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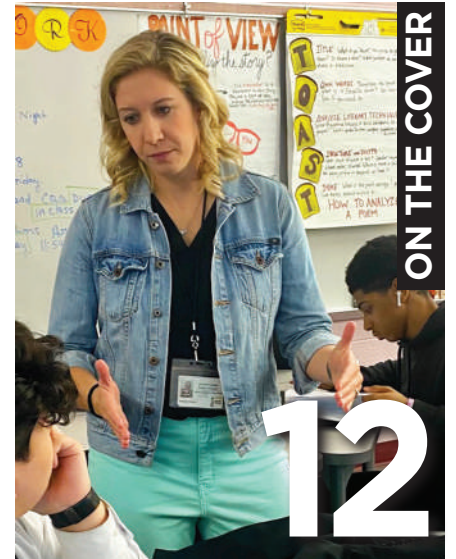
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## “ I COULD PROBABLY WORK WITH 6.6,”

FINANCE AND BUDGET DIRECTOR SHARON STRAND ON ADDING THAT MANY MILLIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUDGET.  
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**LOCAL** 6  
 Chamber meet with legislators.



**COMMUNITY** 15  
 Farm Markets are open.









**COMMUNITY** 15  
 Farm Markets are open.

ON THE COVER

12

### WEEKLY FORECAST Provided by www.accuweather.com

<b>FRI</b> 4/29		<b>65°</b> /41°	Sunny to partly cloudy
<b>SAT</b> 4/30		<b>67°</b> /45°	Mostly sunny
<b>SUN</b> 5/1		<b>71°</b> /52°	Partly sunny and nice
<b>MON</b> 5/2		<b>69°</b> /59°	Mostly cloudy
<b>TUE</b> 5/3		<b>73°</b> /55°	A shower and thunderstorm
<b>WED</b> 5/4		<b>71°</b> /57°	Mostly sunny



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# Commissioners Deny Prince Frederick Moratorium

## To Continue Investigation of Sewer Options

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Mike Hart's fellow county commissioners have rebuffed his efforts to have a moratorium on new development imposed in the Prince Frederick Town Center. The other four commissioners instead opted for a staff recommendation to continue to pursue options for sewer service in the town center.

The commissioners were also assured by Planning and Zoning Director Mary Beth Cook that a revision to the county's adequate public facilities regulations would be ready for them to consider by the end of the year. Those revisions would include the requirement for sewer service for new development in addition to the current requirement for school classroom capacity.

Not mentioned in the presentation at the commissioners' April 26 meeting was the proposal for a sewer line from Prince Frederick to Solomons and discharge in that wastewater treatment plant. The idea has apparently been deep-sixed due to opposition from the majority of the commissioners and considerable public outcry.

The presentation came before a public hearing at which 11 people spoke, six of whom were against the moratorium. They represented the business and development communities.

Public Works Director Kerry Dull and Water and Sewer Division Director James Ritter explained that the two Prince Frederick spray irrigation wastewater treatment plants are at 68 percent capacity, with only 12 percent available before reaching 80 percent, the point at which the state requires a plan on how the additional capacity can be achieved.

The Prince Frederick to Solomons sewer idea was apparently driven by the belief there were no other options available in the town center. But a geologic consultant said there was the possibility of additional capacity at one of the plants and that there were property options also available within three miles of the town center.

Cook said there are 15 projects that staff are tracking including seven site plan reviews involving 267 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) and 17 concept plans involving 380 EDUs. That 80 percent capacity will be achieved with 450 EDUs.

Dull told the commissioners that the estimate for reaching that 80 percent capacity is 2030, although that could be sooner or later depending on the pace of development.

After hearing the presentation and doing the math out loud, Commissioner Chris Gadway said, "To me, there is still some urgency, not nearly as what

I thought it was a couple weeks ago, but we're in a two-to-three-year timeline that those 450 units could be gone, the ones that would put us at the 80 percent mark."

During the public hearing, Builder Rodney Gertz of Quality Built Homes said, "It's all about the numbers we've heard and the things we've looked at. And I still think we're strongly premature in a reaction."

Gertz said town centers were intended for development to help protect the rural character of the rest of the county. He said the town centers hadn't flourished and "now they've got a little bit of movement there and it's creating concern, but it was part of the vision; everybody's worked in that vision. I have no problem with vision change in the future."

He insisted, though, "I just ask that everything would be respected as far as any type of projects that are in the process. By the time we get to the beginning stage of the process as a builder, you're already two years in, by the time we go to planning and zoning, by the time we go to D PW, but one of the first questions we do ask is, is their sewer capacity?" He said they were told yes just a few years ago.

Calvert County Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman Mark Frisco, with Century 21 New Millennium real estate firm said, "Business in Calvert County in words of Dan Kelsh (engineering consultant who also spoke) has been no picnic. There's been a lot of efforts over a long period of time to make Calvert County more business friendly."

He said, "I agree with Rodney Gertz that if anything, you need to honor plans that are currently in process," adding of a moratorium, "this is going to hurt individuals that are small business owners, myself included, who owns a piece of property inside of the town center currently. That piece



Calvert Chamber Board President Mark Frisco

of property would only use a handful of EDUs and would create jobs inside of our community. I think that this conversation is way in advance of what it needs to be?"

Greg Bowen, former planning director, speaking for himself, said, "An expansion of Prince Frederick is necessitating all this, and we've seen now already some conversations coming about how can we handle the facility needs of the 10,000 new units that the planning commission is calling for based on the work of its consultant. And it seems like we've got the cart before the horse here, because do we really have the capacity on the roads or in the water and sewer to address these things that are happening?"

"I think that there should be no expansion to Prince Frederick until these issues are addressed," Bowen said.

After the hearing when Commissioner Steve Weems made the motion to direct

staff to continue their investigation of solutions, Hart said, "I can't support an open-ended motion. I think we are at the crossroads here where not only does direction have to be given, but a timeline has to be there. And I don't want to be after the fact once we're past the point of no return, then we have a solution."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance, who voted against the comprehensive plan update in 2019, said he had always had problems with the Phase 2 expansion of the Prince Frederick Town Center at Route 231.

Consultants working on the town center update have put phase two in it. But County Administrator Mark Willis said, "The map of that vision allowed for the citizens of this county to come back in public forum and vote themselves again, specifically to Prince Frederick, phase one and phase two. So, phase one is not in place. Phase two is not in place. So, the citizens of this county still have the opportunity to eliminate those, before this board and before the planning commission in public session."

During the motion that passed 4-1, Hance said he had trouble with a moratorium. "Based on the information I see today, I just don't feel like today we need a moratorium. I think that staff has identified potential solutions to the issue. I think that they are motivated now."

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

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*"...as long as you have Mom to go to."*

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# Commissioners Forge Compromise on School Budget

## Agree to Cover Salary Increases

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Without the school board in front of them, but only the school superintendent and chief financial officer, the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) reached a tentative agreement on next year's school system budget. The tentative decision at the April 26 BOCC meeting that was brokered by Commissioner President Buddy Hance, gives the schools \$6.6 million of the \$9.1 million more that the school board had requested for next year.

Hance proposed giving the schools the extra monies necessary to fund the negotiated school employee contracts plus the extra monies agreed for school bus drivers. The decision was made easier after the schools' Chief Financial Officer Edith Hutchins stated that the school system had a \$24 million reserve of which \$10 million was unrestricted.

Under the previous funding formula that has expired, the school system was restricted to only hold a \$5 million surplus and return the rest to the county. School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry said using that surplus was one option



Commissioner President Buddy Hance.

for the school board in making up the difference between what the county funds.

Curry said, however, he was reluctant to use the reserves for recurring costs that would require the schools to ask for the money from the county again next year.

The agreement reached by all five commissioners will not be reflected in the budget that goes to public hearing on May 17, since that has already been printed and advertised, but would be changed before the BOCC's final budget decision.

Director of Finance and Budget Sharon Strand explained, "Staff has included \$138,516,155 in the Commissioners Budget, which is \$3.8 million above maintenance of effort (\$134,750,250) but \$5.4 million lower than the BOE request of \$143,878,899."

Before the decision, Hance noted that the school board at their joint meeting (see separate story) had refused to prioritize their requested increase, since the county was unable to fund all of it.

Curry explained, "We have different responsibilities. We have a responsibility on our side to plan for the next year, to calculate what that might cost and then ask you for what we need beyond what can be paid for by other general fund revenues, the state, and some of the local discretionary [funds]. Your responsibility is to tell us how much you're going to give and then we figure it out. We've been

there before."

Commissioner Chris Gadway disagreed about the different responsibilities. He said, "I personally feel, and I've been trying very hard to realize it, that our responsibilities are to our employees, whether or not to be on the teachers side, the staff side, the county side, the sheriff's department, corrections. I think that we all owe the same responsibilities to those people, to our parents, for all of our children that are going to the schools."

Hance asked if the school board had made any budget reductions in the last several years and was told they hadn't. He said, "Last year we did three percent across the board on the operational budget, trying to meet the budget. And depending on what we give you today, we may have to do that again. And it does bother me a little bit that I make my staff give up their programs to fund yours, but that's me."

Later when he suggested the compromise to add \$6.6 million, he asked Strand if she could find that money in the budget. She said, "I could probably work with [\$]6.6 [million]."

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# School Board/Commissioner Joint Meeting

*'You Can Feel the Tension in This Room'*



Commissioner Mike Hart



School Board member Antoine White

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The joint meeting between the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the Board of Education had very little coming together, no agreements on the school board budget and much tension.

At one point, Commissioner Mike Hart said, "If this communication doesn't get better, you can feel the tension in this room."

The meeting started off on the wrong foot when School Superintendent Dr. Daniel Curry was asked by Commissioner President Buddy Hance, "So, Dr. Curry, in the slide you presented to us in the last meeting that you attended, we noticed that there's an \$11 million influx of new cash from the state. Can you explain where that \$11 million is going to go in your budget?"

Curry responded, "We've already explained that to you, Mr. Hance. Ms. Hutchins (chief financial officer) and I both have done that at previous board meetings. I don't have the answer. I can't tell you that, but I know we've given you that information, broken it down on all of our increases, all the costs. I feel it's important to say that our CFO and I have met with you multiple times and we'll be meeting with you again next Tuesday. We've been talking about the need for the board of county commissioners and the board of education to get together and talk. I think you need to talk whether it's about budget or other things, but I'm sorry, I thought this was to be a meeting between the two boards. And if it was just going to be asking staff to answer questions, I'm not prepared to do that."

The communication deteriorated from there.

At one point Commissioner Chris Gadway complained that he had only a day and a half notice about the meeting, at which point School Board Pres-

ident Pamela Cousins said, "I would recommend you talk to your leadership." Gadway responded. "I did talk to the leadership."

That led to an argument between Hance and Cousins over the scheduling of the meeting and who was responsible..

At one point school board member Antoine White gave the commissioners a dressing down for questions that had already been answered. He said, "We wonder why we are where we are. Look at what's taking place right now. We can sit here and say, well, I don't know how this happened or how we got here. We know, look at your social medias last night, within the past couple of days, look at the fear that we are promoting in this county."

"We don't talk, we don't communicate. We say that we try to set up meetings, but we can't have meetings. We see all these emails. We know that you guys have this information. So, when we come in here and sit down and act like everything is brand new, that's why the people are worried and concerned."

Hart said, "There's a lot of mistrust from the public, whether that's your board, our board, the whole system in general, communication's been terrible. COVID has not helped that. COVID has divided the lines politically to where people don't even want to be in the same room. Some of us felt more disconnected by not seeing people."

