

FREE

# Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

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# Teacher of the

# “Year to Remember”



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**FEATURE 11**  
Calvert County Teacher of the Year Jennifer Rachic



**LOCAL 9**  
Live theater returns to Calvert



**EDUCATION 16**  
Former Calvert resident is SMCM valedictorian.

**“I THINK GREAT VIRTUAL TEACHING IS STILL JUST GREAT TEACHING.”**

CALVERT COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR JENNIFER RACHIC

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WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 5/13	Fri 5/14	Sat 5/15	Sun 5/16
67°   46°F	68°   48°F	68°   52°F	69°   54°F
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
Mon 5/17	Tue 5/18	Wed 5/19	Thu 5/20
70°   58°F	72°   58°F	74°   58°F	74°   58°F
PM Showers	Showers	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy

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

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For staff listing and emails, see page 23

**COVID-19**

As of May 11

<b>Calvert</b>	<b>Positive Cases</b>	<b>Deaths</b>
<b>6379</b>	<b>6379</b>	<b>69</b>

Information provided by Calvert Health Department



# COVID-19 Metrics Continue to Improve

By Dick Myers  
Editor

“There’s light at the end of the tunnel” is the cliché being tossed around to describe the status of the pandemic. This week Maryland reported its COVID-19 positivity rate dropped below three percent for the first time since October.

The state has surpassed 5.3 million vaccinations, with 64.8 percent of adults with at least one dose.

Calvert County’s positivity rate is within a hair of dropping below what the Centers for Disease Control considers low transmission rates in a community (five percent). It’s now 5.1 percent in Calvert, reported Dr. Michelle Folsom-Elder of the Health Department at a May 11 briefing to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

In Calvert, 35.2 percent of the total population is fully vaccinated, just about at the state average.

“The Calvert County COVID case rate has gone down yet again,” Folsom-Elder reported, “For the first time in several months, we reached under 100 cases for the past week, which was fantastic.”

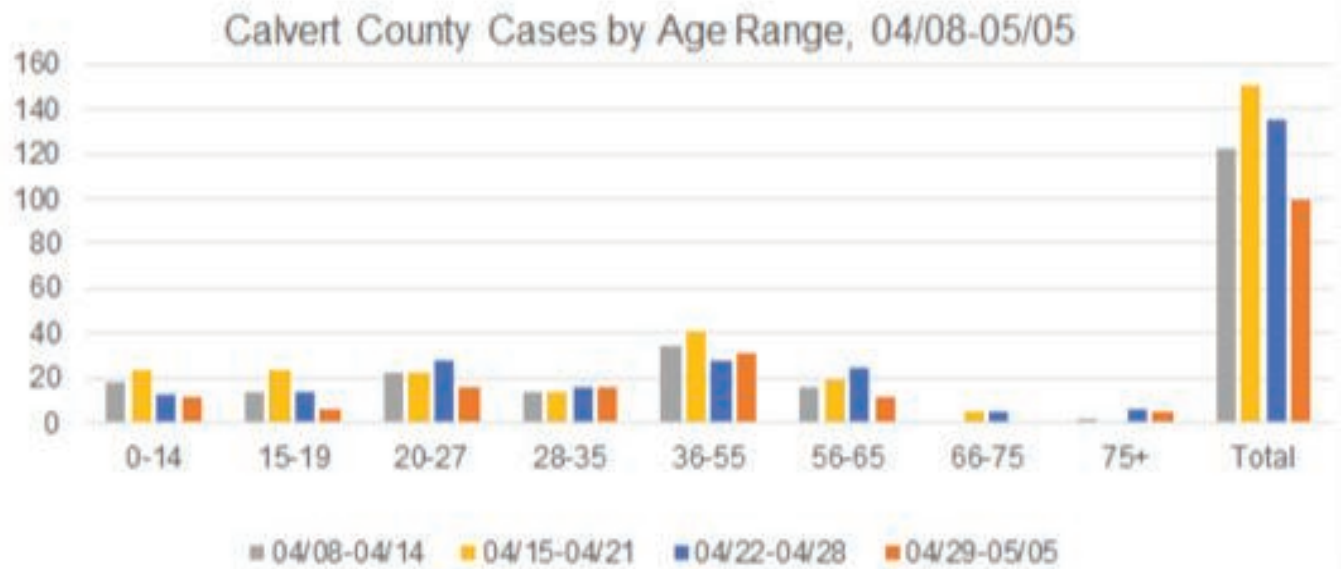
The health department representative said, “If you look at the age distribution of cases, you can see once again that our over-65 population really has minimal burden illness at this point in time.” She added, “Almost 80 percent of our 65 and over community are fully vaccinated.”

But she noted, “There has been an increase in our 36- to 55-year-old age group, which is generally the hardest ones to sort of convince for vaccination as well.”

But on another note of good news, “Thankfully our children or youth have continued to go down in terms of their case rate as well.” Vaccinations have been approved for ages 12-15, and she expects them to be available soon.

Folsom-Elder said of the approval of Pfizer vaccines for the younger age group, “It does need to go through one

## Age of Distribution for COVID Cases



more hurdle, which is the advisory committee on immunization practices.” That meeting was scheduled for May 12 after press deadline.

As to the testing on children aged 12-15, she said, “There was very good efficacy rate, similar side effects to adults: fever, headaches, body aches, chills, generally lasting one to three days.”

She said they have vaccinated 460 teenagers in the school system in partnership with the hospital.

Their second dose will come the week of May 24, she said. “So, they should be fully vaccinated by the time they graduate and go onto their summer activities. And then we will be coordinating getting links out. Unlike for the teenage age group, we are likely going to send links out through the school system, but for those parents to bring the kids through our drive-through.”

- Shots are now available at:
- Health Department
  - CalvertHealth Medical Center
  - Calvert Internal Medicine
  - CalvertHealth Medical Group

- Dunkirk Family Practice
- Dr. Mehta/Dr. Jani
- Pharmacies:
  - Walgreens- Lusby and Prince Frederick
  - Safeway- Prince Frederick, Dunkirk
  - Giant- Dunkirk
  - CVS- Dunkirk

Registration through the health department is at <https://www.calvert-county.md.gov/vaccine> or call 410 535-0218.

Registration for a state mass vaccination site is at <https://onestop.md.gov/pre-registration> or call 1-855-MD GOVAX.

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# Town to Host Hybrid Stars and Stripes Festival

## Annual Memorial Day Event

By Dick Myers  
Editor

With events that everyone looks forward to every year returning to at least modified versions, the annual Memorial Day weekend celebration in Chesapeake Beach called the Stars and Stripes Festival hopes to also capture some of that return to normalcy.

According to a release, "This year the Town of Chesapeake Beach will hold a hybrid Stars and Stripes Ceremony along with educational outreach on the true meaning of Memorial Day for local youth."

Here's the Schedule of Events and Activities:

The town will host an in-person outdoor ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park on Saturday, May 29 at 10 a.m. According to the release, "This ceremony will be recorded and paired with submissions the town hope to receive from community members and released at 10



a.m. on Memorial Day. More details to follow."

**Educational Outreach:** To view a summary of the town's outreach efforts and how your family can participate, and even take part in the Memorial Day ceremony recording, please go to SNS Education Outreach by Chesapeake Beach on Prezi Design. View and print the linked coloring activities for children to include their message of what Memorial Day means to them. See activity pages at [sns\\_activity\\_sheet.pdf](https://sns_activity_sheet.pdf) ([chesapeake-beachmd.gov](https://chesapeake-beachmd.gov)).

The town looks forward to your submissions.

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

# Calvert Graduations to be Held at Schools

Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) has announced plans to host graduation ceremonies on school grounds this year.

Seniors were surveyed about what they would like to see in this important milestone, and their top priorities were to (1) have parents in attendance, (2) walk across the stage, and (3) graduate with as many classmates as permitted.

Superintendent Dr. Daniel D. Curry said, "We want to give our seniors a special sendoff, with a bit more pomp and circumstance than we had last year. Our high schools are planning ceremonies that will be memorable while following health guidelines."

In keeping with the seniors' wishes, each high school will host three or four ceremonies, depending upon the size of the graduating class, of about 90 students each. Students will be emailed a link to register for the time slot of their choosing on a first come, first served basis. All seniors will receive six tickets for family and friends. The ceremonies will be held in each school's football stadium and will be live streamed.

Director of Secondary School Improvement Dr. Susan Johnson said, "We are balancing the wishes of the seniors to graduate with their friends while allowing as many guests as possible to attend.

We explored larger, outdoor facilities, but those did not work out for a variety of reasons. We are fortunate to be able to utilize the live streaming network that we used for sports, and the subscription fee will be waived for graduation."

Calvert High and Northern High will graduate on June 2. Huntingtown High and Patuxent High will graduate on June 3. Ceremonies will be scheduled between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Schools will communicate specific details, including the sign-up process and times of each ceremony, with seniors and their families.

In the event of rain, a modified ceremony will take place in the gym.

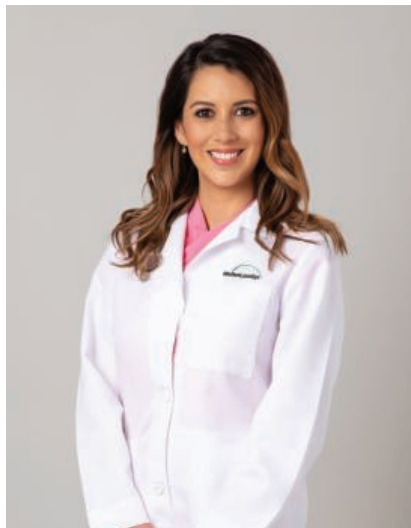
All graduates and their guests must wear masks and follow social distancing guidelines.

