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# Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

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*Clark Will Not  
Seek Re-Election*

*Public Hearing on  
Sports Betting*

*New COVID  
Testing Site*



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**ON THE COVER 12**  
Chesapeake Beach Town Administrator Holly Wahl at her favorite spot in town, Veteran's Memorial Park.



**LOCAL 5**  
New restaurant coming to town.



**COMMUNITY 15**  
COVID test site opens.

**“IT WAS A HARD DECISION, BUT IT'S TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE OVER...”**

DEL. JERRY CLARK ANNOUNCING HE'S NOT SEEKING RE-ELECTION.

## WEEKLY FORECAST

<b>Thu 1/13</b> 49°   35°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Fri 1/14</b> 42°   21°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Sat 1/15</b> 28°   20°F  Cloudy	<b>Sun 1/16</b> 33°   26°F  Partly Cloudy
<b>Mon 1/17</b> 41°   28°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Tue 1/18</b> 41°   28°F  Sunny	<b>Wed 1/19</b> 44°   33°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Thu 1/20</b> 46°   29°F  Cloudy





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For staff listing and emails, see page 23

# Delegate Clark to Not Seek Re-election

## Legislators Meet with Commissioners

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Delegate Jerry Clark (R: 29C) says he will not be seeking re-election.

Clark was appointed delegate on October 13, 2016, to take over Tony O'Donnell's seat when he was appointed to the Maryland Public Service Commission. He was then elected in 2018. Before being delegate, Clark served from December 2002 to December 16, 2014, as Calvert County commissioner, including its president in 2012.

Clark made the announcement at a Jan. 11 joint meeting between the county legislative delegation and the county commissioners. He said, "I put in 20 years. It was a hard decision, but it's time for young people to take over and move this county and this state the way they should be. I've had a great time. I've enjoyed working with everybody in the delegation, all my senators, all my fellow delegates and all the county commissioners. And it's tough for me to do, but it's time for me to move on."

Clark's district includes lower Calvert and parts of St. Mary's. A legislative proposed redistricting plan would change the area in St. Mary's the district includes. Three-term St. Mary's County Commissioner Todd Morgan has announced his intention of running for the seat. Morgan was a candidate for appointment to the seat when Clark was chosen.

Commissioner President Buddy Hance said, "Delegate Clark, we're sorry to hear that, because you provided great service to this county, as you mentioned as a commissioner and then as a delegate. Personally, I'm sorry to see you go, because in Annapolis, as you gentlemen know, it takes a while to build up a reputation and to get things done."

The redistricting proposal was discussed at the Jan. 11 meeting the



Del. Jerry Clark

day before the legislature convened for its 2022 session.

Delegate Mark Fisher (R: 27C) said, "It would be great to get commitments from all of our colleagues that represent Calvert County that Calvert County be made whole, namely that we have two resident delegates that represent just Calvert County, because we have the perfect population to have two delegates to just represent Calvert County and it's long overdue that that happens."

Clark agreed. "Calvert County deserves a senator. Calvert county deserves a minimum of two delegates. But Calvert county's been chopped up again. I believe that our two senators deep down inside would support that because as I look and see the fight in the argument that went forward for St Mary's County to stay whole, when there was a possibility that it may be changed and go up into Charles County."

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Power Plant and Cove Point, which put a lot of money in the state's coffers. We preserve thousands and thousands of acres of land to help with climate change and to keep farming going in Maryland. Calvert County deserves its senator and a minimum of two delegates."

Delegate Rachel Jones (D: 27B) noted, however, "The challenge is that we don't have the population to have a district that is only Calvert. We're going to have to continue to share with some other county. And I think given the fact that we have had good representation from Senator [Jack] Bailey and that we've had good representation, previously from Senator Miller representing two counties and now from Senator [Michael] Jackson, I think that there was some overall desire from the state to try to keep the districts whole as they have existed."

The other major hot button issue is the continuance of the debate about police reform. Jones said there has been some discussion about introducing bills to modify what the legislature did last year to mandate Police Accountability Boards in every county.

Fisher noted, "The governor of Maryland has put in his budget, significant funding increases that would come from the state to the counties to help pay for deputies and police departments. Particularly in light of much of the legislation that was passed last year, which was anti-police legislation, which was nonsense. So, the governor has taken a lead on this, and I'm really happy to say that we're hopeful that does pass this year, given that it's an election year. I think you'll see a lot of converts, on the other side of the aisle, perhaps voting for this funding to help the counties, particularly since they've had so much pushback with their anti-police legislation."

Jackson, former Prince George's County sheriff, has pre-filed a number of bills, one of which is an income tax subtraction for military and public safety retirement income, and a property tax credit for public safety officers. Clark, while supporting that, said it should be extended to others, particularly retirees, who are leaving Maryland for more tax friendly states.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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# Police Accountability Board Public Hearing Set

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has set a public hearing for the makeup of the legislatively mandated Police Accountability Board (PAB). The hearing will be Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Harriett Elizabeth Brown Community Center on Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick.

“This is the beginning of the end,” said County Attorney John Norris about the hearing after giving a briefing to the BOCC on Jan. 11.

Norris had reported on comments received at a recent second public meeting on the PAB. He made some final recommendations and the commissioners adopted all of them in agreeing on a final draft to take to public hearing.

The PAB will have nine members. Earlier the commissioners agreed that the board must “reflect the racial, gender, and cultural diversity of Calvert County, including express provisions that: (1) women be 50 percent of the membership; and (2) Not less than three members shall be from minority populations within the County; – Be composed of not less than two members from each County Commissioner District; and – One Member should be a mental health practitioner.”

During the briefing Norris said one speaker at the recent meeting expressed concern that the diversity could be encompassed in just one person, for instance a black woman. Norris said that was not the intent.

Norris also recommended and the BOCC agreed that members of the board should meet the criteria to be jurors, instead of the requirement of a background check.

Commissioner Mike Hart wanted to know if that was a stricter requirement. Norris said, “The juror standards is one that’s adopted in the state code that gives the minimum requirements for a person to serve as a juror. There are disqualifying factors for felonies, essentially any crime that has a potential sentence for one year or more. And you’ve not received a pardon for that. Crime would disqualify you from being a juror. Background checks, depending on how that is structured, could be identical or could be different, but not nearly as inclusive as the jury standards with respect to written and verbal competencies (English speaking is required).”

The current legislation requires the PAB to be up and running by July 1. The commissioners hope to make appointments soon after adoption of the ordinance establishing it.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*



County Attorney John Norris



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# Deputy Involved in Motor Vehicle Crash

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office is investigating a motor vehicle crash that occurred shortly after 1:30 a.m. on January 7 in the 1300 block of Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick, MD involving an off-duty Calvert County sheriff's deputy.

Preliminary investigation revealed an off-duty Calvert County Sheriff's Deputy was traveling on Dares Beach Road in his marked patrol cruiser and struck another vehicle. Both the deputy and the driver of the other vehicle were flown to Washington Regional Capital Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

At this time, investigators are looking into whether or not alcohol may have been a contributing factor on the deputy's behalf.