He added, "It's not a he said/she said, we're very immaterial here. It's the kids. It's the parents. These parents do not feel involved. Even if one doesn't, we still failed. They have to feel involved. And I think that will help with the trust factor too."

The meeting ended with Gadway renewing his call for the school board to drop their 10-person speaker limit. No school board member responded to Gadway.

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

## Mother's Day Brunch Buffet

**Sunday, May 8, 2022**  
**10:00am to 3:00pm**

<p><b>Breakfast</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrambled Eggs &amp; Chives</li> <li>• Bacon Strips</li> <li>• Maple Sausage Links</li> <li>• Sausage Gravy &amp; Biscuits</li> <li>• Fresh Made Waffles w/ Maple Syrup &amp; Butter</li> </ul>	<p><b>Accompaniments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macaroni &amp; Cheese</li> <li>• Garlic Butter Roasted Brussel Sprouts</li> <li>• Roasted Potatoes w/ Peppers &amp; Onions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Entrees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NY Strip Loin w/ Sautéed Mushroom &amp; Onion in Lite Au Jus</li> <li>• Honey Glazed Spiral Cut Ham</li> <li>• Solomons Shrimp Boil</li> <li>• Bourbon Glazed Salmon Fillet w/ Fresh Dill</li> </ul>	<p><b>Salads</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden Salad</li> <li>• Caesar Salad</li> <li>• Seafood Salad</li> <li>• Fruit Salad</li> </ul>
<p><b>Dessert</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assorted Cakes</li> <li>• Muffins</li> <li>• Danish</li> </ul>	

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- Syringe disposal and Narcan training will be available at Northeast and Southern Community Center.
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- Maryland State Police, Barrack "U" Prince Frederick
- Harriet E. Brown Community Center Prince Frederick
- Northeast Community Center Chesapeake Beach
- Southern Community Center Lusby



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# Mock Crash Held at Calvert High



As prom and graduation season is approaching, the Chesapeake Region Safety Council along with other local traffic safety partners, held a mock crash scenario at Calvert High School to educate students on the dangers of impaired driving, distracted driving and seatbelt safety.

Members of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police - Prince Frederick Barrack, Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department, Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad CO. 4, Calvert County Volunteer Fire-Rescue-EMS along with Dawn Lister's criminal justice class, showed students in attendance what happens during a fatal motor vehicle crash.

Although the event was staged, this very real scenario occurs each and every day on roadways throughout Maryland. The mock

crash aims to send a hard-hitting reminder to ensure our teens are practicing safe driving techniques and to educate teens of the dangers and consequences of unsafe driving behaviors (Driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, distracted driving and not buckling up).

We hope teaching opportunities like these leave lasting impacts on the students and young drivers of Calvert County!

Thank you to all who helped make today possible: A+ Towing, the Calvert Control Center, CareerSafe, CruiseSafe, Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc., CrashCore, Sewell Funeral Home and Chesapeake Region Safety Council.

#zerodeathsmaryland  
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# Two of Five Legislators Speak to Chamber

## *Annual State Post-Legislative Breakfast*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Although the annual Calvert County Chamber of Commerce Post-Legislative Breakfast was held at Hilton Garden Inn in Solomons on April 20, the two current legislators representing the opposite side of the county were the only ones to attend.

District 27 Senator Michael Jackson and 27B Delegate Rachel Jones gave their assessment of the legislative session that had just concluded the week before and then answered questions from those in attendance.

District 29 Senator Jack Bailey and 27C Delegate Mark Fisher and 29C Delegate Jerry Clark did not attend. Clark has chosen not to seek re-election. Bailey is unopposed.

Jones and Jackson are the two Democrats in the county's legislative delegation. Jones replaced Jackson when he was appointed to fill the seat left vacant by the death of Senator Mike Miller.

Jones noted this was her first full session and for the legislators in their first term, she observed, "This was the closest to a normal session that anyone had seen."

Jones sits on the Judiciary Committee, which heard paid family leave and two cannabis bills. She said, "The one cannabis bill obviously puts the question to the referendum in November as to whether or not Marylanders want to legalize the use of recreational cannabis for adults 21 and older."

Jones observed, "Should that pass, the companion bill for that basically outlines how you would go about essentially decriminalizing the possession of less than 1.5 ounces of marijuana of cannabis. And so, what's going to happen for the business community next year is the legislature will be taking up how do you regulate that? How do you tax it? What's the implication of that on your businesses? Do business owners still have the ability to set terms for their employees and say, who can and cannot be under the influence, can have in their possession while on a job site, any form of cannabis, whether medical or recreational."

One question to be addressed by the next legislature, she said, is whether the growers and dispensers of medical marijuana will automatically have the right to slide into the recreational business.

Jones said the legislature believes the voters will approve recreational marijuana.

Following up on Jones' com-



Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Kathy Maney welcomes attendees to the annual Post-Legislative Breakfast in Solomons.

ments, Jackson said, "I'm not really sure what a normal session looks like. I've been going there since the mid-90's. I haven't identified one as normal yet."

"This session was a great opportunity for us to work with our governor. The legislature and the governor, I believe, worked very well together this legislative session with a huge surplus and resources," Jackson said.

Jackson noted, "I'm probably the happiest person in Annapolis this year, because I went back to a budget committee." He said he had been on the House budget committee for seven years.

Jackson touted achieving a stable structural budget, bringing the rainy-day fund up to a 100-percent level and the education reform Blueprint for Maryland. "That took us all working together."

Before asking questions, a statement was read from Chamber President Mark Frisco, who was unable to be there. It said, "We, the chamber of commerce, appreciate your efforts in the 2022 legislative session. We would like to request that whenever you have a

piece of legislation in the future, which is up for testimony, especially a bill that you have sponsored, please notify the chamber with reasonable notice so we can provide members for testimony. We intend to support you in your efforts in Annapolis on all business-friendly matters."

The legislators were asked if they believe the goals of climate change legislation are realistic. "Do you believe that our current infrastructure can support a massive conversion from fossil fuels to electricity?"

Jackson said he was glad the House added information on a previous study of nuclear energy, which is an important issue to a county with a nuclear power plant.

He said he and Sen. Bailey, "were fighting to make sure that our oil and gas folks were not negatively impacted. I think it is a heavy lift, it's a lofty goal. I think with everything, we need to kind of take it in manageable steps, realizing the challenges that we have ahead of us."

Jones added, "The entire Calvert delegation, Delegate Clark, Del-

egate Fisher, myself, made sure that we kept speaking up about the fact that nuclear has to be included. Nuclear is clean, nuclear is safe. It is still part of the wave of how we're producing energy for the future."

Regarding suicide prevention on the Gov. Thomas Johnson Bridge, Jones said the Tri-County Council Infrastructure Committee was told by the state that it would cost \$70 million for barriers for a replacement project of \$500 million. "So, the state's not going to give us \$70 million for fencing. What they would like to see is more regional resources for mental health, because they feel like if people are going to end their lives, even if they put the fencing up, people will still find a way to do that if they're having a mental health crisis."

She added, "And so it became an issue of if we are already seeking the funding necessary to fund a completely new bridge, adding fencing to this existing one doesn't seem cost effective at this time."

Noting the proposal for private funding of the budget, she said, "that would come at the expense of a toll and that's not something we've ever wanted."

Regarding paid parental leave, Jackson said employees are beginning to consider quality of life issues when choosing a job. With the opportunity for parental leave, he said, "They will be a better employee for you, be a better co-worker for you."

Both Jackson and Jones predict some sort of revision in the legislation in the next session.

Jones' district covers not only northern Calvert but a rural portion of Prince George's and she feels mapping got her district right. Using Sunday hunting as an example, she said both counties had the same concerns and other parts of Prince George's didn't understand. "We had to fight so hard because people just didn't even understand the basic principle of allowing someone on their own property to hunt on a Sunday for a couple of Sundays, from September through January. And so, there are issues that if someone doesn't speak for those folks too, then they won't be heard either. And so, I still feel like while it's two counties geographically, based on the needs of the demographics of the people there, we still have very, very similar needs."

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# CSM President to Retire

College of Southern Maryland (CSM) President Dr. Maureen Murphy has announced that she will enter retirement Dec. 31, 2022. During her five years with CSM, Murphy has repeatedly proved herself as a dynamic problem-solver and forward-thinker with a deep commitment to equity in education and to executing the mission of community colleges.

In her announcement letter, Murphy told CSM faculty, staff and students that her time at CSM has been the best part of her career.

“My decision was difficult, largely because my time working here alongside all of you has been the best part of my career,” she shared. “Our college is among the best in the country—and that’s because of the passion that all of you bring daily to the work of serving our students.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has caused all of us to reassess our priorities,” she continued. “Honestly, the distance from my family over the last two years of pandemic work has been difficult for me, and like many others at the college who have recently announced their retirements, I look forward to the flexibility to spend time with family.”

Murphy and her husband Joe McArdle have two sons, one living in the southwest and one living abroad. Last week, they were reunited as a family in Germany for the first time in five years.

“Together we have accomplished much these last several years, and I know all of you will continue the essential work of helping our students achieve their goals,” Murphy continued in her message to the CSM team. “The College of Southern Maryland is critical to the economic health of our region and your collective drive, passion, and innovative spirit make it possible.”

## A Legacy of Equity Work

Murphy’s career in public higher education spans more than 35 years, including 15 years as a community college president. In July 2017, she became the fifth president of CSM – a multi-location, regional college in Maryland with four campuses, the Velocity Center at Indian Head and the Center for Transportation Training. Since her arrival, CSM has twice been recognized as among the top 150 community colleges in the country by the Aspen Institute in its Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Program. More recently, CSM joined the Achieving the Dream Network supporting the college’s commitment to equity in educational opportunities and outcomes. CSM also received top ratings in 2020 from Wallet Hub for providing students with affordable

and accessible programming while maintaining good teacher-student ratio, transfer rates and outcomes – landing CSM in the number 15 position of “best community colleges” out of 698 community colleges across the nation.

“It is with mixed emotions that we celebrate the news of Maureen’s retirement,” said CSM Board of Trustee Chair Jay Webster. “She has changed for the better the structure, value, and accessibility of our beloved community college in Southern Maryland, and for that, we will be forever grateful.”

Webster went further to laud Murphy for her guidance during a global pandemic and the social justice issues that have faced the nation in recent years.

“Many community college presidents navigated these perilous times, but in my opinion, none did so with the degree of confidence, clarity, vision, and humanity that I attribute to Maureen,” he said. “Each time a disruption to students’ lives erupted due to the changing political landscape or the pandemic, Maureen immediately focused on her students’ safety and holistic well-being. She leads by example, and the board witnessed first-hand as she communicated her vision and empathy to staff and faculty that elicited a sustaining response, ensuring students had emotional support, food, technology, access to support systems, and financial resources – again and again. Our staff and faculty have experienced the comfort of having a leader who created connection and security during a very tenuous time as we navigated the pandemic together.”

Referring to Murphy as “a passionate leader for equity and social justice,” Webster expressed gratitude.

“We are going to miss her immensely,” he said. “Her leadership style in pursuit of those principles has always been thoughtful and inspiring.”

Further demonstrating her commitment to equity Murphy donated a legacy gift to CSM to launch the now fully endowed Distinguished Professor of Equity in Education. She created the \$75,000 endowment in fall 2021 to support a selected professor each year who will mobilize equity programming for faculty, staff, administrators, students, and Southern Maryland.

“CSM is social justice through education,” Murphy explained of her gift. “It exists solely to provide programs and services that support the social and economic mobility of people in the Southern Maryland region. We put equity in action, and the root of that action is

in the classroom – irrespective of discipline – between professors and students. This work requires the continual commitment and professional development of excellent and committed faculty.”

