

Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

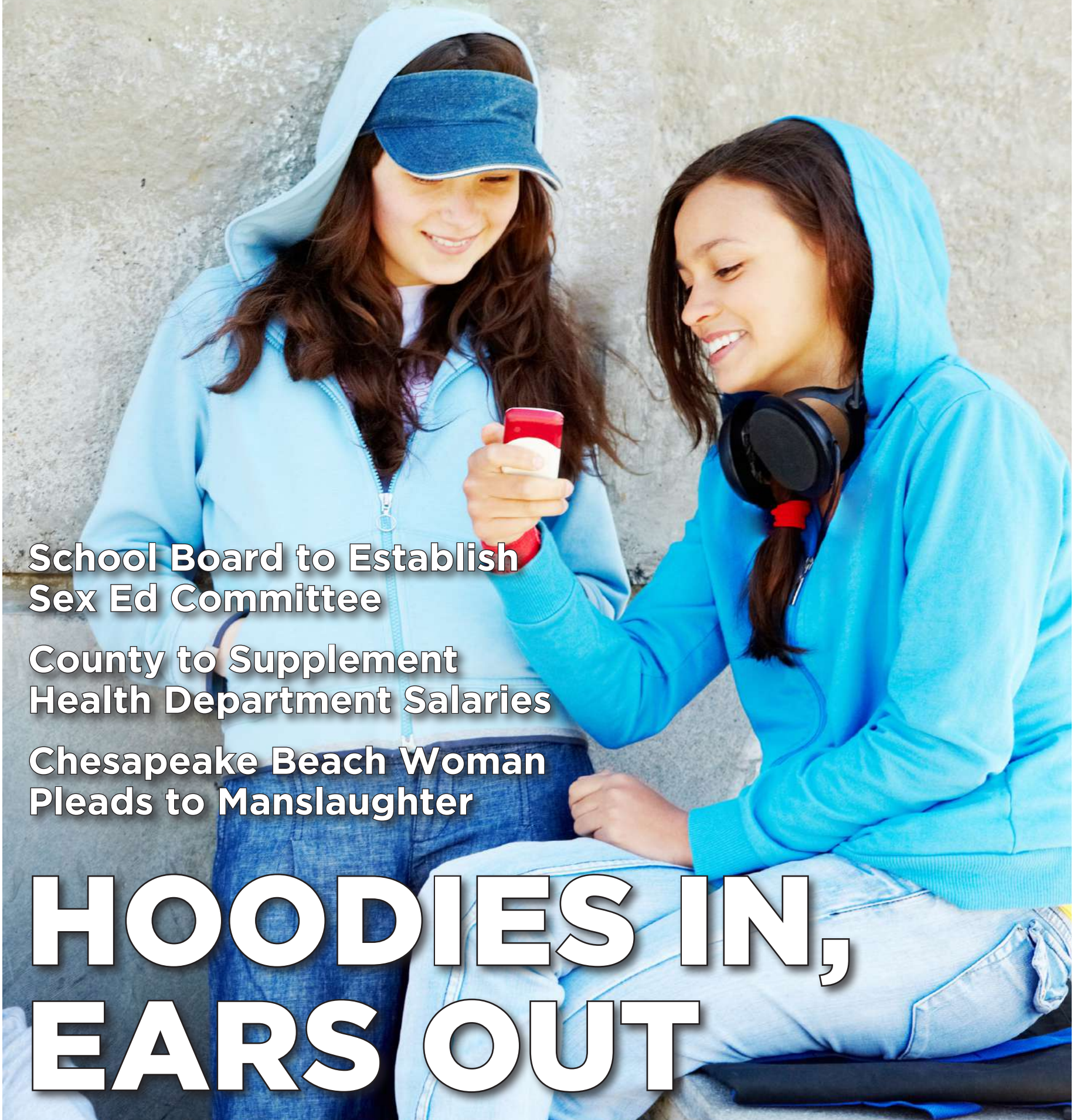
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**School Board to Establish
Sex Ed Committee**

**County to Supplement
Health Department Salaries**

**Chesapeake Beach Woman
Pleads to Manslaughter**

**HOODIES IN,
EARS OUT**



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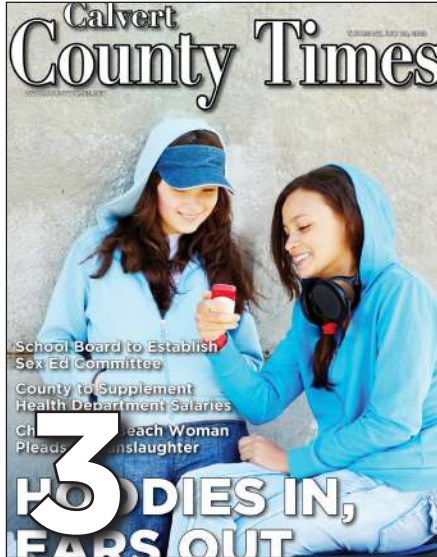
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“HAVING THINGS SUCH AS A HOOD, IT’S AN ADDITIONAL LEVEL OF COMFORT.”

STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD JORDAN HAYES



LOCAL 4
Sex Ed committee to be established



ON THE COVER 5
School board votes to allow hoodies in schools



LOCAL 5
County to bolster Health Department salaries

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 20	FRI, JUL 21	SAT, JUL 22	SUN, JUL 23
Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 70°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 87° Lo: 67°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 66°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 85° Lo: 67°
MON, JUL 24	TUE, JUL 25	WED, JUL 26	THU, JUL 27
Partly Cloudy Hi: 85° Lo: 67°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 86° Lo: 70°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 88° Lo: 71°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 87° Lo: 70°

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Schools Will Still Allow Hoodies

Ears Will Have to be Uncovered

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of Education has adopted a dress code policy that emphasizes what is being covered (or uncovered) instead of the article of clothing. The policy removes the dress code from the Code of Conduct as a standalone policy.

The new policy retains the allowance for hoodies as long as the wearer has his or her ears uncovered. The main concern about hoodies is that they can hide the existence of ear buds used for listening to phones or other devices instead of being attentive in the classroom.

That continuance of hoodies created the most controversy and in the end two board members – Lisa Grenis and Jana Post – created the 3-2 vote to retain hoodies.

Grenis said the school system advocates that “teachers can focus on teaching without uncomfortable burdens of dress code enforcement. Wearing a hoodie is an additional burden on teachers. And as I said at our last meeting, I went to a high school, I walked to one teacher’s classroom and walked back. And during that time, there were 11 children wearing a hoodie. All 11 children had it covering their ears. So, I really have a hard time with that.”

Board President Inez Claggett said she worked with the students, including the



Student Member of the Board Jordan Hayes

student board member, to come up with the policy.

Student member Jordan Hayes said, “We wake up very early and very tired when we get to school. So having things such as a hood, it’s an additional level of comfort.”

She added, “I personally don’t wear a hood, but students generally are going to be more prepared to learn when they’re more comfortable is what has been found in personal experience as well as throughout the schools in the county.”

Hayes said if hoodies are banned it will still be up to the teachers to enforce it.



School Board member Lisa Grenis

Grenis said, “I think we all have to also think about the safety issue of that. If you are having a child running down the hallway and they have a hoodie, are you going to be able to identify that child?”

“This goes beyond comfort,” she insisted. “This comes down to what’s appropriate and you know, it might be comfortable to wear pajamas and bring a blanket to school.”

Claggett said, “I think our system has more to worry about than students wearing hoodies and the minor disruptions it may cause. (Superintendent) Dr. Townsel has not brought forward to my attention that there has been mass comments or mass issues discussed with principals that are overseen by him and staff regarding issues with students running down the hallway with their hoods

up, trying to hide their faces.

“The fact that I did not receive a ton of public comments about removing the word hoodie from the policy put forward also kind of assures me that while there may be some teachers who feel that the word hood may not be the best article of clothing for students to wear to school, that there are teachers who are comfortable with students wearing hoods to school because they don’t find it to be a disruption and they know how to manage their classrooms.”

Board Vice President Antoine White said he has about 20 teachers and principals he routinely polls when things come up. “And the response I got was just like what Jordan was saying, some of the students wear (them) because in their world that’s their comfort thing. It is not really taking away from the education and things like that. And none of them actually said something about having to police that or having that being a large issue. So I just think that when my kids, they wear hoodies, it can be 70 almost, a little warmer, and kids wear hoodies. I don’t get it. I don’t try to fully understand it, but I go to some of these schools also and they’re wearing clothes that make them feel comfortable.”

White added, “I think that having students involved with this policy, I tend to kind of go with that.”

Claggett noted, “Moving forward, if changes need to be made to policies, we as board members will definitely make notes and call those items up for changes.”

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Owings Man Killed in Hit and Run

Anne Arundel County Police Department officers responded on July 17 at approximately 11:00 p.m. for a hit-and-run motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian on northbound Route 4 near Lower Pindell Road in Lothian.

A passerby observed a person lying in the roadway and called 911. The investigation revealed the pedestrian was walking in the travel lane when he was struck by an unknown vehicle. It is unknown how long the pedestrian was in the roadway prior to being discovered by the passerby. The pedestrian was pronounced deceased at the scene by Calvert County Fire Department personnel. He was identified as Aubrey Lee

Wallace, 74, of Owings.

The striking vehicle fled the scene in an unknown direction and was discovered unoccupied a short time later by the Prince George’s County Police Department. Prince George’s County Police Department located the driver of the vehicle, and Anne Arundel County Traffic Safety investigators responded. The driver was identified as a 22-year-old from Landover.

This crash is currently under investigation by the Anne Arundel County Police Department’s Traffic Safety Section which asks that anyone with information regarding this incident contact them at 410-222-4700.

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Sex Education Committee to be Established Superintendent to Determine Membership

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

At the insistence of Calvert County Board of Education member Jana Post, a new committee will be established to review the school system's Family Life curriculum and the materials used in it.

Post at a recent meeting insisted such a committee was required by state law, although several members expressed reservations about that. But at the school board's July 13 meeting, staff pointed out such a committee was required, although the school system did not have one.

At the meeting, School Superintendent Dr. Andrae Townsel said, "I don't think we've had a committee within the last 15 years of Family Life. I am committed as a superintendent to ensure that we have formed a joint family life committee starting this academic year and moving forward."

State law requires that the committee consist of educators and parents. Regarding membership, Townsel said, "My team and I will meet about that, and we'll get on top of it as soon as next week."

Post had earlier proposed some extensive changes to the Family Life curriculum review, which includes sex education. She then asked that the discussion be postponed so she could revise the proposal.

At the July 13 school board meeting, Chief Academic Officer Dr. Susan Johnson said she and Post met to go over the policy. She said, "So Mrs. Post wanted to ensure that we had a Family Life committee put in place and that the opt-out procedures for family life were clearly articulated and that there would be a form that was listed for opt-out."

With the superintendent's assurance that a committee would be formed, the board removed language on it from the policy. But Board President Inez Claggett said, "I think it is incumbent upon us as the board to hold our superintendent accountable. We know that this is required by law, so we should

assure that he forms that committee and that the appropriate members are appropriately placed on that committee and that they move to work on our Family Life curriculum moving forward."

The Family Life curriculum and a proposal still pending by Post to create more oversight of library material selection, have drawn extensive pro and con comments from the public. At the end of the July 13 meeting, board member Dawn Balinski commented on that dialogue.

She said, "I'm happy with the policy change we've made, which will give more chance for parental input into our Family Life and Human Sexuality courses. And it was good to highlight to the community the fact that we do have a reconsideration process in place for those who might find some of the material in our school's offensive."

"But when I look at the big picture about the responsibilities of a school system, one of the most gratifying parts that we've experienced over the past couple of months as far as getting the outpouring of emails sent to us from our staff and from the community, was their belief on how important it was for the schools to have open conversations with our students about what the reality is around them, and to keep kids as informed as possible so they know how to make correct choices going forward. I believe that not talking about things because it's uncomfortable, and therefore keeping kids in the dark about the world around them, will limit their potential to fully understand the society they live in and how they can best fit into it."

