nathan Hayes, Tenor, Huntingtown High School, Grade 9

Carmen Mileo, Soprano, Huntingtown High School, Grade 9

Jadyn Riggs, Soprano, Huntingtown High School, Grade 9

Kayla Rogers, Soprano, Huntingtown High School, Grade 9

All State Senior Chorus

Ariana Alvarez Morales, Soprano I, Northern High School, Grade 12



Emily Brososky, Alto, Huntingtown High School, Grade 12

Julie Camden, Soprano II, Huntingtown High School, Grade 12

Ryan Dickson-Burke, Tenor, Huntingtown High School, Grade 11

Sarah Dudley, Soprano I, Huntingtown High School, Grade 11

Amber Gieske, Alto, Huntingtown High School, Grade 12

Hayley Jones, Soprano I, Huntingtown High School, Grade 12

Anna Kleist, Soprano I, Huntingtown High School, Grade 12

Molly McMaster, Alto, Huntingtown High School, Grade 11

Judith Oller, Soprano I, Huntingtown High School, Grade 11

Christian Micah Taylor, Bass, Calvert High School, Grade 11

Alyssa Vasko, Alto, Huntingtown High School, Grade 11

Press Release from CCPS.

St. Mary's College Partners with Scholarship Program

Serves Dreamers Seeking Degree

St. Mary's College of Maryland has partnered with TheDream.US, a national program that provides college scholarships for intellectually curious and ambitious Dreamers seeking a college degree.

"St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to serving Dreamers and is proud to partner with TheDream.US scholarship program to provide additional support for students with financial need to successfully navigate their college journey and graduate," said David Hautanen, Jr., vice president for enrollment management.

TheDream.US Scholarship program provides college scholarships of an amount which typically covers the difference in the lost Pell grants and federal loans that Dreamers are not eligible to receive. The Dream.US offers two scholarships: The National Scholarship is for high school or community college graduates; the Oppor-

tunity Scholarship is for students who live in state where they are not eligible for in-state tuition. For graduates of Maryland schools, this financial aid would be in addition to any state financial aid they may be eligible for by completing the Maryland State Financial Aid Application.

To apply for the scholarship, Dreamers must complete both the St. Mary's College of Maryland and the Dream.US scholarship applications. When submitting TheDream.US application (TheDream.US National Scholarship), prospective students should designate St. Mary's College of Maryland as their school of choice and have come to the United States before November 1, 2015. Eligible students can apply until the February 25, 2021 deadline.

For more information, visit <https://www.smcm.edu/osfa/types/scholarships/>.

Press Release from SMCM.

Ceremony Salutes CSM Nursing Graduates

During the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) nursing recognition ceremony in January, and as part of the college's 22nd Winter Commencement, 47 associate degree nursing candidates received their nursing pin. The ceremony marked the end of an extraordinary journey for the nurses who spent the majority of their last spring semester and their final fall semester together in challenging environments learning about, and responding to, a world-wide pandemic.

As 2020 was deemed the 'International Year of the Nurse,' by the World Health Organization in honor of the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, CSM Nursing Professor Rose Miller began the ceremony by sharing the history and significance of CSM's nursing pin. Modern pinning ceremony date to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. According to Miller, to share the honor, Nightingale presented a medal of excellence to her brightest graduates and by 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the United States.

"This Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program that you are graduating from, was started in 1979 with the first ADN pin being awarded to graduates in 1981," Miller said, further explaining that on July 1, 2000, Charles County Community College's name was changed to the College of Southern Maryland, so the nursing pin for the nursing programs had to change, too.

"The nursing pin symbolizes a rite of passage for graduates into the professional world of nursing," Miller continued. "The graduate is now a part of the nursing profession. Nurses care for patients daily with commitment, honor and courage. Our CSM nursing pin is a symbol of this commitment of honor and courage to our patients. So, go forth into the world of nursing and wear your pin with pride."

Navigating Tough Times

The ceremony's student speaker Christina Fowlkes expressed pride for her classmates not just for their accomplishments, but also for how the group faced these unprecedented times together.

"Throughout our time together we have become a tight-knit group and I will be a better nurse for having known each and every one of you," Fowlkes said. "This program is intense even in ideal conditions, but 2020 offered us



Student speaker Christina Fowlkes

nothing but challenges. However, we chose to face these challenges together. ... unified to face the challenges of entering the nursing profession during a pandemic."

The Leonardtown resident also extended gratitude to her three small children and to the friends and family – many attending the Zoom ceremony – who supported all the students.

"To all of our support people, thank you," Fowlkes told the ceremony attendees. "You helped us cope with the additional anxieties of nursing school. You held us when we experienced disappointments and celebrated with us when we achieved our goals. Twenty-twenty was not an easy year for any of us, so thank you for your unrelenting support and encouragement on our journey to becoming nurses."

Fowlkes shared that the last two semesters were tough – tougher than usual.

"The fourth semester was extremely difficult," she said. "The fourth semester is always really hard, but it was harder and frustrating because the pandemic fatigue was weighing on us. Many of us worked as externs and even more as techs through the semester, which created pandemic stress at work as well as home. And that fell especially heavy on the techs in our cohort. As aspiring nurses, we felt called to help. And I saw the exhaustion in many of my classmates as they showed up for class after working a night shift. We all were just trying to survive. In the end it made us closer, we

supported each other more than we might have.

"We enter a profession that is highly respected," she summarized. "For the last 18 years, Americans have ranked nurses as the most honest and ethical professionals and knowing each of you, I can see why."

A Few More Promises

CSM Nursing Professor Jeanne Hill closed the ceremony, hailing the graduates for their perseverance and promising them the best was yet to come.