“Equity has been her life’s work,” Webster added. “And Southern Maryland has benefited greatly because of it.”

## A Winding Road of Learning

Murphy’s own educational journey was neither direct nor traditional. “You come to education when you’re ready,” she shared. “Once I got going in college, I kept going and became a lifetime student.”

Murphy “got going” in academia after high school, but she labels that decision as “a non-decision.”

“I went to college because you were expected to do something after high school,” she explained. “I had an option to work as a bank teller, but back then there were actual bars on the teller windows, and I couldn’t imagine a work environment with metal bars between me and my customers.”

As a declared theater major, Murphy said she “did not do well” during her first attempt at college. “In fact, I was invited not to return. I really thought I was going to do great, but there were theater students who were so much better than me, and they weren’t getting jobs. Frankly, I was tired of going to school and realized I wasn’t where I was supposed to be. I wanted to experience some things in life – much like our students want too today.”

Eventually Murphy and McArdle married, and she became a new mom to their infant. It was then she realized her thirst for more challenges and change. Thirteen years after her first attempt at college and weeks away from delivering her second son, Murphy graduated with a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of Louisville. She developed a deep love for writing and reading literature and became a lover of all things English. Soon after, she earned her master’s degree in English from the University of Missouri—Columbia and almost 10 years later, she earned her Ph.D. in American Studies from Saint Louis University (SLU). She authored her dissertation, entitled “Daughters of Same Spade,” on American female private eyes in fiction. It was during her master’s program that her university offered her a teaching job with a stipend and tuition assistance. She said that offer is when she almost immediately understood her calling: “Turns out, I really liked teaching and was good at it.”

But it wasn’t until an expensive home improvement project required extra finances in the Murphy/

McArdle home that Murphy discovered her true passion. She picked up a couple of teaching sections at her local community college and “it was akin to St. Paul being knocked off his horse on the road to Damascus,” she laughed. “It was my conversion. There were so many students from so many backgrounds. I fell in love with the notion and mission of community college on the spot.”

So, Murphy applied for a full-time English professor opening at St. Louis Community College and was selected for the position from more than 400 other applicants. She calls her time there transformational.

“I was the first English professor hired there in seven years and I had this amazing cadre of experienced professors who wanted to mentor me,” she shared. “I am forever indebted to them. I learned how to be a coach and received phenomenal personal and professional development.”

After numerous faculty experiences, she rose to administration at the St. Louis Community College District as the dean of Mathematics and Communications. From there she was promoted to vice president of Instruction and Student Development at Wytheville Community College, then to vice president of Instruction and Student Development in the Virginia Community College system. Her first college presidency was at San Jacinto College district in Texas. Before coming to CSM, she spent five years as president of Brookdale Community College in New Jersey.

“For my first presidency, I was the fourth woman to hold the position,” she explained. “When I was at Brookdale, I was the first woman to ever hold the position. It was an interesting paradigm shift for me to go from ‘one of many’ to ‘the first,’ and it was a stark reminder about how far we’ve come as women in the workforce. I learned important lessons along the way that allowed me to be even better prepared to take the helm at CSM.”

## Reflections on Changes in Community Colleges

From where Murphy sits today, she said the biggest shift in community college education over the years has been watching its mission shift from focusing solely on access, to focusing on student success and measuring outcomes.

“It has absolutely flipped how we do work and what we see as valuable,” she said. “Examining data has elevated our equity work in a way that is palpable. It is irresponsible not to do something with the data, but when I first started, we would have looked at the numbers and said, ‘Oh, that’s just the way it





is.’

“Another change is when I started in community colleges, we were truly anti-establishment and revolutionary, and that really appealed to me,” she shared. “Honestly, we thought we were saving the world. We were fighting for people who would not have otherwise had an education. But today, we’re the main show! Today there are doctorates being offered in community college administration and leadership. How amazing is that?”

And the president said she is still surprised that some people don’t realize the inherent value of CSM.

“This college is excellent,” she said. “It has a great reputation although it was one that wasn’t widely known. Now we are getting national attention as being among the best.”

Murphy cites geographical isolation as CSM’s challenge.

“CSM has little competition,” she pointed out. “Our competition is students not going to college, and unfortunately right now that is fierce competition. We are not competing with the four-year institutions for our students. We’re

fighting with the job market for our students. That’s why it is so important for community colleges to retool themselves to further support our businesses – large and small. We must recognize ourselves as economic drivers.”

#### **An Innovator Innovating**

Under Murphy’s guidance and leadership, CSM’s successes have been many. During her tenure, CSM launched the Velocity Center, a collaboration among the college, U.S. Navy and local governments with the goal of increasing STEM attainment in the region and retaining a highly qualified workforce for the naval bases in Maryland. The college’s role in the economic revitalization of Indian Head received national recognition when it earned a Silver Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) in the real estate and reuse category. Most recently, CSM earned the Sustainability Growth Award from the Maryland Department of Planning for the center.

Murphy oversaw the development and current construction of CSM’s Center for Health Sciences. The Center for Health Sciences will

be the second building on CSM’s Regional Hughesville Campus and will serve as a central location for the college’s health programs and instruction. She was also instrumental in establishing the Senator Thomas V. ‘Mike’ Miller Jr. Center for Leadership at the Prince Frederick Campus.

Initiating software development and cybersecurity initiatives; developing a new three-year strategic plan; securing more than \$6 million in donations; upgrading antiquated project management software; realigning CSM by function to reduce the number of executive positions; and securing resources to build deeper programming for the trades, workforce development, and high school students – are part of the job description, Murphy shared.

“Those things, along with budget unification, reorganization and such, well that’s my job,” she said. “There are so many other things that we have done at CSM in just five years that I am most proud of and will carry with me always.”

Chief among them, she said, are the teamwork and dedication shown by faculty, staff and students during the pandemic.

“We’ve experienced a lot together in a short amount of time. And through it all, it was always about caring for our students. You don’t go through a long, natural disaster that basically shut down the world and not come out of it closer.”

She said she is also gratified by CSM’s commitment to both Achieving the Dream and participatory governance.

“This college has done phenomenal work not just in its quest for equity for students, but also for equity in their own careers through participatory government,” she said. “I believe in equity and that everyone’s voice matters. Before I arrived, our folks didn’t know how decisions were being made, and it is particularly important to me – and to the success of this institution – that the right decisions are getting made with transparency and input from all stakeholders.”

To get to these decisions, it is important to surround yourself with experts, she added.

“I’ve never been the smartest person in the room, but I am most certainly surrounded by the smartest people at this college,” she said. “Now we are making informed decisions based on real data and strategic plans that everyone had a hand in developing and everyone understands. I am extremely proud of these accomplishments.”

In addition, during her CSM tenure, Murphy was recognized by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* as one of 25 influential women in higher education. Her national presence as a fervent advocate for community colleges has been dem-

onstrated on the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). Additionally, she has served as a commissioner on the AACC Commission for Institutional Infrastructure and Transformation (chaired), the Commission on College Readiness (chaired), and the Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (three terms). She has served on the board of the American Association for Women in Community College’s (AAWCC) and is a past president of AAWCC.

She was involved with the Board for the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (current chair), and in fall 2020, she was appointed to the Presidents’ Advisory Council for the National Junior College Athletic Association. Her career has garnered her numerous other honors including the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction by Phi Theta Kappa, the Distinguished Corporate Leadership Award by the Greater Red Bank NAACP and the Carolyn DesJardins CEO of the Year Award by AAWCC, and The Innovator of the Year Award, League for Innovation in the Community College for General Education.

Locally, Murphy serves on the Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board, Charles County Economic Development Advisory Board and she has been active with Christmas in April in St. Mary’s County. She currently sits on the Board of Advisors for the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM).

#### **Roads Less Traveled**

As for her time in Southern Maryland, she said she and her husband have enjoyed their wanders.

“Southern Maryland is truly beautiful,” she shared. “There are a lot of roads less traveled around here, and we have loved seeing the countryside, waterways, and end of the roads. I am going to miss everything and everyone. This is a great place to live and work.”

Murphy’s retirement plans – to date – involve spending extended time with family, adding more rescued fur babies to her home, reading, wandering, cheering for the Green Bay Packers of which she is a proud fan-owner, and of course, learning.

“Until December, I’ll be here working alongside my team to continue the important work of CSM. I promise I won’t get ‘short-timer’s syndrome,’” she offered. “There’s always lots of work to do!”

To facilitate the leadership transition, CSM’s Board of Trustees has selected RH Perry and Associates to coordinate a national search. The company’s presidential search work will begin later this spring. The new president is expected to begin Jan. 1, 2023.

*Press Release from CSM*

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## Southern Maryland Equity in History Coalition

The experience of the Big Conversation indicated an important factor standing out among the causes of racism – without knowing the history of people of color in our nation, we cannot fully understand and address the causes of racism. If we promote an understanding of our own rich local history, it will humanize the stories and make this history more readily understood and impactful. The local history of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color in Southern Maryland is extensive, but too often has not been revealed or has been constrained within the “silos” of organizations.

To address this challenge, the Big Conversation Steering Committee undertook the following:

Communicated the need for a coalition of local historical agencies, societies, and schools/colleges to establish a structure and protocol within the region for identifying and improving access to this history and invited them to an initial meeting.

Proceeded to begin to build the coalition at four initial meetings with a focus on the following areas:

Identifying existing resources, making them accessible, and developing the means to share and maintain the inventory.

Creating and supporting partnerships while developing a systemic plan within education to improve access to the local history of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color across our community.

Developing and sustaining the coalition and support within the community. Creating the management structure and relationships to make the coalition work.

And setting a clear mission and guiding principle:

#### Mission

To connect and empower community-based organizations, and educational and public institutions throughout Southern Maryland to elevate access to the collective and multi-perspective history of the region.

#### Guiding Principal:

An inclusive and honest telling of history:

- provides a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of the past,
- honors the voice and experiences of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color,
- humanizes people of the past and present, and
- creates empathy, respect, and understanding amongst community members.



Over forty individuals from twenty-five organizations are enthusiastically participating in the organizing sessions so far.

Institutions Represented at the Initial Meetings:

#### Churches:

- Middleham and St. Peter's Parish
- St. Peter Claver Church & Museum

#### Colleges:

- College of Southern Maryland
- St. Mary's College of Maryland

#### Community Institutions:

- African American Heritage Society of Charles County, Inc
- Big Conversation Partners in Dismantling Racism and Privilege in Southern Maryland
- Calvert County Historical Society
- Calvert County NAACP
- St. Mary's County Historical Society

#### St. Mary's County NAACP

- Unified Committee for Afro American Contributions (UCAC)

#### County Agencies:

- Calvert County Planning & Zoning: Historic Preservation and Archeology
- St. Mary's County Museum Division

#### Libraries

- Calvert
- Charles
- St. Mary's

#### Museums

- Calvert Marine Museum
- Historic St. Mary's City
- Historic Sotterley
- Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
- Piscataway Park / Accokeek Foundation
- Riversdale House and Museum

#### Public Schools

- Calvert County Public Schools
  - Charles County Public Schools
  - St. Mary's County Public Schools
- “A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

~ Marcus Garvey ~

For information about this project as it more fully develops or other work of the Big Conversation, go to [bigconmsp@gmail.com](mailto:bigconmsp@gmail.com) or Home ([dismantleracism.org](http://dismantleracism.org)).

# CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of April 11, 2022 – April 17, 2022, deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,405 calls for service throughout the community.

**Damaged Property: 22-20923**

On April 14, 2022, DFC Callison responded to the 100 block of Brooks Cove Drive in Lusby, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised unknown suspect (s) caused damage to four of the victim's pier pillions and five decking boards were reported missing. The total value of stolen/damaged property is \$10,000.00.