"Parents actually have the heaviest of responsibilities in the realm of keeping their kids well-informed. They're the ones who have to control all the inputs their children receive outside of school. From the worst of social media to the multitude of inappropriate internet sites to unfortunate neighborhood street talk, parents are the ones that could help their children understand the good from the harmful. So, it's on all of us to be vigilant about keeping our kids

safe, about teaching them right from wrong and keeping them well-informed about what they can expect to encounter in life. And it's on all of us to prepare them to be productive and successful citizens."

"Another good thing we saw from the emails we received was a consistent messaging on how important it is for the schools to teach kids early on that everyone has a different life experience, that the world is full of people who are different from us, who have different skin color, who practice different religions, who have different gender identities."

"I feel strongly that one of the most important jobs of your school system is to help kids get comfortable with that diversity and to teach them how to embrace it as something that will enrich their lives. Rejection of people who are different from us makes for a small, narrow field of vision, one that can limit the fullness of our lives and give rise to misunderstanding and needless hostility."

Balinski added, "Everyone on this board knows the importance of parental involvement in their children's education. It impresses upon the child how important education is, and it therefore makes our school stronger. It is my hope that we can



School board member Dawn Balinski

all come to an understanding that in order for our school system to make progress, not only on the academic front, but also on the behavioral front, we have to work together in the spirit of civility and respect in order to achieve our common goal of making Calvert County Public Schools one of the most high achieving school systems in Maryland."

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County to Supplement Health Department Salaries

Monies Will Match Federal Grant

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has agreed to provide an additional \$101,500 to supplement salaries for the Calvert County Health Department (CCHD).

Even though its name may seem to indicate otherwise, the health department is a state agency, and its workforce are state employees. But the county supplements the health department budget. During the BOCC's July 11 meeting, the state was criticized by the BOCC for not supplying enough funding for its employees.

In a memo to the BOCC for the meeting, Director of Finance and Budget Sharon Strand noted that CCHJD provides "behavioral health services, infectious disease control, and emergency preparedness. State salary rates that determine CCHD employee compensation are insufficient in certain critical areas. This has led to vacancies and high staff turnover in some essential positions."

Strand said, "There is precedence both in Calvert County and other Maryland counties for local governments to augment local health department pay for key positions. During the next four fiscal years, CCHD

has funding through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) that can be used to cost-share health department stipends with the Calvert County Government (CCG)."

Strand detailed the history of county funding for the health department: "In Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, excluding money specifically dedicated to Safe Harbor, the CCHD received \$2,365,288 from CCG. That dropped to \$2,201,306 in the wake of the recession (FY 2011). County funding has not increased since. If 2009 were adjusted for inflation, FY 2023 CCHD funding would total \$3,226,846. The CCHD is now receiving \$136,928 less than it received 15 years ago, and \$1,025,540 less than its 2009 allocation in inflation-adjusted dollars."

She said the county currently pays stipends for two CCHD positions.

Deputy Health Officer Champ Thomaskutty told the BOCC, "We've got a legacy of bringing in young crews fresh out of school here, training them and when they go on to greener pastures, in the past we could cope with that because there was a workforce population out there to replace them. What we're finding now is that workforce capacity isn't there anymore. We're being pinched."

He added, "People are still being recruited

away that we've trained to serve this community and it's getting us exposed in many of our visions. Not only are we not getting replacements for those roles, it squeezes us at leadership positions, people who've had experience understand the community, understand the processes in order to meet the specific needs of their programs. And so, we get pinched on the upper side too. This is basically a band aid to keep our leadership teams in there so we have folks that can mentor people, can train them, develop them to provide proper service to the community."

Commissioner Vice President Mike Hart agreed with the need to have people familiar with the community. He said, "What's frustrating is the state of Maryland acknowledges the gaps all the time, but they never put anything in place to fill the gaps. And then it always trickles down to the counties. And this is right here, this is where it's most impactful."

He added, "We put somebody in a job, and they understand the verbiage, but they don't know the position. And it's so obvious every time that there's anything that's outside the box. Not everything is going to be as simple as 1, 2, 3, and all of a sudden all they know how to do is go back, step one says this, step two says this, but they don't

know the position."

Commissioner Catherine Grasso asked if the state was providing any recruitment effort.

Thomaskutty responded, "They have a recruitment program. It doesn't really trickle down."

The commissioners unanimously approved the request. Strand explained, "The combined CCG stipends for 19 CCHD positions will be \$256,500. These stipends should be adjusted in line with future salary increases afforded to CCG staff. It is proposed that the CCHD fund \$150,000 toward this cost for each of the next four years FY 2024 – FY 2027 with the CCG funding the remainder during these four years (\$106,500 for FY 2024). The CCG already provides one of these employees a \$5,000 annual stipend, so there will only be \$101,500 in additional county expenses for FY2024."

She added, "The CDC Workforce Grant available to CCHD expires after FY 2027. It is further proposed that the CCG assume financial responsibility for funding the stipends in full beginning with FY 2028."

The monies for the stipends will come from increased revenue from interest and dividends.

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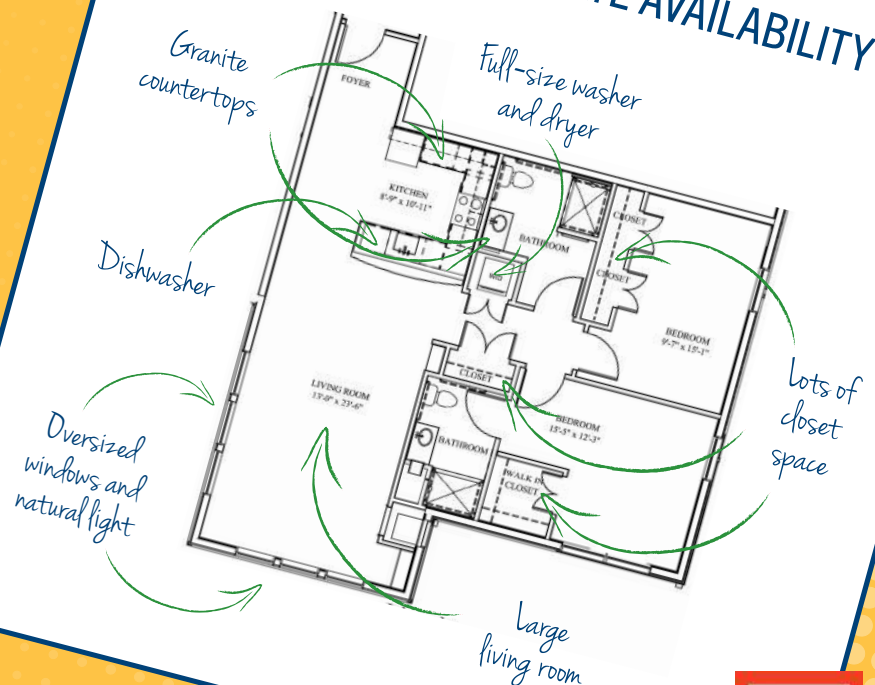
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What's Coming to Calvert

The following list of pending site plans was presented to the Calvert County Planning Commission at their July 19 meeting. That means that the proposals are on the list for consideration by the planning commission at a future meeting. The meeting was in a hybrid form, both virtually and in person at the Harriet E. Brown Community Center (HEBCC), 901 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick.

1) CSPR-142842, **Sunset Terrace Condominiums**, Mixed Use, located at 14474 & 14478 South Solomons Island Road, Solomons, on two lots totaling .42 acres, zoned Solomons Town Center. Proposed 19,191-square-foot, three-story building for mixed use: 1,000-square-foot commercial retail space and 18,191 square feet for eight condominiums with parking and site improvements. This project is on public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted July 27, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

2) CSPR-142856, **Solomons Condominiums**, located at 14516 & 14518 South Solomons Island Road, Solomons, on two lots totaling .67 acres, zoned Solomons Town Center. Proposed 34,483-square-foot, four-story building for mixed use: 2,450-square-foot commercial retail space and 32,033 square feet for 13 multi-family condominiums with parking and site improvements. This project is in the Critical Area and on public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted July 27, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

3) CSPR-142881, **Prince Frederick Town Center South, Shopping Plaza**, located on South Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, on 115-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Forest District. This project will have private water but will utilize public sewer. Proposed 75,099 square feet of disturbance for commercial retail space with parking and site improvements. The concept submittal was accepted September 28, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

4) CSPR-142807, **655 STR Gymnastics & Dance**, located at 655 Skinners Turn Road, Owings, on multiple lots totaling 1.9 acres, zoned light industrial (I-1), using private water and sewer. Proposed 10,800-square-foot building for holding classes in gymnastics (7,400sf) and dance (3,400sf). The submitted plan indicates a possible address change due to dual road frontage. The concept submittal was accepted March 23, 2022 and has been granted a one-year exten-

sion. Agent: Wilkerson & Associates

5) CSPR-142988, **St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department**, located on Calvert Beach Road, Saint Leonard, on a 5.076-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Village District Subarea B. This project will have public water but will utilize a private septic system. Proposed 4.1 acres of disturbance for demolition of the existing pavilion and construction of a 2-story, 40,280-sf fire & rescue service building with 8 double loaded apparatus bays. The concept submittal was accepted June 28, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett

The following Major Subdivision Proposed Project List for Upcoming Review was also submitted at the same meeting.

1) SD-142770, **Lusby Villas**, Lot 1, located on Lusby Parkway in Lusby. One commercial lot proposed on one parcel consisting of 24.87 acres, Zoned Lusby Town Center, Village Residential Office District, Tier I. The Preliminary Plan submittal was accepted January 26, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

2) SD-142955, **Armory Towns**, located on Armory Road in Prince Frederick. This project is on two residential parcels totaling .85 acres, Zoned Prince Frederick Town Center, Old Town Transition District. A total of nine townhouses are proposed, each lot size averaging 1,764 sf, as well as a 6,59sf playing field and 400-f mini-park. The project will utilize public water and sewer. The Preliminary Plan submittal was accepted April 26, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett

Concept submittals have been removed from this list. There is no assurance that those projects will reach Preliminary Plan status. If/when they do, they will be placed on this list under their Preliminary Plan project number.



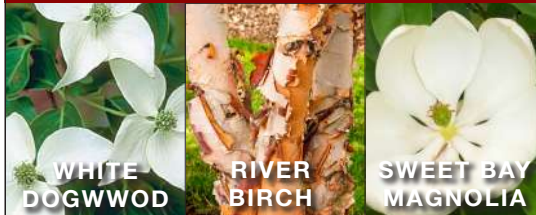
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CALVERT SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of July 3– July 9, 2023, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,653 calls for service throughout the community.

Burglary: 23-48186

On July 6, 2023, Deputy Aurich responded to the 2100 block of Regent Court in Dunkirk, for the report of a burglary that had already occurred. Investigation revealed an unknown suspect (s) forced entry to the residence and ransacked the victim's bedroom and attempted to take the PlayStation. Two Apple Watches and prescription medication were stolen. The estimated value of stolen property is \$750.00.

Burglary: 23-48364

On July 7, 2023 at approximately 5:05 a.m., deputies responded to The Smoke Shack located at 10 Creston Lane in Solomons, for a burglary in progress. Deputies arrived on scene and observed forced entry to the front door and a side window of the business. A juvenile male was detained hiding inside the business. The juvenile was transported to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and charged accordingly. The estimated value of damaged property is \$1500.00.

Damaged Property: 23-47544

On July 4, 2023, DFC Durnbaugh responded to the 2000 block of Huntingfields Drive in Huntingtown, for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised sometime between 9 p.m. on July 3rd and 8 a.m. on July 4th, an unknown suspect or animal caused damaged to the victim's vehicle. Scratches and bite marks were observed around the rear tire well. Fur from an animal was located near the damaged area. The estimated value of damaged property is unknown at this time.

Damaged Property: 23-48217

On July 6, 2023, DFC Krueger responded to the 3900 block of 5th Street in North Beach, for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised sometime between 12:30 p.m. and 2:46 p.m., an unknown sus-

pect(s) broke out the rear window in the victim's vehicle. The estimated value of damaged property is \$500.00.

