

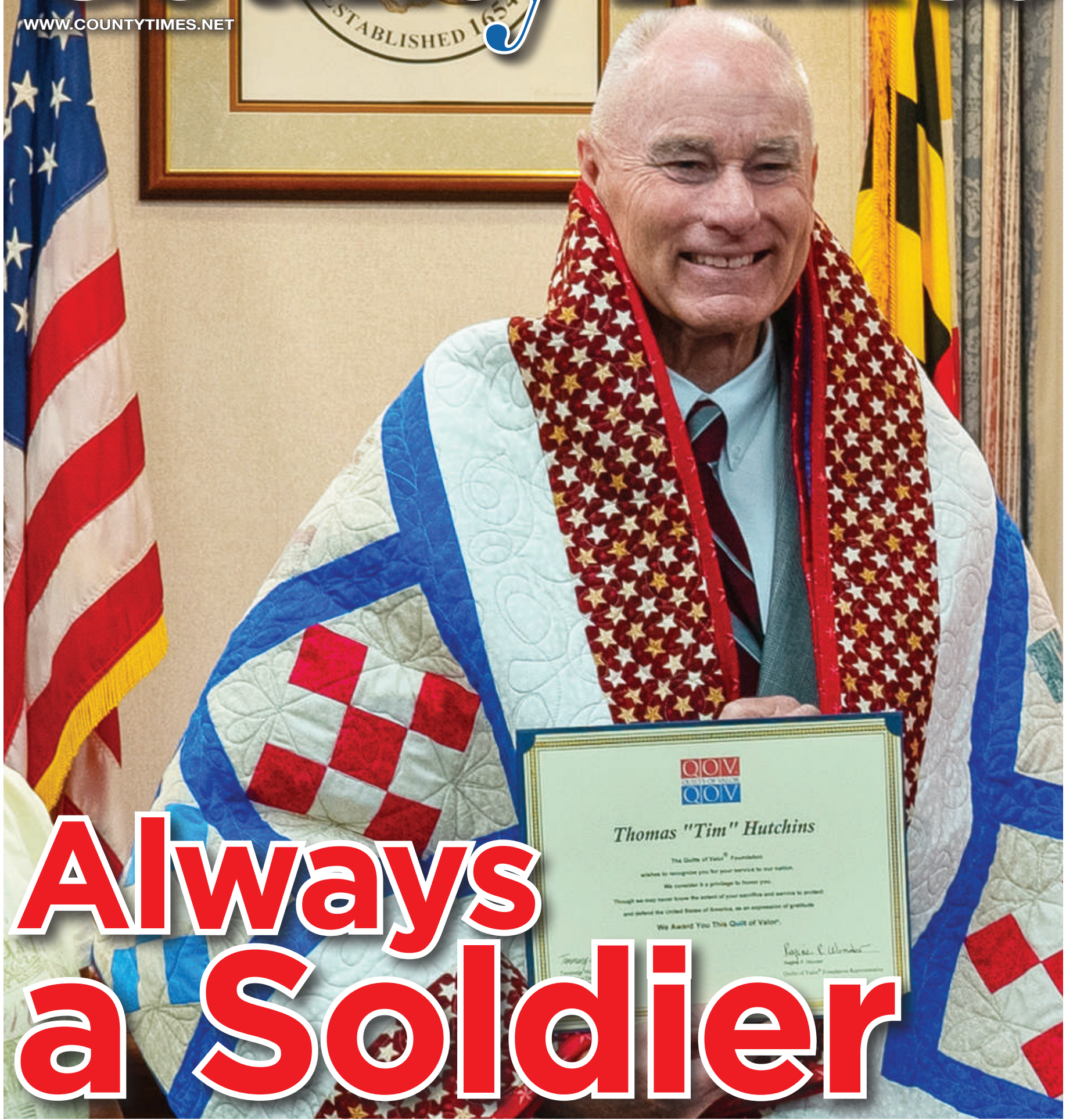
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Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2021

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FEATURE 10
Tim Hutchins was presented a Quilt of Valor at a recent county commissioner meeting.



LOCAL 7
The late Michael Moore, former county commissioner, is being honored with a bench on the courthouse green.






COMMUNITY 17
CalvertHealth given high marks.

“I WAS PROUD OF BEING A SOLDIER.”
 RETIRED COUNTY COMMISSIONER TIM HUTCHINS

WEEKLY FORECAST

| Thu 7/1 | Fri 7/2 | Sat 7/3 | Sun 7/4 |
|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 90° 69°F | 74° 66°F | 77° 63°F | 79° 64°F |
| PM | Scattered | Showers | AM Showers |
| Mon 7/5 | Tue 7/6 | Wed 7/7 | Thu 7/8 |
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State Police Investigating Huntingtown Death

Man Died While in Custody of Sheriff's Deputies



By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office released the following press release on June 27: "An investigation is continuing into the death of a man June 26 in Calvert County that occurred after deputies responded to a call for destruction of property.

"Around 1:10 p.m. on June 26, patrol deputies from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to a suspicious person breaking windows in the 2100 block of Lowery Road. Upon arrival, deputies located the suspect, identified as Antoine Brooks, 31, of Huntingtown and placed him under arrest. Brooks was handcuffed and taken to a shaded area to await transport. No weapons, Taser, or other force was utilized to effect the arrest. According to a preliminary investigation, Brooks, who was handcuffed, admitted to consuming a controlled dangerous substance.

"Moments later, deputies noticed Brooks' breathing getting shallow and pulse getting faint. Deputies immediately called for an ambulance and rendered medical assistance on scene by administering Narcan, using an AED and performing CPR. Brooks was ultimately transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

"The body of Brooks was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore for an autopsy. At this time, the cause and manner of death

is listed as pending. Toxicology results are also pending, along with the results of additional testing of vital organs.

"At the request of the Sheriff and the Calvert County State's Attorney, the investigation is being conducted by the Maryland State Police Homicide Unit. State Police investigators are continuing to review body camera footage and conducting interviews with witnesses. State Police crime scene technicians responded to process the scene.

"Upon completion, the investigation by the Maryland State Police Homicide Unit will be forwarded to the Calvert County State's Attorney's Office for review. The investigation is active and ongoing.

"Arrangements were made to review the body camera footage with the Brook's family on Monday morning. Out of respect for the family, we will delay the release of the body camera footage and any further comment on the case until that meeting has concluded."

On Tuesday Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Kristen Leith said there was nothing new to report on the release of body camera footage.

An email inquiry to the Maryland State Police as to the status of the investigation was not responded to as of press deadline.

dickmyers@countytimes.net
Editor's Note
Press Release from CCSO.

Calvert Man Arrested in St. Mary's Homicide

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

St. Mary's sheriff's detectives have arrested the second of two men they allege were responsible for the killing of Valdez Rico Baker III at Chancellors Run Park on Great Mills Road June 14.

Both Leonard Charles Hall, 21, of Lusby and James Reginald Flanagan, 24, of Lexington Park have been arrested and charged with first-and-second-degree murder, with Flanagan charged as an accomplice to the felony after the fact, according to on-line court documents.

According to charging documents filed in county Circuit Court against the two defendants, Flanagan was the driver of the vehicle with Hall – who police say an eyewitness has identified as the one to carry out the actual shooting – is alleged to have left the vehicle for a short period of time to kill Baker.

According to the witness' statement in charging documents when the car arrived at the park near the basketball courts, where there was a large group of people playing, one of the defendants, known to the witness as "Lenny," got out of the car and spoke to a



Leonard Charles Hall

small group of people with a mask on. The witness said he saw the defendant pull his mask down and was able to recognize him as "Lenny," court papers stated.

Soon after the witness heard gunshots and looked to see Baker bleeding out on the ground at the basketball court, charging papers stated, with "Lenny" standing over the body.

"Lenny" then ran back to the vehicle, got in and fled with the driver.

"Lenny" was a later identified by police as Hall.

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Bayfront Park Tests Show Elevated PFAS Levels

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Town of Chesapeake Beach has issued the following update on the ongoing investigation into contamination at the Naval Research Laboratory - Chesapeake Bay Detachment (NRL-CBD). The town says they “initiated a voluntary third-party test for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) of the waters at Bayfront Park within two locations, the creek and the Bay. The results show elevated levels of PFAS at both locations based on drinking water levels.

“The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has not identified levels for safe, or unsafe, bathing water or swimming water to base the review upon.

“The town has provided these results to the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) and the Calvert County Department of Health for guidance and interpretation.

“The Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) toxicology division has confirmed that there is no action required at this time, based on the results, and that the results are consistent with what has been found in other waters.

“To view the testing report go to <https://www.chesapeakebeach.md.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4261/f/>



Naval Research Laboratory - Chesapeake Bay Detachment (NRL-CBD)

uploads/210608_chesapeake_beach_-_surface_water_results_-_pfas.pdf.

“The results will also be posted at the beach.

“The town will continue to provide updated information to the public.”

