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THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

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Route 5 Work to Resume

**Gov. Moore Commits to
Veterans Home Reform**

**Blessing of the Fleet
Moves to St. Mary's City**

**Governor Pushes
EV Mandate**

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WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, MAR 16 Mostly Sunny Hi: 60° Lo: 46°	FRI, MAR 17 Cloudy Hi: 66° Lo: 40°	SAT, MAR 18 AM Clouds/PM Sun Hi: 53° Lo: 30°	SUN, MAR 19 Mostly Sunny Hi: 43° Lo: 28°
MON, MAR 20 Mostly Sunny Hi: 48° Lo: 31°	TUE, MAR 21 Partly Cloudy Hi: 52° Lo: 36°	WED, MAR 22 Showers Hi: 50° Lo: 36°	THU, MAR 23 Partly Cloudy Hi: 54° Lo: 44°

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Route 5 Project Starting Up Again This Month



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Route 5 breakout project in Leonardtown designed to improve traffic flow at one of the county's worst bottlenecks is set to pick up again this month said Commissioner Eric Colvin.

"We heard back from them just the other day that they are preparing to start work this month," Colvin said. "That's taking way too long to do.

"They are planning to start resurfacing in mid-April in order to work on finishing up that project."

The crux of the project has been to widening the section of the road from its intersection with Moakley Street down to the entrance intersection with MedStart St. Mary's Hospital to improve traffic flow.

"We all want to see it completed at an expedited pace," Colvin said at the end of the business meeting of March 13.

According to a release from the Maryland State Highway Administration the remaining work to be done on Route 5 through the town is pavement patching, landscaping, driveway entrances and asphalt resurfacing of the travel lanes.

"Once the work begins, it will require daytime — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and/or nighttime single lane closures from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.," the SHA statement reads. "A safe, efficient work zone will be maintained as crews work toward project completion this summer."

The lane closures, while ostensibly necessary for the road work to continue, were broadly unpopular last year among town residents and motorists in general for the major traffic snarls they created.

It resulted in many complaints to the government of the Town of Leonardtown.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Sheriff Hall Asks For More Funding

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Sheriff Steve Hall told The Commissioners of St. Mary's County recently that he needs more funding to pay deputies increased wages to forestall the agency's retention and recruitment difficulties.

Hall requested an additional \$4.5 million on top of the \$57 million sheriff's office baseline budget for fiscal 2024.

The sheriff said that St. Mary's deputies still lag behind their counterparts in Charles County and in the State Police; Hall said he wanted an additional 6 percent increase in deputy pay and benefits on top of the already 4.5 percent the county commissioners agreed to back in January.

"We're just trying to keep up with our competition commissioners," Hall said to Commissioner Mike Hewitt, who asked if Hall was trying to keep up with public sector unions which have seen steady pay and benefits increases.

"We are... currently 7 percent behind and they are going to get another 5 [percent increase,]" Hall said. "Calvert is about even with us, but some of the ranks because of the way they're built out make more."

Calvert has 25 salary steps for law enforcement employees while St. Mary's has just 19, Hall said.

"There's certain employees [in the St.

Mary's agency] who don't get a step in their 20th year," the sheriff explained.

"I believe people should work where they live," Hewitt said. "You have to go to Charles County to get it [the enhanced pay]."

A significant number of agency employees lived in Charles and Calvert because of better housing opportunities, Hall said, but the agency was trying to leverage the good points of St. Mary's to attract and retain law officers.

"We are looking for any opportunity to get home grown talent," Hall said, noting the criminal justice training program at the Dr. James A Forrest Career and Technology program was producing young people who were signing on with the agency.

"The homegrown talent is where we get the biggest bang for the buck," Hall said. "This is one of the best places to live and raise your children in Maryland; I think we have the best schools.

"So I think there are a lot of things we can bring to the table."

Hall said he was just looking for the commissioners to keep the agency competitive and nothing more.

"We don't want to be out in front," Hall said. "Because typically the ones out in front of the race don't finish first."

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Sterling: Tougher Prosecutions Cost More Money



State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling said this week that three "paradigm shifts" she has enacted in the office are designed to strengthen prosecution of sensitive cases involving children, certain sex offenses and illegal guns.

But those changes, which primarily involve ensuring that those are prosecuted entirely in Circuit Court and do not languish in District Court, Sterling said, means the process becomes more expensive.

Her budget request included technological upgrades, additional attorneys, paralegals and law clerks.

Sterling was making her presentation to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County regarding her budget request for fiscal 2024; while she characterized much of her requests as "ultra conservative" from a fiscal standpoint, Commissioner Mike Hewitt disagreed with her assessment.

Initially though, Hewitt said the commissioners wanted to "help [Sterling] succeed" and that her budget request of an additional \$1.4 million would put the annual budget for the State's Attorney's Office at about \$6 million.

The budget for that office had recently been just about \$4.4 million, Hewitt said.

"That's going to be a 36 percent or so increase," said Hewitt. "That's quite an increase."

Hewitt continued: "When we want an increase in budget, I think it's only natural to expect to have a lowering of crime, more criminals in jail, less crime committed because people will be afraid of going to jail."

The county commissioners recently approved funding for two more attorneys and two more paralegals for Sterling's

office even before the beginning of budget season upon her request.

"When I voted on that six weeks ago, honestly, my thought was 'I'm done, now I need you to prove to me that you are going to make a difference in the crime rates and what's going on.'"

Sterling said in her presentation and in a prospectus to the commissioners that the large increase in crime overall necessitated more resources for her office.

"For the people of the county, that's the worst day of their life," Sterling said. "The crime I'm talking about is violent crime."

"There's a 100 percent increase in violent crime."

In years past, she said, the county had one to two and sometimes no homicides.

"Last year we had seven," Sterling said, noting there has already been one murder and one attempted murder so far this year.

Sterling said drugs and guns were the prime movers behind the surge in local violent crime.

Still, Sterling said she has found \$300,000 worth of savings in her office, much of it by having the state take up the child enforcement employees once operating out of her office.

Other savings could be had by leveraging technology versus older methods of operation.

In one instance she found an invoice for seven books that cost \$3,000.

She said that older employees may have favored the use of legal books, but the younger employee base she now has is more technologically adept.

"We're not going to need those kinds of books so we can have savings in some of those books," Sterling said. "But we're going to use more money on technological advancements."

Going towards the new ways of crime-fighting, which included the use of digital evidence, she said, would cost more money.

Cases are backlogged from just before and during the COVID pandemic, Sterling said, which means that the extra attorney's she said she needed had to focus on dealing with that issue.

Hewitt had wanted an explanation about how the new attorneys would reduce crime and Sterling explained she could not promise an immediate reduction in felonious conduct.

"There are literally file folders and piles of cases that have not been charged from over a year or two or more," Sterling said.

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Governor Pushes Major Electric Vehicle Rule

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Gov. Wes Moore announced this week that Maryland would follow California in greatly restricting the number of gas-powered vehicles to be sold here over the next several years.

“Today, we’re talking about a major transformation that is going to define this administration—and that’s how we turn Maryland from a state powered by oil and gas to a state powered by clean energy,” said Moore in a prepared statement released March 13. “I am confident that the state of Maryland can and will lead the clean energy revolution.”

The regulation the state has adopted is the Advanced Clean Cars II rule, which is a vehicle emissions standard first adopted by California using its authority under the federal Clean Air Act, the governor’s statement reads.

Now that California has adopted the standards, other states can follow suit, according to the Moore administration.

The new regulation requires manufacturers to continuously increase the share of electric vehicles sold, reaching 100 percent of passenger car and light truck sales by model year 2035.

To adopt the rule as quickly as possible, the Maryland Department of the Environment presented the proposed regulation to the state’s Air Quality Control Advisory Council at its first meeting of the year March 13.

The council voted to recommend that the department move forward in proposing a regulation to enact the new standards. MDE will follow the process for a proposed regulation, which includes a public hearing and opportunity for public comment, to allow for a regulation to take effect in September.

The new regulation immediately garnered both praise and scorn.

“Governor Moore has set forth a very aggressive Electric Vehicle (EV) policy that mirrors that of California and Maryland special interest groups,” said Del. Todd Morgan of District 29 C. “There are over 25 related bills working through House committees this week.

“While this may be the future, my biggest concerns are the price of the vehicle and the lack of infrastructure throughout



the state to meet these ambitious goals.”

Morgan continued: “Millions of dollars are being projected to be spent on these projects, yet we can’t get a simple amendment to stop the gas tax increase that takes place each July.

“I don’t believe St. Mary’s or Calvert County are ready anytime soon for the EV model being proposed.”

Del. Matt Morgan, of District 29A, said the move to electric cars could put an undue gas tax burden on those still driving gasoline powered vehicles.

“This announcement isn’t a surprise, as California is rapidly becoming our sister state,” Matt Morgan said. “However, the Governor has a lot of questions to answer before this goes into effect.

“First, what stops Marylanders from crossing state lines to purchase a gas-powered vehicle? Will there be different registration requirements?”

“Also, electric cars do not pay into the Transportation Trust Fund because they aren’t subject to our ever-increasing gas tax.”

He continued: “According to a Maryland Department of the Environment analysis, 383,000 fewer new gas-powered vehicles would be sold under the new rule by 2030.

“Will that loss of revenue fall disproportionately on those who still own gas-powered cars?”

Environmental advocates hailed the decision. “By acting so immediately to advance zero-emission vehicles and reduce harmful emissions, Governor Moore and Secretary of the Environment Serena McIlwain are backing up their pledge to position Maryland as a national leader in fighting climate change and its contribution to environmental injustices,” said Executive Director of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters Kim Coble. “The Advanced Clean Cars II Rule is a proven policy for reducing greenhouse gasses from transportation and will jumpstart Maryland’s implementation of the landmark Climate Solutions Now Act.”

The House Republican Caucus spoke out strongly against the action.

“Today’s announcement was treated like a celebration, with the practical realities of this policy completely ignored,” said House Minority Whip Jesse Pippy. “The average price of an electric car is over \$60,000 – the price of a luxury vehicle.

“This is not something that is affordable for many Maryland families. Currently, only 1 percent of the 5.2 million automobiles registered in Maryland are electric. Under this policy, 43% of new vehicle sales in Maryland must be electric cars by 2027.”

House Minority Leader Del. Jason Buckel said the rule would have little effect on the region’s greenhouse gas emissions.

“Maryland will likely be the only state in the region moving forward with this radical environmental policy,” said Buckel. “Our state does not exist in a vacuum, and these policies will do little-to-nothing to impact emissions in our region.

“All it will do is put more stress on the household budgets of Marylanders. It is completely irresponsible.”

According to Baltimore Gas and Electric, electric vehicles cost roughly one-fourth as much to drive as gasoline cars in Maryland. Electric vehicles also generally have lower maintenance costs, and there are state and federal tax incentives for their purchase, the governor said.

In an effort to help make electric vehicles available to all Marylanders, the rule also features flexibility that encourages manufacturers to provide electric vehicles in overburdened and underserved communities, including community-based ridesharing or car sharing programs. Detractors of electric vehicles are quick to point out, though, that they often have poor range and long recharge times as well as expensive replacement costs for batteries.

In some cases replacement EV batteries can cost in the range of tens of thousands of dollars.

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Blessing of the Fleet Gets New Host



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Cancelled last year over foul weather concerns, the annual Blessing of the Fleet is scheduled to resume again this fall but in a different location.

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) has announced that it will host the festivities that have long taken place at St. Clements Island Museum in Colton Point and extending out to St. Clements Island itself.

The island, which sits just off the coast of the county, was the first landing site of the English settlers in 1634 who founded the fourth oldest English colony in the New World.

"St. Clement's Island Museum has ongoing construction for their new museum — we can't wait to see it — prompting the change of location for this year," an announcement from HSMC stated. "We are honored to be hosting the 2023 event and appreciate the opportunity from 7th District Optimist Club."

The move makes for a significant change of venue as St. Mary's City is on the other end of the count in the southern portion, though it is the colony's first capital city.

Commissioner Mike Alderson, who is also a member of the 7th District Optimist

Club, said the change of venue could help breathe new life into the event.

"I think it will be a great thing," Alderson said. "It's a lot closer to Lexington Park, a lot closer to the population center."

The county is working on a replacement for the aging St. Clements Island Museum, which Alderson said, would be under demolition when the Blessing of the Fleet occurred in the late autumn.

Alderson said this year's event will be a one-day affair.

Karen Stone, county museum division manager, said late last year that the footprint of the new museum building would be the same as the current structure but with an extra 1,500 square feet of exhibit space going up to the second floor.

"We've got a good start on the design of the new exhibits," Stone had said. "We're expanding the whole founding story."

There are also plans to add hands-on exhibits for children on the second floor with an outside deck overlooking the Potomac River.