All CCPS elementary and middle schools will follow the typical school schedule on June 2 and 3. Those two days will not be early dismissals. June 2 will, however, be a full day of asynchronous learning for Calvert High and Northern High students, and June 3 will be asynchronous for Huntingtown High and Patuxent High. All schools will follow their usual Friday schedule on June 4.

*Press Release from CCPS.*



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# Hutchins Proposes Makeup of Police Accountability Board

## Defends Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights

By Dick Myers  
Editor

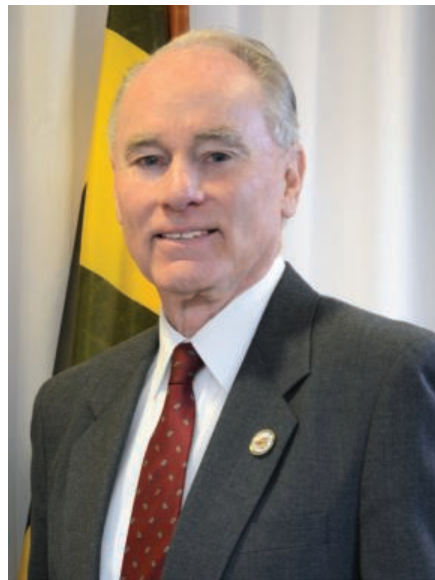
One of the outcomes of the series of bills that passed the Maryland General Assembly this year under the broad category of "police reform," is the establishment in every county of a police accountability board.

Calvert County Commissioner Tim Hutchins has a proposal for the makeup of such a board in Calvert County. He feels he has the expertise to suggest, since he is a former state trooper, superintendent of the Maryland State Police and a delegate.

Even though the bills, including the repeal of the Law Enforcement Officer Bill of Rights, don't become effective until July 1, 2022, and there is a strong push to modify the bills in the next session, Hutchins would like the commissioners to consider the makeup of the local accountability board now to make sure it comes out in the county's best interest.

Hutchins said of the bills, "by their silence, it gives flexibility" to the county in crafting a board. He noted, "There was only one caveat in there, as far as the structure of the board itself. And that was an active police officer may not be a member of a police accountability board."

Hutchins suggests a nine-member board and chairman appointed by the county commissioners. "To the extent practicable, the board should reflect racial, gender, and cultural diversity of Calvert County," he



Commissioner Tim Hutchins

said.

Members could serve up to three, four-year terms, he said, with the chairperson "a term of six years and two consecutive terms"

But the qualifications are the most important part of his proposal, he said, "because the Law Enforcement Officer Bill of Rights stood for over four decades."

Hutchins said, "I think the chairperson should be a retired, sworn law enforcement officer. All of them should be in good standing, with at least, as a chair, 20 years of ser-

vice in Maryland law enforcement or federal law enforcement agency, has been the head of a law enforcement agency or command supervisory position within a law enforcement agency and should have certain academic credentials. I believe that's important in this day and time to graduate, from an accredited college or university, as well as completing national law enforcement institutes such as the FBI National Academy and the FBI National Executive Institute."

He said three members should also be retired sworn law enforcement officers who have served at least 20 years on a Maryland law enforcement agency or federal agency in commander or supervisory positions and should have an academic degree.

He added, "I think one of those retired law enforcement members should be a minority representative who has been a representative of minority organization within the law enforcement agencies, such as the Coalition of Black Maryland State Troopers or the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. So, you have diversity within those former law enforcement representatives."

Three of the members should represent the minority populations of the county, Hutchins said. -- one from the African-American population, one from the Asian population and one from the Hispanic population."

The final three members, he said, "should

be from vocational fields. One should be a practitioner in the field of mental health. One should be a member of the clergy who would preferably have been in the military or public service as a chaplain."

Hutchins was asked if such a board would constitute positive reform. "It's not necessarily that there's a reform there. I think we had a very good piece of legislation that worked for four decades in the Law Enforcement Officer Bill of Rights. I think this answers what the General Assembly has said you shall do Calvert County."

As to the contention that the Law Enforcement Officer's Bills of Rights gave the upper hand to the police, Hutchins said, "I would not say so." He said in his positions with the Maryland State Police and as chairman of Maryland Police Training Commission, "I think we came down very equal on how we dealt with things.

"From my perspective, I can tell you, for instance, that when I came in as superintendent, there was still a pending action involving troopers making traffic stops on I-95. And we worked our way through that, and I ordered a revamp of training and filming and documentation of training. And we got back out there and started doing our job again. So, I don't see it as a fraternity of trying to necessarily not deal with something. I think we dealt with things pretty straightforward."

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# Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department Moves to Their New Home

By Dick Myers  
Editor

“Love it!” is how Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department (PFVFD) President Pat Hassler describes Company 2’s new digs. It’s been a long time coming.

In one sense you could say it’s been 95 years in the making. The company’s charter was issued on May 6, 1926. And just two days after their anniversary date, the move began, from their temporary quarters for 639 days at the old National Guard Armory, where they had moved while their old building was demolished and a new 30,000-square-foot, \$9.5 million facility rose in its place on Solomons Island Road. That old building dated back to 1960, with a 1984 addition.

The move that began on May 8 is still ongoing and Hassler said some punch list items need to be completed. The tentative ribbon-cutting date is June 15 at 3 p.m.

Hassler joined the department in 2004. He told The County Times in an interview shortly after that temporary move to the armory, “So, when I took office, I found the documentation and I sat down and talked to some of the senior members and said, ‘I’d like to

pursue this.’ And so, the caveat was the membership then turned right around and told me I can’t leave office until the project’s done.”

“It probably has taken longer than Hassler bargained for.” But he noted, “This consistency is a good thing because then you’ve got the same team, the same process and all the historical information to continue to move forward.”

“First the department had to sell the idea of a new building. ‘The first three years was fact-finding in presenting the documentation and information that our building had been built in 1960. We were coming to a point with new laws and compliance, life safety and things like this that we had to address.’ “That 1960 building,” he said, “had been a staple in the community for numerous public functions.”

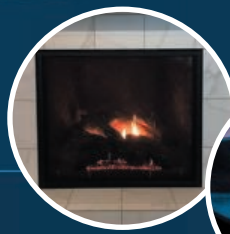
“So, we partnered with the county and worked with the county staff to look at additional potential grants and their processes to continue to move forward. And from sitting down at the first meeting, the process took just a little under eight years to get where we are today.”

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## More Students Identified as 'Gifted and Talented'

*Programs Mostly Volunteer, After School*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) have been working over the past year to identify additional students who would be eligible for the system's Gifted and Talented programs. As a result, there has been a 43-percent increase to 1,443 students deemed eligible for the programs, according to Coordinator of Advanced Learning Dr. Crystal Ricks, who started in her position during the last school year.

Ricks told the school board during a briefing at their May 6 meeting, "This year we revised our identification process to include multiple measures for identification that's outlined in COMAR (The Code of Maryland regulations). This process helps to ensure that we are casting a wide net when we're identifying students and to ensure that we are providing equitable opportunities and access for all student groups."

The identification has created increases in the numbers of African American, Hispanic, Asian American, and white students who are Gifted and Talented.

Ricks said "Gifted and Talented Students" are an elementary or secondary student who is identified by professionally qualified individuals as:

- "Having outstanding talent and performing, or showing the potential for performing, at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with other students of a similar age, experience, or environment;
- "(2) Exhibiting high-performance capability in intellectual, creative, or artistic areas;
- "(3) Possessing an unusual leadership capacity; or
- "(4) Excelling in specific academic field."

This year the school system added Gifted and Talented liaisons as extra duty for extra pay in elementary schools, largely as an after-school program. But she told the school board, "It will be important for us to look at what takes place during the day, too, for students who may not have



access to afterschool enrichment."

Ricks had proposed the addition of six full-time elementary school teachers for next school year to add programs during the school day. That request wound up on the cutting room floor in School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry's proposed budget.

Ricks said, "We have honors. We have AP classes. Our students are clustered together in fourth and fifth (grades), but most of the service right now is being provided after school for our students. Those that elect to participate."

But she added, "For various reasons, parents may elect not to participate. We've found that some of our parents (who) can't monitor with work schedules this year, felt that their students have already been on the computer for a significant period of time and just choose not to participate."

Ricks said, "If we're not able to hire the six elementary teachers this year, next year we will pull two to three teachers per elementary school to provide ongoing professional development throughout the year. And within the Department of Instruction, we will continue to look at our curriculum to ensure that there are opportunities for our students who qualify for gifted services."

Ricks touted the work done this year by the liaisons, who she said had the flexibility to be creative in their programs.

An array of community partnerships, such as with Patuxent River Naval Air Station and Calvert Library have been developed for the after-school programs.

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

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# The Show Must Go On

*Live Theater Returns to Area*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Live theater is returning to the area after more than a year relegated to a virtual life -- and the actors and actresses are ecstatic. The audience reaction completes the circle of their craft. The cast is largely from Calvert and St. Mary's counties.

It's called "Breaking Legs" and will be performed live by New Directions Community Theater on Friday and Saturday, June 4-5 and 11-12 at 7 p.m. and a Sunday, June 6 matinee at 2 p.m. Performances will be at Long Beach Community Center, 5845 Calvert Blvd., St. Leonard, MD 20685. For tickets, visit [www.ndctheater.org](http://www.ndctheater.org). Cost for adults is \$15 and for students and seniors \$12. For more information: (443) 624-4484.