As The County Times reported last week, NRL-CBD is continuing to investigate potential contamination to drinking water wells and surrounding waterways from testing done there.

The town reported: “Fire suppressant testing at NRL-CBD, including the testing of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), has been ongoing since 1968. Some AFFF contains per- and poly-flu-

oroalkyl substances, commonly known as PFAS. Results of a recent on-base groundwater investigation indicates that these substances are present in shallow groundwater as a result of historical activities at NRL-CBD; as a result, may have impacted off-base shallow groundwater which may be used for drinking water. The Navy conducted drinking water sampling for certain PFAS in drinking water wells in the vicinity of NRL-CBD; however, the town’s drinking water source was not considered as a part of the testing due to the depth of the town’s water source.”

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPOA), “Per- and polyfluoroalkyl sub-

stances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals. PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both chemicals are very persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don’t break down and they can accumulate over time. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to adverse human health effects.”

At the town’s June 17 meeting, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Washington project manager Ryan Mayer admitted that PFAS was leaving the site via streams that are discharging to the Bay.

“That seems to be the case from the sampling that we have,” he said.

At the June 27 Calvert County Board of County Commissioners meeting, NRL-CBD neighbor David Harrison said the shallow wells on his farm had PFAS contamination. He called on the BOCC to take a more proactive stance to prod the Navy to accelerate their slow investigation process.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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County Budget Adjusted for Increased Federal Funding

Includes Storm Damage Reimbursement

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at their June 29 meeting held two public hearings to reflect budget revenue increases from federal funding.

The first hearing reported an anticipated reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost to the county from damage due to Tropical Storm Isaias in August of 2020. The county has estimated the damage will be in excess of \$7 million.

According to a memo from Acting Director of Budget and Finance Sharon A. Strand, "Public safety has applied for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and considers a 75 percent reimbursement very likely." The anticipated reimbursement would be \$5,667,927.67.

There is an anticipated shortfall of \$1,892,642.56 from the predicted final tab of \$7,570,570.23.

Strand said the difference "will be paid with the favorable variance in the recordation tax line."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance noted the county had originally been denied the reimbursement and he praised staff for their persistence in seeking the monies.

No one spoke at the public hearing and the BOCC left the record open for 10 days before finalizing the budget adjustment.

After the second public hearing at also which no one spoke, the BOCC voted to increase the budget revenue by \$5,405,818.19, the amount the county has received from Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

According to Grants Coordinator Mary Layman, "The State of Maryland appropriated these funds to various state and local agencies in an effort to cover any necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency."

County Administrator Mark Willis told the BOCC that staff would be presenting to them a complete report at a later date on how the CARES funding was used.

After more than a year of successive extensions of the county's declaration of a local State of Emergency due to the pandemic, the declaration officially expired on July 1.

A memo to the BOCC noted that "sufficient measures have been met at the state level so that the governor is terminating the Maryland state of emergency on July 1, 2021," leading staff to recommend the same termination for the county.

As things had improved and the economy opened up, the county continued to extend the State of Emergency largely to put them in a position to continue to receive federal funding.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

County Approves Museum Board Budget

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners on June 29 approved the Calvert Marine Museum (CMM) Board of Governors Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.

According to a memo to the BOCC from CMM Director Jeffrey Murray, "In 1979, the county took control and ownership of the Calvert Marine Museum as a division of county government. Resolution 22-79, the enabling legislation and operating document, defines the purposes and goals of the CMM, establishes a Board of Governors (BOG), and authorizes an internal budget using funds generated by CMM, among other things. The BOG is made up of 15 people and is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)."

Murray told the BOCC the Board of Governors approved the budget on May 5.

Murray explained, "The BOG budget usually relies on earned income from admissions, program fees (which includes camps and field trips), and an annual budgeted transfer of funds from the CMM Society budget. However, with the

circumstances regarding COVID-19 and the uncertainty of lifting restrictions at the time the budget was adopted, BOG is projecting to earn less income than in years past. Therefore, the BOG FY 2022 budget is relying on income produced from a COVID relief-specific donation and transfer of some restricted unused funds to cover the deficit."

He said, "The budget is audited each year by the same firm that audits all county funds, and an annual income and expense statement is sent to the County Department of Finance & Budget. Although the county serves as the pay agent for employees shown in the budget, all employee expenses are reimbursed to the county by CMM. The county budget revenue line for the BOG reimbursements is matched by the BOG expense lines for salaries and benefits."

"This is a balanced budget of \$471,960 funded by earned revenue and donations," he concluded.

The BOCC approved the budget without discussion.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Michael Moore Memorialized with Courthouse Bench



Commissioners, President Buddy Hance (right) and Steve Weems at the June 22 courthouse green event honoring the late former Commissioner Michael Moore. The Calvert Branch of the NAACP and Calvert Commissioners held the event to commemorate a memorial bench on the green that will honor Moore. The bench arrived damaged and had to be resent and did not arrive for the ceremony. Present at the event were also NAACP President Michael Kent, Delegate Rachel Jones, former commissioner Wilson Parran, and Moore's family. Moore was the first elected black county commissioner.

Tri-County Council Budget Boosted by Federal/State Grants

Agency Unable to Muster a Quorum

By Dick Myers
Editor

Like many other government entities, the pandemic has left the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland flush with extra state and federal grant monies. The council's budget for the fiscal year that begins today (July 1) is \$1.2 million more than last year.

Part of those additional grant monies are U.S. Treasury American Rescue Plan Act funding of \$764,532, council financial officer Melinda Bowling reported at the council's June 24 virtual meeting.

That federal funding would be part of a four-year, \$3.2 million, overall grant.

The June 24 meeting had been postponed from the week before due to a lack of a quorum. But a quorum was also lacking at that June 27 meeting, leaving Council Chairman Steve Weems, a Calvert County Commissioner, with securing a budget vote via email.

After Bowling's presentation on the \$5.7 million council budget, Weems told his virtual colleagues that's all he had and wished then "a good weekend."

Council Executive Director John Hartline told the remaining members on the meeting that it appeared the chairman had left the meeting. That left the mem-

bers perplexed because there were still more items on the agenda, including a report on progress on the Nice-Middleton Bridge replacement project.

Council member, Charles County Delegate Edith Patterson said she would have liked to hear the reports since the summer is better for her schedule, which takes her to Annapolis at other times.

But it was concluded that the meeting could not proceed without their chairman, and it was quickly disbanded.

During the meeting Hartline reported that the extra federal monies would be used in part to pay \$344,000 for a new "mobile career center." It would replace an aging mobile unit now being used.

Bowling also reported that monies had been restored to the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, a part of the council. Their revenue this year is budgeted at \$1.4 million. They are in the process of developing a Regional Agriculture Center in St. Mary's County.

Hartline also reported that all three counties are providing their full funding of \$125,000 each to the council. Also, each county is participating in a summer jobs program this year, he said.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Solomons Fireworks A Go For This Weekend

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The grassroots effort to bring back the Solomons Island fireworks display has been so successful at raising funds that several extras will be added this year to make the event even more special, a senior member of the Solomons Business Association (SBA) said this week.

"There's more than what we need to pull this off," said Jennifer Stotler, vice president of the SBA. "So that means we've been able to add some things."

For the first time a shuttle bus service will be able to bring spectators from Patuxent High School down to the Holiday Inn on Solomons, Stotler said, where they can then walk down to wait for the show to begin.

Two buses will run from 2p.m. to 4p.m. July 4th, Stotler said, and by 4p.m. a total of four buses will run until 8p.m. to bring visitors to the island.

After the fireworks display is concluded 10 buses will be on hand to take visitors back to Patuxent High School where they initially parked, she said, from about 9p.m. to 11p.m.

Parking will also be available for \$5 at Glasscock Field, underneath the Thomas Johnson Bridge and across from the Calvert Marine Museum.

Fireworks are scheduled to begin at dusk.

The boardwalk on the island will also have a public announcement system installed, so visitors can receive regular updates regarding the event throughout the day; a hospitality tent with free water, shade and first-aid are also a first-time addition, Stotler said.

Aside from the SBA-sponsored event, a boat parade, coordinated separately, will proceed from Mill Creek Condominiums to Back Creek and out to the harbor; this event has operated alongside the 4th of July celebration for the past nine years.

Bringing back the fireworks after they had been cancelled earlier this season came about after a local business owner, Kyle Webber, started a grassroots cam-



campaign to raise the funds to go on with the show.

Webber, who recently joined the SBA, has been giving regular updates on the progress of the effort as well as heading up the coordination of the event working with the SBA.

The funding has come from community donations and business sponsorships. "We couldn't do this without the support and our sponsors," Stotler said. "They [the citizens] started it and the sponsors jumped on board."

The Solomons 4th of July celebration is predicted to bring substantial crowds this weekend as it is the only regional major public fireworks display of the season after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sheriff Mike Evans said his deputies were busy preparing for the weekend's festivities, including large crowds.

