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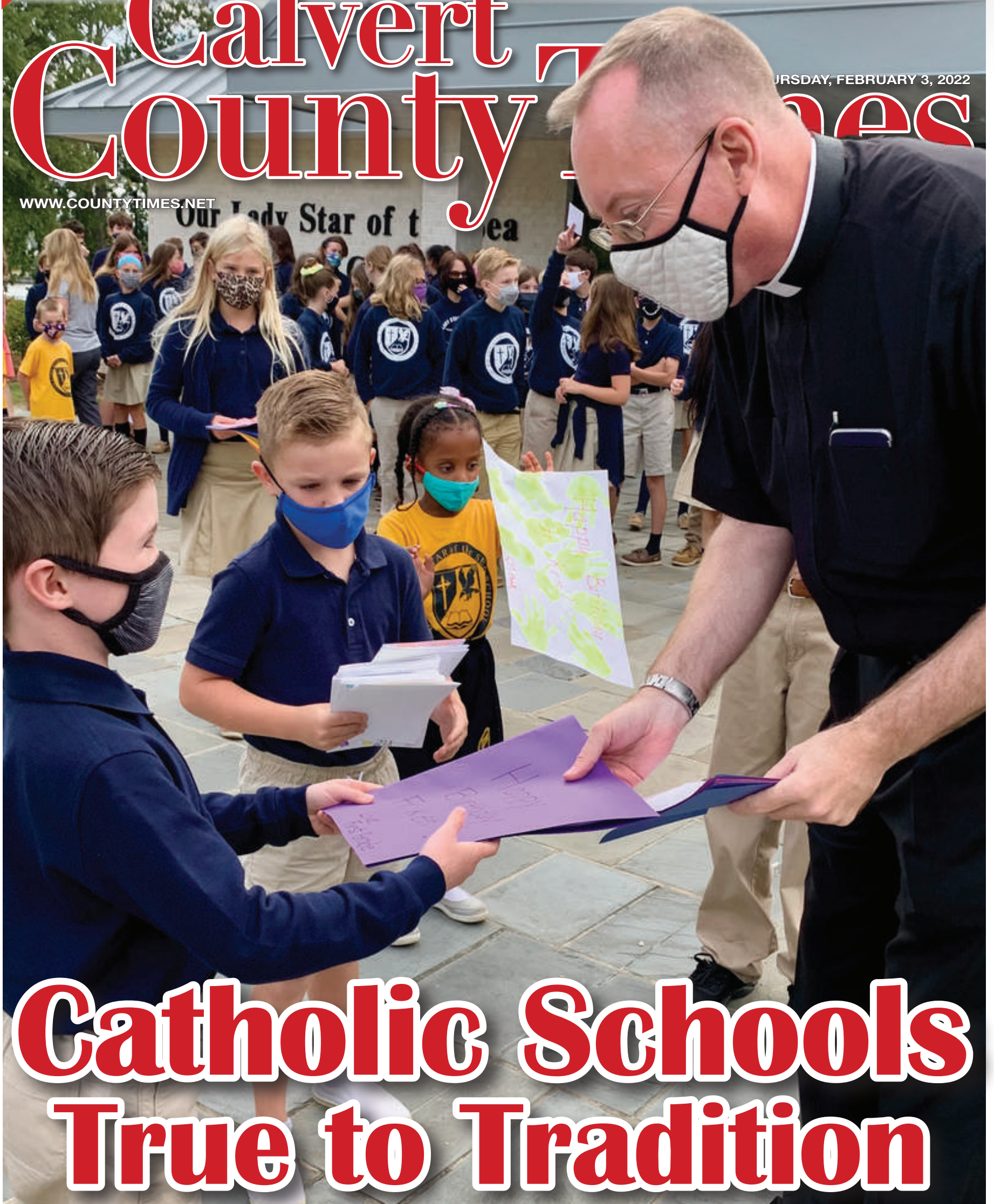
**CURRY UNVEILS
PROPOSED BUDGET**

**CSM HOLDS WINTER
COMMENCEMENT**

Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022

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Catholic Schools True to Tradition

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DEL. MARK FISHER ON THE LACK OF CONNECTION WITHIN DISTRICT 27-B.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 2/3 58° 51°F Cloudy	Fri 2/4 53° 27°F Rain	Sat 2/5 36° 25°F Sunny	Sun 2/6 39° 32°F Snow to Rain
Mon 2/7 41° 25°F Partly Cloudy	Tue 2/8 39° 26°F Mostly Sunny	Wed 2/9 43° 30°F Sunny	Thu 2/10 48° 36°F Partly Cloudy





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Redistricting Committee Redraws Election Districts

Change Impacts 5,600 People

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Redistricting Committee will be recommending to the county commissioners a plan that reconfigures the county's three election districts by moving 5,600 people from one district to another.

The plan selected on a 7-2 vote at the committee's Jan. 28 meeting modifies somewhat an earlier plan suggested by the county's Elections Administrator Gail Hatfield that would only have changed the boundary line between the 1st and 2nd districts.

Under the proposed plan, there would be 30,253 people in the 1st District, 31,587 in the 2nd and 31,259 in the 3rd.

Under the plan, the 2nd District would have the largest minority population, at 7,895. compared to 7,641 in the 1st District and 7,224 in the 3rd.

The committee at the meeting rejected an alternate plan which would have more drastically reconfigured the 2nd and 3rd districts, with the 2nd district hugging the Chesapeake shoreline and included the twin beaches, and the 3rd district hugging the Patuxent shoreline.

That alternate plan would have created a slightly majority Democratic 2nd District, with more minority population in it.

At the beginning of the Jan. 28 meeting, Commission Chairman Wilson Parran, a former county commissioner, criticized comments from the Democratic Party in an email sent out to members and reported on in last week's County Times. The email called for the creation of five election districts and in-district voting instead of county-wide as it now exists. The email criticized the committee for not considering those options.

Parran said neither the committee nor the county commissioners had the authority to establish five election districts or make them in-district voting. He said that was the purview of the Maryland General Assembly and if anyone was interested in those options, they should contact their legislators.

The email sent out Jan. 24 also



Calvert County Redistricting Committee Chairman Wilson Parran

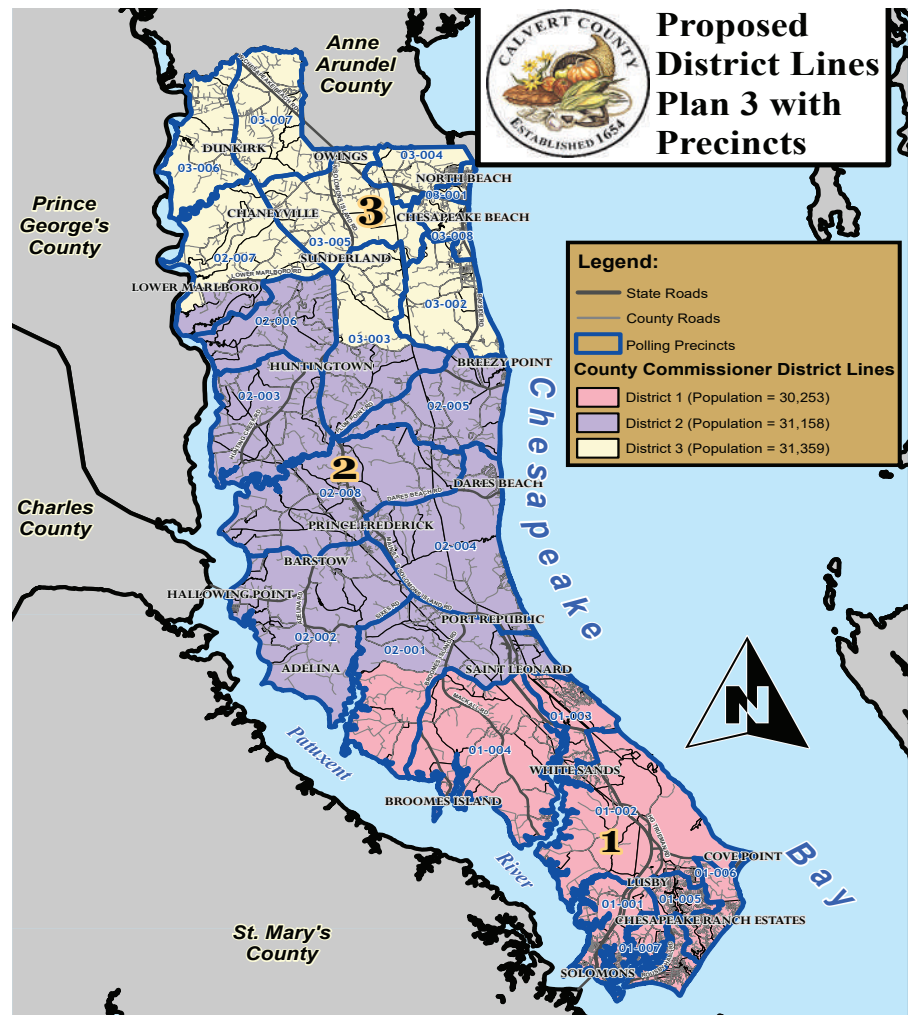
said, "Unfortunately, the redistricting committee has shut us down at every turn. They've ignored similar calls by non-partisan groups like the League of Women Voters and the NAACP. Enough is enough."

However, Calvert County NAACP Branch President Michael Kent, a member of the redistricting committee, has vehemently denied any such statement was ever made. He said, "Under NAACP bylaws, only the branch president or his/her designee may make statements to the press. I did not make a statement and neither did my designee, Michael Hawkins. Further, the NAACP is non-partisan and whoever the referenced Democrat was, does not speak for us. The statement we will make at this time is: It is the desire of the Calvert Branch of the NAACP to see that the local district lines are drawn fairly and equitably, accounting for population growth, but not limiting access of any person to exercise their right to vote."

Dawn Collins, the League of Women Voters representative on the redistricting committee, also denied any knowledge of a league statement.

The redistricting committee is expected to meet a final time on Feb. 4 to finalize their letter of recommendation to the county commissioners.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



Map approved by Redistricting Committee



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Democrats Pass New Legislative Map

Fisher Says It Violates State Law



Delegate Mark Fisher (R: 27-C) speaking on the House floor with the legislative map for Calvert County.

By Guy Leonard
 Staff Writer and
 Dick Myers
 Editor

Along party lines Democrats in the Maryland General Assembly have voted to approve a new redistricting map for senate and delegate districts.

The structure of the map has some minor changes, but Republican lawmakers are already predicting the map will bring legal action to overturn it.

“Bring on the lawsuit,” said St. Mary’s County Del. Matt Morgan in a social media post. “One man, one vote is a principle our democracy is built upon.”

“But unfortunately, the new state legislative map violates that principle and disenfranchises thousands of people across Maryland. That is unfair, and I hope the court strikes down this nonsense.”

Calvert County Delegate Mark Fisher (R: 27-C), in an impassioned speech on the House floor, said the approved map violated state law.

Pointing to a map of Calvert County showing District 27-B’s split between Calvert and Prince George’s, Fisher said, “Here’s District 27-B in Calvert County. And you have to cross the Patuxent

River to get to the rest of the yellow (color on the map) in Prince George’s County for District 27-B. There is no bridge on the Patuxent River in that district, not even close. In fact, in order for people in this part of Calvert County to get to the other side of the district in Prince Georges County, they have to drive between 35 and 40 minutes to get to a bridge to get to that district.”

He said it violates state code, which says, “due regard will be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions. This county, Calvert only has 92,000 people. There’s no reason we can’t have two full House member districts.”

Democrat Rachel Jones, who lives in Calvert, currently represents District 29-B.

The redistricting also continues to have a shared delegate in southern Calvert and middle St. Mary’s and also continues to share one senator (District 27) with Prince George’s and another with St. Mary’s. The two current senators are Michael Jackson, who lives in Prince George’s and Jack Bailey who lives in St. Mary’s.

guyleonard@countytimes.net and
 dickmyers@countytimes.net

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Gowen Running For District 29C Delegate

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The commander of Maryland's National Guard wants to be the next delegate for District 29C in St. Mary's and Calvert Counties.

Maj. Gen. Timothy Gowen, a Republican and Leonardtown resident, filed for election Jan. 24; he said if elected he would resign as the state's Adjutant General.

"I feel like I want to help out and add a stronger voice to the people in the General Assembly," Gowen told The County Times. "I think an effective conservative voice in Maryland can make a change."

"I think I can help change some minds with evidence and data driven arguments."