Director Rick Thompson said, "At the community center, we are configuring the stage area so we can open the windows and doors on either side for cross ventilation. In addition, the silent overhead fans will be running for even more ventilation. In a sense, we're turning the inside into outside. Of course, we will be social distancing (and taking temperatures) as well."

Written by Tom Dulack, it tells of Playwright Terence O'Keefe's new play. He wants the family of a former student to back it. But the "family" turns out to be minor Mafia godfathers who like the idea, provided they never have to read the play — which doesn't mean they won't want to make a few "minor" changes. The fact that the lusty, unmarried daughter of the house (his former student) is hotly pursuing the playwright only makes life more complicated. And Terry's play? It's about a murder.

Thompson, in his notes to the cast, explained, "Sometimes you find a good play purely by accident. Last year I was browsing through Second Look Books, a sorely missed used bookstore in Prince Frederick, when I noticed a hard cover play. I happen to collect those, and so I bought Breaking Legs, having never heard of it or the author, Tom Dulack.

"As I read this comic mixture of theater and the mob, I kept thinking, 'Where have you been all my life? This is hilarious!' Turned out it had run over a year Off Broadway with reviews like 'a silly symphony of laughs' and 'a crowd pleaser that is what comedies on Broadway used to be like?'"

New Directions had planned on staging the show last year and the cast had been selected when the pandemic hit.

They all agreed to do it this year. Thompson said, "We decided in the new year that we were going to plan on doing it live," although at the time that was questionable. "Then," he said, "all the vaccines came, and it loosened up. By April 17th, our full cast had been vaccinated." They've been rehearsing in Thompson's house, which has been un-

usual, he admits.

The cast is anxious. He said, "The audience is the last part of the show. You have the script; you have what the author did. You have the actors developing the characters, playing off each other. You have the lighting and the sound and all that, but the audience is the last part. And it's an important part because you can get reactions from the audience. And the interplay between the performers and the audience, that's the joy of live theater."

Performers in "Breaking Legs" are:

- Sid Curl (Lou Graziano) has been involved in some form of show business since high school. He has worked the east coast from Massachusetts to Virginia including an off-Broadway show at Circle in the Square in New York City. He has been associated with Twin Beach Players in North Beach for over 20 years.

- Monica Jones (Angie Graziano) is appearing in her second New Directions production, having played Jess in last season's A Night Between Heaven and Hell. Monica is a Calvert County EMT-Paramedic. She lives in Lusby.

- Justin McCright (Terence O'Keefe) has since 2010 been fortunate to per-

form in many shows, among them The Diary of Anne Frank, It's A Wonderful Life, 1776 and The Crucible for Port Tobacco Players; Barefoot in The Park, The Time Machine, and Certain Souls for Twin Beach Players; and In The Heat of the Night, and A Christmas Carol for Tantallon Community Players.

- William Righter (Tino De Felice) is proud to be making his New Direction Community Theatre debut in Breaking Legs. He has had plenty of theatre experience as a member of the Port Tobacco Players. Some of his acting credits include Avram in Fiddler on the Roof, Dr. C in A Christmas Carol in Washington, Cyrano in the WATCH Award-Winning production of Cyrano and Walter Hobbs in Elf: The Musical.

- Robert Sebo (Frankie Salvucci) has performed in numerous shows with the local theatre groups in Pennsylvania. Some of his past favorite performances include: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, 1776, Two by Two and West Side Story. Recently he was seen in the Twin Beach Players production of Barefoot in the Park (Telephone Man — Harry Pepper) and It's a Wonderful Life (Clarence).

- David Thomas (Mike Francisco) is

returning to the theatre after a five-year hiatus. His directorial credits include A Soldier's Play, Equus, A Hope in the Unseen, The Sunshine Boys, A Lesson Before Dying and A Raisin in the Sun (which earned the Ruby Griffith Award for Best Overall Production). The former artistic director for Hard Bargain Players, he has been a board member for the Port Tobacco Players and the Washington Area Community Theatre Honors (WATCH). He is a resident of Golden Beach.

Thompson is directing his third show for New Directions Community Theater, following Come Blow Your Horn and Plaza Suite. Elsewhere has staged The Man Who Came Dinner, A Thurban Carnival, God's Favorite, Gaslight Follies, The Odd Couple, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, The Front Page, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying and Tribute.

He has acted with all four area theater groups, produced four shows and sound designed 46. Rick is a playwright as well, and his The Ghost Before Christmas will be produced this December by Twin Beach Players.

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





# Calvert's Teacher of the Year Jennifer Rachic

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Calvert Career and Technology Academy (CTA) Principal Carrie Akins said, "Miss Rachic is a phenomenal teacher. She cares about her kids and she's not ever going to let anything stand between our kids and being successful."

Akins was referring to Calvert County's Teacher of the Year Jennifer Rachic, a teacher at CTA. Rachic was one of 49 teachers and educational support personnel in the running for the two top spots during a live virtual ceremony May 6 that featured School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry making a surprise visit to the winners' schools. James Johnson of Calvert High School was Educational Support Professional of the Year (see a listing of each school's nominees elsewhere on this page).

During the virtual ceremony at which each nominee's picture was shown and a brief biography read, Dr. Curry noted that he was the son of a school secretary. "We have the power to put children on the track to the American dream," he said.

But Curry also observed that the nominees and eventual winners faced incredible challenges in the last year. "Indeed, it has been a year to remember," Curry said.

It truly was a year to remember for Rachic, which was capped off with the honor of being Teacher of the Year for the county. "I am still just floored and blown away and overwhelmed, all the adjectives. I'm all the adjectives."

Rachic is a teacher in the Academy of Health Professions program. She explained, "The purpose of that program is that any high school student who thinks that they want to pursue a career in healthcare can come to the Academy of Health Professions and see if this is a right fit for them." They have three options: nursing assisting, medical assisting, or physical rehabilitation. She said in the junior year they study anatomy and physiology and in the first semester of the senior year they study nursing assistant content. "And then," she said, "the other semester they have the chance to study either medical assisting or physical rehab."

She boasts, "It's an amazing program. Our students come out as certified nursing assistants. They come out as a certified medical assistant. They get their CPR certification, their first aid certification, they get five college credits with CSM. And then they also, if they do the physical rehabilitation pathway, are dual enrolled in a course with CSM. I tell my students all the time, what you are learning in high school is what I learned as a sophomore and a junior in college in nursing school."

Which reveals that her background is not in teaching, but in nursing and



her pathway to the profession she has fallen madly in love with was pretty much by accident.

"So, I am a nurse. I've been a nurse for 23 years," she said, adding, "My career path is kind of interesting."

She was a bedside nurse for 12 years "and loved it. I worked the intensive care unit. The whole time I worked high level trauma. And after about 12 years, I knew I was ready to do something different. So, I ended up applying to become a nurse practitioner with the University of Maryland and went through the whole application process, was accepted, and decided I was going to go be a nurse practitioner. I was going to go get my master's in nursing. And it was January of 2010. And I got a phone call from Donna House who was the Principal of Barstow Elementary School at the time."

The principal of the school her three children attended told her of an opening for a school nurse

"That was the only year that they (her children) were going to be at Barstow," so she decided to apply not expecting to get the job, but she did.

"I walked into school, not as a parent, not as a volunteer, but as a staff member. And I said, 'Oh my gosh!' First of all, school nursing is amazing because they're like running their own little mini-ER. And secondly, 'Oh my gosh!' like, this is where I want to be."

Of that first day reaction, she explained, "I think I recognized the unbelievable power and influence the teachers have. And I saw for the first time, from an insider's perspective, of just the changes that they make in these kids' lives. I was in the classrooms and I saw amazing educators do what they did every day. And it just blew me away. So, I went home, and I told my husband, I said, guess what? I said, I'm going back to get my master's, but I'm doing it in nursing education. I'm not doing it as a nurse practitioner. And

he said, you've got to be kidding me because of course my earning potential just got cut in half. And he was like, Oh, fantastic. So, he said, and I said, this is what I want to do. I'm going to go back and I'm going to be a teacher."

And while pursuing her new profession, she was still working full-time as a nurse and still does some nursing even to this day. She's been a Hospice nurse for 17 years.

In 2012 the clinical nursing instructor position opened up at CTA. "I said, oh my goodness, this is going to be my first chance to be a teacher. So, I applied, and I got the job, and I went from a full-time salary to just a barely part-time salary, but it was okay because I wanted to teach. And I got in that position, fell in love with teaching, wrote the entire curriculum and made it change the whole thing into a hybrid model, which, I was so ahead of my time, because I created this in-person, on-line hybrid and you know, now 10 years later, that was like, brilliant."

Since 2014 she's been a classroom teacher at CTA. "I've been here ever since and the absolute best thing I've ever done."

Since October 5 last year they've been in a hybrid mode at CTA. "I can't even tell you how many changes at this point," she said. "It's been unbelievable."

Seniors went hybrid first and since she was teaching seniors this year, "all of my students were in person in front of me, which was great. I did have some that remained online full-time, but I had 14 that were in person and I had three students that were online in one class. And then the other class, I had 11 students that were in person the whole time."

So, the CTA faculty had more concurrent teaching experience than others in the system, who started in March. But she insisted, "To say that it was easy, it was without a question, as an educator, the most challenging thing I've ever done, be-

cause specifically here at CTA, we teach physical, real-life skills. And how do you teach somebody to draw blood virtually? How do you teach somebody to give an injection virtually on somebody?"

How do they? "We do things like, we send supplies home weekly, and we would have individual one-on-one Team meetings with students on Fridays where we could assess their skills. And we just thought outside the box and we used every ounce of creativity and innovation that we had in our arsenal and we just made it happen."