"Everybody's been cooped up and they're ready to get out," Evans said. "We're prepared for the worst but hoping for the best."

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CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

During the week of June 14 – June 20, deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,457 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 21-33287

On June 18, 2021, Deputy S. Naughton responded to 14700 block of Patuxent Ave in Solomons, MD for the reported destruction of property. The complainant advised unknown suspect(s) "egged" her house and vehicle sometime between 11 p.m. June 16 and 8 a.m. on June 17. Upon arrival, DFC Naughton observed bits and pieces of egg shell on the ground along with egg yolk on a balcony railing, both sets of French doors, exterior lamps and on outdoor furniture. The approximate value of damaged property is \$50.00.

Attempted Burglary: 21-32844

On June 16, 2021, Deputy Wilder responded to the 700 block of Crazy Horse Trail in Lusby, MD for report of a possible burglary. The complainant advised someone was on her front porch kicking the door. Upon arrival, Deputy Wilder observed minor scuff marks on the bottom of the front door. No entry was made and nothing was reported stolen.

Theft: 21-33317

On June 18, 2021, DFC Callison responded to the 11600 block of Mohican Lane in Lusby, MD for the report of stolen tags. The complainant advised both his front and rear Maryland Registration Plates had been stolen from his vehicle. The estimated value of stolen property is unknown at this time.

Theft: 21-33102

On June 17, 2021, Deputy Shoemaker responded to the Calvert County Health Department Crisis Center located at 975 N. Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, MD for the report of a theft. The complainant advised she was on the bus with her purse and groceries. As the complainant got off the bus, she discovered her purse and its contents to include (5 prescription medications) had gone missing. The estimated value of stolen property is unknown at this time.

ARRESTS

On June 14, 2021, Deputy W. McDowell responded to Abner's Crab House Restaurant & Bar located at 3748 Harbor Road in Chesapeake Beach, MD for report of a disorderly subject. Deputy McDowell observed **William Roger Skiles Jr.**, 51 of Chesapeake Beach, MD to be intoxicated and acting in a disorderly manner. When speaking with Skiles Jr., a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage was emitting from his breath and person. Deputy M c D o w e l l



William Roger Skiles Jr

observed Skiles Jr. was unable to safely operate his motor vehicle; Deputy McDowell transported Skiles Jr. to his residence in Chesapeake Beach at 12:18 a.m., after advising him not to return to the establishment. Approximately 30 minutes later, Skiles Jr. was observed laying in the grassy area at Abner's repeatedly clicking his automatic car key fob causing his car to light up and project noise. Skiles Jr. was again advised not to return to Abner's or the surrounding area, to prevent a public disturbance. Around 1:07 a.m., Deputy McDowell observed Skiles Jr's vehicle lighting up and projecting noise as Skiles was sitting in a grassy area, using a fence for balance. Skiles Jr. continued to act in a disorderly manner. Skiles, Jr. was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Disturbing the Peace – Public Intoxication, Failure to Obey Reasonable/Lawful Order and Trespass: Private Property.

On June 15, 2021, Deputy Krueger responded to the Calvert County Detention Center in Prince Frederick, MD for report of a CDS Violation. During the administrative booking search of **John Williams Mohler Jr.**, 54 of Prince Frederick, MD, an unopened Suboxone package was found. Mohler was charged with CDS: Possession not Marijuana and Possession of C o n t r a b a n d in a Place of Confinement.



John Williams Mohler Jr

On June 18, 2021, Deputy F r e e l a n d attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle for suspicious activity in the area of White Horse Road and Chisolm Trail in Lusby, MD. Deputy Freeland activated his lights and sirens and the mentioned vehicle continued driving, refusing to stop, before hitting a dead end. Deputy Freeland observed the driver, **Donald Sheldon Strickland**, 42 of Great Mills, MD, lean over and reach down in the center console. Due to Strickland not stopping the vehicle and his furtive movements, a search of the vehicle was conducted.

The search revealed several white crystalized substances on the front passenger seat of the vehicle, copper wire with burnt residue, a folded up \$1 USD bill with suspected

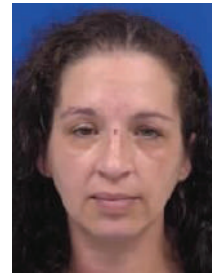


Donald Sheldon Strickland

crack/cocaine inside the fold. A bag observed to have been thrown out of the vehicle by Strickland was located nearby and revealed a metal spoon with white residue, 29 capsules of suspected heroin and five plastic vials containing suspected crack/cocaine. Strickland was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession Not Marijuana, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, CDS Distribution- Narcotics and other traffic related charges.

On June 19, 2021, Cpl. Moran and Senior Deputy Flynt conducted a traffic stop along southbound Solomons Island Road at the Walmart in Prince Frederick, MD for a possible impaired driver. A K-9 scan of the vehicle was conducted with a positive alert. A search of the vehicle revealed five cut straws with a white powdery residue in them and a folded \$1 bill covered in a blue and white powdery substance. The driver was identified as **Stella Lee Sanderson**, 40 of Gaithersburg, MD. Sanderson was asked if she was concealing any other narcotics before

transport to the detention center and advised she was not. A strip search was conducted at the jail and c o r r e c t i o n a l d e p u t i e s discovered a plastic baggie in her body cavity. Sanderson was asked to remove the concealed baggie and refused. Sanderson was transported to CalvertHealth to have the item removed by medical staff. Sanderson was placed under arrest for CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, Possession of Contraband in a Place of Confinement and Obstructing and Hindering an Arrest.



Stella Lee Sanderson

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

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 Inquiries should be directed to the staff onsite at the auction facility.

Upcoming Online Auction
 (Date to be Determined)
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Tim Hutchins: Five Dec

A Soldier First and Foremost

By Dick Myers
Editor

Tim Hutchins' final day as a county commissioner was this past Tuesday, June 29. His public service spans more than five decades from the time he entered the U.S. Army in October of 1965 and included being a state trooper, Maryland delegate, and head of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, superintendent of the state police and state Homeland Security Director in addition to his two and a half years as county commissioner.

He was asked during a June 25 interview with *The County Times* which of those roles he was most proud of serving.

Without hesitation, Hutchins responded, "I was proud of being a soldier. That doesn't mean I'm not proud of being a trooper or being a legislator or county commissioner, or just a plain citizen trying to change a tire for somebody. But there's something about those that do our bidding for us in faraway places."

He related, "I grew up on a farm (in Barstow) and obviously always had an affinity and love of farming." But his life path was forged while watching the events unfold in Little Rock, Arkansas on a small black-and-white TV. He watched as the 101st Airborne, called up by President Eisenhower, escorted the black children to integrate that city's schools.

"I was scared. My parents explained what was going on and I got very angry at people that would treat other people that way. And, I said to my mom, 'I want to be a soldier, just like them, one day.'"

He wasn't isolated from the rest of the world growing up on that farm in Barstow. He said, "I was very fortunate to be around displaced persons from World War II." They were from Germany and the Ukraine. "I was used to being around people from other places and other walks of life and different colors of skin and different speech. I guess all that just came together, and I just did what I thought needed to be done."

He spent almost four decades as a soldier; the first two years on active duty, including a tour in Vietnam, and then the rest in the Army National Guard, with multiple deployments around the world.

As to his time in Vietnam, he said, "It was a tough time. I went



back in 2017 and, in the end, I believe absolutely it was worth it because they had made the transition and I believe Viet Nam will be a tremendous asset to us in the Pacific Rim and the future in dealing with China, especially the south China Sea, as well as dealing with the [Russians]."

He had planned on reenlisting, but then, he said, "A lot of my high school classmates had joined the National Guard. And so, I thought, well, certainly they're going to be mobilized just like in World War II. And so I thought, I'll go there and can help train them."

Those assignments included special forces training, an infantry battalion and then to a combat aviation brigade, which was his last assignment.

"Those experiences were an education in themselves," he said, citing his service with British officers who had operated for two tours in Northern Ireland. "The first was described as everyone loved us; the second year into the turmoil there was 180-degrees difference – everyone hated us. The insight shared revealed some similarities to many other countries around the world including our own with respect to civil rights/

oppression and equality, albeit in widely varying degrees, yet still containing the basic alloy of how to achieve synchronization in a multi-cultural environment."

He added about all of the years of turmoil in this country: "I don't have the answer other than to keep trying through open lines of communications."

Hutchins mentioned during the interview that being Roman Catholic has also defined his life. He said, "In Israel, I worked with both law enforcement and military. My experience there was broader than my work. Being a Roman Catholic, I went to the many holy places to include being invited into the El-Marwani Mosque, which was once Solomon's stables, going behind the Jewish Wailing Wall down to its original foundation and especially to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, running my hand across a slab of rock thought to be the place where Jesus was laid."

Eight years after seeing him in Boston at a convention with his father, Hutchins saw Archbishop Francis Cardinal Spellman again on December 25, 1966 at about 1 a.m. on a landing zone (LZ) near the Special Forces Operation Base

in Vietnam.