The deputy has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

In a subsequent release, the sheriff's department reported: "The Calvert County Sheriff's Office is working in conjunction



with the Calvert County State's Attorney's Office to determine if charges will be filed against Calvert County Sheriff's Deputy Jermaine Mason, one of the drivers involved in the January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 motor vehicle crash on Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick, MD."

Anyone with information in regards to this crash, is asked to please contact Sgt. E. Carter at [elvis.carter@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:elvis.carter@calvertcountymd.gov).

*Press Releases from CCSO.*

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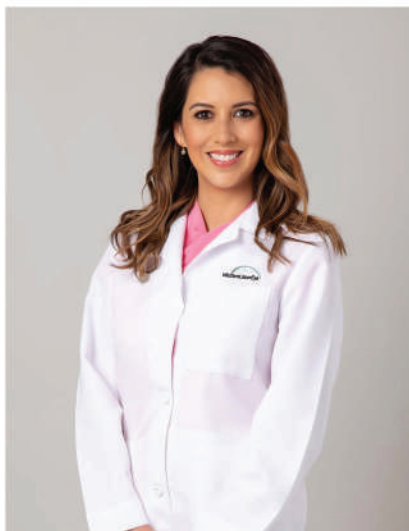
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## New Economic Development Director Appointed

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) announce the appointment of Julie Oberg as director of the Department of Economic Development, effective Jan. 17. Oberg most recently served as deputy secretary for the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

"Julie's extensive background serving and promoting the state's agriculture industry makes her a strong fit as director of Economic Development," said BOCC President Earl F. "Buddy" Hance. "We look forward to the experience and knowledge she brings to the residents and businesses of Calvert County, and to many years of her service and leadership."

"We believe that Julie's government and business experience will ensure a successful transition into this position leading our Economic Development department," said County Administrator Mark Willis. "We look forward to having her join our team."

Prior to her tenure as deputy secretary, Oberg served an additional 10 years with the Maryland Department of Agriculture as direc-



Julie Oberg

tor of communications and public information officer and served as director of communications for the Maryland Department of the Environment. Oberg also brings a strong private sector business background. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park.

As the Calvert County director of Economic Development, Oberg will oversee programs, activities and services designed to attract, retain and expand strong, healthy and dynamic businesses, agricultural and tourism enterprises that complement Calvert County.

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

## Library Staff Member Tests Positive for COVID

A member of Calvert Library Prince Frederick staff has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The staff member worked in the public space on Friday, January 7, from 12 to 5 p.m.

The staff member worked with the public following library COVID-protocol; had no close contact with customers, maintained 6 feet of social distance, washed/sanitized their hands regularly and wore a mask covering their nose and mouth at all times while in the public space. Risk should be minimal to any library customers, but please follow Health Department guidance or your physician's recommendations if you visited the library during the affected time period.

Staff members who had close contact but are fully vaccinated are consistently wearing masks over their nose and mouth and closely monitoring their health for possible symptoms per Health Department guidance.

Please know that the safety of

**Calvert**  
**LIBRARY**

our staff and the public we serve is our top priority. We will continue to take the proper precautions and promote social distancing. The CDC continues to recommend that you wear a mask over your nose and mouth when in public spaces, wash your hands frequently with soap and water, avoid touching your face and make sure to practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet away from others. If you are feeling ill, please stay home.

We will continue to work together through this difficult time, and we will continue to keep you informed of any new information over the course of this pandemic.

For more information call 410-535-0291.

*Press Release from Calvert Library.*

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# Chesapeake Beach to Get a New Restaurant



Brick Wood Fired Bistro in Prince Frederick

The Town of Chesapeake Beach has announced a new business to the town. Baia Coastal Italian Kitchen & Wine Bar, recently purchased 8323 Bayside Road, Chesapeake Beach with plans to be open to service patrons in the Spring of 2022.

“We are so happy to welcome another local family owned restaurant to Town that is ideally positioned, with a beautiful bay vista” stated Mayor Patrick “Irish” Mahoney.

Also, welcoming Baia to Town, the Co-chairs of the Town’s economic development committee, Larry Jaworski and Greg Morris jointly stating, “We welcome Baia to our town and wish them great success.”

The owners of Baia Coastal Italian Kitchen & Wine Bar also own and operate Brick Wood Fired Bistro located at 60 Sherry Lane, Prince Frederick and are working to renovate 8232 Bayside Road,

Chesapeake Beach to create a new coastal dining experience.

“We are extremely proud & excited to announce the opening of our second location and future sister restaurant, Baia Coastal Italian Kitchen & Wine Bar! ‘Baia,’ meaning bay in Italian, will be located right on the water in Chesapeake Beach with beautiful unobstructed views of the bay. This new concept will be focusing on fresh seafood, house made pasta, and an extensive Italian wine program. We have a lot of great ideas/renovations in the works... Follow us on Facebook Baia Coastal Italian Kitchen & Wine Bar & Instagram @baia\_coastalitalian to track our progress!!” according to a statement from Jason and Jordan Nagers and Tim and Ronda Tracy.

They will be taking over the space formerly occupied by Mamma Lucia by The Bay, which closed at the end of last year.



The former Mamma Lucia by The Bay

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Winter Hours: Mon-Fri. 7:30-5, Sat. 7:30-3, Closed Sundays

# Public Hearing to be Held on Sports Betting Ordinance

The Town of Chesapeake Beach will hold a public hearing Jan. 22 at 6:45 p.m. on Ordinance O-21-7, an ordinance of the Town of Chesapeake Beach to expand Admission and Amusement Tax for the Town of Chesapeake Beach to include Sports Betting for Class A1, A2, Class B1, and Class B2 Licenses.

“While the Town Council voiced Town citizens overwhelming disapproval of expanding gaming activities in town, the State of Maryland has pre-empted the town, authorizing Sports Betting within Chesapeake Beach. Although not approved by the town, the town is burdened by the expanded gaming activity and therefore should receive tax revenue to offset the burden these activities place on our residential community”, stated Mayor Patrick “Irish” Mahoney.

During the 2020 Town Election, citizens answered two ballot questions related to expanded gambling activities in town. In response, the town council passed Ordinance #O-21-1 Prohibiting Full Casino Licenses or Sports Betting Licenses and

communicated citizens desires to the State. Ordinance O-21-7 allows the town to collect tax revenue on sports betting at the same rate as all other gaming activities in town.

The public hearing will be held just prior to the regularly scheduled Town Council meeting on Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. The hearing will begin at 6:45 p.m. The public hearing and the town meeting can be joined by phone or computer. To join by computer, visit [bit.ly/jan22townmeeting](http://bit.ly/jan22townmeeting) and enter the meeting ID 869 755 7180. Members of the public who wish to provide public comment will be asked to state their name and their residential address before providing comment on Ordinance O-21-7. The Town Council will vote on Ordinance O-21-7 during the Jan. 22 town meeting that begins directly after the hearing at 7 p.m. The hearing and the Town meeting will be recorded for public view and made available on the town’s Channel.