"We have gathered here to celebrate you and your accomplishment of finishing nursing school, despite the challenges thrown at you in the past 10 months," Hill said, pointing out that the students' sudden switch to online classes and virtual clinical experiences in March 2020 was abrupt.

"You were isolated from your peers, your faculty, and your support groups," she said. "Face-to-face learning was replaced with Zoom. Clinical settings became the VSim scenarios. Study groups were interrupted. Classroom interaction was dramatically changed. Despite those challenges, you are sitting here tonight and have just received your ADN pin."

Joking about her reputation for making promises to her students, Hill took time to make a few more.

"In fact, many of you, when you were doubting yourselves, I promised you that you would be here today...and here you are," Hill said. "With that said, I only make realistic promises. As you prepare to enter the profession, here are a few promises that I can make to you:

"I promise that there will be shifts where you won't eat, drink, or go to the bathroom for 12 hours (this is great preparation for road trips, by the way).

I promise that there will be 12-hour shifts that will turn into 16 or even 18-hour shifts (but you will stay because you WILL care that much about your patients and coworkers.)

I promise that you will be talked down to by a provider, a coworker, or even a patient's family member. Probably at a time that you are advocating for your patient. Advocate anyway.

I promise that there will be days so hard that you will not know if you can go back tomorrow (but you will.)

I promise that your heart will break with every loss you experience (it never gets easier.)

But, I also promise you that most days, you will be appreciated by every patient you take care of.

I also promise you that you will make a difference every-single-day.

And I promise you that you will go home every shift, no matter how hard it was, knowing that in some way, you made that difference.

I also promise you that you will know, in your heart, that you did everything you could, and you gave it your best, no matter the outcome.

And lastly, I promise you that every single day, even the hardest ones, will be worth it."

Hill wrapped up her comments noting that 2020 may have the 'Year of the Nurse,' but 2021 is going to be each graduate's year.

"Embrace it," she offered. "Learn. Laugh. Cry. Struggle. Succeed. Repeat. This is your chance to do what you have been yearning to do. What you have worked so hard to get to these past few years. You will touch many lives throughout your career. Do it with pride, confidence, skill, and knowledge. Most of all, do it with your heart. It has been my pleasure to be part of your nursing education. I am proud of each and every one of you."

The following are the names of the CSM students who graduated with associate degrees in Nursing and received their coveted pins:

Ruthlyn Adriani, ourtney Elizabeth Alvey, Faidat Amolegbe, Brian A. Ansell, April Ann Bautista, Ian M. Beard, Logan Beyer, Stefania Bianco, Alyse Cockrell, Allison M. Collins, Amber N. Cooksey, Margaret Katherine Cooper, Renata DeOliveira, Christina Fowlkes, Alexandra Fox-Ehrisman, Rachel E. Gardiner, Shelby Delane Harold, Alexa Rae Harris, Liisa R. Holso, Cheyenne Miriam Hook, Richard Huynh, Shelby R. Johnston, Grace J. Kim, Adrienne King, Katie Klotz (recipient of CSM Health Sciences Division Achievement in Nursing), Alexis N. Labrosse, Stephanie Michelle Lewis, Tamara Magda, C'jia D. Mayfield, Michelle Mejias, Darianne Messinger, Sarah Jo Miller, Alexandra P. Myers *recipient of CSM Health sciences Division Academic Achievement in Nursing), Heather O'Donnell, Courtney Leigh Oliverio, Brianna M. Palumbo, Tatiana J. Pfalz, Julie N. Pham, Jenna Pixton-Felix, Layla L. Potas, Brianna Nicole Reid, Monique R. Sebo, Fatou J. Sissohore, Deshawna C. Smith, Stella Stover, Kaitlyn Willoughby, Krista N. Young.

Press Release from CSM.

Nursing Professor Recognized for 'Outstanding Service'

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Secretary Dr. James D. Fielder announced this morning that 13 members of Maryland's higher education nurse faculty from across the state have been recognized for their contributions in nursing education and their service to Maryland nursing students. Among the awardees was College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Nursing Professor Dr. Eden Kan, who was recognized in the category of 'Engagement in the Nursing Program and Employing Institution.'

The Nurse Support Program II (NSP II), which is administered by the MHEC and funded through the Health Services Cost Review Commission, recently announced the first annual Nurse Faculty Annual Recognition Awards (NFAR), showcasing 13 of Maryland's finest nurse faculty. Each of the award recipients were nominated by their Dean or Director of Nursing as full-time nurse faculty and will receive \$10,000.

"I am so proud of the outstanding efforts of MHEC's NSP II program, which continues to create new programs that support and celebrate nursing faculty in Maryland," said Fielder. "This new recognition award offers an opportunity to publicly thank these important individuals who are making a difference in educating the next generation of nurses in Maryland."

"In Dr. Kan's own words, she prefers 'to be in the background supporting and helping others,'" wrote Acting Dean of the School of Science and Health Dr. Laura Polk in her nomination of Kan. "As she has lived out this philosophy she has had an exceptional impact on the College of Southern Maryland nursing program."

Polk explained that in addition to being full time faculty, Kan is the course coordinator for the first semester of the program. In this role, she is responsible for onboarding each cohort of new students. Kan rose to the challenge in March 2020, according to Polk, to work to convert an admitted-student orientation to a virtual meeting, reached out to individual students regarding admission questions and concerns related to Covid-19, and spent considerable time over the summer when off-contract responding to individual student issues. Kan also designed a virtual nursing program and



Dr. Eden Kan

course orientation that was delivered to the incoming Fall 2020 cohort. This orientation will also be used in Spring 2021.