He explained: "I, along with a handful of soldiers, many just back from the field as the cease fire had gone into effect for the Christmas period, waited quietly in the dark calm of the night. I say calm as it was monsoon season in the central area of Viet Nam and suddenly the rain stopped and the cloud cover had lifted for several hours. Eventually, the familiar unique sound of a UH1 'Huey' helicopter could be heard. Then its single front light came on as it began a deliberate slow decent onto the LZ, unlike the fast flaring one that takes forces into a hot LZ.

"The left side door slid back and the door gunner and crew chief jumped out, then helped Cardinal Spellman out. All of us quietly lined up to greet him, some including myself knelt down to kiss his ring. He gave us a blessing and spoke to all, then was escorted by vehicle to the Operation Base where he was to offer the Christmas Mass later in the day."

When he got off active duty he worked for a while and farmed, "and then I just couldn't seem to settle into that. I was contemplating going back into the Army and a friend of mine said, well just

Decades of Public Service



come to work as a correctional officer for a while. So I did that. My brother was a state trooper though, and I thought, I'll become a state trooper. So that's what I did. And, I stayed in the state police up until the time I ran for office, which would've been 1994."

His first state police assignment was at the Waldorf barrack and the commander there was Calvert County Sheriff Mike Evans' father.

"He was a pretty tough guy and he was very straightforward." He said Evans told him. "You hold more power than the President of the United States, because you can take somebody's freedom away from them with just a few words and they are, 'You are under arrest.' And so that was one thing that stayed with me throughout my entire state police career."

He had a varied career in the state police that included road work, commanding several units including the statehouse, and the Maryland State Police training division and police academy.

His foray into politics might have also been predicted from his youth. At nine or 10 years old he was helping his father with the presidential campaign of Dwight Eisenhower. "And then my dad decided two years later to run

for the House in Calvert County. Of course, Calvert County was dominated by the Democrat Party at the time. So, he's running an uphill battle, but I went from tobacco field to tobacco field with the campaign. So I guess maybe I caught the bug there."

When he ran in Charles County there were no incumbents and he was elected along with Van Mitchell and Buddy Linton, who had served several times previously.

"I felt I had something to offer because I had been around the legislature."

He had served for three terms when he was tapped by Governor Robert Ehrlich to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

"I was so excited," he said, but he inherited an office in a little corner of the federal building in Baltimore. "And so, I said to the governor, we need to really be able to have more visibility in Annapolis for these veterans," and the governor came through with a high visibility spot on Francis Street.

Hutchins said the governor's office called him in. When he got there he was told "He wants you to take over the state police. The current secretary has resigned and you're going to be the next secretary and superintendent of state

police. And he wants to know how are you going to do it?" Once in the conference room, the governor said, "You're now the secretary and superintendent of the state place. We're going to go down and have a press conference."

Hutchins said he would ensure continuity and "there won't be any break where we expect them (the troopers) to continue on as if there was no change at all. And he said, that's good enough. Let's go down. So, my first press conference was to that effect."

"I knew the operation. I was trooper from the bottom up and that's what Governor [Robert] Ehrlich recognized, I guess," he said. Hutchins was replaced when the new Democratic governor Martin O'Malley took office.

As to what is left undone as he leaves office, one is his desire to adapt the old National Guard Armory as a Veterans and Family Support Center. "My colleagues were starting to come over a little bit on that. I think the opportunity is there."

Hutchins said, "There's a tremendous rate of suicide amongst military veterans today, younger veterans. And I think a lot of it is the stress of deploying multiple times. But it was more than just dealing with veterans. It was the Veterans and Family Support Center because family is so much a part of a veteran's life, because your family has to more or less take care of business while the veteran's deployed all the time and they're deploying more and more all the time."

He particularly proud of playing a part in reducing property tax rates for the last three years.

"And certainly of late this Police Accountability Board is a major issue," he said. He has led an effort to insure the board includes members with law enforcement experience.

Noting the divisive public hearing before adoption of the comprehensive plan, he said he was steadfast in his ideas presented during his election campaign: "Getting a study done of the Dunkirk Town Center area as to the potential of locating a 'Technology Campus' there. Dunkirk is the best geographical location in the county for such an economic driver due to its ease of access to the Baltimore-Washington corridors, thus making it an attractive location both competitively and



Tim Hutchins during his tenure as MSP superintendent

comparatively. Patriot has accomplished it on a smaller scale leveraging that location. Anchoring a Tech Campus with supporting businesses engaged in technology development, services or research and anchored by an academic institution, I believe would identify the area as a up and coming driver in its field.

"Coupled with the high level of education in Calvert and government related work force it presents an ideal location for both of the key considerations -- Competition and Comparative advantage of location and work force.

"All that said, it takes water and sewer in place to make it work and therein lies the problem, not so much logistically, as a package plant could be the start up until long line pumping stations are in place, but rather political willingness is the most crucial factor which is absent in both local support and consequently BOCC support."

When asked with the July 4th weekend coming up if he considered himself to be a patriot, he responded, "I just tried to do what I thought needed to be done, do it the best I could; hopefully it made a difference."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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Solomons Island 4th of July



KEY TO MAP OF SOLOMONS JULY 4TH FIREWORKS FACILITIES!

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- Parking Glascock field Parking Fee \$5
- VIP Parking
- VIP Sponsors Event at The Pier Restaurant
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Mission Of Mercy and Tidewater Dental Rebound Post-COVID-19



On Saturday, June 19th the Mission of Mercy (MOM), a non-profit organization that helps the underserved public get free access to healthcare, and Tidewater Dental of Lexington Park teamed up to have the first mini-MOM event in the Nation. With the COVID-19 pandemic creating a potentially high-risk scenarios for large scale events such as the typical MOM events, all Mission of Mercy clinics nation-wide were cancelled through all of 2020 and thus far in 2021.

Realizing there is still a great need for access to care for our underserved public, Kit Wright, Martin Barley, DDS and Garner (Butch) Morgan, DDS got together to start contemplating alternatives to the traditional, large platform MOM events that would take over a High School or College gymnasium. The idea was to create several "mini-MOMs" several times a year rather than one major MOM event once a year in the Southern Maryland Market.

With that in mind, Kit reached out to David Cooper and Jeff Tomcsik of Tidewater Dental to see if they would host the event based on their long-standing support of MOM events and other philanthropic support Tidewater has always provided. Tidewater was also a good choice because it is the largest dental practice in Southern Maryland and has all the modern technologies needed to host such an event.

Once Tidewater was locked in, Kit worked with the Charles County and St. Mary's County Health Departments, Health Partners, Catholic Charities, and the Three Oaks Center to vet patients that would be good candidates for the free dentistry day. Through community outreach these charities and departments gave access to care to over 80 individuals in pain and/or dire need of dental care.

The event was a huge success. There

was a total of fifty-nine volunteers. Eighteen doctors and eleven hygienists participated. Nine doctors and seven hygienists were from Tidewater. There were nearly twenty dental assistants with the majority volunteering from all the Tidewater Dental practice sites.

The health departments also had several volunteers including nurses and administrative volunteers. A great thank you must go out to all the volunteers who sacrificed their entire Saturday on Father's Day weekend to tirelessly help those less fortunate than themselves.

The volunteers included Marvin Payen DDS, Jacob Kott DDS, Bruce Finagin DDS, Douglas Risk DDS, David Cooper DDS, Genevieve Graves-Appiah DDS, Todd Cooper DDS, Omua Angole DDS, Kolade Akinwande DDS, Joan Emberland DDS, Todd Allen DDS, Dylan Schneider DDS, Pat Palumbo DDS, Ridge Gilley DDS, Donald Parker DDS, Bernard Finch DDS, Garner Morgan DDS, Martin Barley DDS, Stephanie Morley RDH, Rachelle Dyson RDH, Natalia Lauver RDH, Ludmyla Jones RDH, Catherine Kimmey RDH, Katie Wise RDH, Samantha Koch RDH, Winsley Hayes RDH, Monica Hayes RDH, Morgan Phares RDH, Elena Bernu RDH, Megan Bell, Devahna Graves, Jeff Tomcsik, Kristina Middleton, Jo Parker, Dania Higgins, Reta Winter, Nick Chan, Lauren Rowe, Rafela Honda, Shan Lastinger, Daniela Folchetti, Jessica Sequenzia, Colleen Duby, Vivian Anthes, Marge DeTemple, Julie Weitzel, Robin Abell, Keydi Ponce-Briseno, Cheryl Nail, Denita Abell, Karen, Angela Cochran, Bree Burandt, Natalie Hines, Ashley Milcetic, Shannon Heaney, Christine Young RN, and Kit Wright. Much thanks go to those who helped coordinate the event and any volunteers missed in the list above.