If elected Gowen wants to try to find ways to end the alleged gerrymandering for which Maryland is famous by arguing that continually playing to just one political party in a state will ultimately be to its detriment.

"It really bothers me," Gowen said. "The supermajority makes too many emotionally based decisions."

"The way we've reacted to COVID is one of them."

Gowen said his long experience as a general staff officer in the U.S. Army and National Guard making data-driven decisions and dealing with risk management make him a strong candidate for the job of state delegate.

The current incumbent, Del. Gerald "Jerry" Clark has said he



Maj. Gen. Tim Gowen

will not seek reelection. Gowen is currently the only candidate who has filed for the seat and if elected would be the first St. Mary's resident to hold the seat in almost 15 years.

District 29C spans the middle section of St. Mary's, across the Patuxent River and much of Southern Calvert County.

Locally, Gowen wants to ensure St. Mary's and Calvert counties are "getting our fair share out of Annapolis" and wants to solve traffic congestion problems.

He also wants to promote policies that would make for a competitive business environment in St. Mary's and Calvert, he said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Detectives Make Arrest in Lusby Homicide

Calvert County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a residence in the 8300 block of Cedar Lane in Lusby on Jan. 28 shortly after 8 p.m. after receiving report of an unresponsive subject. Upon arrival, officers located an adult female identified as Selene Noelle Persinger, 38, of Lusby, deceased inside the residence.

Preliminary investigation revealed Persinger had suffered trauma to her body and foul play was suspected. Detectives from the Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) assumed the investigation.

Detectives identified **Travis Benjamin Ridgely**, 34 of Lusby as a person of interest. Contact



Travis Benjamin Ridgely, 34 of Lusby

was made with Ridgely who was incarcerated at the Charles County Detention Center on unrelated charges, where he admitted to the crime. Ridgely has been charged with Second-Degree Murder, First-Degree Assault, Second-Degree Assault and Unlawful Taking of Motor Vehicle and is being held on a no bond status.

Press Release from CCSO.

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Curry Unveils His Proposed Budget

Asks \$9 Million More from County

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Curry has proposed a \$246.4 million budget for the next fiscal year. The budget unveiled at the school board's Jan. 27 meeting will be Curry's final before his retirement later this year.

Whereas the school system used more than \$7 million in fund balance to close the gap in the current year's budget while asking the county for just a dollar more, the tables have been reversed by Curry for this year's Superintendent's Budget. There is very little fund balance available for use (only \$440,000) so Curry is seeking more than \$9 million more from the county for his parting shot.

"I hope the county is not too surprised that the need has come around," Curry said.

The budget features a one-percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) and a one-step increase for teachers and support staff.

Calvert ranks fourth in the state in "Bachelors, Step 1 Starting Teacher Salary." They are fifth in "Master's, Step 10" and third in maximum for a master's degree.

Starting teacher's salary at Step 1 will be \$50,500.

There are no new positions in the budget although staff requested 40. That fact caused regret from several school board members. School Board Vice President Inez Claggett said she would have liked to see more positions in order to lower class sizes.

Increases over the current fiscal year, include:

- Transportation Costs - \$3.9 million
- Future Ready (technology upgrades) - \$1.3 million
- Contracted Psychologists - \$.5 million
- Special Education Salaries (Staff previously in State grant) \$1.4 million
- Operations and Facilities - \$1.9 million
- Salaries - \$2.5 million
- Benefits (Retirement Health Insurance and Social Security): \$2.1 million

Curry says CCPS operations have received extra help recently from federal grants, such as:



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Curry

- CCPS has committed \$1,035,050 to summer school programs for all levels
- CCPS has committed \$767,002 for after-school tutoring for all levels
- CCPS has committed \$217,822 for Saturday School for all levels
- CCPS has committed \$193,928 for mental health enhancing activities
- CCPS has committed \$3,000,000 to the purchase of an HVAC system for the new Beach Elementary School
- CCPS has committed \$2,000,000 for the health suite upgrades for 18 schools
- CCPS has committed \$272,473 for our nurses and staff to do contact tracing.

Enrollment was 15,220 students in grades kindergarten through 12 as of December 2021, up 300 from last year's pandemic lows but still below pre-pandemic levels.

Demographically, the school system is:

- 67.5 percent White
- 13.3 percent African American
- 9.9 percent Two or More Races
- 7.5 percent Hispanic
- Less than 5 percent Asian
- Less than 5 percent American Indian.

The full budget proposal is available on the school system website and public comment is being solicited for the next 30 days. The board will then review the written comments through March 24. The Board of Education Proposed Budget must be approved and submitted to the County Government for inclusion in the County's budget on March 24.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

State Studying Bridge for Suicide Prevention Measures

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The recent deaths of jumpers from the Thomas Johnson Bridge that connect Calvert and St. Mary's counties has prompted the State Highway Administration (SHA) to consider options that could prevent a person from ending their life from a bridge plunge.

"Our Office of Structures will perform a study to determine if there are additional viable countermeasures for the Thomas Johnson Bridge," said Tina Register, assistant director of public relations for SHA. "SHA's number one priority is safety along the state highway network and takes suicides and attempted suicides very seriously."

The state has already taken some steps in an effort to prevent suicidal jumps from the bridge but still fatalities have occurred in one of the most public places locally.

"In 2007, call boxes were installed on the Thomas Johnson Bridge to offer a direct link to the state's suicide hotline for those seeking help, and in 2008 cameras were installed to monitor activity on the bridge," Register said in a prepared statement.

There have been two suicides from the bridge so far this year and there was another in October of last year involving a Leonardtown High School student that struck the community deeply.

The recent spike in deaths has prompted a petition locally to install some kind of netting on the bridge to catch suicidal sub-

jects from completing a lethal fall.

The bridge is 140 feet tall at the height of its span.

That idea already has some support from elected leaders.

"No family should experience the loss of a loved one from suicide," said Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist.29B) "The simple act of installing nets could save a family from experiencing a tragedy."

The father of the high school student, Andrew Sukhram, who took his own life last year signed that petition along with Crosby.

"I'm signing this petition because we all can't just stand by hoping this tragedy won't happen again," David Sukhram said. "Unfortunately, we can't expect all our loved ones to recognize and get or accept the necessary help needed to prevent suicide."

"Yes, we need more and accessible mental health services and we also need medicine, family, love, support, fellowship, church, sports, community, self-care, all these things, but when they aren't enough and a person decides to take their life, a community is left with questions," the grieving father continued. "What if? What could we have done better? What could I have done better?"

Sukhram said that the cost of implementing netting would be worth the expense if it saved just one life.

St. Mary's Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said the issue of suicide had to be discussed, like it or not.



"We need to talk more about it, so people know there's help," Cameron told The County Times. "Money is secondary to what we're talking about [saving lives.]"

Calvert Sheriff Mike Evans concurred. "Something to make it more difficult [to jump from the bridge] would probably help," Evans said. "I'm willing to try anything to keep people alive."

St. Mary's health officer, Dr. Meena Brewster, said suicide affected more than just the person who took their own life.

"Suicide is a serious public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities," Brewster said. "As the cause of suicide is complex and determined by multiple factors, the goal of suicide prevention is to reduce risk factors and enhance factors that promote resilience."

Netting at the bridge was a possible way

to prevent such occurrences, she said, but residents should be mindful of other ways to help prevent all suicides.

"Creating a protective environment is one important part of a comprehensive approach, and can be advanced by reducing access to lethal means among persons at risk of suicide," Brewster said. "This may include safer storage of firearms and medications in households, as well as implementing a Suicide Deterrent System at higher risk sites (such as netting on a bridge).

"Reducing access to lethal means is important because many suicide attempts take place during an acute or short-term crisis."

The latest data from the state, from 2019, shows there were 13 suicides in St. Mary's and 11 in Calvert County.

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Commissioners Poised to Act on Police Accountability Board

Final Public Hearing Held on Jan. 25

By Dick Myers
Editor

About a dozen people spoke at what is expected to be the final public hearing before the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) votes to establish the legislatively mandated Police Accountability Board (PAB) and the companion Administrative Charging Committee (ACC). The BOCC is expected to make a decision at their Feb. 8 meeting after leaving the record open for comments for 10 days after the Jan. 25 hearing.

While there were still some calls for more citizen representation on the nine-member PAB and fewer persons with law enforcement ties, there also was considerable general support for the work done in the process to date and changes made to accommodate concerns.

Calvert County NAACP Branch President Michael Kent said, "We are happy with the work done," adding "It is a very good document you have put together." He noted, however, that in the county "young black males and females are fearful of being hauled over by police."

But a League of Women Voters representative said, "The role of law enforcement should be to serve as resources but in a non-voting capacity."

The draft ordinance presented at the public hearing said:

- The Chairperson of the CCPAB shall have experience relevant to the position.
- To the extent practicable, members of the CCPAB shall reflect the racial, gender, and cultural diversity of Calvert County and include, with not less than two members from each County Commissioner District:
- Two members shall be retired, sworn law enforcement officers who retired in good standing at least five years prior to appointment on the CCPAB, with sufficient time and responsibility of service.... to adequately represent a law enforcement perspective;
- Not less than three members shall be from minority populations within Calvert County; and
- One Member should be a mental health practitioner

At the hearing Ed Baylor told the BOCC, "We should not liberalize this to appease those with an anti-police agenda."

And Calvert County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 109 President Nick DeFelice said because of the mood in

some places in the country, "Members of our department have become targets of hatred."

And Clare Hill said there should be more discussion about oversight of law enforcement administration instead of the police officers.

According to a briefing last year by County Attorney John Norris, the Police Accountability Board's role is to:

- Hold quarterly meetings with heads of law enforcement agencies and otherwise work with law enforcement agencies and the county government to improve matters of policing;
- Appoint members to the Administrative Charging Committee, and any Trial Boards;
- Receive complaints of police misconduct filed by the public;
- Review, quarterly, outcomes of disciplinary matters considered by charging committees; and
- By December 31, submit a report to the County Commissioners and recommend policy changes that would improve police accountability in the county.

The Calvert County Administrative Charging Committee's role is to:

- Review findings of a law enforcement agency's investigation;
- Review any body camera footage that may be relevant to the matters covered in the complaint of misconduct;
- Determine whether or not to administratively charge the police officer who is the subject of the investigation;
- If the police officer is charged, recommend discipline in accordance with that officer's agency's disciplinary matrix;
- Issue a written opinion that describes in detail its findings, determinations, and recommendations;
- Forward the written opinion to the chief of the law enforcement agency, the police officer, and the complainant.

The Administrative Charging Committee may also:

- Request information or action from the law enforcement agency;
- Find that the allegations against a police officer are unfounded, or exonerate the police officer, if the officer isn't administratively charged;
- Record, in writing, any failure of supervision that caused or contributed to a police officer's misconduct.

At the Jan. 25 public hearing, Calvert County State's Attorney Robert Harvey noted the importance of his agency in the process because criminal charges could be the outcome of an investigation and his office would have to prosecute them.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Courthouse Access Limited



Due to the recent surge in Maryland of COVID-19 cases as a result of the Omicron variant, and consistent with the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and local health agencies, the Maryland Judiciary is reverting to Phase III emergency operations. On Dec. 27, 2021, Chief Judge Joseph M. Getty of the Court of Appeals for Maryland issued an Interim Administrative Order Restricting Statewide Operations in Light of Omicron Variant of the COVID-19 Emergency. The interim operational plan took effect Dec. 29, 2021, and will continue through Feb. 8, 2022, pending further order.

Accordingly, Mark S. Chandlee, Administrative Judge for the Circuit Court for Calvert County, has issued an Administrative Order requiring the Calvert County Sheriff's Office to restrict access and screen individuals entering the Courthouse located at 175 Main St. in Prince Frederick, and is authorized to continue to conduct thermal temperature checks of all individuals entering the Courthouse; ensure proper implementation of the screening protocol and receipt of responses to screening questions propounded by entrants; inquire about the purpose of an individual's visit to the Courthouse; limit the number of individuals entering the Courthouse at any given time to ensure the health and safety of all individuals in the Courthouse, and DENY entry to any individual whose screening results require refusal of entry to the Courthouse for the health and safety of all individuals in the Courthouse. Any individual denied entry with an affirmative response to the screening inquiry in consultation with the Administrative Judge will be provided with information regarding alternative means to address the purpose of that person's intended visit to the court. All individuals entering the Circuit Court for Calvert County shall wear face masks indoors regardless of vaccination status or other related health measures.

The courthouse will continue restrictions to limit the concentration of individuals and allow social distancing, consistent with state and federal guidance.