"During 2019-2020 the nursing program had several significant faculty vacancies, including the Nursing Program Coordinator," Polk continued. "Dr. Kan volunteered to take on the responsibility for hiring all nursing adjunct faculty for both the spring 2020 and fall 2020 semesters. This required Dr. Kan to spend countless hours over winter holiday break and throughout the summer reviewing resumes, interviewing candidates, and developing a plan for lab and clinical course coverage. Her offer to engage in the nursing program in this way resulted in the nursing program being able to fully cover all positions and provide students with high-quality clinical experiences."

"The average teaching experience of the award recipients was 20 years and included 10 nominees with doctoral degrees and three nominees with master's level preparation," said NSP II Director Dr. Peggy Daw. "Also, 62% of the experienced faculty awarded holds a specialty teaching certificate or the National League for Nursing's Certified Nurse Educator credential."

For more information on the awards, go to <https://nursesupport.org/nurse-support-program-ii/grants/statewide-initiatives/nurse-faculty-annual-recognition-nfar/>

Press Release from CSM.

St. Mary's College, CSM Announce Transfer Program

St. Mary's College of Maryland, the National Public Honors College, and the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) have partnered to create the SMCM Transfer Edge Program (STEP), which allows CSM students to pursue their associate degree and simultaneously work towards their bachelor's degree at SMCM by taking one course per semester up to a total of four courses at a 50 percent discount. CSM students participating in the program will also have access to SMCM advising, the Hilda C. Landers Library, recreation facilities, and can attend campus student events.

"The STEP program is designed to give College of Southern Maryland students an edge on completing their bachelor's degree at St. Mary's College while saving both time and money," said David Hautanen Jr., vice president for enrollment management at St. Mary's College. "While St. Mary's College already offers an honors college education at an affordable price, this is an exciting value-added benefit for CSM students."

CSM students interested in participating in STEP must have at least a 2.75 cumulative college GPA and have completed a minimum of 15 college credits prior to starting STEP. CSM students also have the opportunity to transfer to SMCM before earning their associate degree, and also transfer SMCM credits back to CSM to be applied toward an associate degree.

"STEP creates an affordable and convenient opportunity for College of Southern Maryland students to work toward their bachelor's degree and their associate



degree at the same time," said CSM Coordinator of Transfer and Articulation Jacqui Rogers. "We are thrilled to expand our local partnership with St. Mary's College of Maryland to create this effective and efficient process for our students to pursue their higher education goals locally."

STEP students wishing to transfer to SMCM must complete the Intent to Enroll Form by the application deadline date for the entry term of interest and meet the minimum SMCM admission requirements. SMCM will waive the application fee for students applying to the program.

CSM students may express interest in STEP at the time they apply to CSM or complete the STEP Interest Form on the CSM website or on the SMCM admission website.

St. Mary's College of Maryland is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education through 2024-2025. St. Mary's College, designated the Maryland state honors college in 1992, is ranked one of the best public liberal arts schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Approximately 1,600 students attend the college, nestled on the St. Mary's River in Southern Maryland.

Press Release from SMCM.

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Letters to the Editor

Harriet Elizabeth Brown's Contributions

To the Editor

As we celebrate African American History month, I am reminded of one of our own who made a significant contribution to society. The person who comes to mind is Harriet Elizabeth Brown, an educator in Calvert County. Ms. Brown, with assistance from NAACP attorney Thurgood Marshall, challenged the established policy of paying white teachers double what they paid black teachers. Ms. Brown showed her leadership as she became the lead plaintiff in this case in the fight for equal pay.

Not only did she exhibit leadership, she showed commitment, spirit, will, persistence and confidence in this endeavor. Her desire to see this change paid off in 1937 when Calvert County settled the case in her favor. Taking a stand on this issue helped all of Maryland's black teachers and influenced other jurisdictions to change their discriminatory practices.

So, in 2015, one of the first actions of the legislatively appointed Harriet Elizabeth Brown Commemoration Task Force was to recommend that the old SMECO building be named the interim Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center, Prince Frederick's new community center. We are now at the point where 27 acres on Fairground Road has been purchased by the county for a new and better Community

Center and Park.

All of Calvert's citizens will have an opportunity to suggest what will be offered in the new facility and space on a survey that is presently being conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department. I encourage everyone, both young and old, to seize the opportunity to let your voices be heard by completing the survey at <https://www.calvertcountymd.gov/2828/HEB-Community-Center-Survey>. The deadline to complete the survey is April 30th.

I also encourage your active participation in expressing your feelings about the need for the facility and space and the financial support needed to build it. Please advocate at upcoming events, hearings, and activities about the new Prince Frederick Master Plan. Your involvement in this process will go a long way toward replicating "the HEB spirit."

Finally, let us do all work together to make the new facility and space a reality. Let it be a place where youth will have positive opportunities and experiences that will help them grow up healthy and responsible. And let it be a place where adults will have a safe, comfortable and convenient place to participate in community groups and cultural events.

*Guffrie Smith
St. Leonard, MD*

'Will Not Stop This Fight.'

To the Editor:

This time-critical message is intended to alert and assure our citizen/taxpayers that the Plaintiffs for Calvert Citizens United (CCU) versus the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in the matter of what we believe to be the illegal adoption of the Willis/Small Business Interest Group (SBIG) 20-Year Comprehensive Plan by a 3/2 margin is working its way to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals (COSA) in Annapolis. (COSA is for Maryland akin to being one step below what the Supreme Court is to the Federal appeal process).

As CCU moves deeper into litigation, let us restate a mere few of the facts, obtained from four years of SBIG Meeting Minutes, regarding the "backroom strategy" and "calculated collaboration" against the citizen/taxpayers by and between Mark Willis/ SBIG/BOCC (namely Commissioners McConkey, Hutchins and Hart). The minutes detail builder/developer contempt for the taxpayers who continually and earnestly appealed to Mark Willis and his Planning & Zoning Department and the BOCC to protect and preserve Calvert, known throughout the region as the "Jewel of Southern Maryland" and the "Charm of the Chesapeake Bay."