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Burch Oil Supports Access to the Arts

Partners with Annmarie Gardens

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center acknowledges and thank Burch Oil Co., Inc. for its generous help and support of the garden's art programs impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. In early 2021, Burch Oil partnered with the Garden to improve the ventilation in its "Clay Studio", enabling indoor art classes to continue during the cold season.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center has become a haven for many during the pandemic. Offering outdoor art experiences like the "Enchanted Summer" and "Garden in Lights", guests of all ages have found joy, peace and creative inspiration during daily visits, events and art classes. Pottery classes, which are held in the Garden's "Clay Studio", a converted garage which is home to a fully equipped ceramics classroom, were in high demand. However, with no HVAC system and little other ventilation, the popular classes came to an abrupt halt in November when it became too cold to work in an indoor/outdoor format.

"When we heard activities were being canceled at Annmarie, we knew we had to help," said Sheri Norris, vice president at Burch Oil Co., Inc. "Sometimes we take these things for granted and brush them off as extras. But the stress of the pandemic has made it painfully clear how important cre-

ative outlets are to the quality of life in our community. They bring people together and give a little escape from the outside world. This solution was in our wheelhouse and allowed us to use our expertise in heating and indoor air quality to help make a difference."

With the donated services of Burch Oil and support from the Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development, an HVAC system and other ventilation equipment was installed allowing classes to resume. "What a wonderful gift," noted Annmarie Garden Program Director, Jaimie Jeffrey. "This upgrade allowed us to provide a therapeutic escape from the stress of this challenging year. Moving forward, what was once a three-season space can now accommodate classes all year long. It will be buzzing with creative energy!"

Annmarie Garden Development Director, Pam Shilling added "The folks at Burch Oil realized they were in a unique position to help provide a resource for the community. It's this kind of generosity and commitment to helping others that makes Southern Maryland such a wonderful place to live. We're truly grateful to Sheri and the entire team at Burch Oil for their friendship and support."

Press Release from Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center

CalvertHealth Foundation Honors 'Rising Stars'

Inaugural North Star Award Recipient Named

The CalvertHealth Foundation's Rising Star Program aims to encourage, salute and recognize the philanthropic efforts of individuals 18 years of age and younger whose gifts to the CalvertHealth Foundation make a difference in our community.

In 2020, the CalvertHealth Foundation announced a new society level for students involved in the Rising Star Program. The North Star Society recognizes extraordinary philanthropic support from a single candidate and is the highest honor the CalvertHealth Foundation can bestow upon a Rising Star who raised more than \$1,000 and/or completed 40 or more hours of volunteer service in support of the CalvertHealth Foundation during an academic year.

The CalvertHealth Foundation proudly honors its first North Star award recipient and a charter member of the North Star Society, Robert Martin for his extraordinary leadership in philanthropy and support of CalvertHealth.

Robert recently graduated with distinction from Northern High School, earning the President's Award for Educational Excellence. He has been accepted to Virginia Tech and will be attending in the fall.

Additionally, 30 area students were recognized via certificates and pins for their efforts as Rising Stars: from the Huntingtown High School Basketball Team Charles Contee, Garrett Contee, Ta'Juan Cradle, Dom Downs, Kedrick Frink, Jayden Holland, Colin Jacobson, Jalen Newman, Jaiden Ruffin, Mike Solomon, Ted Spain, Eddie Williams and Dylan Zimmer; from Our Lady Star of the



Foundation Board Chair Denise Bowman and President and CEO Dean Teague presented the award to Robert Martin of Northern High School. Robert was recognized as the charter member of the North Star Society, which honors students who exhibit extraordinary philanthropy efforts.

Sea School Vincent Barbour, Sebastian Cardwell, Aria Deligatti, Kalina Dillard, Lilliana Frazier, Jameson Hankins, Jackson Hunsicker, Mariella Mouzo Castro, Jace Norris, Zoe Roberts, Lilliana Scaduto, Luke Shaner, Elise Werking and Tyler Wingenter; from Cardinal Hickey Claudia Baddour, Eben Bailey, Colin Favret, Luke Grover, Millie Jernigan, Jack Kelly, Joe Malenab, Laila Malenab, Natalie Malenab and Nathan Thompson; from Boy Scout Troop 314 Sarah Hurley; and Maelyn Doster.

Students interested in learning more about the Rising Star Program can visit CalvertHealth-Foundation.org/Rising-Star-Program or call 410.414.4570.

Press Release from CalvertHealth

Wildewood Village Event Center



Weddings, Banquets, Birthday Parties, Reunions, Corporate Gatherings & Meetings, Graduations, Baby Showers, and More.

The Wildewood, Event Center is in the Wildewood Retirement Community in Wildewood California, MD. The Event Center has a tranquil setting that provides the perfect location for your special event.

The main Dining Hall features accommodations for 234 guests with tables and chairs. We offer a caterer's kitchen for our main

Dining Hall, a 15ft full wet bar, beautiful outside patio.

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Book your special event now!

Visit us on Facebook at: [Wildewood Village Event Center](https://www.facebook.com/WildewoodVillageEventCenter)
admin@wildewoodhoa.com or call 301-944-4148

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CalvertHealth Garner 4-Star Rating

Ranked Among State's Top 12 Hospitals

Report cards were recently released for more than 4,500 of the nation's hospitals and CalvertHealth Medical Center has received a 4-star rating (out of 5-stars) by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Care Compare website. The 4-star rating ranks CalvertHealth among the top 12 hospitals in the state of Maryland.

Care Compare (formerly Hospital Compare) has information about the quality of care at Medicare-certified hospitals across the country, only 455 of which received 5-star ratings. The website rates hospitals against 48 measures of quality including mortality, safety of care, readmission, patient experience and timely and effective care.

This national recognition comes at a time when many rural hospital systems have been challenged by the pandemic, making this top ranking especially rewarding and reaffirms that CalvertHealth continues to provide world-class healthcare.

"At CalvertHealth, our team of physicians, nurses and other healthcare workers are committed

to providing exceptional, compassionate care to our patients and their families," said Dean Teague, president and chief executive officer of CalvertHealth. "We are proud to receive this 4-star recognition and think it underscores all of the hard work we have been doing to realize our mission of providing safe, high-quality health care and promoting wellness for a healthy community."

In light of COVID positivity rates and hospitalizations being at the lowest percentages in more than a year, Teague says hospital administration is worried about a potentially dangerous new trend. Many people with serious health conditions or symptoms may have been delaying or avoiding care, which can lead to serious complications and long-term health problems. "Now more than ever, we want to encourage our community to make sure they are taking care of themselves and getting those annual screenings or making an appointment for any check-ups you may have missed or put off due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Teague.



Chief Medical Officer Dr. Ted Tsangaris concurred saying, "Patients are waiting too long to seek the care they need. Our practices are clean and safe, and our top priority is the health and safety of our patients at all times." He went on to add, "I want residents to feel comfortable seeking the medical treatment they need. At the same time, I want to remind people that timeliness is important. Small issues can quickly become more serious if they are not addressed effectively."

CalvertHealth has taken every possible precaution to protect you and our healthcare workers throughout our physician practices, outpatient clinics, services and surgery center. In addition to following all Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance and using state-of-the-art UV disinfecting technology, our practices are also practicing social distancing by scheduling appointments to limit the number of patients and employees in an area and using telemedicine and other advances to provide access to care from the convenience of your home or office for those who are not yet vaccinated or still feel uncomfortable seeking care in person.

If you do not have a primary care provider, please call 410.535.8457 to get established with a provider at one of CalvertHealth Primary Care's three Calvert County locations or visit CalvertHealthMedicalGroup.org for more information.

Press Release from CalvertHealth

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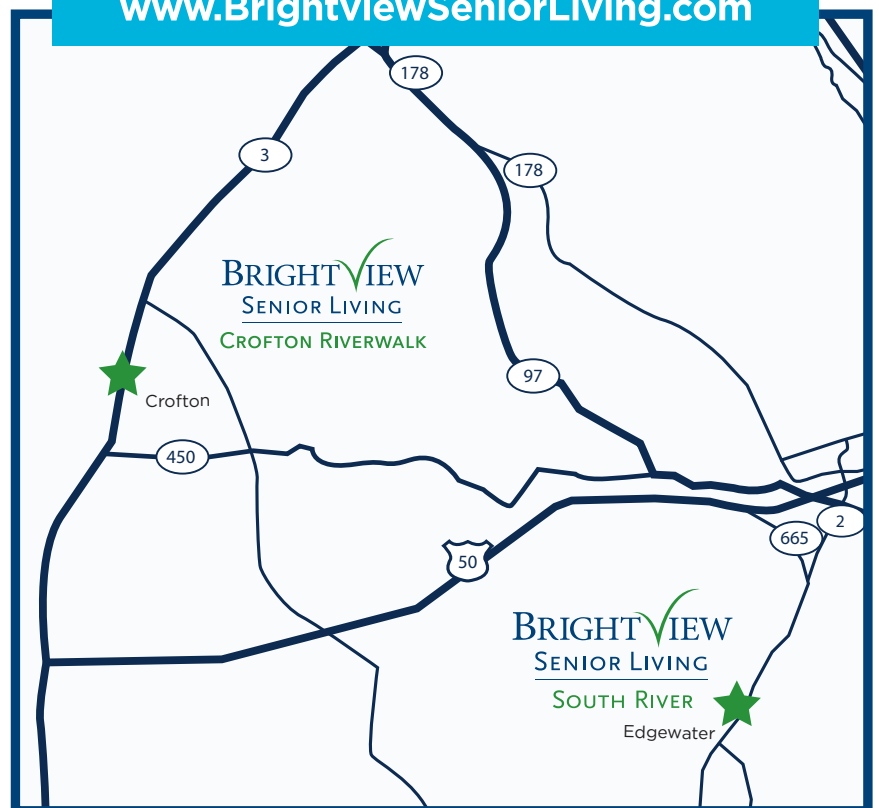
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Historical Society to Host Outdoor Concert



The Calvert County Historical Society (CCHS) is hosting an Outdoor Summer Concert Series on the Front Porch of Linden, the home of CCHS.