The new administrative orders can be viewed on the Maryland Judiciary website at <https://mdcourts.gov/coronavirusorders> and the Circuit Court

for Calvert County website at <http://circuitcourt.co.cal.md.us>.

Further, Judge Chandlee has determined that all currently scheduled matters, excluding jury trials, in the Calvert County Circuit Court will remain as scheduled. All jury trials, however, will be suspended until the Judiciary is able to reenter Phase V of its reopening plan.

Accordingly, civil and criminal trials currently scheduled to commence between Dec. 29, 2021, and Feb. 8, 2022, shall be converted to status conferences. All hearings will be heard in person at the Calvert County Circuit Courthouse. Any party/litigant and/or attorney appearing in a matter scheduled on or after Dec. 29, 2021 through Feb. 8, 2022, may file an appropriate motion in writing to advise the Court of any issue that may prevent a party, attorney, and/or witness from appearing in person for their scheduled hearing or make a request to appear remotely for their scheduled hearing. The Circuit Court will rule on any requests for conversions to remote hearings and continuances on a case-by-case basis.

Court offices are fully staffed. Court personnel will be available to the public by telephone between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Maryland Electronic Court (MDEC) continues to be available for electronic filing and is required to be used for all MDEC counties. The courts shall be open to the public, and no appointment shall be necessary (although preferred) for access.

Any questions or concerns relative to cases or proceedings should be directed to:

Circuit Court: 410-535-1600
District Court: 443-550-6700

Calvert County Government continues to take precautionary measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and limit the number of people infected. Residents, employees and media are encouraged to monitor Calvert County's virtual resource center for updates and information resources: www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus.

Find information on Calvert County Government services online at www.CalvertCountyMd.gov. Stay up to date with Calvert County Government on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd and YouTube at www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov.

*Press Release from
Calvert County government.*

CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of January 17, 2022 – January 23, 2022, deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1, 378 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 22-02884

On January 19, 2022, Deputy Morrison responded to the 3300 block of Holland Cliffs Road in Huntingtown, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised his mailbox was damaged by unknown suspect(s). Deputy Morrison observed a large hole in the victim's mailbox and a rock nearby. The estimated value of damaged property is \$280.00.

Damaged Property: 22-03240

On January 21, 2022, Deputy Newton responded to the Giant Food grocery store located at 655 N. Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised an unknown female hit the victim's vehicle with a shopping cart. The estimated value of damaged property is \$300.00.

Theft: 22-02929

On January 19, 2022, Deputy Aurich responded to the 2600 block of Manor Court in Owings, MD for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between Jan. 5 and Jan. 19, unknown suspect(s) stole the rear registration plate for a trailer parked on the side yard of his residence. The estimated value of stolen property is unknown at this time.

Armed Robbery: 22-02775

On January 19, 2022, Deputy McCourt responded to the 12000 block of Susan Lane in Lusby,

MD for the report of an armed robbery. The complainant advised two black male subjects, one armed with a handgun, the other armed with an aluminum baseball bat rushed toward the victim demanding the keys to his truck that was running in the driveway. The subject armed with the bat struck the victim in the leg. The male subjects then fled the house into the nearby woods. Suspect #1 (armed with handgun) is described as black male with a stockier build, 5 feet 9 inches tall, wearing a black wind jacket, black pants, wearing an orange/red skull cap with dreadlocks down to his lower back. Suspect #2 (armed with bat) is described as a lighter skin black male, wearing all black with a black ski mask covering his face. Anyone with information about this incident, is asked to please contact Deputy McCourt at Richard.McCourt.Jr@Calvert-countymd.gov.

ARRESTS

On January 22, 2022, Deputy Tavares and Cpl. Kampf conducted a traffic stop on Hidden Spring Trail in Prince Frederick, MD. Contact was made with the driver **Thomas Lynn Fatzinger**, 58 of Port Deposit, MD and passenger **Lukus Lee Paxton**, 32 of Colora, MD. Cpl. Kampf advised Fatzinger that the registration on the vehicle was suspended and con-

firmed that Paxton was wanted on an open warrant thru Maryland State Police and Cecil County. As Paxton was being detained, DFC Wilson observed two syringes on Paxton's person in addition to a glass container containing a leafy substance that was emitting a strong chemical odor (suspected Phencyclidine (PCP)). A search of Fatzinger revealed a Ziploc bag containing suspected marijuana and a plastic wrapper containing suspected Methamphetamine. Both Fatzinger and Paxton were transported to the Calvert County Detention Center. Paxton was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana. Fatzinger was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession-Marijuana 10GM+.

On January 23, 2022 at 2:44 a.m., Cpl. Pounsberry responded to a traffic complainant southbound Rt. 4 in the area of Sixes Road in Prince Frederick, MD for a vehicle travelling with no lights at a high rate of speed (over 100

MPH). A traffic stop was attempted, but the suspect vehicle failed to stop. The operator continued to travel at a high rate in an attempt to flee law enforcement. After a brief pursuit, deputies lost sight of vehicle. At approximately 3:16 a.m., the suspect vehicle was located traveling northbound on Rt. 4 in the area of Calvert Cliffs State Park in Lusby, MD with its lights off. DFC Idol and Cpl. Robshaw conducted a felony traffic stop and the operator, **Ericson Paul Brown**, 22 of Waldorf, MD was placed under arrest. Brown admitted to the earlier pursuit as he was fleeing due to his registration being suspended. Brown was detained and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Negligent and Reckless Driving along with other traffic related charges.

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



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Pink & Blue Tournament Raises Record Funds

Supports Prostate and Breast Cancer



Members of the Pink and Blue Committee joined CalvertHealth staff to present a check from their annual golf tournament. Pictured from left to right are: CalvertHealth Vice President Kasia Sweeney; Dr. John (Jack) Cooper; Pink and Blue Committee Member Mickie Frazer; CalvertHealth Foundation Staff Amber Carroll; Pink and Blue Co-Chairs Ron Thomas and Dr. Duncan Frazer; Pink and Blue Committee Members Sue Dippel, Beverly Ingraham and Margaret Owens; CalvertHealth Vice President Theresa Johnson; and CalvertHealth President and CEO Dean Teague

The 11th Annual Pink and Blue Memorial Tournament was held on October 11 at The Cannon Club in Lothian, MD. The tournament celebrated the life of Anthony Williams and raised \$45,000 for the CalvertHealth Foundation to invest in the latest breast cancer and prostate cancer treatment and equipment. Since the event began in 2010, the tournament has raised more than \$400,000 benefitting CalvertHealth and Anne Arundel Medical Center.

"Giving back to the community in honor of friends we have lost means everything to the Pink and Blue Committee," said Dr. Duncan Frazer, Pink and Blue Committee Co-Chair. "We all know people who have been touched by

cancer and we want to honor their memory by giving back to our local hospitals cancer treatment facilities."

In the past, proceeds from the Pink and Blue tournament have helped CalvertHealth expand patient education, the nurse navigation program and purchase equipment related to treating breast cancer, prostate cancer and genetic testing. This year, the donated proceeds will benefit the CalvertHealth's Giving for Gifted Hands Campaign, a \$2.5 million multifaceted project to expand surgical services and provide our patients and our community with access to the most advanced surgical options - close to home.

Press Release from CalvertHealth

State Begins Sending Mail-In Ballot Request Forms

Sent in Advance of 2022 Primary Election



The Maryland State Board of Elections is mailing ballot request forms for mail-in ballots to over 3 million registered Maryland voters in advance of the State's 2022 Primary Election. Ballot requests forms will begin arriving in mailboxes later this week.

Maryland's 2022 Primary Election will be held Tuesday, June 28, 2022.

This year, Maryland state law (HB1048 and SB683) requires that election officials send all voters a form to request a mail-in ballot. After filling out the request form, sign and seal it and return it in the postage paid envelope that accompanies the form. To receive a mail-in ballot for the primary election, return envelopes must be received by June 21, 2022.

Alternatively, voters can request a mail-in ballot online if they have a Maryland driver's license or MVA-issued ID card. To complete an application online, visit vote.md.gov/NeedBallot. Voters may also visit their local board of elections and fill out and return their

ballot request form.

Voters who want to vote in person should not fill out and return the form.

This first phase of request forms for the primary election are addressed to registered Democrats and registered Republicans.

Voters registered with other political parties, such as the Green Party and Libertarian Party, and unaffiliated voters will receive a request form in a second phase of mailers if there is a primary election in their school board district. Request forms for these voters will be mailed after the deadline for candidates to file for office, so that election officials will know where there are contested school board elections.

There will be a final phase of mailers after the primary election for all other registered voters.

To vote by mail, you must be registered to vote in Maryland. Visit elections.maryland.gov to register or update your voter record.

Press Release from Maryland State Board of Elections.

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Input Sought for New Harriet E. Brown Community Center

The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation invites citizens to participate in a brief survey to provide input on the new Harriet E. Brown Community Center and Park. The survey offers a glimpse of potential site and floor plan options for the potential facility.

The public is encouraged to provide input on the center's amenities, outdoor space, floor plans and more. The new community center will be located on Fairground Road and will replace the existing community center building located at 901 Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick.

The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation strives to enhance the health, economy and well-being of the Calvert County community through sustainable practices, leisure opportunities and environmental stewardship. For more information about Parks & Recreation facilities and programs, visit online at www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/ParksandRecreation.



For updates on Parks & Recreation services, park availability, field closures and more visit Parks & Recreation at www.Facebook.com/CalvertCountyParks and follow @CalvertCountyParks on Instagram.

Find information on Calvert County Government services online at www.CalvertCountyMd.gov. Stay up to date with Calvert County Government on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd and YouTube at www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov.

Press Release from Calvert County government.

Buy Local Guide Accepting Listings

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, (SMADC), is updating the annual 'So. Maryland, So Good' Buy Local Guide featuring regional farmers markets, farm stores and stands, and new this year farm CSAs.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2022 edition of the online 'So. Maryland, So Good' Buy Local Guide. Listings are open to farmers markets and Southern Maryland farms that host a farm store or farm stand, and farms that offer CSAs located in the 5-county region (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's counties).

The intent of the Buy Local Guide is to provide a region-wide directory of farmers markets and farm retail options (in-person or on-line) that can be easily accessed by consumers without prior appointment.

Eligible listings include farm CSAs, farmers markets, farm stores and farm stands open to the public with regular business hours/days (seasonal or year-round), offering predominantly producer only farm raised, or farm made value-added products (meats, dairy, veggies, plants and flowers, jams, pickles, etc.) and other Maryland grown/sourced

farm foods. Farmers markets located in greater Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia that host one or more Southern Maryland farm vendor are eligible to be included in the Buy Local Guide.

The guide also indicates which markets, stores, stands and CSAs accept federal nutrition program benefits, and those that offer Maryland Market Money (MMM) matching dollars. Farmers markets, or farmers (hosting farm stands/stores and CSAs) looking to augment and diversify their revenue stream by accepting federal nutrition benefits are encouraged to apply to the MMM program. For more details visit marylandmarketmoney.org.

To submit a Buy Local Guide listing, find the Application under 'News and Events' on the SMADC website. Listings are due by February 28, 2022. There is no charge to be listed. To request a 'paper' application form call Susan McQuilkin: 240-528-8850 Ex. 327. The 2022 'So. Maryland, So Good' Buy Local Guide will be published in the early spring and available view online on the 'Get Our Guides' page at www.SMADC.com.

Press Release from SMADC.