She said her 100 percent virtual students "have passed all their certifications." And those in hybrid mode have done so as well.

She said, "In my program specifically, a lot of the skills that we do, the students practice on each other. And how do I, as a teacher, transition that to completely a mannequin skill or an independent skill. That was extremely difficult."

Her number one challenge was with clinicals. In order to be qualified to take the test for certification, students have to attend a 40-hour clinical experience.

She had to get clearance from the State Board of Nursing "I had to write this huge 400-page document that basically tells them everything that we do, and they give us permission in order to train these students with part of that process."

No one in the county, because of COVID health concerns, would accept students for clinicals. "So how do I, as a teacher, get my students qualified to get their 40 clinical hours when I can't get them anywhere," She asked. "So, I wrote and developed and created something called virtual clinicals. And that was the most challenging part of my year. I probably spent a hundred plus hours writing that curriculum."

She used the school system's virtual platform, Schoology. "Students had to complete skills and situations





Calvert County Teacher of the Year Jennifer Rachic, with Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry and Mark Wamaker, general manager of Bayside Chevy/Toyota, which donates use of a car and free maintenance for two years for the winning teacher and support person.

in real time.”

The other problem was more universal. She said, “Virtual instruction and online instruction for some students is great. Some students thrive in this environment, but they were the minority. That vast majority of all students did not do well in this virtual environment.”

She added, “I see what I have never experienced in my career. Students are excited for our content. They’re excited to learn. They love the social interaction part of it. And you were seeing kids that were normally so engaged in learning and in school, and you’re begging them just to come to class. You’re begging them to turn their camera on.”

She was asked what she did to overcome that. She said, “I think great virtual teaching is still just great teaching. And I think it just starts with relationships and even in a virtual environment, being intentional about building relationships has been so important.

“So, at the beginning of the year, before I did anything, I scheduled one-on-one individual Team’s meetings with my students when we were a hundred percent virtual still. And I met with them one-on-one for five or 10 minutes. So, I could have some

one-on-one FaceTime with them and say, ‘Hey, what are you excited about? What are you concerned about?’ Just starting those conversations early.

“This year beyond any other year, I had to have fantastic communication with the student’s parents, because if I had a kid that was missing a couple of assignments, or I had a kid that was falling through the cracks, you know, I teach high school seniors; parents are not always on top of that. They don’t always know. They think the student can just handle it. Which they should, but these are high school seniors.”

Praise, that works in normal times, works in virtual, in person, hybrid, or concurrent.

“It’s just building those relationships so that when you do have to correct a student and you have to modify their behavior, whether it’s academic behavior or their actual behavior, they know that it’s coming from a place of love and it’s not coming from a place of ‘Ms. Rachic doesn’t care about me. Ms. Rachic just hates me.’ It’s from a place ‘I care enough about you, that I’m not going to let you fall behind.’”

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

School	Teacher of the Year	Support Person Of The Year
<b>Barstow Elementary</b>	Kristen Johnson	Lisa Meiggs
<b>Beach Elementary</b>	Casey Grenier	Jerald Holland
<b>Calvert Country</b>	Cindy Rudell	Crystal Samodurov
<b>Calvert Elementary</b>	Shannon Gates	Tara Brauns
<b>Calvert High</b>	Jessica bright	James Johnson
<b>Calvert Middle</b>	Lynne Beahm	Rachel Hautmann
<b>Career &amp; Tech Academy</b>	Jennifer Rachic	Kathy Lisko
<b>Central Office</b>	N/A	Darlene White
<b>Dowell Elementary</b>	Nocola Williams	Trisha Humphreys
<b>Huntingtown Elementary</b>	Marcella Brown	Richelle Starnes
<b>Huntingtown High</b>	Sharon Hoetzlein-Sirman	Denise Davis
<b>Mill Creek Middle</b>	Michael McGlothlin	Floyd Jefferson
<b>Mt. Harmony Elementary</b>	Mary Baugher	Debbie Kinneer
<b>Mutual Elementary</b>	Brandi Torres	Jennifer Fleming
<b>Nothern High</b>	Jami Straub	Lisa Doolan
<b>Nothern Middle</b>	Michelle Jakowitsch	Diana Sullivan
<b>Patuxent Appeal Campus</b>	Robin Read	Celeste Fort
<b>Patuxent High</b>	Nick Wilson	James Thomas, Jr.
<b>Plum Point Middle</b>	Lynda Ciardiello	Lori Procopio
<b>Plum Point Elementary</b>	Gillian Baird	Michele Height
<b>Southern Middle</b>	Lisa Spencer	Kerry Adrian
<b>St. Leonard Elementary</b>	Sandy Jones	Patty Gott
<b>Sunderland Elementary</b>	Sarah Stith	Nicole Bozman
<b>Windy Hill Elementary</b>	Kelly Durnbaugh	Loren Edinger
<b>Windy Hill Middle</b>	Caitlin Reid	Jessica Moser



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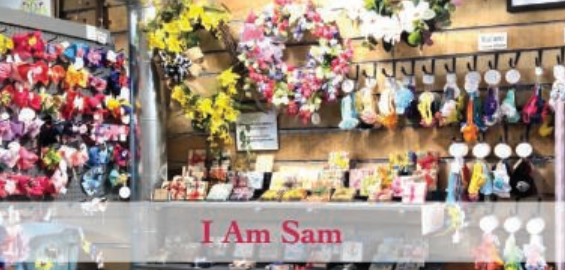
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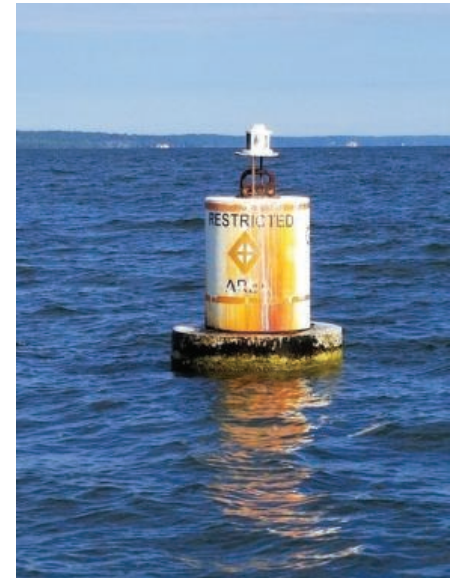
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# Exclusion Zone Set Around LNG Terminal



The U.S. Coast Guard in coordination with federal, state and local agencies have established a 'Safety and Security Zone' for the Cove Point Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal in the Chesapeake Bay. This exclusion zone is necessary to help ensure public safety and security. The zone prohibits vessels and persons from entering a well-defined area of 500 yards in all directions around the Cove Point LNG Terminal at Cove Point. The safety and security zone excludes recreational vessels, fishing vessels, or other small craft and unauthorized vessels from areas around docked ships at the terminal, extending piers, and nearby shoreline. The exclusion zones are well-marked with signs on surrounding piers, buoys and other structures visible day and night. Security personnel, land and waterside enforce the safety and security zones at all times.

In accordance with general regulations, any entry into or movement within this zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COPT) Maryland-National Capital Region or his designated representative. Any violators that encroach this zone are expected to be boarded by U.S. Coast Guard and/or law enforcement. Violations of these regulations are punishable to include a fine of \$32,500 in addition to possible criminal charges. For more information on this regulated navigation area, please visit <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/R>  
*Press Release from Calvert County Sheriff's Office.*

# Calvert Recognizes Children's Mental Health Awareness Month

The Calvert County Department of Community Resources, in partnership with the Calvert County Family Network, asks that citizens take pause to recognize May as Children's Mental Health Awareness Month and the week of May 2-8 as Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. The goal of this campaign is to raise public awareness of the importance of children's mental health and connect families, educators and providers with resources to help children. During the month of May, citizens are encouraged to learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how they impact local youth and the community. ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in children 17 years and younger that could include the following:

- Experiencing violence, abuse or neglect
- Witnessing violence
- Having a family member die suddenly and unexpectedly

ACEs also include aspects of a child's environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability and bonding such as growing up in a household with:

- Substance misuse

- Mental health problems and instability due to parental separation
- Household members being in jail or prison

ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness and substance misuse in adulthood, and can negatively impact education and job opportunities. "Education is the first step to helping our community fight the stigma of mental illness and help our most vulnerable population stay safe and protected against ACEs," said Community Resources Director Jennifer Moreland. "Many children's social, emotional and mental well-being has been negatively impacted by the pandemic. It is critical now, more than ever, for us to start a dialogue with our children, and to help families find resources and assistance to ensure local youth become strong, stable and productive citizens." To learn more about Children's Mental Health Awareness Month visit [www.ChildrensMentalHealthMatters.org](http://www.ChildrensMentalHealthMatters.org). To locate Calvert County resource information or find assistance visit [www.OurCalvert.com](http://www.OurCalvert.com).  
*Press Release from Calvert County government*



# CalvertHealth Partners with Sheppard Pratt

*Will Provide Behavioral Health Services*



As of May 1, CalvertHealth has partnered with Sheppard Pratt to support its expansion of behavioral health services to best meet the growing demands of its community.

Through the partnership, Sheppard Pratt will provide clinical services and leadership at CalvertHealth to enhance behavioral health programs and services across CalvertHealth and the community it serves.

Additionally, Sheppard Pratt will provide and oversee staffing, including for psychiatrists and nurse practitioners, in partnership with Jennifer L. Messix, BSN, RN-BC, director of CalvertHealth Medical Center's Behavioral Health Unit.

