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Calvert County Times

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Teachers Push Back

INSIDE

SPRING HOME & GARDEN SECTION

INSIDE

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FEATURE 9

Calvert Education Association President Dona Ostenso is flanked by the school system's other two employee union heads (l) Stacy Tayman of Calvert Association of Educational Support Staff and Jackie Jacobs of Calvert Association of Supervisors and Administrators.



LOCAL 4

Chesapeake Beach considers a moratorium.



EDUCATION 24

Comedian is Twain lecturer.

“WE HAVE FOUND THOSE FRIDAYS TO BE VERY VALUABLE.”
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS DR. DANIEL CURRY.

WEEKLY FORECAST

| Thu 3/18 | Fri 3/19 | Sat 3/20 | Sun 3/21 |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 61° 43°F | 47° 29°F | 49° 33°F | 57° 37°F |
| | | | |
| Rain | AM Light Rain | Sunny | Sunny |
| Mon 3/22 | Tue 3/23 | Wed 3/24 | Thu 3/25 |
| 60° 42°F | 64° 49°F | 65° 48°F | 66° 47°F |
| | | | |
| Sunny | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy |

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COVID-19

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| <i>As of March 16</i> | Positive Cases | Deaths |
| Calvert | 5312 | 65 |

Information provided by Calvert Health Department

Curry Backs Off on In-Person Fridays

Issues Challenge to Teachers, Principals

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Curry has backed off on a plan to have kids in school on Fridays. Curry made the announcement at the Board of Education's March 11 meeting after considerable push back on the idea from the school system's teachers.

Curry said, "Our schedule since September has been a four days synchronous, all online, week for students. The fifth day was moved from Wednesday to Friday when some hybrid learning began."

Curry said, "We have found those Fridays to be very valuable. Fridays became time for training and support, time to meet and collaboratively plan with your team, time for faculty meetings during a regular workday rather than after-school, time for grading student work. And for some, time for individual meetings with students through office hours."

"I still would get reports from parents and some teachers that many students and families see Fridays as a day off. Fridays in our calendar are counted among our 180-day instructional days for students who don't do the work."

Curry noted, "That's a lot of days off since the beginning of the school year. Teachers have told me the challenges of getting some of their students to participate in virtual class. I heard many reports of students who logged in and then disappeared; students who were not being successful since the beginning of the school year. I've also heard from parents and students who described their own personal difficulty with online learning -- social, emotional issues, lower grades than normal." He said the result has been a tripling of the fail rate.

As a result, he said, "We've been offering after-school tutoring and Saturday tutoring for students at the middle and high school most of the year. And due to what we know of our struggling students, we're planning for more summer school opportunities than ever before."

Curry observed, "Now that all who choose are in school in a hybrid schedule, teachers are seeing some of their struggling students face to face. And many of them are finding that they are more successful when they're present, where they struggled in the virtual world. Teacher-student relationships can now be better developed. And that is why I've caused a conversation recently to be considered about their four days moving to five days. Now that we have the kids



Calvert County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Curry.

in school for four days, why not five days."

Curry asked, "Can we expect the struggling students in particular to get help after school or on Saturday or come to summer school when we won't try to get them some face-to-face instruction on Friday, a designated instructional day? We have a lot of Fridays yet before school is out."

In backing off, Curry issued a challenge to his educators: "I want to challenge our teachers and our principals to identify those students whose virtual production is and has been limited and provide them opportunities for face-to-face learning, so that Fridays can also be instructional days."

During the first public comment session in a year, the school board at the March 11 meeting heard from a teacher, Heather Donaldson, about the challenges they would face without that Friday to get caught up in the current hybrid environment.

She recited the many activities she is required to accomplish on Friday after arriving at 6:30 or 7 a.m. and staying until being Kicked out by the custodian.

"I would like to ask, where would all of this take place if we didn't have Friday as an asynchronous day during hybrid learning? Would I have to give up my entire weekend to be a teacher at this time? I personally am all for return to normalcy. Any teacher will tell you that teaching virtually just doesn't work."

But she added, "While a third of students are still completely virtual, the amount of care, contact and efforts to complete work multiple times takes more time. So, Fridays are essential for that."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Planning Commission Member Jettisoned

Commissioners Appoint Former Staffer

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has replaced a planning commission member who has served for 20 years with a recently retired, long-time county employee.

Robert Reed was first appointed to the planning commission in 2001 and had served four full terms when the commissioners adopted a term limit ordinance in 2016. Since the ordinance was apparently not made retroactive, Reed was only considered to have served one partial term when being considered for reappointment, which he sought.

The commissioners bypassed Reed in favor of Victor "Wilson" Freeland, who served 37 years with Calvert County Government, from 1982-2019, including 10 years as General Services Director. His retirement became effective Dec. 6, 2019.

Freeland also recently served on a reconvened TDR (Transfer of Development Rights) Task Force that recommended to the BOCC the creation of a TDR Bank.

Before Freeland's selection at the March 9 BOCC meeting, Commissioner Tim Hutchins tried to get a delay in the vote in order for the county to review a potential policy on reappointments and term limits



Wilson Freeland in a picture taken while he was working for county government.

an also restricting former county employees from being appointed to the major commissions (ethics, planning, and appeals) for one year after leaving county government. Hutchins pointed out that members of the three boards receive stipends for attending meetings.

Hutchins observed that a month delay in the vote would do no harm because those in the positions with expired terms could continue to serve until the decision was made.

Hutchins motion to delay the vote failed on a 2-3 vote, with Commissioner Steve Weems supporting him.

The decision to appoint Freeland was unanimous.

In an uncontested decision, the BOCC also voted to appoint Gregory Kernan to a second term.

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Agricultural Commission Faces Funding Cuts

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), which serves agricultural interests for St. Mary's, Calvert, Charles, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties, may have as much as 50 percent of its budget cut by the state this year.

The director of SMADC, Shelby Watson-Hampton, has appealed to the governments of Southern Maryland counties to press the state to put funding back in the budget.

The annual budget for SMADC is about \$900,000, which could be cut down to \$450,000.

"They're cutting SMADC in half," said Commissioner Todd Morgan at Commissioners of St. Mary's County meeting March 9. "I think it's crazy that they [the state] are taking the money away."

Last year St. Mary's County won a competition for a \$1 million grant to fund the construction of a new Regional Agricultural Center (RAC) that came from the state through SMADC; while the construction project will move ahead in the Mechanicsville area it's operations could still be hampered by the budget cuts.

SMADC is to take part in the management of the facility, which would include a space for a meat processing operation that supplements a separate slaughter house run

by members of the Amish community, but agricultural staff with SMADC have said budget cuts might make it more difficult for SMADC to help operate the facility.

"Both the Regional Agricultural Center and the Westham Butcher Shop (the Amish slaughterhouse) are not in any direct danger due to these budget cuts," said Shelby Watson-Hampton, director of SMADC, in a prepared statement. "The RAC is fully funded through previous money that has been set aside from SMADC, and through money from St. Mary's County, and it will be built."

Watson Hampton said the cuts could still affect the project tangentially.

"Per the agreement with St. Mary's County, SMADC is the entity of expertise that is to run the Regional Agricultural Center and all its programs once it is built," she said. "If SMADC cannot find funding to pay its staff to do so, then the RAC will have to find someone else with the required expertise to run it."

SMADC initially had its budget slashed from \$900,000 down to \$675,000 in fiscal 2021, Watson Hampton said, and is now proposed to be cut by an additional \$225,000.

Hampton-Watson said SMADC is pushing to have its funding fully restored to pre-COVID levels through a supplemental budget request.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Chesapeake Beach Considers Moratorium

Council to Hear One-Year Halt



11 Town Homes



24 Multi-Family, 1 Single family

The two proposed projects that are outside the marina area.

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Chesapeake Beach Town Council is expected to consider a temporary moratorium on major development in town at their March 18 meeting. There appears to be some support for such a measure, in whole or in part, based on discussion at the March 8 council work session.

The town planning and zoning commission, at their Feb. 26 meeting, recommended a one-year moratorium on Category 1 developments. A press release issued by the town explained, "Category 1 developments are commercial, institutional, and multifamily buildings like apartment and condominium buildings, senior housing projects and townhouse developments. These project types, and new major subdivisions all require an extensive public review and approval procedure called Category 1 Site Plan Review or Subdivision Plat Review and each would be subject to the temporary moratorium. Any such development project or building that already has valid approval from the Town would not be impacted by the moratorium."

"Category 2 projects, on the other hand, such as single-family detached houses, accessory buildings like sheds, garages, bed-and-breakfast establishments, rehabilitation projects and other projects such a residential additions, sunrooms, decks, fences, etc. would continue to be reviewed and permitted by the Town and would not be impacted by the moratorium."

The planning commission acted after submittal by the Donovan family, owners and operators of the Rod 'N Reel Resort complex, of plans for five projects with 11 townhouse, 24 condominium, and 148 apartment units.

The proposal would buck a major force in town. The resort, with its gaming, sportfishing fleet, hotel and restaurants, and major expansion underway, is the town's biggest tourist draw and largest

employer. Gerald Donovan was town mayor for multiple terms (1984-2008).

Three of the five projects surround the marina across the street from Kellam's Field.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Jakubiak explained at the council work session that the planners' rationale for the moratorium was to give them time to finish the master plan and zoning ordinance in which they are considering only allowing new residences on existing lots and not allowing any new residential subdivisions. Jakubiak said there also was concern about "major issues based on sea level rise and flooding," particularly for those three projects at the marina.

The comments brought the suggestion by several council members about the possibility of just placing the moratorium on the projects in what is being designated the town's center near the marina, with the town-owned park and the nearby town hall, water park and boardwalk.

Regarding separating the projects, Councilman Charlie Fink said, "I don't believe it's all or nothing."

But Councilwoman Dr. Valerie Beaudin said separating the projects might allow others to claim precedent and avoid the moratorium.

Jakubiak, who had recommended a nine-month moratorium, felt the planners' decision for 12 months would give enough time. He said the goal was to get the revised plan to the council by summer allowing them to begin the public hearing process in the fall.

The March 18 town council meeting will be held virtually with public access and comment available via web and phone. The meeting can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/tocbmeeting>. To join by phone dial (929) 205-6099 and enter the Meeting ID: 869 755 7180.

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Public Hearing Coming on Staff Recommended Budget

By Dick Myers
Editor

The budget season is about ready to begin in earnest in Calvert County. The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will hold a public hearing Tuesday, March 23 7 p.m. to consider and receive comments on the fiscal year (FY) 2022 staff recommended operating and capital improvement budget.

In a transmittal letter to the BOCC that is included in the staff recommended budget, County Administrator Mark Willis detailed some of the proposed budget's highlights, which he said contained \$326 million in expenditures and only \$325 million in revenues. He said, "Currently there is a \$1 million shortfall that will need to be resolved with a decrease in expenditures, an increase in revenues, or as an unlikely worst case, the use of fund balance. This funding focuses on education, public safety, capital investment, and maintaining a high level of service to our community. The budget reflects an expenditure increase of \$7.5 million, compared to the FY 21 General Fund budget of \$318 million. The increased revenues of the General Fund are mainly due to an increase in estimated income tax receipts.

"As we prepare for slower revenue growth, particularly from the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Dominion and partially from the board's request to continue to lower the property tax rate over the next two years, it is



imperative that the deployment of these resources be handled, as they have in the past, with sincere prudence. To that end, the staff tirelessly sought new vision dedicated to pushing the limits of service on behalf of our citizens. With efficiencies in place, staff is recommending that no new staff or new program initiatives be included in the budget.

"The budget includes:

- "A \$0.005 reduction to the property tax rate, from \$0.932 to \$0.927 per assessed \$100 of value.
- "Operating funding of Calvert County Public Schools is recommended at \$134.7 million in the budget, \$1 more than FY 21 and \$5.9 million or 4.6 percent over the state required maintenance of effort amount. FY 22 funding is impacted by the unprecedented 681 decrease in enrollment to 14,896.25 full-time equivalents (students). There are several issues that must be resolved prior to moving forward at this funding level (i.e., state law

changes to the future Maintenance of Effort laws).

- "An Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) contribution of \$7.3 million, the full Actuarial Determined (ADC), has been provided for in this budget.

- "\$6.2 million has been provided to Calvert County's Project Management Division to fund the road paving program.

- "\$11.4 million will be transferred to the capital projects fund.

- "\$7.1 million in new projects are not funded in this budget but requested by staff.

Citizens are encouraged to view the budget in its entirety and learn more about the FY 2022 budget process by visiting www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/FY2022BudgetProcess.

The public hearing will be held virtually in keeping with social distancing guidelines and to protect the health of citizens and staff. The public is encouraged to participate in the meetings by

viewing the livestream on www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Meetings or on Channel 6 or 1070 HD. The public can also listen or comment by telephone by calling either of the following toll-free numbers to participate remotely: 888-475-4499 or 877-853-5257. When prompted, dial meeting ID number 899 4188 8251 and press # if prompted for a passcode.

Reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities or linguistic barriers should be requested by contacting the BOCC office at 410-535-1600, ext. 2202.

Individuals interested in providing comment may also submit written comments to 175 Main Street, Prince Frederick, MD, Attn: Tim Hayden, Director of Finance & Budget or by email to Beth.Richmond@calvertcountymd.gov. Written comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on March 22 to be made part of the record.

For additional information, contact the Calvert County Department of Finance & Budget at 410-535-1600, ext. 2651 or by email to Beth.Richmond@calvertcountymd.gov.

The Staff Recommended Budget is only the first step in the process. The BOCC will take that proposal and comments from the public hearing and begin to work on their own budget which will be presented at a public hearing in May before finalizing it.

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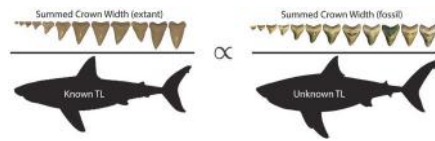
Sharks Reached 65-Foot Length

Museum Researcher Publishes Paper

Calvert Marine Museum's Assistant Curator of Paleontology, Dr. Victor Perez, has just had a paper published in the journal *Palaeontologia Electronica* entitled: "Body length estimation of Neogene macropredator lamniform sharks (*Carcharodon* and *Otodus*) derived from associated fossil dentitions." This study was conducted at the Florida Museum on the University of Florida campus (Gainesville, FL) and was co-authored by Dr. Ronny Leder, Director of the Natural History Museum of Leipzig, and avocational paleontologist, Teddy Badaut.

For more than 100 years, people have been debating the size of the extinct megatooth shark, *Otodus megalodon*. This macropredator has captivated the interest of researchers and the public alike, with its enormous, blade-like teeth. While it is often regarded as the largest shark to ever live, what evidence is available to substantiate this massive claim?

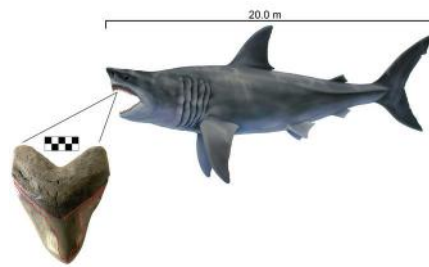
To date, a complete skeleton of *Otodus megalodon* has not been recovered, so we cannot simply measure the length of the shark. The fossil record of megatooth sharks is predominantly comprised of isolated teeth and rare vertebral centra, which has been the basis for all previous methods for estimating body length. However, a recent study tested the accuracy of popular methods for estimating body length, using the



Premise of the new method for estimating body length of the extinct megatooth shark. TL = Total body Length. Figure modified from Perez et al. (2021).

most complete fossil evidence available—associated fossil dentitions (Figure 1). These are extremely rare sets of teeth that each came from one individual. The study found a distinct pattern, in which anterior teeth resulted in smaller body length estimates than posterior teeth, implying that previous studies that have analyzed body size trends in megatooth sharks are biased by which tooth positions were used in the analysis.

To account for this potential bias, a novel method for estimating body size was proposed, based on the summed width in associated fossil dentitions. In many living sharks, there is a precise relationship between the width of the jaws and the length of the shark. The new method assumes that the ratio of summed width to total body length (TL) is proportional in the living great white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, and the extinct megatooth shark, *Otodus megalodon* (Figure 2). Thus, there are four variables, of which three can be measured and the fourth

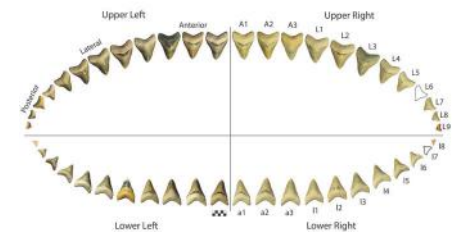


Maximum body length of *Otodus megalodon*, based on the largest known tooth. Note: the tooth enamel was repaired inside the red polygon. The slant height of the tooth is 7.25 inches (~184 mm). Scale bar = 5 cm. *Otodus megalodon* artwork by Tim Scheirer, with permission for use by the Calvert Marine Museum. Figure modified from Perez et al. (2021).

can be calculated. This method provides significantly greater constraint on the resultant body length estimates than previous methods.

The method was applied to 11 associated fossil dentitions, belonging to five different species: *Otodus megalodon* (extinct), *Otodus chubutensis* (extinct), *Carcharodon hastalis* (extinct), *Carcharodon hubbelli*

(extinct), and *Carcharodon carcharias* (living). These five species were apex predators in shallow marine environments over the past 23 million years. To calculate a maximum body size, the method was extrapolated for the largest known isolated tooth of *Otodus megalodon* by relating it to



The most complete known associated dentition of *Megalodon*, with common terminology used to describe the dentition. These teeth all originated from one shark! Scale bar = 5 cm. Figure modified from Perez et al. (2021).

the largest associated dentition (Figure 3). This resulted in a maximum body length estimate of 20 m (=65.6 ft).

Explore how the prehistoric past, natural environments, and maritime heritage come to life and tell a unique story of the Chesapeake Bay. The Calvert Marine Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with limited capacity and a new timed entry system. Admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for seniors, military with valid I.D., AAA and AARP members; \$4 for children ages 5 - 12; children under 5 and museum members are admitted free. For more information about the museum, or to make a reservation for your next visit, please go to our website at www.calvertmarinemuseum.com. Keep up to date with the latest from CMM by following us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

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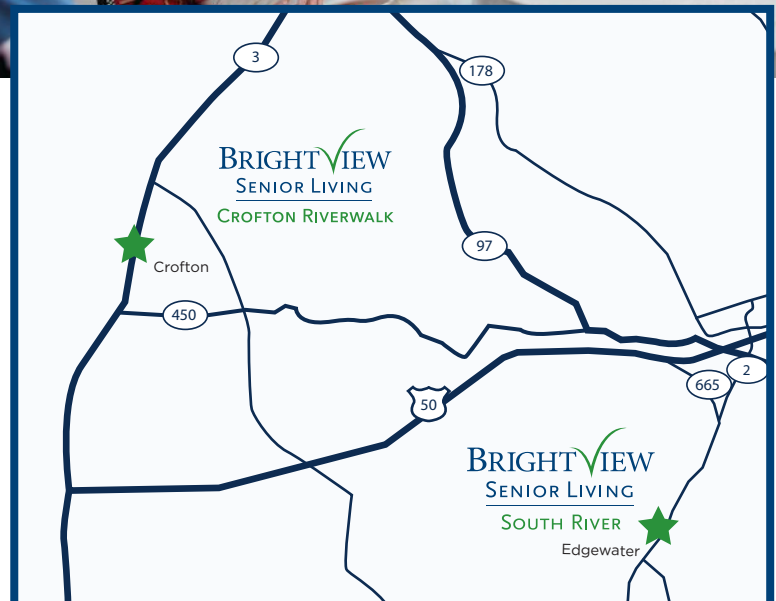
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CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

During the week of March 1 – 7, Deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,419 calls for service throughout the community.

Theft: 21-10938

On March 3, 2021, Deputy Anderson responded to 100 block of Jibsail Drive in Prince Frederick, MD for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between Feb. 24 and March 3, 2021, a Catalytic Converter was stolen off of a 2004 Ford E-350 Van belonging to the Calvert Churches Community Food Pantry. The estimated value of stolen property is \$500.00.

Theft: 21-11193

On March 4, 2021 Deputy Freeland responded to Cove Point Park located at 750 Cove Point Road in Lusby, MD for a reported theft. The complainant advised upon returning to her vehicle after playing at the playground, her front right passenger window was shattered and observed her purse to have been stolen. Nothing else was missing from the vehicle. The value of stolen and damaged property is unknown at this time.

Damaged Property: 21-11840

On March 7, 2021, Deputy Lewis responded to 1200 block of Alta Dr. in Sunderland, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised that sometime between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m., unknown suspects damaged his 2013 Ford pick-up truck. Deputy Lewis observed all four tires were flat and had puncture marks from a bladed object. Both of the rear tail lights were broken as well. The approximate value of damage to the truck is \$1,500.00.

Damaged Property: 21-11208

On March 4, 2021, Deputy Kwitowski responded to the 5000 block of Forest Lane in Port Republic, MD for the report of destruction of property. Contact was made with the complainant who advised sometime between 1 p.m. on March 3 and 4 p.m. on March 4, unknown suspects had cut the front latch to his mailbox off. The approximate value of damaged property is \$50.00.

Damaged Property: 21-10837

On March 2, 2021, Deputy Durnbaugh responded to 5300 block of Sheridan Point Road in Prince Frederick, MD for the report of destruction of property. The complainant advised sometime between 5 p.m. on Feb. 28th and 4 p.m. on March 2, unknown suspects broke the front storm door into 2 separate pieces. The estimated value of damaged property is \$300.00.

ARRESTS

On March 1, 2020, Deputy Gott had conducted a traffic stop in the area of H.G. Trueman Road and Holiday Drive in Solomons, MD. A female, identified as **Megan Elizabeth Gibson**, 26 of Port Republic, MD approached Deputy Gott requesting a ride home. It was determined Gibson had an active warrant for her arrest. Gibson was placed under arrest for her active warrant and



Megan Elizabeth Gibson

during a search incident to arrest, a pill of amphetamine salts and a pill of Zubsolv "buprenorphine" were discovered in Gibson's purse. Gibson was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was charged with for CDS: Possession Not Marijuana.

On March 6, 2021, Deputy McDowell was dispatched to the Marriott Springhill Suites located at 75 Sherry Lane in Prince Frederick, MD for the reported Trespassing. The complainant advised the suspect identified as **Jay Robert Fulton**, 59 of St. Leonard, MD had been previously issued a No Trespassing Warning indefinitely. Deputy McDowell was dispatched back to hotel later that day for Fulton in the hotel lobby.



Jay Robert Fulton

Fulton was arrested and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Trespassing: Private Property.

On March 7, 2021, Deputy Parks responded to a residence in the 6300 block of Long Beach Drive in St. Leonard, MD for a reported burglary. Upon arrival, Deputy Parks observed pieces of wood on the ground and parts of the door jamb broken laying inside the doorway. Deputy Parks entered the home and observed a suspect identified as **Jay Robert Fulton**, 59

of St. Leonard, MD, standing in the kitchen. Fulton advised he forced his way in through the front door. A search of the house was conducted and no one was home. The approximate value of damaged property was \$500.00. Fulton was arrested and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Malicious Destruction of Property, Burglary- Third Degree, and Burglary- 4th Degree.

On March 4, 2021 Deputy T. Buckler responded to Abners Crabhouse located at 3748 Harbor Rd. in Chesapeake Beach, MD for a disorderly subject. Complainants advised there was an extremely intoxicated and disorderly male inside the bar. Deputies made contact with **Billy Nicholas Marcantel**, 35 of Branch, LA and advised he was being disorderly and was going to be placed under arrest. Marcantel began to resist arrest. Deputies arrested Marcantel and transported him to the Calvert



Billy Marcantel

County Detention Center where he was charged with Disorderly Conduct and Resisting/Interfere with Arrest.

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

Former Attorney Sentenced for Felony Theft

Craig Langrall, 41, of Tracy's Landing, MD, was sentenced on March 12, 2021, to 10 years' incarceration, with all but 6 months suspended, for the crime of Felony Theft over \$25,000. Judge Mark S. Chandlee also required Langrall to complete five years of probation.

Langrall was a practicing attorney in Calvert County when he was hired by the victim in 2015 to provide legal representation in a family law matter. During the course of that representation, Langrall embezzled \$40,000 from the victim, which he used for personal expenses.

At the hearing on March 12, Mr. Langrall apologized to the victim, who was present in the courtroom. As part of the sentencing, the State confirmed that Langrall had repaid the \$40,000. Neverthe-

less, the State argued that the crime represented a serious breach of trust and warranted a period of incarceration. Judge Chandlee agreed and required Mr. Langrall to serve 6 months at the Calvert County Detention Center.

Calvert County State's Attorney, Robert Harvey, wishes to commend Assistant State's Attorney, Benjamin G. Lerner, for his handling of this case.

Langrall has been disbarred by the Maryland Court of Appeals and is no longer allowed to practice law.

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney's Office.



Craig Langrall

Fifth Hate Crime Defendant Pleads Guilty

On Monday, March 8, 2021, four individuals pleaded guilty to committing a hate crime in connection with the August 9, 2020, vandalism incident at Calvert High School. Augustine Aufderheide, 19, of Prince Frederick, Cade Meredith, 19, of Saint Leonard, Anthony Sellers, 19, of Saint Leonard, and Kyle Hill, 19, of Prince Frederick, admitted to spray painting racial slurs on the school football field and several outbuildings. They each were sentenced to serve three years imprisonment, suspended to five days at the Calvert County Detention Center, followed by three years of probation. As conditions of probation, they must pay restitution, complete 150 hours of community service, and complete racial sensitivity training.