**Damaged Property: 22-20552**

On April 13, 2022, Deputy Dymond responded to the 6000 block of Gordon Drive in Sunderland, MD for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised an unknown suspect fired shots from a BB gun toward the bed of this pickup truck causing damage to the tailgate. The estimated value of damaged property is \$200.00.

**Theft: 22-21100**

On April 15, 2022, Deputy Wilder responded to Lake Lariat

in the Chesapeake Ranch Estates, Lusby, MD for the report of a theft. The complainant advised his red Dynamite 18-speed mountain bike was stolen around 9 p.m. The value of the stolen property is \$250.

**Theft: 22-21077**

On April 15, 2022, Deputy Sturdivant responded to the 2700 block of Icehouse Court in Dunkirk, MD the report of stolen property. The complainant advised she went to retrieve a package delivered to the front porch of the residence and discovered the package had been damaged and a pink iPhone 13 was missing. The value of the stolen property is \$850.00.

**Theft: 22-20587**

On April 13, 2022, Master Deputy Aurich responded to the 9000 block of Ridge View Dr. in Owings, MD for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between April 1st and April 13th, unknown suspect (s)

removed the front Maryland registration plate from his vehicle. The value of the stolen property is \$100.00.

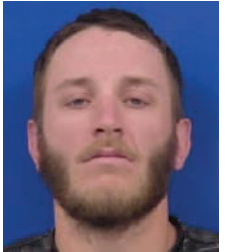
**Theft: 22-20510**

On April 12, 2022, Cpl. Jacobs responded to the parking lot across from 14470 Solomons Island Rd. in Solomons, MD for the report of a theft from a vehicle. The complainant advised unknown suspect (s) stole the temporary registration plate from her vehicle. The value of stolen property is \$100.00.

**ARRESTS**

On April 17, 2022, Deputy D. Desantis and Deputy C. Shoemaker responded to the 3100 block of Ross Road in St. Leonard, MD for the investigation of a stolen motor vehicle. Upon arrival, deputies made contact with **Matthew Edward Charron**, 26 of St. Leonard, MD, who was actively yelling and screaming obscenities at responding deputies. Deputy Desantis advised Charron of the investiga-

tion and Charron's disorderly actions and threats were distracting and hindering the investigation of the motor vehicle theft.



Matther Charon

Due to Charron failing to comply and actively resisting, Charron was escorted from the residence and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Obstructing and Hindering, Resisting and Interfering with Arrest and Failure to Obey a Reasonable/Lawful Order of Law Enforcement Officer.

*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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# Rachael Ulmer: Calvert Co

## Huntingtown H.S. English Teacher and Writing Coach

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Rachael Ulmer says she wakes up every day excited to go to school. “Yep. Every day. I honestly wish school was year-round school, to be honest.” Ulmer, a Huntingtown High School English teacher and the school’s writing coach is Calvert County Teacher of the Year.

“I was totally surprised,” Ulmer said of receiving the honor. She has only been in the school system four years, and this was the first year she was eligible to receive the award. “Just to win for Huntingtown High School was pretty awesome, to first be recognized by my peers and just win for the school was pretty cool. But winning for the whole county was totally shocking.”

Ulmer grew up on the Gulf Coast of Alabama. She went to Louisiana State University and first started teaching in Baton Rouge. She married and they moved around, and she taught in several places before her husband, who is in the Secret Service, was assigned to the presidential detail, and they moved to Calvert.

The decision to teach occurred in her first year in college. “I always loved reading and writing. I was really a pretty good student in general. I thought I was going off to college at LSU to be like a great science major and a dermatologist or something like that.”

On her last day of high school, her English teacher put a bug in her ear about teaching. She told him “Probably science and he said, ‘well, you really should think about teaching. And I kind of remember looking at him and laughing.’”

But she said, “Flash forward to freshman year of LSU. I was not loving science and not doing well in science and ended up taking an intro to education elective.”

“He was right,” she said of that high school teacher. “I like totally fell in love with it. And I think I had a great professor there, but it really did click. And I laugh about it now, because I’m an English teacher.”

She said, “LSU had a really cool program where you could major in your field that you were interested in. So, I switched to English, but they also help you get certified to teach. So, all the electives you teach are actually education courses. So, you’re ready to be li-

censed and you go through all the student teaching there at the same time. But if you don’t love teaching, you’re not stuck with an education degree. I would’ve had an English degree.”

She said the switch from science was “a self-esteem thing,” explaining, “I wasn’t doing well in science, but I always remember loving reading and writing.”

She said, “Today, I’m still fascinated by all things science and space related and medical stuff, but I just remember thinking I needed a full kind of switch.”

That high school English teacher was a major influence on her. “He kind of just oozed enthusiasm for reading and writing and was really a little bit contagious, when a teacher is so enthusiastic and passionate, and I felt that and just loved going to his class and it’s kind of what I try to be for my students too these days.”

“The audience and purposes have changed, especially with social media and all the different platforms kids are writing on these days,” Ulmer said about writing in general.

“That’s something we tackle a lot. One of the classes I do teach is ‘comp and rhetoric.’ It’s straight writing actually. And we talk a lot about not just what we’re saying, but how we’re saying it. So, I actually do a lot of grammar work now these days. And talking about tone and audience and purpose, it always comes up. That’s different from a lot of the other English courses which still include more reading.”

This reporter remembers the nuns in grade school teaching how to diagram a sentence and Ulmer was asked if that is still done. “I can remember doing that,” she said. “I think maybe more parochial schools do more that skill drill kind of activities. I don’t know if that’s the same today, but from what I’ve noticed teaching in public schools is that at least in grades like nine through 11, especially for the tests, the writing assessments, they’re definitely scored more heavily in terms of ideas, like is the student answering the prompt and communicating the right ideas and there’s less of a focus on the style. So, less concern about grammar than there is at what ideas are the student trying to communicate?”

She asked, “Is that on par with the prompts? When they get to



Photos by Huntingtown H.S. student Rachael Heagy.

12th grade and they’re taking the dual enrollment course with me, which is through CSM [College of Southern Maryland], it’s a pretty major shift to start to have to think so specifically again about where my commas go and which words need capitalization, is this the right clause to use here?”

Currently she is just teaching 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

“It’s a lot of work,” she said in getting them prepared for writing grammatically. “It just hasn’t been that emphasis through their middle school and in high school, I would say, not that they don’t do it. It’s just less of an emphasis on those style standards.”

How does she impart to her students the importance of writing in their lives? She said, “First things first. I have to work really hard to build good relationships and rapport with every single kid,” she said, and being with them for two years helps.

“Kids are going to be willing to work hard for a teacher they care about and knows they care about them. But more importantly, every single day I have this board in my class that tells what we are doing today? Why are we doing that? And then there’s a big picture, real world connection.”

And then, she will be ready when they ask why they need what she’s teaching.

“I always have an answer,” she said, “but the idea is that reading and writing, they’re super specific and nitty gritty at times, but the overarching idea is that communicating is a skill you’re going need

no matter what. I don’t care if you want to be a doctor and you’re going to have to communicate at the bedside, probably really tough information, or if you’re building bridges or if you’re going into the military and can’t communicate what you’re trying to say, that could be really dangerous. So, I try to stress more the skills that we’re working on is making you an effective communicator and it doesn’t matter what you do, you’re going to need those skills.”

After a few other teaching assignments before landing in Calvert, Ulmer was asked if she has found her element. “Yeah, I think so,” she said. “I think this is it. I’m really happy here at least. So, there’s a really good culture here and teachers who work really hard. So, I feel like I’m surrounded by amazing teachers who push me to be better and are really collaborative, and especially our English Department.”

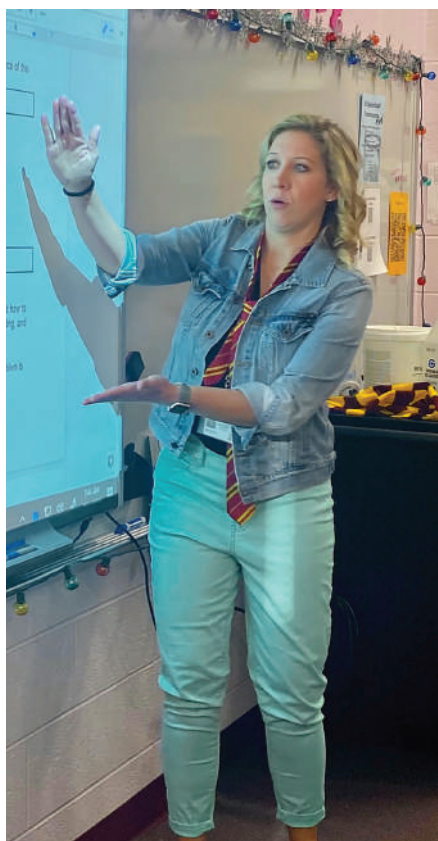
She added, “The kids are great and it’s just a good, thriving community. So, I think that helps me be a better teacher.”

She was asked to reflect on why she was chosen Teacher of the Year. She said, “I think I do a lot with the curriculum within the county. I’m really good at leading professional development for English teachers in the county, and maybe that’s been recognized.

“But I also started something at Huntingtown High School this year that I think is doing some pretty good work and that’s creating a student-led writing center. They have these on college cam-

# County's Teacher of the Year

h



there's going to be so many challenges with kids and gaps to fill, this is a perfect year to start it."

So, she has an open hour every day at lunch where "kids can bring writing from any class that they have and get immediate help on it from upper-level strong writers, as well as English teachers and I've talked to other schools and teachers in the county on how they can implement something like this at their school. And it's just something, a resource that I think has really helped to bring our whole school community to together."

She's also the school's writing coach. She said, "Writing's a skill we know kids need in all contexts. A lot of teachers don't feel that they know how to teach writing. It's more about assigning writing. So, I'm here to help them incorporate different writing instruction in whatever class they teach, whether it's bio-med or U.S. History or Microsoft Excel 1 0 1"

As to the teachers gaps in writing skills, she said, "I think so or at least they don't feel confident enough to maybe model that or do that in front of the students. I think maybe in grading, they don't always know. Maybe they just don't feel confident enough

to grade that because our students are pretty strong writers, a lot of them. So, if you're more of a math teacher, science minded, and you don't know all the grammar rules, it's just a conversation we have about what are you looking for in student writing? And then let's make sure we're teaching those writing skills so you can look for them; let me worry about the grammar."

Does she have flexibility in what she does? She said, "We have standards we have to teach, which are a certain set of skills, but I know my experience has been at least that I have a lot of freedom in how I teach those skills. So, if one of those skills is, especially for reading, identifying a theme of a text, I can go about that and kind of whatever way I want, I don't have to use a specific book. Each kid could be reading their own book choice. So, I think giving kids a lot of choice when possible and then giving them a voice, some opportunities to express themselves, gives me some freedom and it actually makes school more interesting, because it could be boring doing the same thing all the time."

The previous teachers of the year that this reporter has inter-

viewed have all said they learn as much each day from their students as their students learn from them. Ulmer agrees, "Always. It's one of the reasons I love teaching actually. I am never bored. I am constantly learning. And I hope that's always the case (for them), but they can teach me things about whatever they're learning in math and business and science and social studies that I don't know much about, but also just their daily lives."

Ulmer participates in a mentorship program for students needing extra help. "It's recognizing what potential is there and helping them access all of the resources they need to make something of themselves."

"Even on the most trying days, I feel like I have achieved the American dream, and I'm so blessed to wake up and come to a job that I just absolutely love," she said. "Plenty of people are stuck in jobs they hate. So, I talk about it all the time to my kids, especially the ones going off to college and finding pathways and passions to pursue that you're really, really interested in that're going to keep you happy because it makes for a really rewarding life."