This sampling of SBIG comments are intended to illuminate readers with the exact protocol Willis/SBIG/BOCC used to undermine not only our citizens but the health of the Chesapeake and Patuxent, our 21 watersheds and the livelihoods of our Watermen. Neither Mark Willis nor BOCC demanded a threat assessment to ascertain if this mammoth/unrestricted development of Calvert, (the smallest county in the state), could withstand the commercial/retail/infrastructure and multi-family housing buildout.

At SBIG's first meeting in late 2015, Mr. Barnett stated "BOCC and Planning Commission will coordinate with the STAKEHOLDERS [those individuals who have the most to gain from the buildout]." Barnett added to SBIG attendees "the BOCC and Planning Commission will be looking for leadership from those sitting in this room." Talk about the BOCC putting foxes in charge of the hen house! There were no everyday citizens attending SBIG because they were earning a living. A buildout of this magnitude is worth well over a BILLION dollars to the right individuals. SBIG wasn't impressed with Barnett so Mark Willis was promoted to Director of Planning and Zoning in early 2016.

The methodology for this mega-de-

velopment can only be accomplished through installation of a Sewer Treatment Plant/Facility (think WSSC Blue Plains). At the time, Mark Willis was using WSSC'S allocation chart which in no way syncs with tiny Calvert.

To capture a mega-developer, Mark Willis is insisting Calvert will convert to public sewer. Even if you reside on a large-lot dwelling site and have lived in the county since its expansion in the 1970's and you have a private septic system, "You are out of luck" stated Willis at a public meeting and he further stated, "If you don't like it you should move elsewhere." More to the point, Rodney Gertz, VP, Quality Built Homes encouraged "the Comp Plan needs to have simplicity and flexibility to accomplish our goals."

Willis deepened his voice and assured [SBIG] "there will be flexibility and simplicity built into this Plan...TIMES ARE CHANGING." And they definitely are, SBIG members are poised to collect multi-millions and citizen/taxpayers will foot the bill.

Willis has always stated "water and sewer is a non-profit business." Citizens' taxes will be adjusted to pay for this monster. (SBIG refuses to pay fees for TDR's or Adequate Public Facilities.)

On June 12, 2017, Linda Vassallo stated "results from the Economic Strategic Plan were received in March ... and this document has not been released to the public." Ms. Vassallo is now Mark Willis' Deputy Administrator. The county obtained a grant for a Target Market Industry Study. Among other priorities, this study is an economic determinate that evaluates and identifies needed changes to the existing socio-economic demographic. In other words, the county would like to see wealthier, non-parent households.

CCU pledges it will not stop this fight. We are willing to run out the clock in order that citizens can retire those commissioners who "sold Calvert to the highest bidder." We greatly appreciate all the notes and checks funding our lawyer, G. Macy Nelson, Esquire.

CCU carries on because you have our backs, and as such, we will continue to be your VOICE!

Our mailing address is Calvert Citizens United, Inc., P.O. Box 1018, Huntingtown, MD 20639. Please follow us on Facebook and stay involved. If you have questions/comments please share and we will gladly answer.

*Myra Gowans, Plaintiff
Calvert Citizens United, Inc. 504(c3)*

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facebook.com/CountyTimesStMarys



Seahawks Fall to Delaware State in Exhibition



The St. Mary's College of Maryland men's basketball team traveled to Delaware State University to take on the Division I Hornets on Sunday (Feb. 21) afternoon in an exhibition contest. The Seahawks fell to the Hornets by a final score of 75-58.

St. Mary's College - 58, Delaware State - 75

How It Happened

- Albert Scott drilled a jumper to begin the game and gave the Seahawks their first and only lead of the contest. Trailing by four at the 10:15 mark, the Seahawks used a three-pointer from Cameron Rucker to trim the Hornet lead to one. However, that would be the closest the Seahawks would get to the Hornet lead. St. Mary's College finished the half strong with a made jumper from Daryn Alexander and headed into half-time trailing 41-33.

- Delaware State pulled away from St. Mary's College with a 16-point run to begin the second half and extended their lead to 24 points. With short time remain-

ing in the contest, the Seahawks strung together a 10-point scoring run, their best of the game, to trim the Hornet lead to 17. Back-to-back three-pointers from Darian Callaway and Alexander highlighted the run. Callaway went on to sink a jumper to end the game to bring the final score to 75-58 in favor of the Hornets.

Inside the Box Score

- Alexander led the Seahawks on the offensive end with 16 points. Elijah Crawford finished the afternoon as the Seahawks' second leading scorer with eight points. Lewis Olumide dished out a team-high two assists in the game.

- Rucker collected a team-best 10 rebounds, while Scott recorded the Seahawks' lone block. Alexander, Lewis, and Micah Henry led the team with two steals each.
- Zach Kent led the Hornets with a double-double, recording 19 points and 11 boards.

Up Next for the Seahawks

- Feb. 25 at Neumann University/6 p.m.

Press Release from SMCM.

Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thursday, February 25

CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Tuesday, March 2

CSM Dual Enrollment Virtual Parent Information Night

6 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Register to receive Zoom information and password: <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/admissions/dual-enrollment-parent-night-calvert>.