A fifth defendant, Andrew Edge, 19, of Huntingtown entered a similar plea on March 12, 2021, and received the same sentence.



Andrew Edge, 19, of Huntingtown

Calvert County State's Attorney Robert Harvey wishes to thank Assistant State's Attorney, Kyle B. Tores, as well as investigators from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, for their handling of the case.

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney's Office.

Teacher's Union Pushes Back on Criticism

Board Member Says They're Being Demonized

By Dick Myers
Editor

Parents and some elected officials pressing for schools to reopen for full-time instruction have pointed fingers at the Calvert County Board of Education and Calvert Education Association (CEA) as the culprits for it not happening.

Parent Melissa Macuci Goshorn, who is organizing a protest rally for the school board's March 25 meeting, said during public comment time at the March 11 meeting, "I'm speaking for the parents, teachers and kids in this county, before we lose one of our own. Children are 10 times more likely to die from suicide than from COVID. I'm speaking because we are not closed due to science or safety, but due to politics, the union's demands and the lack of leadership."

She added, "We must address the role that Dona Ostenso and the teacher's union plays in all of this. Dona and the CEA are using COVID to hold our children hostage. And you all are allowing it. Her antics are driving a wedge between the public you serve and the teachers you employ."

Later she charged, "The union's fight is for more pay and a more manageable workload and distribution of duties, which is a fair fight to fight. However, holding our children hostage and using this pandemic as its cover is not only unthinkable, but completely immoral."

Goshorn and others pressing for the full reopening are taking pains to differentiate CEA, the teacher's union, and their president Ostenso, from the rank-and-file teachers. Goshorn, in an interview with the County Times, said, "Especially for elementary school, there's no greater superhero in the world than their teacher."

Ostenso is at a loss to understand why the distinction is being made between the teachers and their union. She agrees that not every teacher goes along with what the union says, but she insists, "If members don't want me to do something, I won't do it."

Ostenso points to a tweet that she was made aware of from a middle school teacher, Christie Nold from another county, that she felt summarized the issue. The tweet says: Friendly Reminder: Teacher Unions = Teachers. When you say, 'I love teachers, I just hate the union.' what I hear is, 'I love teachers who are quietly compliant and are denied the ability to organize'."

Ostenso says she has been constantly surveying her members throughout the pandemic. She said



Huntingtown High School teacher Amy Cox

in three different surveys that have been completed this year, between 750-850 members have responded each time.

For instance, a recent survey included the option: "All educational programs should continue with in-person instruction four days a week and asynchronous instruction one day a week." Of the respondents, 90 percent of elementary school teachers, 79.43 percent of middle school teachers and 84 percent of high school teachers favored the statement. Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry has backed off on advancing the five-day proposal after pushback from the teachers (see separate story on page 3).

Solidarity on the issue was evidenced by the email comments sent to the school board for their March 11 meeting. Of the 64 comments received, 58 were on the issue of adding Friday in-person learning. All 58, mostly from teachers, opposed the idea.

The following option was also posited to the members in a CEA survey: "General education should return to in-person instruction five days a week, while special programs should continue with in-person instruction four days a week and asynchronous instruction one day a week."

Respondents showed almost no interest in that, with only six-tenths of a percent of elementary school teachers, 1.14 percent of middle school teachers and one percent of high school teachers favoring it.

Several of the emails to the board were also critical of the teacher's union. Parents Brian and Tammy Genelin wrote: "It's time to stand up to the teacher's union and do your job."

And parent Mike Colburn wrote: "I have attended board meetings with other concerned parents and teachers, and I can tell you that there is complete outrage in our community with regard to the current state of affairs with COVID, our schools, the Calvert Board of Education and the Teacher's Union."

At the meeting, during the return to limited in-person public comment for the first time in more than a year, CEA Board Member Amy Cox, a Huntingtown High School teacher, stood up for the organization. She said, "There is much concern about students returning to school and the negative effects of staying virtual. Some people blame the teacher's union for these effects. The teacher's unions are made up of lifelong educators who have dedicated their lives to students. Those who demonize and don't support the union are concerned about the social, emotional impact of virtual learning on their kids. Our union has been worried about the social, emotional wellbeing of all students, far before the pandemic."

"Where were those who demonize the union when my colleagues and I boarded buses to go to Annapolis to lobby for more funding for counselors in the schools due to overwhelming counselor to student ratio? Where were you when teachers' unions tried to negotiate for lower caseloads and for better working conditions for school psychologists to bring qualified candidates to Calvert County?"

Ostenso also spoke. She reminded the board she is also an elementary school teacher and a 32-year veteran with CCPS.

She said, "Over the past year, I have encouraged my members to use their voice, and they've done so. By sharing their stories, writing emails to you, providing public comment and more, your employees have shown you that they are the hardest working teachers in the state."

"These employees, in a short timeframe, learned new skills to allow them to teach virtually, transformed their homes into classrooms, and devoted hours upon hours to their craft to ensure that real learning was occurring. In a global pandemic that affected everyone from students to teachers to parents, my members – your employees – made all of this happen while strengthening relationships with each other and the children of Calvert County. That's pretty amazing, and I'm really proud to represent such wonderful people."

The year since the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic, she said, "...have been challenging, to say the least, for our community, state and country. As the vaccines slowly bring herd immunity, allowing us to resume pre-pandemic activities, we must now focus on how best to move forward in education. Every curriculum and grade level, across the country, has been modified to meet the challenges of the past year. I'd argue that the past year has actually taught all of us – our students included – new skills that aren't typically measured: Growth Mindset. Resilience. Flexibility. Problem-solving. Collaboration. Empathy.

"To those who claim that our children are behind, or that they must catch up, I'd remind you that the goalposts against which you're measuring your children are created by adults and are moveable. Negativity only breeds further negativity, and embracing blame or name-calling is both hurtful and character revealing. Remember, our children are watching every behavior we model.

"Instead, let's focus, together, on what needs to be done at the local, state and federal levels to support and enable schools to prepare our students to be successful in the future. Isn't that why we're all here?"

She cited both the federal American Rescue Plan and state Blueprint for Maryland's Future that "provide relief, funding and creativity in moving schools forward so that every student can succeed. Some of these initiatives include the expansion of Pre-K, the creation of new career pathways for students, necessary tutoring resources, and a focus on teacher preparation and recruitment of teachers of color – all of these are data driven methods that improve the long-term success in school, both pre- and post-pandemic."

She encouraged CCPS "to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure that these policies are implemented with fidelity and transparency. Yes, I said all stakeholders. Include the students in the conversation. Include the teachers. Include CEA. Include community leaders. Everyone should have a seat at the table in this conversation; it's the only way we ensure diverse thought and really understand and address the needs of those we serve."

Ostenso told The County Times, "CEA is the teachers. I tell my members all of the time that it is the U and I in Union that makes us strong.

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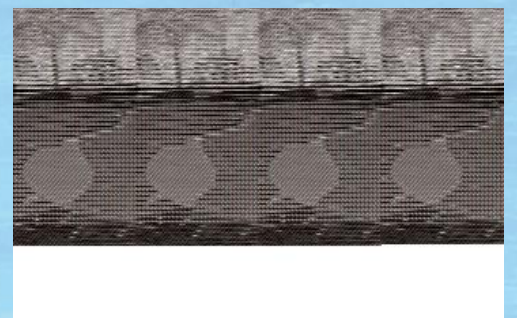
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Reducing Risk of Disease in Your Garden



No garden is immune to disease. Even the most attentive, experienced gardeners have had to confront disease in their gardens, which can lead to significant damage and potentially kill plants.

Various bacterial, fungal and viral diseases can affect gardens, and the University of Maryland Extension notes that fungicides, which are chemicals that destroy fungus, are only rarely recommended to combat disease. In fact, a proactive approach rooted in prevention is often the most effective way to reduce risk for disease in gardens.

• CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIETIES OF PLANT.

The UME notes that choosing disease-resistant varieties is an effective way to prevent disease in gardens. Gardeners who have confronted disease in their gardens in the past should do their best to identify which diseases were present and then choose plants that are considered resistant to those diseases. A local garden center professional can help gardeners who are uncertain about what to plant.

• PLANT IN THE RIGHT SPOTS.

The choice of where to plant is significant. Avoid wet areas with insufficient drainage. The home renovation experts at HGTV note that wet soil can decrease plants' chances for survival because of excess water and a lack of oxygen. If the only spots available

for planting tend to be especially wet, consider planting in raised beds or having a French drain installed. Learn how much light plants need prior to planting them. Some can thrive in shady areas, while others require ample sunlight each day.

• PLANT AT THE RIGHT TIME.

Planting too early when the soil is not yet warm enough can make plants vulnerable to disease by weakening their ability to fight. Use a soil thermometer to determine soil temperature and only plant when the conditions for planting are ideal.

• HARVEST ON TIME.

When planting vegetables, it's imperative that the vegetables are harvested on time. The University of Georgia Extension notes that fully mature vegetables left on the plant attract disease and are vulnerable to insect infestations.

• CONTROL INSECT INFESTATIONS.

Certain insects can spread disease, so it's important that gardeners learn to recognize which insects pose a threat to their plants. Speak with a local gardening center about invasive insects and how to address infestations without harming the plant.

As the planting season approaches, gardeners can take various steps to make their plants and vegetables less vulnerable to disease.



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Lawn Watering and Fertilizing Techniques

A lush, green lawn is a sight to behold. Many variables are involved in growing and maintaining grass, and water and fertilizer are among the most important components.

Knowing how much water and fertilizer to apply and when to apply it can make a big difference in the appearance and health of a lawn. That's because a well-fed and watered lawn will develop a better root system, which makes the lawn less vulnerable to stressors like drought, mowing, foot traffic, and heat, according to the Scotts® company.

FERTILIZE

There is no magic formula governing when to fertilize a lawn. The type of grass and how well-established a lawn is must be considered. Experts suggest having the soil tested to determine its pH levels and if any nutrients are lacking. A fertilizing schedule can then be developed after testing.

Keep in mind that overfeeding a lawn will not make it grow any better and actually can damage the turf. Several small applications of fertilizer during the lawn's most active growing period may be helpful, advises the home improvement resource

Tools Around the House. An annual application (late spring for warm-season grass or fall for cool-season grass) may be all that's needed.

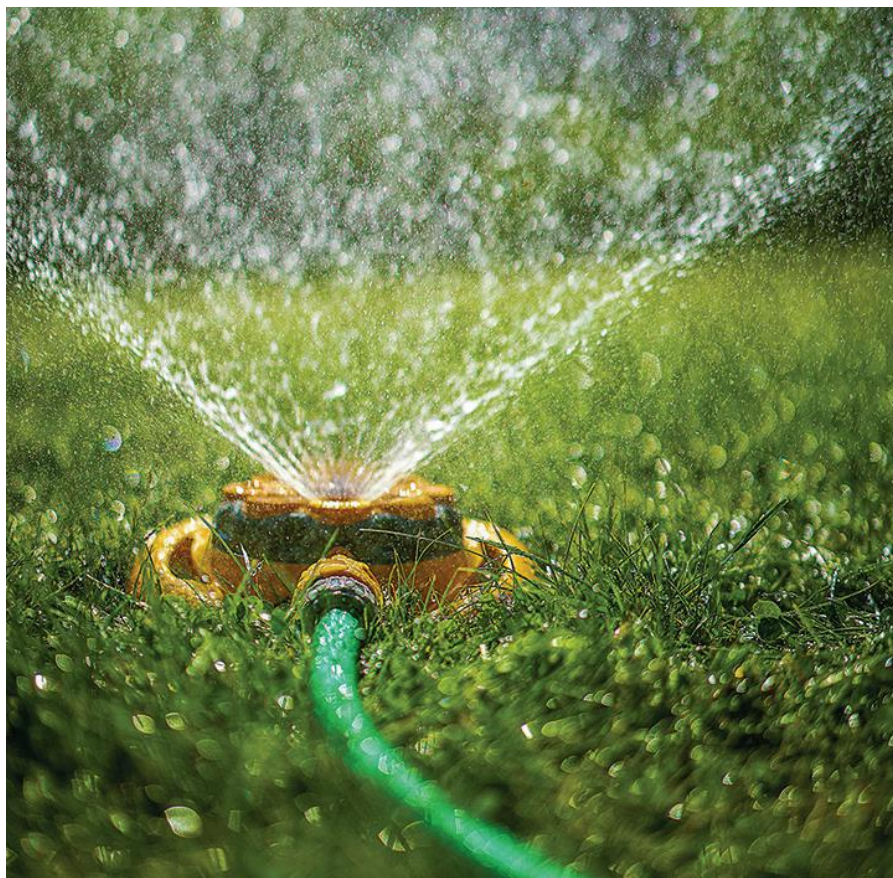
Certain fertilizers need to be applied and watered in. Others may be combined with weed-control products and must be set on top of damp grass. Read packaging to determine the right application.