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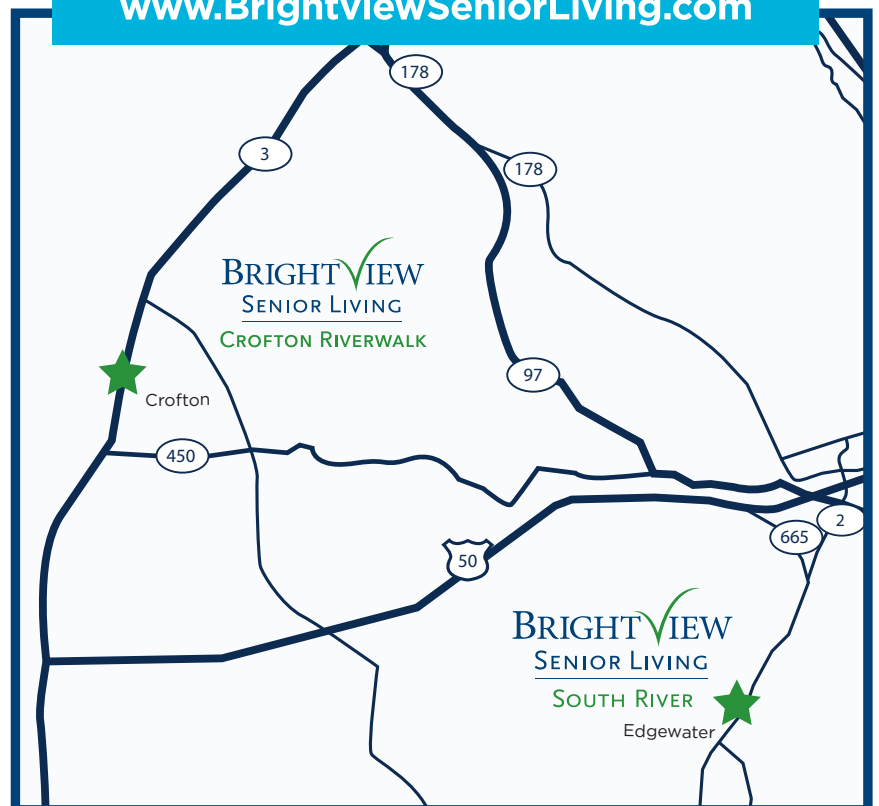
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Celebrating Catholic Schools Week: Spotighting Our Lady Star of the Sea School in Solomons



Principal Jennifer Thompson



By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

National Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Beginning in 1974, this celebration is held the last week in January and offers opportunities to showcase the values of a Catholic education and the opportunities it provides young people.

The week “highlights the contributions this education provides the church, our communities, and our Nation.” It is typically celebrated with Masses, assemblies, and activities for the students, families, school staffs, parishioners, and members of the community. Importantly, it offers Catholic schools a chance to leverage their good news with a national initiative by permitting the curious a chance to learn how the combination of a religious education coupled with secular subjects in the curriculum has successfully produced well rounded young adults over the past 200 years!

The Catholic Church operates the world’s largest non-governmental school system. As of 2016 the church supported 43,800 secondary schools and 95,200 primary schools. These figures do not take into account the large number of Catholic sponsored colleges that are found in most Christian countries. These distinguished institutions of higher education are well known for their high standards and the demanding curriculum they offer as well as the quality learning experience they provide.

It is interesting to note, the American Catholic school system has its roots here in Maryland dating back to the early 18th century. Saint Elizabeth Seton, one of America’s first saints and Archbishop of Baltimore John Carroll, the first American Bishop, are credited with establishing the first parochial schools in the New World here. Mother Seton founded the “Sisters of Charity,” a group of young nuns organized to provide for educating young Catholic children in their faith in addition to working with the poor and the sick. There were very few government-sponsored schools at the time; the schools that did exist were usually found in the larger cities and towns with the occasional one-room schools in smaller populated villages with one teacher providing for all. In those times, an education was a

luxury most families could not afford as children were put to work on the farms and the shops out of necessity at a very early age.

Southern Maryland with its large Catholic population has several primary schools sponsored by the many parishes scattered throughout the Tri-County area. Some of the more well-known elementary schools include Father Andrew White, Mother Catherine Academy, Little Flower, Saint John Regis, Saint Peter’s, and Cardinal Hickey Academy. One in particular, the Our Lady Star of the Sea School located on the scenic Solomons waterfront is one of the oldest parochial schools in the area. It was established by Father Maurice Alexander, the Parish’s first Pastor in 1933 with a handful of Sisters of Divine Providence he brought to Maryland from Covington, Kentucky. The school began in the church basement and the first few years were a struggle financially. Father Alexander was a terrific fund raiser having raised monies for building the church through an extensive national write-in campaign. Gradually the school grew through the hard work of the parishioners. With the advent of World War II, the parish rapidly increased in size due to the number of folks coming to the naval complexes built in Solomons and eventually Pax River to support the war efforts.

Today, the Our Lady Star of the Sea School is a thriving, robust learning institution with nearly 200 students in Pre-K through 8th grade. Principal Jennifer Thompson heads up a dynamic “Can DO” team of teachers and specialists in developing these young students intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. She has been a

Catholic educator for 23 years and been a teacher and principal at “Our Lady” for 16 years. The curriculum, as in all Catholic schools, is founded on basic Christian values, however the education provided is considered to be non-denominational as enrollment is open to all students, Christian or non-Christian, regardless of race, sex or ethnicity. And, contrary to the common belief, students are not forced into participating in religious activities and may be exempted from them. Currently, 83 percent of the school’s student enrollment is Catholic. But according to Thompson, the children really don’t seem to pay attention to each other’s religion as the school experience fosters inclusiveness and sharing.

She, with her staff, promote a rigorous academic curriculum that includes her “4 Rs” of education including the well-known “Reading, Riting, and Rithmetic” plus her own personal “R” for “Respect” which is at the focal point for all of their teaching. Her students all get along well and rarely display any negative behavior with one another. When asked why a family should consider sending a child to her school, she states new students are welcomed in as “family members” and will receive a vigorous concentration in the recognition and growth of the “whole individual.” They often enjoy “Tag Day” when they are not required to wear their uniforms. And in observing the children at recess, they show a great amount of exuberance with a genuine sense of happiness with one another. Maybe recess is still their favorite subject?

Like all schools, “Our Lady” has been faced with challenges created by the “Pandemic problem.” This school is fortunate to have their own School Nurse

who remains on top of all issues involving the COVID situation. She conducts regular tests of the students. All visitors are required to wear masks when entering the school and will have their “temperature” taken as they come to the entrance doors that are locked. So far, the wearing of masks has not been a problem although not all parents like this requirement but comply without complaint. A small infirmary is available when a student complains of feeling ill and immediate attention is provided to that child.

When asked about the school facility, Thompson smiles and says they recently have had a new roof installed and a new kitchen put in for serving lunches. The floors have been recarpeted and the computer lab has been upgraded with protective screens to safely separate the students as they work at the computer stations. And amazingly they have incorporated the very latest in technological advances with the purchase of a system called “Touch It” that utilizes a large LED flat screen with each student issued a “Tablet” to use in class. Their work with using the Tablet is automatically displayed on the large screen and greatly aids both the teacher and the students’ understanding in the classroom especially when conducting math lessons.

Thompson admits they are nearly out of floorspace, but expansion plans are being looked at for anticipated future growth.

For additional information about Our Lady Star of the Sea, call the school office 410 326-3171 or plan to attend one of the Open Houses at any Catholic School mentioned earlier during Catholic Schools Week January 30 through February 5.



CSM Holds 23rd Winter Commencement

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) celebrated 572 candidates for 487 associate degrees and 252 certificates during its virtual 23rd Winter Commencement Ceremony Jan. 13. The graduates were recognized for several exceptional characteristics.

Of the students being celebrated today during a Facebook live broadcast, 209 are from Charles County, 182 are from St. Mary's County, 141 are from Calvert County and 40 are from outside of the region. About 67 percent of the graduates are women and 32 percent are men. Twenty-three percent of the students graduated with honors.

The majority of degrees, or 27.3 percent, are in the fields of Arts and Sciences, Nursing (10.9 percent), Business Administration (9.2 percent), and Social Sciences (6 percent). General Study transfers, Accounting, Business Management, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Paramedic are the primary certificates awarded. The oldest graduate is 67 years young and the youngest is 17 years old.

The virtual ceremony began an inspirational performance of the national anthem sang by CSM student Andrea Williams, of Bryans Road. And then more than 1,070 Facebook viewers engaged with the live premier to leave more than 534 comments, shares and reactions in the first hour.

'Pioneers in New Post-Pandemic World'

"The students gathered here at graduation today navigated a global pandemic, along with the rest of the world, that continues to turn our lives upside down," CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy told the viewers. "But, graduates, you decided what success would look like for you. You worked hard and you have earned the right to feel pride in your success. You embraced new realities and persevered. I am enormously proud of each and every one of you.

"Our graduation ceremony is a transition and an honor to those who will turn their tassel today. We've entered a new world and I find hope in you – all of you. You are the role models for those who come after you. You have rewritten the story of success, and you are now uniquely prepared to become the pioneers in our new post-pandemic world. It is with great excitement that I will watch where you will lead us."

'Never Give Up, Just Keep Going – The Tale of Two Nursing Students'

Graduates Aniyah Gabriel, of Fairfax, Va., and Verkia Smith, of Waldorf, offered similar thoughts and advice with their graduating class as they shared the honor of being Winter Commencement class speakers. Both started their academic careers at CSM as nursing students, but crossed the graduation finish line in distinctly different places.

"Though each of us had our own individual struggles and successes these past semesters during a global pandemic, I bet that many of our stories are very similar,"



CSM winter aniyah and kia grad speakers

said Gabriel. "Going to college during a pandemic to gain credentials that will require us to work in a world navigating the ongoing COVID virus – some of us as first line responders – has been daunting. But we didn't give up. We got up every day to study and work and we earned every second of joy we feel in this moment.

Gabriel shared that her mother passed away in May 2020 and she was left not knowing how to financially finish her nursing degree. "My mom's advice to me always was to 'never give up,'" she said. "And the day after [mom] died, as if she was repeating herself and making sure I would listen to her words even after she was gone, I got a phone call from Ms. Vic at the Educational Systems Federal Credit Union telling I had been awarded the 2020 Community College scholarship. I don't think I ever cried so hard as I did that day on the phone. And Ms. Vic cried with me. If you're out there listening today Ms. Vic ~ thank you; and thank you Educational Systems Federal Credit Union. You are the reason I am standing here today."

Gabriel thanked several members of the CSM Nursing faculty including instructors Linda Goodman, Amber Hutchins, Sarah Cano, Jeanne Hill and Turner Coggins. "All of you, and your colleagues, taught me so much more than just the science of nursing," she said. "You grew me as a person and as a caring patient advocate. You supported me, pushed me, and motivated me. And for that I will always, always be grateful."

Gabriel reminded her fellow students that everyone was going to have bad days.

"I know now that my mom will always be there for me – showing me the way – and leaving reminders for me to 'never give up,' she offered. "And I am going to pay my mother's hope, and love, and knowledge forward to you. When you are struggling, I hope you hear my voice, reminding you of this moment, and telling you: Never. Ever. Give. Up."

Smith took to the podium to advise her fellow students to "just keep going." Her CSM experience included a journey that started when she enrolled at the age of 15 as a talented and gifted student and continued to see her accepted to the college's nursing program, become the college's assistant cross-country coach, be elected to the student government association,

and then change her degree direction.

"I've learned that no one path is a straight shot to the finish line, and that no matter how many mistakes, hiccups or bumps you've endured – you ... we ... me ... all of us, all of us must just keep going," said Smith.

"Today's commencement ceremony has been a long time coming and today we can finally say we've made it," she said. "Through trials and tribulations, highs and lows, those butterflies in our stomach we just can't seem to shake, those scared, nervous, and anxious feelings or whatever else may come your way – even if you must do a complete course change like I did – many successes await us.

"You WILL make a positive impact on the world," Smith stressed to the students. "You all have a purpose in life, and part of that purpose is why we are here today. I am grateful to CSM (and you – my fellow class members) for opening up so many doors and opportunities for me so that I could open my mind and pursue what makes me truly happy."

Smith shared she was excited awaiting for Dr. Murphy's call for the graduates to turn their tassels. "Always remember, to keep going. After all, how can any of us say the sky is the limit when there are footprints on the moon?"

"Your Desire to Learn Made Us Better"

"I am so very happy to recognize your accomplishments on today," said CSM's Provost and Vice President of Learning Dr. Rodney Redmond. "Your tenacity, resilience, and perseverance remind me of a proverb that says, 'someone said that it couldn't be done, but he with a chuckle replied, may it could not, but he would not be the one to say so until at least he tried. You will discover that the very thing which seems impossible can be done; it can be overcome; it can be accomplished, just as you have accomplished earning your degree and are now at the edge of starting a new life."

Redmond praised the graduates for their fortitude during the pandemic.

"Even when you didn't start out to be a remote learner, you found ways to engage with your professor and your peers to become successful remote learners," he told graduates. "You adjusted and adapted your style to what you needed to succeed. When the times got hard because you had to manage staying safe in this global pandemic along with work, family and school, you found the strength to keep going."

He also thanked the grads.

"Your steady movement forward will continue to teach us how to co-exist in many positive ways," he shared. "Your movement forward required us to learn new skills for work and engagement. Your desire to learn made us better professors, counselors, advisors, and supporters of learning and of you— our learners. It is your steadfastness that I see as I gaze into the future of CSM and the Southern Maryland region. It is your success that is helping to lead that way into a

more open and inclusive society. I salute you for teaching us that."

