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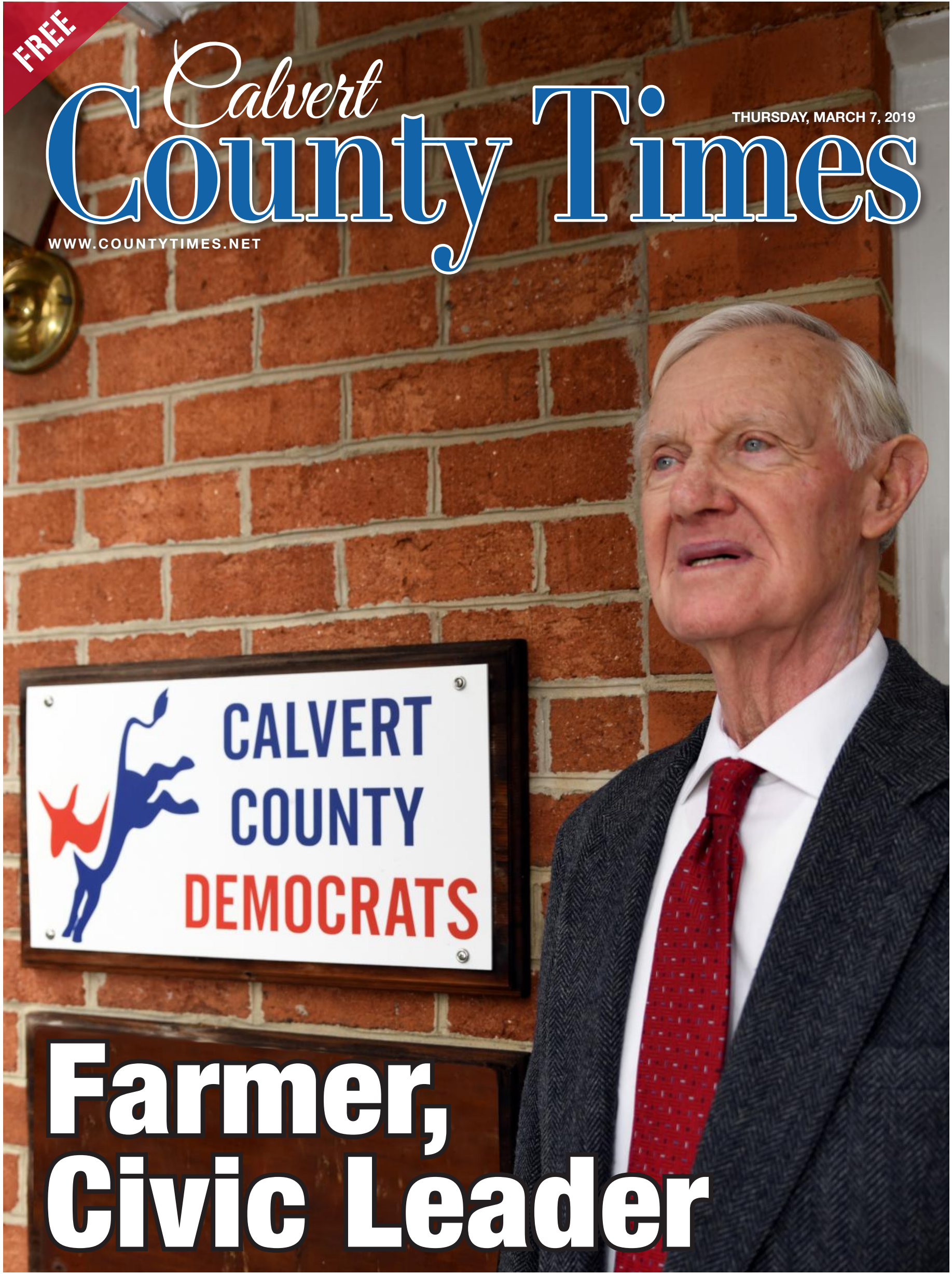
Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019

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Farmer, Civic Leader



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ON THE COVER 12

Hagner Mister stands in front of Democratic Headquarters in Prince Frederick.



LOCAL 4

College of Southern Maryland presented its annual State of the College.



COPS & COURTS 8

Sheriff's Office introduces new deputies.



EDUCATION 14

CSM holds winter graduation.



"THREE LANES WORK BETTER THAN TWO LANES EACH WAY."

SHA DISTRICT 5 DEPUTY DISTRICT ENGINEER KIMBERLY TRAN ON ROUTE 231 PLANS.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 3/7	Fri 3/8	Sat 3/9	Sun 3/10
40° 30° F	42° 34° F	46° 38° F	55° 46° F
Partly Cloudy	PM Showers	Partly Cloudy	Rain
Mon 3/11	Tue 3/12	Wed 3/13	Thu 3/14
54° 35° F	49° 35° F	48° 41° F	54° 46° F
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Showers



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State Unveils Route 231 Projects

Commissioners Question Light at Park



The existing Route 231 entrance into Hollowing Point Park.

By Dick Myers
Editor

The State Highway Administration (SHA) has proposed several improvements along Route 231 in the county but they do not include a corridor-wide widening. The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has been told the two-lane road with up to 20,000 vehicles a day is adequate with its two lanes and intersection improvements and with its existing 50-miles-per-hour speed limit.

The SHA's District 5 (including Southern Maryland) Engineer Corren Johnson and Deputy District Engineer Kimberly Tran presented findings of a SHA study at the March 5 BOCC meeting. The proposed improvements include a part-time light at Hollowing Point Park during busy use times, a longer and wider westbound bypass lane at Adelina Road and a center third left turn lane between Toye Lane and Mason Road.

Tran said there also is an evening rush-hour problem at Stafford Road from county employees leaving the fa-

cilities on that road including the detention center and public works garage. But she said the traffic does not warrant a light. Instead she suggested the county consider adding a right-hand turn lane on Stafford Road, which the county owns.

Commissioner Buddy Hance noted the county is working to reduce traffic on Stafford Road by relocating the public works facility and the county fueling station.

Commissioner President Tim Hutchins was sick and not in attendance for an issue that is obviously of concern to him. Commissioner Steve Weems read a letter from Hutchins to Maryland Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn detailing the scary experience Hutchins recently had of nearly being rear-ended by a tractor-trailer when he was sitting behind a vehicle making a left turn. The tractor-trailer went around him on the shoulder, narrowly missing him.

Throughout the presentation, Commissioner Mike Hart pressed the state highway representatives about why a complete road widening project wasn't

being considered or why the speed limit wasn't lowered, which was also brought up in Hutchins' letter.

Tran told the commissioners, "Three lanes work better than two lanes each way." She said with intersection improvements the existing two-lane corridor was adequate for the traffic volume, which is heavier nearer Prince Frederick and lighter nearer the Benedict Bridge.

Tran said with two lanes each way, people would be making left hand turns from the fast lane, causing the potential for rear-end collisions. She said the four-lane Route 5 through Leonardtown is an example of that problem.

Hance noted his and Hutchins' aversion to a part-time light at Hollowing Point Park. Hance observed the potential danger of large trucks headed westbound coming over a hill and encountering a backup of stopped traffic at the light. He wondered if preventing eastbound left hand turns into the park wasn't a better solution.

Tran said the park was used for regional events with many visiting teams, some coming from Charles County, and

not familiar with the area. They would have to travel farther east and find a place to make a U-turn. She said the part-time signal has worked in other areas.

Each of the three improvements would be done on a different schedule, with the part-time light likely the first to get finished. Tran noted that a police officer had been struck by a car at the Hollowing Point Park entrance directing traffic, and the improvement was a safety issue.

Captain David Payne of the sheriff's office said Route 231 is considered to be a dangerous venue for traffic enforcement because of the lack of shoulders.

Johnson said the three projects could be done quicker than an entire corridor improvement because that would require National Environmental Policy Act review. And, Hance observed that a four-lane Route 231 would reach an eventual bottleneck anyway at the two-lane Benedict Bridge and the two lanes through Charles County.

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Transportation Plan Moving Forward Three Public Workshops Planned

By Dick Myers
Editor

With opponents of moving forward now with the comprehensive plan update still insisting that a transportation plan should be completed first, that plan is now moving forward with three public workshops in the near future.

The Calvert County Planning Commission was given an update of the process at their Feb. 27 meeting by transportation planner Tamara Blake-Wallace. She reminded the planners that more than a year ago they requested that the county proceed with a "inter-modal transportation plan." She added, "On May 3, 2018 a memo to the Board of County Commissioners was prepared by the planning director to request funding to update the county transportation plan, which was adopted in 1997. The board voted that a scope of work be developed to determine the cost analysis."

Blake-Wallace said a scope of work was developed and a Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised and three proposals received. She said, "The proposals were thoroughly reviewed and scored by the evaluation committee, which consisted of Planning & Zoning and Public Works staff. The bid award was presented to Sabra & Associates, Inc. of Columbia, Maryland. Sabra & Associates, Inc. specializes

in multimodal transportation planning, travel forecasting, traffic engineering, geospatial analysis, and civil engineering.

"She said a Technical Advisory Committee has been established of Calvert County Government departments that have a role in transportation matters. She said, "The Technical Advisory Committee met with the consulting team for a kickoff meeting on January 25, 2019 to review the scope of work and schedule for updating the plan. A webpage has been activated on the county's website with the anticipated schedule and for updates during the process: <http://www.calvertcountymd.gov/transportationplan>."

Blake-Wallace said the dates of the three public workshops should be announced this week. She added, "the consultant is currently analyzing existing conditions and studies in preparation for the first workshop, which will be held this spring."

After the workshops, staff will return to the planning commission with a progress report in the spring.

The update of the comprehensive plan is next on the planners' agenda for March 20 and no date has been set for their recommendation to the county commissioners. So, the timetable for both may wind up on the same parallel track after all.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

CSM Presents Annual Calvert Report More County Financial Support Sought



CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy with Gov. Larry Hogan during a tour last year of the new Hughesville campus.

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at their Feb. 26 meeting received the annual report from the College of Southern Maryland (CSM). The report was presented by CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy and Board of Trustees member Jay Webster.

Although no specific amounts were mentioned during the report, it appears CSM will be coming to the counties they serve with a request for a larger contribution. The state's community colleges are also asking for a greater investment from the state.

Dr. Murphy told the BOCC that the county's role in achieving the institution's goals will include a "multi-year operating fund strategy," support for a one-year technology upgrade and improvements in campus security.

The problem, the college president said: "We are a little more tuition dependent than we would like." She added, "We don't want to price ourselves out of the market." Almost half of their operating budget comes from tuition, and only 29 percent from the three counties.

Twenty-five percent of CSM's credit enrollment comes from Calvert. Charles leads with 44 percent followed by St. Mary's with 31 percent.

"The young people who are coming to us have different needs than in the past," Murphy said. Those needs are being fulfilled, for instance, with a heavier dependence on on-line learning.

Murphy said 80 percent of CSM's graduates remain in Southern Maryland and have a more than \$300 million impact on the region's economy.

Some of the Prince Frederick campus highlights include:

- U.S. Regulatory Commission sponsored internships for 15 students in Energy Systems Technology

Programs

- Cybersecurity courses expanded to Prince Frederick
- Second class of Adult Education students earn high school diplomas and receive \$500 scholarship to continue education at CSM
- Men of Excellence program expanded to Prince Frederick campus
- 14th year of Ward Virts concert series.

The college is in the midst of developing a strategic plan with goals that include faculty enhancement, academic and career support improvements, competitive employee compensation, and professional development.

Dr. Murphy also presented a few facts about the college, under the heading "Did You Know?"

- CSM is one of 150 top community colleges nationwide acknowledged by the Aspen Institute.
- CSM serves over 23,000 learners each year.
- CSM is the fifth largest veteran-serving college or university in Maryland.
- One third of CSM students are on financial aid.
- 65 percent of all Southern Maryland high school graduates going to college chose CSM.
- 63 percent of CSM students attend part time and work ten or more hours per week.
- The average age of CSM students is 25 and that over 83 percent are of voting age.
- The racial and ethnic diversity is greater among CSM students than in the general Southern Maryland population.
- CSM graduates have the highest salaries of all Maryland community colleges as reported by the Baltimore Business Journal.

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FRI - MARCH 15th @ 3 PM: Groceries, Misc. Housewares & Box Lots
UPDATE & NEW THIS YEAR - Friday will consist of a load of groceries (from Richard Betz who supplies the regular grocery auctions in the area), and a variety of misc. housewares/box lots.
SAT - MARCH 16th @ 8 am: Tools; Farm Equipment & Machinery; Furniture & Crafts; Antiques/Collectibles; Sheds and More! Selling with several auctioneers at a time. Food and Refreshment available both days.