Property Destruction: 23-47318

On July 3, 2023, Deputy Fleenor responded to the Safeway located at 80 W. Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised an unknown male inside the store became irate and while attempting to leave walked on top of a table located at the front exit containing baked goods and threw them on the ground. The estimated value of damaged goods is \$80.00.

Motor Vehicle Theft: 23-48818

On July 9, 2023, at 11:12 a.m., Deputy Tavares responded to the Weis located at 13300 HG Trueman Road in Solomons, for the report of a vehicle theft. Investigation revealed the victims entered the store to buy groceries and when they left the store approximately 30 minutes later, their vehicle was gone from the parking lot. The car was left unlocked and the key was inside the victim's purse inside the vehicle. The owners were able to track the missing vehicle through an app. The app stated the vehicle was at an address in Lexington Park. Detectives responded to Lexington Park and located the vehicle unattended. In addition to the car being stolen, \$570 worth of personal property inside the vehicle was also taken. The investigation is ongoing.

Theft: 23-47331

On July 3, 2023, Deputy Fleenor responded to the iStorage Self Storage located at 5270 Cutter Court in Prince Frederick, for a reported burglary that had already occurred. Contact was made with the complainant who advised the lock on one of the storage units had been cut and the unit was burglarized. Carpet tools, Christmas decorations, and a cutter torch were among the stolen items. The estimated value of stolen property is \$7,000.00.

Theft: 23-47377

On July 3, 2023, DFC Durnbaugh

responded to the Safeway located at 10276 Southern Maryland Boulevard in Dunkirk, for the report of a theft in progress. Investigation revealed a female suspect entered the store and was observed acting suspicious. The suspect exited the store passing all points of purchase with 73 individual grocery items. Witnesses observed the suspect ran into the woods. The suspect was described a white female with blonde hair, wearing a pink top and jeans. Store management was able to recover the stolen item valued at \$720.00.

Theft: 23-48696

On July 8, 2023, DFC Wilder responded to Fox Run Liquors located at 701 N. Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised on July 7th around noon, two unknown black females were inside the store and stole 3 small bottles of Sutter Home Wine and placed them in a handbag. The females passed all points of sale, failing to pay for the items. Both subjects were wearing dark colored clothing and one of the females had a cloth wrap around her hair. The total value of stolen items is \$6.99.

ARRESTS



Robert Allen Rice

On July 7, 2023, DFC Wilder responded to the Weis Grocery Store located at 210 Village Center Drive in Lusby, for the reported minor accident. While en route, DFC Wilder observed **Robert Allen Rice**, 56 of no fixed address, on a motorized grocery cart in the area. Upon arriving at Weis, a store employee reported a male suspect had stolen a motorized scooter. DFC Wilder was advised a citizen reported Rice to hopped on the motorized scooter in the Weis parking lot. Investigation revealed Rice had been previously trespassed from the store. Rice was advised of the trespass

order in place and was taken into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Trespassing: Private Property.



Michael Phillip Wilson

On July 8, 2023, DFC Wilder responded to the 11200 block of Little Cove Point Road in Lusby, for the report of a disorderly subject. The complainant advised an unknown male came to her home and was being rude and disorderly and took one of her nice glasses and walked off in an unknown direction. DFC Ostazeski arrived on scene and observed a subject identified as **Michael Phillip Wilson**, 36 of Solomons, walking on the side of Little Cove Point Road. Deputies made contact with Wilson who immediately became irate shouting profanities. Wilson continued to yell and curse attracting the attention of motorists passing by on the roadway. After numerous attempts to speak with Wilson, Wilson failed to comply with deputies' orders and continued to act in an unruly disorderly manner. Wilson was placed into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Failure to Obey a Reasonable/Lawful Order, Intoxicated Public Disturbance, and Resisting Arrest.

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

Anyone with information about these incidents is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800 and reference the case number provided. Citizens may remain anonymous thru the 'Submit a Tip' feature on the Calvert County Sheriff's Office mobile app. To download, visit <https://apps.myocv.com/share/a39520678>. Tipsters may also email ccsotips@calvertcountymd.gov

Chesapeake Beach Woman Pleads to Manslaughter



The plea stemmed from a March 22, 2022, incident in which Wagaman got involved in an argument with her 74-year-old moth-

er-in-law. Madison G. Wagaman, 35, of Chesapeake Beach entered a guilty plea on July 7 in Calvert County Circuit Court to involuntary manslaughter.

The plea

er-in-law. Wagaman ultimately struck the victim in the face, causing her to fall to the ground and hit her head. The victim was transported to the hospital. She died on April 1, 2022.

Involuntary manslaughter is a felony carrying a maximum punishment of 10 years incarceration. Sentencing is set for October 1, 2023, before Judge Mark S. Chandler. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant State's Attorney Rebecca N. Cordero.

Jury Hands Down Burglary Conviction

Randell Jamal Wright, 35, of Temple Hills was convicted by a Calvert County jury on July 12 of burglary and five related charges.

Evidence revealed that Wright, along with two others, broke into the Jewelry Exchange in Dunkirk in the early morning hours of July 1, 2022. Once inside, they ransacked the store with a sledgehammer and stole inventory valued at approximately \$20,000.

Wright is scheduled for sentencing on August 18, 2023. He is facing a maximum

possible sentence of 46 years imprisonment. In addition, Wright has pending violations of probation in Montgomery and Howard counties.

Calvert County State's Attorney, Robert Harvey would like to commend investigators from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and Assistant State's Attorney Benjamin G. Lerner for their hard work in this case. At trial the State presented 12 witnesses and over 300 pieces of physical evidence.

Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thu, Jul 20

Teen Fantasy - Bring What You're Reading Book Club

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
6-7 p.m.

For the love of reading, we will share books that we are reading in a particular genre! This month is Fantasy! Join us as we exchange our current and recent Fantasy obsessions, giving fellow teens the inside scoop on what's worth checking out. So, grab your favorite Fantasy and get ready to share! A fun activity and snacks will round out the evening. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tween Summer Book Fest

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
6-7 p.m.

Join other book lovers during this fun summer book club! Each month we will read a new book and come together to discuss, play games and do activities. Did we mention there will be snacks?! First ten registrants get a copy of the book to keep! Recommended for ages 10-12. July's book is "City Spies" by James Ponti. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Social Security: Retirement

Zoom w/ in-person option
Hosted by St. Mary's County Library
5:30-6:30 p.m. en Español
6:30-7:30 p.m. in English

The Social Security Administration provides protection for workers and their families. Programs provide monthly income to seniors, workers with a disability, children with disabilities, and families in which a spouse or parent has died. We invite you to this virtual presentation to learn more about retirement eligibility requirements, family benefits, options, and the application process. Presentation by Diana Varela, Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration followed by Q&A. This event will not be recorded. If you'd like to use the wifi and library laptop to participate in this Zoom event, please choose "in-person" Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sat, Jul 22

Free Paper Shredding Event

Northern Middle School
2954 Chaneyville Road, Owings
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, is hosting free paper shredding events for county residents and businesses. Proof of residency or business location is required. All paper must be removed from plastic bags and cardboard boxes prior to shredding. Paper clips and staples are acceptable. Binders and binder clips are not acceptable.

Businesses are permitted up to five banker boxes of paper per business (or the equivalent volume of five banker boxes in alternate containers). There is no limit for residents. Certificates of destruction will be provided if requested.

Shredding events are held monthly. For information about other recycling events, call the Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, at 410-326-0210 or visit www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Recycle.

Mon, Jul 24

Exploring Google Calendar

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Please join us for an interactive workshop on getting comfortable using Google Chrome and Google Calendar! Tired of confusing dates and missing appointments you scheduled months ago? Learn how to keep track of important events and always be on time with Google Calendar! Google Calendar is a time-management and scheduling calendar service developed by Google., 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tween Summer Book Fest

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join other book lovers during this fun summer book club! Each month we will read a new book and come together to discuss, play games and do activities. Did we mention there will be snacks?! First ten registrants get a copy of the book to keep! Recommended for ages 10-12. July's book is "City Spies" by James Ponti. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Monday Night Movie Musings

Zoom
7-8 p.m.

This month's movie is: "A Town Called Panic". It is available on Kanopy through Calvert Library. Watch the movie prior to the Zoom event and join us for a lively discussion on Monday night. Please register to receive an emailed link to the Zoom event an hour before it begins. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Tue, Jul 25

Summer STEAM

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
2:30-3:30 p.m.

Combat the heat and join our interactive SummerSTEAM hour as we build a strong community through books, activities and a snack. For kids K-5th grade. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Wed, Jul 26

Job Seeker Resources

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Maryland Department of Labor, Veterans Program, Senior Community Service Employment, and Job Service representatives will be in person to meet with those seeking employment or career change. Walk ins welcome on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & More

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us! Please register. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Boomers and Beyond

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Offered by Maryland Department of Labor, this workshop is for the experienced, seasoned jobseeker who wants to step into a new role! It explores going after the dream, making your skillset fit into a new career path and, most importantly, working around those subtle age and over-experience barriers. Registration ends 24 hours before the event. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Reading Buddies

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
6:30-7:30 p.m.

At this event, elementary aged children will do fun activities and read out loud to teen volunteers. Teen volunteers can earn one (1) service learning hour for participat-

ing. It's a great way to socialize and build reading confidence! Check the website for details on how to register as a reader or a teen volunteer., 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Thu, Jul 27

Waterside Performance Series: LEE BRICE

Calvert Marine Museum
7 p.m.

CMA and ACM award winner will take the stage for CMM's third Waterside Music Series concert. Lee has taken nine radio singles to Number One: "A Woman Like You," "Hard to Love," "I Drive Your Truck," "I Don't Dance," "Drinking Class," "Rumor," "I Hope You're Happy Now," "One of Them Girls," and "Memory I Don't Mess With." Opening for Brice is multi-platinum selling artist **Elle King**. Her unique blend of rock, blues, and country has captivated audiences around the world. Gates open at 5 p.m. with food and beverages onsite. Cost of tickets are \$39 - \$89 (additional fees apply).

Little Minnows: Shark Relatives

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

This month's theme is Shark Relatives, for preschoolers ages 3 - 5, accompanied by an adult. This program focuses on one of the museum's three themes. Join us for story time and a craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. The cost is free with museum admission. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive.

Ongoing

Teen Book Box Pickup

Calvert Library (All Branches)
July 15 - 31

During the summer, we will be checking out free boxes each month to teens who register. Inspired by subscription boxes like OwlCrate and Loot Crate, each box will have a theme and contain a library book (that needs to be returned), a free book (to keep!), a fun activity, and a snack. Boxes can be picked up from July 15 to July 31. The theme for July is "I Ship It". Boxes can be picked up from July 15 to July 31. Each library branch is participating, so be sure to choose the one you want to pick your box up at! We will have a limited supply each month, so if registration fills up, add your name to the wait list. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