"So many people are struggling with mental health issues, and we are honored to partner with CalvertHealth to expand access to world-class behavioral health care in the local community," said Harsh K. Trivedi, MD, MBA, president and CEO of Sheppard Pratt. "Together, we can manage more needs locally while ensuring access to specialized services and the comprehensive continuum of services that only Sheppard Pratt can provide, both now and in the future."

"As a local, independent community hospital our responsibility is to serve the needs of our community. This past year has been incredibly stressful for many, and we are happy that we have been

forward thinking in expanding our Behavioral Health Services long before the start of COVID," stated CalvertHealth President and CEO Dean Teague, FACHE. "Our partnership with Sheppard Pratt adds to the already incredible staff that we have at the medical center to serve our community."

The behavioral health services offered at CalvertHealth include adolescent and adult inpatient mental health care, a psychiatric partial hospitalization program, intensive outpatient programs, and referral and care coordination to community-based treatment and support services.

"We have an incredible team led by Jennifer Messix who care deeply about the work they do. It's an incredible day when they can make a real difference in the lives of those they have entrusted their care to us and we know Sheppard Pratt has the same philosophy," said Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Clinical Services Diane Couchman, MBA, BSN, RN, who also oversees the Behavioral Health services.

Sheppard Pratt served more than 70,000 individuals in more than 160 programs across the health system last year in inpatient and outpatient treatment, housing, education, job training, and rehabilitation services among others. For more information about Sheppard Pratt, please visit [www.sheppard-pratt.org](http://www.sheppard-pratt.org).

*Press Release from CalvertHealth.*

## Congratulations CLASS OF 2021!

**As you celebrate this milestone, remember to do so safely.**

Just a reminder that if you are under the age of 21 and found to have purchased, possessed or consumed alcohol, you face a fine of \$500 for your first offense and \$1,000 for your second or subsequent offense.

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# College Holds Virtual Commencement

St. Mary's College of Maryland, the National Public Honors Colleges, graduated 346 students with Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Master of Arts in Teaching degrees on Saturday, May 8, with a virtual Commencement ceremony. Simultaneously, three Grad Walks, at 9 a.m., 12 p.m. and 3 p.m., took place at the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium for the class of 2021 and participants of the class of 2020.

The commencement address—available for viewing on the College's 2021 Commencement webpage (timestamp 7:38 in the virtual ceremony)—was delivered virtually by Mayor of Baltimore and St. Mary's College alumnus Brandon M. Scott '06. Scott is the 52nd mayor of Baltimore, Maryland. He was unanimously elected president of the Baltimore City Council by his colleagues in May 2019. As Council President, Scott developed and released the first-ever City Council President legislative agenda, focused on building safer, stronger communities, cleaning up city government, investing in Baltimore's young people, and centering equity.

Previously, Scott served on the City Council representing Baltimore's 2nd District. He was first elected in 2011 at the age of 27 and is one of the youngest people ever elected to the Baltimore



Valedictorian Danielle Szyzborski

City Council. He was also awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa.

Scott addressed the graduating class: "Graduating from college—any college—is no small feat. But graduating from an institution with the rigor and prestige that St. Mary's has is an entirely different story. Many of you have overcome fateful obstacles to get to this day. But no matter the circumstance that you grew up in, that you went through, hardship you surmounted or adversity that tried to keep you from greatness, you prevailed. Today is possible because you remained steadfast and true, and you deserve a

hand."

In addition to Brandon Scott, an honorary degree—Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa—was presented to Mervin Savoy during the 9 a.m. Grad Walk. Savoy is a member of the Piscataway people and former Tribal Chair of the Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland. She has dedicated her life to lifting the dignity and spirit of the Piscataway, Maryland's first indigenous tribe. Savoy provided leadership for her tribe, conducting research, meeting with elected officials, developing educational programs, and combating negative stereotypes. After 20 years, the State of Maryland officially recognized the Piscataway Conoy Tribe along with the Piscataway Indian Nation, largely due to Savoy's unwavering commitment to her community and her state.

This year, Danielle Szyzborski (double major: art and English) earned the honor of serving as valedictorian. Originally from Lusby, Szyzborski began her career at St. Mary's College in the fall of 2017 and has earned Dean's List status since her first semester. In addition to her strong course work and creative achievement, Szyzborski has created art lessons for children, and also served as a Writing and Speaking Center tutor, a teaching assistant, a

gallery attendant, and an editorial assistant for the College archives. Szyzborski intends to continue her education after graduation by pursuing a master's degree in speech pathology from SUNY Buffalo.

Szyzborski gave her valedictorian address via video, now posted on the Commencement webpage. Speaking of the virtual Commencement, Szyzborski said, "It's incredible that we can all be part of this no matter where we are." And addressing her fellow students, Szyzborski said, "You're the soul of today's St. Mary's community and tomorrow, I hope that the soul of St. Mary's will continue to be as alive as it is today."

At the conclusion of the virtual Commencement ceremony and each Grad Walk, President Tuajuanda C. Jordan charged the Class of 2021 with the following: "You have done well here at St. Mary's College of Maryland, where you have studied and learned in the finest liberal arts tradition. As you 'sail through this to that' in moving beyond the banks of this river into the world, my expectation is that you will take your passions, your skills, and the knowledge you have gained at this place to create a more just and humane society for all."

*Press Release from SMCM.*

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Crew Shirt

Speed Crew Shirt

Alpha Crew Shirt

Forge Crew Shirt

Circa Crew Shirt



# School Administrators Appointed

Calvert County Public Schools announces the appointment of six central office and school administrators.

Superintendent Dr. Daniel D. Curry said, "We are happy to promote several of our current staff and welcome two people from other school districts as we look ahead to a full school opening this fall."

Marcy Gruver has been named Supervisor of Elementary English Language Arts. Since 2013, she has served as a Supervisor of Special Education. Prior to joining the Special Education Department, Gruver was the dean at Barstow and Mutual Elementary Schools. Gruver started her teaching career in 2003 at the Harbour School in Annapolis, Maryland where she worked until 2007, before accepting a position as a special education teacher at Sunderland Elementary School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2003 and her master's degree in Leadership in Teaching from the College of Notre Dame in 2007.

James Carpenter has been promoted from assistant principal at Northern High School to principal at Southern Middle School. Carpenter began his career with Calvert County Public Schools in 2001 as a business education teacher at Patuxent High School. The next year, he moved to Calvert High School as an assistant principal, then to the Career and Technology Academy as acting assistant principal/teacher specialist. After working in several other states, Carpenter came back to Calvert County in 2012 as an assistant principal at first Calvert High and then Northern High. Before becoming an administrator here, he taught middle and high school students, as well as coached football at the high school and college level and served as a police officer in Montgomery County and Oklahoma City.

Tammie Rudzinski will transition from assistant principal at Sunderland Elementary to principal of St. Leonard Elementary. Rudzinski began teaching in 1997 in Howard County and then moved to Anne Arundel County. Prior to coming to Calvert County as an assistant principal, Rudzinski served as a foster grandparent coordinator, supervising teacher, arts integration liaison, and a Right Start advisor. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English



and Elementary Education from the University of Maryland and her Master of Administration from Loyola University in 2003.

Maureen Stewart will move from dean/IEP facilitator at St. Leonard Elementary to assistant principal at Sunderland Elementary. Stewart began her career with Calvert County Public Schools as a substitute teacher and was hired as an instructional assistant assigned to Windy Hill Middle School. In 2013, Stewart served as a dean at Patuxent Appeal Elementary Campus and Dowell Elementary. During the 2015-2016 school year, she taught fourth grade at Beach Elementary. She was then appointed as the dean at Dowell Elementary. She also served as an IEP facilitator at Plum Point Elementary before becoming the dean /IEP facilitator at St. Leonard Elementary. Stewart received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education in 1990 from Longwood College, now University, and her Master of Science in Elementary Education in 1993 from Old Dominion University.

Rebecca Brennan, currently a teacher in Harford County Public Schools, was appointed assistant principal at Windy Hill Middle School. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and Human Development from the Metropolitan State University of Denver in 2012 and her Master of Arts: Educational Leadership and Human Resource Development from Towson University in March of this year. She began teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in September 2012 in Castle Rock, Colorado and has taught 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades in Harford County.

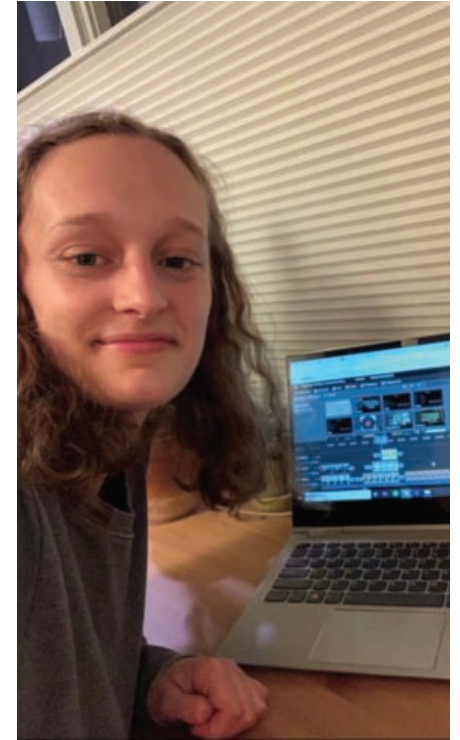
Andrea Young is joining the Northern High staff as assistant principal after serving as an administrative intern at North Point High in Charles County. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Akron. Young taught high school at McKinley High in Ohio and St. Charles High School in Charles County.