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SAT - March 22nd @ 6 pm

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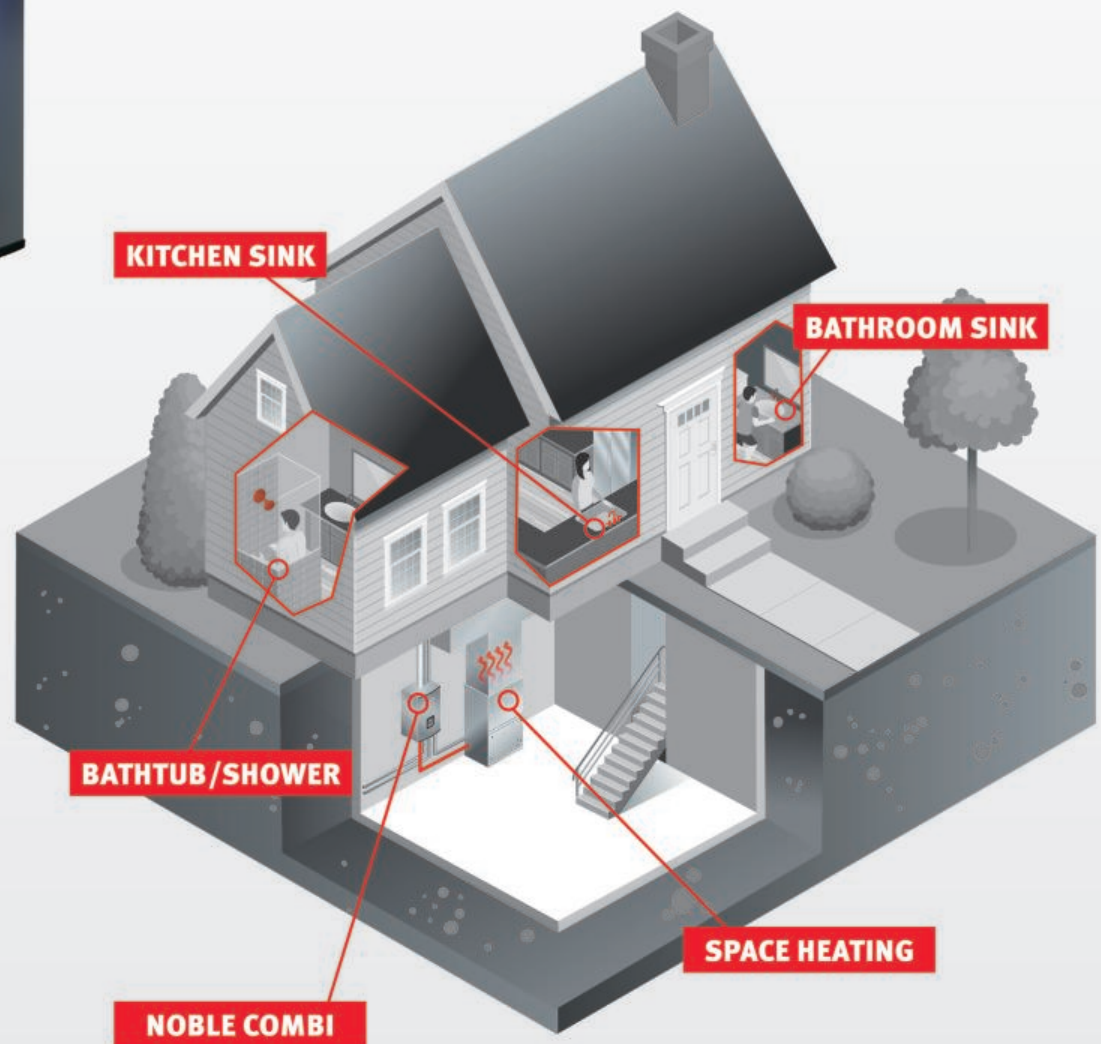
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Liquor Board Fines Two Restaurants

Actions Were for Underage Sales

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) at their Feb. 28 meeting imposed fines of \$250 for the sale of alcohol to underage persons for two popular restaurants – Ruddy Duck in Solomons and Salsas Mexican Cafe in Lusby.

In addition to the fines, the board also imposed three-day suspensions, but held those suspensions in abeyance and they will be removed if there is no other violation in the next year. The two violations were the first for each establishment.

Both establishments admitted the violation, so a case was not heard, although presumably the sales were made to an underage police operative.

Ruddy Duck owners Michael Kelley and Carlos Yanez appeared before the

board with bartender Pablo Stone. They were represented by attorney Larry Cumberland.

Stone apologized and promised it would never happen again. He said he has been working at the Ruddy Duck for nine years and a bartender for 21 years. He said, “I made a poor judgement call. I didn’t card a young man.”

He said what he did was against his better judgement and that he had never had any other violation in his entire 21 years of bartending.

“We’ve always maintained a proactive stance,” Kelley told the board.

Salsa’s owner Carlos Bravo was also represented by Cumberland and bartender Elisa Aurora appeared with them. She admitted she was distracted by a call. She said as a single mom she needs the job and also promised it would never happen again. She said her boss requires



her to card everyone, but she didn’t in that case.

“I understand the consequences.” Bravo said, also noting the establishments clean record.

Also, at the meeting the board approved the transfer of licenses for Stoney’s Seafood House in Prince Frederick, Sawaldee Asian and Seafood Carryout in Solomons, and Wine and Design of Calvert in North Beach. The board also approved adding a name to the license of Bay Wine and Spirits in North Beach.

dickmyers@countytimnes.net

Draft Oyster Management Plan Open for Comment

Public Input Accepted Through March 19



Photo by William Whaley

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is now accepting public comment on a draft Maryland Oyster Management Plan, the first updated fishery management plan since 2010 for one of the Chesapeake Bay’s most ecologically- and economically-important natural resources. The public comment period will continue until March 19.

The updated plan incorporates the results of the department’s 2018 stock assessment.

“The work leading to this initial draft has been developed in consultation with scientists, academics, and a variety of stakeholders, including the environmental community and commercial water-

men,” Department of Natural Resources Acting Secretary Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio said. “We welcome input from the public as we work through the process of finalizing the plan.”

In addition to feedback from the public, the plan will be reviewed by the Oyster Advisory Commission, Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and Aquaculture Coordinating Council. A final draft plan is expected to be approved in late spring.

Public comments can be submitted to fisheriespubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov.

Press Release from MD DNR

Attorney General Announces Wells Fargo Redress Program



Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today announced that Wells Fargo has begun a consumer redress review program through which consumers who have not yet been made whole through other remediation programs already in place can seek to have their inquiry or complaint reviewed by a Wells Fargo escalation team for possible relief.

“Through this program, all affected consumers have an opportunity to have their claims reviewed,” said Attorney General Frosh. “Not one customer who was wronged should slip through the cracks.”

The consumer redress review program was a key component of the December 2018 settlement with the attorneys general of all 50 states and the District of Columbia to resolve claims that the bank violated state consumer protection laws by

- Opening millions of unauthorized accounts and enrolling customers into online banking services without their knowledge or consent;
- Improperly referring customers for enrollment in third-party renters and

life insurance policies;

- Improperly charging auto loan customers for force-placed and unnecessary collateral protection insurance;
- Failing to ensure that customers received refunds of unearned premiums on certain optional auto finance guaranteed asset/auto protection (GAP) products; and,
- Incorrectly charging customers for mortgage rate lock extension fees.

As part of the program, Wells Fargo is maintaining a website that describes the issues covered by the settlement agreement and provides information regarding consumers’ eligibility for redress and the escalation phone numbers consumers may use to request review. In addition, Wells Fargo will provide periodic reports to the states about ongoing remediation efforts. Wells Fargo’s redress website address is www.wellsfargo.com/commitment/redress.

Consumers with questions or concerns may call the following Wells Fargo escalation phone numbers for more information:

- Unauthorized Accounts/Improper Retail Sales Practices: 1-844-931-2273
- Improper Renters and Life Insurance Referrals: 1-855-853-9638
- Force-Placed Collateral Protection Auto Insurance (“CPI”): 1-888-228-9735
- Guaranteed Asset/Auto Protection (“GAP”) Refunds: 1-844-860-6962
- Mortgage Interest Rate Lock Extension Fees: 1-866-385-5008

Consumers may also call the Attorney General’s consumer protection hotline at 410-528-8662 or 888-742-0023.

Press Release from
Office of Maryland Attorney General

Solomons Residents Involved in Fatal St. Mary's Crash



Maryland State Police are continuing to investigate a fatal multi-vehicle crash that occurred Sunday in St. Mary's County.

Shortly before 6:15 p.m. on Sunday, troopers from the Leonardtown Barrack responded to northbound Maryland Route 4 at Kingston Creek Road in California, Maryland regarding a serious motor vehicle crash.

The initial investigation revealed that a 1994 Toyota Corolla, driven by Raul Hernandez, 72, of California, Maryland, was attempting to make a left turn from northbound Maryland Route 4 onto Kingston Creek Road. At the same time, a 2012 Hyundai Tucson, being driven by Ashley Radano, 29, and occupied by Ella Fay Radano, 9, both of Solomons, Maryland, were traveling on southbound Maryland Route 4 at Kingston Creek Road.

According to a preliminary investigation, the Toyota failed to yield the right

of way and entered the travel path of the Hyundai. The Hyundai subsequently struck the passenger side of the Toyota. Hernandez was transported by ambulance to University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center for treatment of his injuries. The passenger in his vehicle, Bonnie Hernandez, 71, of California, Maryland, was transported by ambulance to Charles Regional Medical Center, and was later pronounced deceased at the hospital.

Bonnie Hernandez had been a special investigator with the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights with an office in Leonardtown.

Both occupants of the Hyundai were transported by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital.

The Maryland State Police CRASH Team responded to the scene to assist with the investigation.

The incident remains under investigation.

School Worker Charged with Sexually Assaulting Student



Scott David Valentine

Calvert County Sheriff's Deputies were notified on Tuesday, Feb. 26 by the Northern High School Administration of a possible sexual assault that occurred on the day prior.

A 15-year-old juvenile reported a building service worker, Scott David Valentine, 58, of Friendship inappropriately touched her while she was watching practice. She further alleged he continued to encounter her at various locations throughout the school. Several other students confirmed the allegations

of the juvenile victim, and the video footage has been subpoenaed.

On March 1 a warrant was issued for a Sexual Offense in the 4th Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree. He was arrested on March 2 and processed into the Calvert County Detention Center. Valentine was released on a \$10,000 bond on the same date.

*Press Release from
Calvert County Sheriff's Office*

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Calvert County Sheriff's Office Crime Blotter

During the week of February 18 – February 24 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,346 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 19-10593

On February 22, 2019 Deputy Deleon responded to Catalina Drive, Lusby for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised sometime between February 15th and February 22nd an unknown suspect(s) attempted to break into a storage unit that his employer rents. The estimated value of damaged property is \$1,000-5,000.

Damaged Property: 19-10824

On February 23, 2019 Deputy Lewis Jr. responded to Mackall Road for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised sometime between 1:00 AM and 3:00 AM an unknown suspect(s) threw a rock that broke a window on the second floor of her residence. The estimated value of damaged property is \$150-200.

Damaged Property: 19-10828

On February 23, 2019 Dfc. Rediker responded to the Chesapeake Auction House in St. Leonard for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised around 7:00 PM the night before, an unknown suspect(s) hit the fence and damaged one of the doorways. The estimated value of damaged property is \$450.

Theft: 19-9856

On February 18, 2019 Dfc. Hardesty responded to Cove Lake Road, Lusby

for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between February 9th and February 17th an unknown suspect(s) stole the rear license plate from his truck that was parked on the side of the road in the area of Solomons Island Road and Dowell Road. The value of stolen property is \$25.

Theft: 19-10050

On February 19, 2019 Deputy Lewis Jr. responded to Baythorne Road, Prince Frederick for the report of a theft. The complainant advised an unknown suspect stole his prescription of Oxycodone 5 mg while in transit with the United States Postal Service. The value of stolen property is approximately \$350.

Theft: 19-10655

On February 22, 2019 Deputy Lewis Jr. responded to the area of Broomes Island Road and Laveille Road, Port Republic for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between November 15, 2018 and February 22nd an unknown suspect(s) stole his Summit Goliath tree stand and his Moultrie trail camera from the woods. The estimated value of stolen property is \$500.