County officials say that if everything goes according to plan the county should be able to open the new museum by year's end.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Commissioners Briefed on Cannabis Rules Bill

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A bill delineating the regulation of recreational cannabis — including the apportionment of the tax revenues from sales — is making its way through the Maryland General Assembly, assistant county attorney John Houser told county commissioners this week.

HB 556 has passed out of the House of Delegates, Houser said at the March 14 business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, on what was almost a "strict party line vote" of 133 votes to 32.

"Our fractional share of the already fractional share that the counties will get of the revenue tax ... will now have to be earmarked towards behavioral health and treatment expenditures," Houser said. "They will not be funds that we can use for any purpose whatsoever."

This is according to the amendments that have been placed on the bill so far, Houser said.

All the counties will have to take a piece of just 1.5 percent of the total revenue the state takes in from taxing recreational marijuana.

Houser said the county stands to get \$6,000, by his calculations, from the entire industry.

That could rise to \$40,000 to \$50,000 by

2029 as the taxes on cannabis go up, he said. "What's the thought process behind this?" asked Commissioner Mike Hewitt. "Is this just another lobby that has more influence than the counties have?"

Houser said the state was trying to keep the taxes low initially to remove barriers to entry to the market and to get purveyors and buyers away from black market sales.

The tax on cannabis under the new legislation would be 10 percent, Houser said, which is lower than other states who have adopted recreational cannabis.

The bill also contains provisions which restrict counties from using their zoning laws from unreasonably burdening cannabis operations from opening.

Houser said the exact meaning of that language was unclear next to the recent zoning the county enacted which restricted the much of the cannabis industry away from the critical and rural preservation areas of the county.

"You're going to be allowed to regulate where these go," Houser said. "Someone cannot show up and say 'I have a cannabis license and I'm allowed to go here and you [commissioners] have no input in the process.'"

"That is not how I read it."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

California Man Convicted of Felony Assault of 11-Year-Old



A St. Mary's County jury found Devonte Arnez Shubrooks, 29, of California, MD, guilty of Felony First-Degree Assault for the strangulation of an 11-year-old child.

Sarah Proctor, Special Victims Unit (SVU) Chief for the Office of the State's Attorney for St. Mary's County, prosecuted the case. She said, "Events of trauma to children are never easy for the child to re-tell, especially in a court setting; in this case, the child showed her strength."

State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling said, "I want to extend appreciation to the jury members for their time and attention during the trial, to the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office for their diligence and professionalism throughout the investigation of this case, and to SVU Chief Sarah Proctor for never shying away from prosecuting tough cases."

The conviction carries a maximum penalty of 25 years of incarceration. Shubrooks is being held without bond pending sentencing.

The Honorable Joseph M. Stalonicus presided over the case.

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Governor Moore Commits to Transforming Care at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home



governor’s steadfast commitment to transforming care for the veterans who reside at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

The meeting presented an opportunity for the Board to learn more about the swift action taken by Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Woods to help Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, which the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently relegated to a one-star status. Working in close partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Maryland Department of Health, and the St. Mary’s County Health Department, the department is developing solutions to address long-standing challenges at the facility.

“The situation at Charlotte Hall is a product of years of poor oversight and misman-

agement—a pattern that we are seeing all across the State of Maryland as our administration continues the work of rebuilding state government and identifying areas that require both immediate and long-term action,” said Governor Moore. “We will be calling upon our partners in the legislature, our partners on this Board, our partners in local governments, and so many others to help us provide our veterans with the care and support that they need and deserve.”

“Today’s meeting presented exactly the kind of opportunities and challenges that brought us together to serve the people of Maryland,” said Governor Moore. “It will not be easy, but this work is necessary if we are to build a government responsive to the people it serves and that leaves no one behind.”

The Board approved \$17.2 million in Capital Grants funding to foster essential capital projects for museums, community centers, medical and athletic facilities, community revitalization, and historical buildings. Capital Grant programs are administered through the Maryland Department of General Services’ Capital Grants Office, which provides administrative and technical support for a portfolio of more than 2,000 active capital grant projects valued at \$2 billion.

ects valued at \$2 billion.

“These grants are great investments for Maryland’s arts, sciences, culture, community, and health,” said Maryland Department of General Services Secretary Atif Chaudhry. “The department takes great pride in assisting these organizations with their ability to update, expand, or renovate their facilities.”

During the meeting, the board also sanctioned the state’s \$400 million General Obligation bond sale to fund the state’s capital projects and priorities. The sale follows the announcement of the state retaining its AAA bond rating from the three major rating entities—Moody’s, S&P Global Ratings, and Fitch Ratings—making Maryland one of only 13 states in the country to attain this coveted financial seal of approval.

“Retaining our AAA bond rating is an achievement that speaks to our sound fiscal policies and practices, saving Maryland taxpayers millions of dollars,” said Maryland Department of Budget and Management Secretary Helene Grady. “We are committed to maintaining this high standard going forward.”

Governor Wes Moore presided over the Board of Public Works meeting on March 15 at the Treasury Building in Annapolis. The meeting included approval for both \$17.2 million in Capital Grants funding and Maryland’s General Obligation bond sale, in addition to discussion about the



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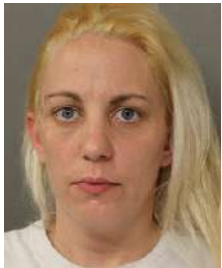
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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

Wanted: Karen Anne Granville



The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Karen Anne Granville, age 34 of Mechanicsville, for absconding from an authorized residential treatment facility on March 10, 2023. Prior to treatment, Granville was being held in the custody of the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no-bond status for Theft: \$100 to under \$1,500; Theft Scheme; Theft: \$1,500

to under \$25,000 and Robbery. Anyone with information on Granville's whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Joseph Bowling at 301-475-4200, ext. 71959 or email joseph.bowling@stmaryscountymd.gov. Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment

Wanted: Jermaine Cornelius Dorsey



The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office continues seeking the whereabouts of Jermaine Cornelius Dorsey, age 41, who is wanted for Second-Degree Escape. Dorsey failed to maintain a charge on his GPS ankle monitor and left his residence in Waldorf where he was sentenced to home detention. Dorsey was originally charged with Driving/Attempting to Drive a Motor

Vehicle without a License. Anyone with information on Dorsey's whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Joseph Bowling at 301-475-4200, ext. 71959 or email joseph.bowling@stmaryscountymd.gov. Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Identity Needed for Theft Suspect



after speaking with several employees, concealed a DeWalt lithium ion battery

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in a theft investigation. On Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 2:28 pm, the suspect arrived in the parking lot of the Ace Hardware in Leonardtown in a silver Ford sedan. The suspect walked into the store and

within his jacket. The suspect then left the business with the battery concealed in his jacket without paying. Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to contact Deputy Helen Deitrich at 301-475-4200, ext. 78066 or email helen.deitrich@stmaryscountymd.gov. Case # 12373-23 Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Lexington Park Man Arrested on Cocaine, Gun Charges



and Patrol Division, executed a search and seizure warrant at the residence of Jadon Bernard Somerville, age 22, at Park Pines Drive in Lexington Park. Detectives located a loaded Glock 22 .40-caliber handgun, four different packages of cocaine (both crack cocaine and powdered cocaine), a digital scale with cocaine residue, and both used and unused packaging materials. Somerville is prohibited from possessing firearms due to a previous conviction for Conspiracy to Possess

with the Intent to Distribute Cocaine. While the search and seizure warrant was being executed, Somerville was at the St. Mary's County Circuit Court for an unrelated case for Possession with the Intent to Distribute. Somerville entered a guilty plea on Friday and will be sentenced at a later date. Upon completion of the hearing, Somerville was taken into custody at which time an additional search and seizure warrant was executed on his person where multiple cellphones and a quantity of US currency was located. Somerville was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center where he was charged with Possession with the Intent to Distribute; CDS Possession: Cocaine and Illegal Possession of a Regulated Firearm. Somerville was held without bond.

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-CV-23-000102

Glen E. Vacek,
Plaintiff

v.

Chesapeake Land & Development
20720 Golden Thompson Rd 27, Site #27
Avenue, MD 20609

and

St. Mary's County, Maryland,

and

all unknown owners of the property described below, their heirs, devisees and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right, title and interest and any and all persons having or claiming to have an interest in the property described as:

20720 Golden Thompson Rd 27, Site #27, Plat 38/74, St. Patrick's Campground

and also known as Account Number 07-039182

Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property, sold by the Collector of Taxes for St. Mary's County to the Plaintiff:

20720 Golden Thompson Rd 27, Site #27, Plat 38/74, St. Patrick's Campground and also known as Account Number 07-039182

The Complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid. It is therefore on this 21st day of February, 2023, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland:

ORDERED, that notice be given by insertion of a copy of this ORDER in some newspaper having a general circulation in St. Mary's County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 21st day of April, 2023 and redeem the property and answer the Complaint, or thereafter a Final Judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the Plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Debra J. Burch
Clerk of Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-CV-23-000103

Glen E. Vacek,
Plaintiff

v.

Chesapeake Land & Development
20720 Golden Thompson Rd 28, Site #28
Avenue, MD 20609

and

St. Mary's County, Maryland,

and

all unknown owners of the property described below, their heirs, devisees and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right, title and interest and any and all persons having or claiming to have an interest in the property described as:

20720 Golden Thompson Rd 28, Site #28, Plat 38/74, St. Patrick's Campground

and also known as Account Number 07-039190

Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property, sold by the Collector of Taxes for St. Mary's County to the Plaintiff:

20720 Golden Thompson Rd 28, Site #28, Plat 38/74, St. Patrick's Campground and also known as Account Number 07-039190

The Complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid. It is therefore on this 21st day of February, 2023, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland:

ORDERED, that notice be given by insertion of a copy of this ORDER in some newspaper having a general circulation in St. Mary's County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 21st day of April, 2023 and redeem the property and answer the Complaint, or thereafter a Final Judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the Plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Debra J. Burch
Clerk of Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSAL ASPHALT MILL AND RESURFACING

The Commissioners of Leonardtown will be accepting bid proposals to mill and resurface Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, Maryland.

The job will consist of approximately 97,038 square feet to be milled 2 inches with a 2-inch overlay. The work shall include maintenance of traffic and striping per the Maryland State standard.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at Town Hall located at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650 on March 24, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. where an information packet will be distributed. A site visit will follow the pre-bid meeting.

Sealed bids are due no later than 10:00 a.m. April 3, 2023, at which time they will be publicly opened and read. The successful bid is projected to be awarded at the April 10, 2023, Town Council meeting with the work to be completed in April 2023. For further details, please contact Tony Wheatley by email at tony.wheatley@leonardtownmd.gov.

The Commissioners of Leonardtown reserve the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, and to accept any proposals deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

By Authority: Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator



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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY’S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-CV-23-000145

SINAN CESUR
19805 Center Avenue
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
Plaintiff

v.

STEVEN BROWN
4701 Sargent Rd., NE
Washington, DC 20017-2722

-and-

MATTIE L. BROWN
4701 Sargent Rd., NE
Washington, DC 20017-2722

-and-

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY’S COUNTY
P.O. Box 1
Leonardtown, MD 20650

-and-

CHRISTINE L. KELLY, Treasurer
P.O. Box 642
Leonardtown, MD 20650

and

Unknown owners of property known as Lt 10 & 11, Longview, 07-002955 the unknown owners, heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right, title and interest

Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property located in St. Mary’s County, Maryland, sold by the Collector of Taxes for the County of St. Mary’s and the State of Maryland to the Plaintiff, in this proceeding:

Account Number 07-002955, *UNASSIGNED, LT-10&11, LONGVIEW

The Complaint states, among other things, that the amount necessary for redemption has not been paid.

It is thereupon this **27th** day of **February**, 2023, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary’s County, Maryland, **ORDERED**, that this notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this Order in some newspaper having a general circulation in St. Mary’s County, Maryland, once a week for three (3) successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the **27th** day of **March**, 2023, and redeem the property above described and answer the Complaint or thereafter a final Judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the Plaintiff a title free and clear of all encumbrances.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY’S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-FM-23-000015

Brian Beidleman
4817 Coyle Rd
Owings Mills, MD 21117,
Plaintiff

Ashley N. Smith
27386 N. Sandgates Rd
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
Defendant

**NOTICE—ALTERNATE SERVICE
(Md. Rules 2-121, 2-122)**

Brian Beidleman, the above named plaintiff, has filed a petition/complaint titled Petition to Modify Custody in which he/she is asking the court to grant custody of a minor child.

The Circuit Court for St. Mary’s County may grant that relief unless Ashley smith, above named defendant, can show reasons why the court should not grant the relief. Ashley Smith must file a response to the petition/complaint/motion on or before May 10, 2023.