*Press Release from Town of Chesapeake Beach.*



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# Courthouse Access Limited



Due to the recent surge in Maryland of COVID-19 cases as a result of the Omicron variant, and consistent with the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and local health agencies, the Maryland Judiciary is reverting to Phase III emergency operations. On Dec. 27, 2021, Chief Judge Joseph M. Getty of the Court of Appeals for Maryland issued an Interim Administrative Order Restricting Statewide Operations in Light of Omicron Variant of the COVID-19 Emergency. The interim operational plan took effect Dec. 29, 2021, and will continue through Feb. 8, 2022, pending further order.

Accordingly, Mark S. Chandlee, Administrative Judge for the Circuit Court for Calvert County, has issued an Administrative Order requiring the Calvert County Sheriff's Office to restrict access and screen individuals entering the Courthouse located at 175 Main St. in Prince Frederick, and is authorized to continue to conduct thermal temperature checks of all individuals entering the Courthouse; ensure proper implementation of the screening protocol and receipt of responses to screening questions propounded by entrants; inquire about the purpose of an individual's visit to the Courthouse; limit the number of individuals entering the Courthouse at any given time to ensure the health and safety of all individuals in the Courthouse, and DENY entry to any individual whose screening results require refusal of entry to the Courthouse for the health and safety of all individuals in the Courthouse. Any individual denied entry with an affirmative response to the screening inquiry in consultation with the Administrative Judge will be provided with information regarding alternative means to address the purpose of that person's intended visit to the court. All individuals entering the Circuit Court for Calvert County shall wear face masks indoors regardless of vaccination status or other related health measures.

The courthouse will continue restrictions to limit the concentration of individuals and allow social distancing, consistent with state and federal guidance.

The new administrative orders can be viewed on the Maryland Judiciary website at <https://mdcourts.gov/coronavirusorders> and the Circuit Court for Calvert County website at <http://circuitcourt.co.cal.md.us>.

Further, Judge Chandlee has de-

termined that all currently scheduled matters, excluding jury trials, in the Calvert County Circuit Court will remain as scheduled. All jury trials, however, will be suspended until the Judiciary is able to reenter Phase V of its reopening plan.

Accordingly, civil and criminal trials currently scheduled to commence between Dec. 29, 2021, and Feb. 8, 2022, shall be converted to status conferences. All hearings will be heard in person at the Calvert County Circuit Courthouse. Any party/litigant and/or attorney appearing in a matter scheduled on or after Dec. 29, 2021 through Feb. 8, 2022, may file an appropriate motion in writing to advise the Court of any issue that may prevent a party, attorney, and/or witness from appearing in person for their scheduled hearing or make a request to appear remotely for their scheduled hearing. The Circuit Court will rule on any requests for conversions to remote hearings and continuances on a case-by-case basis.

Court offices are fully staffed. Court personnel will be available to the public by telephone between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Maryland Electronic Court (MDEC) continues to be available for electronic filing and is required to be used for all MDEC counties. The courts shall be open to the public, and no appointment shall be necessary (although preferred) for access.

Any questions or concerns relative to cases or proceedings should be directed to:

Circuit Court: 410-535-1600  
District Court: 443-550-6700

Calvert County Government continues to take precautionary measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and limit the number of people infected. Residents, employees and media are encouraged to monitor Calvert County's virtual resource center for updates and information resources: [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

Find information on Calvert County Government services online at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov). Stay up to date with Calvert County Government on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](http://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and YouTube at [www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov](http://www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov)

Press Release from Calvert County government.



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Professional dress is required.

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Continue to visit the website for company updates.

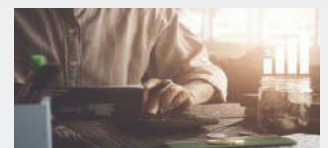
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Deadline varies depending on the number of requests. Estimated deadline: 21 JAN. Submit information early to ensure that you meet the deadline. Thank you. \*NOTE - Registering and posting/linking resume online does not validate base access. \*\*\*

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View the training video prior to participating.

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# County Announces Martin Luther King Jr. Day Schedule

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners announces county offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. In addition:

- The Appeal Solid Waste Facility, which includes the landfill and transfer station, and all county customer convenience centers will be open with normal operating hours.
- The Solomons Septage Receiving Facility will be open on Monday, Jan. 17 with normal operating hours.
- The Water & Sewerage billing and customer service office be closed on Monday, Jan. 17.
- All Calvert County senior centers will be closed Monday, Jan. 17. Meals on Wheels will not be delivered. Meal delivery resumes Tuesday, Jan. 18.
- There will be no county bus service on Monday, Jan. 17. Regular service will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 18.
- Calvert Library locations and Bookmobile service will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17. Downloadable materials and virtual services are available 24/7 at [calvertlibrary.info](http://calvertlibrary.info).



- The Calvert Marine Museum and Museum Store will be open with normal hours on Monday, Jan. 17.
- The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter and Animal Control Division will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17. An animal control officer will be available for emergencies.
- All community centers will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17.
- All recreation parks including Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Cove Point parks will be open with normal winter hours.
- Chesapeake Hills Golf Course will be open on Monday, Jan. 17, with normal hours.
- Flag Ponds Nature Park, Battle Creek Cypress Swamp and Kings Landing Park will be open with normal winter hours of operation. For a full nature park schedule, visit [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/1505/Park-Hours](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/1505/Park-Hours).
- Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center will be open with normal operating hours on Monday, Jan. 17.
- Breezy Point Beach & Campground remains closed for the season.

Find information on Calvert County Government services online at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov). Stay up to date with Calvert County Government on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](http://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and YouTube at [www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov](http://www.youtube.com/CalvertCountyGov).

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# Chesapeake Beach Town Administrator Holly Wahl

By Dick Myers  
Editor

When Holly Wahl became Chesapeake Beach town administrator and chief administrative officer five years ago this month, it was like coming home for her.

She was born in Washington, DC, and grew up in Prince George's County until her family moved to Calvert when she was six years old.

She attended and graduated from Northern High School. During that time, she lived for six years with her mother in town in Windward Key.

Like a lot of Calvert youth, she moved away after graduating, to New York, where she received an associate degree in Advertising and Marketing.

She was in New York on September 11, 2001, when the Twin Towers were struck, living near there and actually witnessing it. It prompted her to come back to the area she grew up in.

"It was pretty traumatic. And at that point it really shifted my focus into general business and operations, away from advertising and marketing."

She finished her bachelor's degree at Johns Hopkins University, studying business and management. "I worked primarily in private industry," she explained, with a company based in DC and Northern Virginia, which had contracts with National Institutes of Health, "doing biometrics and access control."

But eventually she went to work in Annapolis, for the Lighthouse, a 24/7 homeless shelter and support center. She was there for five years and while they were building of a new facility.

Why the switch from private industry to the non-profit sector? She said, "I have an interest in helping people. I like having the business background, but I appreciate using operations to help facilitate change for communities. I think at that point, it really stuck with me how much I like applying business in a community setting for those that need assistance and public goods."