Thursday, March 4

CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Sea Squirts

Calvert Marine Museum; Various Times

This program invites children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, to discover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a carryout craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 15-20 minutes. Capacity is limited to 10 people per session. This month's theme is All About Boats. This program is now offered at various times throughout the day, to accommodate guests during all sessions. For specific times, please visit calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Ongoing

Body, Soul, Peace, and Harmony Artworks@7th Gallery;

Thursday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Masks, limited gallery numbers, and physical distance precautions are required. Shop the gallery 24/7 online at www.artworks@7th.com and Insta-

gram or call for an appointment at 410-286-5278. Attached below are featured works from the gallery's cooperative membership of 25 artists, one of whom is always on hand to greet visitors to the gallery and talk about the show and fellow artists. Multi-talented in multimedia Suzanne Shelden is the gallery's newly themed "Featured Artist". Her beautiful Southern Maryland landscapes, seascapes give the viewer a feast to behold. 'Body and Soul, Peace and Harmony' offers new works in stained glass, acrylic, silk painting, ceramic arts, scratchboard, mixed media, sculpture, and jewelry.

Calvert Library Openings

Thanks to declining COVID-19 positivity numbers, Calvert Library is welcoming customers back in for short visits. Customers are still asked to keep visits as short as possible and no longer than an hour, wear an appropriate mask over your nose and mouth, maintain a social distance of 6' from others and help your children do the same. At all four library locations, in-person library hours will be Monday-Thursday, noon to 5pm, Friday, 1-5pm and Saturday, 10am to 2pm. Curbside pickup appointments will continue Monday-Thursday, 10am to 7pm; Friday, 1-5pm and Saturday, 10am to 2pm. Call any Calvert Library location for assistance or appointments. Customers can also follow and interact with library staff on Facebook and Twitter. More information about coronavirus is available in the Research & Learn section of the library website. Call 410-535-0291 or email getsanswers@calvertlibrary.info with any reference questions you may have.

United Way Raffle

To close out our 40th anniversary celebrations, the United Way of Calvert County is hosting a 40-day long raffle at a \$400 value. Raffle items include \$200 value in gift cards to various restaurants and grocery stores, as well as a jewelry piece from Maertens Fine Jewelry & Gifts. Participants can purchase an unlimited amount of tickets, entering as many times as desired to better your chances of winning. Enter for your chance to win from now until March 1st by purchasing tickets through our website at <https://www.unitedwaycalvert.org/raffle>.

100% LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS SERVING CALVERT COUNTY

Calvert County Times

ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT COUNTYTIMES.NET

In Remembrance

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

Barbara Ann Hawkins



Barbara Ann Hawkins, 85, of Owings passed away February 19, 2021. She was born May 5, 1935 in Elmwood, NC to Ray Valder and Willie Pauline (Shell) Beaver. Barbara was raised in Hyattsville and graduated from Northwestern High School. She later attended Prince George's Community College and received a certificate in early learning education. Barbara married Jerry Milton Hawkins on May 20, 1954 and they raised their family in Upper Marlboro, where they also served as foster parents to many infants for the State of Maryland. They moved to Owings in 1978 and Barbara opened Friends Learning Center out of her home, where she served as director and teacher to many preschool children. Barbara was an active member of Mt. Harmony United Methodist Church where she helped arrange flowers for services and was instrumental in bringing back Fellowship Hour after church services. She was also a former member of Mt. Oak United Methodist Church in Mitchellville where she ran the nursery for many years. Barbara enjoyed craft shows and making angel crafts for St. Mary's of the Assumption School in Upper Marlboro. She also enjoyed flowers, especially roses and going to the North Beach Community Center.

Barbara was preceded in death by her

husband Jerry in 2005 and sons Donald Jay and Paul Alvin Hawkins. She is survived by her daughters Kathryn A. Mitchell of Owings and Shelly Yvonne Collinson and her husband Thomas of Harwood, daughter in love Cecelia Kenney and her husband Frank of Myrtle Beach, SC, brother Ray Valder Beaver, Jr. of Mineral, VA, 5 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, two loving sisters in law, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mt. Harmony United Methodist Church, 155 East Mt. Harmony Road

Owings, MD 20736 or Calvert Hospice P.O. Box 838

Prince Frederick, MD 20678 410-535-0892; Link:

<https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Victoria Margaret "Vic" Hall



Victoria Margaret "Vic" Hall, 80, of Lusby, MD passed away on February 19, 2021 at her residence. Born July 4, 1940 in Prince Frederick, MD, she was the daughter of the late Floyd H. Bowen and Margaret J. (Scott) Bowen. Victoria was a homemaker. She collected cook books and Thomas Kincaid collectibles, and enjoyed find-a-word puzzle books.

Victoria is survived by her children, Marie Bowen of Lusby, MD, Brenda DiCarlo (John) of Solomons, MD and Frank Hall (Tianna) of Lusby, MD; grandchildren, Joseph DiCarlo, Greyson Hall and Abigail Hall; and sister, Gloria Jean Shelor of Solomons, MD. She was preceded in death on May 30, 2006 by her husband, Thomas Monroe Hall, whom she married on June 21, 1956 in Solomons, MD; her son-in-law, Edward Bowen; and her sister, Betty Ann Toro.

Family will receive friends on Friday, February 26, 2021 from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home, 20 American Lane, Lusby, MD. A funeral service will be conducted by Rev. Robert Bowen at 11 a.m. in the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow in Southern Memorial Gardens, Dunkirk, MD.

Serving as pallbearers will be James Hall, Tommy Bowen, Mike Toro, Jr., Stacy Sturdivant, Larry Wayne Bowen, and David Abell. Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Thomas Hall, Joseph DiCarlo and John DiCarlo.

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

Charles Albert Gray, Jr.



Charles Albert Gray, Jr., 84, of Prince Frederick, MD passed away on February 18, 2021 in Prince Frederick, MD.

With heavy hearts we are announcing the death of our dear father Charles "Chic" Albert Gray, Jr. Born October 29, 1936 to Ida Vietta Gray and Charles Gray Sr. of Prince Frederick, MD.