ARRESTS:

On February 18, 2019 Dfc. Holt responded to Abner's Crab House for the report of a subject trespassing. **Frederick Emmett Donahue** (58) has an active trespass warning for this location. Donahue was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Trespassing on Private Property.



On February 19, 2019 Dfc. Wood conducted a traffic stop on Southern Maryland Boulevard at Morning Glory Drive, Dunkirk. The driver, **Ben Lesley Logan**



(37), was asked to exit the vehicle and a K9 scan was conducted which resulted in a positive alert. A search of the vehicle revealed suspected heroin, suspected cocaine residue, a Suboxone strip and several hypodermic needles. Logan was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana, CDS: Administer Equipment Possession/Distribution and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

On February 20, 2019 Deputy S. Naughton responded to the Shell gas station in Prince Frederick for the report of a suspicious person. Upon arrival, Deputy Naughton recognized the sub-

ject as **Charles Wood Greene Jr.** (55)



and observed him twisting up the hose to the gas pump. Greene was instructed to place the hose back, but refused and became combative, therefore, he was placed under arrest. Greene was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Resisting/Interfering with Arrest, Failure to Obey Reasonable/Lawful Order and Disorderly Conduct.

On February 21, 2019 Dfc. Mohler conducted a traffic stop on Prince Frederick Blvd in the area of Stoakley Road, Prince Frederick. While making contact with the driver, **Brice Cameron Tucker**



(20), Deputy Mohler smelled the odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle revealed a dollar bill fold with cocaine. Tucker was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, as well as traffic citations for driving without a license.

Sheriff's Office Welcomes New Deputies



Sheriff Mike Evans and the Calvert County Sheriff's Office announce the graduation of 8 new deputies from the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy. The deputies attended the academy for 28 weeks, receiving over 1,000 hours of instruction.

The training culminated with a graduation ceremony at La Plata High School on Friday February 22. The new deputies will be attending another week of

training at the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, followed by a 70-day Field Training Officer Program (FTO).

Upon a successful completion of the FTO program they will be patrolling Calvert County as solo deputies.

The newest deputies are: Anthony Aranda, Howard Anderson, Samuel Grierson, Jermaine Mason, Nicholas Savick, James Sturdivant, Herschel Wilder III and Brady Wilson.

Maryland State Police Report



Sell Home Improvements Without Proper License/Acting as Contractor Without License/Fail to Perform Contract: On 2/28/19 at 12:55 pm, Trooper First Class Matthews received a Criminal Summons from the Maryland Home Improvement Commission representative for Michael J DiGirolamo for Selling Home Improvements Without Proper License and Acting as a Contractor Without License. The victim reported entering into an oral and written contract with DiGirolamo for work to be performed on a home in St. Leonard. The work was begun but left incomplete after several months. Charges are pending.

Press Release from MSP Barrack U – Prince Frederick

CalvertHealth First in State with Infant CPR Training



CalvertHealth

Ten seconds. According to the American Heart Association, if CPR is started within 10 seconds of a person - of any age - becoming unresponsive due to a cardiac event, they have the best chance of reviving them. Every second that the heart is not pumping oxygen-rich blood, brain cells begin to die. For parents and caregivers of infants and young children, having the knowledge to recognize and act in an emergency is crucial.

To meet that need, CalvertHealth Medical Center's (CHMC) Center for Family Birth Care has initiated the American Heart Association's Infant CPR Anytime® Training program to educate parents on basic lifesaving techniques before they leave the hospital with their baby.

The program, recognized as the first of its kind in Maryland, combines in-hospital, in-room training by video followed by the mom doing a return demonstration with a nurse. A take-home training kit with a practice manikin will allow parents to continue infant CPR training with family members, siblings, babysitters and other caregivers who will have contact with their baby.

"We know that the days and weeks after a child's

birth are hectic and exhausting for new parents. That's why we designed this program - to provide infant CPR training before moms are discharged from the hospital," said CHMC CPR Coordinator Wendy Cox, who is also an American Heart Association (AHA) coordinator of CPR training.

In 2018, CHMC delivered 629 babies—but only a fraction of the parents or caregivers of those babies attended any of the parenting and infant CPR training offered through the Community Wellness Department, said Cox.

"The gap in the number of babies born versus parents learning infant lifesaving skills was alarming to me. If we could train 100 percent of parents on what to do if a child is choking, non-responsive or not breathing—before they leave the hospital—who would not be on-board with that," said Cox.

The Centers for Disease Control estimates that there are about 3,600 infants who die in the U.S. every year while sleeping in an unsafe sleeping environment. Unintentional suffocation is a leading cause of all injury deaths for infants under the age of one according to AHA. Every year, Maryland has an average of 55 sleep-related deaths in the state—that's

more than one infant dying every week from a largely preventable cause, according to the Maryland Patient Safety Center.

"One death is one death too many," said CHMC Center for Family Birth Care Director Donna Arnstein, who along with Cox initiated the push to establish the Infant CPR Anytime® Training at CalvertHealth. "Currently, our nurses work with moms after delivery teaching them all aspects of newborn care — this program will reinforce and add to the knowledge base of new parents," said Arnstein.

The take-home kits, co-branded with the American Academy of Pediatrics, include everything parents and other caregivers need to learn the lifesaving skills of infant CPR and infant choking relief in about 20 minutes, including a baby CPR personal manikin, a bilingual DVD and a skills reminder card. CHMC covers the entire cost of the kits.

As a healthcare professional with more than 10 years of CPR training, Cox knows that the more practice in CPR training a person goes through, the more confident and calm they will be in an emergency.

Press Release from CalvertHealth Medical Center

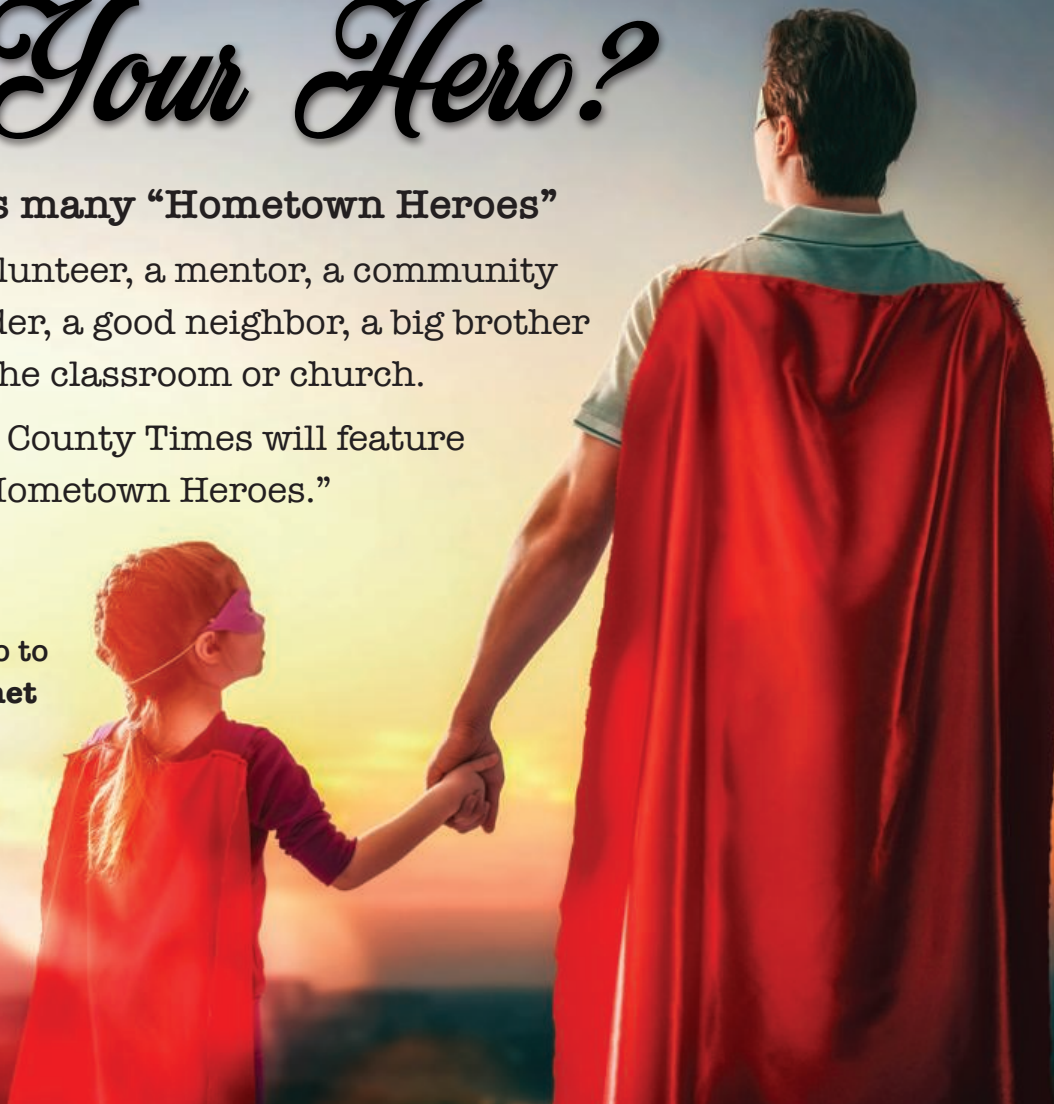
Who's Your Hero?

Calvert County has many "Hometown Heroes"

We all know one, a volunteer, a mentor, a community leader, a first responder, a good neighbor, a big brother or sister, a leader in the classroom or church.

Throughout 2019 the County Times will feature stories of Calvert's "Hometown Heroes."

To shine a spotlight
on your hero email
their name & contact info to
aldailey@countytimes.net



YOUR TAX REFUND & FIVE SUGGESTIONS

You worked hard in 2018 and have now paid your taxes and are expecting a refund. Keep in mind that your refund money is not a gift from the government—it is your money. This article makes some suggestions on how you can use your tax refund money.

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

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

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

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

Pay Down Your Consumer Debt.

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

Create a Fund Just for Emergencies.

Many people live in fear of having an emergency because they have saved nothing to help them. In most cases, giving yourself some financial peace of mind is all that is required to make life much more enjoyable. By setting aside your tax refund

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

Take Care of Your Loved Ones

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

Invest in Yourself

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

Have Fun-Take a Vacation

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

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

Join me for a free seminar on estate planning on Wednesday March 20th at 11am in our offices at 8906 By Avenue, North Beach, Maryland 20714. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your seat. See you there.

Golf Course Clubhouse to Be Used for Training



The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation announces the Chesapeake Hills Golf Course Clubhouse will be used several days in March for training by the Solomons Volunteer

Rescue Squad & Fire Department.

The golf course will be used from 6-9 p.m. March 5-7, 12-14, 19-21 and 26-29. No live fire will be used during training.

Chesapeake Hills Golf Course is Calvert County's premier public golf course. Located at 11352 HG Trueman Road in scenic Lusby, Maryland, it is just minutes from historic Solomons Island. Learn more by visiting online.

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

*Press Release from
Calvert County Government*



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Pet
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Roscoe is a "no nonsense, snuggly kinda guy", with his big soulful eyes and distinguished look. Allow yourself to give him just one glance, and you just know.....he wants to go home with you. He has been such a good boy here at the shelter, he earned a field trip to another county department! Roscoe is 7 years old, neutered, and up to date on vaccinations. The perfect home would be a quiet home, one with older children and no cats. Roscoe's adoption fee is waived for qualified adopters. If you feel your home would be a good fit, come in and meet this sweet guy today!



The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is located at 5055 Hallowing Point Road in Prince Frederick. We are open for adoptions Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information about this week's Pet of the Week or any of our other adoptable pets please check out our website www.calvertcountyanimalshelter.com or give us a call at 410-535-PETS (7387). Please follow us on our Facebook Page @ Calvert County Animal Shelter and Instagram @CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.



ChoiceOne Awarded Contract with TRICARE Prime

Now Accepting a New Health Insurance Program

ChoiceOne Urgent Care (ChoiceOne) announced today they are now contracted with TRICARE Prime to support the healthcare needs of active duty service members, retirees, activated guard/reserve and their family members in both Maryland and Georgia.

ChoiceOne will be able to serve approximately 735,000 eligible beneficiaries in a total of 15 centers across the two states. TRICARE Prime is one of the largest health plan options, in terms of beneficiaries, within TRICARE. Also, important to note, most TRICARE Prime enrollees no longer need a referral for urgent care visits, they can simply visit ChoiceOne right away anytime they have a need.

“We are beyond honored to serve our nation’s active duty and retired military service members, and their families,” said Butch Marino, CEO of ChoiceOne. “Expanding our services to meet the needs of growing communities, including those near military facilities, allows us to provide high-quality healthcare that is convenient, while providing a superior patient experience.”

