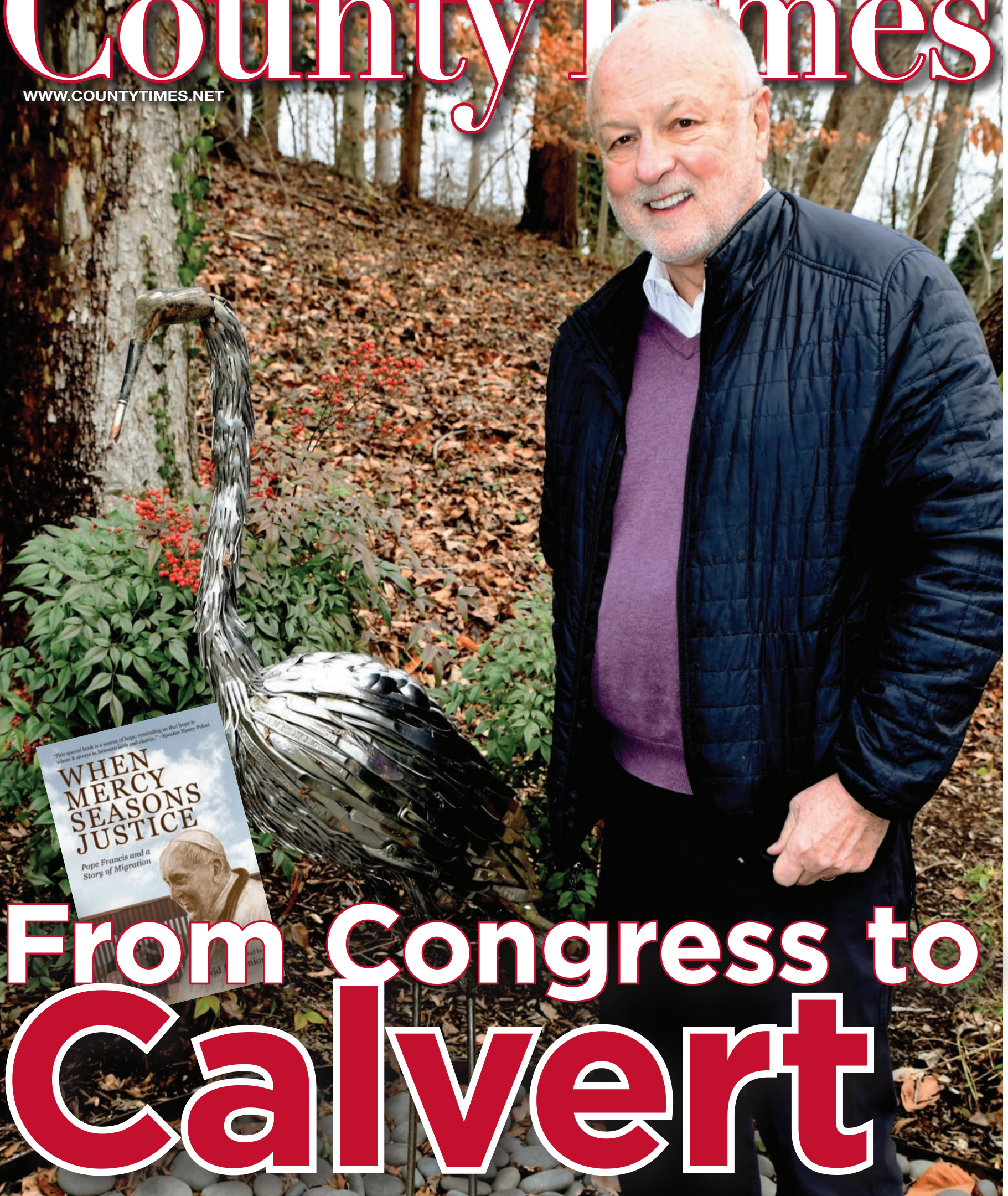


FREE

# Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

WWW.COUNTYTIMES.NET



# From Congress to Calvert



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**FEATURE 12**  
Former congressman David Bonior has penned his first novel.



**LOCAL 8**  
Calvert's New Year's baby.



**COMMUNITY 11**  
Battle Creek boardwalk temporarily closed

**“I WANT TO SHOW MY COLLEAGUES AND MY COMMUNITY THAT THE VACCINE IS SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.”**

CALVERTHEALTH CHIEF NURSING OFFICER DIANE COUCHMAN

### WEEKLY FORECAST

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| Thu 1/7<br>44°   29°F<br><br>Mostly Sunny<br>Mon 1/11<br>40°   32°F<br><br>PM Showers | Fri 1/8<br>38°   27°F<br><br>Cloudy<br>Tue 1/12<br>43°   29°F<br><br>Partly Cloudy | Sat 1/9<br>39°   25°F<br><br>Mostly Sunny<br>Wed 1/13<br>44°   29°F<br><br>Partly Cloudy | Sun 1/10<br>40°   28°F<br><br>Sunny<br>Thu 1/14<br>44°   32°F<br><br>Mostly Sunny |
|---|--|--|---|

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(and opportunity to leave bids for those unable to participate online)  
**Saturday, January 9, 2021, 9 am – 11 am**  
onsite at Dr. Martin's home  
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Online Auction Registration and Bidding begins on or  
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**COVID-19**

**As of January 5**      **Positive Cases**      **Deaths**

**Calvert**      **3100**      **34**

Information provided by Calvert Health Department



# CalvertHealth Gives First COVID-19 Vaccines

*The Hospital Recieve Two Shipments, 1,100 and 400 Doses*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

CalvertHealth Medical Center (CHMC) received its first shipment of Moderna COVID vaccine on Dec. 23 and began vaccinating its care team, according to a hospital spokesperson.

The hospital reports that vaccine clinics are ongoing there with the plan for vaccinating being guided by the Centers for Disease Control and the Maryland Department of Health in “a phased approach. The hospital’s team has developed a plan for inoculating those with the highest risk of COVID exposure being vaccinated first according to state guidelines and will continue to prioritize individuals based on their COVID exposure risk until all those hospital staff who wish to be vaccinated have been inoculated. We are working closely with the Calvert County Health Department to ensure a coordinated effort for vaccinating priority groups within Calvert County.”

Chief Nursing Officer & Vice President of Clinical Services Di-



Diane Couchman, Chief Nursing Office & Vice President of Clinical Services

ane Couchman was the first to be vaccinated. “As a nurse, a leader, and a resident of Calvert County, I want to show my colleagues and my community that the vaccine is safe and effective. I want to protect my family, friends and anyone else I come in contact with,” she said.

Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky reported to the county commissioners at their Jan. 5 meeting that the after-Christmas surge in cases that had been feared has materialized and that’s putting a stress on the hospital. He said one third of the patients there have COVID-related issues.



Chief Nursing Officer & Vice President Clinical Services Diane M Couchman, MBA, BSN, RN

Polsky said the original 100 doses received on Dec. 23 has been supplemented by an additional 800 doses last week. He said unlike other parts of the country which are having difficulty administering the doses they are getting, in Calvert the shots are being quickly given.

“Prioritizing has been difficult, to put it mildly,” Polsky said, because there is little advance notice as to when another shipment will

arrive and how much is in it.

Polsky said, “There is simply not the quantity we would like to see to treat all the people who would like to be inoculated.”

Polsky said the first doses had come into the county for CVS and Walgreens drug stores to begin to administer to nursing home patients and staff but it was uncertain when doses would arrive for assisted living facilities.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*



Respiratory Therapist Sharon Pitts is administered the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at CalvertHealth Medical Center



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| <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;"> <b>Fresh Rolls</b><br/>Hot Soups<br/>Sandwiches<br/>And Subs<br/>Hot &amp; Cold                             </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;"> <b>Chicken Salad</b><br/>Homemade<br/>Desserts                             </td> </tr> </table> | <b>Fresh Rolls</b><br>Hot Soups<br>Sandwiches<br>And Subs<br>Hot & Cold  | <b>Chicken Salad</b><br>Homemade<br>Desserts | <b style="color: red;">WINE • COLD BEER</b> |
| <b>Fresh Rolls</b><br>Hot Soups<br>Sandwiches<br>And Subs<br>Hot & Cold  | <b>Chicken Salad</b><br>Homemade<br>Desserts   |  |   |
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# Community Needs Survey Released

Addresses Well Being of Children

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Every three years the Calvert County Family Network conducts a "Community Needs Assessment" of issues related to the well-being of children. The latest report was released Jan. 5 to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). It addresses eight areas:

- Babies born healthy.**
- Healthy children.**
- Children enter school ready to learn.**
- Children are successful in school.**
- Families are economically stable.**
- Youth will complete school.**
- Youth have opportunities for employment or career readiness.**

Communities are safe for children, youth & families. Calvert Family Network Coordinator Julie Mashino said survey respondents "over and over again" repeated the need for more services to address the problems mentioned by students and adults.

Some of the survey findings: 31 percent of students feel sad or hopeless almost every day for stretches of two weeks or more. That's up from the previous survey.

More than 30 percent of student respondents report lifetime use of alcohol or marijuana.

Substance use is generally down

from last survey.

13.5 percent report using prescription drugs without a doctor's order.

Calvert youth marijuana offenses far exceed the state average, probably because of school resource officers being aggressive in making charges.

24.6 percent of students report regularly being sworn at, insulted, or put down by an adult in the home.

24.6 percent have an adult in the household who has been in prison.

25.3 percent have a household member with substance abuse or gambling problems.

32.6 percent have a household member who was ever depressed, mentally ill or suicidal.

Almost half of adults report having adverse childhood experiences one or two times and a quarter report at least three such incidents.

In addition to the call for more services, the survey findings include the charge of too much red tape to access services and lack of acknowledgement of struggles and stigma, and experiencing stress and isolation.

The (CCFN) is a Local Management Board (LMB). LMBs operate in each Maryland jurisdiction, partnering with county leadership, public and private agencies, and businesses.