The CCHS welcomes everyone to come with your lawn chairs, blankets and coolers to enjoy the New Orleans Jazz Sounds of Zachary Smith and the Dixie Power Trio from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, July 15.

Linden is located at 70 Church Street in Prince Frederick. The concerts are free and open to the public. Snacks including Calvert Kettle Corn and Calvert Kona Ice will be for sale. Overflow parking at Trinity United Methodist Church. Concert will be cancelled in case of rain.

Visit the CCHS website at www.calverthistory.org

Press Release from CCHS

Solomons Dragon Boat Races Returning



By Dick Myers
Editor

After a pandemic hiatus last year, the Solomons Dragon Boat Festival will be returning for a fifth year on Saturday, August 21.

The Solomons Dragon Boat Festival is a fun, family-oriented event featuring 30 teams of paddlers competing for glory on the Patuxent River!

Spectators can look forward to a full day of dragon boat races complete with a team village, entertainment, caricature artists, children's activities, vendor village, food trucks and awards ceremony.

Throughout the week leading up to the event, you can participate in a traditional "Dotting of the Eye" Ceremony, practice sessions, and a Flash Mob.

The event is Southern Maryland Community Resources' (SMCR) biggest fundraiser each year. They are actively looking for sponsors, team registrations, vendors, and volunteers.

The 2021 teams so far are:

- Drag'n Butt from Amewas
- Keep Calm and Paddle On from Cedar Point
- CENTURIONS from Century21
- Patuxent Presbyterian Team
- The Homunculi from High Tide Games
- The RowHouse SOMD Team
- PTLLC Life Savers from Personalized

Therapy

Kingfishers Team

Southern Maryland Community Resources, Inc. (SMCR) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that helps to bridge the gap for individuals with developmental differences in our community.

According to their mission statement: "SMCR promotes the inclusion of persons with developmental differences into the life of our community. We advocate for individuals with special needs, to recognize the inherent dignity that is theirs because they are members of our one human family. We promote social recreational and educational opportunities where individuals with developmental differences can contribute their unique gifts and develop their potential.

"We provide monthly programs to provide our members with social and recreational opportunities in order to enrich their lives. Members enjoy our programs at no-to-little cost through our partnerships with businesses and organizations throughout the community."

For more information about the Dragon Boat Festival, go to www.solomonsdragonboatfestival.com and the event facebook page at www.facebook.com/smcrdragonboatfestival

dickmyers@countytimes.net

ALWAYS FREE IN PRINT & ONLINE

Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thursday, July 1

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

Sea Squirts

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

Children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, are invited to discover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a carryout craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. Capacity is limited. No pre-registration; sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive.

Friday, July 2

Food Truck Fridays

Annamarie Garden; 5 p.m. -7 p.m.

Enjoy dinner and evening hours in the garden! Grab dinner from one of the food trucks, take a walk, tour a gallery show, and frolic in the Fairy Lolly. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs and picnic blankets. Some evenings will include additional activities and a cash bar. This is a "pay what you can" event with a suggested donation of \$5/ person (amount of suggested donation may vary). Well-behaved pets on a short leash are welcome; rain or shine event; no smoking or vaping; masks and social distancing required. Complete food truck schedule, visit www.annmariegarden.org

annmariegarden.org

Dee of St. Mary's Sunset Sail

Calvert Marine Museum; 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Take an evening sail on the Dee of St. Mary's. Fee is \$35 per person; adults only. Guests are welcome to bring their own beverage; select your choice of sandwich at registration. Preregister by noon on the Wednesday prior to each cruise at <https://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/238/Dee-of-St-Marys-Cruises>.

Saturday, July 3

Sea Glass and Beach Crafts Market

Annamarie Garden; 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

What a great way to start your July 4th weekend! Our wildly popular beach-themed market is back! Join us for a celebration of summer and all things sea glass and beachy! Browse more than 40 booths featuring an exceptional variety of handmade, home-made, and homegrown products! If you love sun and sand, this is the market for you! Well-behaved pets on a short leash are welcome; rain or shine event; no smoking or vaping; masks and social distancing required. Details: www.annmariegarden.org

Sunday, July 4

Independence Day

Tuesday, July 6

Things that Bloom and Buzz by the Bay

Calvert Marine Museum; 10 a.m. - noon

Join CMM educators for a morning of exploration, crafts, stories, and fun

related to plants and pollinators. For ages 5-7. Capacity is limited and there is a \$10 program fee. Registration will begin Monday, June 28. See our website for details. www.calvertmarinemuseum.com

Wednesday, July 7

Fossil Adventure Day

Calvert Marine Museum; 10 a.m. - noon

Join a CMM educator for this fossil field program. Participants will learn about local Miocene fossils and explore the beach to search for fossilized shells, bones, and shark teeth. For ages 8-12. Capacity is limited and there is a \$10 program fee. Registration will begin Monday, June 28. See our website for details.

Thursday, July 8

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

Ongoing

Calvert Library Openings

Thanks to declining COVID-19 positivity numbers, Calvert Library is welcoming customers back in for short visits. Customers are still asked to keep visits as short as possible and no longer than an hour, wear an appropriate mask over your nose and mouth, maintain a social distance of 6' from others

and help your children do the same. At all four library locations, in-person library hours will be Monday-Thursday, noon to 5pm, Friday, 1-5pm and Saturday, 10am to 2pm. Curbside pickup appointments will continue Monday-Thursday, 10am to 7pm; Friday, 1-5pm and Saturday, 10am to 2pm. Call any Calvert Library location for assistance or appointments. Customers can also follow and interact with library staff on Facebook and Twitter. More information about coronavirus is available in the Research & Learn section of the library website. Call 410-535-0291 or email getanswers@calvertlibrary.info with any reference questions you may have.

Enchanted Summer at the Garden

Annamarie Sculpture Garden; until September 6

Enjoy a safe, outdoor, engaging experience where you will find a variety of low-touch, no-touch fun along the trails and paths of the sculpture garden. During the Enchanted Summer, daily visitors can explore the galleries; search for over 100 fairy houses; play in the Fairy Lolly Nature Play Space; build your own fairy house in the forest; search for gems and fossils at the Fairy Grove Mining sluice (additional fees apply); try the Wild Rumpus Run; enjoy unique photo opps along the trail; find the hidden Dragons Nest; search for the hidden tree pop paintings; and more! Grab your bug spray, pack a picnic blanket or chairs, and spend a fun, creative and active day at Annmarie. Well-behaved pets on a short leash are welcome; no smoking or vaping; masks and social distancing required. Details: www.annmariegarden.org

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Letters to the Editor

Why Kill the Gator?

To the Editor:

Regarding your June 24th issue about the family that killed an alligator found to be living near a pond in the Ranch Estates. I have worked for Calvert County DNR for 17 years in one capacity or another. Actually.....been active with DNR in Calvert County since 1987.

My question is.....why did these folks feel they had to "KILL" the alligator??? Easy enough to report it to Calvert Counties Department of Natural Resources or Animal Control. But.....no..... Guess

that wasn't in their plans. Pretty much disgusted with the actions of people like this that apparently knew where this animal lived and felt that this non-native animal would make for a great meal..... and story!! Call the people in the "KNOW"!!

The gator could have been transported to the normal habitat for it's species.....instead, it gets tracked and killed with an arrow in its head!!! Idiots!!!

Scott Nieman
Lexington Park, MD

The Chesapeake Bay is Dying

To the Editor:

Calvert Citizens United, Inc. has been slugging it out in court for 20 months versus the Board of Calvert Commissioners (BOCC). The BOCC continues to jeopardize the health and financial welfare of county residents with its egregious 20-Year Comprehensive Plan by radically expanding seven town centers and constructing a massive sewer treatment facility in a county nine miles wide and 4½ miles at its narrowest. Before the BOCC adopted the Plan, local builder/developers stated, "we entered into a CO-ALITION with the Commissioners, Mark Willis, Planning and Zoning ...and now we are being criticized." Backroom minutes outline how the attendees' development strategy is to sell Calvert to the highest bidders.