President and CEO of CalvertHealth Dean Teague stated, “As a user of TRICARE Prime and a US Navy veteran, I understand the need to offer this coverage to our military service personnel, their de-

pendents and retired service members. We are proud to be a partner with ChoiceOne and continue to expand our services to meet the needs of our community.”

For patients who need quick access to care for illnesses and injuries that are non-emergent, but still need immediate medical care, urgent cares are an excellent and cost-effective solution. ChoiceOne clinical teams see patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., including most holidays. Furthermore, for added convenience, patients are offered the ability to check-in online before arriving at the urgent care center.

ChoiceOne centers offer a patient experience in a modern spa-like environment, with state-of-the-art equipment, including an on-site x-ray facility. Providers at the centers can diagnose and treat non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries, such as colds, flu, broken bones, infections, sprains and more. In addition, expanded services include preoperative evaluations, sports physicals, and occupational health services, including pre-employment physicals, drug testing and workers’ compensation.

Press Release from CalvertHealth

SMADC Launches Southern Maryland Agriculture Marketing Conference

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) is hosting an Agriculture Marketing Conference specifically tailored to benefit Southern Maryland region farm enterprises. The Conference will be held at the College of Southern Maryland Prince Frederick Campus on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“This is SMADC’s first ever Marketing Conference,” remarked Karyn Owens, SMADC’s Program Specialist and conference coordinator. “SMADC is well known for its niche marketing workshops, this conference will broaden our reach with a full-day slate of tracks designed to meet the needs of beginning and experienced growers and farmers engaged in all types of agriculture.”

Producers and farmers (land or water-based) looking to brush up their marketing skills before the 2019 season kicks-off, or learn something new to enhance their business trajectory, will find topics are broadly applicable to wide range of ag. enterprises. Four tracks with breakout sessions will be offered: New and Beginning Farm Enterprises, Advanced Marketing Skills, State-Wide Trainings and ‘On the Horizon’ featuring new or popular industries, including Industrial Hemp, Urban

Agriculture, Grains, and Agritourism.

Conference speakers are drawn from SMADC’s extensive network of credentialed organizations and industry partners - Grow and Fortify, The Institute of Applied Agriculture, University of Maryland Extension, and regional marketing and economic development specialists.

Conference Keynote speaker, Kellie Hinkle, Chief of Tourism for Charles County, is well known for her enthusiastic support for local agriculture. Hinkle has a background in marketing and teaching and has particular expertise in assisting start-up and expanding ag. and rural businesses. She recently served as the acting assistant director for the Loudoun County Department of Economic Development and as an agricultural development officer for Loudoun County Department of Economic Development and Jefferson County Development Authority.

For conference details, agenda and to register visit: ‘What’s New?’ News and Announcements’ at SMADC.com. Early bird registration (\$35) is being accepted now until March 8th, 2019; thereafter general admission will increase to \$45 per person. Ticket includes light breakfast and a catered lunch.

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Hagner Mister: Farmer, Civic

By Dick Myers
Editor

On Feb. 12 the all-Republican Calvert County Board of County Commissioners presented a proclamation to Hagner Mister, who has been a life-long Democrat. The proclamation was for Mister's services since 2006 on the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Committee.

The proclamation said: "Hagner, a local farmer and long-time advocate for the farm community, consistently demonstrated studious knowledge of agricultural-related issues and has an intense interest in the welfare of Calvert County and its rural roots."

Indeed, Mister has been a farmer all his adult life and has lived on the family farm Woodside near Prince Frederick since they moved there when he was seven. And his life has been deeply rooted in the county's soil. Mister had a 32-year career in Southern Maryland with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service. And he served for three years as Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, a position that took him all over the world as an ambassador for the state's farming community.

But Mister's resume at home in Calvert County is equally impressive: nine years on the Calvert County Board of Education, including a stint as its chairman, and two terms as a Calvert County Commissioner, also including four years as president.

And he has followed in the footsteps of his uncle to serve twice on the Calvert Country Democratic Central Committee, most recently four terms since 2006, including being its chairman. He was recipient of the Louis L. Goldstein Award as Democrat of the Year in 2016.

He remains active to this day at the age of 84, working his 80-acre farm every day and speaking out for the county's farming community, most recently at the Feb. 26 planning commission public hearing on the update of the comprehensive plan, at which he talked about the county's strong tradition of agricultural land preservation.

The Calvert County native, however, was not born on a farm. He lived his first seven years as the eldest of the eight children of Norman and Margaret Mister in a bungalow on the banks of the Patuxent River in the height of the Great Depression.

Mister said his father was a "part-time farmer, a painter, a waterman, whatever it took to live in those days. That's the way it was."

The home was between the river and a marsh and small creek. "When you'd have a high, spring tide the water would come up underneath the house. My brother almost drowned down there," he remembered.

Of course, after they moved to the farm, he worked on it as a youngster. "Everybody worked. Nobody could move around without doing something. And, I learned from an early age, if you had to get it done --hustle."

He caught the farming bug at an early age. He said, "I started doing different things on the farm and getting involved with equipment and became very interested in it and then I liked it."

In 1953 Mister graduated from Calvert High School, the only white high school in the segregated county. And shortly thereafter he found a "temporary job" that he would stay in for 32 years.

He explained, "I was working at a gas station and my uncle stopped by and said they could use someone at the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture)." The qualification for the job was just knowing how to farm, which was in Mister's DNA. His uncle said he couldn't take the job because he had a family, and anyway, it was temporary.

That job remained temporary for a few years and then evolved into a permanent one. He was stationed in the Prince Frederick courthouse and his territory covered all of Southern Maryland. "I was working with farmers developing best management practices and conservation plans," he said.

The job throughout all of those years allowed him to continue to farm the family land which he inherited when his father passed away. With his job and his farm, he often worked nights and weekends. "It was a great experience for me and has helped me tremendously," he noted.

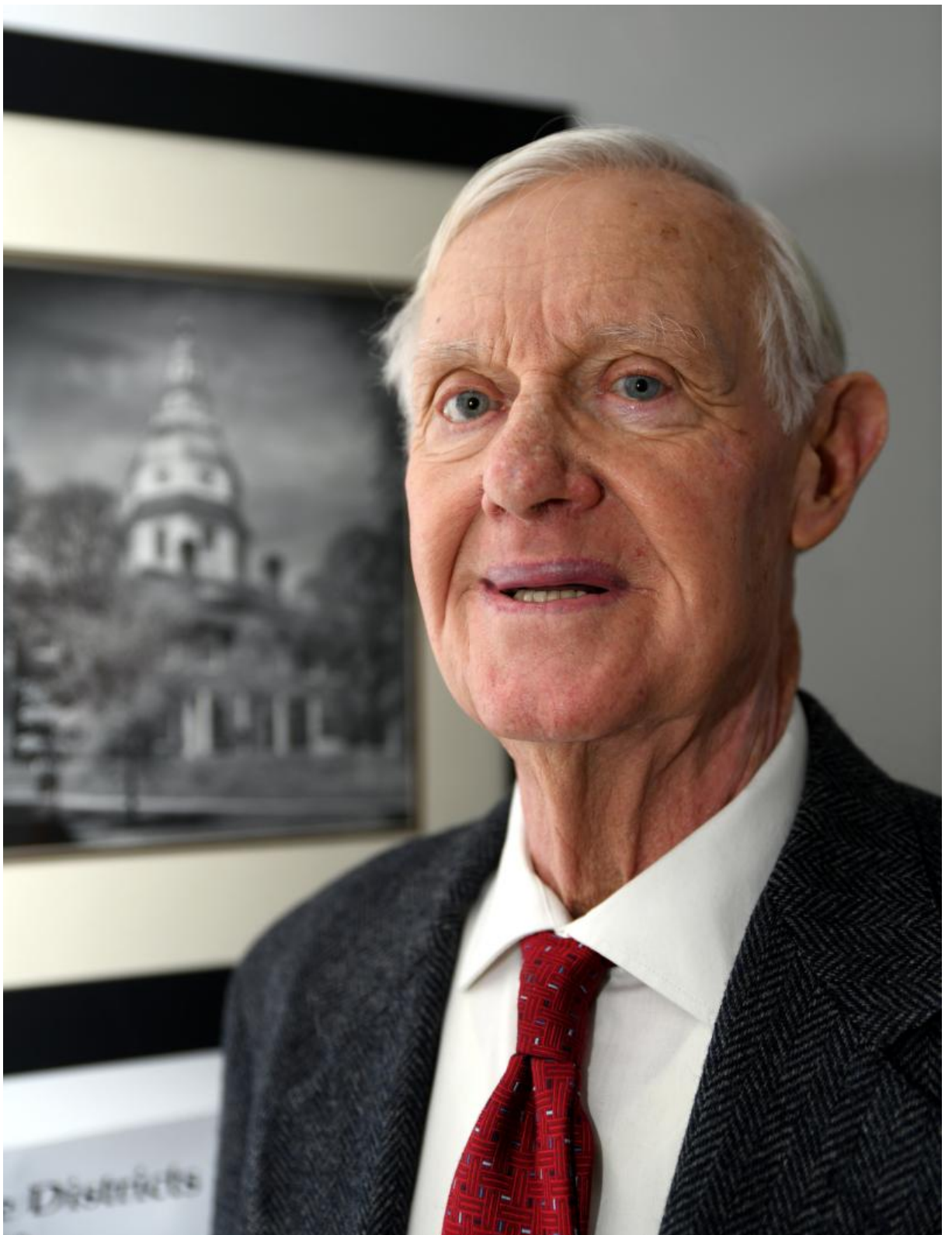
Mister reminds everyone that when he started that job in 1953 Calvert County was totally rural with 12,000 people. "You had the water and you worked the land," he explained about the short list of options.

It was that same uncle, Kevin Horseman who gave

him the heads up on that "temporary" job who also recruited him into politics. "He and I were like brothers. I used to go around with him," he said, including the usual small events that categorized political life in Calvert County. Horseman by then was chairman of the Democratic Central Committee and he recruited Mister in 1973 to join the group. With two consecutive terms he served a total of nine years then.

Calvert was largely Democratic when he entered politics, although it was a conservative, Southern type of Democrat. "That's the way I was raised," he said. Now Calvert is majority Republican and some former Democrats, such as his long-time friend County Commissioner Buddy Hance, who followed in his footsteps as state ag secretary, have switched. He too has been asked but has resisted.

He said, "Well, what I tell my family is, and I have



Leader, Life-Long Democrat



Commissioner Buddy Hance presents proclamation to Hagner Mister as other board members look on. Photo from Calvert County Government.

a lot of good Republican friends, but the Democrats look out for the working people. You try to take care of each other, and a Democratic government tries to do the same thing and look out for the people.”

Hagner and his wife Helen, who also worked for USDA, raised two daughters and a son, so education along with agriculture were always important to him. So, it was not unusual that he would gravitate to his next political foray, as member of the Calvert County Board of Education, then an appointed position. He served from 1973 to 1982, including a term as president.

Mister retired from USDA in 1986. “I was around on the farm from ‘86 to ‘88, doing different things and still serving on the boards in the community. But then some people started asking me questions if I was going to run. Some people encouraged me to do it so finally I decided to do it.” (run for county commissioner)

Education was still his main issue but that also was a time when Calvert was experiencing explosive growth in the schools and other services as well. Population had swelled to more than 50,000.

“I think we zeroed in on that,” Mister said of improving education, including keeping up with building new schools. He considers that to be the board’s crowning achievement and also credits then superintendent Dr. Eugene Karol with the school system’s successes during that time.

Mister lost his bid for a third term in 1998 by 200 votes, but that lemon quickly turned into lemonade as he landed in his dream job when he was appointed by Democratic Governor Parris Glendening to be Mary-

land Secretary of Agriculture, succeeding another Southern Marylander, veterinarian Bud Virts. Mister was deputy agriculture secretary under Virts when he retired.

Mister had been a tobacco farmer all his life, but he came into state service just as the historic tobacco buy-out was being put into effect and he was at the helm during that transition. He himself had to wait until after leaving the agriculture secretary job to take the buyout.

Mister said by the time he was in Annapolis the tobacco buyout was a foregone conclusion, with falling prices and rising labor costs. He said some former tobacco farmers today admit it was a blessing in disguise.

The job was a highlight of an illustrious career and especially an honor for him as a life-long farmer. “I got to go to Russia, China, then Cuba and met with Fidel Castro,” he said.