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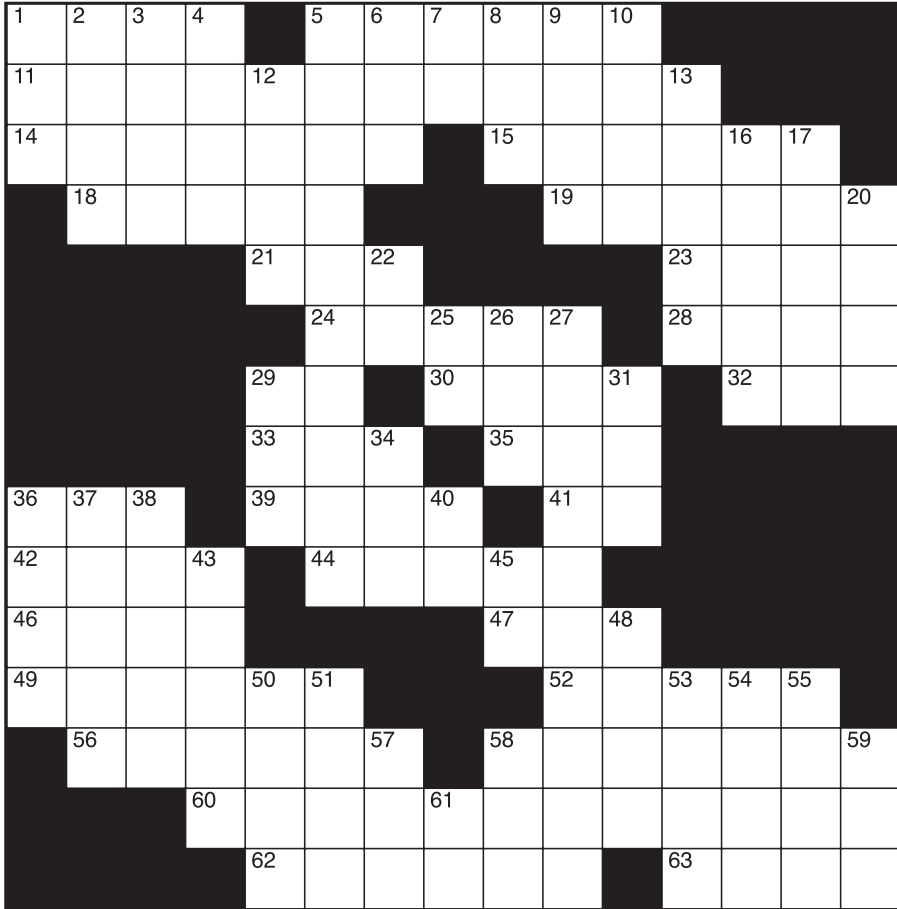
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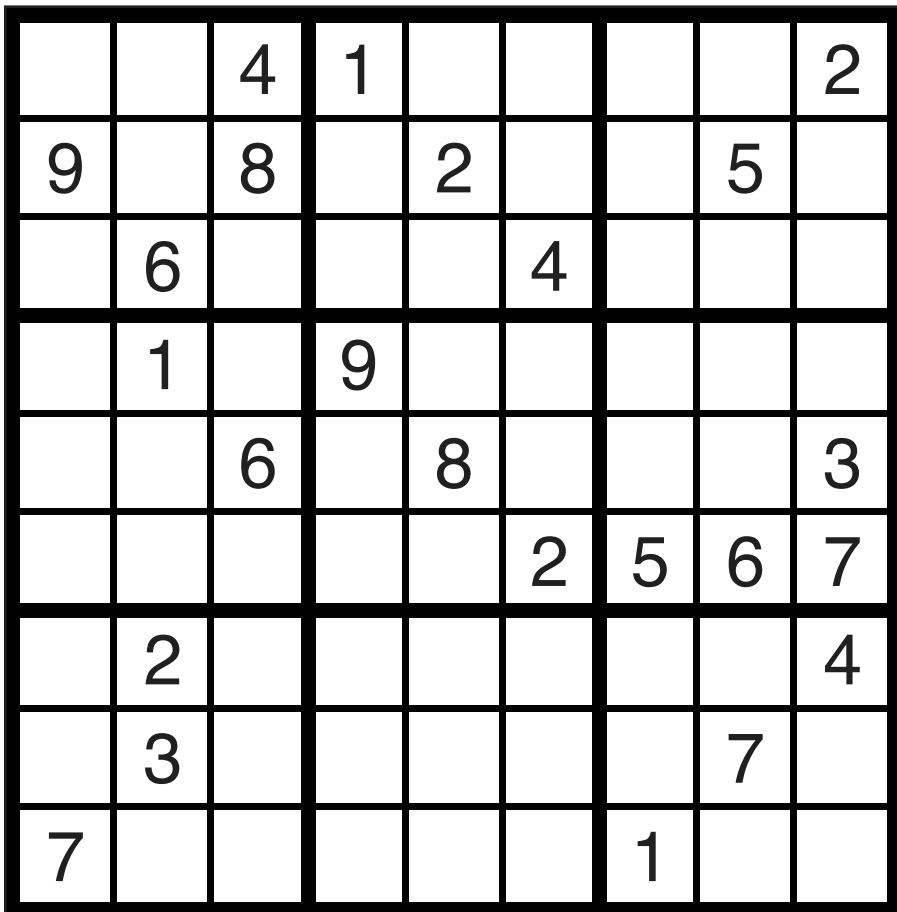


CLUES ACROSS

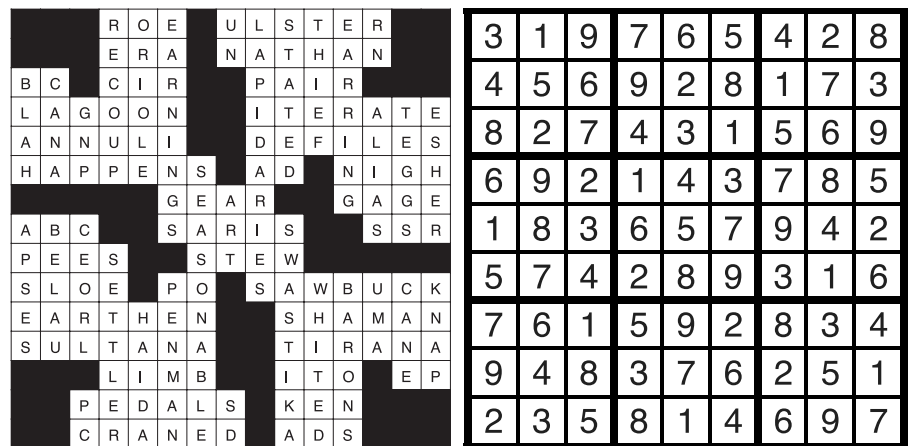
- 1. Commoner
- 5. Tea leaf
- 11. They save you a table
- 14. Submissions
- 15. Secretly revealed
- 18. Personification of the sea (Norse)
- 19. Unreal
- 21. No seats available
- 23. Bangladeshi currency
- 24. Leaders
- 28. Famed garden
- 29. Denotes past
- 30. Not living
- 32. Midway between south and southeast
- 33. Small island (British)
- 35. Woman (French)
- 36. Wife
- 39. Two-toed sloth
- 41. Blood group
- 42. Soaks
- 44. Biu-Mandara language of Cameroon
- 46. Japanese prefecture
- 47. Place to be during a rock concert
- 49. Fully grown humans
- 52. Emaciation
- 56. Sparkling
- 58. Fruits you peel
- 60. Derived from a noun
- 62. Popular items to grill
- 63. Port in Yemen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Before
- 2. Actress Dunham
- 3. This (Spanish)
- 4. Director Peter
- 5. Dominant
- 6. English artists' society (abbr.)
- 7. NY Giants legend
- 8. It's in the ground
- 9. No No No
- 10. Pesky insect
- 12. Danish-American muckraking journalist
- 13. Kids love to do it
- 16. Good Gosh!
- 17. Fakes
- 20. A citizen of Denmark
- 22. Mystic syllable
- 25. Commercial
- 26. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 27. Helpers
- 29. Water (French)
- 31. Young woman
- 34. Red-brown sea bream
- 36. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 37. Comprehends
- 38. Walk with confidence
- 40. Home of the Flyers
- 43. Appetizer
- 45. News organization
- 48. Source of the Nile
- 50. A way to march
- 51. Soluble ribonucleic acid
- 53. Egyptian bull-god
- 54. Children's author Blyton
- 55. Baseball pitching stat
- 57. Rude young person
- 58. Table napkin
- 59. Monetary unit in Asia
- 61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Thu, Jul 20

Golf Cart Raffle Sales for 2nd Dist. VFD&RS

Raffle Tickets for Sale until Nov. 8th
Drawing Wednesday Nov. 8 at 7 PM

Tickets: 1 for \$15.00 or 3 for \$35.00; do not need to be present to win.

For tickets and info, contact Dee Dee at 240-561-2750 or email fundraising@sdfvdrs.org

Golf Cart Specs:

- 2023 Electric Vehicle STAR-Classic 36-2 + 2
- Metallic silver with beige seats and top
- 4 Passengers with rear flip seat
- Six 6 volt batteries
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- Horn, reverse beep, parking brake
- High / low-speed switch
- Battery indicator
- Tinted windshield
- Off-board charger
- 2 Year bumper to bumper warranty
- 4 Year suspension warranty

Into the Woods

New Town Players
21744 South Coral Dr., Lexington Park
8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine
Originally directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Orchestration by Jonathan Tunick
James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim take everyone's favorite storybook characters and bring them together for a timeless yet relevant piece... and a rare modern classic. The Tony Award-winning book and score are both enchanting and touching.

The story follows a Baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's Festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the Baker and his wife learn they cannot have a child because of a Witch's curse, they embark on a journey to break the curse. Everyone's wish is granted, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later with disastrous results.

One of Sondheim's most famous works, Into the Woods, is a musically sophisticated show with the opportunity to feature actors

adept at dark comedy. Designers will especially enjoy highlighting the fantastical elements of this magical world.

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Show Times: Thursdays-Saturdays 8:00 PM, Sundays 3:30 PM

Adults \$18; Special Discount Groups \$15; Children 6-11 \$13; Under 5 free (not recommended for young children)
NTP Members \$16

Sat, Jul 22

Zinnia Zuperbloom

Goldpetal Farms
37254 Manor Rd., Chaptico
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

We're very excited to bring you the first ever mid-Atlantic Zinnia Zuperbloom Feast O'Flowers! We're celebrating the mighty zinnia and all things floral.

What is a Zuperbloom, you ask? Why, it's when our amazing 2-acre collection of zinnias reach their bloomin' zenith of beauty and splendor. If you visited Goldpetal Farms last year, the zinnia garden is double the acreage and triple the variety. It'll be

zupendous!

We are expecting thousands of our butterfly friends to be in attendance. PLUS, you'll enjoy over 7+ acres of sunflowers and our signature sunflower maze. The photography opportunities will be unlike any other.

Flower Fields & Sunflower Maze:

- 2+ Acres of cut-flower Zinnia & Sunflower gardens (multiple varieties, rainbow of colors)
- 7+ Acres Sunflower Maze

Additional:

- Local food & bev trucks
- Ice cream crafter
- Nature craft vendors
- Photography vendors
- Educational talks and walks
- Photo opps
- Historic farm setting

Admission Paid On-site:

- General: \$15 age 7+ / kids 6 and under are free
 - Military with ID: \$12
 - Groups of 5+ age 7 and up: \$12 each
- Cut-Your-Own Flower Costs
- Sunflowers: \$1 per stem, \$5 for six
 - Zinnias: \$.50 per stem

goldpetalfarms.com/zinnia-zuperbloom/

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\$9.99

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★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library



Library 101: Libraries for Parents

Are you and your family new to the library? Are you a longtime reader who wants to instill that same love of reading in your children? Then this is the class for you! Join us at Leonardtown Library on Saturday, July 29 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. We'll go over everything from navigating the physical Leonardtown Library and searching the catalog to using your library account and smartphone apps to all of the online resources and other library services that you have access to. You'll leave with a whole collection of bookmarks and printouts to walk you through everything and also inform you about anything we may not have time to fully touch on. This program is aimed specifically towards parents, so we will be paying specific attention to our library services that are geared towards children and families. This includes the Beanstack app/website, the 500 by 5 program, the 100 by Graduation pro-

gram, our summer reading program, all of the different storytime types that we offer, and so much more. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Khaleshia Thorpe-Price, Storyteller

Everyone's part of the story in this interactive performance of "Anansi & the Moss-Covered Rock." Warm up your body, voice, & imagination, then travel to the African Savanna, where Anansi the Spider has a story to tell. Two sessions on Monday, July 31, one at Lexington Park Library from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. and the second at the Value-Added Building (the big barn) at the Barns at New Market farmers' market, 29133 Thompson Corner Rd, Charlotte Hall, MD 20659 from 2 - 2:45 p.m. Most seating will be on the floor- feel free to bring a blanket! Space may be limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Summer Performing Arts events are supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council.

Introduction To AI: What Is It?