The BOCC condoned an unethical vote by Commissioner Kelly McConkey who refused to recuse himself and voted to increase the value of his two properties, putting them into Town Center. Simultaneously, the BOCC appointed the daughter of a local builder/developer to the Planning Commission which is tasked with a complete overhaul of Town Master Plans and Zoning Ordinance.

The BOCC disregards state guidelines by diminishing sound environmental protocols. Backroom meeting minutes indicate the County waived critical environmental guidelines for local builders/developers and got caught by the state. Recent untreated sewage spills, totaling 100,000 gallons, into the Chesapeake and Patuxent infiltrated Calvert's most pristine watershed, the American Chestnut Land Trust. Evidence by Maryland Department of Environment indicates these spills were not properly reported.

Although Planning and Zoning employs over 40 staffers, the Plan was originated by local builder/developers, Mark Willis and Baltimore consultants. Citizen pleadings were ignored. Not only do taxpayers fund employee salaries, they are left paying exorbitant consulting fees.

Citizens are consistently misled about population projections. The BOCC, Willis and staff repeatedly reference a projected population in 2040 of 100,450. Deceiving citizens, the BOCC fail to report that, by 2020, Planning and Zoning approved 37,142 households. Realistically, Calvert's population will radically exceed 100,450 by 2040.

As Senator Bernie Fowler, Emeritus and William Baker, President Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) stated in a May 16th Washington Post article, "The impact to the health and welfare of the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River, thousands of new homes in rural Calvert County is an alarming omen for the bay's future. If the pollution implications of more storm water runoff and wastewater discharge continue, Chesapeake wa-

ter quality will decline and may never recover".

Let's be clear, with its 'D' rating, the Chesapeake Bay is dying. Stated Chris Moore, CBF Senior Ecosystem Scientist, in (January 14, 2021 BAY WEEKLY), "the situation is deeply concerning. Adult female striped bass, widely used to gauge the overall health of the population, have dropped by approximately 40 percent from 2013 to 2017."

Calvert taxpayers believe the pursuit of narrow-minded commercial interests by three commissioners, Willis and local builder/developers will massively erode Calvert as the rural community destined to protect the Chesapeake and Patuxent. Calvert is a 38-mile peninsula surrounded by the Bay/River with 123 square miles of watersheds. Tragically, the Plan will increase and release pollution into the creeks/watersheds that infiltrate into the Bay/River.

Calvert's immensely paid Baltimore consultants are demanding mega-million-dollar roadway construction for Routes 2/4 and 231 in order to facilitate this mentally unhinged expansion.

Currently 80 percent of Calvert's (light controlled) intersections along Md. 2/4 have a failing grade as rated by Maryland State Highway Administration. However, the BOCC publicly claims they have a passing grade. Peak hour gridlock is grindingly slow, and will increase in intensity, frustration, and duration.

Since the Administration minimizes state guidelines, four county residents formed Calvert Citizens United, Inc. and are suing the BOCC. After months of litigation, we are in the Court of Special Appeals (COSA) in Annapolis. CCU is represented by G. Macy Nelson, Esq. of Towson, Maryland.

CCU's goal to inform taxpayers of their plight, and by engaging with the scientific community has gained overwhelming citizen support making a significant financial commitment to pressure the BOCC to listen, absorb and enact four years of resident's pleadings. Or, citizens will heartily remove them from office in 2022. Otherwise, Calvert's citizens will face an environmentally dry, polluted and financially fraught future destined to destroy the Bay/River.

Neighbors, if you truly believe you are blessed to reside in "The Land of Pleasant Living" and you are opposed to 14 residences per acre, Calvert Citizens United needs your support as our attorney gears up for the Court of Special Appeals. Our mailing address is CCU, Inc., Post

Office Box 1018, Huntingtown, MD 20639.

As Senator Bernie Fowler and Director Baker stated: "It's time to make history... and save the Bay".

Myra Gowans, Founder
Calvert Citizens United, Inc.

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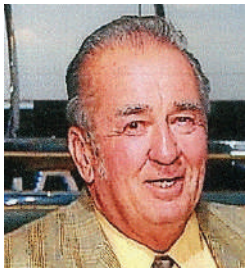
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In Remembrance

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 after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

Vernon Edward Terrill



Vernon Edward Terrill, 78, of Little River, SC, formerly of Chesapeake Beach, MD passed away June 27, 2021 in Myrtle

Beach, SC. Vernon was born July 15, 1942 in Nutwell, MD to Gladys Gertrude (Catterton) and Clifford Aaron Terrill. He is survived by his wife June Rausch Terrill.

Visitation will be Thursday, July 1, 2021, 10-11 a.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Services will follow at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Interment will be in Southern Memorial Gardens, 10155 Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754.

Faye Lee Reynolds



Faye Lee Reynolds of Owings, MD passed away in her sleep June 21, 2021 at home with family and friends nearby.

She was born July 26, 1942 the daughter of William Ernest Harbin, Sr. and Catherine Lydia Custer Harbin.

Faye is survived by her husband Kenneth J. Reynolds of Owings; children Ronnie Garraway of Chesapeake Beach, Donnie Garraway and his wife Margaret of Delmar, MD and Denise Munoz and her husband Mark of Milford,

DE; grandchildren Landon and Brandan Garraway and Erin Munoz. Faye is also survived by several siblings and their spouses.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link:

<https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

John F. Dowell



John F. Dowell, 79, of Owings, MD passed away June 21, 2021 at home with his family at his side. He was born January 18, 1942 in

Paris, MD to Herbert C. and Charlotte Manifold Dowell.

John was a farmer and Calvert County Public Schools Bus contractor.

John was preceded in death by his parents and a sister Elise Mills. Surviving are his wife Bernardine Dowell of Owings; daughters Jeanne Marie Johnson and her husband Arthur of Abingdon, MD, Jennifer Lynn DeLong and her husband Jonathan of Owings, MD; grandchildren William and Charlotte Johnson of Abingdon, MD and Brynn DeLong of Owings, MD He is also survived by step-children Catherine Bess of Denver, CO and Daniel Coakley of Baltimore, MD; Brother Herbert Dowell and his wife Barbara of Conway SC and sister Margaret Revelle of Friendship, MD.

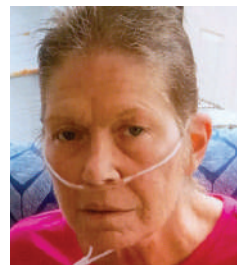
Memorial contributions may be made to The Kidney Project, UCSF, 1700 4th Street, Room 203, San Francisco, CA 94158; Link:

<https://makeagift.ucsf.edu/site/>

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Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home-Owings.

Barbara Alice Mitchell



Barbara Alice Mitchell, 57, of Woodbridge, VA passed away June 19, 2021 with her sister by her side. Barbara was born May 24, 1964

in Baltimore, MD to Irma Adelaide Jones and Ralph Chester Mitchell and raised in Chesapeake Beach. Missy was a kind, loving and honest sister, mother and friend to everyone that knew her. She enjoyed family gatherings, fishing, playing slots and riding her scooter. Missy lived life to the fullest. She retired from the Carpenter's Local 491.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Ann and brothers Ralph and Charles.

Surviving are her sister Linda Pennifill of Woodbridge, VA; daughter Brittany Holmes of California, son Brenden Colon of Florida; grandchildren Jaleah and Kaden Colon of Chesapeake Beach, MD; Uncle Lanny Hale of Chesapeake Beach, MD and Aunt Fay Hale of Florida as well as several nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Janet Elaine Holsworth

Janet Elaine Holsworth, 72, passed away on June 17, 2021 after



a battle with breast cancer. She was born on March 22, 1949 in Washington, D.C., to the late James and Helen Gun-sauley. Janet

was raised with her brothers Rodney, Larry, and Bruce in Prince George's County, MD. She married Elwood Holsworth in March of 1967, moved to Calvert County and welcomed a son, Adam Matthew Holsworth to their family in 1980.

Janet worked for Giant food company for many years. She took care of her mother and Elwood's mom as their health failed. She was always doing for others.

Janet had the biggest heart anyone had ever seen. She would do anything for anyone. She enjoyed playing the slots at the local casinos, playing Bingo with friends, and eating crabs. She also loved going on cruises with friends.

Janet had an amazing memory for names of children. She loved being around kids and giving gifts to children. In 2011 and 2014, Janet became a grandma and she loved every moment with her grandsons. She was able to care for them during their first year of life. She was always telling everyone how smart and handsome Matthew and Joshua are.

Janet is survived by her husband, Elwood Holsworth, her son, Adam, his wife Cindy and their children, Matthew and Joshua, and her cousin, Diane Pleva, and her dear friend Ellen Fischer. Janet had many friends who will miss her sincerely.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home-Owings.