Preceding his death was his loving wife of 53 years, Kay Frances Coburn Gray, and Brother Donald Gray of Baltimore, MD. He is survived by his daughter Annette Gray Williams (Michael 'Keith')

Son Charles 'Chuckie' Gray III, daughter Carla Marie Gray Hutchins and brothers Michael (Tracy) and Carter (Carla) Gray. He was also blessed with 7 Grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

He worked most of his life as a renowned Bulldozer Operator for Contractors: Vivian Humphrey's, Chesapeake Ranch Club, Raye Vest, and retired from Trading Post in 2018.

He also was proud to have coached Women's Softball in the 1970's for Championship teams Prince Frederick, and Twin Shields. He was an avid bowler and broke records pitching horseshoes. His hobbies included collecting and going to yard sales with his beloved wife Kay. Later in life, his passions were feeding and watching 'his' birds and squirrels. His youngest daughter Carla has stayed with him and cared for him since the passing of our Mom. We don't know how he would have gone on without her loving care. Thank you so much Little Sister! He will be profoundly missed and thought of daily. RIP beside your True Love. God Bless you, Dad!

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Samuel Richard "Sammy" Gibson, Sr.



Samuel Richard "Sammy" Gibson, Sr., 78, a lifelong resident of Huntingtown passed away February 17, 2021 at his home. He was born December 19, 1942 in Prince Frederick to Thomas Newton, Jr. and Ella Marley (Young) Gibson. Sammy was raised on his family farm in Huntingtown and graduated from Calvert High School. He joined the United States Air Force in 1963 and was honorably discharged in 1967 after receiving the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. Sammy married the love of his life, Sue, on June 21, 1969 and they lived and raised their family on the family farm. Sammy was an extremely hardworking man. He was employed as a carpenter for many years, working in home and commercial construction. He later owned and operated Gibson Brothers Construction Company and worked part time digging graves in various Calvert County cemeteries. Sammy was affectionately known as "Pop" and loved spending time with his family and taking his grandchildren on trips. He also enjoyed sharing Cheerios and giving morning head scratches to "Mutt", collecting tools, traveling, farming, his 1955 Chevy, and going to McDonalds.

Sammy was preceded in death by his wife Elizabeth Susan "Sue" Gibson, daughter Tammy Lynn Gibson, sister Bar-

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bara Gibson Powell and brothers Thomas Newton Gibson III and James Halson Gibson. He is survived by his son Samuel Richard "Ritchie" Gibson Jr. and his wife Misty of Huntingtown, grandchildren Trevor and Alyssa Gibson, and sisters Sharon "Tish" Gibson Lucas, Brenda Gibson Hance, and Debra Gibson Burrell.

Visitation will be Thursday, February 25, 2021, 2-4 p.m.; and 6-8 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane

Owings, MD 20736

The service for Sammy will be livestreamed on the Rausch Funeral Home Facebook page on Friday, February 26 starting at 10:55 a.m. and can be accessed by using the following link <https://www.facebook.com/RauschFH/>. The service will start at 11 a.m.

Margaret Elizabeth Conway



Margaret Elizabeth Conway, 91, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at Calvert Memorial Hospital. Margaret was a resident of North Beach, Maryland at the time of passing. She was born July 3, 1929 to William Eugene Sherry and Alice Virginia Sherry (Newman). She attended and graduated high school in Washington, DC. She was preceded in death by her parents, long-life partner, Ralph, her seven brothers, Harry, James, John, Richard, Robert, William, Edward and two sisters, Willamina and Alice. She is survived by her beloved Great Nephew- "Grandson" Michael Sherry Jr. and many other nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends.

Margaret spent much of her time caring for people and things. Her first and only marriage ended early in her young adult life but ultimately led her to her beloved and long-life partner, Ralph. Together, they managed a DC apartment complex and maintained a beautiful property in Shadyside, MD. This property was picture perfect with beautiful plants, flowers, and vegetable gardens. A place by the Chesapeake Bay that brought cookouts, crab feasts, camp outs, and many other memorable celebrations and gatherings.

Never having children of her own, she

put her energy into gardening and selling Amway and Avon products. Margaret loved butterflies, sweet tea, and key lime pie. She enjoyed crocheting and stockpiling trinket gifts in her precious wooden cedar chest. Though baptized and raised Catholic she also found herself visiting a Baptist church or non-denominational church finding joy in the music and gospel. She worked hard in various secretarial jobs retiring from full-time work at People's Life Insurance. She maintained a long friendship with her beloved best friend, Betty Dean of Huntingtown, MD. They shared a 60+ year friendship to envy. Not often did you see Margaret sitting still. She often had her hands into something.

In 1995 she and Ralph left the apartment and beach life moving to a house in Forestville, MD, right around the corner from her sister Alice and family. Many days were spent celebrating events, taking road trips, and infamous runs to the donut shop and Kentucky fried chicken. Of course, other than loving being closer to her sister's family she also loved having a house that allowed her to adopt a pet. Gosh knows she loved her little dog, Coco. This house became the new stomping ground for many beautiful celebrations by family and friends. It later included the most important thing in her life, the home to her Nephew Mike Sr., Nancy, and Mike (Mikey) Jr.

In 2006 she relocated to North Beach, MD, and once again was loving living by the Chesapeake Bay. Her beloved Ralph had passed on before this move, but she maintained a rock with his name at the front of her porch. Several years later Mikey lost his parents, and she took on the role of guardianship and ultimately his and the neighborhood "Grandma." She enjoyed spending time outdoors and lots of memories were made. She lived here until her passing. She will be deeply missed by many.

Memorial contributions may be made to End Hunger in Calvert County, 6201 Solomons Island Rd.