"We raised the money to build the new shelter. We went from a 5,000 square foot facility on West Street, to about a 28,000-square-foot facility."

She worked really closely with the construction company that built the new shelter and eventually she went to work for them as director of operations.

In the five years she was with them, she said, "They did a lot of affirmative action with affordable



housing projects. So, I would run affirmative action programs and local hiring job fairs, and things like that. So, I was still very involved with the community and very locally driven programs."

During that time, she had been commuting from Huntingtown and when she heard of the town opening, she jumped at the opportunity. "It was really appealing to come back to a community that I lived in for a very long time."

"I think once you leave a place like Chesapeake Beach and come back, you realize how special it is. I really appreciate the small-town charm. I've been out with our public works crews, and you cannot go down any of the streets in Chesapeake Beach without citizens coming out and wanting to talk to you and asking you why you're there. And so, it's really nice that everyone seems to know each other," she explained.

"We really rely on our citizens to tell us what they're seeing. And they do, they reach out to the town, and they tell us what they're seeing on their streets or their neighborhood. And that's really vital, I think, to the town, continuing that engagement with our town residents. I really like that."

Running a small town involves a lot of nuts-and-bolts issues, such as sewage treatment plants and roads.

"There was a learning curve," she said, "but I think when I

initially came in, my focus was on people, and really wanting to understand every role, what they were doing to see if we could build in any realignment to gain some more efficiencies. So primarily the first year with the town, I focused on our people, and really making sure that our frontline staff, such as our public works and our treatment plant crews had the support and the resources necessary to be successful and providing those services that I think a lot of people don't think about. We have 50 miles of water and sewer lines in the town. And just to keep that up and running, the amount of work that those crews have to do, is substantial."

She added, "I had not worked on a treatment plant that serves two counties and two towns. That was definitely a large learning curve, but we have fantastic staff that have been serving in these roles for a very long time, and they are experts."

In her short tenure she has dealt with two major situations that showed the need for that community engagement, and also allowed her to use the skills she had learned along the way, in her jobs and her ongoing education, to pull the town through.

The first was the major town-house complex fire in which two lives were lost and dozens of families were left homeless.

Town Mayor Pat Mahoney noted at the time that Wahl and other

town staff were on the scene at the same time as the firefighters, getting prepared for the town to provide aid.

"The county was a huge assistance to us," Wahl said. "They were working with us by the minute, their Office of Emergency Management. They really mobilized. They came into town hall, we set up a command center to be sure that services were provided."

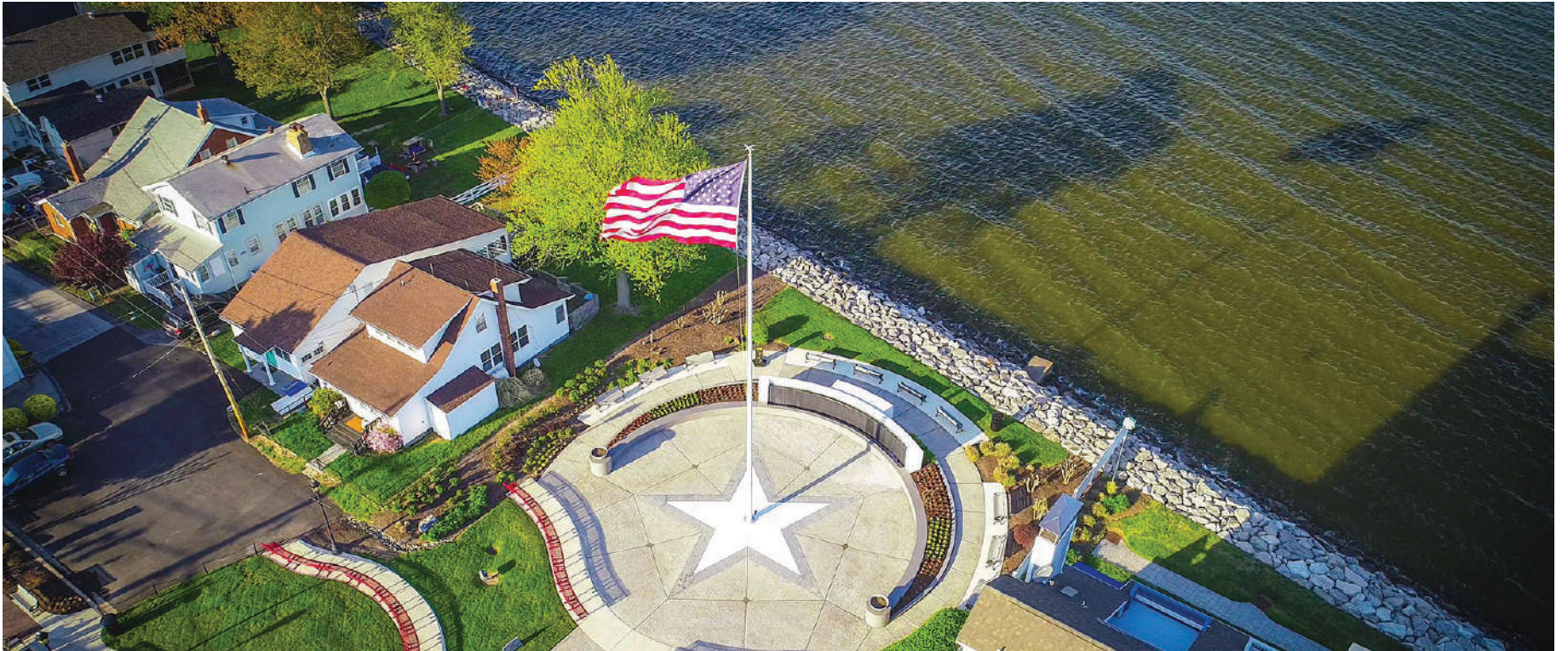
She said it worked so well in part because of the ongoing interaction and communication between the town and the county. Wahl said she dealt directly with then county administrator Terry Shannon during the crisis.

"I think as a small municipality, we do not have access to all of those resources, and we do rely on the county, and they've been a great partner to us," she noted.

She also praised the town's public works department. "It was really vital for them to be there because public works knows those buildings. They know where the connections are. They know all of the ins and outs of every location in this town. So, they were able to provide critical information to the first responders when they were on site. But even after the fire took place, their work was critical. It was devastating to the entire community, but the work didn't end there."

She said the town engaged with the crews from the first-due North Beach Volunteer Fire Department. She said, "They

# Wahl: Leading in Her Former Hometown



made some recommendations as to what could happen out at the facility to make sure that they were improving the sprinklers and the conditions there, so that if this happened again, it would not spread so rapidly. We met with the ownership of the facility and made those recommendations to them and they're implementing them now."

When COVID hit, the town looked to the county and state for guidance. "We watched very closely what the state was doing. We joined weekly calls to understand directly from the department of health and the governor's office as to what they were seeing. And then we just had to make decisions that were as conservative as possible and as safe as possible for the town," she said.