Have you ever wondered just what is AI? Hear about topics like automation, Chat GPT, and what it means for you. There will be interactive demos as well. Join us at Charlotte Hall Library on Thursday, July 27 from 6 - 7:15 p.m. Introduction To AI is a primer on entry topics on Artificial Intelligence. Laptops with Experiments with Google will be setup and used to show the potential of AI, plus a demonstration of Chat GPT. Register on www.stmalib.org.

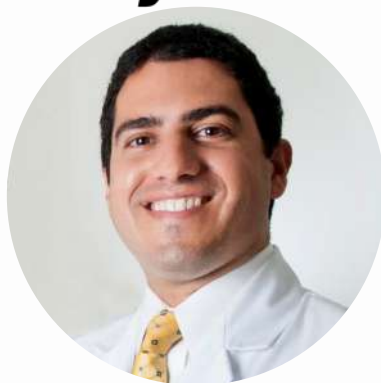
Email Basics

Join us for this introductory class to learn how to use emails at Lexington Park Library on Tuesday, August 1 from 6 - 7 p.m. If you are interested in learning how to set up an email, in addition to sending, receiving, formatting, and understanding how to attach documents, cc people, and organize your emails, this session will introduce the basics of email, including Gmail, Yahoo, and Outlook. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Embroidery for Costuming & Cosplay: Fabric Manipulation & Character Creation

Embroidery has been a well-loved art form since around 30,000 BC and is now gaining popularity amongst cosplayers and costumers alike. Learn what you can do to elevate your garb to the next level at Leonardtown Library on Thursday, August 3 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Jill Nedeau of the Embroiderers' Guild of America will be here to answer any questions that you may have, give advice, and share her expertise in how to use the art of embroidery to get yourself ready for any upcoming cons, festivals, and just general costumed fun. Jill will give a quick overview of basic stitches and share inspiration for what embroidery can do for you. We will also have time set aside at the end for her to answer any questions that you may have and give advice on current projects that you may have in the works. Come ready with questions and to discuss!

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In Remembrance

Continued from pg. 19

Jean Lawrence, 95



Jean Elizabeth Lawrence, 95, of Valley Lee, MD passed away on June 23, 2023.

She was born Jean Elizabeth Cutchember on June 17, 1928, to the late

Leo Cutchember and Lillian Cutchember-Brown, and lived in Valley Lee, Maryland her entire life. She was educated through the St. Mary's County school system at the School Number One in Valley Lee, MD., St. Peter Claver Catholic School in St. Inigoes and Cardinal Gibbons Institute, Ridge Maryland.

Jean married the love of her life Carroll Cornelius Lawrence on June 22, 1946, through that union they were blessed to have 11 children, Robert Lawrence (deceased), Joan Dorsey, Ronald Lawrence, Lorraine Butler, Allen Lawrence, James Lawrence, Larry Lawrence, Jeffrey Lawrence, Elaine Lawrence-Langley, Carl Lawrence and Diana Lawrence. 19 Loving Grandchildren, 33 Great Grandchildren and 5 Great-Great Grandchildren. Jean also leaves siblings Leonard Hill (deceased) Donald Cutchember, John Kelly Cutchember (deceased), Geraldine Gabriel, LaVern Brown (deceased), Charlene Clark and Godson Irving Cutchember along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and many who loved her "Special Friends".

Jean enjoyed sharing her Knowledge as an African American Woman 95 years of St. Mary's County's history. Strong in Gods faith she was a faithful member of St. George's Catholic Church, she would read the Bible every morning, Daily scripture and Daily Bread with her coffee and doughnuts sitting on her porch, she always volunteered at the Annual Crab Cake and Fall church dinners, she loved to play Gospel music, Jazz and Oldies But Goodies, she loved to paint everything and plant flowers and gardening, as well as designing her own nails looking as if she had just left the Nail Salon. Her signature she was a Women of many Hats, all Colors and all kind, never left home without one. She loved going to the water/

beach for Meditation and relaxation.

Mama was One of a Kind, Smart full of Wisdom, Beautiful, Elegant Sophisticated Lady, Comical and Hilarious, she loved to cook and share with her friends and neighbors. Her favorite song and phrase was "Party Until the Lights Go Out"

Mama Your Light will forever shine in Each and Every one of US.

Home Going SERVICE: VIEWING at 11:00 AM-FUNERAL at 12:00PM on

Saturday JULY 15, 2023 at St. George's Catholic Church, 19199 St. Gorge's Church Rd. Valley Lee MD 20692. Officiating "Father Paul Nguyen"

Linda Stewart, 75



Linda Ann Stewart passed away on July 5th, 2023, after a 15 year battle with metastatic breast cancer. She was 75 years old.

Linda was born on December 21, 1947 to Marjorie Jean and Henry Gordon Trimble. She was a graduate of Bridgewater State College and the University of Notre Dame.

Linda was a beloved public school teacher in St. Mary's County, who began as a kindergarten teacher in 1986. She retired as a 5th grade teacher from Mechanicsville Elementary in 2010.

In retirement, she achieved a lifelong dream of publishing a historical murder mystery series, beginning with "Snow's Rest: A Maryland Mystery" in 2016. She painted watercolors, traveled every year to the beach, and enjoyed taking her friends to lunch.

Linda was grateful to the care and support of the nurses and doctors of St. Mary's Hospital and HOSPICE. She also had amazing neighbors: Anne Marum, Tracy Noel Clinning, Mary and Mary Kay Handy, and Laura Guido.

Linda is survived by her three children: Lisa Ann Gunter, Laura Ann Stewart, and Hamilton Michael Stewart. In lieu of flowers, the family requests you consider a donation to the Church of Ascension Food Pantry or the Maryland Food Bank.



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For details and to place your notice of remembrance, call 301-373-4125 for assistance.



REMEMBRANCES
IN PRINT & ONLINE

County Times
St. Mary's County - Calvert County

To schedule an obituary in the County Times, submit text and picture to aldailey@countytimes.net by noon on Tuesdays for publication on Thursdays. Any submissions received after this deadline may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Bobby Quade, 73



Robert Lee Quade, Sr., "Bobby", 73, of Leonardtown, MD passed away on July 13, 2023 at Hospice of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD. Born on August 18, 1949,

he was the son of the late Mary Elizabeth Russell Quade and the late David Roy Quade, Sr. Bobby was the loving husband of Marjorie Elizabeth Bell Quade, whom he married on June 21, 1969 in Leonardtown, MD, and who preceded him in death on October 4, 2022. He is survived by his son, Robert Lee Quade, Jr., of Leonardtown, MD, his step-son John Michael Klear (Joan Marie Wise) of Leonardtown, MD, as well as his grandchildren Paul Klear, Lindsey Norris, and Brennan Norris. Bobby was preceded in death by his step-daughter Deborah Marlene Klear Norris.

Bobby, AKA "Pop," was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, MD. He worked on the night shift as an HVAC Technician at the Rayburn, Longworth, and Cannon Buildings in Washington, DC, retiring in 1999 after 25 years of service.

Bobby loved his family and was always there when you needed him and many times, before you could even ask him for help. Bobby and Margie, the love of his life, enjoyed going to yard sales and eating out. They were married for 53 years before Margie died. They enjoyed many road trips together and just traveling the roads. Their favorite places were West Virginia and Ocean City, Maryland. When you saw one of them, the other was close by. Bobby and Robbie did windshield work together throughout the Tri-County area for over two decades. He enjoyed camping at the NASCAR races with family and friends. Bobby enjoyed gardening, yard work, and working on his Chevrolet trucks, especially his 1984 box body that he called Silver.

Bobby is now with Margie and Marlene and they are starting their new journey in the skies above, looking down on us. So, the next time you look up at the clouds, tell them hello, and keep them in your thoughts and prayers. They are truly missed!

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM with Father Paul Nguyen officiating. Interment will follow at Our Lady's at Medley's Neck Cemetery, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Robert Lee Quade, Jr., Mike Klear, Paul Michael Klear, Brennan Norris, Joey Quade, and Jeffrey Quade.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20659 and/or Leonardtown Vol. Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 299, Leonardtown, MD 20659.

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

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

Kathie Oliver, 65



Katherine "Kathie" Louise Oliver, 65, of Hollywood, MD passed away peacefully on July 12, 2023, at her home with her family by her side.

She was born on August 2, 1957, in Brunswick, ME to the late Donald Cheney Bailey, Jr and Mary Diane Hawkins Bailey.

As a child, Kathie traveled with her family for her father's Navy career. Her favorite station was Japan. She enjoyed their culture. She moved to St. Mary's County as a teenager and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1975. After graduation she attended Frostburg University. On December 28, 1991, she married her beloved husband, Patrick Lee Oliver in Avenue, MD. She was employed for over 26 dedicated years as a Medical Claims Processor for Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship. She had an affinity for the water and particularly enjoyed going to the beach, boating, water sports, and fishing. She loved spending time with her family, especially family get-togethers and weekends on the water at her in-laws. Her granddaughter was her greatest joy. She enjoyed her role as Grammy always doing crafts and playing games with her. She spent many years on a bowling league with her husband at Esperanza Bowling Center. She was an excellent cook and a family favorite was her homemade lasagna. She enjoyed crocheting and made baby blankets for her friends and family when a new baby was born. Halloween was her favorite holiday and she loved to dress up and have fun. In addition to time with her family, she also enjoyed cruises to the Caribbean and dancing. She was a fan of NASCAR and the Baltimore Ravens.

In addition to her beloved husband, Patrick, Kathie is also survived by her loving daughter, Amanda S. Davis (John) of Hollywood, MD; her siblings: Cynthia E. Carper (Dennis) of Green Cove Springs, FL, Deborah A. Quade of Mechanicsville, MD, and David E. Bailey of Cordova, TN; and her precious granddaughter, Emmalyn H. Davis of Hollywood, MD. She is also survived by her nieces and nephews: Brian Quade (Heidi), Megan Bell (Jimmy), Kyle Carper, Madison Bailey, Chance Bailey, Nicole Oliver, Chad Oliver (Katey), Michelle Boothe (Kenny), Heather Pechatsko (Joe), and Brittany Buzzeo (Jonathan); and extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents.

Family will receive friends for Katherine's Life Celebration on Saturday, July 22, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a Service celebrated at 3:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will

be private.

Memorial contributions in Katherine's memory may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and Hollywood Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 79, Hollywood, MD 20636.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Peggy Schindler, 92



Margaret "Peggy" Wood Schindler, 92, of Mechanicsville, Maryland passed away in peace on July 11, 2023.

Born March 15, 1931, she was the daughter of the late Edwin Ambrose

Wood Sr. and Lillian Huntington Wood.

She was the wife of Francis Joseph Schindler who predeceased her in 1979.

Mrs. Schindler is survived by her children Joseph W. Schindler, Janet C. Schindler Supensky, Timothy F. Schindler, Christopher B. Schindler (Katherine) all of Mechanicsville. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Holly Gardner (Sean), Jessica Gagnon (Jeff), Stephanie Schindler,

and Rebecca Schindler, as well as her three great grandchildren.

Peggy graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1949. She worked for the Patuxent River Naval Air Station before starting her family. In later years she worked as a paraeducator for the parochial and public schools. Peggy enjoyed serving her community as a member of the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary. Throughout her life, she was a devout parishioner of the Immaculate Conception Church where she once served as the organist and sang in the choir for many years.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 from 10:00-11:00AM in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Mechanicsville, MD. Where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father Michael Tietjen officiating. Interment will follow in Queen of Peace Helen, MD.

Memorial Contributions are welcomed in her name to the Immaculate Conception Church and the Mechanicsville Vol. Rescue Squad Auxiliary.

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

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

Continued on pg. 20

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Night of Fun and Games Leads to \$50,000 Scratch-off Win

A St. Mary's County woman is counting up her own coins after winning a \$50,000 prize playing the \$30 Cash is King scratch-off game. Kimberly Shaw won the big prize while having a fun night with her husband, Colby, playing games at the Moose Lodge #495 in Mechanicsville.

Kimberly and Colby were playing games at the lodge on Tuesday evening when she decided to buy a \$20 FAST PLAY ticket from the Lottery Vending Machine and won \$40. Feeling a bit lucky, she used the \$40 and purchased another FAST PLAY ticket and a scratch-off game. She was pleasantly surprised to then cash in \$90. Now, she had a decision to make – should she pocket her \$90 or use it to play more games.