WATER

The right watering schedule and techniques can help a lawn thrive. Scotts® says adjusting for climate and nature can help grass to grow strongly. A lawn that has a grayish cast or appears dull green is telling an owner that it needs water. Another test is to step on the lawn. If footprints disappear quickly, the grass blades have enough moisture to spring back.

Water the lawn in the morning before 10 a.m. when it's cooler and the winds tend to be calm so that the water can soak in. For those who must water at night, do so in early evening so that the water can dry before nightfall and will not contribute to disease.

Scotts® says to water an estab-



lished lawn until the top six to eight inches of soil is wet. Most lawns need one to 1.5 inches of water per week from rain or a hose to soak the soil that deeply.

Newly established lawns may

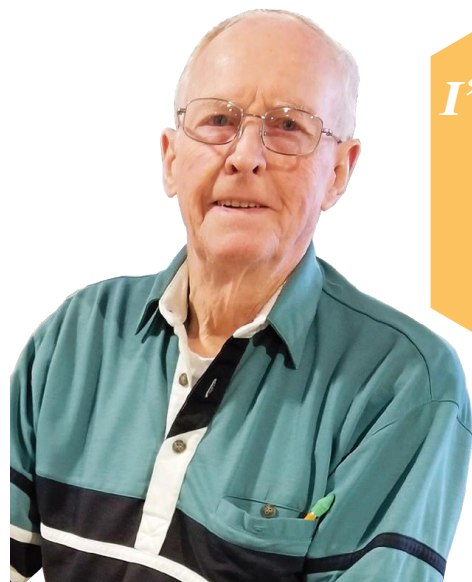
require more water to keep the soil moist but not soggy.

Visit a lawn care center for more information on watering the type of lawn for your area or visit www.scotts.com for additional tips.

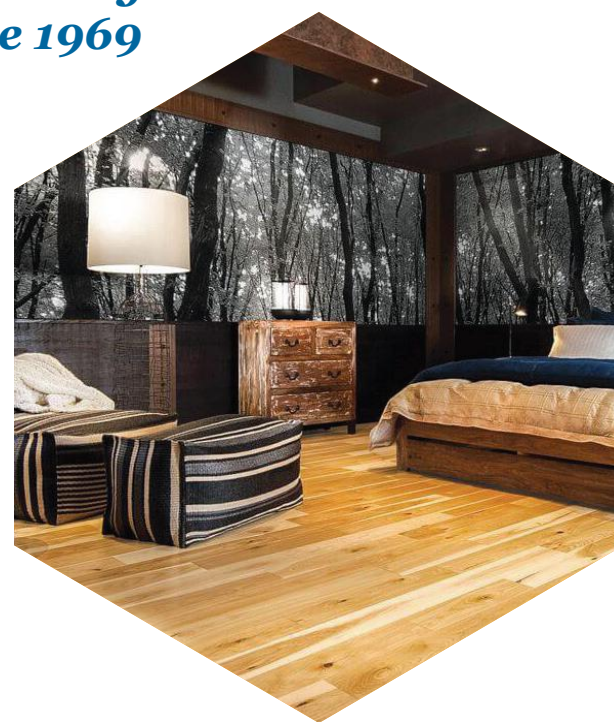
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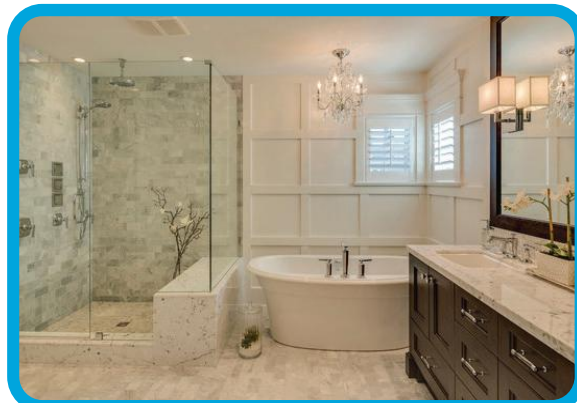
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How to Choose the Right Lighting Inside Your Home

Lighting in a home serves both practical and aesthetic purposes. It's easy to maneuver around a well-lit home, reducing the risk of slips and falls, and the right lighting can help homeowners create their desired ambiance, which typically changes depending on which room you're in.

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

KITCHEN

Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas. In kitchens with no island, under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.

FORMAL DINING ROOM

Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with eight-foot ceilings, adding three inches for each additional foot above eight feet. Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

LIVING ROOM

Adaptability also is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting. Better Homes & Gardens notes that flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multi-purpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low ceilings. That's because recessed lighting is installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger.

BEDROOM

The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstand lights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

Homeowners have many options and many needs when choosing lighting for their homes. A professional consultation with a lighting expert or interior decorator can help homeowners find lights that provide both practical and aesthetic appeal.



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How to Add shade to a Deck or Patio



Homeowners eagerly await the arrival of the warm weather so they can cast off the remnants of cabin fever and bask in the sunshine. However, as summer nears its dog days, the same sun homeowners once coveted can contribute to uncomfortable conditions in outdoor entertaining spaces.

In the heat of summer concrete sitting in the sun almost all day reached a temperature of 134.7 F, while the same concrete in the shade clocked in at just under 80 F. When air temperatures are around 90 F, unshaded concrete and asphalt can be 125 F and 140 F, respectively. While wood decking may not be as hot as asphalt and concrete, it still can get steamy underfoot.

Homeowners who want to be able to enjoy their outdoor spaces in an array of temperatures can think about investing in shade solutions. Sun-blocking ideas like awnings, shade trees and large umbrellas can help people enjoy their yards all day long.

• **CANOPY:** A patio canopy is typically a freestanding unit that can be installed over a patio or a deck. Some people prefer to bolt it down so it will not be knocked over in windy conditions. The fabric on the canopy can be removed during the offseason, helping to improve its longevity.

• **AWNING:** Awnings may be stationary or retractable. Many are installed directly onto a home and can cast shade on specific areas

of outdoor entertaining spaces.

• **SHADE SAIL:** Similar to an awning but a bit less structurally rigid, shade sails are large pieces of triangular fabric installed over areas of a patio, pool or landscape, according to The Family Handyman. Shade sails are light and airy and can be customized.

• **TREES:** A natural way to increase shade in a yard is to plant more shade trees. If sun glare is an issue all year long, and it's not just the heat of the sun that is troublesome, think about planting evergreen trees. Deciduous cousins will drop their leaves in fall and only be effective during the warm weather.

• **PATIO UMBRELLAS:** Many umbrellas start at around \$25. Umbrellas can be paired with patio tables, while stationary cantilever umbrellas sit out of the way on their own heavy-duty stands. A cantilever umbrella tends to provide more shade than patio table umbrellas.

• **CURTAINS:** Homeowners can block sunlight outdoors the way they do inside, offers MSN. Hang curtains from the sides of canopies or between posts on a deck to provide shade and cozy spaces.

Shade is in high demand when the sun is hot. Options abound for making outdoor areas more comfortable.

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Exterior Lighting Can Add Ambiance to a Property



The value of the right lighting in a home is undeniable. Lighting can instantly transform a room and create the ambiance homeowners are looking to establish. Though it might be mostly seen as a way to create mood inside a home, lighting also can do much for lawns and gardens.

Backyards have come a long way over the last several decades. Once reserved as play areas for children and stomping grounds for the family dog, backyards have become oases for homeowners and their families. Outdoor living areas are wildly popular, and no such area is complete without exterior lighting. In fact, a recent report from the National Association of Home Builders found that 85 percent of home buyers want exterior lighting, making it the second most desired outdoor feature (patios topped that list).

Exterior lighting can have a dramatic effect on landscaping, and estimates from the online financial resource Kiplinger.com suggest such lighting is inexpensive, with installation averaging roughly \$67 per fixture.

When installing exterior lighting around their landscapes, homeowners can keep various tips in mind to create a relaxing, awe-inspiring mood on their properties at night.

• CONSIDER UPLIGHTS.

Uplights are installed in the ground and direct light up at a tree, focusing on its trunk or canopy. This creates a dramatic effect that makes it possible to enjoy majestic trees at night just like

you might when spending time in the yard during the day.

• FOCUS ON TREES.

Many homeowners already have exterior lighting lining their walkways and patios, but focusing on trees can create an entirely different look. Though it's possible to install exterior tree lighting on your own, landscaping professionals with lighting experience know which fixtures will pair most effectively with the trees around your property and how to arrange them for maximum effect.

• OPT FOR WARM LIGHT.

Warm white light creates an inviting feel around the property. The exterior lighting experts at Utah Lights acknowledge that choice of lighting is up to homeowners but also note that, in situations with lower levels of ambient light, such as in exterior lights around a property, people typically prefer warmer light. That's because warm light tends to be easier on the eyes and directs attention to the features of the landscape, which is many homeowners' goal when installing exterior lighting in their yards.

• UTILIZE A TIMER.

Modern exterior lighting timers make it easier than ever to control the lights outside a home. Many such timers even adjust for the changing seasons and the shifting hours of daylight. That means homeowners shouldn't have to tinker with the timer once it's set.

Exterior lighting can add significant appeal to a property without breaking the bank.

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Stay Safe When Working in the Yard This Spring and Summer

A day spent working in the yard is an ideal way to pass the time on spring and summer afternoons. A pristine landscape can add value to a property and instill pride in homeowners who put a lot of thought and effort into their lawns and gardens.

A sun-soaked day can make it easy to overlook potential threats when working in a lawn or garden. But safety precautions are of the utmost necessity when working in the yard, where the risk for serious injury is considerable. For example, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons reports that, in 2016, more than 90,000 patients, including nearly 5,000 children, were treated in hospital emergency rooms for lawn mower-related injuries. Lawn- and garden-related injuries can be prevented without going to great lengths.

• KNOW YOUR TERRAIN BEFORE MOWING.

Knowing the terrain in your own yard can reduce the risk for accident or injury. This can be especially important when mowing the lawn with a riding mower. Adhere to manufacturers'

recommendations regarding inclines to reduce tip-over accidents that can pin riders beneath the mower. Study hilly areas of the yard prior to mowing so you know which areas are safe to mow with a riding mower and which areas are best mowed with a walk-behind mower. For greater control when using a walk-behind mower on an incline, mow parallel to the slope.

• APPLY AND REAPPLY SUNSCREEN.

Sunburns may not require trips to the emergency room, but they can still be serious. In fact, the Skin Cancer Foundation notes that sunburn is a leading cause in the majority of cases of basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and melanoma, which is the deadliest form of skin cancer. The SCF recommends applying sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside to allow the sunscreen to bond to your skin. Reapply sunscreen at least every two hours, and more often if you're sweating excessively. The SCF recommends broad spectrum sunscreens, which protect the skin from both UVA and UVB rays. Though a product with a sun

protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 is acceptable when walking the dog or driving to work, the SCF advises using a product with an SPF of 30 or higher when engaging in extended outdoor activities like gardening or mowing.

• EMPLOY THE BUDDY SYSTEM.

Use the buddy system when pruning tall trees or performing any tasks that require a ladder. The Orthopedic Institute of Pennsylvania reports that more than 164,000 people are injured each year falling off a ladder. Ask a significant other or neighbor to hold the ladder in place while you climb up to reduce your risk of falling. If cutting large branches, cut them piecemeal to reduce the risk of being injured by heavy falling branches.

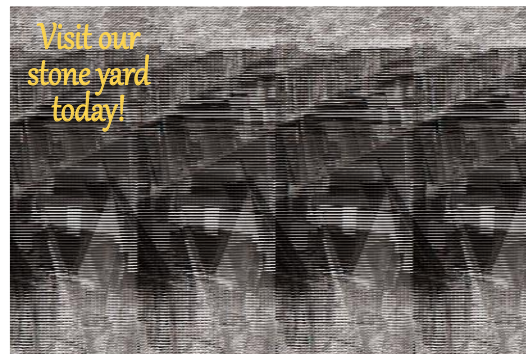
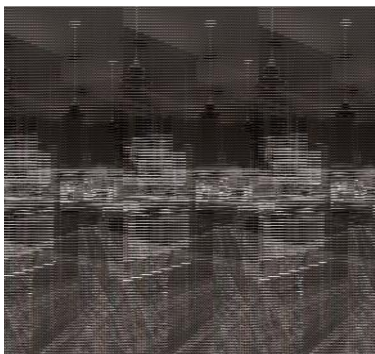
• INSPECT THE PROPERTY FOR INSECT HIVES.