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# Commissioners Reconsider New Hires

## Decision Had Been Deferred Last Year

By Dick Myers  
Editor

When the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted their Fiscal Year 2021 budget last spring, they left on the table \$9.4 million in unresolved department requests, which included 44 new staff hires. They told the departments heads at the time that they would review their requests at the middle of the fiscal year, or January 1. That review occurred at the BOCC Jan. 5 meeting, but no final decisions were made.

One reason for deferring the requests, according to Director of Finance and Budget Tim Hayden, was “the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 was immense.”

After that decision to defer, the commissioners did grant Sheriff Mike Evans’ request for nine new deputies and four court security officers. Evans said he needed the deputies early so they could attend training to be ready to hit the road by the end of the fiscal year.

The funding granted to the sheriff reduced that total amount of unresolved requests to \$7.4 mil-



Director of Finance and Budget Tim Hayden

lion, which not only included salaries but also equipment and vehicles.

The commissioners listened as

each department head explained their requests virtually. Some of the requests, such as that from the IT department, were modified since their original budget submission. Others said they were willing to defer until next fiscal year.

Hayden, however, recommended the BOCC defer all of the requests until the next fiscal year begins in July.

In a memo to the board, Hayden said, “The Fiscal Year 2022 budget projection is ‘balanced.’ Any new spending added this fiscal year will cause expenses to exceed revenues. The BOCC’s initial review of the Fiscal Year 2022 projection indicated concern that the revenue estimates were too optimistic. If projected revenues are decreased, the imbalance for FY 2022 will be worse. Due to ongoing concerns about the fiscal impact of COVID-19, the Fiscal Year 2022 projection is balanced, and the upcoming changes with the Payment in lieu of tax agreements in FY 2024, it is recommended that the BOCC reject the remaining new staffing requests for FY 2021”

The commissioners weren’t so sure, expressing concern about some of the more time sensitive requests they heard. For instance, Director of Parks and Recreation Shannon Nazzal explained that the Ward Farm Park would be ready to open this summer and she needed to hire staff to get ready for that.

Evans also argued strongly for a budget analyst in his agency. Currently a staffer in Hayden’s office works largely on the sheriff’s budget. One suggestion was to move that person over to the sheriff’s office, but Hayden resisted that idea.

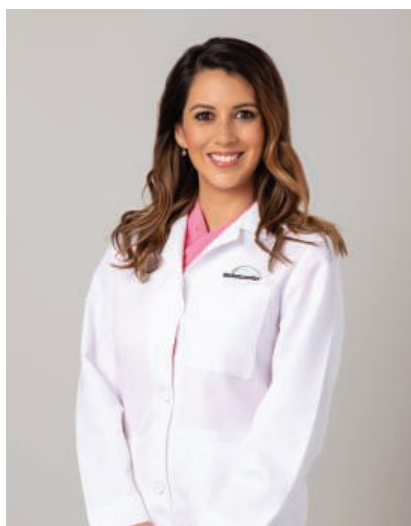
The commissioners also want to hear more next week about the information technology department’s request for two staffers to address cybersecurity issues.

So, Hayden was tasked with coming up with current numbers so they can make the decision soon so the hiring process can begin if they decide to proceed with any new hires before this fiscal year concludes.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*



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# Straight Talk on Straight Teeth

BY: JEFF TOMCSIK

Orthodontic braces and clear aligners such as Invisalign® are not just for straightening teeth and making your smile look better. In fact, a highly trained and skilled dentist will use orthodontic treatment to improve the function of the teeth which will result in a healthier, longer-lasting smile. While good looking teeth are attractive, the purpose of your teeth is to chew food. When teeth are misaligned, they can slowly damage opposing teeth during the chewing process. When they are in proper alignment, teeth break down the food they are chewing without damaging each other.

To help illustrate the point, think of a well working pair of scissors. When in good alignment the two blades come together and meet at a very precise point that makes them excellent at cutting paper. On the other hand, imagine one of the scissor blades had a slight bend or a ding in the metal. This imperfection would surely affect the scissor's ability to cut as well as when it was in perfect alignment. If the one blade is bent away from the other, there will be a gap between the points of contact that cause the cutting action. The result would likely be a failure

to cut effectively or efficiently. If the bend in the one blade is toward the other, it would cause the blades to scrape each other, making cutting difficult. More importantly to note, the blades scraping each other slowly destroy the cutting surface of both blades.

These same principles can be applied to your teeth. In any area of the mouth where your opposing teeth do not meet when you perform a chewing motion (meaning there is a space between the top and opposing-bottom tooth in any area of your mouth when your jaw is closed), like the scissor in the first scenario, it is rendered ineffective in the chewing process. On the other hand, if there are any teeth that are colliding with their opposing teeth, they are likely causing trauma to each other and slowly wearing down the enamel surface and eventually the tooth structure. This will likely lead to greater risk of decay and eventually risk the tooth's overall vitality.

Many people who have ongoing problems with decay or pain despite their efforts to keep their teeth clean, might be suffering from malocclusion issues that are causing the ongoing dental problems. The good

news is that orthodontics may be a solution to these problems, and a straighter, more beautiful smile is a bonus to the treatment, not the reason for the treatment.

If you're like most adults, the thought of braces is unnerving. Years in metal brackets and sharp wires is no-one's idea of a good time. If these thoughts are keeping you away from approaching your dentist about a straighter, more beautiful, better functioning, healthier smile, consider a clear aligner option such as Invisalign®. Invisalign® is a clear, removable retainer that may achieve the same results as traditional braces in less time.

The fact that aligners are removable means you can take them out whenever you eat. This makes eating more comfortable and cleaner as you will not have to worry about food particles being stuck in your braces. They also allow you to easily clean your teeth, where braces with wires make flossing and thorough brushing more difficult. The material used by Invisalign® is by far superior to all other aligners on the market. Not only is it the most invisible, it is also the fastest working material, meaning you will reach your desired outcome in a fraction

of the time to other safe orthodontic options.

Finally, with Invisalign® technology, your dentist can take a scan of your mouth and show you virtually what your results will look like, from the improved esthetics of your smile profile to the benefits of improving any occlusion issues that may be causing damage to your teeth.

The next time you go to your dentist, ask them if they are Invisalign® certified. Ask them if they can provide a virtual, digital smile makeover with the use of an iTero® scanner so that you can see your likely outcome. Also ask them if you have any occlusion issues during chewing and if orthodontics is right for you.

One of the biggest barriers to getting orthodontic treatment dentists hear the most is that it costs too much. Before you allow money to get between you and a healthy, beautiful smile, think about the amount of money you spent on your last car. That car will likely not be in your life ten years from now. The cost of braces or Invisalign® is a fraction of the cost of that car, and the results will last you a lifetime!

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**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** by Dr. Crystal Marie Fleming, professor of sociology and Africana studies at SUNY Stony Brook. She is an author and expert on global racism and white supremacy.

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## Sheriff Raises Sleeve for COVID-19 Vaccine

On Wednesday Dec. 30 Calvert County Sheriff Mike Evans got his first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The sheriff encouraged everyone to do the same, as it becomes available. "It's important that we all get vaccinated to fight the virus together," Sheriff Evans said.

"As a frontline worker (law enforcement personnel), I felt it was my responsibility to set an example. We have seen the effects this pandemic has had on folks. We have lost family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. This pandemic has turned lives upside down. These vaccines far outweigh the risks and any advantage we can get to counter that, I'm happy to be a part of. This is the beginning to bring this pandemic to an end and to make sure that we can get back to some normalcy here in Calvert County," the sheriff said.

COVID-19 vaccination began in Calvert County on Dec. 23, 2020 at the Calvert County Health Department. The first 100 doses of vaccine were given to first responders and frontline health professionals who have been performing COVID testing since March. The COVID vac-



cines have shown to be 95 percent effective in preventing infections.

The Health Department will make announcements once vaccines are available to begin inoculations for the general public. They anticipate receiving a gradually increasing supply over the first three months of 2021 and are doing everything possible to expedite availability.

For more information on COVID-19 testing and statistics visit <https://www.calverthealth.org/>.

*Press Release from CCSO.*

## Calvert Welcomes 2021's First Baby



No one was more excited about this year's New Year's Baby than big sister Aydah! Congratulations to parents Ashley and Ryan Burkhardt, of Chesapeake Beach, on

the birth of their son, Perseus at 1:39 a.m. on January 1. Weighing 8lbs. 2 oz., "Percy" was the first baby born at CalvertHealth Medical Center in 2021.



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# Calvert's New Businesses



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The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Economic Development congratulate the following new businesses:

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**Caring and Sharing Daycare**  
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The Calvert County Department of Economic Development works to help all businesses succeed, from small, local businesses to large, national enterprises. For information on the Department of Economic Development and the many services the county offers the business community, contact the department at 410-535-4583 or 301-855-1880, or by email at [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com).

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

# Deputies Recognized for Promotions



Seven Calvert County Sheriff's Deputies were honored Monday, Jan. 4 for their promotions in rank during a small private ceremony in Port Republic.

During the ceremony, the invocation was delivered by Pastor Dave Mohler of Life Church in Huntingtown, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Sheriff Mike Evans. The deputies were then pinned by the sheriff to reflect their new ranks and reaffirm their oaths of office.

Congratulations to the following deputies who earned promotions:

Captain Bobby Jones

First Sergeant Jason Dean  
First Sergeant Michael Naecker  
Sergeant John McCarroll  
Sergeant James Morgan  
Corporal David Jacobs  
Corporal Jared Curtin

"I am are very proud of these deputies for all of their hard work, sacrifice, and dedication. They earned these promotions and are well deserved," said Sheriff Mike Evans. "These deputies are committed to the agency and keeping the citizens of Calvert County safe."

*Press Release from CCSO.*

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# Library Reverts to Curbside, Free Grant Proposal Course Offered

The health and well-being of our community continue to be Calvert Library's top priorities. Library leadership has been closely monitoring the situation and has decided to temporarily revert to curbside and virtual service only. According to Calvert Library Executive Director Carrie Willson, "We love seeing our customers among our shelves and at our computers. Calvert Library was the last Maryland library system still offering walk-in access and we expect this to be a much shorter-term closure than our initial one. Our procedures and safety protocols are sound. However, in light of the increasing positivity numbers in Calvert and the expected holiday surge in cases, for staff and customer safety and peace of mind, Calvert Library will be closing our buildings to the public at 5 p.m. on December 31 and moving to a curbside and virtual-service only model until January 25 at 10 a.m. We hope that this temporary service restriction will reduce the burden on the hospital and health care providers during this time of rising cases."