"I said to myself, 'who puts \$90 in a Lottery machine'," said the lucky lady. "But, I did anyway, asking my husband what should I play."

"I told her to get a \$30 game and mix up the rest," said Colby.

Heeding her husband's advice, Kimberly did just that. Among her variety of games was one \$30 Cash is King scratch-off. She scratched it there at the lodge.

"The first number I scratched was a match for \$5,000," said Kimberly. "My heart sunk and I held the ticket to my chest."

She whispered to her husband that she just won \$5,000. But, she had more ticket to scratch. She then revealed another \$5,000 and then a symbol for a \$10,000 win, totaling \$20,000. Kimberly thought it was a joke, but she still had more game to play. That's



when Colby grabbed the ticket to scan it only to find out it was not a \$20,000, but a \$50,000 win.

"I had to scan it twice," said Colby. "I thought there's no way."

And when the bartender told them it was too much to cash there, the couple knew it was real. Kimberly signed the back of the ticket and the couple quietly left the lodge and headed home.

The mother of two teenagers called to share the news with her teens, who were vacationing with their grandmother. They thought it also was a joke, but one of her teens reminded her that she recently had a birthday. Hint, hint.

Kimberly and her husband Colby wasted no time claiming the prize. They headed to Lottery Headquarters the very next day. She told Lottery Officials that she has no immediate plans for the \$50,000 win.

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7 Quilts of Valor Awarded

PAX Sound of Freedom presented 7 Quilts of Valor to local veterans at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park on July 15, 2023.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation is a non-profit organization established and operated in accordance with section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. To date the national organization has presented 351,835 quilts to active duty personnel and veterans.



Shown above (front row, left to right): William Gibbs (Army, 20 years), Douglas Merch (Marine Corps, 21 years), Jeff Homewood (Navy, 22 years), Randall Spires (Air Force, 23 years), Larry Brabec (Navy, 21 years), Christopher Perlick (Navy, 34 years), and Joe Richardson (Air Force, 3 years).

50th Annual Governor's Cup Yacht Race Sets Sail August 4

Sailors and spectators alike will have a chance to participate in the historic 50th annual Governor's Cup Yacht Race hosted by St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM). The race is the oldest and longest overnight competition on the Chesapeake Bay. It begins Friday, August 4, at various times in the afternoon in Annapolis and ends Saturday, Aug. 5, at the College's waterfront on the St. Mary's River with post-race awards and festivities. There are race legs starting in Virginia, Solomons and the Potomac River. The race from Maryland's modern-day capital to its colonial first capital in St. Mary's City includes the Pride of Baltimore, a 105 ft. topsail schooner built to the lines of an 1812-era Baltimore Clipper.

About 125 competitors are expected to arrive at the College to participate in an all-day festive atmosphere Saturday including free rock and steel drum bands and a pay-what-you-wish concert by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The public is also invited to the festivities and award ceremony dubbed "one of sailing's 10 best parties" by Sailing World Magazine. Race registration and shoreside activity information at www.smcm.edu/govcup50.

The new Maryland Dove, an 84 ft. replica of a 17th-century square-rigger from Historic St. Mary's City, will be the finish boat at St. Mary's College of Maryland. The nature of the race has a lot to do with its



Racers hoist their spinnakers at the start of the Governor's Cup (credit: Paul Matthai)

enduring popularity. "It's a sailor's delight, a 60-mile open water race on the Bay that finishes as a tactical race up the St. Mary's River for 10 miles," said Adam Werblow, director of the waterfront and head varsity sailing coach for SMCM. "The leaders usually arrive at the finish at dawn or earlier and as the oldest and longest race on the Bay it's one damn exciting competition."

Special 50th post-race festivities will include live music and dancing from 8:30 am to 9:00 pm. This year's finish celebration at the College's waterfront promises to be a memorable one, with four bands playing

throughout the day, some of the area's favorite food trucks and cash bar, showers and overnight accommodations for sailors and their guests as well as the public and even a performance by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO). All of the festivities are open to the public, and the music is free (donations accepted for the BSO concert in the College's newly-christened Nancy R. & Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center). Registration is suggested for the BSO concert at <https://www.smcm.edu/bsoc>.

The race's yacht classes for scoring include Multihull, ORC, CRCA ORR-ez,

PHRF A, PHRF B, PHRF C/D and the generalized PHRF Spin & PHRF N. Specialty awards on the Annapolis course are given such as the St. Mary's Alumni trophy, the Waldschmidt 'Best In Fleet' trophy, and the Steve Bickel award for most improved over last year's race. Registration closes Sunday, July 30th. The race also offers three additional legs besides the main 70-mile route from Annapolis: the Potomac Leg that starts in Dahlgren; a Solomons leg; and a Fishing Bay leg starting from the Piankatank River in Virginia.

Sailing has been a major part of SMCM's history for many years. The SMCM dinghy sailing team has won 17 national championships and produced more than 150 collegiate All-American sailors since 1991. In 2010, the team won the National Intercollegiate Sailing Association team racing championship. SMCM 2023 graduate Leo Boucher won the National Singlehanded Championship in 2022 and this year was named Mid-Atlantic sailor of the year as well as Sportsman of the Year.

St. Mary's College of Maryland is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. St. Mary's College, the National Public Honors College, is ranked as the top public liberal arts college in the U.S. by Money magazine. Approximately 1,600 students attend the college, nestled on the St. Mary's River in Southern Maryland.

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NAVAL AIR STATION PATUXENT RIVER *News*

United States Naval Test Pilot School Graduates Class 162

The United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) held a graduation ceremony for Class 162 on June 16. Thirty-four students successfully completed the intense 11-month course of instruction and received their designations as Engineering Developmental Test Pilots, Test Flight Officers, and Test Engineers.

Retired Adm. William K. Lescher, former Vice Chief of Naval Operations, delivered the keynote address. Adm. Lescher graduated with distinction from the USNTPS in June 1987 as a member of Class 91.

“The challenges you have faced have been significant,” said Lescher. “But the rewards are truly without limits.”

The graduation ceremony took place at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department in Hollywood, Md. Graduates included members of the Indian Navy, Norwegian Air Force, Royal Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force, Spanish Airforce, Swedish Armed Forces, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Navy.

Lt. Col. Aaron Kia, U.S. Army, Commanding Officer at USNTPS, presented



diplomas and offered congratulations to the new “testers.”

Flt. Lt. Nathan Segal, Royal Australian Air Force, received the Commander Willie McCool Outstanding Student Award for the

top performing student in the categories of academics, flight performance, and technical report writing. Flt. Lt. Segal was also recognized with the Developmental Testing Thesis Award for the best final report.

Maj. Nathan Winings, U.S. Marine Corps, received the Capt. Syd Sherby Leadership Award, named after the founder of the test pilot training division, now USNTPS. The Capt. Syd Sherby Award recognizes the student who displays exemplary leadership in the class.

Twenty-three students completed the requirements for the engineering test pilot course, ten students completed the engineering test flight officer course, and one student fulfilled the requirements for the flight test engineer course.

USNTPS trains pilots and engineers for development test and evaluation of aircraft and aircraft systems. USNTPS is a component of Naval Test Wing Atlantic under Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) in Patuxent River, Maryland. NAWCAD advances capability and operational readiness for naval aviation.

For more information about NAWCAD, please go to www.navair.navy.mil or follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MyNAWCAD/>.



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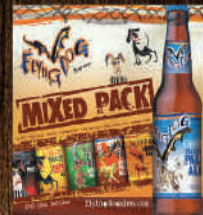
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A View From The BLEACHERS



THE CHARACTER TEST

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

In 2009, then University of Connecticut men's basketball head coach Jim Calhoun had a moment – at least his ego did. With the state of Connecticut running a budget deficit, Calhoun, then making over \$1.5 million per year, was pressed about being the state's highest paid employee. The question didn't make it out of the reporter's mouth before Calhoun launched into a holier-than-thou tirade where he cited the \$12 million in revenue his team generated for the university and boasted that the state would see "not a dime back" of his salary. The performance was indicative of a man who felt so untouchable that he had complete comfort being a horse's backside and letting his prodigious ego roam. It was distasteful, but at that point in time, with two national championships on his resume, Calhoun was not incorrect.

Calhoun's situation – his psychological perch and his salary – were not and are not unique. I suspect back then in 2009, and today, nearly 15 years later, the highest paid state employee is the men's basketball coach or football coach of the state's athletic crown jewel public institution. Whatever you think of that, it is a reflection of capitalism and the dominance of sports as an entertainment entity in America. Derrieres in seats directly fill university coffers. More importantly, eyes on the television screen generate advertisement revenue, which creates lucrative television contracts and stupid money for institutions, especially those in the power conferences.

The pressure to financially keep up with the Joneses is enormous. It led to Maryland's departure from the ACC (still getting over that) and all sorts of other conference alignment chaos and cannibalism (USC and UCLA are headed to the BIG Conference for crying out loud). The money is so obnoxious that the NCAA finally broke down and permitted athletes to profit via NIL (Name, Image and Likeness) agreements.

For a long time, a powerful, charismatic head coach - a person who can turn adolescents into adults, who can establish a talent pipeline, produce professional athletes and appease university donors – has been the key to collegiate athletic relevance. The formula has evolved over time, but it is an environment that created Paul "Bear" Bryant, Bobby Knight, Joe Paterno, Bobby Bowden, Pete Carroll, Mike Krzyzewski, Gary Williams, Urban Meyer, John Thompson and Rick Pitino. Current coaches like Nick Saban, John Calipari, Bill Self, Kirby Smart and Dabo Swiney have inherited college sports' thrones and ruled even larger kingdoms.

Those names...several make you cringe, right? Nothing needs to be said about Knight and Paterno. Carroll left USC in flames. Meyer, Pitino...sheesh. Bowden has had wins stripped from his record. Self was suspended last season due to an on-going FBI investigation. Smart is embroiled in controversy. The price of winning is steep and the ethical risk is high, but universities are consistently willing to write big checks and roll the dice. Money rules the day.

Northwestern is the latest institution to fall on its sword. And this one cut deep. In the second half of the 20th century, Northwestern was a football wasteland. Then Pat Fitzgerald arrived in the mid-1990s, and the star linebacker led the Wildcats to prominence and a Rose Bowl win in 1996. Fitzgerald returned to Northwestern as an assistant coach in 2001 and became head coach in 2006. Fairy tale stuff, right? Yeah, until it wasn't...until it was discovered that Fitzgerald, at best, turned a blind eye to alleged sexually violent hazing of underperforming players. In a typical grasp to save the iconic coach, Northwestern first suspended Fitzgerald for only two weeks, only to fire him days later, presumably after the transgressions transcended the bubble of major college sports and were subjected to common sense.

Whether it be the Catholic Church or politicians who often leave constituents longing for better representation (the great unfortunate political unifier), power, combined with little fear of consequence, often undercuts the most basic ethical and moral standards. As Abraham Lincoln said, "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

Fitzgerald is just the latest to reinforce the wisdom of those old words. Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

The Tackle Box Fishing Report

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

We are in mid-summer protective mode for striped bass. No fishing or targeting stripers in either the Potomac or bay. Come August 1 the season reopens.

The good news is that our bottom fishing is excellent with fabulous spot everywhere, and some decent croakers showing up.

There are speckled trout to be sought in the mouth of the Potomac and the salt islands. Slot red fish are scattered about. Tiny reds are mixed with the white perch in the creeks.

On an outing last Wednesday, three of us on Capt. Brady Bounds' boat the Miss Lena ventured up the Patuxent at daybreak targeting white perch and rockfish. It was a couple of days before the summer closure and we threw some surface poppers near Sotterley and the mouth of St. Leonard's Creek. The stripers exploded on our lures, and we got many hits that missed. We then settled on casting tiny spinner baits to perch. We fished from the mouth of Miles Creek on the Calvert shore toward the mouth of the river along the clay banks. We steadily caught perch for a couple of hours. We culled the fish at 9 inches and kept 24. The best lure was a ¼ ounce orange Beetle Spin tipped with a piece of bloodworm which far out-performed fancier lures. Some of the bigger perch took a white Perch Pounder. There were some rockfish prowling about eating the tiny spot that are infesting



Capt. Bernie Shea out of Solomon's continues to fill the fish boxes with spot.

the river and they were not above hitting our lures meant for perch, but we didn't hook up. We were back at the Solomons boat ramp by 10:30 and temperature at 85 degrees. The cool of the delightful morning had worn off so we went home to clean fish.