The OIP notes that the most common insect stings in spring come from bees, wasps and hornets. Homeowners who are not careful can inadvertently come across hives when doing



spring cleanup, making them vulnerable to bites and stings. That can be very dangerous for anyone, and especially so for people with a history of allergic reactions to insect bites or stings. Inspect areas where you'll be working to make sure insects haven't put down roots in your property. If you discover any hives and are hesitant to remove them on your own, contact a local landscaping firm.

Lawn and garden accidents and injuries can be serious. Thankfully, accidents and injuries are easily prevented when homeowners take a few simple safety precautions while tending to their lawns and gardens.





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CSM Celebrates National Engineers Week

Promotes Engineering Clubs

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) celebrated 2021 National Engineer Week by accepting proclamations from the Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties' Boards of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the Southern Maryland Delegation. A recognition founded in 1951, National Engineers Week – also known as 'EWeek' – is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of, and interest in, engineering and technology careers.

"EWeek promotes recognition among parents, teachers and students of the importance of a technical education and a high level of math, science and technology literacy, and motivates youth to pursue engineering careers in order to provide a diverse and vigorous engineering workforce," stated the proclamations presented virtually to various CSM faculty and staff during the BOCC's weekly public meetings Feb. 23.

"Engineering has been called the invisible or stealth profession because everything around us and things we use every day have been engineered in some way, yet we may not see the engineers behind the scenes or know much about engineering," said St. Mary's County Commissioner Todd Morgan, who went on to proclaim Feb. 21-27 to be National Engineering Week in St. Mary's County.

CSM Business, Technology, and Public Service Division Chair Bernice Brezina was on hand to thank the Calvert County Commissioners for recognizing the role of engineering in everyday life.

"I was born and raised in Southern Maryland, and am a CSM alumna who went on to the University of Maryland to get my advanced degree in Mechanical Engineering," Brezina shared. "Thank you for recognizing the important role of Engineers."

What are STEM Careers?

STEM – which stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics – doesn't "necessarily involve working in a laboratory or having a fancy degree," confirmed U.S. News and World Report in its January 2021 listing of Best STEM jobs.

"The STEM careers on our list are diverse, including jobs like psychologist, software developer, civil engineer and statistician," the magazine published, adding the STEM jobs have low unemployment and are in high demand. "STEM jobs are often referred to as the jobs of the future, so as this sector continues to grow, take a look at what the STEM industry really looks like."

"Want to know the top reasons why Engineering is cool?" asked CSM Pre-Engineering Coordinator and Adjunct Faculty Jehnell Linkins. "It's fun. It's creative. Engineers earn big salaries and their work touches every aspect of our economy and well-being."

Linkins and her daughter CSM Alumna Jehnae Linkins have worked together in recent years to sponsor CSM's "Engi-

neer Like a Girl!" summer programs for high school students and serve as advisors for the college's various Engineering clubs – among them the nation's newest National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) chartered at CSM in December. In January, Jehnell Linkins and CSM Instructor Judith Moore also started CSM's new Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Club.

CSM offers a broad list of courses, certificates and stackable credentials to help students – and professionals – excel in their STEM careers. The college also offers a number of STEM transfer programs to four-year colleges and universities, including the local partnership with the University of Maryland (UMD).

In the UMD partnership, students are offered a seamless pathway to a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering or Electrical Engineering in which they earn their Associate of Science Engineering Degree at CSM and then transfer with junior status to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering at UMD. Students also have the opportunity to do an internship with the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), a division of NAVAIR, with a possible employment opportunity upon successful graduation and completion of all Pathway Program requirements. Students can take all the classes in Southern Maryland at CSM and then at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center (SMHEC) to complete their junior and senior classes with UMD.

CSM has a financial way forward for students seeking careers in those fields thanks to a \$953,243 award from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM) program, and a second NSF grant for \$257,912 to help students pursue degrees in cybersecurity.

"It is so important for our students and communities facing such difficult times right now to realize that CSM is here to help them achieve their education and stay on course – or start a new career – in positions that are meaningful, important and will always be considered essential," CSM Mathematics Professor Sandra Poinsett recently shared. Poinsett is a lead on the NSF S-STEM grant. "The NSF grants we received in 2019 provide tuition support to students who are pursuing STEM degrees or certificates in applied science and technology, biological sciences, computer information systems, computer science, engineering, engineering technology, information services technology, information systems, cybersecurity and physical sciences."

The window to apply for the NSF S-STEM scholarship remains open. The grant monies not only cover tuition, it also covers support services like field trips, guest speakers, supplies and tutoring. Visit <https://www.csmd.edu/apply-register/credit/scholars-programs/stem-scholars/> for more information.

Press Release from CSM.



CSM Pre-Engineering Coordinator Jehnell Linkins accepts a citation from Maryland State Delegate Dr. Edith Patterson and the Southern Maryland Delegation recognizing Linkins for her advocacy of CSM and all engineering students during Engineering Week 2021.

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Comedian to be Twain Lecturer

“An Evening with Janelle James” takes place on Saturday, April 10, beginning at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. James is the 15th performer for the St. Mary’s College of Maryland Annual Twain Lecture Series on American Humor and Culture. Register in advance for this webinar: www.smcm.edu/twain-tickets.

James is a Los Angeles-based comedian who can be seen on “The Comedy Lineup” on Netflix, “Late Night with Seth Meyers,” and “Crashing” (HBO). In what has been an eventful series of events/years, James toured with Chris Rock on his “Total Blackout” tour, Amy Schumer’s “Growing” tour, then she took over the reins of the Eugene Mirman Comedy Festival (now The Janelle James Comedy Festival) in Brooklyn, New York. She was included in the Just For Laughs Montreal’s New Faces category for 2016, named one of The 50 Most Funny People in Brooklyn 2016 and has been featured several times for her outstanding performance ability in The New York Times. James’s debut comedy album, “Black and Mild,” was released on September 29, 2017 on all



Janelle James

major streaming networks. James is currently a staff writer on “Black Monday” on Showtime.

St. Mary’s College’s Mark Twain Lecture Series on American Humor and Culture was launched in 2007. Since then the series has grown to one of the largest events in Southern Maryland. Past performers include Jordan Klepper, Roy Wood Jr., Tig Notaro, The Onion’s Scott Dikkers, and W. Kamau Bell.

Press Release from SMCM.

St. Mary’s College Partners for Dual Engineering Degree

St. Mary’s College of Maryland has partnered with Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, to offer an engineering dual degree program. The program, considered one of the country’s premier engineering programs, is now in its 48th year at Washington University.

“While the St. Mary’s College students that are most likely to be interested have a focus in chemistry, math, and material sciences, the dual degree program is open to all students independent of major,” said Erin De Pree, SMCM associate professor of physics. “The advantage for an applied physics major is that we are accepting some of the upper-level engineering courses as replacements for student capstone experience at St. Mary’s College. This will make it easier for students to complete their requirements in a timely manner.”

St. Mary’s College students should apply to Washington University in their junior year. There is no application fee and no additional testing is needed. According to Washington University, clear eligibility criteria result in a dual degree admission rate of nearly 90 percent. That criteria includes students taking specific courses that contribute to both liberal arts and engineering degrees, achieving a minimum cumulative 3.25 GPA in all coursework and in STEM coursework, and an endorsement from students’ pre-



engineering adviser.

Those admitted to the engineering dual degree program have two tracks from which to choose: 3-2 Option: Earning a St. Mary’s College bachelor’s degree and a Washington University bachelor’s degree or the 3-3 Option: Earning a St. Mary’s College bachelor’s degree plus a Washington University bachelor’s degree and Washington University master’s degree.

According to Washington University, students in the dual degree program benefit over simply transferring because dual degree staff and student leaders make a point of fostering a special cohort within the engineering community. And once students connect with one another through enrollment and orientation programming, dual degree students maintain a supportive network until graduation.

Press Release from SMCM.

CSM Earns Military Friendly® School Designation

Stands Out with Bronze Distinction



The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announces that it has been recognized as a top post-secondary school for veterans and their spouses for the sixth consecutive evaluation period. CSM was also among 13 community colleges in the United States to be honored with the bronze distinction in the latest listing determined by VIQTORY, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business. A bronze distinction school must score within 30 percent of the 10th best school in its category.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation are evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. More than 1,200 schools nation-wide participated in the 2021-2022 survey with 747 earning the designation. In Maryland, CSM was among 13 higher education institutions – four of which were community colleges – to earn the title Military Friendly® School, and the only Maryland college to earn bronze.

“CSM is grateful for the men and women who have served, and who continue to serve, in the armed forces and we lean in every day to assist our student veterans and their families with transitioning their careers,” said CSM Veteran Affairs (VA) Coordinator Laticia Ragin. Ragin reported that CSM serves a large military population in Southern Maryland due to its central campus locations near numerous military bases and installations.

“It’s such a great honor to be recognized with this designation,” said Ragin. “The CSM VA team takes great pride in staying abreast of VA updates and changes, and assisting our student veterans with obtaining their military educational benefits.”

Along with CSM’s Student Veterans Association and Student Life, Ragin also helped to create a commemorative Veterans Recognition coin for all veterans who attend CSM when Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan declared 2019 “The Year of the Veteran.” (See: Thank You Veterans)

“Military Friendly® is committed to transparency and providing consistent data driven standards in our designation process,” said Kayla Lopez, National Director of Military Partnerships, Military Friendly®. “This creates a competitive

atmosphere that encourages colleges to consistently evolve and invest in their programs. Schools who achieve designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts. Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources, and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the military community.”

CSM’s commitment to veterans is reflected in numerous ways. The college is approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Maryland Higher Education Commission, so that eligible veterans, servicepersons and certain dependents of veterans can receive VA educational benefits for credit certificate and associate degree programs as well as some Workforce Development programs. First-year seminar courses are available to assist veterans in transitioning to the college experience. Concepts taught in this course that add value to the veteran experience are time management; critical thinking; navigating college resources; diversity; social and emotional intelligence; and program, progression and completion planning.

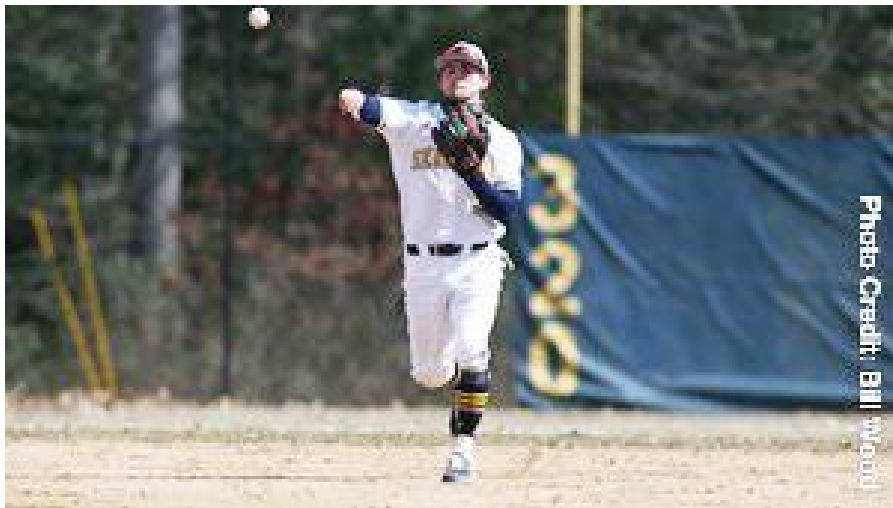
To learn more about CSM’s assistance to veterans, visit www.csmd.edu/student-services/veteran-military-support-services/.

About Military Friendly® Schools: The 2021-2022 Military Friendly® Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by VIQTORY with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution’s survey response set and government/agency public data sources, within a logic-based scoring assessment. The advisory council measured the institution’s ability to meet thresholds for student retention, graduation, job placement, loan repayment, degree advancement or transfer and loan default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

Press Release from CSM.

Seahawks Split Baseball Doubleheader



The St. Mary's College of Maryland baseball team (1-3) hosted the Marymount University Saints (2-2) on Saturday (Mar. 13) in non-conference action. The Seahawks won a thrilling 8-7 game with a game-winning RBI walk-off from Brian Sanders. The Seahawks dropped game two by a final score of 3-1.

How It Happened (Game One)

The Seahawks opened up the scoring in the first inning with a RBI double from Jake Wood. Next, Joey Bryner put the ball in play to plate Wood, extending the Seahawk lead to 2-0. With Brady Waters on base, Sam James stepped up to the plate and singled to bring B. Waters home.

In the third inning, St. Mary's College tacked on two more runs with a RBI double from Sam Smith and a RBI single from B. Waters to take a 5-0 lead. Next, the Saints stormed back with six runs through the fourth and fifth innings to capture the lead, 6-5.