All library locations will continue to provide contactless curbside appointments for materials, printing, copying and faxing on the current schedule--Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Phone/Zoom reference and reader's advisory, virtual events and classes and downloadable movies, eBooks, audiobooks and music will continue to be available. Many of these services are now easily accessible through the Calvert Library app available for both Apple and Android devices in the App/Play Store. According to Tiffany Sutherland, Reference Supervisor, "Calvert Library will soon be circulating Chromebooks to assist those customers who will



not have computer access during the building closure." Wi-Fi hotspots will also be available to check out and Wi-Fi continues to be available in all library parking lots.

When asked what the greatest impact this service restriction will have on customers, Carrie Willson said, "The main library experience that customers told us they missed when we closed our buildings in March was browsing for materials. Our receptive and creative staff ran with a customer idea to offer a mini-browsing experience with grab bags via curbside pickup. This has been a very popular service even after we opened the building again. We'll certainly keep that service going during this temporary closure and beyond. Though we have only heard minimal concerns about computer access, it is an important library service for marginalized populations. We expect the Chromebooks that were recently purchased with a grant to help."

For the health and safety of others, if you are exhibiting symptoms of a contagious disease, especially coronavirus, please stay home and call your healthcare provider for medical advice. More information about coronavirus is available in the Research & Learn section of the library website.

Call 410-535-0291 or email [getanswers@calvertlibrary.info](mailto:getanswers@calvertlibrary.info) with any reference questions you may have

Call any Calvert Library location for assistance or appointments. Customers can also follow and interact with library staff on Facebook and Twitter.

*Press Release from Calvert Library.*

The Nonprofit Institute at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) welcomes area nonprofit organizations to attend a free grant proposal writing seminar Jan. 14 to learn about the local, state and federal grant submission process. Participants will also learn how to determine their funding needs; search for grants; develop a grant schedule; write, review, submit and report on grants.

Keynote speaker will be Kerri Thompson Frank, CFRE, GPC, who is a 30-year resident of St. Mary's County, Maryland, and a graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland. In 2013, she left teaching secondary English in St. Mary's County Public Schools to begin work as a grant development professional for a local nonprofit.

In response to an identified need, she formed Leonardtown Grants, LLC, in January, 2017, to assist nonprofits of all sizes with their fundraising strategies and goals. A green company, Leonardtown Grants, LLC uses modern technology to embed remote teleworkers in nonprofit programs to promote the retention of institutional knowledge and maintain fundraising



Kerri Thompson Frank

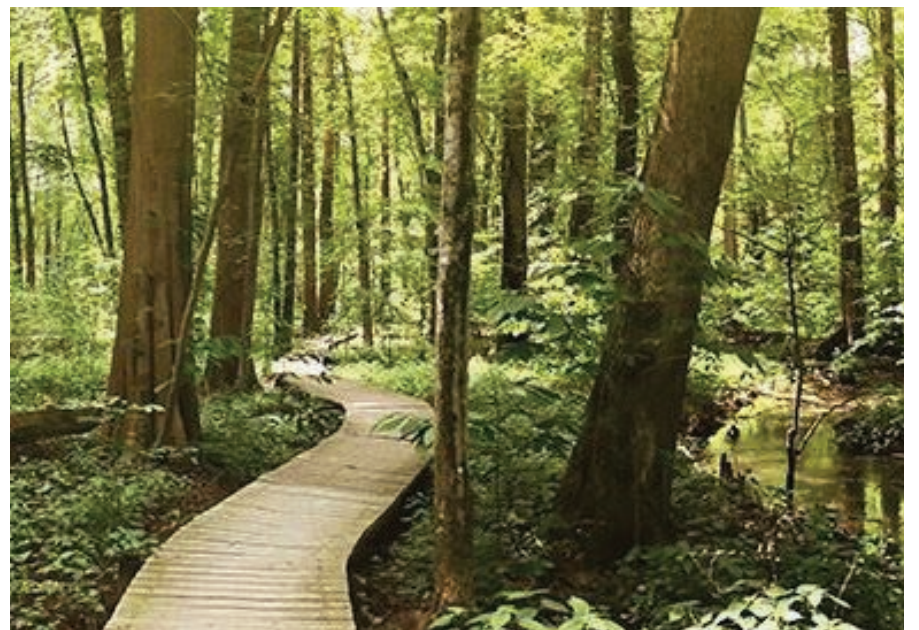
momentum.

Her small, mighty team averages \$10 million in grant dollars raised each year for an array of nationwide nonprofit activities including health, education, historic preservation, and scientific research.

The course will be offered Jan. 14, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., via Zoom. Pre-registration is required to receive Zoom information.

*Press Release from CSM.*

## Cypress Swamp Boardwalk Closes Temporarily



The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation, Natural Resources Division, advises residents and visitors that the boardwalk at Battle Creek Cypress Swamp was temporarily closed for reconstruction on or about Jan. 5.

Trails leading to the meadow will remain open. Visitors should obey all trail closure signs and stay alert for construction traffic.

Construction is expected to take

several weeks; actual duration is dependent on weather and site conditions.

The nature center remains closed to the public.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp is located at 2880 Grays Road in Prince Frederick. For park hours, visit [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/1505/Park-Hours](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/1505/Park-Hours).

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

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# Ex-Congressman Pens First Novel

*Former Calvert Parish Pastor Father Peter Daly Plays Key Role*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Political junkies will instantly recognize the name David Bonior. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 26 years (January 3, 1977 to January 3, 2003).

Bonior was Democratic Whip in the House from 1991 to 2002, during which time Democrats were in both the majority (1991–1995) and minority (1995–2002), making him the third and second highest-ranking Democrat in the House, respectively.

During his time in Congress Bonior represented Michigan's 12th Congressional District, so he may not be familiar to local residents. Yet, since the early 1980's Bonior has maintained a home in Calvert County in the Port Republic community of Scientist's Cliffs in addition to one in DC.

While in Congress, he traveled a lot, including of course back to his home district, but even then, he did spend time on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. "I've been sort of down here in this community, now more permanently than when I was in the Congress," he told *The County Times*.

"I have my official residence still in the city. We have a little apartment for a night, but this is where we've been for the past year. And I'd say over the last 10 years, we've sort of split our time halfway," he explained.

His DC apartment is in the shadow of Nationals Park (he's a big fan) near where he also now owns and operates with his son the Agua 301 and Zest restaurants.

During redistricting after the 2000 census, Michigan lost one of its House seats, and Bonior's district was redrawn to place the Democrat in a more Republican area. So, Bonior did not run for reelection and instead launched an unsuccessful bid for Michigan governor, losing in a heavily-contested primary which included former-governor James Blanchard, and then-Michigan Attorney General and eventual nominee Jennifer Granholm.

According to his biography, "During his tenure in office, Bonior was the public face of Democratic opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and was known for his tenacity in opposing Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, against whom Bonior filed more than 75 ethics charges."

While in Congress he became an expert on immigration issues, traveling extensively in Central



America. That passion continued after his retirement from Congress. He also has been deeply involved in reform issues of the Catholic Church, including more inclusion of women and reform in the wake of the sex-abuse scandals that rocked the church.

So, perhaps it was inevitable that, since he was an accomplished author (including his own biography, "Whip: Leading the Progressive Battle During the Rise of the Right") that he would write about those issues. What wasn't quite so obvious was that the book would be fiction, in the tradition of historical novels, but liberally infused with a heavy dose of factual material.

The book is called, "When Mercy Seasons Justice," a quote from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice."

The book's cover has a quote from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that says, "This special book is a source of hope: reminding us that hope is where it always is, between faith and charity." The book is dedicated to Pelosi and the late Congressman John Lewis.

Pope Francis is the book's central character, but two real life

individuals with strong ties to Calvert County also play prominent roles in the book in both historically accurate and fictional situations.

The paperback book, published by City Point Press, was released Jan. 5 and is available on Amazon.com. It is described on their website as: "...a powerful story of redemption, resilience, and humanity, set against the backdrop of the modern-day refugee crisis and Catholic Church scandals."

The description goes on to say it "weaves together an inspiring story of two characters who dare to defy the status quo. The first is Pope Francis, the kind-hearted, unconventional leader who struggles to usher his church out of a crisis riddled with scandals. The second is Maria Elena, a Honduran mother desperate to save her four children from their terror-stricken community."

"As Maria and her children head north to seek asylum in McAllen, Texas, Francis grapples with unfaithful bishops and a male-dominated clergy, who rebel against the drastic changes the Church desperately needs. Just as Maria and her family must rely on the

help of good Samaritans they meet along their journey—including an artistic gardener, two priests in the mold of Francis, and a New York Times reporter—Francis must seek the advice of his trusted aides, Father Soto and Sister Mary Vernard, to lead the Church through one of its biggest upheavals since the Reformation."

"Will Maria and her children survive their harrowing search for asylum? And, at this significant turning point in the history of the Church, will Pope Francis redefine his male-dominated papacy—and, ultimately, his legacy?"

"When Mercy Seasons Justice is a timely narrative of hope, faith, and redemption, that intertwines the struggle of two parallel souls trying, despite all odds, to search for virtue and compassion in a world seemingly full of corruption."