Create Your Own Legacy

CSM Senate Faculty President and Communications Professor Dr. Sarah Merranko reminded students that while the work to earn their certificate or degree was certainly hard, it was also an amazing opportunity, because college changes lives and creates legacies.

She shared the story of chemist Alfred Nobel who combined a new substance called nitroglycerin with a paste and finished it with a blasting cap and a fuse to call it dynamite.

"In 1888, his brother Ludvig died in France," she continued. "Assuming the dead Nobel was his brother Alfred, the newspaper wrote an obituary stating, 'The merchant of death is dead.' It stated that he was a man who made money off inventions that would kill more people faster than ever before. He read every word, and he could not stop thinking about it. He had no wife. No kids. His work was his life and was to be his legacy. Is this how the world would remember him? As the merchant of death?" she asked.

Eight years later, Alfred Nobel did die.

"However, he ensured that he would be known for something other than the inventor of dynamite," Merranko explained. "Instead, he left the bulk of his estate to establish a trust that would give awards that we know as Nobel Prizes. Alfred Nobel did not want his name to be most associated with an invention that brought great pain, so he created an award used to honor men and women from around the world for outstanding achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and work in peace. Thereby changing the way, we use his name to this day."

She also quoted former U.S. President John F. Kennedy: "For those to whom much is given, much is required."

"Not only does [attending college] have the ability to impact your ability to earn more money and have a more stable career, but it also impacts your children and your children's children. Individuals who attend college are far more likely than their counterparts to have children who attend college and pass down that down through remaining generations."

She then asked the students to remember, "that what is passed down from generation to generation is far more valuable than what is written on a piece of paper we call a diploma; it is the opportunity to take what you have learned here and create your own legacy."

To see the full list of graduates, visit <https://www.csm.edu/news/2022/csm-announces-2022-winter-commencement-candidates-for-graduation.html>

To read more stories about CSM's recent graduates, and to read letters of congratulations from state and local politicians, as well as CSM leadership, visit <https://www.csm.edu/csmgrad2022/index.html>

Press Release from CSM

Youth, Veteran, and Military Waterfowl Hunting Day Set

Special Hunting Opportunity Offered Statewide



Photo by Larry Hindman, Maryland DNR

Maryland's youth hunters, veterans, and military personnel can experience the thrills of hunting the state's fields and wetlands during the winter special waterfowl hunting day on Feb. 5.

"This special hunt gives youth and veterans a final opportunity this season to get afield and participate in Maryland's waterfowl hunting traditions," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "Including both our youth hunters and our military personnel in this hunting day celebrates the future of wildlife conservation and the service our veterans have provided."

Those 16 years of age or younger and military veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) of any age and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training), may hunt ducks, geese, and coots on public and private land on Feb. 5. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an unarmed adult at least 21 years old or by eligible military personnel also participating in the hunt. All eligible hunters and adult mentors must possess Maryland hunting licenses or be exempt from hunting license requirements. Any adult participating in this hunt will need to purchase both a Maryland Migra-

tory Game Bird Stamp and a Federal Duck Stamp. Youth hunters, including those possessing an apprentice license, must purchase a Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp but do not need to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp if under 16 years of age.

The bag limits for the hunting days are the same as the regular seasons except:

Two black ducks may be taken;

One Canada goose may be taken when hunting within the Atlantic Population (AP) Canada Goose Hunting Zone; and

Five Canada geese may be taken when hunting within the Atlantic Flyway Resident Population (AFRP) Canada Goose Hunting Zone.

For information on public hunting lands and Wildlife Management Areas, please see pages 56-59 of the 2021-22 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

Licenses, stamps, and permits may be purchased online, by phone at 855-855-3906, at a Natural Resources Service Center or at any one of the more than 250 Sport License Agents statewide.

Hunters with questions may contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife and Heritage Service at 410-260-8540.

Press Release from MD DNR.

A View From The **BLEACHERS**



PROFESSORS

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

A river runs this way; another runs that way. They converge at a magical peninsula to form a third, which meanders west and flows into one of the nation's most romanticized arteries. It reminds of bit of this place, our peninsula, where the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers empty, not too far apart, into the Chesapeake Bay.

Other than the confluence of waterways and geography, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with its massive buildings, sports stadiums and surrounding mountainous terrain, appears to have little in common with St. Mary's County, Maryland. But something happened in Pittsburgh, many decades ago, that applies broadly to the human experience, no matter where on this precious globe one resides.

Roberto Clemente and Terry Bradshaw were both born with rocket right arms and brought six combined championships to Pittsburgh – Clemente won two World Series with the Pirates and Bradshaw won four Super Bowls with the Steelers. Beyond that, and like the aforementioned peninsulas, they appeared wholly dissimilar. Clemente arrived in Pittsburgh in 1955, a full 15 years before Bradshaw. Clemente hailed from Puerto Rico; Bradshaw made his way to the steel town from Shreveport, Louisiana. Bradshaw was outspoken, flamboyant and white; Clemente, a Latino, was more reserved and rightfully suspicious of a country that was, suffice to say, very much struggling to reflect its touted creed of human equality.

Appearances can deceive. In addition to sharing powerful arms and championship mettle, both Clemente and Bradshaw struggled to adapt to life in professional sports and to a city that must have felt like a foreign land. Clemente's troubles were rooted in overt and subtle racism. Early in his career he experienced the shameful injustices of a segregated America. The press often shortened his first name from Roberto to the more Anglo-American sounding "Bob" and printed unflattering transcripts of interviews he would give in English (Clemente's first language was Spanish...I wonder how many media members who mocked him could speak a word of Spanish?).

Bradshaw was lost early in his career. He had an acrimonious relationship with head coach Chuck

Noll, was booed regularly by Steelers fans and, after four seasons, had thrown only 48 touchdown passes and an astonishing 81 interceptions. The former number-one overall pick in the 1970 looked like a complete bust, not someone who would one day have a bust in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. And even after his career took off, Bradshaw held a decades long grudge against the fans and Noll for the perceived mistreatment.

Pirates fans grew to adore Clemente for his play on the field; his impact off the diamond transcended Pittsburgh and baseball through his passionate commitment to humanitarian efforts, a calling that tragically cost him his life in a plane crash in December 1972 while transporting aid to Nicaragua. Clemente was just 38 years old.

While Pittsburgh and white America had to get over itself to finally appreciate Clemente, Bradshaw's catharsis came only after years of introspection and acceptance that his perceived slights were rooted in his own pride and immaturity. When Bradshaw finally unclenched his fist and returned to Pittsburgh in 2002 after a multi-decade absence, he found a city and coach waiting to embrace a long-estranged son.

There is much to absorb from these two stories. It's easy to imagine Clemente and Bradshaw, two great professors of life, standing at the front of a crowded lecture hall sharing timeless wisdom. Clemente would speak of the importance of inner strength, pride in oneself and a relentless determination to give more to the world than it returns, no matter how fundamentally it fails you. Bradshaw's lecture would focus inward – to understand ourselves, how our psychological wiring impacts relationships, the trappings of immaturity and hubris, and the burden of harboring grudges. From both, the lesson is this: It is never too late. People can change. The world can change. We are all, individually and collectively, a work in progress.

And with that, a distant bell sounds, students quietly exit the lecture hall, all with a mountain of notes and a lot to consider – perhaps during a quiet afternoon while watching water drift along on either side of their favorite peninsula.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com



Letters to the Editor

Raise The Line, Pt. 2: The Voice for Change

To the Editor

According to a 2019 study by the Police Executive Research Forum, more police officers are leaving the profession before the set retirement age, and the number of new applicants is steadily declining. This fall off can easily be blamed on the current stressful work environment, as officers find themselves dealing with nationwide social unrest, struggling for adequate resources and training, all the while feeling underappreciated and underpaid. The solution - fix the pay discrepancies which will ultimately alleviate tensions and provide the structure that communities are searching for.

When agencies can provide competitive pay and benefits for their officers, they ultimately equip our community with more highly trained and diverse officers, stronger community relationships, and increased agency morale. Additionally, it has been found that an increased number of visible officers around our community acts as a crime deterrent thus resulting in fewer crimes committed. The Deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 109 recognize these correlations and the need for change.

In part one of this series, we revealed the vast differences between pay and benefits amongst deputies of the CCSO and those of its neighboring agencies. Now, we will share with you how the Deputies of FOP Lodge 109 are dedicated to closing that gap and why.

RECRUITMENT

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office has struggled over the last decade to attract new and qualified recruits. By competing in the same "talent pool" as other Southern Maryland agencies, CCSO often loses to these better-paying neighbors who entice the skilled, competent, and professional cadets with higher pay, enhanced training opportunities, and more benefits. Thus, creating a void that CCSO must work to fill. A void that results in overworked officers with low morale.

Applicant Stats - (Year/ Applied/ Tested)

2013 - 1116 / 249

2014- 693 / 159

2015- 202 / 51

2016 - 290 / 50

2017- 278 / 65

2018 - 241 / 65

2019 - 289 / 66

2020 - 93 / 36

2021 - 96 / 31

Roughly 80 percent of the Calvert Deputies work an average of 18 hours of part-time/overtime each pay period in addition to regularly assigned shifts; 75 percent of these same Deputies admit to not having a normal sleep schedule, and 82 percent are contacted off-hours for work-related issues. If CCSO was able to increase their Deputies pay, they would be able to attract those quality candidates and supply their community with more diversified workforce and who could relieve and assist the current dedicated team serving our community. Over 77% percent of our members feel that our patrol bureau is currently understaffed despite the best efforts of the current administration to request additional personnel. Those staffing requests for school resource officers and other law enforcement tools have taken priority over pay parity for our members.

Additionally, increased pay would help the retention rate within the agency. With such low pay, 80 percent of our Deputies have considered leaving law enforcement with 20 percent of those members seeking out

other jobs within the last two years. Deputies are leaving our agency early because the pay is not worth the risk or are leaving for one of the higher-paying agencies and for better opportunities with other jurisdictions. That takes away from the manpower that Calvert needs to maintain a safe and sound community.

The initial taxpayer investment for hiring and training a rookie Deputy is over \$178,000. It takes approximately 6-8 months of academy instruction and additional time field training to produce a Deputy that can respond to calls for service in our community. If that Deputy chooses to leave that is a significant investment of time and money that walks out the door in addition to the time and money it takes to recruit a replacement. It's not as simple as "If you don't like it then leave" as one Currently Elected County Commissioner has stated.

TRAINING

Training has been the leading request in recent years for law enforcement agencies nationwide. For good reason. As situations consistently evolve, so should officers' ability to learn, adapt, and expand their proficiency in a number of areas pertaining to their job. Training is also an incentive to those who are looking to advance in their careers.

Taking the time to train officers takes - well, time. Something our current Deputies do not have much of. If the CCSO Deputies were paid more, they could fill their force with more individuals who can properly balance their schedules to accommodate the needs of the community and the ability to become subject matter experts in a number of fields including de-escalation, medical care, firearms, scenario-based, and tactics.

RELATIONSHIPS

Living where you work allows officers to know more people in their community and lets those same individuals know the officers outside of their uniform. It also shows that the officers greatly value their fellow community members because they choose to live side-by-side.

Over 90 percent of the Deputies currently work and live in Calvert County, with 82 percent of them having children who attend Calvert County Public Schools and who play in the local parks. With these statistics, it is easy to make the assumption that the members of CCSO are dedicated to making a difference in their own neighborhoods and continuing to grow those positive connections.

"Working in MY community" | "Protecting where I live" | "Keeping OUR community great"

It is important to the Deputies of FOP Lodge 109 to maintain this work/live relationship. Improving CCSO's working benefits will allow for more future candidates, who are also Calvert residents, to make the easy decision to remain in the county to serve those that sleep, shop, and reside in our community.

The Deputies of the CCSO know that change begins with them. But it comes at a cost. They need you. They need the assistance - that is currently lacking - from elected officials to address this issue. Will you help push for the county to Raise The Line and provide for these Deputies so they can continue providing for you and your (our) community?

The next part of this series will reiterate FOP 109's on-going commitment to the individuals, businesses, and organizations we serve. Stay tuned.

#RaiseTheLine

*Nick DeFelice, President
Calvert County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Fraternal Order of Police
(FOP) Lodge 109*

Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thursday, February 3

Sea Squirts

Calvert Marine Museum
10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

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 25-40 minutes. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This month's theme is Animal Tracks!