Cobia and Spanish mackerel are coming. There were several big cobia caught at Smith Point Sunday.

Cutlass fish are hitting lures in the mouth of the Patuxent. Bluegill, crappie, and pickrel are at St. Mary's Lake and local ponds.

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Identity Needed for Theft Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the subject pictured, regarding a theft investigation.

On Friday, June 23, 2023 at approximately 4:00 PM, the subject pictured walked out of the Dollar Tree in California, failing to pay for multiple items.

She was last seen leaving in a white Honda CRV with an unknown registration.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to contact Deputy Reynolds #394 at 301-475-4200, ext 8133 or email Brandon.Reynolds@stmaryscountymd.gov. Case 23706-23

You can also call Crime Solvers 24/7 at 301-475-3333 or send a text to Crime Solvers at 274637.

Type "Tip239" in the message block and select SEND. After you get a response, continue your conversation.

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Attempted Burglary of Tackle Box Sporting Goods Store Under Investigation

Your sheriff's office is seeking help in identifying two suspects who attempted to burglarize the Tackle Box last week.

Shortly after midnight, two suspects, wearing full face masks, gloves and carrying a backpack, attempted to enter the store by breaking through a front glass door.

An alarm was activated, and the suspects fled on foot.

If you have any information on this crime, email Deputy Kortnie Marsch at Kortnie.Marsch@stmaryscountymd.gov

You can also contact Crime Solvers 24/7 at 301-475-3333.

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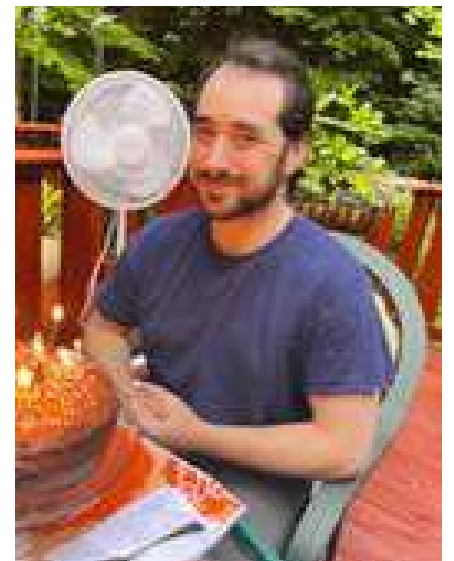
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Missing Persons Sought



Anthony Louis Messineo



Thomas Joseph Krumenacker

Your Sheriff's Office is still seeking assistance in learning the whereabouts of missing 14 year old juvenile Anthony Louis Messineo.

Anthony was last known to be in Calvert County. It's believed he is still in that area.

If you have ANY information about Anthony Messineo, please contact your

Sheriff's Office immediately at 301-475-8008. Case # 37122-23

The sheriff's office is also seeking whereabouts of Thomas Joseph Krumenacker (W-M-28 years old), a missing person. If you have any information, contact 301-475-8008.

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County, Rescue Squads Come to Accord on Career Staffing

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In March of 2021 the county government signed seven different memorandums of understandings (MOU) — explicit agreements — with each of the seven volunteer rescue squads in St. Mary’s to provide paid, career emergency medical personnel to fill major gaps in service that volunteers were simply no longer able to cover.

Now the county has signed a single agreement with the county Rescue Squad Association, which also includes the Advanced Life Support Unit, that codifies exactly what is expected of career staff at each of the rescue squads.

It cements a transition that has occurred rapidly over the past several years — and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic — that has seen the long-standing, all-volunteer emergency medical service the county prided itself on fade into the background.

“There has been... a lot of work behind the scenes to have one MOU with the rescue association, which is made up of all eight individual corporations,” said Gerald Gardiner, deputy director of the Department of Emergency Services at the July 18 meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County. “The benefit of this is meeting expectations, meeting ours as county government and the expectations of the rescue squads as they provide a lot of services for us.”

The process on forging this agreement, Gardiner said, took the last six months.

Ken Hicks, head of the county Rescue Squad Association, as well as chief of the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad, said all of the corporations came together to vote to approve the MOU before bringing it to the commissioners.

“Everybody had their own personal quirks about how they wanted DES [Department of Emergency Services] system to work.”

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said: “So, there’s a level of service everyone’s going to have to abide by?”

“Yes, sir,” replied Hicks, who clarified that the MOU deals with how the director of the county’s emergency management department will work with county employees who are working inside the framework of volunteer organizations who own the



squad buildings and apparatus and supply the equipment and materials necessary to do the job.

“The county only owns two ambulances at this time,” Hicks reiterated, saying that the county’s use of volunteer apparatus and equipment meant significant cost savings by not having to purchase expensive vehicles.

Those distinctions were important, Hewitt said, because he had heard complaints that career staff were not maintaining the apparatus as well as volunteers were.

Sean Davidson, chief of volunteer rescue services, said that as “career staff stabilizes,” with the same paid staff working in volunteer stations over time, “we’ll see less of an impression that they [career staff] don’t take care of our stuff.”

Hewitt lamented the fading of the volunteer service; but the critical goal was to ensure ambulances reached emergency medical calls on time.

“But I have been amazed at the loss of volunteers,” Hewitt said. “It’s a sad thing.”

But Davidson said volunteers could not be counted out yet.

“We’re seeing some significant rallying,” Davidson said. “It’s especially in a couple

of volunteer departments.”

Proof of this was that classes for basic life support with 30 seats already had a waiting list, Davidson said, and it was filled entirely by St. Mary’s County residents.

“These are volunteer individuals coming forward into our system,” Davidson said.

“What it boils down to is to be good guests when we’re in someone else’s house,” said Commissioner Eric Colvin about one of the purposes of the MOU.

But, Colvin said, the MOU also helps to ensure that services to citizens will be maintained at a high level.

“Parity is a really important aspect of this whole thing for me,” said Davidson. “We’ve worked really hard to make sure that whoever is showing up, regardless of who they’re representing you can expect the level of care you deserve as a citizen and as a person who is in St. Mary’s County.”

The County Times has learned that career emergency medical services personnel are working on forming an employee union to represent their interests in much the same way sheriff’s deputies have a Fraternal Order of Police and teachers have the Education Association of St. Mary’s County.

Colvin said he and other commissioners had been aware of plans among career personnel to form such an organization for about a year.

“When we heard the rumor our legal staff looked into it,” Colvin said. “It doesn’t concern me.”

“If we treat our people right it won’t be a concern.”

Colvin said that, were a union formed, it would have certain limitations placed on it given the nature of the work its members performed.

“They won’t be able to strike,” Colvin said. “I’m not sure what they want to accomplish through this.”

The MOU did more than codify the relationship expectations between paid and volunteer, Colvin said, it made the realization plain that while volunteers would always be a part of emergency medicine here, the career staff were here to stay.

“I don’t see it going away,” Colvin said. “Every month the rescue squads come to us with what they need in terms of staffing.

“We’re not dictating to them.”

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School Board Updated On School Renovations



The new façade at Mechanicsville Elementary School

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

School is out for the summer and, while classes are not in session, the St. Mary's County Public School System is engaging construction contractors to renovate several of its aging schools in preparation for next school year.

"We're busy," said Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith at the July 19 school board meeting in Leonardtown.

Much of the work being done is under the system's Office of Supporting Services, which is overseeing the broad palate of projects, Smith said.

Mechanicsville Elementary School is undergoing a limited renovation this summer to include work on its gymnasium, media center, main office and façade.

"We are doing fantastic work at Mechanicsville Elementary School," Smith said. "If you're driving past it, you can see that whole front façade is pretty much in place and ready to go."

Smith said the latest reports from that particular job site show progress is six to nine months ahead of schedule.

"That is unheard for an occupied, multi-phase renovation for a school," Smith said. "Everybody is going to be excited to get into that school in August."

Town Creek Elementary School is having its rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units replaced, Smith said, as well as units in its combination of cafeteria and auditorium.

All of the exterior windows at Town Creek and White Marsh elementary schools are currently being replaced as well.

"We're replacing windows that are 50 years old," Smith said. "We'll see some fantastic energy savings and it really does brighten the exterior of those buildings."

Dynard, Hollywood, Leonardtown and Oakville elementary schools are receiving updated security vestibules where entrants to the building are met by a full-time security specialist.

"We will finish every single school's security vestibule enhancement by the end of this school year," Smith said, noting the financial assistance from the Commissioners of St. Mary's County in their annual budget.

The replacement of the gymnasium floor at Chopticon High School turned out to be a major undertaking, Smith said, with contractors having to rip up the entire floor and bleachers, essentially "starting from scratch."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Fatal Crash That Killed 14-Year-Old Under Investigation

On July 17 at 2:54pm deputies from the sheriff's office responded to a head-on crash with injuries in the 22000 block of Newtowne Neck Road. They arrived on the scene and determined the involved vehicles were a 2013 black Kia Rio and a 2015 silver Dodge Durango.

The Durango was operated by Jacob Jones of Glen Burnie. Taylor Jones and a juvenile were passengers in the Durango. All three occupants were transported to an area hospital by ambulance with non-life-threatening injuries.

The Kia Rio was operated by a juvenile male who was flown to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The passenger in the Kia was identified as Hunter Sansbury, 14. Hunter was pronounced

deceased at the scene.

The Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit conducted the investigation.

The preliminary investigation revealed the Kia Rio was traveling north on Newtown Neck Road. As it approached a curve in the roadway, it crossed the center line and collided with the Dodge Durango at the crest of a hill. The crash caused the Kia Rio to roll over and the vehicle came to rest on its side in the southbound lane.

At this time, vehicle speed and weather conditions appear to be factors in this crash.

If you witnessed this crash, or any events leading up to it, please contact Corporal Vincent Pontorno at 301-475-4200, ext. 2337. You can also email him at Vincent.Pontorno@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Drug Arrest Nets Two Kilos of Cocaine

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

An observant sheriff's deputy has been credited with noticing an alleged open-air, executed-in-the-roadway drug deal in California last week that led to a raid on a Myrtle Point home that turned up a brace of cocaine bricks and \$17,000 in cash, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office reports.

According to court documents filed against Laray Anthony Maddox, 41, of California, the defendant was seen by Cpl. Michael Labanowski riding a motor scooter in the area of Patuxent Boulevard and Myrtle Point Road and stopping next to the driver's side window of a vehicle parked about 50 yards behind the stop sign of the intersection.

The observing deputy, through his training, "believed [the defendant] met with the vehicle's driver to a complete a drug transaction."

Based on this Labanowski and a sergeant with the sheriff's office returned to the area later that day, July 14, and observed Maddox riding on his scooter again driving down Mill Cove Road and enter the woods; police say Maddox has used the woods in prior cases to hide narcotics.

After Maddox came out of the woods



Two kilograms of cocaine seized in Maddox's arrest

and returned to his home on Myrtle Glenn Drive, the two deputies entered the woods and found a stash of cocaine equal to two kilograms in a white trash bag at the base of a tree, covered with brush.

Sheriff's office personnel, including their Emergency Services Team, later that night, raided Maddox's home and found drug paraphernalia and cash as well as materials used in the manufacturing of narcotics, the sheriff's office reported.

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Town Council Eliminates School Impact Fee

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

At their July 10 council meeting the Leonardtown Town Council voted unanimously to end the municipal practice of collecting an impact fee from new development to be paid towards maintaining county schools.

On the advice of legal counsel, said Town Administrator Laschelle McKay, the town made the change to the longstanding ordinance because the Commissioners of St. Mary's County voted in late May to eliminate impact fees on development in lieu of an excise tax that could be used more broadly than just for schools or road and traffic impacts.