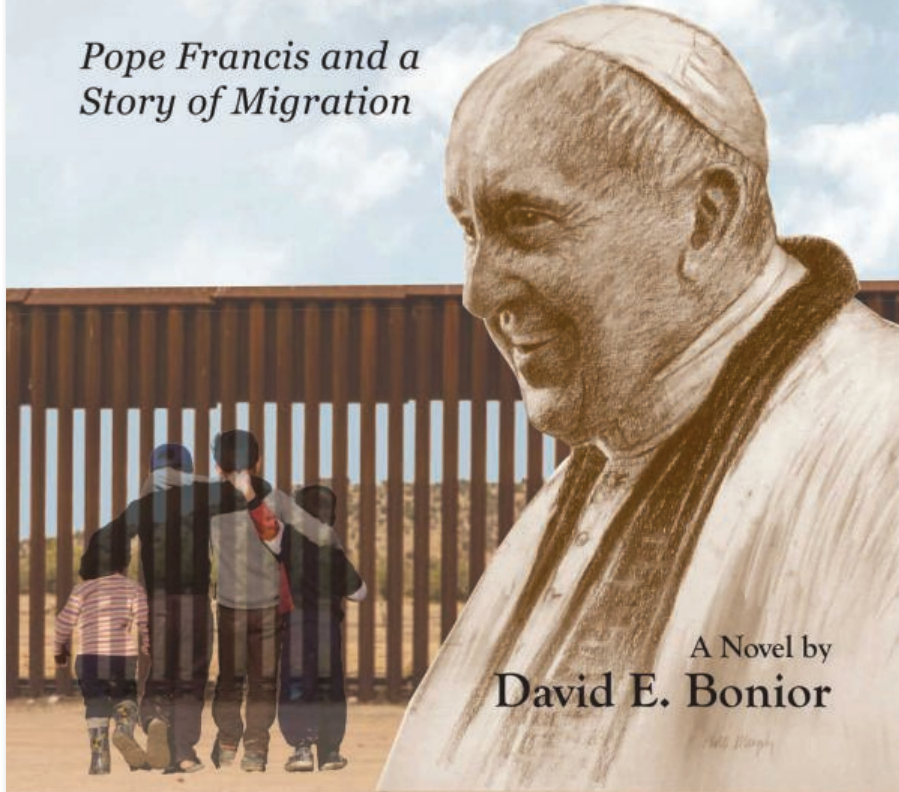
The book's first chapter is titled "Peter the Shepherd and Miguel the Artistic Gardener." Peter is Father Peter Daly, who was pastor of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Prince Frederick for 23 years. Miguel is a gardener from Mexico named Miguel Cabrera, who comes to Calvert County year-



"This special book is a source of hope: reminding us that hope is where it always is, between faith and charity." —Speaker Nancy Pelosi

# WHEN MERCY SEASONS JUSTICE

*Pope Francis and a  
Story of Migration*



ly on a temporary work visa and is employed by a local landscaper.

The book details the true story of a confrontation between Father Daly and the then Washington Archbishop Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who lectures parish priests on the zero-tolerance policy for priests on sexual abuse but says bishops are not included because they cannot be responsible for everything that priests in their diocese do. Father Daly responded, "Our people understand sin. Everybody sins. What they don't understand is a coverup. And the failure to protect children."

He said the confrontation was real. Later Pope Francis would expel McCarrick for his own sexual abuse charges.

Father Daly was a lawyer before becoming a priest and after his retirement as a parish priest, he did immigration legal work for Catholic Charities, but is now retired.

Father Daly got interested in immigration issues ministering to workers at the old Denton seafood processing plant on Broome's Island Road.

Father Daly said he is flattered to be in the book. Later on, in the novel, in a fictional account he becomes an adviser to Pope Francis

on immigration issues.

"I think it is a pretty good book," Father Daly said after reading the manuscript.

Father Daly is an accomplished writer himself, having penned the novel "Strange Gods: A Novel About Faith, Murder, Sin and Redemption."

Bonior said of Father Daly's book, "It taught me a lot because I used a number of things out of his novel."

Cabrera became friends with Bonior, who said the gardener was denied a work visa one year under President Trump's immigration policy.

Bonior decided on a novel as a way of bringing the journey of Pope Francis toward reforms in the Church and the journey of Maria Elena Gonzalez and her children from oppression in Honduras to the United States.

He said he wanted to show the journey both of them were taking "and how difficult it was for both of them, but how their values were so very, very similar. So, I thought I could do that with fiction better. And the fiction is based on my experiences in Central America over 40 years. I spent a lot of time down there working on a lot of things,

visiting places in the country, talking to people who have been persecuted, getting to know some of the people who were in power down here."

The much-publicized abuses involving the separation of children from their families and the conditions they were being held in accelerated his desire to write about it. So, the family's journey to safety in the book is a composite of what he observed and learned over the years.

Bonior says he's a big fan of Pope Francis, but his reforms haven't gone far enough, and Father Daly agrees.

The former congressman said, "I think he's of a generation and a place where women are not valued to the point that I think they should be. And I think that's a huge problem for the church. And that's why I wrote it the way I did, although he has made some strides in elevating women in positions that do not relate to the Holy Orders and the sacrament of Holy Orders, which is being a priest or being a bishop."

In the book Pope Francis elevates several nuns to the College of Cardinals.

Bonior was asked if he feels Francis will get to the point he would like him to reach. He said, "No, I don't think he will. I think he's spoken to this recently and I think he, unfortunately won't, but you never know."

He added, "I created the dream chapter in book five, which was my favorite chapter to write." He said that chapter "created the plausible reasons for him doing

what he did, but do I think you'll ever get there, I pray that he will, but I'm not quite sure that he will. He's done a lot of other wonderful things to reform the church and to create the image of values that are being embraced by a lot of people around the world. So, I'm a really big fan of his and admirer of him."

Is what Pope Francis has accomplished sustainable considering the controversy it has created. Bonior noted that the Pope has appointed 60 percent of the existing cardinals who will appoint the next Pope. He said, "Most of them are in the mold of what he wants to see as a shepherd, someone who was out in the field with people and not necessarily be behind a desk and an administrator."

He added, "How long that is sustainable? I don't know, but he's done his best to put the right people in the positions to make it sustainable for some time."

Bonior currently is involved with a youth program that helps young kids understand democracy and also is on the board of the National Catholic Reporter, an independent publication. Proceeds from the book sales will go to their EarthBeat and Global Sisters Report.

Bonior is mulling over a possible second novel and has an idea floating around in his mind.

"It's better to write here," he said about his Calvert County home in Scientist's Cliffs overlooking the peace of the Chesapeake Bay. "I like writing out here because of the quiet."

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



Former Pastor at St. John's Vianney Father Peter Daly



# CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

During the week of December 21 – December 27 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1104 calls for service throughout the community

## Damaged Property: 2020-65095

On December 22, 2020, Deputy Crum responded to 9100 Block of Southern Maryland Blvd. Owings, MD for the report of a destruction of property. Upon his arrival, he made contact with the complainant who advised an unknown suspect(s) vandalized their political sign with spray paint sometime between December 21, 2020, at 1:00 pm and December 22, 2020 at 12:00 pm. The estimated damaged property is \$100.

## Theft: 2020-65294

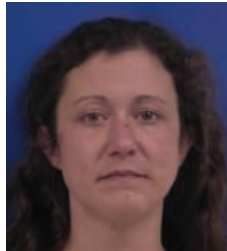
On December 23, 2020, Deputy Flynt responded to Bidwell Ln. Huntingtown, MD, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised an unknown suspect(s) stole two small Christmas trees and a lighted reindeer from the entrance of the development sometime between December 11, 2020, and December 12, 2020. The stolen property is es-

timated to be \$60.

## Arrests:

On December 25, 2020, Deputy Plant responded to a motor vehicle accident in the area of 900 Cox Rd. Huntingtown, MD. Upon his arrival, he identified the driver as

**Trina Lynn Baker (36)**. During the investigation, Deputy Plant conducted a search of the vehicle; a plastic prescription bottle was located in the center console with prescription medication belonging to another person. Ms. Baker was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possess-not Marijuana and CDS: Poss of Paraphernalia.



Trina Lynn Baker

On December 21, 2020, Deputy Wilder initiated a traffic stop on S. Solomon's Island Rd. in Solomons, MD prior to the Thomas Johnson Bridge, which then continued over the bridge.

The vehicle stopped prior to North Patuxent Beach Rd. in Saint Mary's County, MD. Deputy Wilder identified the driver as **Bababo Opeyemi Obaro (26)**. During the traffic stop, Deputy Wilder detected the



Bababo Opeyemi Obaro

odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. After conducting a search of the vehicle, several bags of Marijuana, Promethazine Syrup and a plastic scale were located. In addition, a large amount of money was located on Obaro. Obaro was placed under arrest, transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Poss Marijuana 10 GM+, Possess/Issue forged currency and CDS: Possess-not Marijuana.

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

## Theft Suspects Sought, Reward Offered

Calvert County Patrol Deputy DFC P. Wood responded on Dec. 22 shortly before 9:30a.m. to report of a theft call at the All Saints Episcopal Church located at 100 Lower Marlboro Road in Huntingtown.

Investigation revealed two trailers belonging to Boy Scouts of America Troop 1792 were stolen from the parking lot of the church. The first trailer was a 10-foot, 2001 single-axle enclosed Home Trailer, silver in color with Boy Scouts of America written on both sides. The second trailer was a 15-foot, dual-axle, 2007 Haul Trailer that was silver in color and also had Boy Scouts of America on both sides. Both trailers have an estimated total value of \$8,000.

Bayside Chevrolet and Toyota are offering a \$2500 reward for informa-



tion leading to the recovery of the stolen trailers and/or an arrest of the theft suspect(s) or person(s) responsible for this crime.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to please contact Det. M. Mudd at (410) 535-1600 ext. 2469 or email Michael.mudd@calvertcountymd.gov.

*Press Release from CCSO.*

## Sentencing Scheduled for Convicted Murderer

According to the Calvert County State's Attorney's Office, the county is typically a pretty safe place to live and work. In 2020, Calvert County experienced one murder.

On June 7, 2020, Rose M. Long, 71, was sexually assaulted and strangled to death in her home in Prince Frederick. Long, a retired substance abuse counselor, was the mother of two children, two grandchildren, and sister to 15 siblings.

The perpetrator, David Harold Johnson, was identified through Ring doorbell camera video obtained from Long's residence. On

November 9, 2020, Johnson plead guilty in Calvert County Circuit Court to first-degree premeditated murder, first-degree rape, and motor vehicle theft.

Sentencing for Johnson is scheduled at 9 a.m. on Monday, January 11, 2021, before

Judge Mark S. Chandlee. The case is being prosecuted by State's Attorney, Robert Harvey.