About how that meeting happened, he explained. “I was at the hotel where I was staying and this young guy walked up to me in the lobby and said, ‘The president would like to see you at six o’clock.’ And at first, I didn’t know who he was talking about. I said, well, I don’t mind doing it, but I said, how am I going to find him now? Am I going to know where to go? He said, ‘We are going to come and get you.’”

Mister further explained, “We talked about different things. He was awful interested in the embargo. But I didn’t talk much at all about that because I wasn’t down there for that. I was telling him about the sales mission, promotion, and I didn’t want to get into it.” Castro talked about how much money America could make by

selling goods to Cuba instead of them having to go to Europe for it.

“I got to go places, see people or do things that I never would’ve been able to do” he said about being Maryland Agriculture Secretary. But then that partisan politics thing reared its ugly head when Republican Bob Ehrlich was elected governor and Democrat Hagner Mister was out of his dream job. But he didn’t stay away from an active life in the community, quickly running for central committee and being on the ag preservation committees that the commissioners honored him for.

And recently he has been observing the process of revising the county comprehensive plan and he’s concerned that things are going too fast and that the concerns about preserving the way of life he has struggled so hard to preserve all his life may be lost. During the interview he had a copy of the plan in front of him, anxious to talk about it.

He said, “I think that people have a right to a home, have a right to be able to produce their food if they need to. And not only for the family, but for all who are in the communities that can’t do that. Food production is going to be a big issue and what’s right for Calvert County 50 years from now.”

He added, “The comprehensive plan concept, I think we need to identify land that needs to be preserved for future generations for food, fiber and convenient living. If you just turn it loose, I don’t know what you’d end up with.”

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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CSM Celebrates 20th Winter Commencement

541 Students Earn Degrees or Certificates



Twin brothers David and Darrell Rice, of Waldorf, graduated from the College of Southern Maryland with associate degrees in Art during CSM's 20th Winter Commencement Jan. 17.

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) honored 541 candidates for 547 degrees and 250 certificates during its 20th Winter Commencement Jan. 17 at the La Plata Campus. The degrees and certificates spanned 69 programs of study.

Of the students earning recognition, 122 were from Calvert County, 202 were from Charles County and 179 were from St. Mary's County. The majority of degrees, or 24.7 percent, were in the field of arts and sciences, general studies (18.3 percent), business administration (9.3 percent), and nursing (8 percent). General study transfers and the cybersecurity program were the primary certificates awarded.

"Every student who is graduating today has had to overcome challenges to get to this point," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "Limited finances. Medical problems. Juggling family or work responsibilities. No goal is achieved without some struggle, some challenge to get beyond.

"All of our students are an inspiration to all of us," she continued. "Many have completed their studies while working, raising families, and volunteering in our community. That is what makes our graduates so special. Your determination and persistence have paid off. We hope that the learning you were a part of here at CSM will help you fulfill a lifelong sense of purpose."

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) delivered the keynote address to the graduates and coined the College of Southern Maryland as "an important treasure in the state of Maryland."

His message encouraged graduates to find time to contribute to those in need in the community and to seek common ground among differences. He encouraged the audience to always remember that despite our differences, there is "much more that unites us than divides us."

Van Hollen added finding middle

ground doesn't mean that you have to give up your values and ideals. "One of the hardest things to do is withstand peer pressure and the herd mentality and hold on to your moral compass," he said, further advising the graduates to not assume rank or authority has a better grasp on the facts.

"The only exception to that rule is to always listen to your mother," he shared to echoing laughter.

"You don't have to be disrespectful or contrary," he pressed on. "Just don't be afraid to challenge someone when your moral compass tells you to do so."

Student Speaker Michael Bellis

CSM Student Speaker Michael Bellis, 29, of Leonardtown, encouraged his fellow classmates to value themselves by the sum of their future contributions. "Our value is not measured by the degrees conferred, medals awarded or honors bestowed," Bellis said, "but rather on our sum contribution to our families, our workplaces and society."

For Bellis, who is the executive director of the United Way of Charles County, taking on the role of student speaker at the Winter Commencement was also part of a big reveal. "This is the seventh CSM graduation I have attended," he said. "Typically I sit somewhere between (CSM) Foundation members along with all of the other honored guests. Attending these ceremonies has always been the highlight of my job, yet few have known that I have been completing my degree here for the past three years."

Bellis was awarded his associate degree in Business Administration during the ceremony.

Commenting that he was "immensely proud" to be standing with his classmates, he added, "Tonight marks the culmination of countless hours of homework, studying, exams and research often measured in cups of coffee, hairs pulled, headaches from staring at computer monitors, missed social engagements for the sake of our education and



Mike Bellis, of Leonardtown, served as student speaker during the 20th Winter Commencement ceremony.

nights we sent our spouse to bed without us.

"No matter what God has in store, we must ensure that as we proceed through life's journey, we strive to be value adders in life," he said.

Oldest graduate

Jerry Wade, of Waldorf, carried the title of oldest graduate to participate in the commencement and could certainly lay claim to being a value adder in life. The 63-year-old minister earned his associate degree in Human Services with a focus on alcohol and drug counseling and mental health. His achievement adds to his bachelor's degree in Pastoral Leadership and Biblical History from the International Bible College and Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut. Along with receiving his degree from CSM, he was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Wade said after he retired from a 25-year career in law enforcement and corrections with the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, he founded Peace and Comfort – a Waldorf-based evangelistic outreach ministry in 1999 focused on helping at-risk youth around the country. Working full time in the community, he was able to take one or two classes a semester and complete his associate degree in 10 years.

"CSM was a convenient and affordable way for me to continue to do my work and earn this degree," he said. "My instructors were excellent and supported me in everything I wanted to do, and all of the issues I needed to tackle. In most cases, I was the oldest in my class," he laughed, "but I think because of my age, and job, I brought insight to most of the 18-,19- and 20-year olds."

Wade had a special message for area veterans. "As an Army veteran," he added, "I cannot stress enough the value that CSM provides veterans. I urge all veterans to utilize their military service experience, advance themselves at CSM and

figure out how CSM can be a stepping stone to continue to grow and serve."

Career Changer

Fifty-seven-year-old Lisa Malecki, of Prince Frederick, took nearly 30 years to finally get her nursing degree. She earned a degree in education years ago and said she planned to stay in college to pursue a career in nursing. However, family and children took her decision in a different direction and she ended up working as a teacher for 24 years.

"Teaching was a great profession to be in, especially as a mom," she said. But in summer 2016, she underwent a surgery that required a lengthy recovery – and with her children grown and gone – she decided to make the break from teaching and go get her long-desired nursing degree. For the last two years, Malecki has been a full-time student at CSM.

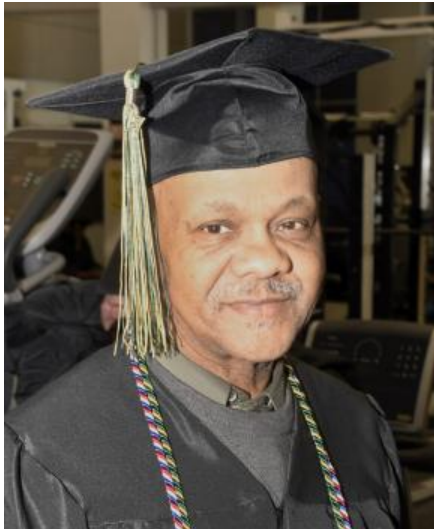
"I made achieving my degree my job," she said. "I love nursing because I like to care for people and I wanted to make a difference. I know I already did make a difference as a teacher, but I wanted to do it on a larger scale. After that surgery, and others, I know that a good nurse or a bad nurse can make a difference in your recovery."

Youngest graduate

Calvin Gorman, 18, of Dunkirk, will enter his professional career early, much like he did his academic career. By dual enrolling in CSM while he was completing his requirements for high school, he earned his associate degree in Information Services Technology - Web Development just six months after he earned his high school diploma.

"It was odd when I started out because everyone in the classroom was older than me," shared Gorman, who was 15 when he took his first class at CSM during the summer of 2016. He hopes to build his career both designing web pages, and working with the technology behind the web pages, he said, adding that he is actively looking for a job.

"I was really uncertain of what I want-



Jerry Wade, of Waldorf, was the oldest graduate to cross the stage.



Calvin Gorman, 18, of Dunkirk, was the youngest to graduate with an associate degree during the 20th Winter Commencement ceremony.

ed to in the long term when I started at CSM," he shared. "I would tell any new student to just pick the career path you think you want and go for it."

Annual Faculty Excellence Award Honoring Adjunct Faculty

Criminal Justice Instructor John Delabrer was honored with the 2018-2019 Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award during the ceremony. Delabrer is also a public safety officer at CSM's Leonardtown Campus and he teaches part time as adjunct faculty in the Business, Technology and Public Services (BTP) Division.

Delabrer created and advises the Criminal Justice Club and has encouraged experiential learning opportunities through the club at various locations, including Farming 4 Hunger in Calvert County which utilizes inmates to help maintain the farm. Through that experience, one of the club members decided she no longer wanted to be a police officer, but instead, wanted to work as a probation officer assisting inmates as they make the transition to re-enter society. Delabrer also received the CSM Advisor of the Year award in 2017 for providing the club's members with a wide array of meaningful experiences and learning opportunities.

"John takes his job teaching Criminal Justice very seriously, and it shows," said Sarah E. Merranko, Ed.D. Merranko, is a CSM professor in the Department of Communication, Arts and Humanities, presented Delabrer with his award. "He works hard to relate each lesson with either the student's life or the life they will lead in law enforcement."

Nursing Recognition Ceremony

During the nursing recognition portion of commencement Thursday, 38 nurses received their degrees and nursing pins.

Rachel Turner, 21, of Waldorf, crossed the stage Thursday with the words "What She Tackles, She Conquers" in big letters atop her graduation cap – a rallying cry supported by the fact she was awarded the CSM Health Sciences Division Achievement in Nursing Award, presented to the graduate who demonstrates academic achievement, clinical competence, community service and leadership potential.

The evening ceremony was especially

sweet for Turner, who learned two days before commencement that she would begin her career as a registered nurse at Washington Hospital Center's in the stroke unit Feb. 25.

She said she'll miss her fellow students. "Your classmates become your family," she shared. "I made really good friends along the way at CSM because the curriculum is so demanding and we go through it all together. But I would recommend CSM to everyone – especially to those who want to go into nursing. It's a great program."

Marilaan van der Merwe, 25, of Leonardtown, was awarded the CSM Health Sciences Division Academic Achievement, given to the graduate with the highest grade point average in the class.

van der Merwe is a South African citizen who came to the United States in 2012 as an au pair for an American family living in San Francisco. She moved with the family to Washington, D.C. and then New York before returning to the area to marry her husband whom she met while in Washington. They were married in October of 2016.

"I was in a psychology class at CSM when some nursing students spoke to us," she explains. "And one day soon after I woke up and realized that I used to an entry-level medic in South Africa, and I had always kept up with my medical classes to take care of children and I just had an epiphany that becoming a nurse is where my life needed to go."

van der Merwe entered CSM's Nursing Program in spring 2017 and walked across the stage at the top of her class with the words "Not All Angels Have Wings – Some Have Stethoscopes" embossed on her graduation cap.

To view photographs of CSM's 20th Winter Commencement, visit <https://csmphoto.zenfolio.com/19wintergrad>.

To view photographs of CSM's Nurse Pinning and Recognition Ceremony, visit <https://csmphoto.zenfolio.com/19jannur>.

For a full list of graduates, visit <https://news.csm.edu/all-news/csms-2019-winter-commencement-candidates-for-graduation/>

Press Release from CSM

St. Mary's College Offers Career Immersion Program



St. Mary's College students at Beltway Companies with President and CEO Jack Saum '89 (second from left) and Kate Shirey, director of career center (last on right).

The Career Immersion program at St. Mary's College of Maryland provides students with an opportunity to get a taste of the working world during their college career.

Career immersion trips are group visits to companies and organizations focused on exposing students to various job fields. The trips are planned and organized by the staff of the Career Development Center and typically include locations where alumni are employed or run the business.

Kate Shirey, director of the center, said the trips can serve as recruiting opportunities for businesses seeking interns or new hires but the emphasis is on education.

"Students are learning about an industry, organization, and specific internship/job opportunities," she said.

Since its inception in 2017, over 100 students have participated in one or more trips to businesses in Southern Maryland, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

Colin Sweatt '22 went on two immersion trips, one to St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development and the other to the circuit and district courts of St. Mary's. "The economic development trip was fascinating because we went to a small business, Avian, that the department works with and we took a tour of the company, spoke to the owner, and received a presentation on the work the department does," Sweatt said.

AVIAN is a government contracting business headquartered in Lexington Park.