If Ashley Smith fails to respond within the time allowed, the court may enter a judgement by default or grant the relief sought, as long as a copy of this Notice is:

- published in a newspaper in this county/city at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks on or before April 12, 2023
- other: Complaint and related documentation mailed to Defendant’s last known address.

After the time period in the judge’s order has passed, you may ask the court for a default judgement or to move forward with your case.

Debra J. Burch
Clerk of Court for St. Mary’s County, Maryland
March 10, 2023



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If you would like to submit a legal notice,
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aldailey@countytimes.net

P.O. Box 250 Hollywood, MD 20636





Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

March 20th, 2023 marks the five year anniversary of the horrific shooting death of 16 year old Jaelynn Willey. Has anything been learned from this horrific incident? First and foremost, the Security Vestibules which is supposed to direct people through the office first prior to entering the school did not accomplish anything. A lot of taxpayer money was used for something that accomplished nothing. Many years prior to the shooting at Great Mills High School, as a member of a Superintendent's Safety and Security Committee, I clearly told the Board of Education that the most likely scenario of a major incident at any of the schools would likely be from "within." I was immediately ignored. No one wanted to consider the possibility.

What has changed in five years? Nothing. However, pending before our State legislators is another gun control effort. It is similar to existing law. If it passes and becomes law, it too is likely to be ignored by parents of children and teens even though the penalties may be potentially increased. What was true then, remains true today. If someone wants to kill someone, he will. Those that want more gun control should be looking at the age in Maryland to possess a long rifle or a shotgun. Whether it is a shotgun, pistol, rifle or a AR15, all of them can kill a person.

I believe what is NOT being addressed enough in our school system is the extent of mental illnesses in our schools. It is obvious to me that our school system is not adequately addressing this very, very extensive problem. The problem is so severe that it is and will be the main issue of fights and the

use of weapons of any type in our schools.

Our school system has spent millions on various superficial and cosmetic attempts to improve school security. I am 100% confident none of them will remotely slow down anyone that wants to carry out the next horrific act. As it stands now in the year 2023, it is not a matter of "if" but a matter of "when" it will be. Everyone realizes not all guns will be locked away from children. However, lets say it does occur. If a student wants to kill someone, he will. He would likely grab a knife instead. It is readily accessible. Will Maryland then pass a law to keep knives locked up from students?

Why can't they get a good handle on student mental illnesses and go from there? Too many children have never heard the word "NO" from their parents, guardian or grandparents. Too many children have grandparents trying to raise them. Too many children do not have a stable home life. Too many children have one or more parents addicted to drugs and or alcohol. Too many children have parents that simply don't take the time to spend time with their own kids. Kids need love and attention for proper mental and physical growth. And then there is the parent that is in jail. And then the guardian that takes the child to see his father or mother in jail. It doesn't help. And the list goes on. And then the rest of us wonder why there is a shooting in a school. Looking at gun laws to better secure weapons is fine. But, it is rather obvious it is putting a band aid on something that needs a tourniquet.

Roy Fedders

What is St. Mary's County Crime Solvers, Inc.?

The St. Mary's County Crime Solvers, Inc. is a non-profit designated 501(c)(3) organization that assists the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office in helping to solve crimes committed in St. Mary's County by providing rewards for information that leads to the arrest of criminals. This information can be provided anonymously by any person to the Sheriff's Office tip line (301-475-3333 24 hours a day).

The St. Mary's County Crime Solvers is NOT part of the St. Mary's County Government. Crime Solvers DOES NOT receive any tax dollars from the County, State or Federal Governments.

Crime Solvers is comprised of volunteers who lend their time and efforts in educating the community about the role of Crime Solvers, solicits donations and arranges fundraisers to obtain the money to be used for the rewards.

The St. Mary's County Crime Solvers began in 1979. Our group thought that through our continued efforts in providing the community pamphlets, pens, briefings, at various events plus rewards to individuals who anonymously provided information to take the criminals off the streets in St. Mary's County that the information was getting out to all. However it has become clear to us that information on Crime Solvers is

not getting to residents as we hear time and time again "What is Crime Solvers."

This is the reason for this letter to the Editor so hopefully it will reach more residents of St. Mary's County to fully explain Crime Solvers. Also if your organization would like to have a briefing on Crime Solvers to find out more information and to find out what your group might be able to do to help in this effort I will be very happy to speak to your group. Please contact me at the e-mail address listed below to arrange a date and time.

To date, except for a business or two, donations to help support this effort are very slim. Together we can help keep criminals off the street of St. Mary's County but it has to be a joint effort. Without adequate funds Crime Solvers CANNOT continue to provide sufficient rewards to all those who call in their tips. With your help and support this could be done. The full amount of your donation is tax deductible to the extent of the law since no goods or services were provided to you in relation to your contribution.

Let's make this a safer community for all.

Roy Dyson
Chairperson, St. Mary's County Crime Solvers, Inc.
E-mail: roydys0732@gmail.com

Sunny Squirrel Appointed Official Rec & Parks Mascot



Meet Sunny at the 2023 Cherry Blossom Festival

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County are pleased to announce the appointment of Sunny Squirrel as the Official Mascot for the St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks.

"I'm totally nuts about our awesome Recreation & Parks programs in St. Mary's County," exclaimed Sunny. "Sports, camps, parks, beaches, museums – we've got it all!"

Sunny will be making appearances at community events to promote Recreation & Parks programs. Residents are encouraged to take photos with Sunny at these events, and to tag the Department of Recreation & Parks on related social media posts with the hashtags #SunnySighting and #SquirrelSelfie.

Don't miss your next chance to meet Sunny at the St. Mary's County Cherry Blossom Festival, being held on March 18, 2023, from noon – 4 p.m. at Lexington Manor Passive Park, located at 21675

South Coral Drive in Lexington Park. Free event parking is available at Lancaster Park, located at 21550 Willows Drive in Lexington Park. Additional/overflow parking will be available at the Frank Knox Development Center located at 21748 Three Notch Rd in Lexington Park with an STS express shuttle to the event (\$1 per rider).

"We hope that Sunny's abounding energy and program knowledge will get the community as excited about Recreation & Parks as we are," said Arthur Shepherd, Recreation & Parks Director. "Join us at the Cherry Blossom Festival this weekend to meet Sunny and to enjoy a full day of fun for the entire family!"

For more information on St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks, please visit: stmaryscountymd.gov/recreate. Connect with us on social media at facebook.com/stmarysmdrecreation and twitter.com/stmarysrecparks.

Armitage Named to Power List of MD Attorneys



chosen for this accolade. She has practiced law in Lexington Park for thirty years.

The honor is bestowed upon "the most influential figures in law, higher education, health care, business, financial services and other fields". Recipients in the legal category are recognized as "the finest practitioners in this complex legal field in Maryland."

Armitage grew up in St. Mary's County and attended schools here. She founded her law firm in 1992 in Lexington Park and has extensive community involvement, including serving on the Boards of Directors for St. Mary's Ryken High School, the St. Mary's County Bar Association, and Bay Montessori School.

Armitage has also received the Maryland Bar Association's Pro Bono Service Award and was named a Leader in Law in 2021.

She was selected for Power List honor by the Editorial Leadership Team of *The Daily Record*, a Baltimore-based publication focused on business, law and government.

Lexington Park attorney Sue Ann Armitage has been named to *The Daily Record's* Power List of family law attorneys. Armitage was one of only 25 attorneys statewide

A View From The BLEACHERS



LAWN MAINTENANCE

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

Under average driving conditions, just two-and-half hours behind the wheel will cover the drive from Philadelphia to the University of Maryland. The directions are simple: merge on to I-95 South, set the cruise control until the D.C. Beltway, take the Route 1/College Park exit, head south for a couple minutes and... Welcome to Turtleville. If you miss the turn onto campus, purely by accident of course, RJ Bentley's is just down the road and offers adult elixirs, artery-clogging culinary treats and a full immersion into Terrapin mania.

A handful of years ago, Hakim Hart and Donta Scott made that trip from Philly while prospecting for a college and a basketball destination. The allure of Maryland would have been understandable for the two Philadelphia residents – a school close to home and a basketball program, one that had made the NCAA Tournament in four of its first five years since joining the Big 10 conference, that offered stability and consistent access to college basketball's best competition.

Fast-forward several years and the returns on that assessment of Maryland is mixed: the competition was as advertised, but the experience for Hart and Scott has been anything but stable.

The relationship between the University and its two recruits from the City of Brotherly Love started out well, as most relationships do. During their 2019-2020 freshman season, Hart and Scott were contributors on a nationally ranked Terps team. Led by senior PG Anthony Cowan and F Jalen Smith, Maryland won 24 games, were co-regular season Big 10 champions and appeared poised for an NCAA Tournament run.

Then...you know...COVID. The tournament was canceled and Terps' season ended as quickly as a snap of Thanos's fingers. Cowan's career at Maryland was over; Smith, who was just a sophomore, left for the NBA. Like so many student athletes at all levels, the 2019-2020 Terps deserved a better fate. But in 2020, life wasn't delivering many fairy tale endings.

Hart and Scott's sophomore season was a struggle. An undersized Terps team battled to a 17-14 overall record and managed a win in the NCAA Tournament. Considering the departed talent from the season before and the COVID-dictated scheduling challenges and empty arenas, the Turtles made the best of it.

The next year was an abject disaster. After a 5-3 start, and with patience running thin on his modest March and Tournament success, head coach Mark Turgeon and the University mutually agreed to part ways. Frankly, Turgeon quit on his team – kids he had no doubt asked for unwavering commitment. The team understandably tanked under interim coach Danny Manning and recorded Maryland men's basketball's first losing season since 1989.

The expectation, given the transfer portal and the flexibility it offers athletes, was that every Maryland player with remaining eligibility would run for the exits. The coach that recruited them left. The team cratered. A new coach with new philosophies was inbound. Check please.

But Scott and Hart stayed for their senior seasons. This not what players do now. Nor should they in cases like this. Hart and Scott certainly could have left. They probably even deserved to leave - college eligibility is finite and precious. Instead, they honored their commitment to Maryland. On the court this season, the results have been fantastic: a twenty-plus win season, an NCAA berth, a packed Xfinity Center and all expectations exceeded. The credit is not Hart's and Scott's alone, but they served as a bridge from the past, a mooring for the fragile present a foundation on which to build a future.

It being easier to replace than to nurture or repair, the search for greener personal grass – a better job, car, house or even spouse - is something of a societal compulsion now. Scott and Hart, displaying character beyond their years, chose to aerate and fertilize their Maryland lawn and to return to a sub-.500 team and a new coach, instead of leaping to a seemingly better situation. With Maryland's long and distinguished list of elite players, Hart's and Scott's basketball measurables won't pop, but these days, young men dedicating four years to a university and leading through tumultuous times rivals any statistical compilation.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

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April 22



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Pet OF THE WEEK



MEET IRIS

If you've got the HOME
I've got the LOVE!

Hello, my name is Iris. My Shelter Pals want to let you know some very important information....I'm available for adoption! I'm a BEAUTIFUL, SWEET, LONG HAIREd GIRL and I really really enjoy being petted. Believe it or not, I'll sit with you for hours as long as you keep petting me. I'm about 4 YEARS OLD and I can't wait to meet YOU! Iris you would make ME part of YOUR LOVING FAMILY! Please come meet me at the Petco in La Plata ASAP or email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov. BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! And remember, ALWAYS OPT TO ADOPT!! Help us make adoption the ONLY option.

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



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

Ray Taylor, 63



Ray Edward Taylor, "Opie", 63, Lexington Park, MD, formerly of Clarksburg, OH, passed away on February 27, 2023 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on April 3, 1959 in Cir-

leville, OH, he was the son of the late Martha (Wallace) Conley and the late Charles Taylor, Jr. Ray was the loving husband of Diana (Halasz) Taylor, whom he married on March 5, 1981 in Leonardtown, MD. He is survived by his children Jerod A. Taylor (Sara) of Lexington Park, MD, Athena N. Dyson (Keith) of Lexington Park, MD, and Jacob A. Taylor (Jenna) of Lexington Park, MD, his siblings Sheila Jewell (Gordon) of Williamsport, OH, Mike Taylor (Sharon) of Mt. Sterling, OH, Lee Taylor of Chillicothe, OH, his half-sister Sara Rings (Jeff) of Columbus, OH, his half-sister Tammy Poar (Roy) of Columbus, OH, three grandchildren Aaliyah, Joshua, and Lincoln, as well as one grandchild on the way. In addition to his parents, Ray was preceded in death by his sister Sue Jennings.