A brief public hearing took place before the vote to repeal ordinance No. 217 but no

one rose to comment.

"Since there is no longer an impact fee with the county, we should repeal this ordinance," McKay said of the advice from counsel. "Then we can explore options for continuing to assure funds get set aside for future school needs."

Since the older town ordinance stated that the town would collect impact fees for schools set by the county, the ordinance had to be repealed as rate to be set by the county no longer existed.

McKay said the town could continue discussions on how it might collect funds for schools, either through its own, new impact fee or some other means.

The town would still collect impact fees for water and sewer, McKay said.

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Traffic Circle Project in Charlotte Hall Draws Complaints



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Construction of a new traffic circle on Mount Wolf Road in Charlotte Hall has already slowed down traffic there and raised ire among some motorists that its relatively small size has made it difficult for some vehicles to circumnavigate.

The County Times has heard reports that buses moving through the under-construction intersection of Mount Wolf Road and Triangle Drive are unable to make the tight turn properly and instead have to drive over the circle being built.

County public works chief Jim Gotsch said construction of the traffic circle began at the beginning of this week and is expected to finish, weather permitting, by mid-August.

The purpose of the circle is to make it easier to make a left-hand turn from the

shopping center onto Triangle Drive to get to Route 5.

“That’s a really hard intersection to deal with if you’re in the shopping center and trying to get out,” Gotsch said. “It’s hard to make that left turn.”

A bus tried to drive over the circle July 17, Gotsch said, before concrete had been poured and became stuck in the excavated dirt there.

Had the construction been a bit farther along, he explained, the bus driver, and other motorists, would not have been so inconvenienced.

“The mountable island is for the larger vehicles, where the back wheels will go up on that mountable portion,” Gotsch explained. “We’re only on day No. 3 [of the project].”

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Drought Strikes St. Mary's

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Just a few weeks ago the drought that had afflicted much of Maryland had missed St. Mary's County.

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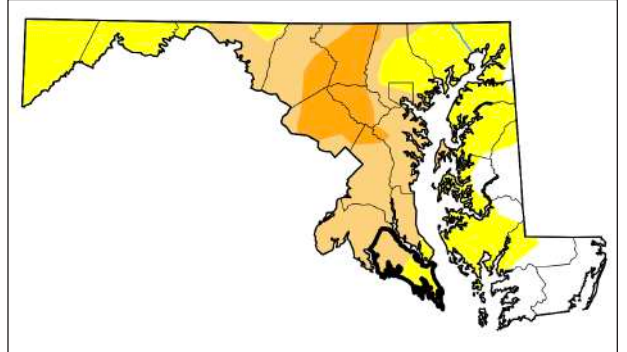
According to the U.S. Drought Monitor half of the county from the northern border to the central region is now in a moderate state of drought, whereas earlier this summer it was listed as abnormally dry.

Farmers had said last month that the unseasonably dry conditions had led to a late corn crop with concerns that produce, which has been plentiful, might also be affected by dwindling available water in nearby ponds for irrigation.

Despite recent rains, sometimes torrential in nature, it appears to have only limited relief.

The drought monitor website estimates that roughly half of the county's population, about 56,000 residents, are in drought-affected areas.

Ben Beale, agricultural extension office agent for St. Mary's with the University of Maryland, said rains that doused the county on July 16 were of some help to certain areas such as Avenue and Bushwood, which had been exceptionally dry.



The map shows the northern half of St. Mary's in a moderate drought condition, while the southern portion remains abnormally dry.

“Most of the county received decent rains from the storm on Sunday,” Beale said. “We got some reprieve.”

Indeed, Loveville now have too much has moisture, he said.

The drought has been particularly hard on the corn and soy bean crops, which are valuable for their sale value as chicken and livestock feed, since both crops need significant amounts of water at this point in their growth cycle.

“There’s an old saying here that we’re never more than a week away from a drought,” Beale said, “That’s because of conditions like our sandy soil... and rains recently have been sporadic.”

“We just need to keep praying for more rain.”

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County Agrees To Spend \$7.8 M On Tasers, Body Cameras



Capt. Shawn Moses

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Most deputies assigned to patrol with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is supplied with a taser and a body-worn camera, both now considered indispensable tools of the law officer's trade.

The sheriff's office requested this week that the county commit to spending nearly \$8 million over the next 10 years to buy new tasers and cameras for its patrol force; the Commissioners of St. Mary's County agreed.

Capt. Shawn Moses of the sheriff's office said the bundled contract to purchase the new tasers and cameras over a decade's time was cost efficient.

There are two types of tasers the agency uses, Moses said, deployed among about 165 deputies and corrections officers.

Tasers are used to incapacitate and neutralize a suspect or inmate with electric shock without the use of lethal force.

Moses said that there have been more than 500 taser uses since 2013 by agency deputies and more than half of those uses were simply an activation of the taser and not on actual use on a subject.

He called it an aversion of force by the subject simply seeing the taser deployed.



"Those tasers are all generally speaking at end-of-life," Moses said. "Cartridges are no longer being supplied for one of the tasers. Every year we have to certify with tasers and we haven't been able to do that because we don't have enough cartridges."

The deadline to meet that certification is Dec. 31, Moses told county commissioners.

For body-worn cameras, the proposed contract with vendor Axon, which already supplies the sheriff's office, would supply the agency with 166 new body cameras, which would equip every sworn deputy under their authorized strength, said Moses.

The partnership with Axon also offers unlimited uploading of digital evidence, taken from body cameras and private and corporate surveillance, for storage.

Such audio and video surveillance continues to proliferate and the sheriff's office relies on it more and more to close cases.

The new cameras would also allow commanders to view, in real time, footage taken through cameras worn by deputies on a critical call or response scene, Moses said, highlighting one of the contracts most valuable features.

By bundling all of these services into one contract, Moses said, the sheriff's office could stop purchasing them in a piece meal fashion.

"We have budget predictability... we have inflation protection," Moses said.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt balked at spending millions over a 10-year period because of concerns that technology advanced so quickly that the sheriff's office could be dealing with obsolete services.

Hewitt seemed to favor a five-year contract.

Moses responded that there were severability clauses in the contract that allowed for lack of funding on the part of the sheriff's office or if they were not satisfied with the performance of the products.

After further discussion the commissioners unanimously approved the expenditure.

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COPS AND COURTS	10	OBITUARIES	19
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“WE’RE REPLACING WINDOWS THAT ARE 50 YEARS OLD.”

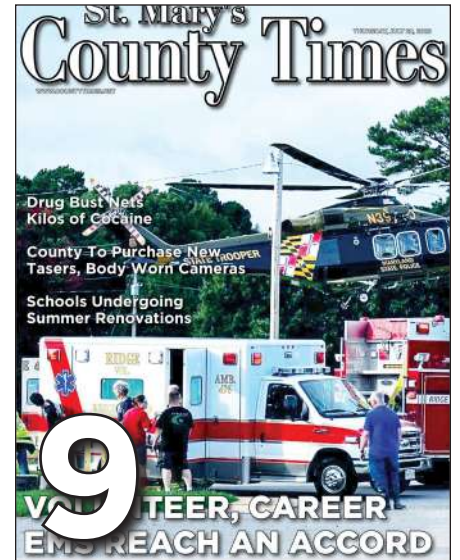
SUPERINTENDENT DR. J. SCOTT SMITH ON RENOVATIONS AT AGING SCHOOLS



LOCAL 7
Drug raid nets kilos of cocaine



LOCAL 8
School renovations underway



9 ON THE COVER
County, rescue squads sign agreement over paid personnel

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 20 Partly Cloudy Hi: 86° Lo: 70°	FRI, JUL 21 Partly Cloudy Hi: 88° Lo: 67°	SAT, JUL 22 Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 67°	SUN, JUL 23 Mostly Sunny Hi: 86° Lo: 68°
MON, JUL 24 Partly Cloudy Hi: 85° Lo: 68°	TUE, JUL 25 Mostly Sunny Hi: 86° Lo: 69°	WED, JUL 26 Partly Cloudy Hi: 89° Lo: 71°	THU, JUL 27 Partly Cloudy Hi: 91° Lo: 72°



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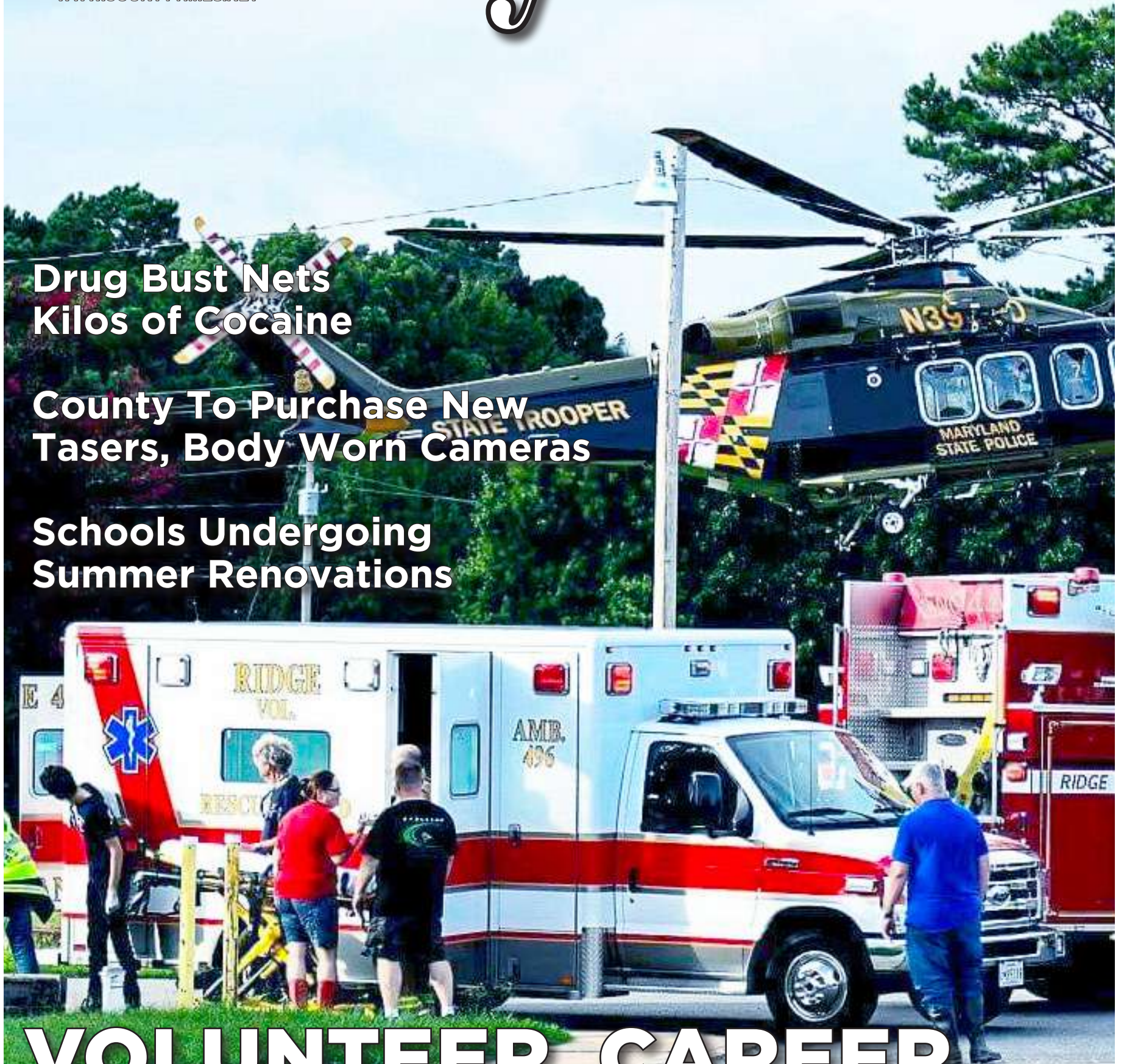
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

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**Drug Bust Nets
Kilos of Cocaine**

**County To Purchase New
Tasers, Body Worn Cameras**

**Schools Undergoing
Summer Renovations**



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