For further information, please call Gail Wikoff at 410-535-1600 x2432.

*Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney's Office.*



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# Cross-College Transfer Allows Interim CSM VP

*Comes from Montgomery College*

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announced that College-wide Dean of English and Reading at Montgomery College (MC) Dr. Rodney Redmond will serve as CSM's Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs effective January 2021. Redmond stepping into the interim vice president position at CSM marks a unique cross-college transfer between community colleges in Maryland and sets the stage for professional development opportunities that build leadership pipelines across the state's academic institutions.

"Dr. Redmond brings deep community college experience and a strong passion for our mission," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "He has served in a variety of academic capacities at Montgomery College: professor, department chair, associate dean, dean, acting vice-president and provost, and now college-wide dean. Additionally, Dr. Redmond has a keen interest in participatory governance and was involved in the design and implementation of the model currently used at Montgomery College.

Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president of Montgomery College, called Redmond an extraordinary leader at MC, who brings a powerful equity lens to pedagogy and process.

"I have no doubt that Dr. Redmond's experience will be an asset to CSM during this transition period," said Pollard. "Dr. Redmond works tirelessly to expand opportunity through higher education and I know he will bring that same energy to his interim role at CSM."

Redmond began his career in education more than 20 years ago. Initially, working in secondary education as a sophomore level English teacher, he later transitioned into a career in higher education. Within the higher education arena, he has worked as an adjunct professor, teaching English Composition and Developmental English, at the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio before joining the English faculty at the Rockville campus of MC. During his tenure as an English faculty member at MC, he served in various roles including his work as a member of the Assessment Center Advisory Committee, the English Discipline Steering Committee, the English CLEP coordinator, the English Competency coordinator and chair of the department of English Composition, Literature and Professional Writing.

"I look forward to serving as the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs at the College of Southern Maryland," said Redmond. "Maintaining continuity of service while the institution prepares for its next



Dr. Rodney Redmond

chief academic affairs officer is pivotal in these challenging times. I am happy to support that continuity.

"The partnership between the College of Southern Maryland and Montgomery College, making this leadership development opportunity possible, is a bold move and a first for both institutions," he continued. "The colleges' willingness to share human resources expands the leadership development pipeline in ways unimagined among community colleges in the state of Maryland. It also demonstrates the innovation and creativity of Dr. Maureen Murphy and Dr. DeRionne Pollard – both of whom are exceptional community college leaders."

Redmond will continue in the interim position while CSM conducts a national search for a new chief academic officer to replace Dr. Eileen Abel, who left CSM Nov. 30, 2020 to become executive director of the University System of Maryland Southern Maryland (USMSM).

Redmond has also served the MC as the representative to the local NAACP Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) program and chair of the board of directors for The Bernie Tebault Scholarship Program. He is a member of the National Council of Black American Affairs, Community College Humanities Association, Rocky D's Angel Connection Advisory Board, a member of Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity, Inc., and served as a panelist with the Maryland Arts and Humanities Commission. He earned his bachelor's in English Education from Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi. After matriculation at Rust College, he received his master's from the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio. He completed his doctorate in Higher Education Administration, focusing on community college leadership, from Morgan State University in Baltimore.

*Press Release from CSM.*

# Grab 'n Go Meal Distribution Expanded

The Department of Child Nutrition of Calvert County Public Schools is happy to announce the expansion of the Grab 'n Go meal distribution program. Beginning with distribution on January 8, Grab 'n Go meal kits will provide seven days of breakfast and lunch meals each week.

Kits are available free of charge to all students ages 2-18; however, parents/guardians wishing to pick up meals without their children being present **must pre-register**. Families may register by calling the Child Nutrition Office at 443.550.8680 Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Any parent/guardian who is unsure if their child is already registered for the program, may contact the Child Nutrition Office. Once registered, parents/guardians may pick up meals without their children being present.

## GRAB 'N GO MEAL LOCATIONS

Pick-up window: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### Windy Hill Middle School (bus drop-off area)

9560 Boyds Turn Rd. Owings, MD 20736

### Calvert High School (side parking lot):

520 Fox Run Blvd. Prince Frederick, MD 20678

*GPS Address: 600 Dares Beach Rd. Prince Frederick, MD 20678*

### Southern Middle School (bus drop-off area):

9615 H.G. Trueman Rd. Lusby, MD 20657

### Patuxent High School (bus drop-off area):

12485 Southern Connector Blvd. Lusby, MD 20657

### Huntingtown High School (student parking lot, right side of building):

4125 N. Solomons Island Rd. Huntingtown, MD 20639

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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*Press Release from CCPS.*



# Scholarship to Help Truck Driving Program

A new scholarship set to honor the memory of James "Jay" Harold Hills will provide financial assistance to students enrolled in the Commercial Truck Driving Training program at the College of Southern Maryland. The annual fund was established by Hills' wife, Annie.

Hills passed away in 2019 after working in the excavating industry for more than 30 years as part of his dad's family business, Larry Hills and Sons. Together with his brother – the Hills have operated a prominent, successful business that has served the tri-county area for more than 50 years.

"Jay took over running the business when his father retired," explained Annie Hills. "His love for playing in the dirt and driving huge equipment mesmerized those of us who knew nothing about it. I would always say he used excavators like I use a blender in the kitchen. He was truly amazing."

According to his wife, Hills was well-known in Southern Maryland for his calm demeanor, attention to detail, hard work and honesty, "which made him be the best he could be and always humble and always open to learning new ideas or suggestions from customers." He

was also a volunteer at the Second District Volunteer Fire Department for 25 years as a driver and fireman.

"He loved his community," Annie Hills shared. "Jay always gave of himself. Everyone loved Jay Hills, I know I did, more than life. He always did the right thing, stayed humble and everything was done the best way possible and no cutting corners. If you can take away anything from his story, just know Jay was a hero to many – a love of his wife, family and friends and truly dedicated to his trade and making his father proud."

CSM is among the few schools in the country that have been able to earn certification by the Professional Truck Driver Institute (PTDI) for its Class A Commercial Driver's License training. PTDI is a national, nonprofit organization sponsored by the nation's trucking industry to advance truck driving proficiency, safety and professional standards among drivers which, in turn, will foster benefits for all stakeholders, including motor carriers, insurers, training schools, government bodies at all levels, funding organizations and the American public. The industry's annual demand for new drivers hovers around the 80,000

mark.

Learn more about CSM's Commercial Truck driving program at <https://www.csmd.edu/programs-courses/non-credit/career-development/transportation/>

The James 'Jay' Harold Hills Memorial Scholarship will provide financial assistance for tuition, fees, books and other related supplies for students registered in the Commercial Truck Driver Training program at CSM. To be eligible, the student(s) must be a resident of Southern Maryland; possess a high school diploma or its equivalent; demonstrate financial need; and be enrolled in the Commercial Truck Driver Training program at CSM. The applicants are also required to submit an essay explaining their financial need and how this scholarship will help them achieve their career goals. In addition, the scholarship recipient must write a thank you note explaining the importance of this scholarship toward their career goals.

For more information on how to apply for this scholarship, donate to this scholarship or create your own scholarship, visit CSM Foundation's web page.

*Press Release from CSM*



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## Assistant Cybersecurity Professor Earns Award

College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity Pamela Mitchell, of La Plata, has been selected for the 2020 Maurice Erly Professional Development Award. Educational Systems Federal Credit Union (FCU) awards this distinction through the credit union's Support Education Foundation.

CSM nominated Mitchell for the award because of her dedication to teaching, according to CSM Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Eileen Abel.

"Pam is highly deserving, and I'm delighted she is being honored," said Abel.

The \$1,000 award, provided by the Support Education Foundation which was started by Educational Systems FCU, will help support Mitchell's work toward her additional master's degree and additional industry certifications in cybersecurity.

"Assistant Professor Mitchell stands up our cybersecurity club and award-winning student competitive cybersecurity team, the CSM Cyberhawks," shared the Dean of CSM's School of Professional and Technical Studies Bernice Brezina. "She devotes many hours to providing students this additional outlet for honing their cyber skills and advancing their knowledge. She also manages our networking lab and provides leadership for our networking courses and puts in the time necessary to ensure that our cybersecurity students are provided with the best preparation to pass the CISCO and CompTIA networking certifications that help them to obtain employment. This award is well-deserved."

The Maurice Erly Professional Development Award is named after



Pamela Mitchell

a longtime Prince George's County educator. Erly retired from the Prince George's County Board of Education after 38 years of service, with more than 25 of those years spent at the coordinating supervisor of staff development. Erly served on the Board of Directors of Educational Systems FCU for more than 44 years, with 25 of those years as treasurer.

The Support Education Foundation, Inc. was established in 2017 by Educational Systems FCU to help the Credit Union fulfill its core purpose of serving the education community. The mission of the Support Education Foundation is to operate and support charitable giving programs for the benefit of members of the education community. Funds raised through the 501(c)(3) organization are used for programs such as student scholarships, professional development awards and other initiatives to help students achieve in the classroom. For more about Educational Systems FCU, visit [www.esfcu.org](http://www.esfcu.org).

*Press Release from CSM.*



## Letters to the Editor

### Plaintiffs Seek Citizen Support

#### To the Editor

It is with immense gratitude that the plaintiffs for Calvert Citizens United thank our citizenry for every financial donation going to legal fees as we continue our battle against the BOCC and the Willis/SBIG (Small Business Interest Group) 20-Year Comp Plan.

Most importantly your messages, along with the contributions, strengthen CCU's resolve to stand together to preserve Calvert's way of life, known throughout the region as the Jewel of Southern Maryland and the Charm of the Chesapeake Bay.

Ours is the smallest county in Maryland and it deserves to be environmentally protected from waste and runoff due to massive over growth and unrestricted build-out accomplished through the Willis mandated public sewer and a massive sewage treatment facility (think WSSC Blue Plains).

When Commissioner Hutchins banged his gavel on August 6, 2019, to indicate the Willis/SBIG 20-Year Comp Plan was approved by a 3/2 margin, simultaneously because Commissioner McConkey refused to recuse himself from the vote, at once "all hell" broke loose in the county! Five complaints were filed with the Calvert Ethics Commission. Days later CCU filed suit against the BOCC.