B. Waters recorded his second RBI in the game when he flew out to center field to bring home Derrick Booker and evened the game up at six. The Saints added another run in the top of the ninth to reclaim the advantage. However, the Seahawks got the bats going in the bottom half of the inning and tied the game up at seven when Dillon Waters scored on a wild pitch. With runners in scoring position, Brian Sanders came up with a clutch single to plate Max Elliott for the walk-off victory.

Inside the Box Score (Game One)

Connor Coursey and B. Waters paced the Seahawks from the plate with three hits each. B. Waters also led St. Mary's College with two RBI.

Mark Smith started the game on the mound and pitched two innings. Jake Wills, Will Spanoghe, Nick Testoni, and Jake Sandridge pitched in relief. Testoni tallied two strikeouts and allowed zero earned runs. Sandridge racked up three strikeouts and earned the victory.

How It Happened (Game Two)

Runs were hard to come by in game two of the series, especially for the Seahawks who could only manage to push one across the plate. Marymount's starting pitcher threw five complete innings and allowed just one earned run to earn the victory.

The Saints scored two runs in the top of the first and added another run in the third inning to jump out to a 3-0 lead. In the fifth inning, St. Mary's College notched their lone run of the contest with a RBI single from James.

Inside the Box Score

Booker, Wood, D. Waters, Smith, and James recorded one hit each. Wood also drew the lone walk for the Seahawks.

D. Waters pitched all seven innings for the Seahawks and didn't allow a single earned run. In addition, D. Waters tallied six strikeouts in his appearance.

Up Next for the Seahawks

Mar. 20 at Southern Virginia | 12 PM (DH)

Press Release from SMCM.

Field Hockey Cruises to Victory



The St. Mary's College of Maryland field hockey team hosted the Frostburg State University Bobcats in an exhibition match on Sunday (Mar. 14) afternoon. The Seahawks cruised to a 2-0 victory over the Bobcats. **St. Mary's College - 2, Frostburg State University - 0**

How It Happened

Although it didn't reflect on the scoreboard, the Seahawks dominated most of the game and held possession in their offensive end for the majority of the contest. St. Mary's College didn't find the back of the cage in the first stanza, but fired off five shots compared to the Bobcats zero. Additionally, the Seahawks held the advantage in penalty corners 2-1.

In the second quarter, the Seahawks found the back of the cage in the 24th minute with a goal from Celina Kaufman. Meghan Ronan sent a well-placed feed in front of the cage for the assist.

Once again, the Seahawks held the advantage in shots 3-0. St. Mary's College headed into half-time leading 1-0.

The Seahawks wasted little time to extend their lead to two with a goal from Hannah Dietrich in the 32nd minute. Kaufman was credited with the assist. St. Mary's College put a barrage of shots on during the third quarter and held a 9-0 advantage in the category.

The fourth quarter was scoreless, but the Bobcats managed to tally their only two shots in the game during the stanza.

Inside the Box Score

As mentioned, Kaufman and Dietrich led the Seahawks with one goal each. Kaufman also led the Seahawks five shots and three on goal. In goal, Meaghan Collins earned the win and collected two saves.

Up Next for the Seahawks

Mar. 18 at Neumann | 7

Press Release from SMCM.

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A View From The BLEACHERS



Gary Williams &...

By Ronald N. Guy Jr
Contributing Writer

An antiquated tube television illuminated a dreary motel room somewhere between the desolate Mojave Desert and civilization. A devastated pizza box sat on the table, a few crumbs being only leftovers from a savage consumption. Two chairs were positioned in front of the television and a cooler of beer was carefully placed within an arm's-length of both. This was the efficient work of two professional sports fans.

Over the next two hours, the chairs were barely used beyond the edge of the seats, the beers were emptied, consumed almost unconsciously, and guttural screams no doubt permeated the thin walls. Despite the modest accommodations, the images that flashed across the screen - a live feed from Boston beamed nearly 3,000 to this remote location just on the outskirts of nowhere-land - made April 4, 2006 an electric night.

The occupants of the room were... are... lifelong residents of Maryland and ardent supporters of the Terrapins. Why they were so far from home and in a location begging for a horror film set is irrelevant; their hearts were in Boston where the Maryland women's basketball team was busy winning the program's first national championship.

Maryland's ascent to college basketball's pinnacle completed a rapid four-year rebuild of a program that had fallen far after its heyday in the 1980s and early 1990s. The architect of Maryland's resurgence was head coach Brenda Frese, who had arrived in College Park in 2002 fresh off being named Coach of the Year for her work at Minnesota.

The 15 years since the 2006 championship have generated an amazing resume - 13 NCAA tournament appearances, two additional trips to the Final Four, nine conference or conference tournament championships and a regular spot ranked in the top 10. This season, Frese won her 500th game at Maryland, breaking long-time coach Chris Weller's record, led a team with five new starters to a conference championship and took home the Big 10 Coach of the Year and National Coach of the Year awards.

And yet, despite winning a national championship, dominating

conference play, cutting down nets on the regular and being the foundation of one of the best programs in college basketball, Frese remains underrated - nationally and maybe even among Maryland faithful. Of course, her timing couldn't have been worse to claim the spotlight. Frese was hired just after legendary Maryland coach Gary Williams won a national championship himself, and her coaching peer group includes the likes of Tara VanDerveer, C. Vivian Stringer, Muffet McGraw, Pat Summit and Geno Auriemma - all six are in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. But this fact seems to be finally getting its due: Frese is on a Hall of Fame trajectory herself.

A positive of COVID, and hopefully a lasting one, is greater sensitivity to moments, experiences and special people. Life, travel, sports, players, coaches...everything is so fragile. So call this a pause to appreciate a special coach in peak form - a Frese, freeze, if you will. Now nearly 20 years into her Maryland tenure, the hope of this "girl dad" is that Frese is just getting started and continues to be a symbol of strength and determination.

A decade after that 2006 National Championship and long-distance celebration, I spent a day at Xfinity Center on Maryland's campus for a youth basketball and cheerleading event, and a women's basketball game. Walking through the concourse, I paused to properly absorb the national championship trophy. An involuntary smile appeared on my face. I thought of that night, Kristi Toliver's big shot and a hotel room I hope to never visit again.

After the youth events had ended, I was seated in the arena, with a direct line-of-sight to the championship banner, as the women's team took the floor, trailed by Frese, for pre-game warmups. Watching the drills my eyes wandered onto the script "Gary Williams" that adorns the court. It made me ponder the tradition of naming courts after legendary coaches. What if a school has another one? Is an ampersand and the other name just added?

Maryland may soon be, if it isn't already, in the enviable position of having to answer that question.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

No. 25 Seahawks Edged by No. 6 Salisbury



Photo Credit: Bill Wood

3/13/2021 | Women's Lacrosse | Box Score

The No. 25 St. Mary's College of Maryland women's lacrosse team (2-1, 0-1 C2C) traveled to the No. 6 Salisbury University Sea Gulls (4-0, 1-0 C2C) on Saturday (Mar. 13) afternoon to open up C2C play. The Seahawks were edged by the Sea Gulls 14-10.

No. 25 St. Mary's College - 10, No. 6 Salisbury - 14

How It Happened

- Salisbury caught the Seahawks on their heels to open up the game and netted six unanswered goals to jump out to a comfortable 6-0 lead. St. Mary's College recorded their first goal of the game at the 14:42 mark from Lucy Gussio. However, Salisbury responded with back-to-back goals to extend their lead to 8-1.

- With 11 minutes remaining in the first half, the Seahawks used a three-goal run with scores from Erin Carmody, Gussio, and Jayne Barkman to cut the Salisbury lead in half. The Sea Gulls once again stole the momentum back with two unanswered goals to end the half. The Seahawks headed into halftime trailing 10-4.

- The second half of action was competitive and had the Seahawks outscore the Sea Gulls 6-4. St. Mary's College

and Salisbury exchanged scores in the first portion of the half as both squads tallied three goals each. Barkman, Lily Davison, and Kelly Emge were responsible for the Seahawks three goals which brought the score to 13-7 in favor of Salisbury.

- The Seahawks brought themselves within four of the Salisbury lead at the 10:39 mark with back-to-back goals from Davison and Gussio. The Sea Gulls answered with a goal to bring their lead to five. Davison notched her third goal of the contest to wrap up the scoring in the game.

Inside the Box Score

- Davison and Gussio both recorded hat tricks with a team-best three goals each. Barkman also made contributions on the offensive end with two goals.

- Stephanie Heffron led the Seahawks with two caused turnovers and four draw controls. Francesca Ziccardi hustled for a team-high five ground balls. In goal, Aimee Uibel collected 12 saves and fell to 2-1 on the season.

- Lydia McNulty led the Sea Gulls with five goals.

Up Next for the Seahawks

- Mar. 20 vs. Randolph-Macon | 2 PM | Jamie L. Roberts Stadium

Press Release from SMCM.

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In Remembrance

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

James Richard "Dickie" Phipps, Sr.



James Richard "Dickie" Phipps, Sr., 74, of Chesapeake Beach passed away March 15, 2021 at his home. He was born September 8, 1946 in Jewell, MD to William Ernest and Ruth Elizabeth (Ford) Phipps.

Dickie was raised in Dunkirk and graduated from Calvert High School. He married Linda Ann Lovett in 1966 and again in 2000. Dickie was employed as a heavy equipment operator with Chaney Enterprises for 30 years, retiring in 2013. Dickie was a good ole' country boy who enjoyed rabbit hunting, beagles, crabbing, going to horse pulls, and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Dickie is survived by his wife Lina Ann Phipps and sons James R. Phipps, Jr. and Steven E. Phipps, all of Chesapeake Beach, daughter Stacey L. Carter and husband Joe of Upper Marlboro, and grandchildren Scooter Phipps, Karin Phipps, and Emmalee Moreland.

Visitation will be Sunday, March 21, 2021, 2-4 p.m. and Monday March 22, 2021, 11 a.m. to noon at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Funeral service will follow at noon at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Friendship United Methodist Church Cemetery, 22 W. Friendship Road, Friendship, MD 20758.

Rick Jason Cawley



Rick Jason Cawley, 46, of Rosehaven, MD passed away suddenly on March 12, 2021. He was born November 24, 1974 in Cheverly, MD to Thomas Elmer and Barbara Regina (Boerckel) Cawley.

Rick was preceded in death by his father and brother Randy Cawley.

Surviving are his mother Barbara Cawley, daughter Makayla Cawley and sister Kelli Baldwin all of Rosehaven and brother Keith Cawley of St. Charles, MO.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 18, 2021, 2-4 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Funeral service will follow at 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105; Link: <https://www.stjude.org/>

Dorothy Trott Ward



On March 11, 2021, Dorothy Trott Ward, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother, passed away at the age of 98. Dot was born and raised in Hunting-

town, MD. She graduated valedictorian of her high school class and went on to graduate from Strayer Business School. She worked for the Department of Agriculture for several years before returning to Calvert County. She married Ewell B. Ward in 1942. While he was serving in the Army Air Force, she began working as the office manager for Dr. Page Jett in Prince Frederick. She worked for Dr. Jett for 35 years and retired in 1981.

Dot was a life long member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Huntingtown. After less than a year of piano lessons, she started playing the piano and then organ for the church when she was 16 and continued to play for more than 40 years. She was involved with all aspects of church life. She served as financial secretary for many years. She was very involved with the United Methodist Women's group and later the church quilting group where she made hundreds of quilts that were donated to the Linus Project and to the local infusion center.

Dot loved to sew and bake and her grandchildren particularly remember her Easter bunny cakes! Dot loved life and enjoyed it to the fullest! She particularly loved spending time at her daughter's vacation home in Bethany Beach. She had a wicked sense of humor and took great joy in her family and friends.

Dot was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Mary Trott, and her husband of 52 years, Ewell. She is survived by her daughters Joan Wadman (Rob), Debra Goldberg (Dan) and Karen Ward, her sister Betty Louhead, grandchildren Sarah (Chris), Rachel (Perry), Rebecca (Jake) and Courtney, and great-granddaughter Eleanor (Ellie) Dorothy Learn (born March 9, 2021). The Circle of Life!

Due to Covid-19 there will be no service at this time. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations in her name may be made to Emmanuel United Methodist Church, PO Box 484, Huntingtown, MD 20639; 410-535-3177; Link: <http://eumchuntingtown.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Christopher Ryan "Chris" McKinney



Christopher Ryan "Chris" McKinney, 41 of Lusby, MD and formerly of Prince Frederick, MD, passed away on March 11, 2021 at Georgetown University Hospital. Born August 20, 1979 in Saratoga

Spring, NY, he was the son of the late Edward Neal McKinney and Susan Burton Murphy.

Chris graduated from Calvert High School. He served in the U.S. Navy from August 2, 2000 until September 6, 2002. During his enlistment, he served aboard the USS Oak Hill and was stationed at NAB Little Creek. Chris was an Elevator Mechanic for Quality Elevators.