Transfer Thursdays

College of Southern Maryland
1 a.m., Zoom.

CSM hosts transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. – 1 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. <https://www.csm.edu/student-services/transfer-services/transfer-fairs/index.html>

Saturday, February 5

New Volunteer Orientation

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue,
7940 N. Flint Hill Rd., Owings,
MD 20736
1-3 p.m.

Must be at least 13 years of age. We are looking for dedicated people to join either our morning or afternoon feed shift teams. The orientation covers our specific feed shift routine, a barn tour and a meet and greet with our horses. This is a hands on class, so please wear closed shoes, preferably boots. If you are interested in attending our new volunteer orientation, please contact us at: freedom.hill.org@gmail.com

www.freedomhillhorserescue.com/

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Winter Lecture

Calvert Library in Prince Frederick
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Chris Haley on Alex Haley, the Father of African-American Genealogy - We Called Him Palmer!

This lecture series is sponsored by the Bayside History Museum, Calvert Library Prince Frederick, and John Hanson Chapter NS-DAR. A special birthday cake in honor of Alex Haley's 100th birthday, which would have been celebrated on February 10th, will be offered.

Thursday, February 10

Sea Squirts

Calvert Marine Museum
10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

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 25-40 minutes. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This month's theme is Animal Tracks!

Transfer Thursdays

College of Southern Maryland, 1 a.m., Zoom.

CSM hosts transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Representatives will be

available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. <https://www.csm.edu/student-services/transfer-services/transfer-fairs/index.html>

UPCOMING

Great Backyard Bird Count

Calvert Marine Museum,
Saturday, Feb. 19 – Sunday Feb. 20,
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Participate in a Citizen Science activity that provides data to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. The Great Backyard Bird Count engages bird watchers in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Check out a pair of binoculars and a bird count tally sheet in the museum lobby to assist us with this program. For adults and children in third grade or older who are interested in assisting with research. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Included with museum admission.



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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.

Suzanne Mary Hornecker



Suzanne Mary Hornecker, 69, of Lusby, MD passed away on January 29, 2022 at her residence. Born April 16, 1952 in Evanston, IL, she was the daughter of the late Walter J. Grud and Agnes P. (Babits) Grud.

Suzanne graduated from Western Illinois University with a degree in Fashion Merchandizing. She started her career as a department manager at Lord & Taylor and later transitioned to education once her children were of school age. Suzanne had an infectious laugh and an amazing way of making people feel good. She enjoyed travel, the sun, and being with family. The most important thing to her was spoiling her grandchildren. Family was everything to her. Celebrating holidays with family around was the only way she wanted it. Suzanne also enjoyed going to the casinos and playing the slot machines. She loved her fur babies, mostly poodles. Her favorite quote was "I love you to the moon and back."

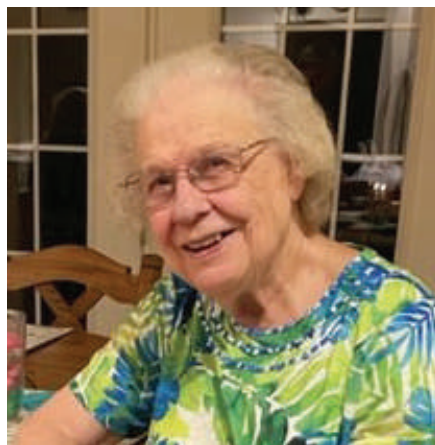
Suzanne is survived by her husband, Barry Hornecker whom she married on July 12, 1975; her son, Thomas M. Hornecker (Lori) and daughter, Kathryn A. Hornecker Wingenter (Timothy); grandchildren, Natalie G. Hornecker, Olivia R. Hornecker, Kaleb M. Wingenter, Tyler

C. Wingenter and Lacey A. Wingenter; and her brother, John M. Grud (Ursula). She was preceded in death by her brother, Thomas A. Grud.

Family will receive friends on Friday, February 4, 2022 from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Solomons, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12 p.m. Interment will follow in Chesapeake Highlands Memorial Gardens, Port Republic, MD. The Funeral Mass will be live broadcast on youtube starting at 12:00 PM EST at https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=2etJjBwb_Mg

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

Helen D. Stamp



Helen D. Stamp, 88, of Huntingtown, MD, passed away on January 29, 2022 at Calvert County Nursing Center in Prince Frederick, MD. Born in Stem, North Carolina, she was the daughter of the late David Lee Daniel and the late Emma Meadows Daniel. Helen was preceded in death by her first husband Willie Edward Wallace in 1966 and her husband Raymond A. "Pete" Stamp in 2009. Helen retired from the Bakery and Confectionary Union (Safeway Bakery) after working for 30 years. She was a member of

the First Baptist Church of Calvert County. She loved to shop and have fellowship with her friends.

Survivors include daughter, Tricia Weeks (Mark) of Mechanicsville, MD and step-daughter Lauren, brother Roy Daniels of Lothian, MD, two nephews Kay Stark (Phyllis) of Oxford, North Carolina, and Allen Moorefield of Macungie, Pennsylvania, along with step granddaughters, nieces, nephews, grand nieces and nephews, and a number of wonderful friends.

Visitation will be Monday, February 14, 2022, 10-11 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Calvert County, 155 German Chapel Road

Prince Frederick, MD 20678
Funeral Service will follow at 11 a.m. at the church.

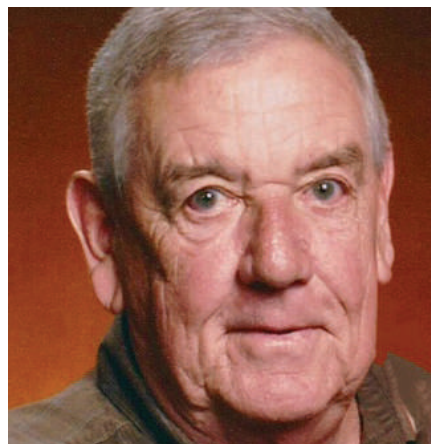
Burial will be at Washington National Cemetery, 4101 Suitland Road, Suitland, MD 20746

Memorial Contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, National Capital Area Chapter, 8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 400, McLean, VA 22102 Link:

https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df_id=39209&mfc_pref=T&39209.donation=form1

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Robert Louis Short, Bob



Robert Louis Short, Bob, 79, of Prince Frederick, Maryland pass away on January 29, 2022 in Solomons, Maryland.

Visitation will be Saturday, February 5, 2022, 10-12 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Port Republic, 4405 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, MD 20676. Service will follow at noon at the funeral home.

Interment will be at Chesapeake Highlands Memorial Gardens, 3270 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, MD 20676.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department, 450 Solomons Island Road South, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Link:

<https://www.pfvfd.org/> or Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad,

755 Solomons Island Road, S, Prince Frederick, MD 20678, Link: <http://www.pfvrs.org/>

John James Cooke III



John James Cooke III, 51, of Owings passed away January 27, 2022. He was born September 23, 1970 to John James, Jr. and Kathleen Helen Cooke. John grew up in Prince George's County, moved to Calvert County in 1984 and graduated from Northern High School in 1989. John served his country in the United States Navy. He was employed at Pohanka Honda in Capitol Heights for 29 years where his supervisor states John was the most dedicated, efficient and respected parts representative he had ever seen during his 40 years at Pohanka. John was a perfectionist, and everyone knew they could count on him to help with anything. John enjoyed going to the gym and competitive weight lifting. He currently holds the Maryland state record in his weight class for dead lifting, which he set in 1994. John had a great love for his family and pets. He was a very meticulous and neat person and took great pride in his yard and home. He enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson, and spending time with his friends, especially at his friend's cabin in Pennsylvania. John loved the Redskins and was an avid sports fan.

John is survived by his mother Kathleen Cooke, sisters Michele Walker (Terry Dorr) and Pamela Wise-Corridean and her spouse Paul Corridean, nieces Jessica Wise and Claudia Killerlane, nephew Michael Wise, great nephew Lawrence "LJ" Nocente, Jr., and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, father John James Cooke, Jr. and niece Erica Killerlane.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 12 Noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 8816 Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach, MD 20714.

Burial will be in Jesus the Good Shepherd Cemetery, 1601 W Mt Harmony Road, Owings, MD 20736.

Memorial Contributions may be

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410-257-6181

Port Republic

4405 Broomes Island Rd.
410-586-0520

Lusby

20 American Lane
410-326-9400

made to ASPCA, P.O. Box 96929, Washington, DC 20090-6929; Link:

<https://secure.aspc.org> or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105; Link:

<https://www.stjude.org/>
Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

John Mark Brown



John Mark Brown, 58, of Huntingtown passed away January 27, 2022. He was born June 16, 1963 in Washington, DC to Charles William and Patricia Ann (Trimble) Brown. Mark was raised in Lanham and attended Fairmont Heights High School. He married his wife Tammy Dowell on February 25, 2008 and they moved to West Virginia where they built a cabin. They later moved back to Maryland for work and settled in Huntingtown. Mark was employed as an autobody technician for New Designs Autobody in Hyattsville. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, wolves, being outdoors and was known for making the best deer jerky.

Mark was preceded in death by his father, Charles W. Brown. He is survived by his loving wife, Tammy Lynn Brown and step children Thomas England (Amber) of Edgemere, Richard England of Greenbelt and Brenna Lauer and her significant other, Jake of Greenbelt. Also surviving are his mother Patricia Brown, siblings Jackie Fox of Bushnell, FL and Joyce Fletcher and husband Billy of Owings, grandchildren Abigail, Syllas and Ari, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

A Life Celebration Visitation will be Thursday, February 3, 2022.

6-8 p.m. Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736

James E. (Jimmy) Groves

James E. (Jimmy) Groves of Huntingtown, MD (formerly of Lusby, MD) passed away at his home on January 26, 2022 at the age of 91. He was preceded in death by his be-



loved wife Loretta (Cleary) Groves, his son-in-law Marty Spelman, his granddaughter Alyssa (Spelman) Hall and her husband Joseph (Joe) Hall. He leaves behind 4 daughters: Cynthia Miller (Mark Todd), Susan (Su) Crutchfield (Alan), Diane Spelman and Linda Gregory (Richard); grandchildren Tim and Lori Miller, Tommy and Michelle Miller, Christie and Justin Barrick, Michael Gregory and Camille Leclerc-Gregory, Mary Spelman (Joel Garner) and Jon Crutchfield; and great-grandchildren Brooke, Morgan and Olivia Miller, Thomas and Madison Miller, Cody Hise, Jr. and Maya and Emma Garner, Maryssa and Aireonna Hall, Lillian, Macayla and Austen Barrick and 4 month old Theo Gregory, as well as countless relatives in the Groves, Cleary and Ellmore families.

Jimmy enjoyed trivia, crossword puzzles, Western movies, and watching golf, bowling and the Washington baseball and football teams. He was a gifted musician, singing and playing lead guitar for the army band, The Buckskins and with many groups in the Washington DC area. He had the privilege of meeting and playing with local musicians who went on to successful careers in Nashville and Hollywood, including Danny Gatton, Charlie Daniels, Roy Clark and Jimmy Dean, who remained a life-long friend until his death in 2010. Jimmy especially loved to share stories of his musical adventures with friends and family, and he could hardly pass a guitar without picking it up and playing a few of his famous "hot licks". Memorial services will be private. Condolences for the family may be sent in c/o Su Crutchfield, PO Box 1111, North Beach, MD 20714 and donations may be made in his name to Calvert Hospice: <https://calverthospice.org>

Carolyn Mary Tucker

Carolyn Mary Tucker, 77, of Upper Marlboro passed away January 26, 2022 at Southern Maryland Hospital Center. She was born on June 1, 1944 in Baltimore City to Golden Vance Anderson and Mary Olive



Anderson. Carolyn was raised in Upper Marlboro and attended Frederick Sasser High School. Carolyn married John Andrew Tucker on September 22, 1962, and they lived in Suitland for 20 years before moving back to Upper Marlboro, where they resided for the remainder of their lives. In her leisure time, Carolyn enjoyed playing cards, cutting the grass on her John Deere lawn mower while smoking her Newport cigarettes, and drinking her bottle of Mountain Dew. But most of all, she enjoyed taking trips, vacations, and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her daughter Ginger Higgs and her husband James of Upper Marlboro and her son John Tucker, Jr. "Andy" and his wife Kimberly of Dunkirk. She is also survived by grandchildren Amanda and Cody Higgs, Ashley Kent and her husband Justin, Andrew and Alyssa Tucker and her future great-grandson to be, Lincoln Kent and sisters Mary Jane Smith and husband Ronald of Prince Frederick, Robin Rawlings of Prince Frederick, and Wanda Anderson of Prince Frederick and brother-in-law Ernest Carter of Cheltenham. She was preceded in death by her parents and sister Katherine Carter.