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

poses where kids can bring their writing to a writing center and get help from peer tutors on it. And this year I said I don't know why we can't do that here at Huntingtown. And especially after a year, like COVID, when we know

# JOB Zone

## JOB FAIRS

**APRIL 28**

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11-2pm Virtual - <https://pvapi.premierevirtual.com/s/8Q9mJ8>

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**MAY 3**

**Patuxent River, MD**

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Lexington Park, MD

4-7pm Virtual - <https://pvapi.premierevirtual.com/s/dO7qEd>

**25+ companies**

**MAY 19**

**FREDERICKSBURG, VA**

3-7pm In-Person @ Fredericksburg Expo

2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway

4-7pm Virtual - <https://pvapi.premierevirtual.com/s/xGjN7d>

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## It's Spring – The Farmer's Markets are Back



Buying local is made easy with an abundance of fresh food from Calvert County's farmers, agribusinesses and watermen. Patrons can find local produce, meat, bedding plants (vegetables and herbs) and a bounty of other spring offerings with more to come as the weather continues to heat up.

Markets will be held on the following schedule:

Tuesdays in Prince Frederick at CalvertHealth Medical Center parking lot (130 Hospital Road) 2:30-6:30 p.m., April 26-Nov. 22

Thursdays in Dunkirk at the entrance of Dunkirk District Park (10750 Southern Maryland Blvd.) 3:30-6:30 p.m., May 12-Sept. 2

Saturdays in Lusby at the Sneade's Ace Home Center parking lot (11861 HG Trueman Road) 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 14-Sept. 24

Saturdays in North Beach at the North Beach Senior Center parking lot (9010 Chesapeake Ave.) 8 a.m. to noon, May 7-Oct. 22

For more information on Calvert County's agricultural community and updates on local farmers markets, visit [www.calvertag.com](http://www.calvertag.com) or contact the Calvert County Department of Economic Development at 410-535-4583 or 301-855-1880 or via email at [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com).

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

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

## SMECO Introduces Renewable Energy Rate Option

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) has received approval from the Maryland Public Service Commission to make a 100 percent renewable energy option available for residential and commercial accounts.

SMECO will purchase renewable energy credits (REC) to cover the total amount of energy used by the members who sign up for the green energy option, called "Rider G." Since SMECO is already obtaining 32 percent of its energy from renewables, members who sign up for Rider G will be charged an additional rate to pay for renewable energy for the remaining 68 percent of the energy they use each month. The Rider G rate will be updated on or about January 1 of each year for changes in REC prices

and purchase percentages. The rate may also be adjusted at other times whenever significant market pricing changes occur.

SMECO members who are interested in the Rider G rate can find more information or sign up online at [smeco.coop/go-green](http://smeco.coop/go-green). Members who purchase energy through an alternate supplier are not eligible for SMECO's Rider G green energy option, but there are alternate suppliers that may also provide a 100 percent renewable option or contracts with various levels of renewable energy. Alternate suppliers can be found under the link "Shop for Electricity" on the Maryland PSC's website—[www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us).

*Press Release from SMECO*

# Parks & Recreation Announces Modified Services, Operating Hours

*Due to Seasonal Staffing Shortages*

Calvert County Government has been experiencing a labor shortage within the Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation; labor shortages are being felt throughout the United States. To provide the best possible experience for facility patrons, the Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation announces that it will adjust hours and services of various Parks & Recreation facilities, due to seasonal staff shortages.

The following modifications will take effect Monday, May 2:

### Parks

Park hours will remain the same with reduced services. All parks will have limited or no staff onsite during evening events Monday through Friday, however Dunkirk District Park, Cove Point Park, Hallowing Point Park and Ward Farm Park will be fully staffed on Saturdays and Sundays.

The conditions of playing surfaces will not be serviced between events (e.g., fields will not be dragged, relined, raked, or have base settings changed). Routine maintenance at other facilities may be delayed (e.g., bathrooms cleaned, courts cleared, trash cans emptied, etc.).

### Aquatics

Cove Point Pool operations will be as follows:

- May 28 through June 16: Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.

to 6:45 p.m.; holidays, 11 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

- June 17 through Sept. 5: Monday-Friday, noon to 5:45 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.
- Lap swim will not be offered at Cove Point Pool. The Hall Aquatic Center will be available for lap swimming.
- Kings Landing Pool will remain closed for the season.
- Summer swim teams will still be operational at both Cove Point Pool and Kings Landing Pool.

### Breezy Point Beach & Campground

Breezy Point public beach will be closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays through Oct. 31. Campsite renters will still have access to the campground.

### Natural Resources

Kings Landing Park will operate 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through May 27. From May 28 through Sept. 5, hours will be as follows:

- Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Calvert County Government continues to recruit employees. Visit [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Employment](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Employment) to learn about open positions and apply.

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

# County Hosts Business Appreciation Week

Each year the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) dedicates a week to celebrating the contributions of local businesses. Calvert County's 15th annual Business Appreciation Week, May 1-7, 2022, salutes the economic resiliency of the Calvert County business community.

During Business Appreciation Week, the Calvert County Department of Economic Development presents events focusing on the vital role local businesses play in our economy. The BOCC will attend business visits throughout Calvert County to meet with and support local business owners. Join fellow business owners, resource partners, county staff and the BOCC for this week of special events, workshops and networking activities.

### Schedule of Events:

(Please note seating may be limited and advanced online registration may be required.)

### How to Do Business with Local County Government 101

•Who: Sponsored by the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce, Calvert County Minority Business Alliance, Southern Maryland Minority Chamber of Commerce and the Calvert County Department of Economic Development

•Where: Calvert Library, 850 Costley Way in Prince Frederick

•When: Monday, May 2 from 9-11 a.m.

If you are a business owner interested in obtaining contracts with local government entities, this is a must-attend workshop. Guest speakers from Calvert County Government, Calvert County Public Schools and Calvert County Public Schools Construction will

discuss the process, provide tips and answer questions. Registration is free. To register, visit the Calvert Library event page.

### Statewide Tourism & Hospitality Hiring Event

- Where: Virtual via Zoom
- When: Wednesday, May 4 from 9 a.m. to noon

Job seekers interested in beginning a career in the tourism and hospitality industry are invited to participate in a virtual job fair. Find local job opportunities for restaurants, hotels, attractions, wedding venues, bed & breakfasts and more. Visit online to register and for further events details.

### Calvert County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Mixer

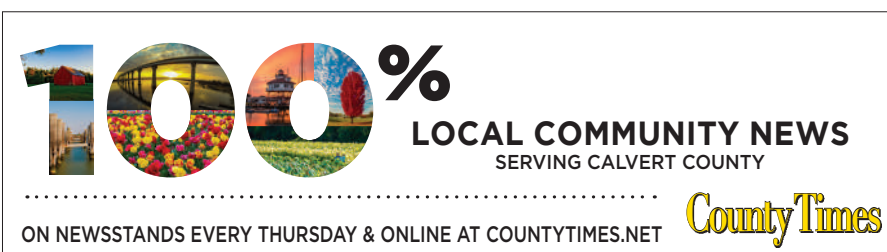
•Where: Davis, Upton & Palumbo, LLC, 132 Main St. in Prince Frederick

•When: Thursday, May 5 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Network with other business owners in a casual atmosphere. This free event is open to Calvert County Chamber of Commerce members and business owners who are not members. For information, contact the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce at 410-535-2577 or visit [www.calvertchamber.org](http://www.calvertchamber.org).

For more information on Calvert County's Business Appreciation Week, including updates on planned activities and events, or to learn about the many services the county offers the business community, visit online at [www.ealvert.com/BAW](http://www.ealvert.com/BAW), or contact the Department of Economic Development at 410-535-4583 or 301-855-1880 or email [info@calvert.com](mailto:info@calvert.com)

*Press Release from Calvert County government*



# Editorial

## Value is in the Eye of the Beholder

New this week, we have placed a price per copy on the cover of our weekly publication, The County Times.

For the past 16 years The County Times has been available throughout the community on 100's of newsstands each week free to the public. Yet, it has never been free.

Thomas Jefferson once said: "Where it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Jefferson might well be alarmed at the way news is being gathered today and delivered through social media platforms. This new way threatens the viability of quality local journalism across the globe, and in our community.

To stay informed on issues before our local governments, school boards, and other institu-

tions, we need journalists covering their meetings, asking informed questions, and presenting comprehensive information for debate and discussion throughout our community.

Unlike national and international news, there is no substitute for locally produced news. By its very nature, local news depends on local newsgathering.

Today, we are the local newspaper. We are the ones living here, we are the ones invested in our local community. We are the ones, keeping it local, including local journalists gathering the facts every day. We reflect the values of our residents and businesses, we challenge assumptions and shine a light on our imperfections and aspirations.

Yet, as our local small businesses have had to overcome the disruptions of the past two years and now the crippling effect of

inflation, we do not feel it is appropriate to ask them to pay more to cover our rising costs. Our small businesses need your support more than ever, and so do we. Therefore, we are asking our readers to contribute what amounts to less than twenty cents per day at our full year rate.

We also ask that you mention to your local government officials, how important it is that we keep a local community newspaper in our county. And the government our journalists are engaged with everyday should be spending advertising dollars with The County Times. It makes no sense that your government would be spending your tax dollars and fees to do government advertising with a newspaper that is not local, and not even a Maryland company.

Our new "Grab & Go" model is based upon the honor system, because we have a community wor-

thy of such. Continue picking up your copy each week at your favorite newsstand. When you are able, you can scan the QR Code with your phone, or go to mycountytimes.com to make your contribution electronically. Or you can simply mail a check to P.O. Box 250, Hollywood, Maryland 20636.

We need you – our loyal and cherished readers who value and benefit from the professional reporting we do and recognize the critical role we play in monitoring and, when needed, challenging the actions of local government and other institutions.

All our efforts are geared to creating greater public awareness and engagement towards building a stronger community.

We thank you and love serving you.

## Hoyer Tours CSM Health Sciences Construction Site

### Secures Program Funds for Regional Campus

Congressman Steny Hoyer met with College of Southern Maryland (CSM) leadership and staff to tour the construction of the new Center for Health Sciences at the college's Regional Hughesville Campus April 19. During a pre-tour briefing, the group discussed how the \$500,000 in critical funding Hoyer secured in FY2022 omnibus is being used to upgrade equipment for the new facility's health education programs.

"I am excited to be at the College of Southern Maryland to visit the Health Sciences Center and observe the progress underway," said Hoyer.

"The construction site will one day become an extraordinary building that helps expand opportunities for students pursuing an education in the sciences, and I look forward to coming back in the future when it is finished," he continued. "Knowing how critical this new facility will be for the College of Southern Maryland, I was proud to work alongside advocates to secure \$500,000 in federal funding in the Fiscal Year 2022 omnibus to support the ongoing educational programs at the center and ensure that it has the equipment and resources it needs to offer the best experience to our students."

"We are so grateful for your sup-

port," CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy told the congressman during the briefing. "I can't overstate the importance of this center and what it will mean to our students, our community, and our region's workforce. It will serve as a central learning location for our health and nursing programs and it will be the college's flagship building."

Hoyer described the state-of-the-art technology that will be offered at the center "the wave of the future," and "science on display" before thanking CSM leadership and staff for demonstrating how federal investments are "being put to work in service to Southern Maryland students and our communities."

Joining Hoyer, his staff, and Murphy were Dean of CSM School of Science and Health Dr. Laura Polk and CSM Vice President of Operations and Planning Dr. Bill Comey.