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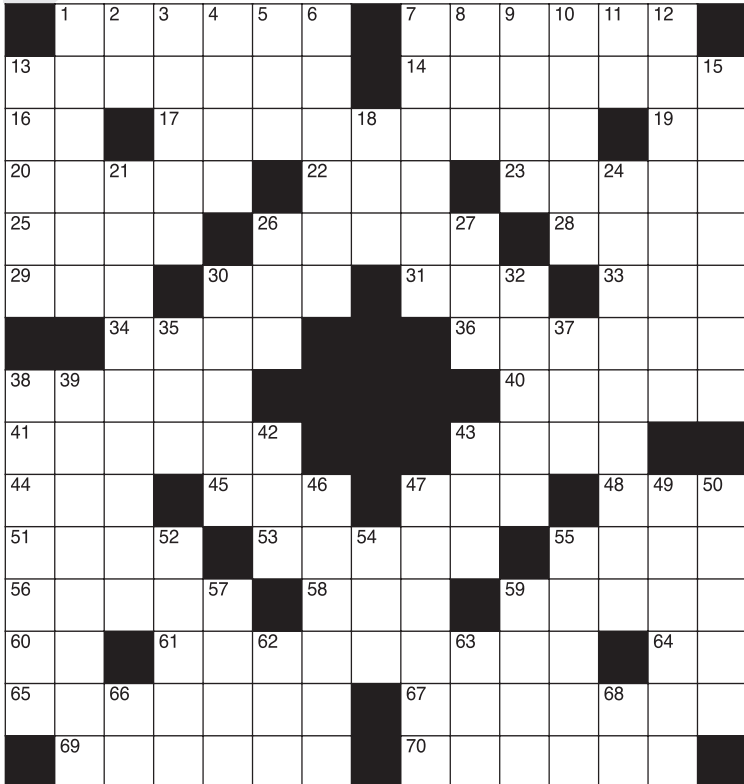
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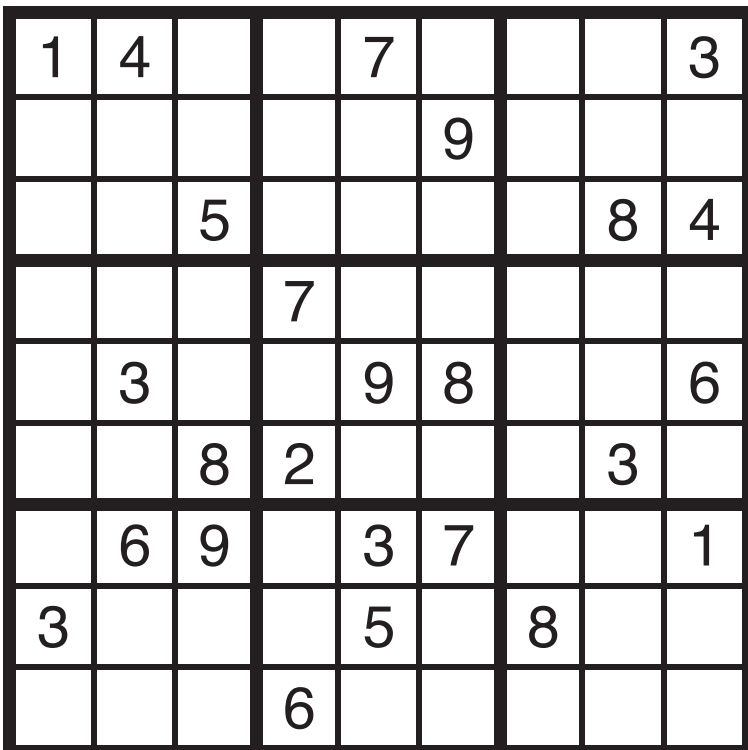
- 1. Plant of the mint family
- 7. Hand tool
- 13. Made of the color of gold
- 14. A volume of several novels
- 16. Type of degree
- 17. Good job!
- 19. Seventh tone in major scale
- 20. Fevers
- 22. One's mother
- 23. Fertile desert spots
- 25. Large integers
- 26. Plate for Eucharist
- 28. Tennis matches have them
- 29. Peyton's little brother
- 30. Monetary unit of N. Korea
- 31. Head movement
- 33. Twelve
- 34. Renaissance musical instrument
- 36. Behavior showing high moral standards
- 38. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 40. Notes to be sung
- 41. Women's garment
- 43. Coarsely ground corn
- 44. One point south of due east

- 45. A way to deplete
- 47. Rough, prickly covering of a seed
- 48. LA hoopster, but not a Laker
- 51. Hindquarters
- 53. Franz van ___, German diplomat
- 55. Liquid body substances
- 56. Rhythmic patterns
- 58. A beaver might build one
- 59. Police officer's tool
- 60. Indicates who you are
- 61. Pinwheel
- 64. Exist
- 65. Ornamental molding
- 67. Closes again
- 69. Verses
- 70. Come into view

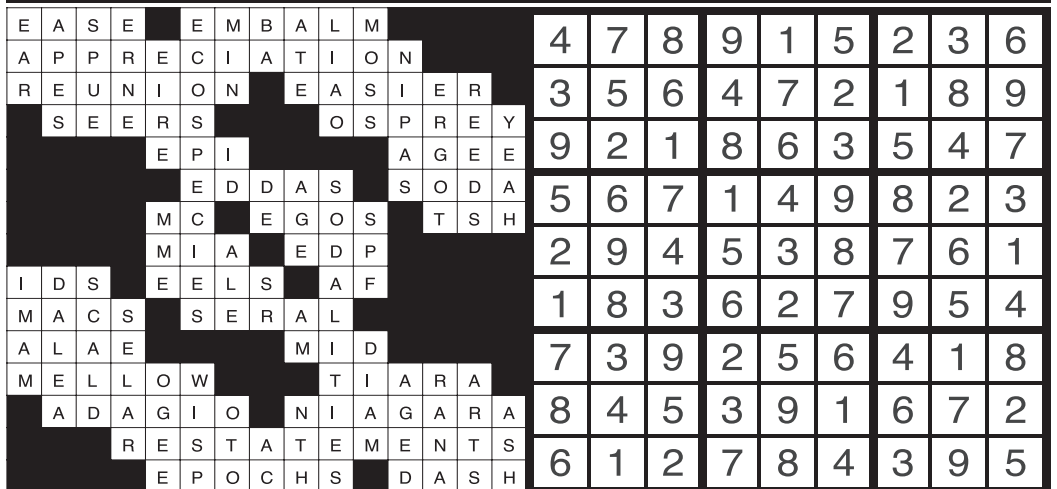
- (abbr.)
- 12. Atomic #71
- 13. Become less intense
- 15. Cowards
- 18. Body ornament (slang)
- 21. Applicable to all cases
- 24. Multiplied by 6
- 26. Afghanistan monetary unit
- 27. Calendar month
- 30. Cena and Lennon are two
- 32. Monetary unit of Serbia
- 35. First time on the market
- 37. Georgia rockers
- 38. Free from contamination
- 39. Coastal region of Canada
- 42. Clothing retailer
- 43. It rises and sets
- 46. Fathers
- 47. Stain with mud
- 49. Suitable for crops
- 50. Feels concern for
- 52. Orange-brown
- 54. Buddy
- 55. Late sportscaster Craig
- 57. Used to align parts
- 59. Wake up
- 62. Solid water
- 63. Semiprecious stone
- 66. Atomic #45
- 68. Top lawyer

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Short stick used as a weapon
- 2. An alternative
- 3. Laws
- 4. Sense organs
- 5. One from Utah
- 6. Mariner
- 7. People in charge of cattle
- 8. Health insurance organization
- 9. Ornamental box
- 10. Forest-dwelling deer
- 11. One quintillion bytes



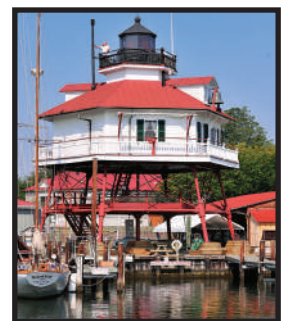
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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To be considered for publication, articles and letters to the editor submitted must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. Submissions must be delivered by 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication to ensure placement for that week. After that deadline, the Calvert County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the Calvert County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The Calvert County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.



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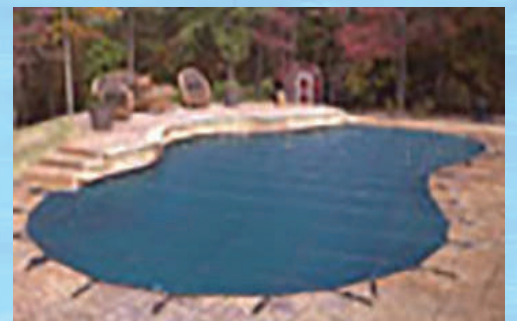
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