Sweatt said he had a similar experience when traveling to the courthouses to learn of the legal field.

"We started the day in the circuit courthouse, observing cases. Then we spoke with the judge, the district attorney, and two public defenders. They told us about their career paths, the type of work they do, and told us what their jobs are like," he said. Sweatt's trip also included speaking with a judge at district court and correctional officers at the St. Mary's County Detention Center.

Evelyn Hernandez '19 attended an immersion trip to Beltway Companies, a truck dealership with eight locations in Maryland. Hernandez and the group met up with President and CEO Jack Saum '89 at the company's headquarters in Baltimore. The group was led around the

various departments by director of marketing Stephanie Denzer. The marketing side of the business was what peaked Hernandez's attention.

"Thanks to the career immersion trip to Beltway, I was able to get an inside perspective and expand my interest in the marketing department by seeing how marketing affects all sides of a company," Hernandez said.

Shirey said several internships and employment opportunities have stemmed from these trips.

She said all students can participate in career immersion trips, although "certain sites may be a better fit for students based on major/career interest and academic year."

Several of the companies participating in the immersion trips have been long-time partners with the College, providing internships and career opportunities for students for many years.

St. Mary's College students take part in internships at various times throughout the year including micro-internships over winter break or full and part-time internships during the summer.

Eamon Kostopoulos '19 and Ellie Ungar '19, spent the past summer interning with Booz Allen Hamilton in a highly competitive internship program. Ungar explained that there was a steep learning curve for the first week or two as the student interns learned how to work with more advanced coding programs than those previously used in college coursework. Then it was straight into their projects.

Both Kostopoulos and Ungar found the experience invaluable. For Kostopoulos, it helped him understand how he could build a team for his own startup company in the future, and showed him how important the business side of programming can be. For Ungar, who is continuing her work with Booz Allen over the next year, working on data analysis projects better fits with her math major. She enjoys the work and says she could definitely see herself working more with the company in the future.

For more information on the career immersion program or other career services contact the career development center at 240-895-4203 or online at <http://www.smcm.edu/careercenter/>

*Zoe Smedley '19
contributed to this report*

A View From The BLEACHERS The Process

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

This began as a speculative piece on final destination of Bryce Harper, baseball's best and, after months of rumors and now weeks into spring training, oddly homeless free agent. It was being written, literally, as news broke of him inking an unthinkable long 13-year, \$330M contract with the Philadelphia Phillies. So scratch the speculation. Now we know. All the better.

"Harper 2018", which turned into "Harper 2018-19", was supposed to be the greatest free agent courting in the history of North American sports. Maybe global sports. Or intergalactic sports. That might not be an exaggeration from Harper and super-agent Scott Boras's perspective.

Harper peddling his wares across an adoring MLB landscape has been an unfolding story for years. From the time he was drafted by the Nationals in 2010, the question was whether the phenom from Las Vegas, who grew up rooting for blueblood teams like the Dallas Cowboys and Duke basketball, and who idolized Yankees great Mickey Mantle, would outgrow the still regenerating baseball town of Washington, D.C.

Harper just always seemed destined for the brighter baseball lights in New York, Los Angeles or Chicago. But the Yankees seemed an awkward fit with Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton, two slugging corner outfielders, already in place. The Chicago Cubs, employers of Harper's BFF Kris Bryant, were considered a likely landing spot, but the Cubbies' bloated payroll prevented serious pursuit. So Los Angeles then? The Dodgers were in the mix, having shipped Yasiel Puig and Matt Kemp — two pricey outfielders — to Cincinnati. Washington was always a player too and allegedly offered a 10-year, \$300M contract last fall; but neither party ever felt committed to a forever deal.

In the end, Philly won. I guess they won — these mega-deals rarely work out well (see: Alex Rodriguez, Albert Pujols, Miguel Cabrera and the aforementioned Stanton). Money aside...thirteen years? Where were you in 2006? The County Times was two long years from "A View From The Bleachers" appearing in its pages for the first time and changing the course of the paper's future forever.

For good? For ill? Alas, the final determination is still pending...

Harper landing in Philly was quite an adventure. The length of his free agency was unexpectedly long. Undoubtedly to Harper's chagrin, the suiters were too few and dominated by B-listers. Harper did ultimately get the desired long-term deal and broke the MLB record for biggest contract ever (the previous record was Stanton's \$325M deal), but his average annual salary was below expectations.

All things considered, the process was confusing. If reports of Washington's offer last fall are true, Harper could have remained a Nat for more annually (\$30M) and only \$30M less overall. And if Harper really wanted to play for the Phillies, the one team seriously in play throughout, couldn't he have signed there months ago? Or were the terms not sweet enough? Did Harper need to feel like he bled every last dime and every last committed season from all bidders before finally settling for Philly?

These are things we'll never know. Regardless, it must have worn on Harper. A glimpse of the burden may have leaked through when he mistakenly said in his first press conference with the Phillies that he wanted to "bring a title back to D.C." Cringe...

I don't begrudge Harper, the Nationals or any other team that pursued him. Harper putting pen to paper was a massive pivot point for him and multiple franchises. Put the silly money and pomp and circumstance aside and you have a relatable human moment — a massive career decision layered with location, opportunity, salary, benefits and family considerations. Harper opted to leave behind what he built in Washington and to start over in Philadelphia. It was decision almost certainly reached after great consternation. In the end, I hope he's at peace and wish him well as he continues a shared endeavor: the pursuit of happiness.

Harper's ultimate signing prompted many emotions — frustration, disappointment, excitement, anticipation — but ultimately, the one likely felt most acutely by all vested in this process — Harper, the fans and the teams — is relief. Now it's time to just play ball. Finally.

Send comments to
RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

Blue Crabs to Test Rules, Equipment Changes

Atlantic League Partners with MLB



Major League Baseball (MLB) has announced it has reached a three-year agreement with the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball (ALPB) that will permit MLB to test experimental playing rules and equipment during the Atlantic League's Championship Season. In addition to rules governing the transfer of players from the Atlantic League to Major League Baseball, the new agreement includes rights for MLB to implement changes to Atlantic League playing rules in order to observe the effects of potential future rule changes and equipment. MLB will work with ALPB to modify the experimental playing rules and equipment each season during the agreement.

MLB also will enhance its scouting coverage of the Atlantic League, installing radar tracking technology in the eight Atlantic League ballparks and providing statistical services to ALPB clubs.

The new agreement continues Major League Baseball's longstanding practice of testing potential new approaches under game conditions. In recent years, MLB has utilized and evaluated experimental rules in its Arizona Fall League, the game's top off-season developmental platform.

"We are excited to announce this new partnership with the Atlantic League," said Morgan Sword, MLB's Senior Vice President, League Economics & Operations. "We look forward to bringing some of the best ideas about the future of our game to life in a highly competitive environment."

Atlantic League President Rick White added: "The Atlantic League prides itself on innovation. In that spirit, our Board of Directors, led by Chairman and Founder Frank Boulton, enthusiastically and unanimously approved this forward-looking agreement."

Major League Baseball and the Atlantic League will announce the experimental playing rule and equipment changes for the 2019 ALPB Championship Season in the coming weeks.

The Southern Maryland Blue Crabs are members of the Atlantic League.

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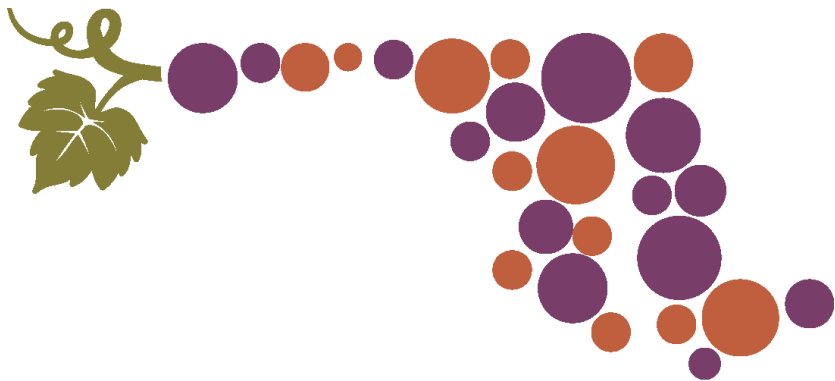
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Wineries Kick Off Third Annual Maryland Wine Month



MARYLAND WINE



Members of the Maryland Wineries Association are preparing for a month-long celebration of the state's flourishing wine industry. Several wineries are hosting unique educational events and tastings, while others are working with local restaurants to pair their wines during exclusive wine dinners.

"Maryland Wine Month gives the state's many wineries an opportunity to raise a glass to our industry and our great consumers," explains Judy Crow of Crow Vineyard & Winery and president of the Maryland Wineries Association.

Maryland Wine Month hopes to celebrate the culture of enthusiasts supporting the wine industry in the Free State. The #WeAreMarylandWine social media challenge engages the savvy wine consumer and encourages them to share photos of their wine experiences. The best submission will receive a pair of brunch passes to Decanter Reimagined, a racing and wine experience at Laurel Park in April, while all of those sharing their images will receive a pair of passes to the general tasting at the event.

Jim Bauckman of the Maryland Wineries Association says, "we hope consumers will share their stories about

Maryland wine."

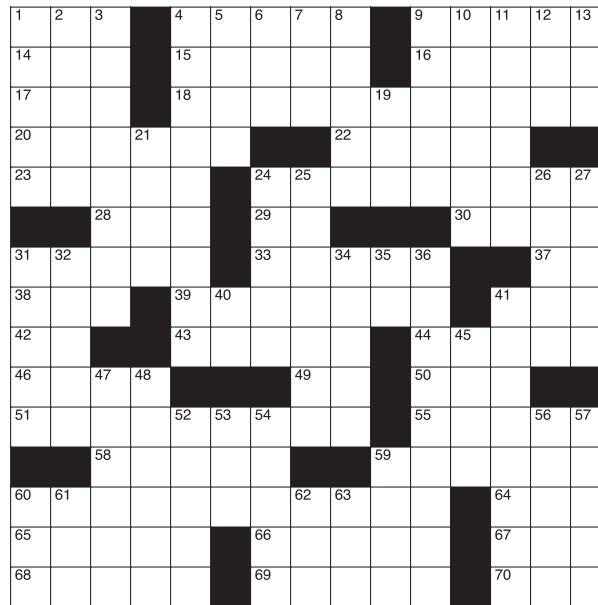
Retail partners of Maryland's wineries will also receive promotion through the "Retailer of the Day" campaign. Winery operators and consumers have nominated their favorite wine shops that feature great selections of Maryland wine and support wine education. Those nominated retailers will be announced via Maryland Wineries Association social media platforms.

Full details about Maryland Wine Month events and activities can be found by visiting the Maryland Wineries Association online at marylandwine.com or on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

About the Maryland Wineries Association. The Maryland Wineries Association (MWA), formed in 1984, is the non-profit trade association that represents more than 80 member wineries in Maryland. MWA's mission is to develop and expand the grape and wine industry in Maryland – through education and promotion.