She added, "I think we were one of the first to shut down our building. We went completely remote. We put out a notice that we were doing that and why, and we just continued that, and we monitored it every day to see if there was any change."

Wahl said her early marketing experience contributed to the successful communications with town residents about the impacts of the pandemic.

She noted, "So through this process, communications with the town residents was really important," adding, "Sometimes you might not be delivering the best news or news that anyone wants to hear, but at least deliver the information. Holding it back is not a good idea. People can make decisions for themselves, and you need to provide them with as

much information for them to do that."

"I think they are very savvy," Wahl said of town residents. "I know our engagement on our website has increased substantially. I know residents are checking in. They're subscribing to E news and the things that the town is releasing. We do have some residents that prefer not to use that, and they will call town hall. And that's fine. And we have staff that can answer their questions, but I would say we probably still have about 10 percent of our residents that prefer to walk in and talk to staff."

Town hall is open, but masks are required.

"We have the e-blast system that goes out to anyone who's registered. We have about 3,000 residents who've registered for our e-blast system. And then we also have access to the county's Nixle account, which pushes out notifications by geographical area. So, you can isolate a particular part of town and send a message if they've signed up for the Nixle notifications to their phone, which is through the county," she explained.

Some of the changes will stick, she said. "I think we're going to have to function in more of a hybrid mode. We just recently made some upgrades to the chambers to be able to have hybrid. I think people will want to continue to connect from their homes. They'll want to join the meetings virtually."

It's actually creating more participation. She said, "I was just counting our engagements electronically and we have over

3,000 unique views of our town meetings in 2021 calendar year. So that is definitely an increase from what we've had in the past of citizens watching our recordings. What's contributed to that is I think that the online platforms we're using are more engaging. It's not just a video of the dais."

Some areas of the country, with the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, are reverting to former and newer restrictions, such as vaccine requirements and virtual learning. Wahl said, "I would say right now we're staying pretty steady. We've been more cautious from the start. We have been watching the county positivity rate and waiting for it to fall below five percent. So, we had a phase one and a phase two. Our phase one is still in, which is masks indoors regardless of vaccination status, and we've had that since we reopened. And once we get below that five percent threshold of positivity, the goal would be to remove the masks indoors, which obviously we're nowhere near that now with this surge."

Wahl, 41, is married, and they have two boys, aged 19 and 15. The 19-year-old is attending the College of Southern Maryland and is hoping to transfer soon.

Education has always been important for Wahl. "It's funny. My youngest just told me that I've been in school his entire life, and it sure feels like it. Yes, education is really important to me. I enjoy it. I seek it. I like to learn new approaches and ways to tackle an issue that I hadn't thought about. And I find that continuing education can give you new perspec-

tives and new ways to think of things."

She's pursuing her doctorate in Public Administration & Public Policy at George Washington University. "It is directly applicable to my work here in the town. And actually, the majority of my papers and research has all been focused on local government and public administration, and how to increase public engagement and use, theories to make improvements at the direct town operational level."

Wahl explained, "I really enjoy applying business principles. I do have a master's in business administration as well. I appreciate coming from the private business side. I think you can think about things a little differently than if you had served in government administration or solely public administration your entire career. So, I appreciate being able to really optimize public services through better contracts, lower cost, expanding our reach in bidding extensively to make sure we're being competitive and getting the best bid and getting the best services for town residents."

And she couldn't apply any of that without her staff. "I would just reiterate the importance of valuing our frontline staff for the town, for residents just to continue to remember the 50 miles of water and sewer lines that our crews are maintaining on a consistent basis with shortened staff and augmented schedules, and still really making improvements and maintaining services. It's quite commendable."

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

## NAACP Calvert Renovates the East John Youth Center

*A Celebration of the Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Each year the Calvert Branch of the NAACP hosts an annual breakfast to commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As COVID-19 numbers continue to surge, branch members will put down their glasses and instead raise paintbrushes to renovate a community youth center.

Branch members will join together with volunteers and students to paint classrooms, renovate a storage unit, and build the foundation for an outdoor shed for the East John Youth Center located in Lusby. NAACP Calvert has put together a strategy to allow all volunteers to remain socially distant during the event. Service-Learning Hours will be provided to all students. Community members unable to volunteer are asked to donate towards the purchase of

the youth center shed at NAACP-Calvert.org.

The MLK Day of Service by NAACP Calvert will be Monday, January 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at East John Youth Center, 11835 Mill Bridge Rd, Lusby, MD 20657.

Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the largest and most preeminent civil rights organization in the nation. The Calvert County branch is one of over 2,200 units and branches across the nation with the mission to secure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons.

*Press Release from Calvert Branch of the NAACP.*

## New Direction Sets Auditions for 'Always a Bridesmaid'

New Direction Community Theater will hold auditions for its production of the Jones-Hope-Wooten play "Always a Bridesmaid" on Saturday, Jan. 15, 3-4:30 p.m. at the Calvert Library in Prince Frederick.

There are parts for five women and one man, and auditions will be readings from the script. For more information, contact director Keith Mervine at email thalor@comcast.net.

In this hilarious comedy, four friends have sworn to keep the promise they made on the night of their Senior Prom: to be in each other's weddings...no matter what. More than thirty years later, these Southern friends-for-life are still making "the long walk" for each other, determined to honor that vow. "Always a Bridesmaid" is the lively tale of four loyal and determined women who definitively answer the question, "Just how far are you willing to go to keep a promise to a friend?"

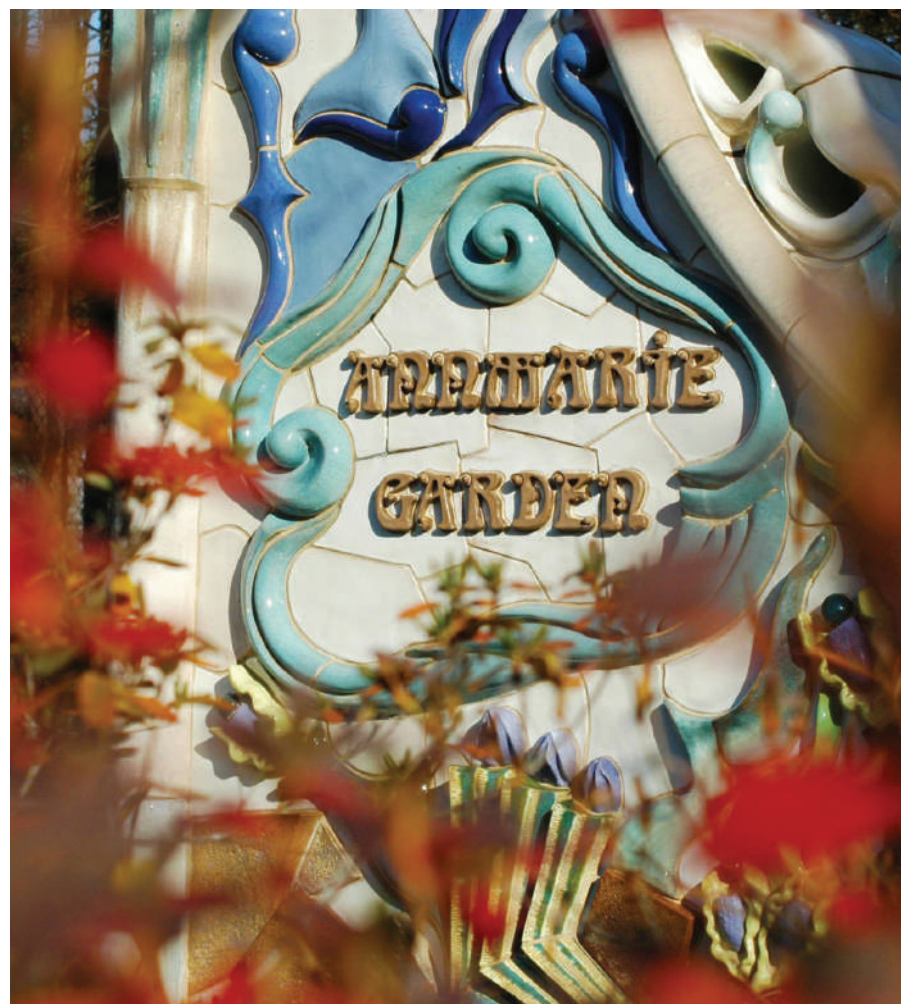
If you've ever elbowed a stranger out of the way to catch a bride's bouquet, seriously questioned the