Huntingtown, MD 20639; Link:

<https://endhungercalvert.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Helen M. Safford



Helen M. Safford, 76, of Georgetown, DE passed away February 16, 2021 at Christiana Hospital in Newark, DE. Helen was born September 13, 1944 in Calvert County to Marian Helen (Paddy) and James Bruce Lyons, Jr. She was raised in Calvert County, and graduated from Calvert High School. She was employed as a secretary at Andrews Air Force Base where she met and later married Richard Morris who was stationed there. After their marriage they lived in Ohio for several years, later returning to Calvert County where they lived on her family's farm in Chesapeake Beach. Helen was a homemaker raising her family, and was later employed at Pop Brown's furniture store in North Beach, and at Abner's Crab House and Italia by the Bay restaurant, and for many years tended bar at the Stallings-Williams American Legion Post in Chesapeake Beach where she was a member of the Auxiliary. She also worked as a secretary for the Prince George's County Police Department until her retirement. Helen moved to Florida for several years in the early 2000's where she was an active member of the Red Hat Society. She loved being at the beach, all things nautical, and was fond of cardinal birds and magnolia trees. For the past nine years she has lived in Delaware.

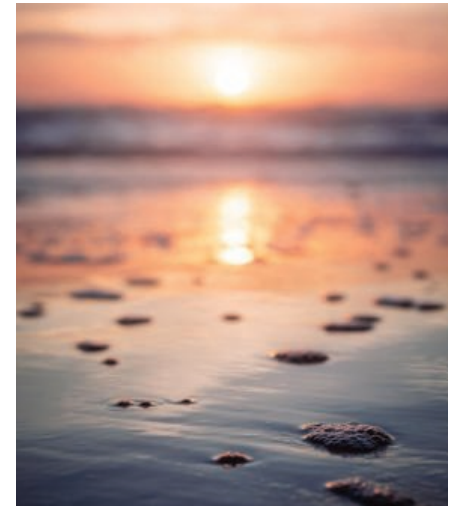
Helen was preceded in death by her parents, siblings James B. "Jimmy" Lyons III, Gloria M. Wacker, and Morris Edward "Eddie" Lyons, and her longtime companion Ed Wedler. She is survived by daughters Tamara L. "Tammy" Dilly and husband John of Chesapeake Beach, Teresa D. "Tracy" Safford of Georgetown, DE, sons Shayne P. Safford of Shepherdstown, WV, and Jay R. Cleary of Huntingtown; grandchildren Robert, Teresa, Hunter, Hayden, Hudson, Harrison, Amber, and Nora; great-grandchildren Abigail, Seth, and Bryce; a sister Judy A. Leonard and husband George "Billy" of Saint Cloud, FL, and a brother R. Michael Lyons, Sr. and wife Maryann of Chesapeake Beach. She is also survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Saturday, February 27, 2021, 10-11:30 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane

Owings, MD 20736

Memorial Service will be Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

Pamela Ann Quade



Pamela Ann Quade, 51, of Lothian passed away February 13, 2021. She was born April 22, 1969 to James Robert Quade and Delores Lee Jenkins. Pam was raised in Charles County and attended Thomas Stone High School before moving to Calvert County and graduating from Calvert High School in 1987. Pam was a member of Mt. Harmony United Methodist Church and enjoyed playing slot machines and going to stock car races. Most of all Pam loved being a mother to her children.

Pam is survived by her children Shayne Beal and Taylor Jade Mullen and parents Delores "Dee" Dorsey of Lothian and James Robert Quade of Prince Frederick. She was preceded in death by a granddaughter Lilianna Davis and a brother David Allen Quade.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.



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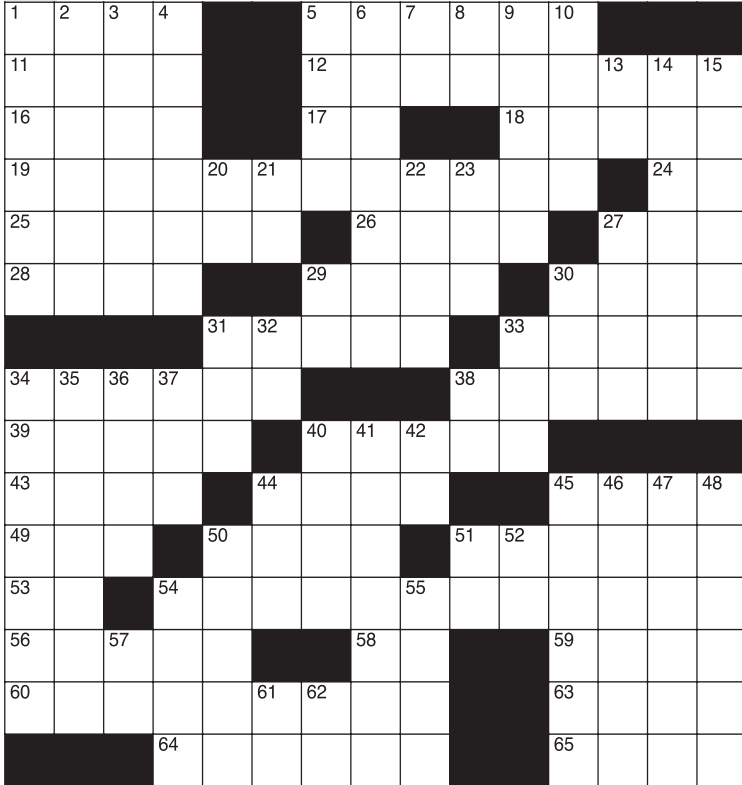
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CLUES ACROSS