The Center for Health Sciences is the second building on CSM's Regional Hughesville Campus and will serve as a central, convenient location for the college's health programs and instruction. It will be approximately 50,000 square feet, designed to LEED standards and will feature specialized health sciences laboratories for CSM's programs in nursing, emergency medical services, rehabilitation, wellness and fitness, pharmacy



From left, CSM Vice President of Operations and Planning Dr. Bill Comey, CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy, Congressman Steny Hoyer and CSM School of Science and Health Dr. Laura Polk pose in front of CSM's new Center for Health Sciences, currently under construction at CSM's Regional Hughesville Campus.

technician, medical assisting, health information management and medical coding, and medical laboratory technology. The center will also include a clinical simulation center, collaborative learning spaces, classrooms, a computer lab,

faculty and staff offices, a student success suite, and a large multipurpose meeting room. Construction is currently on track for completion in late fall 2022.

Press Release from CSM



# Tackle Box Fishing Report



By Ken Lamb  
Contributing Writer

Striped bass season opens Sunday, May 1. In both the Potomac and bay the limit is one per day, 35 inch minimum. This trophy season lasts until May 16 when the minimum changes to 19 inches in Maryland, one per day; and 20 inch minimum in the Potomac, 2 per day.

The spring has been unseasonably cool this year which may keep the big spawners in the bay longer and provide good opportunity to catch a trophy fish this year.

In the meantime, the catfish are over the moon in the Potomac an

Patuxent. Fresh cut bait, a strong rod and reel, and stamina is all that is needed to load the boat. The shoreline and pier fishermen can get plenty too.

There has been at least one croaker show up in the pound nets, several speckled trout, and quite a few spot. The fish are coming, we just need consistent weather where the temperatures do not go below 50 at night. That is not going to happen this week.

Crabs have not started moving yet. They are 2 weeks behind, or more.

Fresh water fishing is good. Plenty of bass, pickerel and crappie.

## A View From The BLEACHERS



### LISTENING INTENTLY

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

The bar door creaks open. A middle-aged couple walks in, both squinting as aged eyes adjust to the dark ambiance. The tables are packed, but a broader scan of the room reveals two open stools at a well-worn bar – the perfect landing spot.

After a few minutes of small talk, it becomes clear that the drinks sitting in front of the lovebirds aren't their first of the evening. The energetic pair soon pull the quiet soul sitting next to them into a jovial conversation. It was a timely meeting. The melancholy soloist was a newlywed on the first business trip since his nuptials and was in need of good vibrations. The couple was celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary and was bursting to tell their story.

They had met at work, nearly 25 years prior. It was more like at first sight, than love. He was in a serious relationship; she was about to start one. They had caught one another's eye, though, developed a friendship and, ultimately, as other love interests waned, they had gotten together. The resulting journey had been amazing. They had two kids, one in college, the other about to graduate high school. Their family had transcended various challenges – loss of loved ones, medical curve balls - and lived through a scroll of cherished memories – first steps, Lego builds, school plays, sports, band concerts and family vacations. Tears had been shed and shared along the way, but there had been far more smiles. It was their story – so far.

The newlywed listened intently. He even offered to buy a round to keep the conversation flowing. They politely declined and instead bought him a drink for good luck. What he found more captivating than the major milestones of their lives, were the details around how they had arrived at their employer at exactly the same time. The husband had started at another job after college, one he enjoyed and that paid well; he only sought a new one after a corporate merger created considerable employment uncertainty. He spoke with a friend about his predicament; his

buddy noted that his company was hiring and suggested that he apply. He did...and found much, much more than a career reboot.

The wife was in her last year of college and, on a whim, decided to attend a spring festival near her school. While there, she ran into an acquaintance at a popcorn stand who mentioned an upcoming job fair and encouraged her to go. She did...and then she met the recruiter for the job at the place where she met...her husband.

Two lives were completely changed (for the better judging by the flow of elixirs and genuine affection), and new human life was created, by a corporate merger and random meeting that happened only because of a shared hankering for kettle corn. This was their story. The newlywed had his. We all have ours. Life, man...it is so dynamic.

Which, of course, brings us to sports. While reading this and contemplating your own incredible journey, hundreds of young men from all over the country will be transfixed by this weekend's NFL draft. Some will be in attendance anticipating a grip and grin with commissioner Roger Goodell. Many more will be watching with family and friends. All will be waiting for their name to be called – the moment when a childhood dream is realized and their lives are immediately uprooted and sent to an unfamiliar place, where they will meet new coaches and teammates, work for an unfamiliar organization, and engage with a new community.

The NFL draft is largely consumed and analyzed in football terms. But there is a profound human element in play. As names methodically fill out the draft scroll, lives reach an inflection point, an experience with a distinct before and after. It isn't far-fetched to imagine these newest NFL players sitting at a bar 25 years from now, perhaps with a significant other on their arm, celebrating the amazing personal journey that began when their name was called. Hopefully they will buy a drink or two for the night's stranger-turned-friend who listens intently to it all.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

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# Calvert Community Calendar

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

## Thursday April 28

### 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.

### Little Minnows

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

This program focuses on one of the museum's three themes. Preschoolers ages 3 – 5, with an adult, are invited to join us for story time and a craft you can do on-site or take home, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This month's theme is Crabs have Claws!

## Friday, April 29

### Maritime Performance Series with Bob Zentz

Calvert Marine Museum, 7p.m.

Bob Zentz is a singer, song-writer, and story-teller who is known to play dozens of instruments including the banjo, accordion, and the hurdy-gurdy. His music repertoire spans the genres of folk, traditional, Celtic, and maritime music and beyond. Performance is in the museum's Harms Gallery starting at 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. with beer and wine for sale. Tickets are \$20 online at [bit.ly/MaritimeConcerts](http://bit.ly/MaritimeConcerts), and \$25 at the door.

## Saturday, April 30

### Fossil Field Experience

Calvert Marine Museum  
9a.m. – noon

Come and explore the fossils at Cove Point. Learn more about fossils: where to find them, how to identify them, and what they can tell us about the past. This program is for adults and children 8 and older, accompanied by an adult. Preregistration required at least two business days before the program. \$15 per person.

### Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Mt. Hope Convenience Center  
96 Pushaw Station Road,  
Sunderland, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
rain or shine.

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, will host a free household hazardous waste collection event for county residents. Hazardous household products are common in many homes and must be disposed of carefully in order to

prevent dangerous chemical reactions, ignition, burns, vapors and ground water contamination that can occur when included with regular household waste. A substance is considered hazardous if it ignites easily, reacts or explodes when mixed with other substances, is corrosive or toxic. To determine if a substance is hazardous, check product labels for words or symbols that indicate caution, warning, danger, poison or toxic.

Acceptable hazardous waste items include auto and floor care products, medications, pesticides, gasoline, fertilizers, ammunition and more. Latex paints will not be accepted at this event.

There is no limit per resident and proof of residency is required. Businesses are prohibited from this event. For a full listing of accepted hazardous waste materials or for more information on household hazardous waste collection events, call the Calvert County Solid Waste Division at 410-326-0210 or visit [www.calvertcountymd.gov/hazardouswaste](http://www.calvertcountymd.gov/hazardouswaste).

## Sunday, May 1

### Spring into Wellness Community Fair

Jefferson Patterson Park Pavilion  
Noon-6 p.m.

This is a FREE community event for ALL AGES. There will be food trucks, live music, competitions, games for the kids, some resources that Calvert County has to offer, and much more!!

### Bluegrass Comeback to Southern Maryland-Final Concert

Calvert Elks #2620  
1015 Dares Beach Road  
Prince Frederick, 2 p.m.

Fast Track is a band that formed following the retirement announcement of long time Cardinal Tradition band leader, David Parmley. Three of the four members decided to form the band and sought out to fill the remaining spots, mandolin, and guitar, seeking instrumentalists who were also strong vocalists.

The five members of Fast Track are not only all highly decorated in awards from the IBMA and SPBGMA organizations but are also veteran players on the Grand Ole Opry stage, across the United States, Canada, and throughout Europe.

The Fast Track members are Dale Perry (banjo, bass vocals), Steve Day (fiddle, vocals), Ron Spears (bass, vocals), Shayne Bartley (mandolin, vocals), and Duane Sparks (guitar, vocals). The band has already successful-

ly released two full-length albums with Engelhardt Music Group of Nashville, TN, with a third recording expected later this year. There is just no stopping once you jump on this FAST TRACK!

Opening the show will be show host, Jay Armsworthy, along with special guests.

Doors open at Noon and the show starts at 2 pm. Tickets for the show will be \$20 per person available at the door. Children under twelve are free with a paid adult. Food and beverages will be available for sale at Noon for a separate price. For more information about the show or tickets, call 301-737-3004 or go to [bluegrasscomeback.webador.com/](http://bluegrasscomeback.webador.com/)

## Thursday, May 5

### National Day of Prayer

Prince Frederick Courthouse  
on Main Street. Noon

Please join the Calvert Interfaith Council for prayer. If rain, the alternate site is Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information, [www.cicmd.org](http://www.cicmd.org)

### 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 Bees, Bugs & Flowers!

### 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.

## UPCOMING

### Calvert Arts Festival

Sample the best wines and craft beers from Southern Maryland makers at 16th Calvert Arts Festival Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at All Saints' Episcopal Church. A \$15 fee to taste wines/beers gives you a souvenir tasting glass and wristband. No fee to shop from outstanding local juried artisans. Enjoy delicious food and beverages, live entertainment, children's crafts, raffles & more. Tour our 1692 church & labyrinth. Event is rain or shine. Save money: reserve your wine/beer glass at <https://www.EventBrite.com/e/Calvert-Arts-Festival-2022-tickets>. Age

verified for alcohol tasting by picture ID at festival. Proceeds benefit local charities that aid County children. Free parking at All Saints' Church, Rts 2 & 4, Sunderland, MD, and nearby Sunderland Park & Ride.

### Solomons Maritime Festival

Calvert Marine Museum  
Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Celebrate Southern Maryland traditions! Antique boats and motors, cooking demonstrations, traditional music, toy boat building, and boat rides offer something for all members of the family! This is a FREE event!

## ONGOING

### Free Drive-thru Rabies Clinics

The Calvert County Department of Public Safety, Animal Services Division, in partnership with the Calvert County Health Department will host drive-thru rabies clinics to offer free rabies vaccinations for pets. Clinics will be held Wednesdays, from 5-7 p.m. at the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter on the following dates: May 18, June 15

Online registration is required. Interested parties can register using the shelter calendar online at [www.CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com](http://www.CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com).

Proof of prior rabies vaccination is required to receive the three-year vaccine. Eligible pets include cats, dogs and ferrets in carriers or on leashes and muzzled if necessary. Citizens are advised no special accommodations will be available for animals that cannot be restrained by their owners, such as feral or aggressive animals.

Calvert County pet licenses will also be available at the rabies clinics. Pet licenses are \$7 for spayed or neutered pets (proof required) and \$20 for those not spayed or neutered. A Calvert County pet license must be renewed every year and is required for all cats and dogs ages 5 months and older.

### Living Well with Diabetes

Southern Pines Senior Center  
Mondays from April 18 through  
May 23 at 1 p.m.

In collaboration with the Calvert County Health Department, the Calvert County Office on Aging is offering a free, six-week "Living Well with Diabetes" program for citizens 50 years and older. This interactive class provides practical tips and insights to help those with diabetes and pre-diabetes learn how to manage their condition. All materials are provided at no cost. Participants must register by calling 410-535-5400, ext. 355.