mental stability of the duo saying "I do" or been forced to wear the world's ugliest bridesmaid dress, this deliriously funny comedy is definitely for you...and your dearly beloved! Parts to be cast include:

- 1 KARI AMES-BISSETTE, late 20s, a kind-hearted, spirited Southern charmer;
- 1 LIBBY RUTH AMES, late 40s, hopeless romantic, sweet country woman, plain-spoken and guileless;
- 1 SEDALIA ELLICOTT, 60s, a gregarious, energetic Virginia hostess and life-force;
- 1 MONETTE GENTRY, late 40s, kinda flashy, kinda trashy, Southern-to-the-bone flirt;
- 1 CHARLIE COLLINS, late 40s, tree-hugging, Birkenstock-wearing, acerbic Southern free spirit; and
- 1 DEEDRA WINGATE, late 40s, headstrong with a dry wit, no-nonsense Northern transplant.

*Press Release from New Direction Community Theater.*

## Celebrate the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Annmarie Garden Hosts



Visiting artist Sarah Matthews will lead a community art event titled, "Only Love: A Poster Printing Party" at Annmarie Garden's MLK Days January 15-17.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center in Solomons will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with MLK Days, an annual event that brings the community together for three days of uplifting creativity and inspiration. This year's event will take place Saturday, January 15 through Monday, January 17, noon to 4 p.m., each day. Admission is free, but reservations are required; donations are gladly accepted! Visiting artist Sarah Matthews will guide visitors through the creation of a community art project titled, "Only Love: A Poster Printing Party." Participants will make two posters: one to leave at the Garden and one to hang in your favorite gathering spot. This project is inspired by Dr. King's quote, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." The event is appropriate for all ages and abilities, and materials will be provided. Masks are required, and activity stations will be socially distanced.

"We're thrilled to once again offer this creative and uplifting event that brings the community together to celebrate Dr. King's dream. Each year watching people inspire and create is both beautiful and powerful"

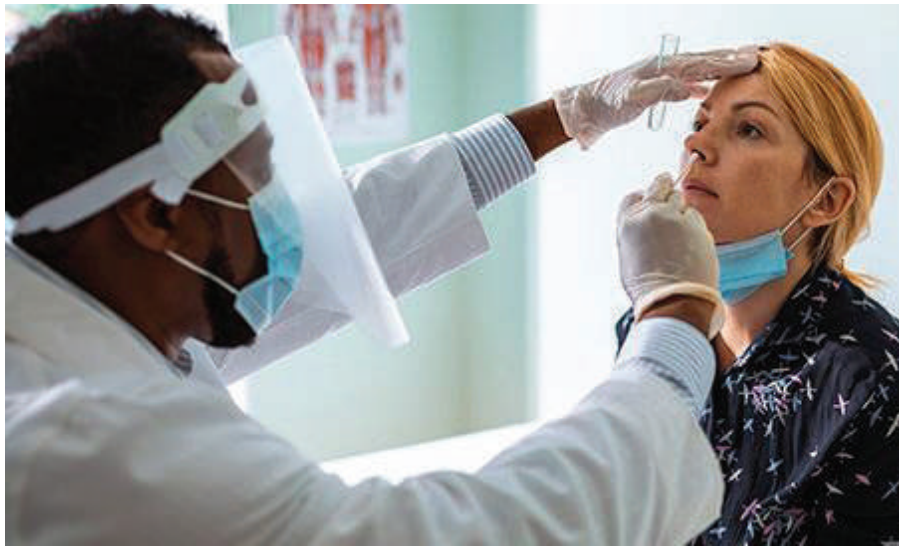
says Stacey Hann-Ruff, director of Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center.

Guests at MLK Days can also tour an exhibit featuring works by Sarah Matthews titled "Overcoming", a combination of artists' books and prints which document the artist's journey through depression, anger, hope, peace, and love. Amid a global pandemic, racial injustices, and social isolation, Sarah was able to find her artistic voice. Carving large woodblocks, making layered prints with linoleum blocks, and binding books with colorful patterns have been a doorway to express her thoughts and feelings.

MLK Days is an unforgettable opportunity to reflect upon the legacy of Dr. King and affirm his message of acceptance and understanding. You won't want to miss this unique and memorable community event. MLK Days is appropriate for all ages; admission is free, RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED, donations are gladly accepted. For additional information please call 410-326-4640 or visit [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org).

*Press Release from Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center.*

# Health Department COVID-19 Testing Site Open at Fox Run Center



To provide additional access to COVID-19 testing for Calvert County residents, the Calvert County Health Department began offering testing starting Monday, Jan. 10. Testing is performed Monday through Friday at the Fox Run Shopping Center, located at 713 Solomons Island Road N. in Prince Frederick. Appointments are required; walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

All tests are PCR, which are more reliable than rapid antigen tests. PCR tests are sent to a licensed medical laboratory. Test results are typically available within 1-2 days; however due to testing volume, results may occasionally take longer.

Registration for testing is available online through the CIAN Diagnostics online portal at <https://portal.ciandx.com/portal>. To schedule an appointment, each person being tested must first create an account through the online portal; parents can create accounts for their children. Once an individual has an account, they may schedule an appointment for testing. The portal also gives options for testing sites outside Calvert County. Anyone experiencing issues with the registration portal may call the CIAN Diagnostics customer support

line at 844-800-2426. The registration and results portal is not managed by the Health Department or Calvert County Government.

The Health Department recommends that all individuals with high-risk underlying health conditions should contact their personal healthcare provider before self-scheduling an appointment for testing. These individuals may be able to get a test and start with treatment recommendations more quickly through their doctor's office. Early medical attention for higher risk individuals can be lifesaving.

As COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to increase across the state, citizens are encouraged to take precautions to avoid preventable illness and hospitalizations. More information about testing and vaccination resources is available through the Calvert County Government virtual resource center at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus). Residents may schedule a vaccine through the Health Department online at [www.calvertcountycovid19.com/vaccination-registration](http://www.calvertcountycovid19.com/vaccination-registration).

*Press Release from Calvert County government*

# Affordable Internet Connectivity Available



The Board of County Commissioners advises citizens that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has launched the Affordable Connectivity Program. The new long-term benefit will help lower the cost of broadband service for eligible households struggling to afford internet service.

The \$14 billion Affordable Connectivity Program provides a discount of up to a \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for qualifying households on qualifying tribal lands. The benefit also provides up to a \$100 per household discount toward a one-time purchase of a computer, laptop, or tablet if the household contributes more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase through a participating broadband provider.

More information is available online at [ACPBenefit.org](http://ACPBenefit.org).

A household is eligible if one member of the household meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Has an income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines;
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC or Lifeline;
- Participates in one of several tribal specific programs, such

as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal Head Start (only households meeting the relevant income qualifying standard) Tribal TANF or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations;

- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income program.

Affordable Connectivity Program enrollment opened on Dec. 31, 2021. Eligible households can enroll through a participating broadband provider or by going to [ACPBenefit.org](http://ACPBenefit.org) to submit an online application or print a mail-in application and contacting their preferred participating broadband provider and selecting a plan. Additional information about the Emergency Broadband Benefit is available at [www.fcc.gov/ACP](http://www.fcc.gov/ACP), or by calling 877-384-2575 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. any day of the week.

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

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# Letters to the Editor

## Obscene Highway

### To the Editor:

Thank you so much for standing up to address signage on Rt.4. "The Obscene Highway?" spoke to how sad it is to have people stoop so low to gain attention. Surely, the responsible party could use their time, talent and treasure toward the betterment of our county.

As with road rage, we do not know how people might react, therefore, please use my words and omit my name and personal information.

*Dunkirk resident*

## Disgusting Representation

### To the Editor:

Thank you for calling out this disgusting representation of our county residents. We aren't those people! I was shocked when I first saw these signs and the irresponsible people who have supported them. If indeed the owner is Stanley you can be sure we will not go to Vera's White Sand Restaurant. Isn't the name of the renter on the permit?

Thank you again for bringing attention to this very low representation to a beautiful county.

*C. Sutton*

## Left-wing Journalism?

### To the Editor:

It's unfortunate that your article only represents one side's opposition to the signs.

Typical left-wing journalism. You're a disgrace and you should not even have a platform.

Thank you

*Bob Barillaro*

## Tutman Dismissal

### To the Editor:

The Hogan Administration's dismissal of Fred Tutman, the Patuxent Riverkeeper, from the Patuxent River Commission is another troubling example of its efforts to weaken the enforcement of environmental regulations designed to protect the health and welfare of Maryland residents in order to promote businesses, especially developers.

Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) Secretary, Robert S. McCord, reportedly dismissed Tutman because he feared that he would "disrespect local planning and zoning authority without any specific legal authority to do so." Since when do citizens need "legal authority" to voice objections to government actions that can harm citizens and the environment? The First Amendment guarantees that citizens have the right to "...petition the Government for a redress of grievances" and Fred Tutman represents the interests of communities along the Patuxent.

Secretary McCord's rationale is similar to that of Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Secretary, Ben Grumbles, in a December 2 letter responding to a group of Calvert citizens requesting him to intervene regarding the failure of state and county officials to comply with regulations requiring effective responses to sewage spills and stormwater erosion problems. He advised us to "engage with the planning commission" and "build a relationship with planning staff members" even though the failure of these same agency officials to respond effectively to our concerns is what triggered our appeal to him.

The closing paragraph of Grumbles' letter started with the observation that he understood that "It is admittedly difficult to see familiar landscapes change," implying that we were overwrought "tree huggers" who objected to change. We don't object to change, but do object to officials who support developers seeking profits, but not residents worried about threats to their health and the environment. The Secretary's response was particularly cynical because MDE has cut positions that reduced its ability to enforce regulations and weakened the leverage of his employees to persuade county officials to comply with department guidance.

MDE's undercutting of effective environmental enforcement regulations results in real, not hypothetical problems. In early November, 27 people got sick from oysters tainted with fecal contamination because MDE waited two weeks after it had been informed of a sewage spill into St. George Creek to inform oyster aquaculture fisheries there to suspend operations. This delay not only jeopardized the health of consumers, but also raised questions about the safety of Maryland oysters, thereby threatening an important local industry.

MDP's dismissal of Tutman and MDE's failure to issue timely warnings about a hazardous sewage spill reflects the Hogan Administration's weakened enforcement of environmental regulations. These efforts not only jeopardize the health of Maryland's residents and the state's environment, but also threaten some of the very businesses the Administration is trying to promote

*Len Zuza  
Solomons, MD*



If you would like to submit a Letter to the Editor include your name & town of residence.  
Email: [DickMyers@countytimes.net](mailto:DickMyers@countytimes.net)



# CSM Faculty Recognized for Cybersecurity Partnerships

Innovative teaching methods and creating an atmosphere of excitement around a career in cybersecurity earned the College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) Cybersecurity faculty national recognition from the National Cyberwatch Center's Innovations in Cybersecurity Education program. CSM's faculty won Best Submission runner-up for their efforts to collaborate with government, industry and students to create a sustainable regional effort to strengthen cybersecurity workforce needs and broaden opportunities for students currently underrepresented in the cybersecurity workforce.

CSM Professor and Business Coordinator Dr. Mary Beth Klinger, Chair of Technology Christopher Estes, and Lakisha Ferebee, assistant professor and Cybersecurity Program coordinator, shared their collective work during a recent webcast entitled "The Importance of Community and Connectedness in Cybersecurity" via Zoom Oct. 21.

"This award is a well-deserved recognition of the important work being done at CSM to help students from all backgrounds to embark on a successful career in cybersecurity," said CSM Dean of the School of Professional and Technical Studies Bernice Brezina. "I'm proud that our faculty are recognized as leaders in educating future cybersecurity professionals, and I hope that their presentation serves as a guide for others in this field."

The presentation summarized how

the college adapted its "Cybersecurity Workforce: Bridging the Gap" courses during the pandemic to keep cybersecurity students who are supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) engaged. It also highlighted ways that CSM is measuring success in creating a social and learning community through this grant project.

"We are constantly trying to innovate and try new things while still giving students an education that makes them competitive in the workforce," says Klinger. "Ultimately our end goal is to provide students with the joy of a cyber career."

That "joy" is an important part of the project, according to the CSM team, because if students feel engaged in their learning and with each other, it results in the student having a deeper commitment to the cybersecurity profession and creates a positive student-school-industry relationship. To help measure that sense of connectedness, CSM's cyber students completed a "project community scale" questionnaire at the start of their studies. This 20-question survey focused on students' feelings as they related to caring, support, community and desire to learn, and will be repeated as students exit the project.