Press Release from Maryland Wineries Association

Fun & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Public broadcaster
- 4. The media
- 9. Manila hemp
- 14. Not just "play"
- 15. Trailblazing German historian
- 16. Type of puzzle
- 17. Plant in the daisy family
- 18. Not young
- 20. Dennis is one
- 22. Revealed
- 23. But goodie
- 24. Absurd
- 28. Commercials
- 29. University of Dayton
- 30. Expression of annoyance
- 31. Stories
- 33. More critical
- 37. Of I
- 38. Time units (abbr.)
- 39. Arousing intense feeling
- 41. High schoolers' test
- 42. Trauma center
- 43. Astronomical period
- 44. Fights
- 46. Italian Lake
- 49. Rhenium
- 50. Baseball stat
- 51. State of consciousness

- 55. Some is dietary
- 58. Stringed instrument
- 59. ___ Kidman, actress
- 60. Orator
- 64. Ottoman military commander
- 65. Makes known
- 66. Type of font
- 67. Cool!
- 68. Short musical composition
- 69. Porticos
- 70. Not wet

CLUES DOWN

- 1. The upper part of a duet
- 2. Carpenter's tool
- 3. Outrageous events
- 4. Procedures
- 5. Type of party
- 6. Between northeast and east
- 7. Sanskrit (abbr.)
- 8. NJ college ___ Hall
- 9. Sharp mountain ridge
- 10. Observed something remarkable
- 11. One who obeys

- 12. ___ de sac
- 13. Sign language
- 19. Predecessor to Protestantism
- 21. Right-hand man
- 24. ___ anglicus: sweating sickness
- 25. People who proof
- 26. Israeli Defence Forces sergeant
- 27. Remains as is
- 31. Receptacle
- 32. Archers' tool
- 34. Gets up
- 35. Unit of energy
- 36. Explains again
- 40. Pa's partner
- 41. Region bordering the sea
- 45. Type of acid
- 47. Lesotho capital
- 48. Gave a speech
- 52. Irregular as though nibbled away
- 53. Neither
- 54. Copyreads
- 56. Edward ___, British composer
- 57. Prepared
- 59. Launched Apollo
- 60. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 61. Protects from weather
- 62. Feline
- 63. Equal

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

B	A	Z	A	R		V	A	S		S	A	C	K
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In Remembrance

The Calvert County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to jenicoster@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

Ruth Blevins



Ruth Blevins, 85, of Barstow, MD passed away on March 3, 2019 in Prince Frederick, Maryland/ She was born on January 11, 1934.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 7, 2018, 10-11 a.m. at Waters Memorial United Methodist Church, 5400 Mackall Road, Saint Leonard, MD 20685. Funeral Service will follow at 11 a.m. at the church. Interment will be in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Waters Memorial United Methodist Church, 5400 Mackall Road, Saint Leonard, MD 20685.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home,

Brandy Marie "Superstar" Staples

Brandy Marie "Superstar" Staples, 32, of Lusby, MD passed away on March 2, 2019. Born May 16, 1986 in Cheverly, MD, she was the daughter of William Staples and Karen (Merryman) Richardson. Brandy graduated from Patuxent High School in 2004 and attended the College of Southern Maryland. She enjoyed arts and crafts, fishing, family games, sleepovers with her cousins and godson, field hockey, lacrosse, the Pittsburg Steelers, spending time with her brothers and with her bestest buddy, Pop-Pop and her Grandma. Brandy is survived by her mother, Karen Richardson and step-father, Jack Richardson of



Lusby, MD; her father, William Staples of Hanover, MD; her fiancé Anita James; her brothers, Matthew Fraley (Danielle) of Lusby, MD and Bryan Fraley of Lusby, MD; her grandparents, Leonard and Ann Merryman; her aunts and uncles, Brenda Smith (Don), Lenny Merryman (Lisa), Sandy Fauchoux (Tom); her niece, Raegan Sears; and her godson, Blake Fauchoux.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 9, 2019, 1:30-3 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Lusby, 20 American Lane, Lusby, MD 20657. Funeral service will follow at 3 p.m. at the funeral home.

Joan Winifred Persetic

Joan Winifred Persetic, 86, of Chesapeake Beach passed away February 27, 2019 at Solomons Nursing Center. She was born August 9, 1932 in Key West, FL to Edward John and Mary Agnes (Dicks) Williams. Joan graduated from Calvert High School in 1950. She married Raymond John Persetic February 23, 1957 and they lived in Pittsburgh, PA before moving to Chesapeake Beach in 1969. Joan was employed as a claims processor with the Washington DC Office of Un-



employment Claims Assessments. Joan was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church and enjoyed playing BINGO and spending time with her grandchildren and pets.

Joan was preceded in death by her husband Raymond John Persetic, Sr., son Michael Persetic and sisters Mary Fliss and Janet Stanley. She is survived by her children Raymond John Persetic, Jr. and wife Shannon of Huntingtown and Russell Edward Persetic and wife Tina of Huntingtown, grandchildren Raymond John "RJ" Persetic III and fiancé Candace Dalrymple, Marissa Persetic, Russell Edward "Rusty" Persetic, Jr. and Victoria Persetic, nieces Dee Fliss, Susan O'Neil and Judy Garilli and nephews Ed Fliss and Mark Stanley.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 10 a.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic, Church, 8816 Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach, MD 20714.

Burial will be on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 1 p.m. at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pets with Disabilities, 635 Clay Hammond Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; <http://petswithdisabilities.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Joseph Michael "Joe" Belanger



Joseph Michael "Joe" Belanger, 50, of Port Republic passed away February 26, 2019. He was born October 3, 1968 in Washington, DC to Robert Jean and Margaret (Glading) Belanger. Joe was raised in Huntingtown and graduated from Northern High School in 1986. He was employed as a carpenter with Case Remodeling and Design in Bethesda. When Joe was younger, he enjoyed racing motocross and as he got older, he enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Joe is survived by his parents Robert and Margaret Belanger of Surfside Beach, SC, brother Robert Belanger and wife Casandra of Huntingtown, nephews Justin and Harlan Belanger and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Charlene Marie Ives

Charlene Marie Ives, 69, of St. Leonard, MD passed away on February 26, 2019 in Prince Frederick, MD. Charlene was born in Danbury, CT to Charles and Gladys Gillotti in 1950. Charlene was a veteran of the United States Navy and Naval Reserve, and she continued her service to the country as a government employee, retiring from Patuxent River Naval Air Station after over 31 years of



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service. Charlene loved to spend time with her family and her loving husband Ken, they were inseparable. Charlene was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her husband Ken Ives, her children: Jennifer McLaughlin of Langhorne, PA; Christine McLaughlin of Prince Frederick, MD; Jacqueline Colicci of Jacksonville, FL; Stephen Ives of West Boylston, MA; and Colleen Ives of Waltham, MA. She is also survived by six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The family will receive relatives and friends on March 7, 2019 from 4-7 PM at Trinity United Methodist Church in Prince Frederick, MD. A funeral service will be offered on March 8th, 11:00 AM at Trinity United Methodist Church. Interment will be private.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 7, 2019, 4-7 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 90 Church Street, Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

Funeral services will be Friday, March 7 at 11 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. Interment will be private.

Maureen Ann Allen

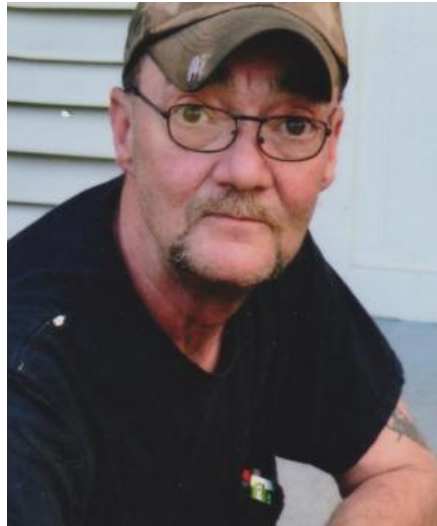


Maureen Ann Allen, 64, of Dunkirk, MD passed away February 26, 2019 at her home. Maureen was born February 11, 1955 in Washington, DC the daughter of Raymond and LaVerna (Calcaterra) Money.

She is survived by her beloved husband David L. Allen, son James R. Allen and sister Colleen Jones and her husband Bill all of Dunkirk, MD.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Lionel Eugene "Skip" Willet, Jr.



Lionel Eugene "Skip" Willet, Jr., 59, of Deale passed away February 23, 2019. He was born March 30, 1959 in Cheverly to Lionel Eugene Sr. and Joan Alice (Mosteller) Willet. Skip joined the United States Army and was honorably discharged after serving his commitment. He was employed as a truck mechanic for many years.

Skip is survived by his son Lionel Eugene "Chip" Willet III and his wife Amanda of Deale, granddaughters Avery and Carson Willet, sisters Alice Marie Henson and Bernice Willet, brothers Mark Allen Brooke and Ralph Willet and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his daughter Nicole Marie Willet, sister Denise Willet and brother Scott Anthony Brooke.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Robert Lee "Bob" Siemon



Robert Lee "Bob" Siemon, 85, of Lusby, MD and formerly of Solomons, MD passed away on February 23, 2019 at his residence.

Born December 14, 1933 in Prince

Frederick, MD, he was the son of the late Lee Raber Siemon and Catherine Regina (Dorsey) Siemon.

Bob was an electrician and was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electricians retiring in 1981.

Bob is survived by his children, Derek A. Siemon of MD, Dawn M. Hall of SC, Lisa A. Chase of MD, Kevin R. Siemon of VA, and Shawn J. Siemon of MD; twelve grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and brothers, Carl Siemon of MD and Clifford Siemon of MO. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann Francis (McKenna) Siemon whom he married on November 13, 1954 in Hyattsville, MD; his daughter, Mechelle Myers; and sister, Dale Lidick.

Family received friends for a life celebration visitation on Saturday, March 2, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home, P.A., 20 American Lane, Lusby, MD 20657. Interment will be private.

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

Sandra K. Phillips

Sandra K. Phillips, 73, of Glen Burnie passed away peacefully in Harwood on Feb. 25, 2019.

Sandra was born in Solomons, MD to the late Harvey E. and Catherine I. (Bradburn) Woods. She grew up in Solomons in a loving home and graduated from Our Lady Star of the Sea High School. She moved to Glen Burnie where she was a local beautician and eventually had a successful career in data entry/processing with the M.V.A for over 20 years. Sandra will be remembered for her love of family, being a giving and compassionate person who helped those in need. She often put the needs of others before



herself.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her devoted son, Kevin Phillips (Monica); loving grandchildren, Sabrina Montgomery, Alyssa Phillips, Nickolas Phillips, and Lucas Phillips.

The family will receive visitors at Singleton Funeral & Cremation Services, P.A., 1 2nd Ave. SW (at Crain Highway) Glen Burnie on Thurs., March 7th, from 7-9 PM for a memorial gathering. Inurnment will take place at a later date with her beloved mother. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Hospice of the Chesapeake 90 Ritchie Hwy. Pasadena, MD 21122. For more information please visit, www.singletonfuneralhome.com

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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

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.

ONGOING

Broad Perspective

A Photographers' Show. Opening reception, Saturday, March 9, 5:00-8:00 PM. Eclectic styles and visions! A symphony of nature, Americana, wildlife, abstracts, and digital photographic art. Show runs through April 7. Wed-Sun, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM. calvART Gallery, Prince Frederick Shopping Center (Rts. 4 & 231). 410-535-9252

March Madness

Newly redesigned gallery featuring artists' works that highlight March -- fierce and calm! Show runs through March 31. ArtWorks@7th, 8905 Chesapeake Ave., North Beach. 410-286-5278

Rise Up!

A Teen Art Exhibit showcasing the talent, creativity and perspective of today's teens. Exhibit runs through April 14. Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Dowell Rd., Solomons.

Friday, March 8

Baked Haddock Dinner

American Legion Post 206, Chesapeake Beach
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Hosted by the Sons of the American Legion in the lower-level dining room. \$12 includes all the trimmings, salad and beverage. Public invited. 410-257-9878

St. Paddy's Parents Night Out

Harriet Brown Community Center, 901 Dares Beach Rd., Prince Frederick
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Drop the kids off with TR Services for our St. Paddy's Day themed night out! Shamrock shuffle, leprechaun hunt and more! Designed for individuals with special needs ages 6 and up and their siblings and friends. \$5. Register. 410-535-1600 x 8205

Family Resource Fair/Carnival

Patuxent High School, 12485 Southern Connector Boulevard, Lusby
5:30 - 8:30 PM

Building Stronger Family Connections. Various community resources available for families to access. Carnival games. Free pizza, chips and drinks. Keynote speaker Margo Gross. Guardians attend free sessions on various topics; free child care. Free magic show! Door prizes. Register online: URL: bit.ly/2BW8fqO

Quarter Frenzy Auction

Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Dept. Social Hall, 3170 W Ward Road
6:00 - 9:00 PM

Join the Fun Bunch & Friendz Quarter Auction Team and the Beach Elementary PTA. All bids 1-4 quarters; nothing over 4 quarters. Paddles \$3 each, 2 for \$5 or 3 for \$7. Support a great cause. Info/reservations: 240-416-4224.

Karaoke at the Legion

American Legion Post 206, Chesapeake Beach
8:00 PM - Midnight

In the Lower Level Lounge. No cover charge. Public welcome. 410-257-9878. www.ALPost206.org

Saturday, March 9

Indoor Yard Sale

18210 Hyatt Ave., Benedict
7:00 AM - Noon

Community Yard Sale. \$10/space. Sell and shop in-

side where it's warm! Stay for dinner. Email melissaprof425@gmail.com or call 240-216-0809.

Spaghetti Dinner

18210 Hyatt Ave., Benedict
2:00-8:00 PM

A menu to fill you up! Tunes and ambiance for a meal with family and community. Morning indoor yard sale and stay for dinner. \$10-Carry out or Dine in. \$5-Children 6-11. Free-Children under 5. Hosted by the Benedict Auxiliary.