# 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.

## Eleanor Schulze Jones



Eleanor Schulze Jones, 98, of Lusby passed away April 20, 2022 at her daughter's home. She was born November 7, 1923 in Silver Spring to Albert A. and Mabel (Powell) Schulze. Eleanor was raised in Adelphi on the family farm, Lonecedar Poultry Farm, and graduated from Mt. Rainier High School. She married Robert L. Jones "Pop" on April 3, 1943 and they lived in Hyattsville until moving to their forever home on the water in White Sands in 1977. Eleanor was primarily a homemaker and later went to work as a legal secretary retiring from WSSC. Eleanor was a very involved member of First Lutheran Church in Huntingtown. She was a master in the kitchen and loved cooking. She even wrote her own cookbook. Eleanor also enjoyed quilting, sewing, and knitting blankets for her family.

Eleanor was preceded in death by her husband Robert L. Jones, sister Doris Jones and brother Vincent Schulze. She is survived by her children Robert L. Jones, Jr. of Lusby, Alan Jones (Mary) of Hyattsville, Christine Richnafsky (Darren) of Owings, and Deborah Hamann (Bruce) of Leonardtown, 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, sister Mildred Poole and brother Leonard Schulze, and best friend Anna Marie Richnafsky.

Visitation will be Saturday, April 30, 2022, 3:30-4:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church of Calvert County, 6300 Southern Maryland Boulevard, Huntingtown, MD 20639. A memorial service will follow at 4:30 at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Lutheran Church of Calvert County, 6300 Southern Maryland Boulevard, Huntingtown, MD 20639 or Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements are by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Julian T. "Tom" Surber



Julian T. "Tom" Surber, 92, of Owings passed away April 20, 2022 at his home. Born May 2, 1929 in Ronceverte, WV, he was the son of Julian Thomas Surber, Sr. and Rebecca (Wimer) Surber. Tom was in the US Navy during the Korean Conflict and was employed as an Electrical Engineering Technician with the Department of Transportation up until his retirement in 1985.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife Lou Surber and sister Isabelle Geyer. He is survived by his children Sarah Surber MacMillian and her husband William of Glenwood, MD and Nancy Surber Gulli and her husband Daniel of Stafford, VA, and grandson Thomas Joseph Gulli of Stafford, VA.

Interment will be in Quantico National Cemetery, 18424 Joplin Rd., Triangle, VA 22172.

Funeral arrangements are by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Shelly Ann Rose



Shelly Ann Rose passed away on Monday April 18th 2022 in Prince Frederick MD surrounded by family at the age of 51

Shelly was born October 2nd 1970 in Washington D.C. she was the daughter of Brenda Rosenberger and Paul Rosenberger Sr.

Shelly grew up surrounded by a very large and loving family to include Grandparents, many

Aunts & Uncles as well as cousins and friends. Shelly attended and graduated from the Longview School in Gaithersburg, MD in 1992. Shortly after she moved with her family to Calvert County MD where she took part in day trips and working days available through Calvert County programs. Shelly enjoyed helping others and never forgot a holiday or birthday, she enjoyed joking and teasing her siblings. She always enjoyed music, coloring, light brite, and time spent with Family and friends.

She is survived by her mother and father Brenda & Paul Rosenberger Sr. of Lusby, MD; sister Paula M Smith (Trent Smith) and their 3 children Christopher, Brendan, and Justin of Lusby, MD; brother Paul W Rosenberger Jr (Jessica) and 5 children Paul, Kayla, Colin, Zachary, and Nicholas of Lusby, MD; great niece Evelyn Smith.

Shelly's life touched everyone she met and will always be remembered as a beautiful soul that was a blessing to us all from the beginning of her life and will always live on. Fly high Mommy's sweet angel and watch over us with your beautiful blue eyes from above.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home-Port Republic.

## Carol Ann Lucas



On April 18, 2022, Carol Ann Lucas peacefully became an angel herself. She was surrounded by her cherished family. She was born to Marlin and Anna Booty in Woodbury, New Jersey. She grew up in Deptford, New Jersey. After she and Gene Lucas married in 1988, they relocated to Maryland. In her life, Carol enjoyed exploring Astrology.

She was also known for growing everything from herbs, vegetables, and flowers. Her love of gardening took her to visit the Flower Show in Philadelphia. Continuing her travels, she met annually with her two best friends from high school, Karen and Renee, in New Jersey for lunch. It was in these visits that they caught up on all their news and reminiscence. She expressed her creativity in how she made things from driftwood, and also learned to macrame. She was an avid collector of angels. She found peacefulness in her collection. The one part of her life that she adored was that of being a grandmother. She loved her grandkids with the same full heart that she had for her son. Carol was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Gene Lucas. Continuing her legacy of love is her son, Paul Lucas and his wife, Ashley; grandchildren, Keiran, Christopher Everett, Gene, and Cypress; siblings, Barbara Lawrence, Maggie Jenkins and her husband, John, Marlin Booty and his wife, Maryellen, and David Booty and his wife, Joni.

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.

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

## Hazel Elizabeth Bierer



Hazel Elizabeth Bierer (McGinnis), 84, of Pocomoke City MD and North Beach MD passed away on Good Friday April 15, 2022 at home in North Beach. She was born on March 20, 1938 in Pittsburgh PA to Newton and Helen Mae McGinnis. She was sister to Nelson, Paul and J. Bruce McGinnis, all of Pittsburgh PA.

Hazel was a popular student and majorette growing up in Avalon PA. She studied at Sewickley School of Nursing, becoming an RN. She had a nursing career that lasted over 50 years with stints as an EMS with Plum Fire Department, Cardiac Care, Veterans Administration and hospital shifts in Pittsburgh and Oakmont, PA. She finished her nursing career as the Director of Nursing and the Nursing Administrator in Geriatric Care at Westover Adult Care Center. She lived most of her younger life in Pittsburgh with an extended family of aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings before her she decided to move to Plum, PA with her husband Dale G. Bierer, where they raised three daughters. After the girls grew up, the family relocated to Chincoteague

Island VA. Hazel supported her husband Dale with his local giftshop The Elegant Pelican which they opened in Chincoteague in 1988. They loved living on an island, hosting visitors and enjoying nature and the beach with her beloved grandchildren.

The Bierer family travelled all over the United States doing Gem and Jewelry trade shows on weekends and visiting family along the way. Three trips across the USA with the 3 daughters in a swanky motorhome seeing sites such as Pikes Peak, Death Valley, New Orleans, South Dakota Buffalo, California Redwoods and more, were terrific summer adventures for the Bierer family.

Hazel was married to Dale Gibson Bierer for 40 years. Dale passed away in 1999. She is survived by her daughters Lisa Bierer-Garrett and husband Chris, of North Beach, MD, daughter Bonnie Merritt and husband Gene of Pocomoke City MD and daughter Wendy Truzerls, and husband Damon, of Lehigh Acres FL. She has 5 grandchildren GeneRay Merritt of Columbus, OH, Bianca Ann and Lacey Mae Merritt of Pocomoke City, MD and Mina and Dahlia Truzerls of Lehigh Acres, FL and 3 great grandchildren, also in Florida. She is also survived by her older brother J. Bruce McGinnis of Oil City, PA and sister in law Carol Wice of Pittsburgh, PA.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Pittsburgh, PA at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, we ask for donations to the American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood Street, 11th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; Link:

<https://www.heart.org>

Cards of sympathy can be sent to: Bierer Family, c/o B. Merritt

103 2nd St., Pocomoke City, MD 21851

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home-Owings.

## Elizabeth 'Betty' Yurchik



Elizabeth Yurchik, 90, of Saint Leonard, MD., died April 14, 2022, peacefully at home. She was born March 6, 1932 in Lilly, Pennsylvania.

Betty was a member of Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, Annandale, VA. She retired as a secretary after 35 years of service. Betty loved being around her family and friends. She also loved animals, taking walks, and had a passion for making Polish food and baking.

Betty is survived by her two sons, Reginald (Rita) and Edward; sister Helen and brother John (Vickie); son in-law Francis; grandchildren, Katlyn, Kyle, Matthew (Alison), Scott (Samantha), and Brien (Julie); great-grandchildren, Brice, Ella, and Jade; dear friend, Ruth; and many other loved family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents John and Anna (Bizak) Duperock; brothers, Steve, Michael, Joseph, and Pete; sisters, Annie and Mary; husband, Edward; daughter Elizabeth, and daughter in-law Susanne.

Funeral mass for Betty will be at a later date with the burial at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Luom Van Phan

Luom Van Phan, 87, passed peacefully on April 14th, 2022, in Calvert County, Maryland.

Luom was born on January 7th 1935 in the beautiful countryside of Vietnam to his father Trinh Van Phan, and mother Ngo Thi Vy. He grew up to be a French teacher and successful business owner before arriving to the United States in 1985. During his time in the Unit-



ed States he continued working as a carpenter and in later years found his calling through charity. He traveled to India several times to donate money to small temples and orphanages. During his travels he was greeted by the Dalai Lama on more than one occasion.

He is preceded in death by his parents and loving wife, My Thi Le. Today he is survived by his six children. Sons: Robert Thien Phan and wife Amanda, Huy Truc Phan and wife Ha, and Chuck Phi Phan and wife Kelly. Daughters: Phuong Truc Phan and husband Van, Mai Truc Phan, and Lisa Truc Lee and husband Alan. He is also survived by his 11 grandchildren.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home and the family asks that any monetary contributions be donated to The American Kidney Foundation in Loving Memory of Luom Van Phan.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Roberta Lynn Baird



Roberta Lynn Baird (Dodson) of Waldorf, MD passed away on Thursday, April 21st, 2022 in La Plata, MD surrounded by family.

Robby Lynn was born in Prince Frederick, MD, the youngest child born to parents Donald Whitfield Dodson and Mary Katherine (Kipe) and lived her childhood years in Olivet. She was a 1970 Calvert Senior High School graduate.

Robby Lynn's love for song and dance led to her noteworthy per-

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formance in the Calvert County Junior High School Talent Show, where she sang Cobbler Cobbler, a song made popular by Haley Mills. Robby Lynn was gifted with a sweet voice and was active in the chorus and loved harmonizing with her Mother and her oldest sister. In later years, she could be found belting out the hits at the family's annual karaoke party.

Along with her oldest sister and brother, she would venture to Bishop's snowball stand for those famous snowballs and would join friends to attend movies at the D&L movie theatre. Robby Lynn enjoyed dancing, as well as hand dancing in the kitchen with her siblings before heading to dances at the Ranch Club. As a hobby, she would cut and perm friends and relative's hair, and admitted to using a can of hair spray each day as a teen.

Robby Lynn married and left home in June 1971, living in Georgia as a military wife. While married she returned to Saint Mary's County, MD to reside as a homemaker, first in Leonardtown, then in Clements. Robby Lynn later moved to Waldorf, MD where she resided until her passing. When she started working later in life, she worked as a receptionist for a dental office and then worked for the U.S. Government Accountability Office as a Mail Center Representative for the Shared Services Center before retiring in

2015.

Robby Lynn's love of animals led her to becoming an avid bird watcher. She provided a loving home to her beloved dogs Petey, Hank, Rascal, Nippy, and Harley Jane. She still found enough heartfelt love to care for Tomcat, CC, as well as many other strays. Robby Lynn was artistic with skill in painting, stenciling, sewing, crocheting, and could build about anything she put her mind to. She enjoyed cooking and one of her specialties was her St. Mary's style authentic stuffed ham. She never outgrew her love for the mountains and camping, and at times would take her mother on trips with her. Robby Lynn, the Olivet girl through and through, enjoyed socializing with her 'girl posse' as well as family and those in her close circle.

Robby Lynn is survived by her sisters Kimberly (Elliott) Cegielski, Kathy Elliott, sister-in-law Kelly Lumpkins, and many other beloved family members and friends to include a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased in death by her father Donald W. Dodson, mother Mary K. Elliott, sister Nadara (Dodson/Herbic) Houser, and brother Donald W. Dodson, Jr.