Chris is survived by his wife, Elizabeth A. Kramer whom he married on October 25, 2015 in Lusby, MD; his children, Colin and Jagger Kramer of Lusby, MD; his sister, Jennifer

O'Donoghue and her children, Katelyn, Aidan and Finn of Nashua, NH; and step-father Philip Murphy of Prince Frederick, MD.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. with a Life Celebration Service conducted by Chaplain Bill Miller following at 11:00 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home, 20 American Lane, Lusby, MD.

Christopher's Life Celebration Service will be live on the Rausch Funeral Home, P.A. Facebook page starting around 10:55 am..

All are welcome to attend a Celebration of Life gathering that will be held after the service at the Chesapeake Ranch Estates Clubhouse.

Inurnment will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

William "Bill" Robert Skillin



William "Bill" Robert Skillin, 46 of Westminster, MD, formerly of Calvert County, passed away suddenly on March 11, 2021. He was born on November 22, 1974 in Baltimore, MD to Robert and Rebecca

Skillin.

Bill grew up in Dunkirk, MD and graduated from Northern High School. He completed Montgomery County Community College's HVAC program and was the class speaker at graduation. He was employed as a HVAC Controls Programmer with Boland Trane.

Bill was an avid sports fan and enjoyed going to Washington Capitals and Washington Nationals games. He attended many of the 2019 Washington Nationals playoff games with his father, brother and nephew. He enjoyed spending time with his family, attending concerts, and watching movies. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was often the comedic relief. He had a natural talent for his work and enjoyed helping others. His best work is the legacy he left behind in his four children.

He is survived by his children Taylor, Renee, William and Aubrey, father Robert Skillin of Dunkirk, mother Rebecca Sprecher and her husband Larry of Dufur, Oregon, sister Laura Gott and her husband Johnny of North Beach,

brother Jacob Skillin of Dunkirk, niece Elizabeth Bostic of Owings and nephew Matthew Galumbeck of North Beach.

Visitation will be Friday, March 19, 2021, 2-4 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Funeral service will follow at 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, 199 Water Street, 11th Floor

New York, New York 10038; Link: <https://afsp.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donate.event&eventID=1>

Virginia Woodruff Bowen



Virginia Woodruff Bowen, mother of four, retired teacher in the Calvert County Public Schools, widow of Perry G. Bowen, Jr. (who served on the Circuit Court for Calvert County), died at the University of

Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air, Maryland on March 11, 2021, her 93rd birthday, from complications of Covid-19.

The only child of Berkeley Alter Woodruff, a veteran of World War I, and Una Virginia (McCullers) Woodruff, an Army nurse, Virginia Elizabeth Woodruff was born on March 11, 1928, and grew up in Waverly Mills and Pawley's Island in coastal South Carolina, where she learned to ride and hunt. A life-long lover of creatures, she adopted a menagerie of animals from the wild including an orphaned fawn and baby alligators.

A gifted student, Virginia Elizabeth, as she was called, graduated from Georgetown High School in Georgetown, South Carolina, and received her bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. She aspired to become a social worker. In her first employment following graduation, she provided recreational therapy to disabled and recovering veterans at a veterans' hospital.

In 1950, the then Miss Woodruff was introduced to Perry Gray Bowen, Jr., a young lawyer from Calvert County, who was stationed in South Carolina while serving in the Judge

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In Remembrance

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

Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Army. The two were married on November 24, 1951, at what is now Trinity Cathedral in Columbia. The new Mrs. Bowen enjoyed her role as an officer's wife. The accompanying photograph is the one her husband carried with him during his military service and throughout their sixty-six years of marriage.

On completion of their time in the military, the couple settled in Calvert County, living first in Dares Beach, then in Scientists' Cliffs and ultimately building a home on the family farm on the Patuxent River. The couple raised three daughters, Virginia Woodruff Bowen (Ginger) (who died in 1992), M. Elizabeth Bowen (Beth) and Sara Gray Bowen, and a son, Perry Gray Bowen III.

As her oldest child approached admission to college, Mrs. Bowen returned to college herself and completed the courses necessary to obtain her certification to teach. She worked as a full-time substitute for several years and then taught sixth grade language arts and social studies at Calvert Middle School for a decade. She was a support and mentor for her students both in and out of the classroom. Until her death, former students remained in touch with her.

Mrs. Bowen's life was one of service to her family, her students, and her community. A gracious hostess and resourceful cook, she welcomed all at her table. Young and old found refuge in her home. As a young wife, she volunteered with the Red Cross and intervened directly to stop incidents of neglect and mistreatment of the vulnerable. A skillful and

determined advocate for causes she believed in, she was instrumental in the founding of The Calverton School, the building of the new parish hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and the acquisition of "Linden," the home of Miss Sadie and Miss Marguerite Gray, by the Calvert County Historical Society.

An artist with flowers and found plant materials, Mrs. Bowen was a mainstay of the Calvert Garden Club and contributed her talents over the course of many years to the House and Garden Pilgrimage, the holiday decorations of the Courthouse and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the annual Flower Mart, and countless flower shows.

Mrs. Bowen was a longtime member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church where she served on the Vestry and the Altar Guild; she was a stalwart in the service projects of the women of the church. Both she and her husband were dedicated members of the Calvert County Historical Society.

In the years after her retirement from teaching, Mrs. Bowen worked as business partner, cook, and creative force in "Sara's Kitchen," the culinary enterprise of her daughter Sara. Mrs. Bowen and her husband enjoyed steamboat cruises on the Mississippi River, vacations in Hawaii, and an eventful trip to Russia to attend the wedding of Maxim Achkasov, who had lived with them for several years as an exchange student.

In 2000, Mrs. Bowen and her husband moved to Oaken Brow, an historic home in King George, Virginia, where they continued

the traditions of hospitality and community outreach which had been the hallmarks of their life in Calvert County. After much research into her family's history, Mrs. Bowen became a member of the Leedstown Resolutions Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She attended St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Port Royal.

Following her husband's death in 2018, Mrs. Bowen moved to Amazing Grace Assisted Living in Bel Air, Maryland, near her daughter Beth's home. Her spirit and her sense of humor endeared her to every member of the Amazing Grace community.

Mrs. Bowen was the beloved "GinGin" of her grandchildren Maron Elizabeth Bolton (who died in 2013), Eleanor Bowen Nixon, Emma Virginia Morse Bolton, and William Warner Bolton, and of her "heart's grandchildren" William Benitez (Ben) Shand and Peter Johnson Shand, all of whom spent many happy hours in her care. A day with GinGin was always an adventure. Mrs. Bowen delighted in the exploits of her great-grandchildren Alina Madison Ortiz, Anaya Noelle Ortiz, and Finley Gray Nixon, and of Henry Shand. Her focus was always on the next generation.

As it is unsafe for friends and family to gather at this time, a celebration of Mrs. Bowen's life will take place next year on March 11, 2022, her birthday. In the meantime, all who wish to honor her memory may follow her example of concern and compassion for others by wearing a mask, maintaining social distancing, obtaining the vaccine when available, and working together to bring this pandemic to an end. In lieu of flowers, those who wish to make a memorial gift may consider a donation to the Maryland Food Bank, the Calvert County Historical Society, The Calverton School, or the charity of the giver's choice.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

James "Jim" Eldridge Chaney, Jr.



James "Jim" Eldridge Chaney, Jr., 82, of Bridgeville, DE, formerly of Upper Marlboro, MD, passed away on March 9, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Margaret "Marie" Chaney and a daughter, Dawn Marie Fletcher and son-in-law, Kevin Fletcher and his three grandchildren, Thomas, Casey, and Sara Fletcher. He is also survived by a sister, Eleanor Souther as well as several brothers and sisters -in-laws and many nieces and nephews.

Jim served in the Army National Guard as a Military Policeman with honors as a "Soldier and NCO of the Year". He served as a PTA President at Mattaponi and Marlton Elementary Schools and went on to direct a Junior Achievement High School Program in Upper Marlboro for several years. He retired from AT&T as a Marketing Manager. After his retirement, he joined the American Legion Post #206 in Chesapeake Beach, MD and served as a Finance Officer as well as Commander.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 405 Williams

Court, Suite 120, Baltimore, MD 21220; 800-227-2345; Link:

<https://www.cancer.org>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

William Madison Stallings, Jr., "Bill Bill"



William Madison Stallings, Jr., "Bill Bill" 29 of Dunkirk, Maryland passed away March 9, 2021 in Sparks, Maryland. He was born on January 6, 1992 in Annapolis, Maryland to William M. "Billy" and Crystol L. Stallings.

Crystol L. Stallings.

"Bill Bill" had a heart of gold, loved spending time with his family and that was an important part of his life. He liked being outdoors, on the water, and to skateboard.

He is survived by his son Ryan William Robert Stallings, his parents, Crystol and Billy, brothers Jacob and Justin Stallings and his sister Amber Turner. He was also survived by his grandparents, Steven and Wanda Noel, Aunt, Karen Stallings Uncles, Eric and Scott Noel. He was preceded in death by his other grandparents, Bill and Wanda Stallings.

Memorial contributions may be made to Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, 30 Duke Street, Suite 104, P.O. Box 2104, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-3733; Link:

<https://www.cocal.md.us/90/Calvert-Alliance-Against-Substance-Abuse>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Barbara Ann Wallace



Barbara Ann Wallace passed away unexpectedly on March 7, 2021 in Prince Frederick, Maryland at the age of 61.

Barbara is survived by her sisters, Carol Erickson and Bonnie Schenck; her brother, Timothy Wallace; her daughter, Jessica Kidwell; and her granddaughter, Alyssa Nunez. She is preceded in death by her parents, Donald Kenneth Wallace Sr. and Margaret Ann Ring; her brother, Donald Kenneth Wallace Jr.; and her daughter, Samantha Ryan Kidwell.

Barbara was born on June 16, 1959 in Silver Spring, Maryland. She enjoyed listening to birds sing and was passionate about the humane treatment of animals.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a celebration of life will be scheduled outside in the coming months. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to Orca Network, 485 Labella Vista Way, Freeland, WA 98249; Link:

<http://www.orcanetwork.org/Main/> or Orca Research Trust, Link:

<https://www.orcaresearch.org>

IN MEMORIAM, 53, JOANN CANNING

Born in D.C moved to: Forestville, Upper Marlboro, and then Dunkirk, with a summer home in Point Lookout. JoAnn was a professional model from age 16 to 21. She then joined her husband in Fort Gordon, GA. She began working in the Upper Marlboro courthouse in 1975. She is survived by her husband, Robbie Canning from North Beach, her daughter Lisa and son Scott, his wife Theresa and grandsons, Justin Canning and Chris Olson.



Everyone who met you was awed by your classical Italian Beauty and ever eternal elegance and grace.

You said to move on, but that was not the case.

No one could forget your oh so lovely face.

Our time together was so very short in years.

Bringing me nothing but an outpouring of tears.

These words are mine. Not Shakespeare, Sir Francis Bacon, Robert Frost or even Yeats. These are my own words expressing timeless feel-ings and thoughts.

Happy Birthday
"The Ides of March"
Love, Robbie Canning.

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND YOUR BENEFICIARIES

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

Many people purchase life insurance to provide cash to their loved ones when they die. They pay premiums for years on these policies and fully expect that their beneficiaries will receive the payouts on these policies promptly. Press reports have highlighted insurance companies for delaying or not paying death benefits to beneficiaries. After all, the longer the insurance company takes to pay out death benefits, the more money they make from investing the cash.

How can this happen? Easily. If you have designated a beneficiary for your life insurance policy and have not told that beneficiary they will receive a death benefit payout when you die, insurance companies take the position that they are under no obligation to go looking for your beneficiary. The beneficiary must contact the insurance company with a copy of your death certificate to obtain the payout. So, not telling a beneficiary that they are a beneficiary and that, to obtain a payout, they must take action to advise the insurance company of your death, defeats the purpose of having life insurance. What should you do to protect your beneficiaries?

Step 1: GET a copy of your beneficiary designation from your life insurance company. While you are doing that, take a look at whom you have designated as a beneficiary and make sure it's what you want. It is easy to change a beneficiary. Every insurance company will send you a change of beneficiary form but you have to ask for it.

Step 2: TELL your beneficiary that they are the designated beneficiary for your life insurance policy. Give them the name of the life insurance company, their address, and a copy of the beneficiary designation.

Step 3: ADVISE the Beneficiary that, upon your death, they must send a written request to the insurance company for the death benefit, including a copy of your death certificate, along with a copy of the beneficiary designation and proof (through a picture ID) that they are the beneficiary you have named. Send this by certified mail, return receipt requested so you have proof you have advised the company.

Step 4: If the insurance company does not respond promptly to

the beneficiary's written request for death benefits, seek the advice of an attorney. In the vast majority of cases, there is no excuse for unreasonable delays in paying death benefits.