CCU plaintiffs are winning for our citizenry; however, it is a mammoth undertaking that requires hours of pro bono research, fund raising, delving into questionable text amendment changes by the Planning Commission/Planning and Zoning Department all to assist our counsel, G. Macy Nelson with motions, pleadings, answers, litigation and courtroom strategies. We four Plaintiffs are totally committed and your contributions make "Preserving Calvert" a reality. Our next set of court hearings begin January 22, 2021.

Due to COVID, non-plaintiffs were not allowed to be in the courtroom. So, allow me to share just a few of my observations. BOCC Attorney John Mattingly (a salaried county employee that is NOT paid legal fees by citizens as some on the internet suggest) stated to

Judge McGann (the same judge for the McConkey/Ethics Commission ruling. Said Mattingly, "listen Judge, the BOCC can vote to eliminate all the Town Centers tomorrow because the (commissioners) have Judicial Mandate!" Judge McGann repositioned himself in his chair, looked directly down on Mattingly and stated, "Yes, and the (commissioners) would have a RIOT on their hands [from the citizens]". Due to Judge McGann's ruling against Kelly McConkey, Attorney Mattingly was forced to concede to the judge the following, "Listen Your Honor, I realize the optics involving Commissioner McConkey are awful and does not look good." Mattingly further stated, "Your Honor, the Ethics Commission ruling will NEVER see the light of day...there is no quorum/" This was a deliberate falsehood by the county attorney to the judge. Finally (after 15 long months) the McConkey ruling has been made public.

Attorney Mattingly was unnerved about a technical statement directed to him by the judge. Mattingly responded, "Judge, throw me a bone." Talk about courtroom OPTICS, when Macy Nelson presented our voluminous evidence, Attorney Mattingly threw his head back on

his chair's rim and observed the ceiling. Court lasted two long, draining, expensive days.

Among other matters, our legal strategy is broadening with the Ethics Commission ruling.

Continue to follow us on Facebook and leave a comment or question about the status of the lawsuit. With the upcoming hearings and trial, CCU hopes our neighbors will give support in any amount. All contributions go to fund this precedent setting lawsuit and are greatly appreciated. Our mailing address is Calvert Citizens United, Inc., P.O. Box 1018, Huntingtown, MD 20639.

Lastly, one comment Judge McGann made on two occasions during trial was the citizens need to vote out [those] commissioners who voted against the will of the people. Which is exactly what the citizens say they intend to do!

*Myra Gowans, Plaintiff  
Calvert Citizens United, Inc.*

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## A View From The BLEACHERS



# A Child's Mind

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

In late December 1972, a plane crash claimed the life of a baseball icon and legendary humanitarian. Just over 13 years later, a rising star's life tragically slipped away in a dorm room. Both died far too young, much too suddenly and with too many biography pages left forever blank.

A friend of mine – John for this story – is a diehard Pittsburgh sports fan. He sent me a note last week that December 31, 2020 marked the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roberto Clemente's death. In response, I offered that Clemente is one of my favorite athletes of all time, and while I'm generally loathe to wear the colors of any team not my own, I do intend one day to procure and proudly wear a Pittsburgh Pirates jersey adorned with Clemente's number 21.

Clemente was killed just two weeks after my birth; I know him only through stories, readings, video clips and statistics. John, 13 years my elder (and he looks even older, says I; not so, says he), has vivid memories of Clemente and his tragic death. In late 1972, Clemente must have been a deity of sorts – the Pirates were just one year removed from a World Series victory over the Orioles, Clemente had collected his 3000<sup>th</sup> hit on the last day of the 1972 season and the now famous Steelers of Terry Bradshaw, Franco Harris, Mean Joe Greene and Jack Lambert had yet to win their first Super Bowl. True to that image, John shared that he refused to believe Clemente had died for days. He was convinced that at any moment someone would find him floating in the water or safely on an obscure piece of land.

As we know now, his boyhood hopes were dashed. I pondered that story, trying to merely imagine how it felt. But then I remembered June 19, 1986...I knew exactly how it felt.

I was nearly the same age on that June day as John was when Clemente died. "That day" was when Maryland basketball star Len Bias, the biggest of sports giants in my adolescent mind, died of cocaine intoxication in a university dorm room. I remember being unable to process the news or

accept that this young, powerful, invincible athlete – my hero – was dead. I was in a daze and nursing a broken heart, much like another boy in Pittsburgh was after Clemente's death 13 years earlier.

The tragedies enhanced a deep emotion connection created as only the impressionable, trusting mind of a child can. I am sure Clemente is still John's favorite Pirate of all time. Love me some Juan Dixon, but Bias is my favorite Terrapin. My other local favorites? All are of similar vintage. For the Caps – Mike Gartner. The Washington Football Team – Art Monk. Even with the Nats in town, my favorite local baseball player is Cal Ripken Jr. None of this will ever change.

Why not Max Scherzer? Or the blatantly obvious, Alex Ovechkin? Timing. Love them, but they were too late. When each arrived, the world had long encroached on my childhood innocence, leaving me incapable of blissfully converting an elite athlete into a comic book superhero. Had Bias arrived in my forties, he certainly would not hold the same mystique. Ditto for Gartner, Monk and Ripken. There just comes a time in life where you see imperfections in greatness, when the business of sports muddies the pure competition or simply when consistently validated cynicism won't allow for an unconditional connection.

Age introduces the same "thing" – be it progression, regression or just evolution - to perspectives on politicians, entertainers, actors, clergy and community leaders. It might even impact new personal relationships. How to explain the "thing"? What is "it"? Maturity? Wisdom – about the world and human nature? Scar tissue from life-lessons? A realization that agendas exist...everywhere? Whatever the ingredients, it transitions the gleeful ignorance of black spots on every sun to the inescapable awareness of the world's complexities, blemishes and failures. In other words, it robs a kid from Pittsburgh, or another from Southern Maryland, of the uncorrupted child's mind that could once manufacture irreproachable giants from mere mortals.

Send comments to [Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com](mailto:Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com)

## Deer Firearm Season Reopens Jan. 8 in Maryland

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the January firearm deer hunting season opens Jan. 8, 2021, in Deer Management Region B, which includes all of the state except the western-most counties. Hunters with a valid hunting license may use firearms to harvest sika and white-tailed deer during this season.

The season is open Jan. 8-9 in all of Region B. The season is open Sunday, Jan. 10 on private and designated public lands in Cecil and St. Mary's counties, and on private lands only in Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Washington (Zone 1), and Worcester counties. Shooting hours end at 10:30 a.m. in Kent and Montgomery counties. "The January season offers deer hunters one last chance to fill their firearms season bag limit," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "The typically strong antlerless harvest during this late season contributes significantly to managing the deer population in Region B."

Hunters are reminded that during the designated firearm seasons they may now use rifles and handguns that employ straight-walled cartridges in all counties. Rifles and handguns that use bottleneck cartridges remain limited to those counties that permitted them previously. If using a straight-walled cartridge rifle, hunters should indicate they used a rifle, not a shotgun, when registering their harvest with the state's automated check-in system. More information on this change, along with season bag limits and other deer hunting regula-

tions, are available in the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

During firearms season, Maryland requires deer hunters and their companions to wear daylight fluorescent orange or daylight fluorescent pink in one of the following manners: a cap of solid fluorescent daylight orange or pink, a vest or jacket containing back and front panels of at least 250 square inches of fluorescent daylight orange or pink, or an outer garment of camouflage daylight fluorescent orange or pink worn above the waist and containing at least 50 percent daylight fluorescent color.

Hunters are additionally reminded to use precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, which includes keeping six feet away from anyone who does not reside with you, and wearing a facial covering when social distancing isn't possible.

Hunters should carefully inspect all tree-stands and always wear a full-body safety harness while in the stand and while climbing in or out. The department strongly recommends using a sliding knot, commonly known as a prusik knot, attached to a line that is secured above the stand that allows the hunter to be safely tethered to the tree as soon as they leave the ground.

Maryland hunters are encouraged to donate any extra deer they may harvest. Hunters are reminded that they may claim a tax credit of up to \$50 for each legally harvested deer that is processed and donated to a nonprofit food sharing program. The maximum credit in any one tax year is \$200 per hunter. The approved form to claim this credit is available online.





# Calvert Community Calendar

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

## Thursday, January 7

### CSM Cloud Computing Information Session

Virtual; 6 p.m.

High school students and their parents are invited to learn about the unique opportunity to dual enroll in a class that may lead to an industry certification for an entry-level position for cloud computing. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. <https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/student-life/Cloud-Computing-Info-Session>

### CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. [csmd.edu/transferthursdays](https://www.csmd.edu/transferthursdays)

### Sea Squirts

Calvert Marine Museum; various times

This program invites children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, to dis-

cover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a carryout craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 15-20 minutes. Capacity is limited to 12 people per session. This month's theme is Wacky Weather. This program is now offered at various times throughout the day, to accommodate guests during all sessions. For specific times, please visit [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com).

## Tuesday, January 12

### Enrollment Information Session

Virtual; 6 p.m.

Future students with an interest in attending CSM are invited ask your important questions about our flexible learning classrooms, our curriculum, and how we can help you achieve your educational and career goals. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. [https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/admissions/2021-01-12\\_infosession](https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/admissions/2021-01-12_infosession)

## Thursday, January 14

### CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. [csmd.edu/transferthursdays](https://www.csmd.edu/transferthursdays)

### Sea Squirts

Calvert Marine Museum; various times

This program invites children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, to discover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a carryout craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 15-20 minutes. Capacity is limited to 12 people per session. This month's theme is Wacky Weather. This program is now offered at various times throughout the day, to accommodate guests during all sessions. For specific times, please visit [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com).