Ray graduated from Adena High School in 1977, as well as from Ross County Career and Technology Center (Automotive). He served in the United States Marine Corps as an aviation mechanic for four years, from July 22, 1977 to July 21, 1981; during this time, he was stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC. Ray moved to St. Mary's County, MD from Clarksburg, OH on October 5, 1981. He continued his career at HX-21 for over 41 years, starting as a maintenance contractor, promoting to supervisor, maintenance controller, and group manager. His knowledge, passion, and enthusiasm for the profession was known to all. Ray was a member of Abate, Bucksports, and enjoyed working on cars and Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Ray was a father figure to many, beloved by all who knew him. He was the man that anyone could turn to for guidance and mentorship, and a jack of all trades. For everyone who knew and worked with Ray, he was a man who treated all with respect, kindness, and real value.

The family will receive friends on Friday, March 10, 2023 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 3:00 PM with Deacon Walter Rourke officiating. Interment will be private. Serving as pallbearers will be Jerod Taylor, Jacob Taylor, Patrick Dyson II, Devon Johnson, Gene McNair, and Donnie Carter. Honorary pallbearers will be Kenneth Dyson, James Curtis, Dustin Harris, Kim Davidson, Gail Miller, and TJ Tutz.

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.

Helene Hautzenroder, 91



Helene Lou Hautzenroder, "Sis", 91, of Lexington Park, MD, passed away on February 26, 2023 at Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, D.C., surrounded by

her loving family. Born on September 11, 1931 in Keene, NH, she was the daughter of the late Jake Woods and Marie Woods. Helene is survived by her children, Joseph Hautzenroder (Sue) of NY, Michael Hautzenroder (Jah) of MD, Linda Hautzenroder of MD, and Debra Hautzenroder of VA, four grandchildren, Kielen Hautzenroder (Beth), Autumn Steier (Andrew), Audrey Young, and Skyler Young, three great grandchildren, Junie Hautzenroder, and Nora and Malachi Steier, her NH relatives, nephew Peter Wright (Regina), Niece Heidi Wells (Keith) and daughter Devon, great niece, Katie Parrelli (John), great nephew, Adam Wright (Nicole), and great nephew Michael Wright (Deb, fiance). She is also survived by her close friend and partner, DeForest Rathbone of MD. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph F. Hautzenroder, and her sister, Ann Wells.

Helene grew up in Keene, NH and graduated from Keene High School. Soon after graduation, she moved to Boston where she obtained a Licensed Practical Nursing Degree. She was then employed by Massachusetts General Hospital. During that employment, she also provided private care to individuals at home who required additional medical assistance. While in Boston, she also met the love of her life, Joseph F. Hautzenroder, who was in the military. Helene and Joseph were married in Keene, NH in 1951.

Helene and family were stationed at numerous duty stations throughout her husband's military career. The final duty Station was in Patuxent River, MD in 1961. Helene resumed employment several years after arriving in MD. She worked at St. Mary's Nursing Home and SMILE Adult Day Care. Later she became the driving force behind the establishment of St. Mary's County Developmental Center (later renamed The Center for Life Enrichment). She spent many years as the Director there. Her last job was at Cedar Lane Apartments, where she was employed as a Service Coordinator. She retired there at the age of 80. Helene made a significant impact at Cedar Lane. At the time of her retirement ceremony, she was presented with a wing of a building named after her; Helene Hautzenroder Wellness Center. Even in retirement, Helene continued to keep abreast of the needs of folks in St. Mary's County. She continued to provide visitation and assistance to those in need in any way she could.

Helene was a kind and gentle person who was full of love and positivity. She had grace and wit all rolled up in one. Her

selfless attitude and dedication to serving others leaves behind a beautiful legacy that will continue to inspire others. She derived pleasure in any family or friend event. She celebrated to the fullest; planning for holidays, special events, and made-up events. She enjoyed travel, eating out, pets, water color painting, reading, dining out, attending church, and shopping "with the girls". She was up for any adventure, and was at ease in any environment. Her children will always be grateful for the magical, happy, stable, calm, and loving support that she provided as a Mom throughout her life.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 from 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Lexington Park, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 AM with Father Marco Schad officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, it would be greatly appreciated if donations were made to The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 22375 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park, Maryland 20653, where Helene was a member for many years.

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

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

Remembering Our Beloved Helene Hautzenroder

On Sunday February 26, 2023, my beloved companion Helene passed peacefully at Georgetown Hospital with her loving family at her side. It occurred just days after she suffered a sudden damaging fall in her home. Prior to that unexpected tragic event, she had been in excellent physical and mental health having enjoyed the fellowship of fellow Christians at a recent church-sponsored Valentine dinner/dance. After which, in the blessing of God's timing, she had basked in the presence of her whole family home with her for birthday celebrations and home cooked meals.

Helene was a committed lifetime Catholic whose Christian faith life began as a small child who walked to her local church in her idyllic hometown of Keene, New Hampshire. After she completed her nursing education and became a Navy Wife, she raised her four children near several naval stations throughout the nation until finally settling in Southern Maryland where she and husband Joe sacrificed to send them to Catholic schools.

I first met Helene through my wife Katherine who had worked for Helene at Cedar Lane and became one of her best friends. The three of us had frequently enjoyed eating out and attending local entertainment, etc. After her husband passed, and my wife passed shortly afterward, we gradually began a friendly relationship that evolved into a very deep emotional commitment that grew and prevailed with our exchanging commitment rings signifying our deep love for each other. I was blessed as her children accepted me into her family.

Helene was a frequent contributor to numerous charities from her retirement savings that she so generously shared with those in need. She was a strong contributor to her church and church-related activities. She enjoyed giving presents to her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives, and friends. She was a frequent trusted counsellor to friends who needed moral support. She never held a grudge and always was willing to forgive and forget any real or imagined slights. She demonstrated Christ's forgiveness and love in all her relationships.

Ours was a perfect match as we both are people of strong faith fully committed to living our commitment to our Lord by regular weekly attendance at church worship, and regular financial contributions and service in church activities. Our love for each other reflected the Christian love of our church friends and family for us, which continues today in the comforting "Peace That Passeth Understanding" which lights up our lives—and our own passing on to Heaven.

She was not preachy, but hers was an excellent example for us to follow to help bring true happiness into our own life. The source of that happiness is memorialized in one of her favorite slogans, "BELIEVE!" Helene's perpetually happy face reflected her awareness of Christ's promise to herself and others who BELIEVE and obey His commands: "Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Thus, this is the beautiful legacy of Helene, one of the sweetest loving persons we could ever know. We all can thank God for allowing her to have been such an important part of our lives. Amen.

*DeForest "Dee" Rathbone
Beloved companion of Helene
Hautzenroder*

Al Guy, 93

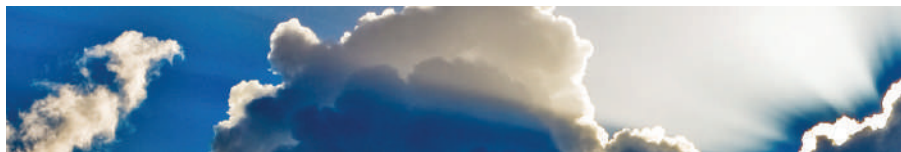


Albert "Al" Francis Guy, 93, of Clements, MD, passed away on March 9, 2023 surrounded by his loving family. Al was born on June 11, 1929 in Clements, MD to the late

Anna Mary Agnes Abell and the late Claude Eugene Guy. On June 14, 1952, Al married the late Eleanor "Micie" Ann Nelson, with whom he shared 49 years and 9 children.

Al is survived by his very faithful companion, Evelyn Diehl, and his children: Tammy Pilkerton (Charlie) of Clements, MD, Ellen Nelson (Wally) of Chaptico, MD, Dottie Nelson (David) of Clements, MD, Francis Guy (Sandy) of Clements, MD, Agnes Bennett (Tim) of Clements, MD, Tim Guy (Irene) of Spring Hill, FL, Brian Guy (Kim) of Clements, MD, Mike Guy (Dawn) of Clements, MD, and Sonny Guy (Jen) of Clements, MD, 24 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren.

Al was preceded in death by his siblings Joseph Stanton Guy, Claude Bryon Guy, Mary Agnes Hammett, Dorothy Elizabeth



Emig, Laura Cecelia Gass, Nellie Evangeline Patrick, Anna Gertrude Haden, Claudia Abell Yates, Frederick Edmund Guy, Charles Perry Guy, and George Aloysius Guy, his grandsons Dale Nelson and Josh Guy, and his granddaughter Candance Ann Goddard.

Al was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He attended St. Joseph's School in Morganza, MD and graduated from Charlotte Hall Military Academy in 1947. He enlisted in the Air Force on December 30, 1950. While in the Air Force, Al received many commendations for his aerial mapping photography while serving overseas in Tripoli during the Korean Conflict. Al was honorably discharged on November 29, 1954. Prior to the service, he worked for Georgie, delivering Arrow beer. After the service he worked for Wink at Guy Brothers Implements. In November of 1961, Al and Micie purchased the lawn and garden business from Wink, creating Guy's Brother Marine, Inc. Al worked on many small engines and quickly earned a reputation for servicing outboards, lawn mowers, chain saws, and water pumps. He built a quality business that provided for his family. After the death of Micie in 2001, Al passed the day-to-day management to his two sons, Francis and Mike, who still run the business today.

Al was a devout Catholic and dedicated member of Sacred Heart Church in Bushwood, MD. He was a fixture as the cashier for the church's dinners and loyal to the church choir until circumstances prevented him from being able to attend. Al was a charter member of the 7th District Optimist Club and served as President for the Optimist Club in 1978. He was the club's chaplain and official photographer and rarely missed an event. Al was a member of American Legion Post 221, Leonardtown Knights of Columbus Council, and former member of the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge.

In a few words, Al's life could be summed up as God, Family, Optimist, photography, bird watching, gardening, sudoku puzzles, fishing, and spending

time with family on his boat, the "Micie G". Over the course of his life, he enjoyed being a member of the local pool and duck pin bowling leagues, Rocking Chair Softball and pitching horseshoes. He never tired of watching local softball, the Washington Nationals, and looked forward to football season and attending Washington Redskins games with friends. Of course, he loved his Budweiser, which he referred to as "Vitamin B."

Al was a devoted husband, a present father, a supportive brother, and the perfect "Pop". He will be missed deeply by all of his family and friends and undoubtedly will be remembered as the "Greatest Guy".

The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 16, 2023 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 6:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, followed by recitation of the Rosary by the Knights of Columbus and an Optimist Prayer Service. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, March 17, 2023 at 10:30 AM in Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bushwood, MD, with Father Stephen Wyble officiating. Interment will follow at Charles Memorial Gardens in Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be his grandsons, Kevin Pilkerton, Gary Nelson, Danny Nelson, Kyle Bennett, Jason Guy, Austin Guy, Michael Guy, Jr., and Eric Guy. Honorary pallbearers will be his granddaughters, Laura Ward, Rachael Bowles, Kari O'Brien, Brandy Guy, Melissa Lacey, Amanda Goddard Bennett, Shannon Farrell, Catie Brown, Ashley Jo Guy, Mikaela Guy, Elaina Guy, Emily Guy, and Elyssa "Lou" Guy.

Contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Choir Fund, P.O. Box 37, Bushwood, MD 20618 and/or the Seventh District Optimist Club, P.O. Box 53, Bushwood, MD 20618.

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.

Sell it - Buy it at Auction

Tri County Livestock Auction

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the Month - Auction begins at 4 PM
Located Off MD Rt. 6 West - Charlotte Hall, MD

20th Annual "Millwood" Auction

Friday, March 17th - 2 pm

Groceries, Flowers/Plants, Box Lots, Misc. Items

Saturday, March 18th - 8:30 am

Farm Equipment/Machinery, Shop/Garage Items, Building Materials, Antiques/Collectibles, Tools, Lawn/Garden Items, Furniture & Crafts, Buggies, Hunting & Sporting Items, Toys, More

27429 Thompson Corner Rd. - Mechanicsville, MD

Tri County Livestock Auction

Special Lamb and Goat Auction - March 29, 2023 - 6 PM

Located Off MD Rt. 6 West - Charlotte Hall, MD

Anne Arundel County Young Farmers

Public Consignment Auction

Farm, Lawn & Garden Related Items

Saturday, April 1, 2023, 8 am

241 Farmhouse Lane, Lothian, MD

For more information call: 240-825-9509 or 240-486-6592

So. Md. NWF Hunting Heritage Banquet & Auction

Saturday, April 1, 2023, 4 pm

Charles Co. Fairgrounds - 8440 Fairground Rd, LaPlata, MD

Tickets Required. For more information call go to:

www.NWTF.org/events or call 301-752-4292

www.FarrellAuctionService.com

301.904.3402



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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

St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1658
 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 1080
 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 3101

Unless otherwise specified, all activities are open to Senior Activity Center participants ages 50+. Please call your local Senior Activity Center or visit StMarysMD.com/aging for the most up-to-date information.