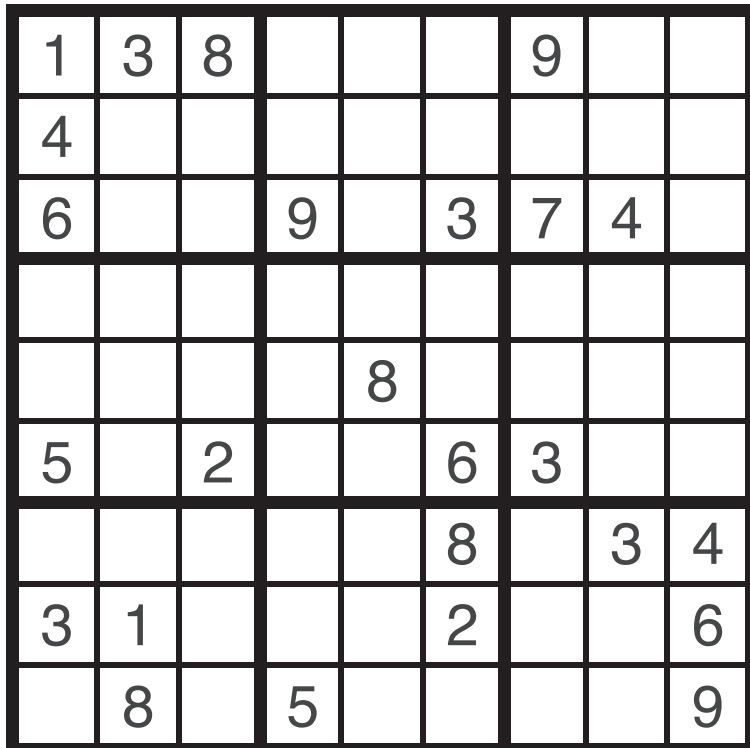
- 1. Ancient Persian city
- 5. Spindles
- 11. Stake
- 12. Retrain
- 16. Close by
- 17. Commercial
- 18. One who publicly announces
- 19. American ballplayer
- 24. Junior's father
- 25. Go up or climb
- 26. Concern
- 27. When you hope to get there
- 28. Iacocca and Oswald are two
- 29. Plant of the lily family
- 30. Male college organization
- 31. National capital
- 33. Raccoonlike animal
- 34. Symbols of fertility
- 38. Astronomy unit
- 39. Series of ridges in anatomy
- 40. Hebrew leader
- 43. A portent of good or evil
- 44. Supreme goddess
- 45. Gelatinous substance
- 49. Engage in a contest

- 50. Famed ballplayer Ruth
- 51. Pledge
- 53. -___, denotes past
- 54. Revival
- 56. Spanish surname
- 58. Gold
- 59. Elsa's sister
- 60. Workplace
- 63. Large quantity of something
- 64. Engraved
- 65. Discount

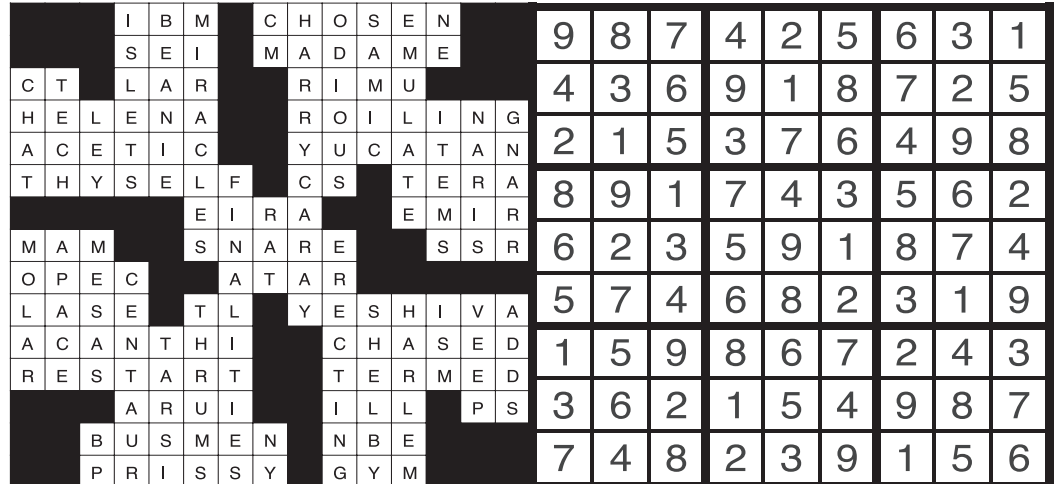
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Shoe
- 2. Disquiet
- 3. Posture
- 4. Large nests
- 5. Soviet "Second Symphony" composer
- 6. Joins two pipes of different diameter
- 7. Exist
- 8. Overdose
- 9. Pleat of fabric
- 10. Predict the future
- 13. Burgeoning technology
- 14. Having made a valid will
- 15. Having no fixed course
- 20. ___ route
- 21. Lethal dose
- 22. Indian musical pattern of notes

- 23. Athlete
- 27. Geological times
- 29. Atomic #21
- 30. In support of
- 31. Brew
- 32. Certificate of insurance
- 33. Taxi
- 34. Type of saying
- 35. For cigars
- 36. Phil ___, former CIA
- 37. Local area network
- 38. Gym class
- 40. Philippine Island
- 41. Not great or bad
- 42. Eastern part of NY state
- 44. Gov't lawyers
- 45. Constructions
- 46. Former British gold coin
- 47. Unkeyed
- 48. Rechristen
- 50. Threaten persistently
- 51. Southeast
- 52. Cools your home
- 54. Removes the leaves
- 55. Regretted
- 57. Thus
- 61. Relief organization (abbr.)
- 62. Exclamation of surprise



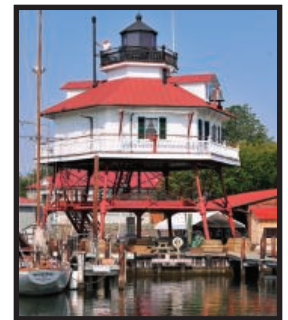
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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