## Ongoing

### Recycle Your Christmas Tree

Calvert County residents can take their live Christmas trees, wreaths, and

garland to county convenience centers for recycling at no charge beginning through Jan. 31, 2021. After Jan. 31, residents looking to recycle their trees must take them directly to the Appeal Landfill and standard yard waste fees will apply. This program does not apply to businesses. Businesses must bring holiday greenery to the Appeal Landfill where standard yard fees will apply. All decorations, including support frames, lights, and metal stands, must be removed from trees, wreaths, and garlands. Trees and wreaths may not be in plastic bags or cut up. All materials will be taken to the Appeal Landfill to be mulched and made available to county residents at no charge. Wrapping paper, cardboard boxes, holiday cards, and other paper are accepted at the convenience centers for recycling at no cost any time of the year. Cardboard boxes should be flattened and all packing materials, ribbons, and Styrofoam must be removed for disposal. Residents are required to wear face masks and practice safe social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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# In Remembrance

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

## Mary Ann Theresa Gilmer



Mary Ann Theresa Gilmer, 86, of St. Leonard, MD passed away on October 21, 2020 at South River Healthcare Center.

Born April 23, 1934 in Jersey City, NJ, she was the daughter of the late Robert R. Worthy and Gertrude (O'Toole) Worthy.

Mary Ann moved to Calvert County in 1985. She was a Licensed Practical Nurse and loved her nursing career with Dr. Wirth. She enjoyed sailing, motorcycle riding, and going to hockey games with her husband. Mary Ann loved animals, especially German shepherds.

Mary Ann is survived by her husband, Hensel "David" Gilmer, Jr.; children, Gail Beckmann of Olney, MD, and Cheryl Gilmer (Art) of Dunkirk, MD; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Kurt Gilmer; and brothers, Robert M. Worthy and Donald Worthy.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.rauschfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rauschfuneralhomes.com).

## Albert Preston Bembe

Albert Preston Bembe, 72, passed away on December 30, 2020 following a brief illness. A long-time resident of Galesville, he is survived by his wife Robin M. Bembe whom he



married on April 28, 1984.

Al was born in Annapolis, Maryland and grew up on Bembe Beach Road, where he frequently helped his father with his captain's piloting business. He graduated from Annapolis High School in 1966. Following his return from service in the U.S. Army, Al joined the Anne Arundel County Fire Department and retired after a 27-year career in January 1997. He was also a long-time member of the Galesville Volunteer Fire Department, where he served as the company treasurer for many years. Al was a lifelong muscle car enthusiast and enjoyed history and movies.

In addition to his wife, Al is survived by his siblings, Stephen Bembe (Sherry) of Annapolis and Wendy Bembe of Brooklyn; his children, Preston Bembe (Natalie) of Pasadena; Richard Bembe (Sarah) of Westminster; Michael Bembe (Erin) of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; and his grandchildren Jackson and Brooke Bembe. He is also survived by his three sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law and several nieces and nephews, with whom he was especially close. Al was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Mary Bembe and by his mother-in-law, Betty D. Moreland.

There will be no service at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, P.O. Drawer 498, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 or Link: <https://www.firehero.org/>

[www.firehero.org/](http://www.firehero.org/)

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## James Patrick Dwyer, Jr.



James Patrick Dwyer, Jr., 93, of Severna Park and formerly of North Beach passed away December 28, 2020. He was born July 17, 1927, in Bryn Mawr, PA to James Patrick, Sr. and Anna (McGroary) Dwyer. Popularly known as Jim, he grew up in Ardmore, PA, with his six brothers and one sister. He graduated from Haverford High School and enlisted in the United States Army. He was stationed in Italy until his honorable discharge in 1947.

Following his time in the Army, Jim relocated to Washington, DC, where he met his future wife, Catherine Salatto, at a roller-skating rink. They married on June 23, 1951, and raised their family in Hyattsville. In 2000, they moved to North Beach, where they enjoyed living on the bay. In 2018, Jim and Catherine moved to Severna Park.

Jim graduated from Benjamin Franklin University where he majored in accounting. He was employed as an accountant with the Federal Government and worked for various agencies until his retirement in 1980. He believed in community service and volunteered much of his time at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Landover Hills and the College Park Council of the Knights of Columbus. For 18 years he was a parishioner of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in North Beach.

Jim was proud of his Irish heritage and loved celebrating St. Patrick's Day. He also enjoyed fishing, crabbing, Notre Dame Football, joking and telling stories, spending time with his family, and taking walks with his grandchildren. Jim's favorite week of the year was the family trip to Sea Isle City, NJ. He started the family tradition of yelling "Hip, Hip, Hooray" three times while driving across the bridge into the town. He loved the mountains, enjoying hiking on the trails using his trusty walking stick. Jim and

Catherine also took many cruises together and traveled all over the United States, Europe, and Japan.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Catherine Dwyer, children Mary Dwyer Oxendine and husband Larry of Dunkirk, James P. Dwyer III and wife Paula of Ellicott City, Michael J. Dwyer and wife Cheryl of Lothian, Thomas B. Dwyer and wife Karla of Ellicott City, and Frank J. Dwyer and wife Patricia of Burtonsville, 16 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, sister Ann Cochran and husband Don, brother Father Tom Dwyer, and sister-in-law Eleanor Dwyer. He was preceded in death by a son Steven J. Dwyer and brothers Bill, Joe, Franny, Bob, and Jack Dwyer.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jim's name may be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122; 410-987-2003; Link: <https://www.hospicechesapeake.org/>

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## John E. Goshorn

John E. Goshorn, 69, of North Beach, Maryland passed away on December 27, 2020 in Prince Frederick, Maryland. John was born on February 28, 1951 to the late Samuel C. and Mary Conick Goshorn. John is also preceded in death by a brother, Donald L. Goshorn.

John is survived by his daughter, Sarah E. Goshorn, and sons John and Zachary Goshorn. Brother of Doris Bolt, Sandra Jewell, Mary Ellen (Lechner) Shanner, Frances Goshorn Berkeley, Evelyn Zupko, Samuel C. Goshorn, William A. Goshorn, and Ray E. Goshorn.

Due to COVID there are no services at this time.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Charles "Chuck" Albert Rentz Jr.



With heavy hearts we share the news of Charles "Chuck" Albert

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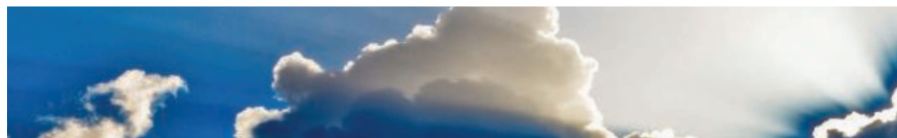
**Port Republic**

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410-586-0520

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20 American Lane  
410-326-9400





Rentz Jr's passing on December 23, 2020.

Chuck was born to Charles and Nancy Rentz on August 2, 1960 in France where Charles (Sr) was stationed at the time. Chuck's early childhood was spent in France, Montana, Texas, Kansas, and New York as the family followed his father's military changes of assignment. Upon his father's discharge from the US Air Force, Chuck and his family moved to West Virginia, then finally to Maryland where Chuck matriculated in 7th grade and graduated in 1978 from Crossland High School in Temple Hills. Chuck then started his own military career first in the Corps of Cadets at Texas A & M University (graduating in 1983) and then as a navigator for the US Navy with time spent in Florida, California, Hawaii, and Japan before leaving the military in 1989. Following his time spent in the service, Chuck tapped his business degree and worked in the business office of a travel agency in Florida before returning permanently to Maryland to live closer to his mother following his father's death. In Maryland, Chuck joined his brother-in-law's family appraisal business and worked ten years as a real estate appraiser before retiring in 2012.

Work played a big role in Chuck's life, but much of his free time was centered around Boy Scouts. Chuck served in many roles in Boy Scout Troop 1237 (Clinton) as well as the local National Capital Area Council, and continued to volunteer in the activities of Pack 1785 (Mechanicsville) upon moving to Mechanicsville. Chuck was honored to play a part in many young boys' maturation with several young men achieving the rank of Eagle Scout while Chuck was Scoutmaster.

Chuck never married or had children of his own, but his nieces, nephews, and great-nephews were

surrogate grandchildren to him. He enjoyed spending time with them, celebrating their milestones, and helping them to grow whenever asked. For the last three years, Chuck was blessed to share a home with his niece Stefanie and her family.

As a single man in the military, Chuck honed his personal habits well: Skoal, Coca-Cola, Sudoku, meticulous organization of ALL his possessions, and living engulfed in routine. He heartily enjoyed a home-cooked meal (no frills, please), country music, Contract Rummy, and the Dallas Cowboys. When health permitted, he exercised regularly and he could ration indulgences (say one home-baked cookie a day) far better than most men. He moved slowly into technology (still owned a flip-phone), and really enjoyed chewing the fat with a tight circle of friends and relatives. He lived his life simply and on his own terms.

Left to mourn Chuck's passing are his sisters Carol Howard (Roger) of St Leonard and Barbara Glover (Gery) of Sunderland; his nieces and nephews Stefanie Wines (Ronald and sons Blake and Luke), Keith Howard (Catherine), Rebecca Glover-Keller (sons Charles (Charlie) and John), and Robert Glover (fiancé Kelly Tancredi); extended family concentrated in Texas and Pennsylvania; and his Birch Manor friends and neighbors. Chuck is predeceased by his parents, grandparents, and two uncles.

Funeral Services will be Friday, January 15, 2021,

11:30 a.m. and will be live streamed on the Rausch Funeral Home Facebook page.

Interment will follow at 1:45 p.m. at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623

# TIPS TO AVOID PROBATE

*Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel*

When you die, if you are holding property in your sole name, the only way that property can get to your loved ones is through the probate process. The only way to avoid probate is to create a Revocable Living Trust. By placing your assets into the name of your trust, when you die you will not have assets held in sole name and therefore, no probate.

Many people want to avoid putting their beneficiaries through the probate process. They don't like the fact that the filings in probate are publicly available or that it takes 8-12 months to close a probate. Or, that legal fees in a probate proceeding can be expensive. Additionally, they don't want their loved ones to have to sort through their assets in order to make the probate filings. They seek to make it simple. But, they don't want to spend the money to create a Revocable Living Trust.

What can be done? It is possible to minimize the number of assets that have to go through the probate process.