Celebrating Centenarians

Deadline to Register is March 17, 2023
 Do you know someone living in St. Mary's County who is 100 years of age or older? We want to honor them at the Centenarian Celebration! The deadline for registration is Friday, March 17, 2023.

The St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to host the annual Centenarian Luncheon at the St. Mary's County Elks Lodge, located at 45779 Fire Department Lane, California, MD, at 11 a.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023.

Each honoree is limited to a maximum of three guests. Indicate the number of participants when registering. Honorees must be 100 years of age or older as of April 10, 2023.

For more information, or to register, contact Sarah Miller, Community Programs & Outreach Division Manager, at 301-475-4200, ext. 1073, or Sarah.Miller@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Spring Organizing Tips with Wendy Small

It's Spring! We all know what that

means... it's time to clean the house. Back by popular demand: local professional organizer, Wendy Small of RES Multiservices, will provide tips & tricks to help you organize while cleaning this season! This hour-long presentation at Northern Senior Activity Center on Tuesday, March 28, from 1-2:30 p.m., will be followed by a Q&A session. Handouts will be made available. To register for this event, click on the "View and Sign Up for Activities and Programs" button at www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging. Accommodations can be made for those requiring registration assistance by leaving a message at 301-475-4200, ext. 3115.

Community Shred & Medication Take Back Day

Do you have paper documents with personal information that you'd like to purge? Or do you have unused, unwanted, or expired medications in your cabinets? This is your chance to dispose of them safely at the Community Shred & Medication Take Back Day! This event will be held on Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the

Department of Aging & Human Services, located at 41780 Baldrige St, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

This event is a cooperative effort between the Department of Aging & Human Services, St. Mary's County Health Department, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, and the St. Mary's County Department of Public Works & Transportation. Shredding services, medication collection, and safe disposal of medical sharps will be offered, all free of charge!

For more information, contact Community Programs & Outreach Manager Sarah Miller at sarah.miller@stmaryscountymd.gov or 301-475-4200, ext. 1073.

Watercolors with T.L. Ford: Chickadee

Theresa Ford will be at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, April 12, at 1 p.m. to teach you how to paint a small watercolor painting. This month's subject will be a sweet little chickadee. Cost of \$25 includes the use of professional grade supplies and materials, plus instruction, and a completed project you can take home. Classes are suitable for beginners as well

as advanced students. Advance registration and payment is required. Register and pay for these classes at www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging or leave a message on our reservation line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660.

Insurance 101

The Maryland Insurance Administration will offer a free presentation- Insurance 101- at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, April 12, at 10 a.m. The primary role of the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) is to protect consumers from illegal insurance practices by ensuring that insurers and producers that operate in Maryland act in accordance with State insurance laws. Find out what you need to know about insurance and the many types available from the agency that is designed to protect you. Register for this presentation at www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging or leave a message on our reservation line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Limited seating available.

"I've journeyed to 7 continents in 7 days to run 7 marathons to push the limits of mind and body. But there are many reasons to run for Hospice including an awesome community vibe & the most EPIC brunch on earth. But the best reason? You'll help Hospice of St. Mary's provide care to those facing a terminal illness. Not a runner? Do the Fun Walk - a great way to start your own journey"

I run for distance. And for Hospice.

Legendary Ultra Runner Mike Wardian
 World Marathon Challenge Champion
 3X Run for Hospice participant

26th Run & Walk for Hospice

Saturday, April 15th, 2023 | Leonardtown, MD | Register/sponsor at runforhospice.org

"When you look back on life, you may find the greatest investment you ever made wasn't in a stock or market, but in another person's life."

Sponsor our event! See runforhospice.org or call:

Emily 301-994-3075 | Jim Dicus 240-925-5423

100% of all net proceeds benefit Hospice in providing care to the terminally ill.



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, Mar 16

Ham & Cabbage Dinner—Aux of Leonardtown Vol Fire Dept

Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department
22733 Lawrence Ave, Leonardtown
4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Auxiliary of the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring a Ham and Cabbage Dinner on 16 March from 4:30pm—7:00pm. The dinner will be held in the social hall of the fire house. Dine in or carryout! Dinner includes ham, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, applesauce, cornbread, and drinks!!! Adults \$16; Seniors (65+) \$15; Children 10 and under \$15; Carryout \$16. Visit our Facebook page at fb.me/e/YBqAxOCX

Fri, Mar 17

Lenten Fish-Shrimp Dinners St. George Catholic Church

St. George Catholic Church
19199 St. George's Church Rd
Valley Lee
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

St. George Catholic Church Lenten Dinners—Every Friday evening dinners
Menu is Shrimp or Fresh Catfish with Pancit, French Fries, Fritters and Soup.
\$20 per dinner, we hope to see you again this year!

Lenten Seafood Dinners

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
22375 Three Notch Road
Lexington Park
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Special Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner available

Adult meals include two sides, plus three hush puppies and coleslaw
\$16 steamed rockfish or fried shrimp, baked rockfish or fried rockfish
\$17 fried oysters or fried scallops
\$24 seafood platter
Sides: Green beans, French fries, mac and cheese, stewed tomatoes, three extra hush puppies
Kids Meal: Five fish sticks and one side for \$5.

Order online at seafood.ihmrc.org (credit card, Google Pay or ACH)
Order in person: cash or check
Desserts offered by IHM cash only

Sat, Mar 18

St. Mary's MD Cherry Blossom Festival @ Lexington Manor Park

Lexington Manor Passive Park
21675 South Coral Dr
Lexington Park
12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

You must enjoy the cherry blossom season at St. Mary's, Maryland. Join outdoor enthusiasts as they stroll around the Lex-

ington Manor Passive Park's Cherry Blossom tree area. Maryland Day festivities, disc golf instruction, fun runs, skateboarding demonstrations, face painting, and arts & crafts are all available to festival attendees. If you are in the mood to shop, visit the food and vendors while listening to live music. Parking for the event will be available at Lancaster Park 21550 Willows Dr. in Lexington Park. Admission: Free

Southern MD Fishing & Outdoor Adventure Fair

St. Mary's Country Fairgrounds
42455 Fairgrounds Rd, Leonardtown
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Event sponsored by Southern MD Recreational Fishing Organization Inc. Fishing & outdoor vendors; speakers; MD Boater Safety Course; Kids Casting Contest, door prizes and more.
www.smrfo.org

Quarter Auction—Golden Beach

Mechanicsville Firehouse Golden Beach
29848 Therese Circle, Mechanicsville
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Benefits Golden Beach/Patuxent Knolls Civic Association

Doors open at 5pm Auction starts at 6pm
Come dressed in green to show us your St. Patty's Day spirit and get a free paddle when you purchase 2

Food will be available for purchase. There will also be a 50/50 and basket raffles

Win products from some of your favorite companies for just a few quarters.

1 paddle \$3 or 2 paddles \$5. Quarters will be available to purchase or you can bring your own.

Sun, Mar 19

33rd Pastoral Anniversary

First Missionary Baptist Church
46370 Pegg Lane, Lexington Park
10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

You are cordially invited to join us on Sunday, March 19th, 2023 at First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC) as we celebrate our Pastor, Roderick W. McClanahan; a true man of God, on his 33rd Pastoral Anniversary. The guest preacher for the occasion will be Pastor Reginald Farmer, True Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church, Washington, DC.

The celebration will be held in the FMBC Sanctuary during our 10:00am Divine Worship. Please be advised masks are required, temperatures will be taken upon entry and hand sanitizer is available. The celebration will also be available virtually by phone by calling 617-691-8533 or by video meeting ID: join.freeconference-call.com/fmbc0.

For additional information please contact First Missionary Baptist Church at 301-863-8388. We are located at 46370 Pegg Lane, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library



Maryland Day History Talk

Join Karen Stone, Division Manager of the St. Mary's County Museums, for a special seminar on our local history at Leonardtown Library on Tuesday, March 21 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. Karen will discuss the founding of Maryland from the perspective of local indigenous peoples and their relations with various colonial groups.

Genealogy Series - Ancestry Library Edition

This session will review Ancestry: Library Edition on a more detailed level and build upon the foundations discussed from the Basics program at the Lexington Park Library on

Wednesday, March 22 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. The first Library: Ancestry Edition session discussed a basic approach to the platform. This one (while beginners and anyone interested are still welcome!) will go through actually searching on Ancestry. Results will be examined, discussed, and analyzed. The purpose is to understand: (1) how to filter search results, (2) understanding documentation and citation, and the root source, (3) identifying the different types of sources and best practices behind searching on Ancestry. The majority of this program will be spent on the Ancestry website, walking through, step-by-step, a search process, from a generic search to a more advanced one. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Outdoor Storytime at St. Clement's Island Museum

Stories, songs, and activities for children with their adult caregivers, outdoors at St. Clement's Island Museum on Saturday, March 25 from 1 - 1:30 p.m. Siblings welcome; please register once per family group. Rain date: May 13. This activity will take place outdoors on the grass. Participants should bring blankets or chairs for comfort. After storytime, explore the museum and grounds- admission fees will be waived for families attending storytime! In case of rain, storytime will be postponed until May 13th. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Thanks! It Has Pockets! An Introductory Sewing Class

Have a skirt or dress that you love, but it doesn't have pockets? Learn how to add your own! Bring a skirt or dress to work on and we'll provide the rest! Saturday, March 25 at Leonardtown Library from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Basic hand-sewing skills are not required (though they may help). We will go over all the steps needed to add your own pockets to your clothing so that you will never find yourself lacking somewhere to put your phone, wallet, keys, etc. Needles, thread, and fabric for the pockets will be provided. Just be sure to bring your own clothing item to work on. We highly recommend you select a skirt or dress that you are not extremely attached to, in case of any accidents. Items with side-seams may be easier to maneuver your first time, though we will go over how to add pockets to items with or without them. Register on www.stmalib.org.



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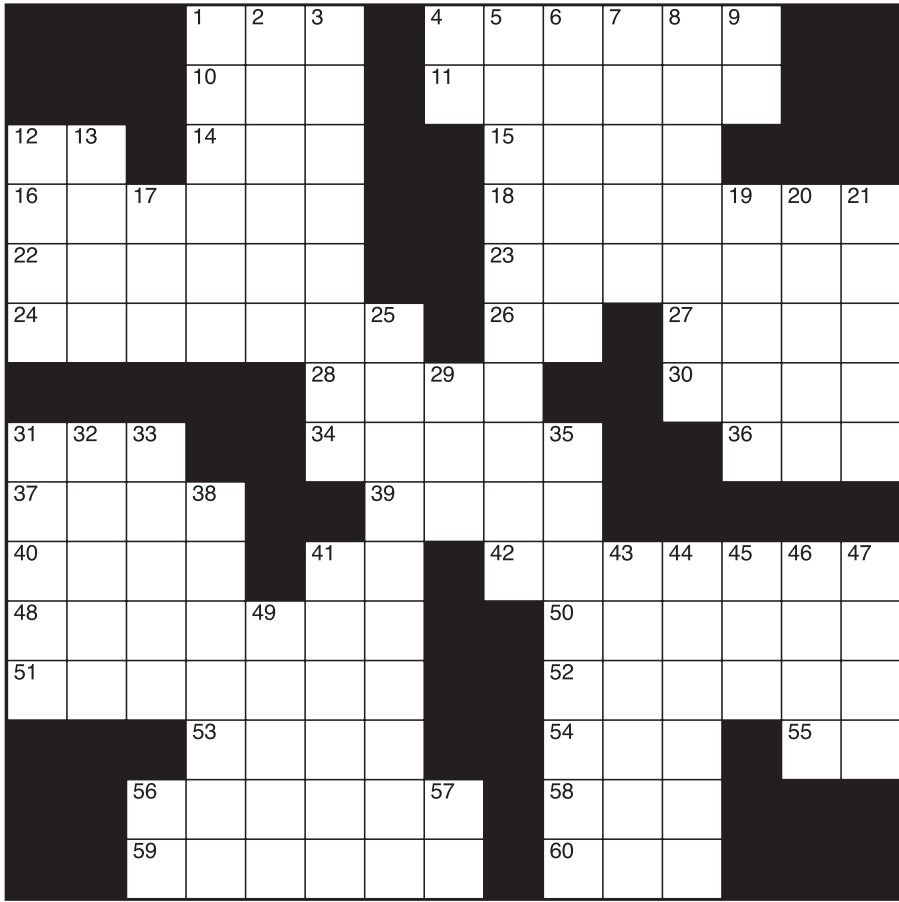
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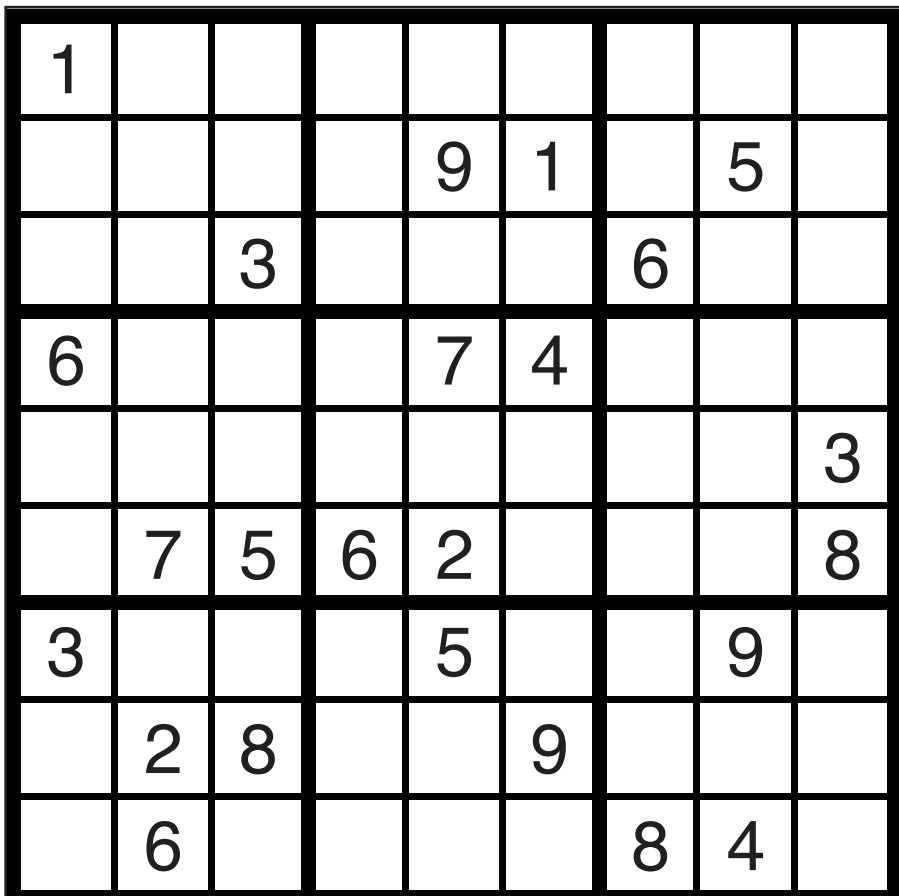