It gets worse. In a whole life insurance policy, the customer builds up a cash value to the policy. This is like a savings account. Consumers can borrow money from their policies and beneficiaries get the death payouts and built up savings in a policy when the insured person dies. Here is the problem. The insurance company can deduct the cost of the premiums for these whole life policies from the savings account in the policy. When someone dies, if the insurance company is not notified (or claims they are not notified), the insurance company can use all the savings in the policy to continue to pay premiums even though the insured has died. The entire value of the policy can be depleted to zero if the insurance company is not formally notified of the insured's death. Again, the only way to avoid this is to advise the insurance company in writing (by certified mail, return receipt requested) that the insured has died and death benefits are claimed by a beneficiary.

Beneficiary designations are important and change over time. Keep your beneficiary designations up to date. So many people forget the names of those they have designated as beneficiaries—from parents, now deceased, to ex-spouses. Once you have updated the names of your beneficiaries, tell your beneficiaries that they have been named by you to receive death benefits and tell them what they need to do to collect those benefits. Finally, put all your beneficiary forms with instructions for your beneficiaries in a safe place with your will, trust and other important documents. Don't have a will, trust, power of attorney or living will? Get these critical documents to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Join me for a discussion about estate planning on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am at our office 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your seat or call to set up an appointment for a free consultation. Looking forward to meeting you.

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, March 18

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

Little Minnows

Calvert Marine Museum; various times

For preschoolers ages 3 – 5, with an adult. This program focuses on one of the museum's three themes. 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 What Floats Your Boat? This program is now offered at various times throughout the day, to accommodate guests during all sessions. For specific times, please visit calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Saturday, March 20

Free Paper Shredding Event

Appeal Landfill; 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Residents are required to wear face masks and practice safe social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. There is no limit per resident and proof of residency is required. All paper must be removed from plastic bags and cardboard boxes prior to shredding. Paper clips and staples are acceptable. Binders and binder clips are not acceptable. Certificates of destruction will be provided if requested. Businesses are prohibited from residential shredding events. Shredding events are held monthly throughout the year. For more information about recycling events, call the Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, at 410-326-0210, visit www.Calvert-CountyMd.gov/Recycle or download the Recycle Coach app.

CountyMd.gov/Recycle or download the Recycle Coach app.

Thursday, March 25

In the Age of Sail Lecture Series

Virtual; 5 p.m.

Join Mark Wilkins, CMM Curator of Maritime History, as he explores topics ranging from European influences, to the tobacco trade, to the Civil War on the Chesapeake and more, through the 20th century. During today's lecture, discuss and explore the design evolution of the ocean-going sailing vessel, enabling explorers to find America and eventually Maryland.

Ongoing

United Way Wine Fundraiser

Our wine fundraiser is still going on...and now there's a twist! Support the United Way of Calvert County by purchasing your favorite One Hope wines, open until April 10. <https://www.onehopewine.com/event/73753>

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 Instagram 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 multi-media 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.

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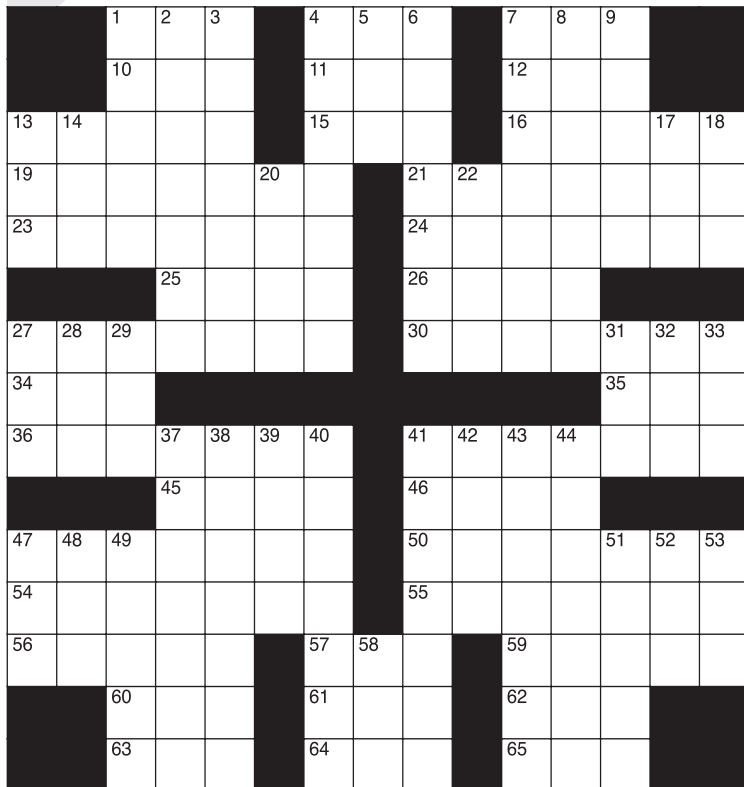
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

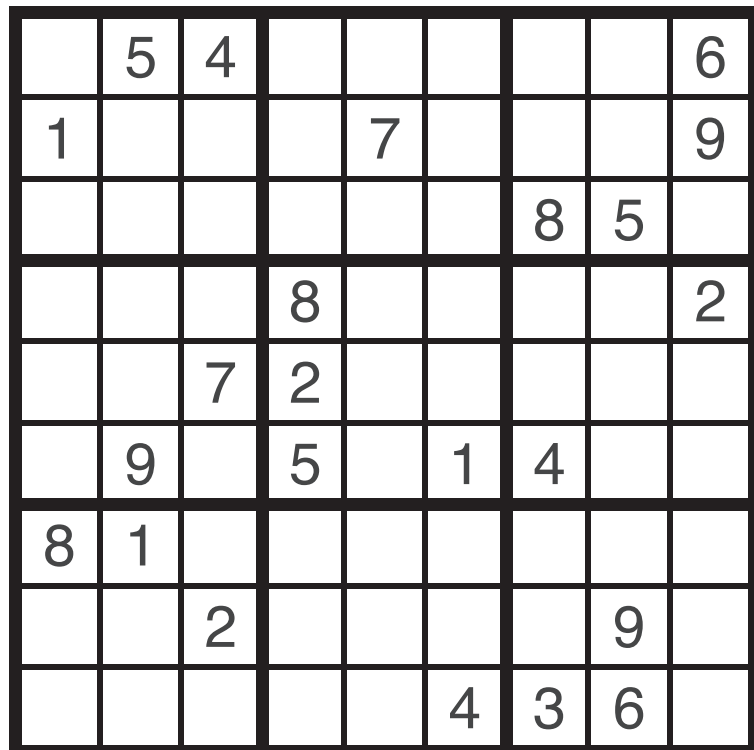
- 1. ___ fi: popular genre
- 4. Curved shape
- 7. Defunct airline
- 10. Beverage receptacle
- 11. Corporate bigwig
- 12. Belong to he
- 13. They cover cuts
- 15. Cost per mille
- 16. Walk into
- 19. Power-producing machine
- 21. Part of one's character perceived by others
- 23. Emotionally appealed to
- 24. Protected
- 25. Wrestling icon Okerlund
- 26. Thailand's former name
- 27. Muscle weaknesses
- 30. Chooses
- 34. American film studio
- 35. Expression of satisfaction
- 36. Mythical winged horse
- 41. Ballplayers
- 45. Edible seaweed
- 46. Chinese politician

- 47. Tested for fertility
- 50. Glove worn with medieval armor
- 54. Basaltic lavas
- 55. Small shoaling fish
- 56. Surrendered
- 57. Taxi
- 59. Potato part
- 60. Female sheep
- 61. Trouble or difficulty
- 62. Put into service
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. 17th letter of Greek alphabet
- 65. Type of student

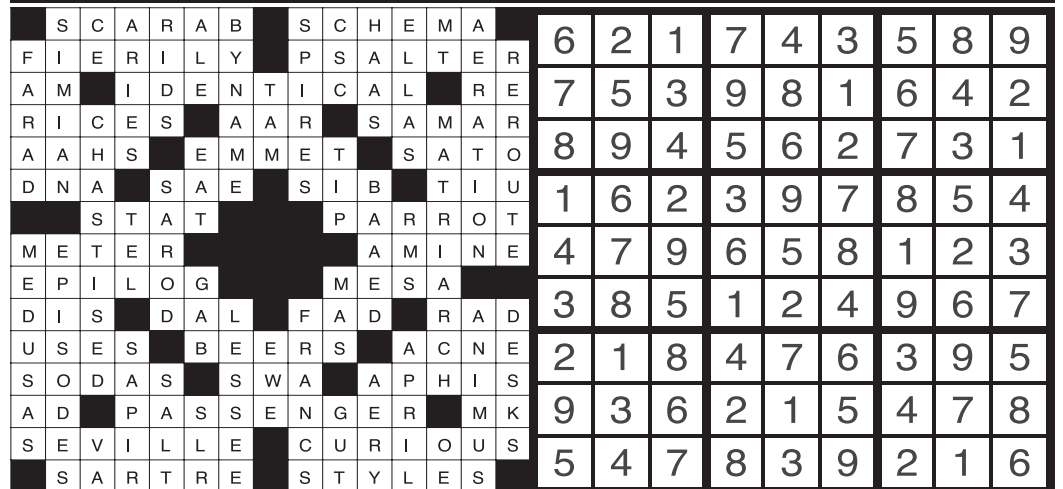
- northeast and east
- 18. Cool!
- 20. Brazilian NBAer
- 22. NW Pennsylvania city
- 27. Young dog
- 28. Mimic
- 29. Large truck
- 31. The NFL's Newton
- 32. One and only
- 33. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 37. Julie ___, actress
- 38. More nourishing
- 39. Compound
- 40. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle
- 41. Object of fear or alarm
- 42. ___ Ladd, actor
- 43. Sacred place
- 44. A way to express enjoyment
- 47. Trigonometric function
- 48. A team's best pitcher
- 49. Intersecting points
- 51. Roundishly shaped
- 52. Adam's partner
- 53. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 58. Human hormone

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Frighten
- 2. Partner to corned beef
- 3. Parts
- 4. Agrees to a demand
- 5. Elected official
- 6. Navigator's tool
- 7. Relating to heat
- 8. Attractive
- 9. Wealthy US merchant
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. A passage with access only at one end
- 17. Midway between



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Publisher

Thomas McKay

The Calvert County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of Calvert County. The Calvert County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The Calvert County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

Associate Publisher

Eric McKay

General Manager

Al Dailey

aldailey@countytimes.net

Advertising

Jen Stotler
Tim Flaherty

jen@countytimes.net
timflaherty@countytimes.net

Editor

Dick Myers

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Staff Writer

Guy Leonard

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Graphic Designer/Layout Artist

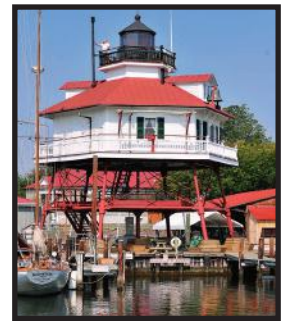
Jim Lucke

jimlucke@countytimes.net

Contributing Writers

Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

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



Calvert
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Dogs Rule!

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Humans kill themselves off through war, societal upheaval & racial conflict, pandemics, and federal government ineptitude & malfeasance as detailed within leaving Dogs to govern the Earth.

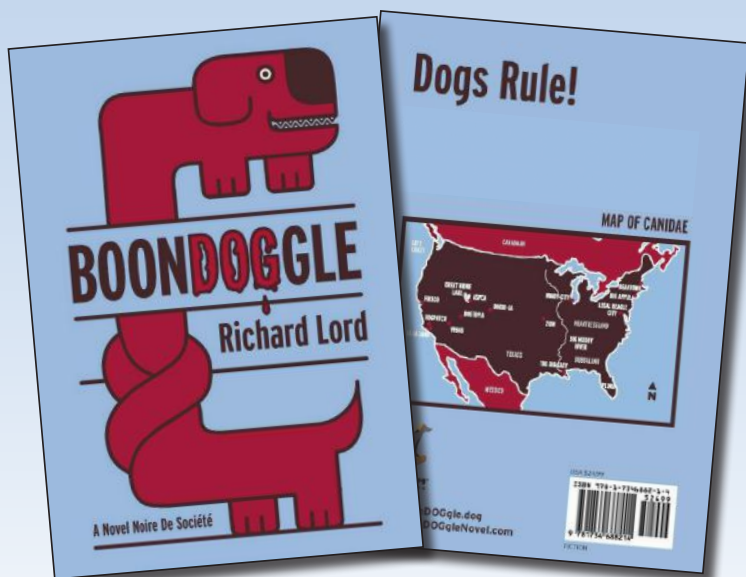
Observe an Earth run by Dogs where those dirty humans get a well-deserved comeuppance for despoiling Mother Earth, their cruelty to Animals including themselves, and their disobedience to God.

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