*Press Release from CCPS.*

# Students, Teacher Honored at Maryland History Day



Grace Minakowski



Adaline Ruff

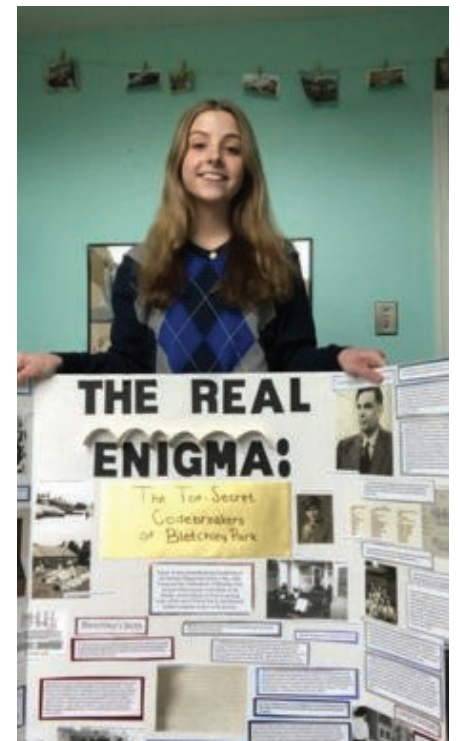
Three students from Calvert County Public Schools won awards at Maryland History Day, held virtually this year, and advanced to the National History Day Contest that will be held in June. These students earned a spot to compete at the state contest by winning at the local level with their projects that were based on the 2021 theme of "Communication in History: The Key to Understanding."

Devin Page, who teaches at Northern Middle School, received the Calvert County History Day Teacher of the Year award.

The students advancing to the National History Day contest are:

- Adaline Ruff – Calvert High School, Senior Division Individual Documentary, Birth of a Nation: Communicating the Lie, 1st Place
- Ruby Niederhauser – Northern Middle School, Junior Division Research Paper, What Hath God Wrought? The Effect of Morse Code and the Telegraph on American History, 2nd Place
- Grace Minakowski – Northern Middle School, Junior Division Individual Exhibit, Bletchley's Enigma, 2nd Place

Superintendent, of Schools Dr. Daniel D. Curry said, "I commend all of our students who completed History Fair projects this year, as well as their teachers. Congratulations to Adaline, Ruby, and Grace for their outstanding achievement."



Ruby Niederhauser

Maryland History Day is the culmination of a year-long educational program sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council and affiliated with National History Day. After selecting a historical topic that relates to an annual theme, students conduct extensive research by using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. They analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about their topics' significance in history, and create final projects that present their work.

*Press Release from CCPS*



# CCSO and Detention Center Celebrate Annual Awards

Calvert County Sheriff Mike Evans along with Major T.D. Reece of the Calvert County Detention Center and members of their command staff honored 116 award recipients at private ceremony April 27, 2021 in Huntingtown. Honorees were recognized for excellence in law enforcement, lifesaving awards and outstanding and exemplary performance.

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard presented colors, Chaplain Dave Mohler delivered the invocation, following a moment of silence honoring the service of late Deputy First Class William "Wes" Beisel.

Sheriff Evans congratulated all that received awards and thanked them for going above and beyond the call of duty and for keeping our community safe.

The following honorees were awarded:

#### Road Deputy of the Year Awarded by the Maryland State's Attorney Office

Deputy Wyatt McDowell

#### Detective of the Year Awarded by the Maryland State's Attorney Office

Detective Cpl. Bill Rector

#### Calvert County Deten-

#### tion Center Certification of Appreciation

Cpl. Christopher Gray

Cpl. Cordell Jones

MDC Caroline Briscoe

SCD Dayania Carroll

SCD David Unkle

CDFC Michael Lanier

CD Katherine Lavorgna

CD Devin Preston

#### Sheriff's Office Excellence in Law Enforcement

Senior Deputy Michael Mudd

Cpl. Stephen Moran & K-9

Kano

Det. Josh Buck

Det. Edward Yates

Master Deputy James Flynt

#### Top Gun Award- Special Operations Team

DFC Ryan Evans

#### Top Gun Award- Detention Center

Cpl. Christopher Gray

#### Detention Center Certificate of Commendation

MCD Shawn Brooks

MCD Stephen Hance

CDFC Anthony Marinelli

CD Cory Mister

CD John Windsor

#### Sheriff's Office Outstanding Performance

Cpl. Mark Robshaw

DFC William Freeland

DFC Kamrhen Parks

DFC Shane Naughton

DFC Robert Shrawder

Deputy Howard Anderson, Jr.

Deputy Anthony Aranda

Deputy Wyatt McDowell

Deputy Herschel Wilder, III

#### CCSO Patrol Squad of the

#### Year- Squad 1

Sgt. Jeffrey Denton, Jr.

Sgt. John McCarroll

Cpl. Mark Robshaw

Cpl. David Jacobs, Jr.

Master Deputy Christopher

Childress

DFC Ryan Evans

DFC Galen Gott

DFC Andrew Ostazeski

DFC Timothy Rzepkowski

Deputy Drew Durnbaugh

Deputy Wyatt McDowell

Deputy Nicholas Savick

Deputy Brady Wilson

SCO Rona Hayes

#### Detention Center- Exemplary Performance

Cpl. John Hotchkiss

SCD Ross Montgomery

CDFC John Ashley

CDFC Kiana Brooks

CDFC Erik Snyder

CD Ryan Jones

CD Bradley Revoir

#### Detention Center- Meritorious

CDFC David Cook

CD Tyler Bowen

CD Jarrett Turner

#### Sheriff's Office Life Saving Award

Deputy Drew Durnbaugh

Deputy Wyatt McDowell

Deputy Nicholas Savick

Deputy Brady Wilson

#### Sheriff's Office Unit Citation: K-9 Unit

Sgt. Shawn Morder

Sgt. Gary Shrawder

Sgt. James Morgan

Cpl. Stephen Moran

Cpl. Dave Jacobs, Jr.

Master Deputy Paul Wood

Master Deputy Christopher

Childress

Master Deputy Robert

Burggraff

DFC Bradley Boerum

DFC Curtis Callison

DFC Branden De Leon-Suero

DFC Christopher Idol

DFC Timothy Rzepkowski

#### Sheriff's Office Unit Citation: School Resource Officer Unit

Cpl. Vaughn Johnson, Jr.

Cpl. Glenn Libby

Cpl. Andrew Woodford

Master Deputy Kevin Hall

Senior Deputy Andrew Clas

DFC William Beisel

DFC Derick Clark

DFC Dean Naughton

DFC Ryan Spalding

DFC Marshall Trig

DFC Joseph Ward, Jr.

#### Sheriff's Office Unit Citation: Sheriff's Communication Operator

Jessica Jones

SCO Christopher Hengstenberg

SCO Rona Hays

SCO Joseph Kontra

SCO Thomas Smith

SCO Shannon Lockett

#### Sheriff's Office Commendation

Sgt. Gary Shrawder

Sgt. Jeffrey Denton

Cpl. John Harms

DFC Shane Naughton

DFC William Freeland

Deputy Howard Anderson, Jr.

SCO Shannon Lockett

Cpl. Allan Curtin

Master Deputy Pete Aurich

DFC Nicholas Buckler

DFC Thomas Buckler III

#### Detention Center Civilian of the Year

Donna Grover

#### Sheriff's Office Civilian of the Year

Dean Hamilton

#### Sheriff's Office Patrol Supervisor of the Year

Cpl. James Morgan

#### Sheriff's Office Patrol Supervisor of the Year- Honorable Mention

Cpl. Mark Robshaw

Cpl. John Harms

#### Detention Center Supervisor of the Year

Sgt. Richard Nauman

#### Sheriff's Office Rookie of the Year

Deputy Herschel Wilder III

#### Sheriff's Office Rookie of the Year- Honorable Mention

Deputy Howard Anderson, Jr.

#### Detention Center Rookie of the Year

CD Alexandra Hart

#### Sheriff's Office Beach Deputy of the Year

DFC Stephen Bowlan

#### Detention Center Correctional Deputy of the Year

SCD Robert Scott

#### Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year

DFC Kamrhen Parks

#### Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year- Honorable Mention

DFC William Freeland

DFC Shane Naughton

DFC Robert Shrawder

Press Release from CCSO

**Sell it - Buy it at Auction**

#### Grocery Auction - St. Michael's School

16560 Three Notch Road - Ridge, Maryland

Saturday - May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm

#### Online Estate Auction (Bobby Cooksey Estate)

Selection of Oak Furniture; Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet; Clocks;

Decoys; Glassware; Crocks; More

Auction open for bidding on or about May 20<sup>th</sup>; closes May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Auction Preview Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 4 to 7 pm.

(Opportunity to leave bids during the Preview)



To register and participate in this online auction, go to [www.FarrellAuctionService.com](http://www.FarrellAuctionService.com).

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*Calvert County Times*



# A View From The BLEACHERS



## Boz

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

I first met legends of print in the folded remnants of a newspaper. The pristine paper had been stuffed into a mailbox long before the light of day. Retrieval occurred shortly thereafter, still under the darkness of night. A long journey began, the details a mystery. Much content was discarded immediately, still more with hardly a glance. The trimmings didn't matter; the surviving part held all the allure.

The sports section.

I grew up in perhaps the last golden era of sports journalism. Every morning, hours before I greeted the day, my dad would grab The Washington Post from the paper box on his way to some unknown place for another long workday. I would scurry off to school and try to escape the ire of nuns who were determined to impart lessons in reading, writing and arithmetic (all with the believed threat of a hickory stick) on my meandering brain; each day was an endeavor to advance my flailing existence a little closer to something meaningful (still is). In the evenings, I'd cross paths with my dad and he would hand me that well-worn Post sports section to devour. It was, with all due respect, something like Bible study.