Barbie's 60th Birthday Bash

Northeast Community Center, 4075 Gordon Stinnett Ave., Chesapeake Beach
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Bring your favorite Barbie Dolls and celebrate! We will have real life embodiments of different career Barbies to show just how inspirational she can be! \$3. Registration required. 410-535-1600 ext. 8210

Dinner and Dance

Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad, 755 Solomons Island Road
5:00 - 11:00 PM

Dinner, 5:00-6:30 or while supplies last. Ham, cabbage, corn beef, boiled potatoes, and cornbread. Dance, 7:00-11:00. "Country Memories" Band. BYOB—setups available. \$40 single dinner and dance. \$75 couples dinner and dance. \$15 dance only. www.pfvrs.org. info@pfvrs.org

Country Dance

American Legion Post 206, Chesapeake Beach
7:00 - 11:30 PM

In the Upper Level Ballroom. Teachers available for instruction at 7:00 followed by dancing from 8:00. \$15/person includes soft drinks or draft beer and light munchies. Reservations LBloyer@verizon.net. 410-257-9878. www.ALpost206.org

Women's Morning of Reflection

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 50 Alexander Lane, Solomons
8:30 - Noon

Theme: "Weaving Our Lives with Christ." Women of all faiths are welcome to come celebrate, pray and support each other. 410-326-3535.

Sunday, March 10

Daylight Savings Time Begins

2:00 AM
Turn clocks ahead one-hour.

All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast

American Legion Post 206, Chesapeake Beach
8:00 - 11:00 AM

Yummy breakfast in the upper level Dining Room. Adults \$10; kids 6-12 \$5; kids under 6 free. Bloody Marys available for a nominal charge. 410-257-9878. www.ALPost206.org

Sinking Lands and Rising Seas

North Beach Town Hall, 8916 Chesapeake Ave.
2:00 - 3:00 PM
Climate Change and Evolution of the Chesapeake Bay presented by Ralph Eshelman. Free.

Opioids: Don't Learn About it the Hard Way

Northeast Community Center, Chesapeake Beach
2:00 - 5:00 PM

A Community Conversation. Get answers from local community leaders, law enforcement, health care providers, and people directly affected by the epidemic.

Easter Messiah Sing-Along

St. James' Church, 5757 Solomons Island Rd., Lothian
4:00 PM

Annual community tradition held to celebrate the seasons of Christmas and Easter since 1987, invites singers to perform without rehearsal parts of Handel's Messiah. A free will offering benefits The Community Assistance Fund for struggling area families. Val Hymes, 410-224-2478 or www.StJameslothian.com

Monday, March 11

Calvert Marine Museum Reopens!

14200 Solomons Island Road S., Solomons
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM daily

After nearly two months of renovations, the Calvert Marine Museum is excited to announce its official re-opening. 410-326-2042.

Jay Fleming Photography Exhibit

Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM daily

Showcase of local watermen earning a living by means of the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River runs through December 31. 410-326-2042

TR Lacrosse Clinic

Hallowing Point Park, Prince Frederick
6:30 - 7:15 PM

Learn the in's and out's of lacrosse with this student-athlete led clinic. This 7-week clinic is designed for individuals with various special needs ages 6 and up. Learn the fundamentals of the game while working on hand-eye coordination and sportsmanship! Free. Register. 410-535-1600 x 8205 or x 8204

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Meeting

Solomon's Volunteer Fire Department
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Discussing recreational boating safety, boating education and other topics of a nautical theme. Prospective members welcome.

Tuesday, March 12

Sea Squirts: Wacky Weather

Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons
10:00 - 10:45 AM

Free drop-in program for children 18 months to three years and their caregivers. For the safety and enjoyment of everyone, older children and siblings may not attend -- with the exception of infants.

Sons of the American Legion Meeting

American Legion Post 206, Chesapeake Beach
7:00 PM

Upper Level Meeting Hall. All Members are urged to attend and make their voices heard. Commander Ward 410-610-7217. www.ALPost206.org

Wednesday, March 13

Good Samaritan Day

Northeast Community Center, Chesapeake Beach
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Help those in need by showing kindness and compassion. Send a picture of your good deed to us at NECCStaff@calvertcountymd.gov. Stop by and tell us how you made the world a better place on this day and be entered to win a prize. 410-535-1600 ext. 8210

Calvert LIBRARY Events

For more information & to register for events visit <http://calvertlibrary.info>

Thursday, March 7

Code Name 3.6. 6:30-7:30pm. For 3rd-6th grade eyes only! 3rd – 6th grade students are invited to this series of events which uses plenty of hands-on activities to have fun with reading! Each month we will explore a new theme and introduce a great chapter book on the topic. No advanced preparation is needed and a snack will be provided. Please register. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Friday, March 8

Family Game Nights. 5:30-7:00pm. Come and join us for some old fashioned and new fashioned family fun! Your choice of Minecraft, a variety of board games, Minute-To-Win-It and Sphero mini robots. Please register. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Friday, March 8: Pub Quiz. 6:30-9:30pm. For one night only, the library won't help you find the answers. But that won't stop us from asking plenty of tough questions. Pre-register for \$75 per team of up to 6 adults. \$5/person to be a spectator (space is limited). Cash prize to the top 3 teams! Limited space, register early at any Calvert Library location. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Saturday, March 9

Poets' Circle. 9:00-11:00am. Beginner or big-time, confident or compulsive, stuck or star-lit! All are welcome. Expect a friendly session of discussion, editing and support. Bring 5 copies of what you want to work on or just yourself. Please register. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Science Saturdays! 2:30-3:30pm. Join us for a monthly STEM natural-science program series designed to get kids in K-3rd grade thinking like scientists. This month we'll learn about the mammals of Maryland! Please register. Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Sunday, March 10

Evolution of the Chesapeake Bay. 2:00-3:00pm. Sinking Lands and Rising Seas: Climate Change and Evolution of Chesapeake Bay. Dr. Ralph Eshelman will discuss land subsidence, sea level rise, wave erosion and briefly the expansion and decline of continental ice (most of which is in Antarctica) that has effected sea level in the past and what this means for the future. Discussion includes

the effects on archeological sites including historic structures, graveyards and pre-historic sites. Calvert Library and Bayside History Museum host at North Beach Town Hall, 8916 Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach, 410-257-2411.

Monday, March 11

Calvert Health Department - Colon Cancer Awareness. 5:00-7:00pm. Colon cancer is preventable! The Calvert County Health Department will be available at each of the branches throughout the month of March. Stop by the table and find out how you can prevent colon cancer. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Tuesday, March 12

Book Discussion - Any book by or about Charles and/or Anne Morrow Lindbergh. 7:00-8:30pm. Ask a librarian for recommendations. Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach, 410-257-2411.

Calvert Health Department - Colon Cancer Awareness. 10:00-12:00pm. Colon cancer is preventable! The Calvert County Health Department will be available at each of the branches throughout the month of March. Stop by the table and find out how you can prevent colon cancer. Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Wednesday, March 13

HHS presents The Hunchback of Notre Dame. 7:00-8:15pm. Join us for an evening of song as Huntingtown High School presents excerpts from their upcoming musical, The Hunchback of Notre Dame. Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

Teen Game Night. 7:00-8:30pm. Come out and play some awesome board games! Bring your friends! Make new ones! Find a new game to love or revisit an old favorite. Feel free to bring your own! (Oh, and there will be pizza!) Calvert Library Fairview Branch, Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings, 410-257-2101.

Thursday, March 14

S.T.E.A.M. PUNKS: Virtual Visions. 6:30-7:30pm. Question, Discover and Explore! Experience reality like you never have before: with our Google Expeditions VR! For adventurers in grades 1 - 7. We now have text reminders. If you would like to get reminders about certain special events for this class, text @steampnkso to the number 81010. Please register. Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289.

Young at Heart

By Office of Aging Staff

AARP Tax-Aide Program

Certified Tax-Aide Counselors will be available Monday, February 4 through Friday, April 12, 2019 to prepare individual federal and state tax returns at no cost or low-to-moderate income senior citizens aged 50-plus. You do not have to be an AARP member. All individuals on the return must be present and provide identification (SSN card and photo ID). Senior centers will begin taking calls Monday, January 28. Please call for more information. Calvert Pines, 410-535-4606, North Beach, 410-257-2549, Southern Pines, 410-586-2748.

Legal Aid

Attorney services are available by appointment for those aged 60-plus regarding SSI, benefit denials, disability payments, Social Security and SSI overpayments, debtor and consumer problems, advance directives, and tenant issues. A Legal Aid attorney rotates on a schedule between the three senior centers. Call the specific center for an appointment. Appointments are taken between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Thursday, March 7 at Southern Pines Senior Center and Thursday, April 11 at Calvert Pines Senior Center.

Calvert Pines Senior Center (CPSC)

Join us for Lunch and a Movie: The Beatles, Behind The Curtain, A Documentary, Wednesday, March 13, 11:15 a.m. Behind the scenes stories, rare interviews, early footage and life after the Beatles. Pre-register for lunch.

Celebrate with food, friends, and music and comedy at our St. Patrick's Day Party with Tom Delaney, Thursday day, March 14, 12 p.m. Pre-registration required for lunch.

North Beach Senior Center (NBSC)

Learn about our Presidents who served before the U.S. Constitution was ratified with Professor Mark Croatti, Wednesday, March 13, 11 a.m.

Join us for St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans, Thursday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. Enjoy a few rounds of Bingo with prizes followed by a delicious Irish luncheon. Pre-registration for lunch required.

Southern Pines Senior Center (SPSC)

Join us for What's All the "Buzz" about BEMER? Wednesday, March 13, 10 a.m., BEMER is a wellness device that NASA, pro athletes and vets have successfully used for peak performance and healing.

Join us for St. Patrick's Day Celebration with Entertainer and Musician Jimi Simon, Thursday, March 14, 1 p.m.

Eating Together Menu

Monday, March 11

Turkey & Swiss Cheese Club Sandwich w/Lettuce, Coleslaw, Citrus Sections

Tuesday, March 12

Roast Beef, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, Dinner Roll, Applesauce

Wednesday, March 13

Chicken Salad Platter, Peaches, Marinated Cucumber & Onions, Bread, Oatmeal Cookie

Lunches are served to seniors, aged 60-plus, and their spouses through Title IIIIC of the Older Americans Act. Suggested donation is \$3. To make or cancel a reservation call: Calvert Pines Senior Center at 410-535-4606, North Beach Senior Center at 410-257-2549, or Southern Pines Senior Center at 410-586-2748. Lunches are subject to change.

Thursday, March 14

Corn Beef, Cabbage, Carrots, Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Fruited Jell-O

Friday, March 15

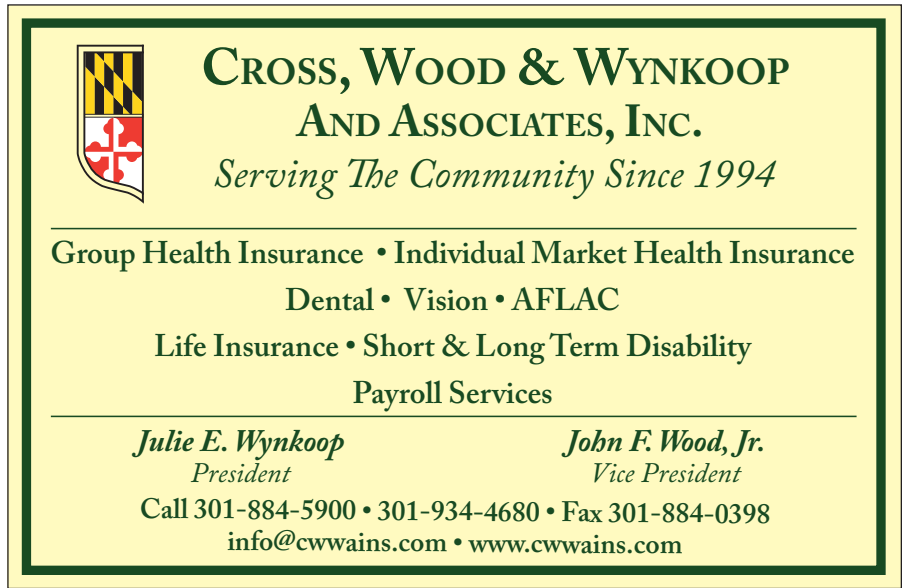
Baked Fish Sticks, Tartar Sauce, Green Beans, Lima Beans, Dinner Roll, Banana



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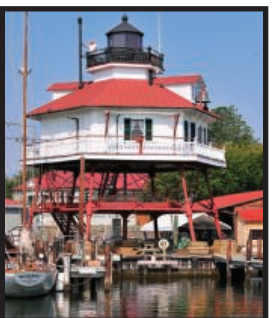
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