CLUES ACROSS

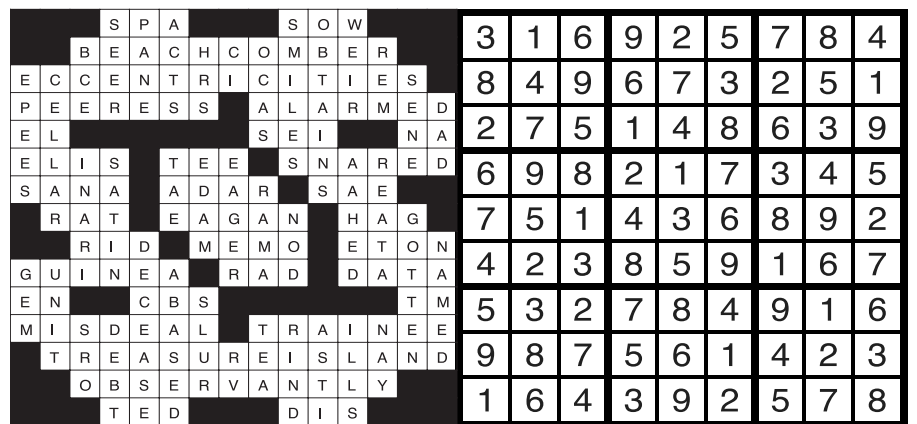
- 1. Belonging to a thing
- 4. Pass or go by
- 10. Partner to cheese
- 11. Subjects
- 12. U.S. State (abbr.)
- 14. Bits per inch
- 15. Forest-dwelling deer
- 16. Illinois city
- 18. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 22. Wholly unharmed
- 23. Cuddled
- 24. Bane
- 26. Global investment bank (abbr.)
- 27. Oh my gosh!
- 28. Arrive
- 30. Famed Spanish artist
- 31. Home of "Frontline"
- 34. Group of quill feathers
- 36. Keyboard key
- 37. Army training group
- 39. Detail
- 40. Pole with flat blade
- 41. Football play
- 42. Makes unhappy
- 48. Island in Hawaii
- 50. Back in business
- 51. Of an individual
- 52. Painful chest condition
- 53. Tropical American monkey
- 54. Matchstick game
- 55. For instance
- 56. Even again
- 58. Popular beverage
- 59. Evaluate
- 60. Time units (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Stain one's hands
- 2. Nocturnal hoofed animals
- 3. Back condition
- 4. Popular movie alien
- 5. City of Angels
- 6. Peaks
- 7. Infantry weapons
- 8. Left
- 9. Atomic #99
- 12. Told a good yarn
- 13. Vale
- 17. Resistance unit
- 19. Aquatic plant
- 20. Bluish greens
- 21. About some Norse poems
- 25. Reinforces
- 29. Egyptian mythological goddess
- 31. Supportive material
- 32. Subatomic particle
- 33. Expired bread
- 35. Cereal grain
- 38. Goes against
- 41. Walkie ___
- 43. One who does not accept
- 44. Beliefs
- 45. Indicates near
- 46. Brazilian NBA star
- 47. Grab quickly
- 49. Romantic poet
- 56. College dorm worker
- 57. Set of data



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



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, Mar 16

Helping Your Child Manage Big Emotions

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way (Zoom & In Person)
5:30pm-7:30pm

Does your child have meltdowns you would love to prevent? Do you want to help your child learn how to regulate their emotions and become a self-aware problem-solver? "The Zones of Regulation" will help you learn regulation strategies to teach your child for managing emotions and sensory needs. Focused on ages 4+. Presentation followed by Q&A. In partnership with Calvert County Public Schools., 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

S.T.E.A.M. PUNKS

Calvert Library Southern Branch,
13920 H. G. Trueman Rd, Solomons
6-7 p.m.

Question, Discover and Explore! Experience new technology and techniques as we adventure with science, engineering, math and the arts! This month we'll be mixing music and science, testing the limits of our voices. For performers in grades 2 to 7. Registration required. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Sat, Mar 18

Garden Smarter: Native Plants

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way, 10-11 a.m.

Presented by: Butterfly Alley. Cost effective and practical strategies for creating a native plant landscape. Calvert County Community Resource Bldg., 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Family Game Day

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Rd, Solomons
1-4 p.m.

Drop-in between and play board and card games in the meeting room. Choose from our selection of classic and new games, or bring your own. We have Happy Salmon, Yahtzee, Doomlings, Sorry!, What Do You Meme Family?, Game of Thrones Monopoly, Jenga Giant, chess, Last Word, and more. Children, teens, and their families are all welcome! Registration not required. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

St. Patrick's Day "Leprechaun Hunt"

ACLT North Side Trailhead
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Based on the book, "The Leprechaun Story", families go through a "field of shoes" reading clues to help them find the pot of gold. BONUS: FIND ROCKS PAINTED W/ 4-LEAF CLOVERS

Sun, Mar 19

Pirates of the Chesapeake: Salty Seadogs on MD Shores

North Beach Town Hall
1:30-2:30 p.m.

Bayside History Museum Lecture Series. Experience through the narration of Donald Grady Shomette, author of the best seller Pirates on the Chesapeake and many other books and tales of the Tidewater, the exploits of a dazzling array of pirates, picaroons and sea rovers that terrorized the Maryland and Virginia Tidewater for two centuries and changed our history forever. Registration not required but will get you a reminder! Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Mon, Mar 20

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance - VITA

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way, 9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

VITA provides free federal and state tax preparation services for households whose total household income is \$57,000 or less. We will only be completing Federal and Maryland State tax returns (No DC or other state returns). Prior tax returns from the last four years can be completed, but a separate appointment must be made for each tax year that's needed. Taxpayers are required to provide the following items to be successfully completed: Photo Identification for tax filers, Social Security Card and/or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) cards for everyone on the return, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Wed, Mar 22

Working Wednesdays - 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>

Sleepy Stuffies Storytime

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Rd, Solomons
6:30-7 p.m.

Wear your jammies and bring your favorite stuffed animal as we wind down from our busy day! We'll begin by getting our wiggles out and then snuggle up for stories and songs. Suggested for children 0-5. Older siblings are welcome to attend. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Thu, Mar 23

Calvert Conversations

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
3819 Harbor Rd, Chesapeake Beach
10-11 a.m.

Some of the who, what, where, why and when of local history! We sometimes meet-up at local places. Call 410-257-2411 for up-to-date information. Meetup at: Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory The Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) is a state-of-the-art archaeological research, conservation, and curation facility located at Jefferson Patterson Park ; Museum, the State Museum of Archaeology, in southern Maryland. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Southern Branch

13920 H. G. Trueman Rd, Solomons
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Stop by for your job search needs! Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource., 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Lawyers in the Library

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way, 12-2 p.m.

Need help with an expungement? Have civil legal questions? Meet briefly with an attorney at the library to get hands on help. We will also be offering JobSource help with resumes and job searching and information about treatment, recovery, healthy lifestyles, conflict resolution, youth intervention, vocational training and more. Partners include MD Legal Aid, SoMD JobSource, and Healthy Beginnings from Calvert County Health Department and Calvert County Community Mediation Center. No cost. Registration is not required but if you provide information about the charges you wish expunged, the process may go more quickly, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Studio in the Stacks: Spring Paint Night

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

Step into spring by joining us for a night of painting, connection, and food! Registration is required for this teen program-ages 13-18. Bring your creativity as we will paint a whimsical design on canvas. Enjoy pizza and time to connect in this creative community! Be sure to register as this event has a limited number of seats, 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

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In Remembrance

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.



Lyn Striegel, 74

Whether as attorney, businesswoman, or artist, Lynda Joy Striegel approached all her professional endeavors as works of art. Beloved mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, friend, and colleague to so many in Calvert County and beyond, Lyn passed away in her home office in North Beach on the morning of March 11th, 2023. She was 74.

Born in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, to Clifford and Grace Green, Lyn would earn her M.A. in English from the University of Toronto, where she became a protégé to the great literary theorist and philosopher Marshall McLuhan, an experience that indelibly shaped her mind, triggered her intellect, and played no small part in what was to become a prodigious legal career. After earning her J.D. at the Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C., she became an Associate at Skadden Arps, then Senior Counsel at Sallie Mae. Supervising Attorney, Securities and Exchange Com-

mission, Senior Counsel, Bank of America, Riggs Bank, and Barnett Bank, VP of Product Development, SEI Investments, are but a few notable entries in her extensive legal resume. In 2002, she arrived in our little beach town, where she started her private practice specializing in living trusts and estate planning.

Lyn's true passion was painting. As a youth she drew inspiration from her brief time amid the desert expanse of Arizona, the turquoise of the sky and deep hues of the rocks finding their way onto her canvasses. Her work would later take equal inspiration from the Bay.

From the instant of her arrival, Lyn was devoted to the betterment of the Chesapeake and North Beach communities. She founded the Bay Business Group, Beach Trolley Association, and Artworks at 7th, was a columnist for the County Times, and served on the North Beach Town Council.

Lyn now joins her partner, Jim Andre, who passed away in 2020. She is survived by her son David Bettino and his father Donald, her sister Carolyn, nephew Zak and his wife Amanda and their children Indy and Noah, her stepchildren Brett and Kat, and grandchildren Maleiya and Conner.

Memorial details will be provided at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks mourners to visit Art Works at 7th, and buy something if the spirit moves you.

What's Coming to Calvert

The following list of pending site plans was presented to the Calvert County Planning Commission at their March 15 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.

CSPR-142795, Calvert Gateway, Lot 12R, Retail Building 'A,' located at 10380 Town Center Boulevard, Dunkirk, on a 4.04-acre lot, zoned Dunkirk Town Center. Proposed 15,493-square-foot building for commercial retail space with parking and site improvements. This project is on private water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted February 23, 2022. Agent: Bay Engineering

CSPR-142828, Magnolia Ridge West, located at Armory Road and Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, on multiple parcels totaling 24.497 acres, zoned Prince Frederick Town Center, New Town District. Proposed approximately 91,000 square feet creating 79 townhomes. This project is on public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted April 27, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

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-foot 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

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

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

CSPR-142871, Calvert Hills - Phase II, located on Calvert Hills Road, Prince Frederick on a 2.33-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Village. This project is proposed for 35 apartment units, served by public water & sewer, to complete the development that started with Calvert Hills - Phase I. The concept submittal was accepted October 26, 2022. Agent: Bay Engineering.

CSPR-142896, Dunkirk Business Center - Lot 3, Flex Space, located on Keith Lane, Owings on a 1.15-acre parcel, zoned I-1 Light Industrial. Proposed 9,750-square-foot, one-story building for flex space. The project will have private water and septic. The concept submittal was accepted October 26, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett.