If you grew up with the internet, it is hard to describe the importance of the sports page. Before 24/7 instant access, updates on Cal Ripken Jr.'s batting average, the NFL's passing leaders and standings in the NHL's Patrick Division landed daily in your parents' mailbox and, by the grace of God, in your hands after dinner.

Statistics were merely the appetizer. The Post's columnists made the 25-cent cover price a steal. I grew up reading the hilarious wit of Tony Kornheiser and the brilliant, I-think-you-can-handle-the-truth critiques of Michael Wilbon. I even had the good fortune of reading the occasional column by Shirley Povich, simply one of the great sportswriters of all time.

There was another voice dutifully typing away and churning out content during this time – Mr. Thomas Boswell (formality earned). "Boz", as he became affectionately known, outlasted

them all at The Post, and is still at it – count me grateful. Admission: He was an acquired taste. Mr. Boswell's writing, frankly, was above my reading level for some time. But I kept at it (somewhere those nuns are smiling), and found a cherished voice.

Looking back, Kornheiser's prose delivered consistent humor and a reminder to not take this stuff – sports...or life - too seriously. Wilbon made me think and taught me the power of polite, but direct, honesty. Mr. Boswell's style is different. His writing is elegant. The craftsmanship is apparent and powerful. Reading Mr. Boswell is like taking a seat in a lecture hall to hear a wise sage speak – bring your notepad, a pen (and a backup) and prepare to absorb the facts, the feelings, the perspective.

October 30, 2019: After the Nationals recorded the final out in Game 7 to capture D.C.'s first World Series since 1924, I embraced my dad, the same guy who had handed me all those sports' pages, and did a massive group hug with my wife and kids. As I watched the celebration, I thought immediately of Mr. Boswell, a baseball lover who had toiled for decades with no team, covered a talented Nationals team for years that had seemingly caught the D.C. sports jinx...and now this happened. All of this. No writer deserved to cover a World Series champion more than Mr. Boswell.

May 7, 2021: I settled in to peruse The Post's sports page – the online version...just as effective as print, but minus the charm. Mr. Boswell's latest column immediately grabbed my eye. The title teased a reflection point in D.C. sports journalism – after 52 years at The Post, Mr. Boswell had decided to retire. In June, he'll push away from his keyboard to enjoy a new chapter in life.

The piece was brilliant of course, but my quiet reflection produced inescapable melancholy. Life is so...fluid. Change...is inevitable. We try to embrace it, but often just find a way to deal with it. Nothing lasts forever. But sometimes, if we're lucky, special things can last half a century.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

# Tackle Box Fishing Report



Annie Grove leads THE Tackle Box big perch contest with this 13 incher from Chaptico Wharf.

By Ken Lamb  
Contributing Writer

Rockfish are being caught daily in the Potomac and in the upper regions of the bay from Deale north to Baltimore. Catches of the trophy rockfish in the lower bay have been plunking along at a slower rate. The concentrations of big fish in the Potomac and upper bay seems to related to bigger concentrations of baitfish.

Trollers are using the big baits with 9 inch shads and stinger hooks.

Next Sunday the rockfish minimums fall to 19 inches in Maryland and 20 inches in the Potomac.

The cold front that barged in on Friday has put the fish migrations on hold. Big winds and 40 degree temperatures are not conducive to good fishing or crabbing.

Tide flows have been minimal, with very low water. These conditions are poor for all fishing.

There have been perch biting in the deeper waters in the rivers and bay.

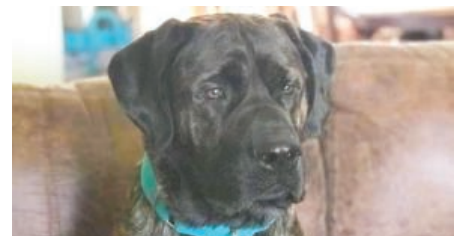
Catfishing is excellent in the Potomac and Patuxent.

Crappie, bass, bluegill and pickerel are hitting lures and bait in the lakes and ponds.

### SHEAMUS NEEDS A NEW OR LONG-TERM FOSTER HOME PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE DESCRIPTION!

Sheamus is a Mastador, born in 2017. On April 20th, he was assessed for aggression by the owner of a reputable K9 Academy in Southern MD who determined that Sheamus should be retrained and given a different owner. He had bitten someone four months ago, BUT there have been no subsequent incidents.

The expert assessment determined that Sheamus had displaced aggression that was territory-based and the result of general anxiety about his hectic environment. The breeder and the K9 Academy agree that he can be well-trained to curb his aggression, and be a stress-free pet and that a new home and new people, will also curb



the tendency.

We are looking for an appropriate, experienced dog owner who can provide a stable home life.

The breeder will offer lifetime support for Sheamus to his new owners. Contact Bruce Murch <https://puppies.covenantfarmva.com/>

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# Calvert Community Calendar

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

## Thursday, May 13

### 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](http://csmd.edu/transferthursdays)

### Sea Squirts

*Calvert Marine Museum; various times*

Children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, are invited to discover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a carryout craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 15-20 minutes. Capacity is limited. No pre-registration; sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This program is offered three times per day to accommodate guests. For specific times, please visit [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com)

## Friday, May 14

### Night at the Museum

*Calvert Marine Museum*

The Calvert Marine Museum (CMM) is opening its doors on Friday evening, May 14, for Night at the Museum for Friends with Disabilities. The museum and grounds will be open exclusively for guests with disabilities and their families, friends, or caregivers from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Have fun in a relaxed and supportive environment and see why the museum is a fun and welcoming place to visit any day of the week! This FREE event is offered in cooperation with Calvert County Parks & Recreation Therapeutic Recreation Services. Meet the museum otter mascot, learn about fish, fossils, river otters, skates and rays, maritime history, and enjoy activities in the Discovery Room. Explore the boat basin and the Drum Point Lighthouse. A special calming room will be available. The Museum Store will be open and chock full of items for all ages and interests, and the Wm. B. Tennison is available for 30-minute cruises at 5 p.m., 5:45 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for each individual to access the museum's indoor exhibits and to ride the Wm. B. Tennison. Proper face coverings will be required when not in designated areas. Register to attend the event by visiting <https://webtrac.co.cal.md.us> and searching for Activity #470773 and #470774.

Guests who would like to register for the Wm. B. Tennison cruise must call the Therapeutic Recreation office directly at 410-535-1600, ext. 8205.

### CSM Spring Graduation Virtual Commencement

*Virtual; 1 p.m.*

CSM's Spring Commencement virtual ceremony is being held on Facebook Live. More details to follow on the virtual ceremony and in-person activities. <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/2021/05/spring-commencement.html>

## Saturday, May 15

### Dee of St. Mary's Cruise

*Calvert Marine Museum; 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

Sail on the Dee of St. Mary's, leaving from the museum dock. Fee is \$25 for ages 13 and up, \$15 for children 5 - 12. No children under 5 please. Seating is limited, as all cruises will be operating at a limited capacity to allow for social distancing. Preregistration is required by noon on the Friday before each cruise by visiting [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/238/Dee-of-St-Marys-Cruises](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/238/Dee-of-St-Marys-Cruises).

### Free Paper Shredding Event

*Huntingtown High School; 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.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Recycle](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Recycle) or download the Recycle Coach app.

### Breezy Point Blast-Off

*Breezy Point Beach; 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.*

Admission will be free but preregistration is required. Visit [webtrac.co.cal.md.us](http://webtrac.co.cal.md.us) and use activity number 150001 to register. Attendees will enjoy music, food for purchase from local food trucks, family games and a spectacular fireworks show to end the night. Everyone is welcome to bring a picnic or use

the grills at the beach; grills are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The use of gas grills, pull-behind grills, smokers and deep fryers is prohibited. Space for this event is limited and social distancing guidelines are in place. All participants must wear masks when not seated with their groups. Alcohol, smoking/vaping, pets and glass containers are prohibited on the beach.

### Craft Fair/ Flea Market

*St. Anthony's Catholic Church; 8:30 a.m. - noon*

The Knights of Columbus-Calvert Council #7870 will be holding this event in St. Anthony's Catholic Church parking lot, 8816 Chesapeake Ave. North Beach, MD. Vendor spots are \$15/1 spot and \$25/2 spots. To reserve a spot please email: [koccc7870@yahoo.com](mailto:koccc7870@yahoo.com) or contact Janet Wyvill @ (240)463-3269.

### CSM Dance Ensemble

*Virtual*

Rather than a final performance, the Spring 2021 CSM Dance Ensemble has been working on a project touching on the emotional impact the pandemic has had on artists. Director Stillwagon and students explore the journey dancers have been taking to adapt and continue moving forward in the video performance entitled "Our Way Back Home." The performance will be posted on CSM's YouTube Channel on May 15 for two weeks. Free. <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/2021/05/dance-ensemble.html>

### CSM Jazz and Latin Ensemble

*Virtual; 7:30 p.m.*

CSM's Jazz Ensemble, "Solid Brass," directed by Randall Runyon, is a community jazz band with membership consisting of CSM students, several military band veterans, and members of the community. They bring to us a concert entitled "Virtual Big Band Variety Show." The "Ritmo Caché" Latin Ensemble, directed by Dr. Phil Ravita, will feature several old familiar "chestnuts" of Latin American music in styles such as salsa, bolero, and Latin Pop. Free. <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/2021/05/jazz-latin-ensemble.html>

## Thursday, May 20

### 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](http://csmd.edu/transferthursdays)

## Ongoing

### Calvert Library Openings

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

### Enchanted Summer at the Garden

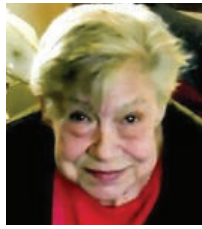
*Annamarie Sculpture Garden; May 1 - September 6*

Enjoy a safe, outdoor, engaging experience where you will find a variety of low-touch, no-touch fun along the trails and paths of the sculpture garden. During the Enchanted Summer, daily visitors can explore the galleries; search for over 100 fairy houses; play in the Fairy Lolly Nature Play Space; build your own fairy house in the forest; search for gems and fossils at the Fairy Grove Mining sluice (additional fees apply); try the Wild Rumpus Run; enjoy unique photo opps along the trail; find the hidden Dragons Nest; search for the hidden tree pop paintings; and more! Grab your bug spray, pack a picnic blanket or chairs, and spend a fun, creative and active day at Annmarie. Well-behaved pets on a short leash are welcome; no smoking or vaping; masks and social distancing required. Details: [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org)





## Bonnie Kay Binkley



Bonnie Kay Binkley, 78 of Lusby, MD, and formerly from Dilliner, PA, passed away peacefully on April 28, 2021 at George Wash-

ington University Hospital.