Since probate applies only to property held in your sole name when you die, you can transfer title of the property to someone else during your lifetime. Or, if you want to continue to maintain some control your property, you can transfer title to yourself and someone else. If you re-title the asset with someone else so that each of you are holding the asset jointly with "right of survivorship", then when one of you dies, the other will inherit ownership of all the asset and there will be no probate.

Keep in mind that if your property is the subject of a mortgage, the mortgage company may restrict your rights to transfer your ownership.

Most commonly, a husband and wife will hold an asset like their primary residence in joint name with right of survivorship (also termed "tenants by the entirety"). This means that when one spouse dies, the other takes ownership of the entire property and there is no probate of the asset since it was held in joint name. Of course, when the survivor dies, there is probate of the asset.

Suppose you own a house and your spouse is deceased, meaning you own 100% of the property in your sole name. You have one child and want to add that child to your title to the property. Can you add another person, like a child, to your title to the property? Yes, that can be done with a deed. But, there are consequences you must think about

before you re-title any property.

The first issue is a tax issue. When you buy a house, your cost is your tax "basis" in the house. Suppose you buy a house with your husband forty years ago for a price of \$20,000 and the house is paid off. Today that house is worth \$200,000. If your husband is deceased and you own the house and add a child to your title, that child receives the property at your tax basis or \$20,000. When you die, if the child wants to sell the property, the child is going to have to pay capital gains tax on \$180,000, being the difference between your tax basis of \$20,000 and the market value of the property, \$200,000.

That tax can be avoided by passing the property to your child through your Will or Trust. A Will or Trust provides a "step up" in basis so the child or beneficiary takes the property at the market value. If the child then decides to sell the property, there is no tax since the child inherits the property at a value of \$200,000 and sells it for the same amount.

The other issue to be faced with putting a child on your title is whether the child has or will have creditors. Once you place property in the name of the child, their creditors become your creditors.

Another option to avoid probate is to use what is called "payable on death" forms at your bank. Every bank will have a "payable on death" form you can fill out indicating who will take the money in your accounts when you die. By filling out this form and designating a beneficiary to take your accounts, the accounts are not held in sole name and there is no probate on those accounts when you die. For investment accounts, you can designate beneficiaries to take the accounts when you die and avoid probate. These forms are called the "Transfer on Death" forms.

The best approach to probate is to focus on organizing your assets now so that your loved ones will not have to search through years of paperwork to try to find out what you own, where your accounts are, what insurance policies you have, etc. Believe me, your loved ones will love you even more if you leave them with very little to do in a probate proceeding.

Join me for a free seminar on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

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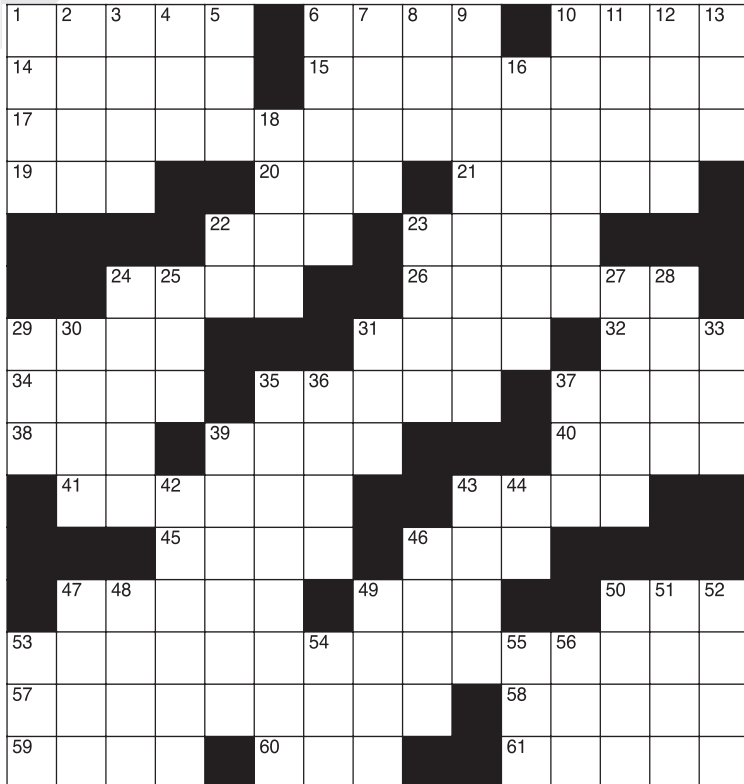
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# GAMES & PUZZLES



**CLUES ACROSS**

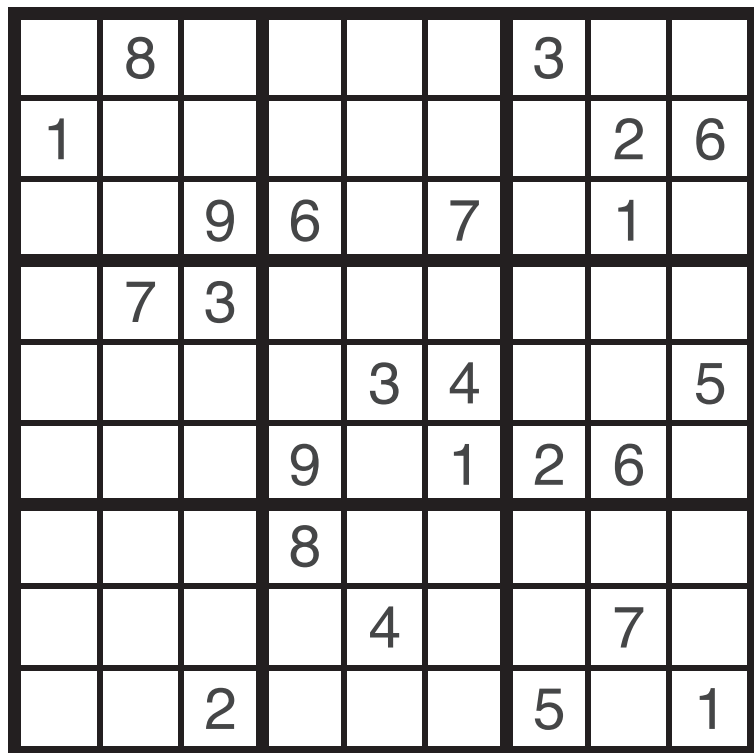
- 1. Partner to "oohed"
- 6. Relaxing places
- 10. Humorous monologue
- 14. Simple elegance
- 15. Bearable
- 17. Disobedience
- 19. Express delight
- 20. Gov't attorneys
- 21. Wake up
- 22. A type of band
- 23. Remain as is
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Battle-ax
- 29. Volcanic crater
- 31. The mother of Jesus
- 32. One's life history
- 34. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 35. Doubles
- 37. Jacob \_\_\_\_, American journalist
- 38. House pet
- 39. S. African river
- 40. Broad sashes
- 41. Establish as a foundation
- 43. KGB double agent Aldrich \_\_
- 45. Part of a book
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Train group (abbr.)

- 50. Frames per second
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal from a federation
- 58. Guitarist sounds
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Helps escape

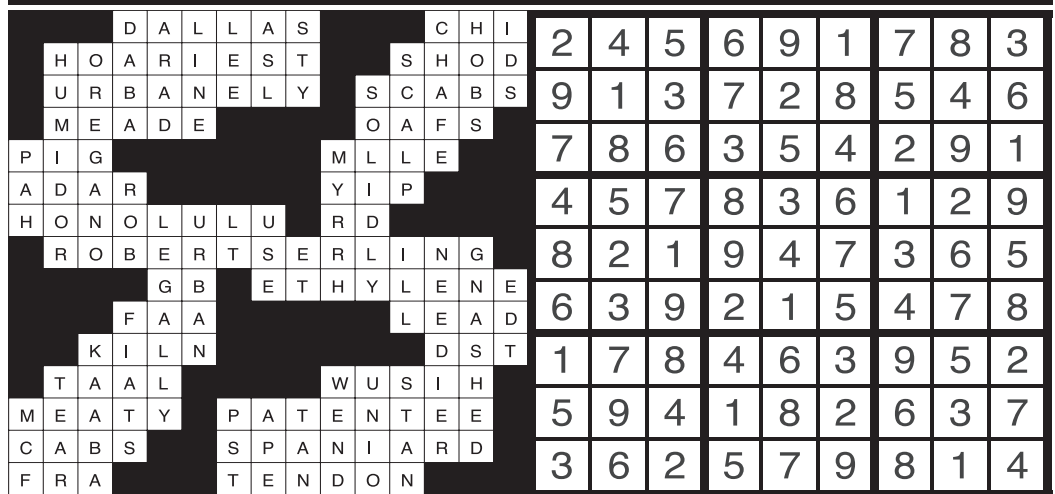
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Currency exchange charge
- 2. River in Tuscany
- 3. Breakfast dish
- 4. Defunct European currency
- 5. Upper class young woman
- 6. Part of a purse
- 7. Self-contained units
- 8. Boxing's GOAT
- 9. Legislators
- 10. Flightless birds
- 11. U. of Miami's mascot is one
- 12. Floating ice
- 13. Low, marshy land
- 16. Seldom
- 18. Lyric poems
- 22. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)
- 23. Full extent of something
- 24. \_\_ Claus
- 25. Naturally occurring solid material

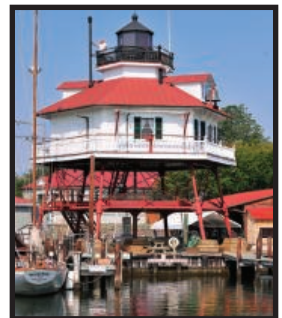
- 27. Acquired brain injury behavior science (abbr.)
- 28. Thirteen
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Member of a Semitic people
- 31. One thousandth of an inch
- 33. Former CIA
- 35. Most lemony
- 36. Engage in
- 37. Small Eurasian deer
- 39. Provisions
- 42. All humans have them
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Storage term (abbr.)
- 46. Famed Broadway lyricist Sammy
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Egyptian sun god
- 50. Flute
- 51. Flew off!
- 52. Scottish tax
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Populous Brazilian city
- 55. Malaysian Isthmus
- 56. Pointed end of a pen



## LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



|                                       |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
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