Memorial Contributions may be made to American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood Street, 11th Floor.

Baltimore, MD 21202; Link: <https://www.heart.org/>
Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

Kathleen "Kathie" Patricia Morrone

Kathleen "Kathie" Patricia Morrone, 68, of Chesapeake Beach passed on Monday January 24, 2022 at University of Maryland Baltimore Hospital.

Kathie was born December 1, 1953 in Washington, DC and raised in Oxon Hill, where she graduated from Oxon Hill High School.

Kathie is the oldest of seven children, one of which preceded her in death. Growing up in a large family meant she was always devoted



to family time and was the happiest when surrounded by her siblings, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Kathie loved to garden, read books and spend time with her family. She was a loving and caring person, devoted wife, mother and friend. "To know her was to love her."

Kathie married the late Pasquale "Pat" Morrone on December 31, 1972 and moved to Chesapeake Beach in 1986, where she has lived up until her time of death. She worked as an executive administrative assistant for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union for many years before going to work with the Communications Workers of America Union and ultimately retiring in 2013.

Kathie was preceded in death by her husband Pasquale Morrone, daughter Erin Legreco, brother Joseph LaPlaca, and parents Francis and Monica Brazell.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory her children, Jason Morrone and Michael Morrone Sr (Jessica). Her grandchildren Kaitlyn Moreira (Nuno), Courtney Morrone, Michael Morrone, Jr. (Alexis), Conner Morrone, Ashleigh Lagreco, Jorja Lagreco, Maddox Morrone, Olivia James, Ivy James, Joseph Foley, and Nicholas Foley, 8 great-grandchildren, sisters Maggie Webb (Eddie), Cindy Lamb, Ann Myers (Jim), and Casey Gignac (Ed), brothers John Brazell and Mark LaPlaca (Billie), as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Visitation will be Friday, February 4, 2022, 10 a.m. to Noon at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. A Memorial Service will follow at noon at the funeral home.

Amanda Lorusso "Manders" Wilson

Amanda Lorusso "Manders" Wilson, 33 of Lusby, MD and formerly of Odenton, MD, passed away on January 23, 2022. Born June 22, 1988 in Morgantown, WV, she was the daughter of Pete James Lorusso and Kathryn Marie Lorusso.

Amanda graduated from Howard

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.



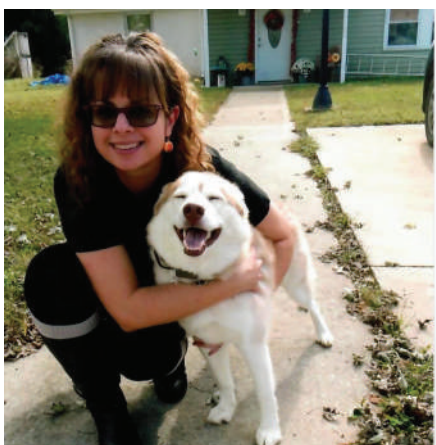
High in 2006 and from James Madison University in 2010. She was a data analyst for the Department of Homeland Security for twelve years. Amanda enjoyed being outside and learning. She enjoyed going for walks, the beach, animals, and Christmas lights.

Amanda is survived by her parents, Pete and Kathryn Lorusso of Elkridge, MD; her husband, Jeremiah Jole Wilson whom she married on June 9, 2012 in Harrisonburg, VA; sister, Ashley Lorusso Buchanan of Lusby, MD; niece, Gracelyn M. Buchanan; and nephews, Brody Tipton, Sawyer Tipton and Everette Tipton of Harrisonburg, VA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Johns Hopkins cardiology or genetic testing departments at www.hopkinsmedicine.org/support/.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home—Lusby.

Jessica Nicole "Jess" Burton



Jessica Nicole "Jess" Burton, 34, of Lothian passed away January 22, 2022 at home surrounded by family. She was born August 18, 1987 in Cheverly to Gregory and Terry (Walker) Horning. Jess grew up in Dunkirk and attended Mt. Harmony Elementary, Northern Middle, and graduated with honors from Northern High School in 2005. She then attended Anne Arundel Community College and graduated with an Associate's Degree in information technology. Jess had a love for com-

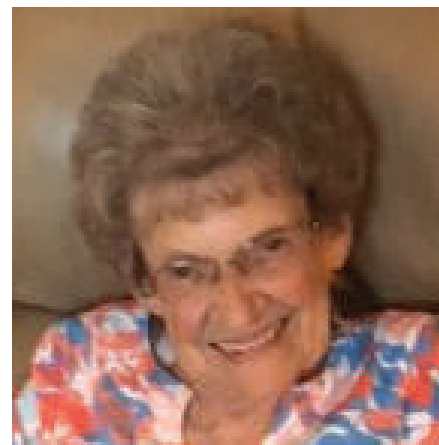
puters and worked as an IT Security Specialist with ZeniMax Studios. She married Steve Burton on November 13, 2015. Jess loved playing video games and cosplay. She traveled to Japan and Australia to participate in cosplay and was sponsored by Wizards of the Coast. Jess also had a love of Japanese culture, enjoyed shopping with her mom, and spending time with her dog Freyja. Most of all, Jess loved being a mom, and wanted the best for her family, especially her son Stevie. She was focused on Stevie's education and wanted him to grow up to be as smart as possible.

Jess is survived by her husband Steve and son Stevie, parents Gregory and Terry Horning of Dunkirk, brother Nicholas Horning and his wife Stephanie of Sedro Woolley, WA, nephew Jozef Horning, grandfather Joseph Horning, aunts and uncles Debbie and David Bourget, Dana and Robbie Carr, David Horning and his fiancé Polly Houge, Norman and Jackie Walker, Gene Walker, and Brenda and Robert Rountree, mother and father-in-law Cynthia and Steve Burton of Lothian, sister-in-law Rachel Burton, and grandfather-in-law Larry Bogemann.

Visitation will be Saturday, February 5, 2022, 10 a.m. to Noon at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. A Funeral Service will follow at noon at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Cedar Hill Cemetery-Suitland, 4111 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suitland, MD 20746.

Betty Louise May



Betty Louise May, 90, passed away January 26, 2022, at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born May 14, 1931, in the family home on Mac's hollow Road in Prince Frederick, MD to the late James Edward Conner and Georgia Jeanette (Denton) Conner.

Betty had a love for animals, especially her numerous dogs over the years and the many stray cats that she took care of and loved. She loved tending to her many flowerbeds and watching all the birds around her home, her special bird was the

Cardinal. She loved to collect (and give) angels and birdhouses. Betty loved to travel, visiting Tennessee, Florida, Maine, and the campground at Bethpage in Urbanna, VA, the Grand Canyon, and more, but was happiest when at home surrounded by her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren, 86 in total.

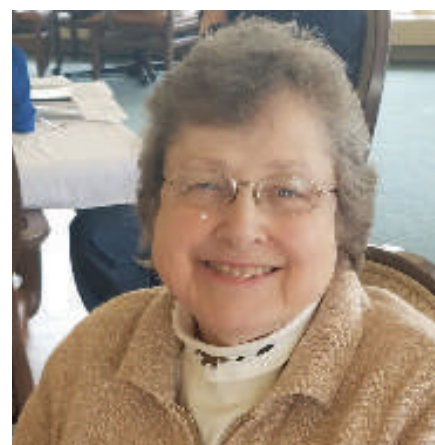
Betty was predeceased by her parents, her husband Benjamin W. Cochrane. Her second husband Benjamin May, her brother Robert Conner, her daughters, Pat Coyle and husband Mike, Barbara Linehan, son in law Ed Morgan and daughter in law Betty Cochrane and her grandsons Billy Copsey, and Lance Copsey.

Betty is survived by her brother Glenn Conner, her children, Frankie Cochrane, Sandra Morgan, Ann Lundregan, Billy Cochrane (Vickie), Kay Atwood, (John), and Dale Cochrane, (Marie).

The family will receive friends on Thursday February 3, 2022 from 10 until the time of her funeral at 12 noon at Trinity United Methodist Church in Prince Frederick where Betty has been a life time member. Interment will follow in Mt Harmony United Methodist Church Cemetery, Owings MD. Memorial contributions may be made to either Calvert Hospice, Trinity United Methodist Church or Linda Kelly Animal Shelter.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Beverly Helen (Bergstrom) Porter



Beverly Helen (Bergstrom) Porter, 74, of Solomons, MD, passed into the arms of Jesus on January 26, 2022. She was surrounded by her husband, David, and her two sons, Jonathan and Chris.

Beverly lived a life filled with a love of family and friends, a love of science and of service, and most of all, a love of Jesus. With a passion for learning, teaching, and nurturing, she constantly desired to see more of God's design and live as a winsome witness for Him.

Born outside of Pittsburgh in McKeesport, PA in 1947, she grew up being nurtured in life and faith by her parents Helen and Arnie Bergstrom – a teacher and an engineer – and in every stage of her life she discovered and explored God's design in nature and in Scriptures.

Bev explored "inner space" and conducted pioneering research using an electron microscope to discover new parts of cells' structures, having obtained degrees from Penn State University (BS), Peabody College in Nashville (MS), and the University of North Carolina (PhD). Her exploration of God's Word led her to participate in numerous Bible studies and churches through the years, where she made many close friends and eventually met her husband, David, where they taught Sunday School together. Bev and Dave were married in April 1977, and were blessed to have two sons – Jonathan and Chris.

As a mother, Bev found joy in raising two strong Christian men – who also ministered to her throughout her life; sharing her love of cooking – especially her family's traditional Swedish Christmas Smorgasbord; teaching at numerous Bible studies everywhere she lived; and playing her flute for many church services – including The Messiah and other services where Jonathan was the Music Director. And in each activity, she learned more about what it means for God to love us and discovered new ways to show His love to others.

Her constant desire was to see how God designed and worked through each of us and through His Word, and to show how "all the Scriptures" spoke of salvation through Jesus. Her desire is that all who knew her would experience the envelopment of God's love, as she did, and be with her forever with Jesus!

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 2 pm at Patuxent Presbyterian Church, 23421 Kingston Creek Road, California, MD 20619 with Rev Matthew Pooley officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Samaritan's Purse: <https://www.samaritanpurse.org/memorial-page/beverly-porter-solomons-md>

Robert Jay "Bob" Danvers

Robert Jay "Bob" Danvers, 79 of Prince Frederick, MD passed away on January 23, 2022 at his residence.

On a very somber and chilly recent morning the spirit of Robert Jay Danvers, "The Bob" of all Bob's, has transferred from this mortal plain to explore new and higher planes of existence and has surely dovetailed



with warm steady breezes destined to push the leaves of the trees throughout the world as he seeks greater harmony with nature and a new understanding of the world around him. He left this physical existence early on the morning of January 23, 2022, while at the home that he shared with his beloved wife of 48 years, Virginia Lee Danvers, who has given her all to be his all, and that she was. Bob, self-admittedly, would have been lost without her, his other half, his counselor, and the one constant pillar in his life. Virginia hopes to be able to have many more adventures to share them with her loving husband when she rejoins with him much later in the breezes of the trees.

We hope that Bob will be reunited with his mother and father, John, better known as "Jack" and Freda Danvers as well as his older Brother Jack Danvers. Bob is survived by his younger brother Mike and his wife Laurie Danvers and his sister-in-law Eunice Danvers. Bob has 5 surviving children, James, Genevieve, Joseph, Gregory, and Christopher to whom he loved and did all he could do to teach and provide for. Each of their spouses were loved just as his own, especially his, as he often said, "favorite daughter" (or only daughter) and her recently departed husband Kevin who was one of Bob's favorite people in this world. Of those 5 children Bob took great joy in knowing and loving 20 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Bob lived a long life, at 79 years young, he experienced many things to include love, heart break, and love again. He was loved by everyone that took the time to get to know him and he made it easy to get to know him as he was not so shy to start a conversation with anyone willing to give him the time of day. He did his best to be a positive influence on those around him which lent well to his career in the United States Air Force where he ascended

to the rank of Master Sergeant and retired after 23 years of service. It was not the rank that he achieved that he was most proud of, but the job he did as an instructor and later as the Commandant of his own NCO/PME Academy at Homestead AFB where he helped countless others to learn and grow into better versions of themselves and how to become leaders within the US Air Force. He went on after retiring from the Air Force to continue service to his country as a civilian working for US Customs and Border Patrol. He retired from this career also after serving as a staff assistant to the Trades Ombudsman's office as well as other distinguished positions within US Customs in Washington, DC.