Born September 5, 1942 in Dunkard Township, PA, she was the daughter of the late Guy Walter Robbins and Martha Kate (Radabaugh) Robbins.

Bonnie graduated from Mapletown High School in Greensboro, PA. She enjoyed her work as a Photograph Developer for South Capital Press. Bonnie also enjoyed crocheting, crossword puzzles and watching the Discovery channel.

Bonnie is survived by her children, Terri Fischer (Timothy) of La Plata, MD, Dawn Swearingen (Michael) of Lusby, MD and William Binkley (Wendy) of Mechanicsville, MD; her son-in-law, David "Jolly" Doyle of Cheat Lake, PA; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Edwin William Binkley whom she married on September 8, 1958 in Oakland, MD; and her daughter Laurie Doyle.

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

## Courtney Dawn "Coco" Woodward

Courtney Dawn "Coco" Woodward, 31 of Lusby, MD passed away suddenly on May 5, 2021. She was born on October 23, 1989 in Birmingham, AL to Joy Meade



and the late William Woodward.

Coco moved to Calvert County in 2003 and went on to graduate from Patuxent High School in 2007.

She was a server at the Outback Steakhouse in California, MD where she made many friends. She also previously worked as a vet tech at Prince Frederick Animal Hospital, customer service agent at Sneade's Ace Hardware, and as an office assistant for Calvert County Fire and EMS.

Coco is survived by her mother, Joy Meade ("mamma"); sisters, Heather Woodward (twinny, "Nug") and Ashley Woodward (big sis); brothers, Matthew Woodward and Jeremy Woodward; nephews, Grayson Woodward, Turk, and Sunny; honorary nephew, Dawson Hall; nieces, Cheyann Woodward, Marley, and Hope; furbabies Harbor and Rex, and all of her amazing friends. She was preceded in death by her nephew, Pierson Woodward.

Coco, "we know you're shining down on us from heaven like so many friends we've lost along the way and we know eventually we'll be together, one sweet day".

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 11 a.m. at the Drum Point Clubhouse, 465 Overlook Drive, Lusby, MD 20657. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to be made in Coco's memory to the Tri County Animal Shelter, 6707 Animal Shelter Rd, Hughesville, MD 20637. To leave the family a condolence please visit [www.rauschfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rauschfuneralhomes.com).

We love you always and forever baby girl!!!

# HELPING YOUR ELDERLY PARENTS

Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel

As painful as it is to think that your parents may one day be unable to drive, climb stairs, feed themselves or change their own clothes, the time to face these issues is right now when your parents are relatively healthy and, most importantly, able to understand what they are signing. You and your siblings need to have "the talk" with your parents while there is still time to protect them.

Clearly, "the talk" will extend far beyond the legal documents that your parents need to put into place. However, no matter what else you discuss, your parents need the protection that the following legal documents will give them:

**1. Power of Attorney.** This document gives power to a person each of your parents designates to make decisions for them if they are unable to do so. Your parents need to understand that they are NOT giving up their power to make decisions for themselves. All they are doing is appointing someone to make those decisions if and only if they cannot do so.

In most cases of married couples, the spouses appoint each other as the power of attorney and, if the other cannot serve, appoint a child or other loved one. Each one of your parents needs their own power of attorney.

The form of Power of Attorney that I prefer covers medical care, financial care and guardianship. On the medical side, keep in mind that the HIPPA law gives people privacy for their medical records, but has a flaw. If one of your parents were to have a stroke and be unable to verbally consent to the other obtaining his or her medical records, they could not get them. The only way to correct this is to give the power of attorney the right to get the medical records no matter what shape your parent is in.

Guardianship is also a critical point. You would think that your father or mother would have the right to sign the paperwork to institutionalize the other if they had to. They do not have that power. Either parent would have to go to court to be declared the guardian of the other before they could sign the paperwork. That court process takes time and costs legal fees. Instead, the power of attorney form should make it clear that the person appointed as power of attorney is also the guardian.

Some attorneys will use an Advance Directive and a separate Financial Power of Attorney. Same

result, more forms. No matter—the critical issue is whether your elderly parent has the capacity to sign the forms.

In order to sign a Power of Attorney, your parents must be able to understand what they are signing. If your elderly parent has dementia in its later stages and cannot understand what they are doing, they cannot sign legal documents, including the power of attorney. I can't tell you how many times I get calls from children of an elderly parent with dementia seeking a power of attorney to help their parent. Unfortunately, if the parent has dementia and cannot understand what they are signing, I cannot help them.

Everyone needs the protection that a Power of Attorney offers. Make sure your parents put that protection in place now when they can.

**2. Will or Trust.** Your parents need to obtain a Will or a Revocable Living Trust to ensure that their assets will be distributed to their loved ones the way they want it done. A Will is only applicable after the person dies. With a Will or without one, if the person dies with assets in their sole name, those assets must go through the probate process to get to loved ones. The revocable living trust avoids the probate process and works while you are still alive. It is especially effective if one of your parents is incapacitated. If that happens, the other parent ordinarily becomes the sole trustee of the family trust and uses the assets of the trust to take care of the incapacitated Trustee. If both your parents are incapacitated, they will have appointed a successor trustee under the family trust who can manage the assets in the trust on their behalf.

**3. Living Will.** Your parents should make their own end of life decisions, specifically whether they want life-saving procedures, in a Living Will. Forms for living wills are found in doctor's offices, at hospitals and online.

No matter how you approach these topics with your parents, they need to be discussed. Family harmony is the critical issue—don't let messes happen. Encourage your parents to take control and protect themselves and the family.

Join me on the third Wednesday of every month at 11am, 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach, for a free seminar on this and other topics. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

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# Implant Retained Dentures are a Life-Altering Improvement Over Removeable Dentures

By: Jeff Tomcsik

If you are stuck in removeable dentures, a removeable prosthesis like a bridge, or if you've been in need of a replacement option for missing teeth, you need to pay attention to this game changer in the dental industry. Embarrassing moments with removable dentures are a thing of the past with implant retained dentures. In fact, a lot of concerns and issues are a thing of the past with this truly life-like alternative to removables.

Implants have come a long way over the past several years. They are predictable and successful when placed by highly trained and educated professions. The implants themselves are placed into the jawbone, creating an anchor for the prosthesis (denture, bridge or single tooth replacement). This anchor integrates with the natural bone in the jaw making the connection as permanent as a real, healthy tooth's root.

Because the implant mimics a

natural root, it allows for functionality like a real tooth. In fact chewing function with an implant retained, permanent denture maintains at about 80% of original function over the removable's functionality of about 20%. It also creates bone stability, which means the jawbone will not atrophy (loss of bone) over time as with a traditional prosthesis or lack of teeth all together. This will help you keep a more youthful and healthy appearance for the rest of your life.

The fixed option also allows you to care for and clean the prosthetic teeth while in the mouth like you would with your original teeth. No more removing your denture and soaking it or brushing it outside of the mouth. It will not fall out during active events or while you eat. In fact, it won't fall out ever! This creates peace of mind as it avoids embarrassing situations. Only you and your dental team will ever know your teeth are not your originals.

Implant retained dentures are also quite economical over the life of the denture as well. If you've been suffering with ongoing dental problems, finding yourself in the dental chair year after year getting fillings, root canals and crowns, just to lead to bridges and eventually dentures, you could spend tens of thousands of dollars over time.

While a full arch (upper and/or lower teeth) fixed denture isn't cheap up front, it solves most of your dental problems for the rest of your life. You will never have another cavity, root canal, or crown again. Your periodontal condition has the opportunity to hit the reset switch. Your life becomes yours to enjoy again rather than worrying about pain, discomfort, or embarrassment all of the time.

Tidewater Dental has the most talented implant doctors in our service areas including a periodontist, Dr. David Peto, a prosthodontist, Dr. Bruce Finagin as well as Dr. Reza Nikpourfard, Dr.

Kolade Akinwande, and Dr. Todd Cooper, all three general dentists with extensive education and experience in placing and restoring implants.

With Tidewater Dental's team of Dental Professionals, you get the convenience of having all the professionals under one roof so that you can get your implants placed and final product fabricated without having to go to multiple offices to see multiple providers. Our doctors work collaboratively with each other to make sure you have a seamless experience with the most beautiful and functional result.

You can go up the road to the competition and pay \$5,000 to \$10,000 more for the same result, or you can come to the clear choice in implant retained dentures, Tidewater Dental. Contact any of our six locations to schedule a free consultation to see if you are a candidate for implant retained dentures.

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