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

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: Barrett & Associates

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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Hearing Set on Staff Recommended Budget Contains No New Money for Schools

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The March 21 public hearing on county government's Staff Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 will present a document that includes no new money for the Board of Education even though they are asking more than \$22 million more from the county and even though almost \$10 million of that is funding required by the state as part of the Blueprint education reform.

But Calvert County Commissioner President Buddy Hance notes that the hearing is just the beginning of the process. The county still doesn't know what revenue to expect, how much Dominion will be paying after the phaseout of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) and how much the state will be paying for the Blueprint.

The staff budget does include \$41.4 million from prior year's fund balance that can presumably be applied to the school board and other requests, leaving it up to the commissioners in the end to make all



of those difficult decisions.

The budget which is now available online includes a cover letter to the commissioners that explains some of the budget:

"The General Fund budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 begins July 1, 2023, and totals \$374.0 million for expenditures and revenues. The staff budget includes \$41.4 million use of

Prior Year Fund Balance because expenditures exceed revenues. The staff recommended budget prioritizes education, public safety, capital investments and maintaining a high level of service to our community. This budget reflects an expenditure increase of \$31.9 million as compared to the FY 2023 General Fund budget of \$342 million.

"The primary decrease in General Fund revenues is due to the Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) agreement the Cove Point liquified natural gas facility that will transition from a PILOT to a 42 percent tax credit on July 1, 2023. As we prepare for

slower revenue growth, it is imperative that the deployment of financial resources be handled, as they have in the past, with sincere prudence. To that end, staff continues to tirelessly seek new vision dedicated to pushing the limits of service on behalf of our citizens. With efficiencies in place, staff recommends no new staff or new program initiatives be included in the FY 2024 budget.

"This FY2024 staff recommended budget includes: Operating funding for Calvert County Public Schools at \$141.3 million, which is level funding compared to FY2023.

"The State of Maryland passed HB1450 in 2021, which revises the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements. There are several items that need to be finalized before moving forward with the new MOE calculation.

"The Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) contribution of \$752 thousand. The full actuarial determined contribution will be adjusted and reflected in the FY 2024 budget once the calculation is finalized. \$3.0 paving program. A General Fund contribution of \$12.7 million to the capital projects fund.

"An additional \$12.7 million in new requests requested by staff and \$22.4 from Calvert County Public Schools but are not

funded in this budget.

"FY 2024 is projected to see an increase in real property tax revenue, our largest source of revenue. The reassessment of Tax District 3 (the north section of the county) reported an 18.9 percent increase in the calendar year 2022 triennial assessment, which will be phased in over a three-year period. We also anticipate a limited amount of new construction in our estimate of real property tax revenues.

"The six-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) totaling \$501.4 FY 2024-2029. Education (school construction/renovation/systemic repairs) accounts for the largest category totaling \$112.3 million of the CIP budget, as we focus significant resources on the renovations/additions of Beach Elementary and Northern Middle Schools. In the CIP budget, the Enterprise Fund is the next largest group budgeted at about \$106.7 million."

The Staff Recommended Budget hearing on March 21 will be at 7 p.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room, located in the Calvert County Circuit Courthouse, Second Floor, at 175 Main St. in Prince Frederick.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Next Year's School Calendar Adopted Includes an August 24 opening

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of Education has approved a calendar for the next school year with an early start date of Thursday, Aug. 24. The vote to accept the recommendation of the committee which developed the calendar was 2-1, with board member Lisa Grenis opposing. Vice President Antoine White and member Jana Post were not in attendance.

Director of System and Instructional Performance Jackie Jacobs explained, "The early start date was proposed as a way to add some flexibility within the calendar in response to the changing of state assessments, with some state assessments starting earlier, trying to get in school a little bit earlier before those testings were to occur."

Jacobs said of the 70 responses received during the comment period, 55 wanted a start after Labor Day or at least no earlier than the week of Aug. 28.

Jacobs said, "A few suggested that the community would like more notice if the system were to start earlier than the last week of August."

Grenis agreed. She said, "If it gets approved now, parents may have already made arrangements for vacations or camps that are non-refundable. Vacations, for example, are scheduled months if not a year

in advance. And it seems like we're not giving enough notice at this time. If this calendar starts next year, it seems like we need to make these kinds of changes sooner."

Jacobs said they plan on starting the calendar deliberations earlier in the future.

Board member Dawn Balinski, who supported the calendar presented, said she had personally heard from teachers who supported the earlier start. "Our kids are back for sports anyway," she was told.

Balinski added regarding problems with vacation schedules, "It is unfortunate that people may have already booked. That is unfortunate. And you know, in Maryland, they should have been wary about Labor Day anyway, because at one point the governor told us when to start. So, we've had this bouncing back and forth between Labor Day and before Labor Day."

Jacobs explained what goes into developing the calendar. She said state law requires students to be in school for 180 days within a 10-month period and, "may not be open on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The holidays are Thanksgiving Day and the day after, Christmas Eve, and then through January 1st, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President's Day, the Friday before Easter, and from then through Monday after Easter, Memorial Day, and primary and general election days.

Calvert is exempted for election days

but follows it anyway because schools are used as polling places.

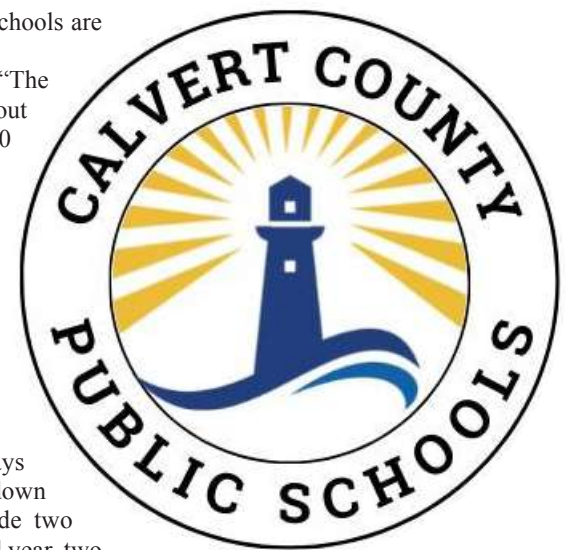
She further explained, "The negotiated agreements talk about 10-month staff working 190 days, 12-month staff 245 days." The agreement also calls for six, two-hour early dismissal or late start days, which are designated as "work time for teachers. Teacher work time within the calendar is typically scheduled around the marking period for teachers to finalize their grades," Jacobs said.

There are 13 of those half days built into next year's calendar, down from 15 this year. They include two half days at the end of the school year, two for graduations, and one for parent conferences on Columbus weekend.

The number of half days also drew negative comments from some survey respondents and also were questioned by Grenis and Balinski.

The calendar also has three built-in snow days and Grenis suggested they would be better served for in-school instead of the two half days at the end of the year, when learning is difficult.

A point on which Grenis and Balinski agreed – calendar building is difficult. Grenis said to Jacobs, "This is one job I think



would be incredibly challenging to tackle. So, thank you."

Jacobs responded, "It was a lot of combined effort, and we had some great discussions and really talking through what are the constraints versus what are some things that we can do to make it the best calendar we can."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Historic District Sought for Solomons House



The Vail House

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

Owners of one of the most recognizable houses on Solomons Island have applied for a Historic District designation. The county commissioners and planning commission will schedule a joint work session to discuss the request.

At the commissioners' March 14 meeting, Historic Preservation Planner Christopher Sperling explained, "Mr. Donald P. McDougall applied for Historic District designation for the property to be known as the Vail House at 14280 South Solomons Island Road, Solomons," adding, "The Historic District Commission (HDC) voted 6-0, with one member not voting,

to recommend the designation of the Vail House Historic District at their meeting on March 8, 2023."

The Maryland Historic Trust said of the Vail House, also known as the John R. Lankford House, "This extraordinary house faces west onto Solomons Island Road. It is a late-nineteenth-century two-story framed Queen Anne house, the most architecturally pretentious house to survive from the Victorian era in Solomons. Set on a brick foundation, it is a two-story framed and weatherboarded structure with a wood-shingled steep pyramidal roof. It is square in plan and has a brick chimney located at its center. Asymmetrical architectural elements include a half-round stair bay set onto the north side of the house, a second story bowed window sheltered by a front-facing gable that is embellished with sawn and turned woodwork and -- most prominently -- a cylindrical southwest corner tower with a conical wood-shingled roof. The west and south sides of the house are sheltered by a one-story hipped-roof porch supported on Doric columns with rails and balusters between them. The front center of the porch is emphasized by a front-facing gable. A wooden picket fence encompasses the lot."

The trust in their survey said, "This house was built in 1902 for Captain Philip T. Vail, a native of Oyster Bay on Long Island in New York. Vail was a successful pound net

fisherman on the Patuxent River."

Dan Baker's great-grandfather owned the house. He is safety officer for county government and gave the commissioners some of the house's history at the meeting.

Baker said that Captain Vail, when he came down the Potomac River and around to the Patuxent, saw the property and "fell in love. He wanted to build a house there. The first house was out on the front next to the biological lab. The biological lab has the old house now." He added, "They used to live there first and then they had the big house built. All the wood came from Hooper's Island. In the original pictures we donated to the museum, it's just a big potato field as far as you can see."

Baker said in the 1970's there was an open house and his grandfather "took me room to room (to explain) whose room this was. They got the first oil heat or gas heat in the county. They had the first running water in the house. And that was a big thing."

"Baker added, "When you go up the spiral staircase going upstairs...they have all the glass on the windows," adding, "It was all hand blown. And my grandfather would give ne titbits on this and that and different things. But I'm glad to see him preserve it."

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High School Principals Defend the 'Playbook'

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

Calvert County's four high school principals defended the controversial "Playbook" program during a presentation at the March 9 school board meeting. School board member Lisa Grenis asked the principals a number of questions during the presentation and later suggested the board look for cheaper alternatives.

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Susan Johnson explained, "Program expectations are about increasing literacy, developing leadership skills, and developing team building skills. And the overall goals are for students to maintain a positive outlook in their academics, in their behavior, and in their attendance. The overall goal with the program also was to identify a group of 50 students with the most needs and provide them with the necessary support through monthly Playbook sessions, focused on goal setting, meeting goals, and increasing literacy. And the outcome of those meetings would be that our students would be increasing their achievement and decreasing the number of days absent that they had and decreasing their referrals."

Johnson said, "At the beginning, 197 students were identified for the program. And at the end of the second marking period, there were 176 students in the program." Some dropped out and others were

added. More than 40 students were selected to go to the Super Bowl, which was paid for by the company that runs the program.

Johnson explained, "The Playbook experience included a full school motivational session with Dr. Eric Thomas and his team. He provided an in-person session with each of the 50 students at each school. He did a parent session with the selected students. He had in-person optional session with high school staff. And the experience also included the youth outreach exposure. And these are opportunities that occur outside the normal school day, allowing students to connect and network with peers. Some of those opportunities included Saturday morning movies. They had the book mobile at different sessions. And then, we have also the Super Bowl experience."

Grenis said, "I had the pleasure meeting with all the principals to get their perspective, and they seem very positive about it, but I've also had the pleasure of talking to community and teachers and hearing on their side. So, there are positive and negative."

She asked the criteria for identifying the students who got to go to the Super Bowl.

Calvert High School Principal Darrel Prioleau explained, "It was based on the parameters that we set at the beginning of the school year. We looked at the attendance, their behavior and their academics. We monitored and we collected that

data weekly from the time that we put these students in the program. We looked at that data weekly, we communicated weekly with School Days Foundation (program presenter), and then the students were selected maybe about three weeks before the Super Bowl. We started defining who those students would be. And then, once we got closer and closer, we defined five students for my school. It worked out perfectly because when we drilled down and we started looking at the students, five of our students stood out, they maintained their academics. their grades stayed at par. Either they stayed the same or they increased, and we had no issues with them with behavior."

Regarding mentoring of the students chosen for the program, Huntingtown High School Principal Beth Morton said, "I created a Schoology folder. And so that's one way that we communicate with families and with the kids. I'm trying really hard to communicate directly with the students. They're young adults and we're trying to build that sense of responsibility and then each AP (assistant principal) calls up and meets with their students, reminds them about the meetings and talks to them. So, we're continuing that through the rest of the year, to continue focusing on that goal setting and focusing on bringing your GPA up."

Regarding the individualized attention, Grenis observed, "This just speaks loud and clear to me that smaller class sizes and more staff in the building is going to have a huge impact."

Northern High School Principal Stephen Williams said, "For every program there's going to be failure, depending upon how you look at it, but if you're looking at it from the lens of the student and looking at their growth from where they started to where they're ending, there's been significant gains."