Throughout Bob's life he and his wife Virginia traveled the world both while in the service of their country as well as throughout retirement making fast lifelong friends at every destination. And taking great joy in seeing both wonders made by man and, much more so, wonders made by nature. Bob welcomed new experiences and learned from the many relationships and friendships that he enjoyed through his many years and travels. Everyone who knew Bob truly did benefit from their association with him even if just by his good humor and cheery disposition. He was always willing to help a friend in need and did his very best to always be there for his family. He was a student of people and philosophy, always looking for greater wisdom and knowledge. Bob had a great affinity for trees, dogs, children, and the sun. He never met a tree he didn't like, a dog whose ears he wouldn't scratch, a child he wouldn't kid around with, or a sunny day where he would not spend more than a few minutes basking in the warmth of the sun's bright light. Indeed, in the latter season of his life, one of his favorite pastimes was people watching and one of his most fervent philosophies is TMPNET (To Many People Not Enough Trees).

Memorial services will be held at a warmer, later date sometime this spring or summer. For any who may wish to make any kind of donation, we the family, ask that you either make a donation to The Arbor Day Foundation, plant a tree on your own, adopt a dog, be kind to your neighbor, or just smile and enjoy the sunshine on your back.

Condolences to the family may be made at www.rauschfuneralhomes.com.

YOUR TAX REFUND AND FIVE SUGGESTIONS

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

You worked hard in 2021 and have now paid your taxes and are expecting a refund. Keep in mind that your refund money is not a gift from the government—it is your money. This article makes some suggestions on how you can use your tax refund money.

Some people purposely withhold too much money from their paychecks, knowing that they will receive a larger lump sum tax refund. A type of forced savings. But, why do that when the government provides you with no interest on your money? You would be better off to take the money in your paycheck and set some aside in an interest bearing investment. Even if the interest amounts are small, your money will be earning something. If you are receiving a huge tax refund, take a look at your W-4 form and adjust your federal income tax withholding.

What are the smartest ways of dealing with a tax refund? Making a plan for your refund money is always a good idea. Without a plan, that money can easily disappear into a cloud of buying whatever suits your fancy. You will be better off if you make a plan to handle the tax refund.

To get you started, here are five suggestions on how to use your tax refund:

1. Pay down your consumer debt.
2. Set up an emergency fund.
3. Protect your loved ones.
4. Invest in yourself.
5. Plan a vacation.

Pay Down Your Consumer Debt.

High-cost consumer debt is a killer. Times have been tough and many people have lived on their credit cards, racking up huge balances at very high cost borrowing rates. For many people, the amount of the debt is so large, it is intimidating. Don't be discouraged. Try to stop charging on the credit cards and use all excess funds, including your income tax refund, to pay down the debt. The smartest thing you can do is to pay off that consumer debt so that when you do use a credit card, you can afford to pay off the entire credit card bill within one month.

Create a Fund Just for Emergencies.

Many people live in fear of having an emergency because they have saved nothing to help them. In most cases, giving yourself some financial peace of mind is all that is required to make life much more enjoyable. By setting aside your tax refund money in an emergency fund, you will be able to weather the downturns like the loss

of a job, expensive car repairs, medical emergencies and other catastrophes. Generally, the amount you need to save for emergencies should represent at least six months of living expenses plus whatever it takes to make you feel secure. Setting up an emergency fund will take away that fear of the unknown and put you in the position of being able to cope with whatever happens.

Take Care of Your Loved Ones

The vast majority of people have done absolutely no estate planning. Everyone needs to have a Will or a Trust, a Power of Attorney that covers medical and financial needs, and a Living Will. Why? To protect your loved ones and yourself. Once you have organized your estate plan, you will feel a great burden has been lifted from your shoulders. Whether this relates to appointing guardians for your minor-aged children, designating someone to take care of you if you can't do that for yourself, or deciding how your assets will be divided on your death, taking steps to put your strategy into writing is well worth the effort. This year, make an effort to get yourself organized.

Invest in Yourself

If you have been putting off career or skills training because of the cost, it may be time to use your refund to help you start a new career. College courses, technology skills improvement, books to help you help yourself, all of these are part of a strategy to improve your skills and your job prospects. Or, consider joining a health club or purchasing a piece of exercise equipment to improve your own health. Taking steps to improve yourself will always pay dividends.

Have Fun-Take a Vacation

This is the fun part of using the refund and since the money you are receiving is money you have already earned, why not use it to take that vacation you have always planned? Yes, you can buy that big screen TV but over the long term you will probably benefit more from the memories you make on a great vacation.

Whatever you decide to do with your tax refund, take your time and make a plan of action for that refund money so that you can use it wisely to your advantage.

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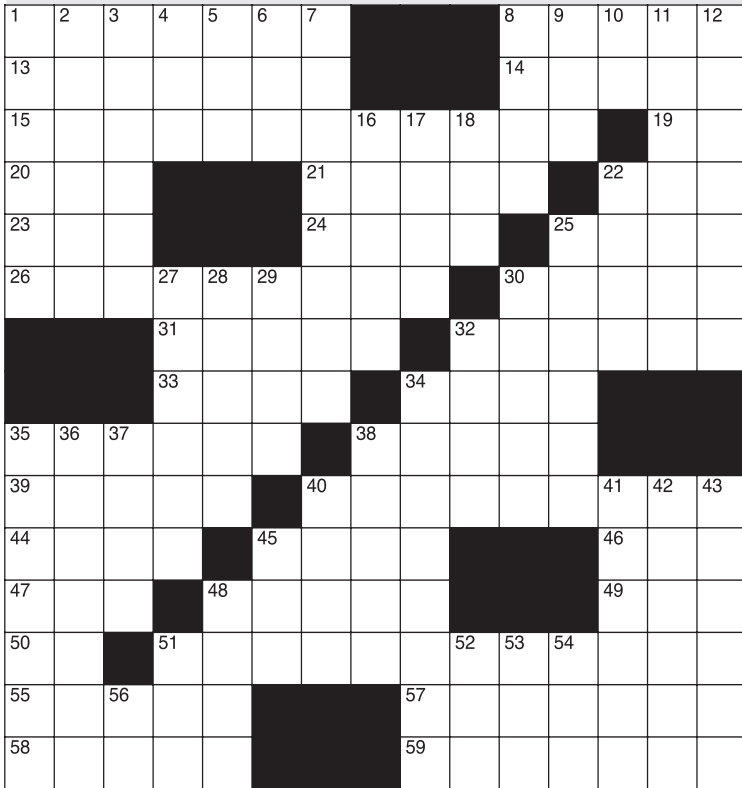
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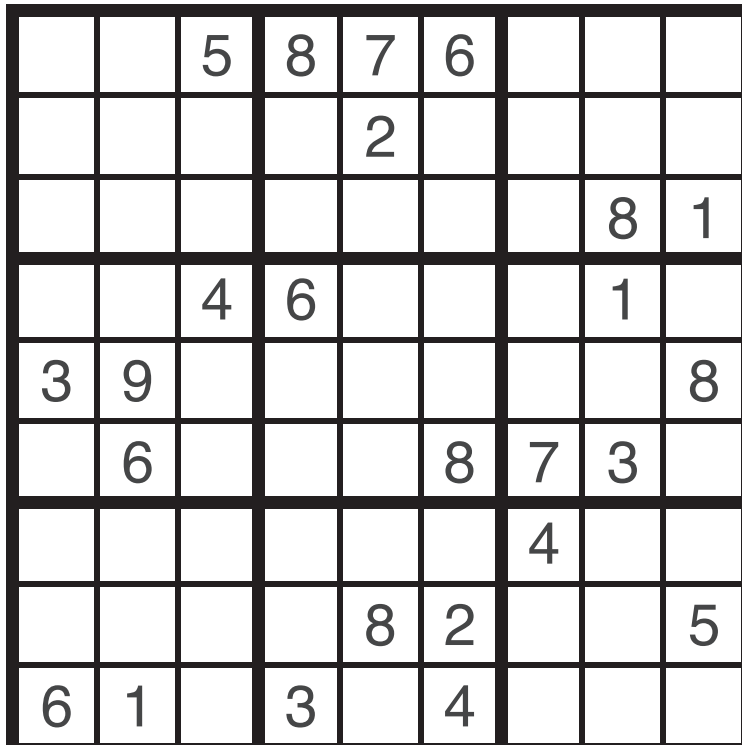
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. ___ de Mornay, actress
- 8. Surrenders
- 13. Omission
- 14. The white poplar
- 15. They become butterflies
- 19. Used to chop
- 20. Select
- 21. Volcanic craters
- 22. Consumer price index
- 23. Utilize
- 24. "True Blood" actress Paquin
- 25. Got up
- 26. Sank in
- 30. Retail
- 31. Giants
- 32. Most bald
- 33. Changes color
- 34. Unit of loudness
- 35. Undresses
- 38. Fathers
- 39. Learned skill
- 40. Remove qualification
- 44. Covered with frost
- 45. Speak up
- 46. Nowhere to be found

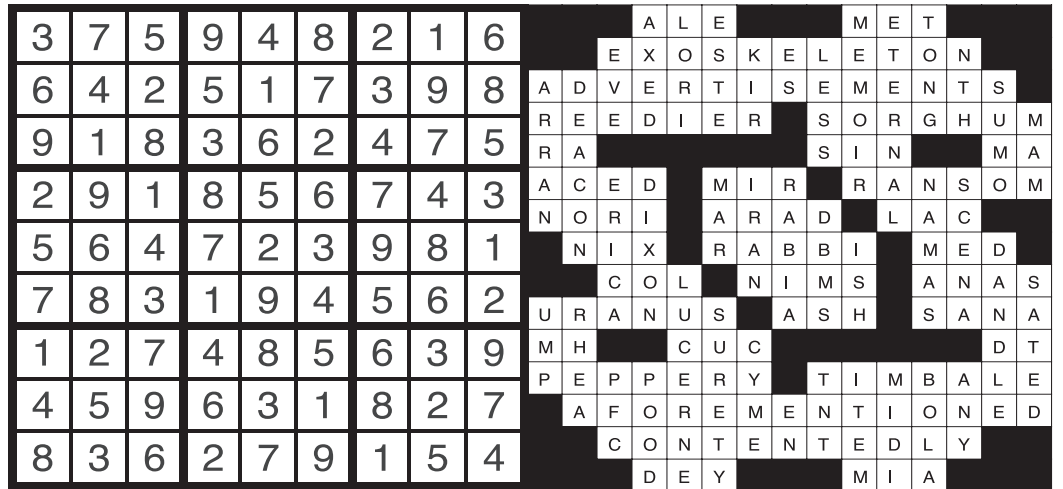
- 47. Part of surgery (abbr.)
- 48. Type of wrap
- 49. Church seating
- 50. Mathematical figure
- 51. College football conference
- 55. Turkish officer title
- 57. Organized body of knowledge
- 58. Smooth and glossy
- 59. Left

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Get back
- 2. Pass or go by
- 3. Having a sharp taste
- 4. Midway between east and southeast
- 5. Cairo Regional Airport
- 6. Peace officer
- 7. Brings to life
- 8. Automotive vehicles
- 9. One point south of due east
- 10. Football position
- 11. Goes by
- 12. Most attractive
- 16. Road divisions
- 17. Not the sea
- 18. Small, faint constellation
- 22. Cabbage
- 25. Least frequent
- 27. Change slightly
- 28. A country in NE Africa
- 29. Metric units of measure
- 30. More coherent
- 32. Make uninteresting
- 34. Nausea
- 35. Institution of Oceanography
- 36. Of little value
- 37. Hindu model of the ideal man
- 38. Biblical exclamation
- 40. You throw it at a board
- 41. Be about to happen
- 42. Brutal
- 43. Opened one's mouth widely
- 45. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- 48. Saturate
- 51. The woman
- 52. Someone who is highly skilled
- 53. A way to launch an attack on
- 54. Where golfers begin
- 56. Atomic number 58



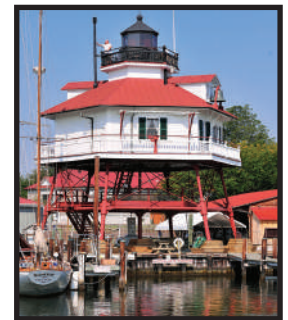
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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