A celebration of Robby Lynn's life will be planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers donations can be sent to the Charles County Humane Society, Waldorf, MD.

## TIPS TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR LIVING TRUST

*Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel*

If you have created a living trust, you have already taken steps to avoid the probate process. The concept of the living trust is to re-title all of a person's assets into the name of their trust so that when they die they are not holding any assets into their sole name and therefore there is no probate. But, beware. A living trust is just what it says—a living document. If you have a living trust you must make sure you have (1) placed all your assets into the name of your trust; and (2) kept your trust and beneficiary designations up to date.

### 1. Placing your assets into your living trust.

So many times clients have come to see me proudly holding their binders for their living trusts. Upon review, I have found that the client's assets are not in the trust and, without that, the assets must go through the probate process to get to loved ones.

Unfortunately, many people who have living trusts die without realizing that they have not funded their trusts and their loved ones then have to go through the probate process—something their living trusts are intended to prevent.

For example, you must re-title your house into the name of your living trust through filing a new deed to the house. The house will not technically be moved into the trust by simply saying so in the trust document. The same holds true for your other assets. Each asset is different, but the approach must be the same—fill out all required forms to technically re-title the asset.

How does it happen that some clients have no assets in their trusts? Some attorneys that create living trusts require that their clients take all the steps necessary to re-title the assets into the name of the trust. I recommend you do not obtain a living trust without assurances that the attorney will prepare all transfers of your assets into the trust. This is not something you should try to do yourself. First, life often intervenes in plans and clients do not have the time or knowledge to figure out how to re-title their assets. Second, moving assets can be complicated with various forms to fill out that are confusing. The clients should not have to do work to fund their trusts. Their attor-

neys should do that work for the clients.

Don't let this be your reality. If you already have a living trust, make sure all your assets have been re-titled into the name of your living trust. And, don't forget. If you acquire a new piece of real property, acquire it in the name of the trust so that you do not need to file a separate deed to re-title it. Most attorneys will provide you with an affidavit of trust to enable you to provide a document to the title company so that they can title the property in the name of your trust.

### 2. Keep Your Living Trust Up to Date

In our practice, we meet with clients every few years to update their trusts. Why? We want to make sure that the clients have not purchased an asset (like a house, for example) in their sole name. If they have, we will take steps to prepare a deed to transfer the house into the name of their trust. Often, clients' wishes will change over time. Clients that have named certain beneficiaries for their estates may wish to change the names of beneficiaries. Beneficiaries may die and precipitate a change. Investments and brokers may change. Retirement funds may change, etc. Whatever it is, you must keep on top of the changes in your life by including the changes in your living trust package. If you do not, there may be terrible consequences.

For example, one married couple prepared a living trust and the wife died leaving her share to the husband. The husband remarried but the trust was never changed to reflect this. On the death of the husband, part of the estate went to the relatives of the first wife.

It isn't difficult to amend a trust to make changes. The concept of a living trust is to avoid the hassles of the probate process and create a very easy transition for loved ones when you die. But the transition is only going to be an easy one if the trust is up to date. If you have not reviewed your living trust in more than three or four years, do it now.

If you would like to learn more about living trusts and other estate planning matters, join me at 11am on the third Wednesday of each month at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue, North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

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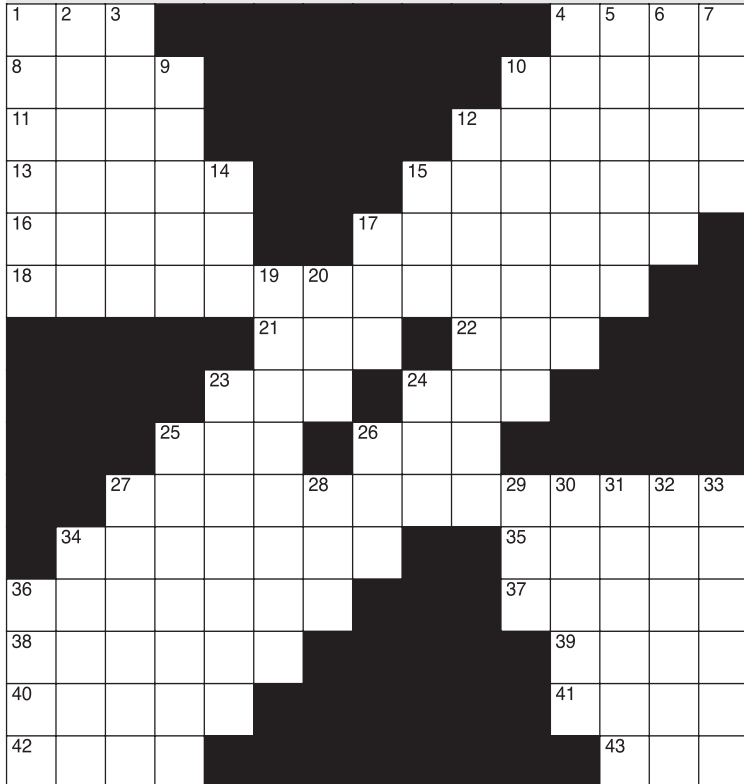


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# GAMES & PUZZLES



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. A power of perception
- 4. Slotted hinged metal plate
- 8. Popular crop
- 10. Siamese fighting fish
- 11. Larval crabs
- 12. South American mammal
- 13. Occur as a result of
- 15. Slavic language
- 16. An electric underground railway
- 17. Transporting
- 18. A direction
- 21. Opposite of start
- 22. Mock
- 23. People love and hate it (abbr.)
- 24. A people of Myanmar
- 25. A Queens ballplayer
- 26. Southern Thailand indigenous

person

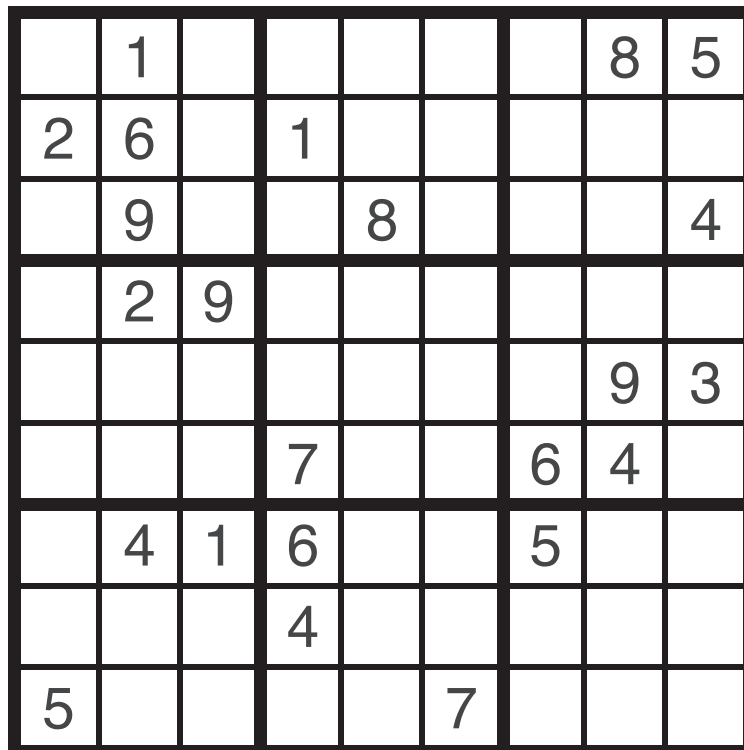
- 27. Famed actress
- 34. Thin strips
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Ridiculed
- 37. Having the shape of a cube
- 38. Came down
- 39. Indian religious god
- 40. "Bewitched" actress Moorehead
- 41. Leak through slowly
- 42. Buzzing insects
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

algebraic notation

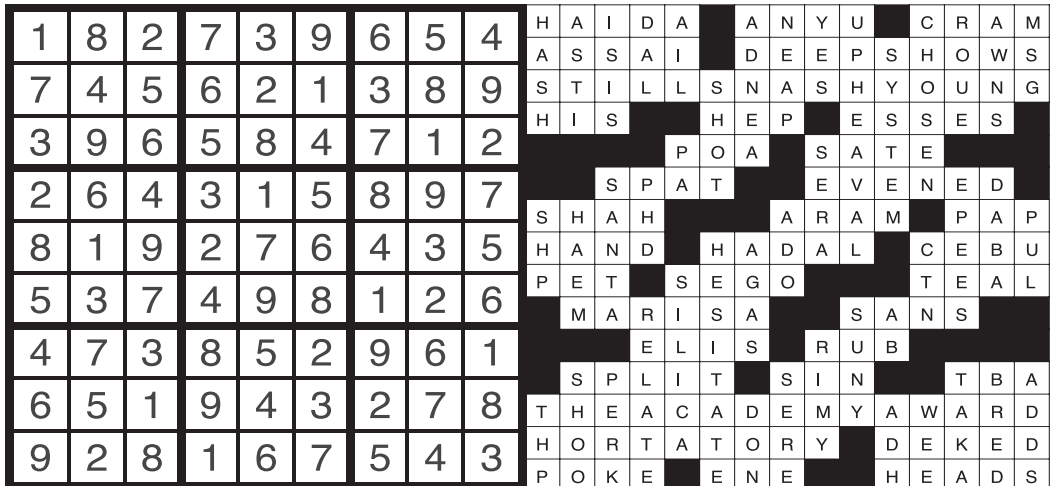
- 12. A room used for the activities of a group
- 14. The longest division of geological time
- 15. Car mechanics group (abbr.)
- 17. A barrel of liquid (abbr.)
- 19. Bound to do
- 20. Explosive
- 23. Ridicules
- 24. Adult male
- 25. Military personnel
- 26. French and Belgian river
- 27. Found in the sea
- 28. A share lost in default (abbr.)
- 29. Type of medication (abbr.)
- 30. City on the Rhine
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. They're in martinis
- 33. Get away
- 34. Wampum
- 36. Lacking brightness

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Skin condition
- 2. Earlier
- 3. Right away
- 4. Vomiting
- 5. Go to
- 6. "The Police" frontman
- 7. Bullfighting maneuver
- 9. Pacific island
- 10. A system of



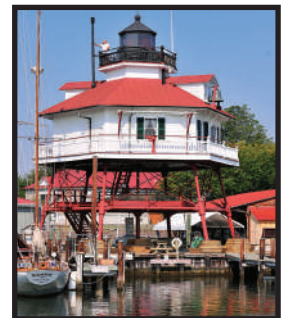
**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



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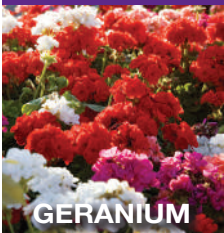
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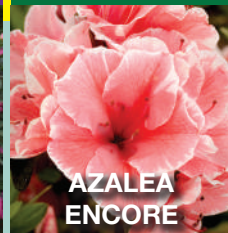
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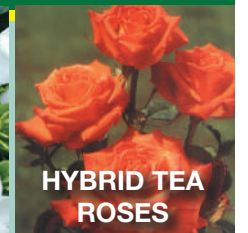
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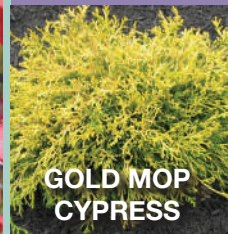
WHITE DOGWOOD



WEeping CHERRY



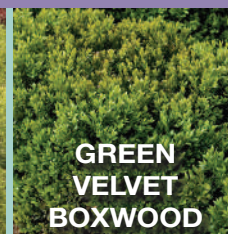
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