As to reaction of students not in the program, Patuxent High School Principal Anthony Barone said, "I think it starts with how the students who were chosen. I think we were very equitable. We brought in all stakeholders, the athletic director, the counselors, the VPs there. Being a new principal to the building, I didn't have the same expertise in these students as they did. We really targeted what the students needed, equity versus equality. Some students need more than what we're offering. When (Superintendent) Dr. Townsel first proposed this idea, we thought about it as a motivational piece for those students that we've struggled to reach before or struggled to untap their full potential. And we saw this as a way to do that. I know when you look at our demographics at Patuxent,



The Playbook's Dr. Eric Thomas

we try to target those groups that are where there is an achievement gap and try to use this as a support to try and neutralize that."

With the school board asking the county for more than \$22 million more in the next fiscal year, in part due to state-mandated programs, the Playbook, or whatever succeeds it, could be a target, Grenis still has concerns, noting the budget includes an increase from \$344,000 to \$860,000. "I really would like a commitment as to what that money is being used for."

She added, "I'm not against the premise of the Playbook, but I wonder if it can be done more cost efficiently. Instead of having the big money really going for these motivational speakers that are virtual, could we not find local people that could come in and speak on behalf of going through hardships and overcoming it?"

"We might not be able to send them to the Super Bowl, but we could certainly send them to King's Dominion or even a Ravens game at a fraction of the cost," she opined.

Board President Inez Claggett said that had been tires before. "it's hard finding community members to actually come into the schools to speak to the students as well as to be mentors," she asserted.

Townsel responded to the budget concerns: "The money is not specifically for a program. It's to support behavior in Calvert County Public Schools, multiple programs and opportunities that are available. We just need a budget so we can do it. Previously, there's nothing, there's no budget, so we're just trying to figure things out. It is not specific to the Playbook. The Playbook was done this year."

But Townsel said the budget cost was arrived at by adding middle schools to what the high schools cost this year for the Playbook.

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CHRIS FRANJOLA is a writer and comedian who can currently be heard hosting his highly successful podcast, "Cover To Cover With Chris Franjola." He's a frequent contributor on Heather McDonald's wildly successful podcast, "Juicy Scoop." Chris was a regular panel guest on "Lights Out with David Spade" on Comedy Central and on Fox's gameshow "Punchline." Chris was also a writer and a regular performer on E!'s hit show "Chelsea Lately" for eight years. Together with the talented writing staff, Chris wrote more than 1,500 episodes while performing on the show. Before "Chelsea Lately," Chris wrote for other shows, including "Family Guy," the MTV Video Music Awards and the original "Chelsea Handler Show." He also starred on the critically acclaimed scripted comedy series "After Lately," which aired for three seasons on E!. He was the host of the "Sons of Anarchy" aftershow "Anarchy Afterword," airing live on FX.



MATT BERGMAN has been honing his comedy craft since he was in college pursuing a degree in criminal justice. After graduating, he realized he was afraid of criminals and decided stand-up comedy was the way to go. Bergman is easily relatable and versatile, a skillset that has opened the door to tv appearances on Gotham Comedy Live, Comedy Central Live and a Dry Bar Comedy Special. His recent album "Approbation Constante" was called "really tough to purchase" by his mother who still doesn't quite understand iTunes.



TIM D. MILLER is a master at engaging audiences and crafting a stand-up set that is a guaranteed good time for all. Tim's material is based on his life experience from Waco to the Army to the White House, trying to raise a daughter and his unique ability to find the funny in everyday life. Tim has appeared on TRU TV and in 2019 he performed at Comedy Central's Clusterfest. He is the producer and host of "Read the Room," a crowd work showcase.

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Prince Frederick to Get New Centerpiece

Loop Road Study Proposed

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Prince Frederick Town Center will be getting a new centerpiece.

Capital Projects Analyst Veronica Atkinson told the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at their March 7 meeting that included in next year's proposed capital budget, "is the Armory Square Development project; this project was recently awarded 100 percent grant funding. This project will fall under the Department of Public Works Capital Division. The project was awarded \$60,000 in FY 2023 and an additional amount of \$2 million was awarded for Fiscal Year 2024, for the design and construction of a multi-use open-air pavilion."

According to Public Information Program Manager Sarah Ehman, "The pavilion will be located on the site of the armory building, which is currently owned by the county. We don't have a rendering available at this time; plans include a commercial kitchen, restrooms and a grassy area surrounding the pavilion to support a variety of events including a farmers market, community events, arts and entertainment."

Atkinson told the BOCC that the funding

for the project came from "the Maryland Department of Commerce and administered by five rural regional councils to boost the economic development activity, stimulate private sector investment, and to create jobs in the state's rural regions."

Also in the public works capital budget is money to study the feasibility of an eastern bypass of the town center. Acting Director of Public Works J.R. Cosgrove said it'll cost \$1 million for the "north-east segment of Chesapeake Boulevard. That'll add to the existing capital project that we have there, to help fund building the remaining portion of Fox Run Boulevard between the high school and the middle school area along with design money for looking at expanding Chesapeake Boulevard towards the north area as the plan calls for."

Of the \$1 million, Cosgrove said, "This is starting design and looking into acquisition of land."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance asked the total cost of construction. Cosgrove answered, "It depends on which. We have three different alignments. You're probably looking in today's money, probably about \$8 million at least."

Hance said he had seen much higher

estimates "to go from where it ends now to Route 4 above Stoakley Road."

Cosgrove said, "Correct. It's a good section of road. You're going to wrap around the hospital, come out on Route 4. There'll be some state highway improvements. There'll also be a wetlands crossing back there."

So, Hance asked where the \$8 million estimate came from. Cosgrove said, "That's just a rough estimate on basically the length of what we're currently seeing improvements cost today. These are just rough estimates that were in the budget from years ago. We haven't updated the out years (beyond six years) yet because we don't really have a design or nailed down the exact alignment, to figure it out."

"We know roughly where it's going to go, but when you get started getting up around the hospital, there's three different options to help reduce the impact on the environment," he added.

He said the study could help mail down the cost but also land acquisition will play a key role.

"The worst part with any of these road improvements is land acquisition. You can never nail how long that'll take because it kind of comes down to whether the prop-



Acting Public Works Director J.R. Cosgrove

erty owner is willing to sell and if we can even move forward with it or not," Cosgrove added.

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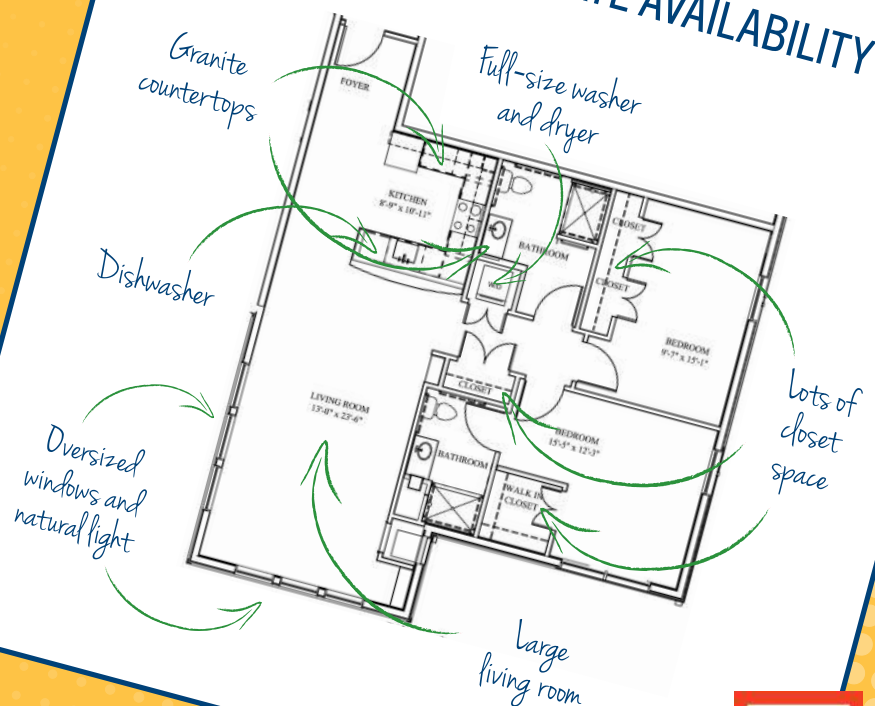
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County Government to Take Over Annemarie Garden

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has accepted a proposal presented by County Administrator Mark Willis to bring the operation of Annemarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center (AMG) within county government. The commissioners agreed to the concept by consent with the details to be worked out later.

Willis noted in his memo to the BOCC that the venue "requested that their organization be realigned into Calvert County Government (CCG), using the Calvert Marine Museum (CMM) as a model, similar to incorporating CMM into CCG in the 1980s."

Willis said, "Staff reviewed several organizational options to onboard AMG; they include:

1. "County Administration Oversight – Direct reporting structure to the County Administrator – Requested by AMG.
2. "New Department of Arts & Museums – the Department would include CMM, the Railway Museum and AMG.
3. Potential realignment to existing departments:
 - a. Department of Parks & Recreation.
 - b. Department of Economic Development."

Willis said AMG is the largest outside



agency currently in the county budget, receiving \$366,000 this year. His proposal was to put \$1 million for AMG in the proposed county budget next year as a placeholder, with the BOCC deciding that when they finalize the budget.

The operation of AMG has been under a foundation since the land on which it sits was donated to the county. But Willis said,

"Their agreement or their desire to contribute the way that they did really came to an end a few years ago."

He said AMG Executive Director Stacey Hann-Ruff approached him with the idea. She briefed the commissioners on their history and how they came to that point.

Hann-Ruff explained the cooperation between the county, the foundation and AMG's fundraising arm, Anne's Circle, has been in place for years. "I'm proud of the fact that we've actually had a very cordial and cooperative relationship and partnership, and we've accomplished an incredible amount in two decades."

"It's tremendous, the transformation in operations and staffing," she said. "We've turned it into something truly to be proud of. And that is a reflection of our partnership that I think has been so productive. So the way I see this is really renegotiating and rethinking what the partners are doing."

She noted, "Some of this did come about because there have been changes with the Koenig Private Foundation." She said the funding from that founding organization started by Francis and Ann Marie (their namesake) Koenig ended in 2019.

Since then, she said, "We've actually done a great job adjusting to that. We were pretty aggressive before, but we got a lot more aggressive with grants and other funding options. We've got a terrific development director. We've got a really active Ann's Circle board. I'm proud of what we did to adjust to all of that. You all stepped up as well."

She said Anne's Circle was created "because we knew we needed community input into the operation of what we were doing, programs and events. We wanted to make sure we were serving the community."

"This is my selfish side," Hann-Ruff said. "What I see being part of the county can bring is some inner stability. I'm really proud of everything we've done."

She added, "We are creative and we are scrappy as an organization, but I think we do need a little bit more internal stability. We're not coming to you all expecting you

to do everything. We want to continue to be a partner."

Hann-Ruff noted, "The people of Calvert County own the facility. And there are some things that we need help with in taking care of it. But we want to continue to do all the programs that we do."

She said in Fiscal Year 2022 they had almost 100,000 visitors. "We're doing our part to serve our community, to bring tourists to our region. We love tourists. We want them to come down and spend all their money in Solomons, in Calvert County, and then go home and tell their friends what a great time they had."

Commissioner Catherine Grasso reacted: "There's a lot of creativity there. And I don't want to see a government involvement that would ever squash what you all have done and want to continue to do. So, I had a conversation with administrator Willis to see how this would all play out. And I think it's worked for the Calvert Marine Museum, hasn't it? Yes. So that was my only concern at all. I want to see you all continue to flourish in that part of it, for us to stay out of it."

Commissioner Mike Hart said, "I think what you guys have done has proven that you have a successful model. You know, it's kind of like, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. I think you're doing really well. So, I think where we can come into place is to be that stability."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance was inclined to initially put AMG under the county administrator like Calvert Marine Museum.

He said, "When we first talked about this, I said, there's no way we're going to let Annemarie fail. So today we're just starting that path to formalize and make you all stable, but I just warn you, there's going to be bumps in the road."

But he added, "I have struggled personally with creating a whole new department to oversee three museums. And this is my personal opinion."

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 COMMISSIONER MIKE HART ON BRINGING ANNEMARIE GARDEN INTO THE COUNTY FOLD



LOCAL 4
 New centerpiece planned for Prince Frederick



LOCAL 5
 Calvert high school principals defend “Playbook” program



ON THE COVER
 Annmarie Garden to be taken over by Calvert Government

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MON, MAR 20 Mostly Sunny Hi: 48° Lo: 31°	TUE, MAR 21 Partly Cloudy Hi: 52° Lo: 37°	WED, MAR 22 Showers Hi: 52° Lo: 38°	THU, MAR 23 Partly Cloudy Hi: 54° Lo: 44°



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**County Takes Over
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