"The program, along with the individuals involved, have changed my trajectory and increased my potential," said CSM student Delonta Monroe, of Owings, who plans to graduate with an

associate degree in Cybersecurity next spring. "The activities I participated in funded by NFS grant gave me confidence, letting me know that I do belong in this field, and [I am gaining the] experience I needed."

The NSF grant aims to help CSM recruit, retain and graduate students who are currently underrepresented in the cybersecurity workforce, with the goal of growing the cybersecurity talent pipeline in Southern Maryland to meet demand for these professionals, creating a diverse, educated and skilled workforce for employers in government, industry and academia.

The country currently faces a shortage of cybersecurity workers; cybersecurity jobs represent nearly 6% of all open jobs in the country, and for almost every two cybersecurity jobs in the United States, a third job goes unfilled because of a worker shortage, according to data compiled by Microsoft. Meanwhile, the field also lacks diversity in its workforce. Currently, 82.4% of the country's cybersecurity jobs are held by men and 80% are held by people who are white, Microsoft found.

CSM and all community colleges are seen as ideal places to solve both issues, Microsoft President and Vice Chair Brad Smith wrote in a post for the company's blog, as they are places where diverse students can quickly and affordably earn skills for use in their communities.

The grant also allows for professors to create opportunities for students to participate in team-building events, field trips, career exploration and other activities. However, the pandemic made some of those offerings immediately become virtual.

"We didn't get rid of the activities we had planned for our participants, but instead we had to think very creatively and find ways to provide them with the same experiences, but in a safe way," says Ferebee. She noted that there were some benefits to virtual events, like being able to present high-profile speakers who otherwise would not have been able to travel to campus.

CSM began this NSF grant project in 2019, and the first group of students was accepted in fall 2020. The second cohort was accepted in fall 2021.

This is the final year of the NSF "Cybersecurity Workforce: Bridging the Gap" grant, but Klinger and her colleagues plan to analyze the feedback they are receiving to determine students' sense of 'connectedness' and community from being a part of this project. They are sharing results with the larger cybersecurity and academic community, and they hope to replicate the best practices that they adopted in this program for future CSM students.

*Press Release from CSM.*

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# 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 13

### Sea Squirts

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

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 take away craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This month's theme is Lighthouses.

### Transfer Thursdays

College of Southern Maryland  
1 a.m., Zoom.

CSM hosts transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. – 1 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.

<https://www.csm.edu/student-services/transfer-services/transfer-fairs/index.html>

## Saturday, January 15

### MLK Days

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, in Solomons;  
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with MLK Days with a creative and uplifting community art event, titled "Only Love: A Poster Printing Party," inspired by the work of artist Sarah Matthews and the words of Dr. King. Activities are appropriate for all ages. A special exhibit featuring the work of Sarah Matthews will also be on display. Admission is free, but registration is required at [annmariegarden.org](http://annmariegarden.org)! For additional information please call 410-326-4640 or visit [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org).

## Sunday, January 16

### MLK Days

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center in Solomons  
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with MLK Days, with a creative and uplifting community art event, titled "Only Love: A Poster Printing Party," inspired by the work of artist Sarah Matthews and the words of Dr. King. Activities are appropriate for all ages. A special exhibit featuring the work of Sarah Matthews will also be on display. Admission is free, but registration is required at [annmariegarden.org](http://annmariegarden.org)! For additional information please call 410-326-4640 or visit [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org).

## Monday, January 17

### MLK Days

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, in Solomons  
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with MLK Days, with a creative and uplifting community art event, titled "Only Love: A Poster Printing Party," inspired by the work of artist Sarah Matthews and the words of Dr. King. Activities are appropriate for all ages. A special exhibit featuring the work of Sarah Matthews will also be on display. Admission is free, but registration is required at [annmariegarden.org](http://annmariegarden.org)! For additional information please call 410-326-4640 or visit [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org).

## Thursday, January 20

### Sea Squirts

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

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 take away craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive. This month's theme is Lighthouses.

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## Upcoming

### Maritime Performance Series with DIANE DALY

Calvert Marine Museum,  
Friday, Jan. 28, 7p.m.

Diane Daly is a vocalist of moody contrasts and evocative depth. Certainly, one who cannot be pigeonholed into one particular style. Diane has spent her career exploring a world of music from the strictest classical solos to avant-garde cabaret. Performance is in the museum's Harms Gallery starting at 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. with beer and wine for sale. Tickets are \$20 online at [bit.ly/MaritimeConcerts](http://bit.ly/MaritimeConcerts), and \$25 at the door, unless otherwise noted.

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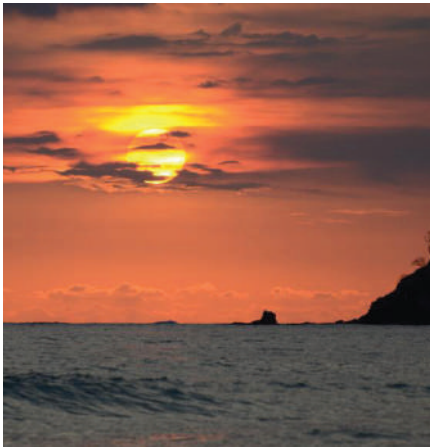
The Mayor and Town Council will hold a virtual public hearing on the following Ordinance at the January 20, 2022 Town Council Meeting beginning at 6:45 p.m. Please refer to the Chesapeake Beach website for remote access at [www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov](http://www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov)

Ordinance O-21-7, an ordinance of the Town Council of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland, to expand the Admission and Amusement tax for the Town of Chesapeake Beach to include sports betting for Class A1, Class A2, Class B1, and Class B2 Licenses.

# 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.

## Mary "Phyllis" Smith



Mary "Phyllis" Smith passed away January 6, 2022. She was born January 1, 1928.

Visitation will be Monday, January 17, 2022, 3-6 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home—Lusby, 20 American Lane, Lusby, MD 20657.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 11a.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 90 Alexander Lane, P.O. Box 560,

Solomons, Maryland 20688.

Burial will be in the church cemetery.

## Daniel Joseph "Danny" Churilla



Daniel Joseph "Danny" Churilla passed away suddenly on January 5, 2022. Danny was born at Calvert Memorial Hospital on May 25, 1968. The fifth child of Michael and Bernarda McGuirk Churilla, Danny grew up in Long Beach. He was an avid swimmer and liked to go fishing. In his early life, he was a lifeguard and worked in pool maintenance.

Danny spent many summers at his sister, Cynthia's farm in Georgia. He was a good horse rider and farm worker, cleaning horse stalls and feeding the chickens. He was as strong as an ox and dug many a hole to install

fencing.

Danny enjoyed his winter trips to upper state New York with his dad to his brother, Michael's farm. There, they spent weeks gathering sap from maple trees and cooking it down into maple syrup. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup. It was sold in NY and locally.

For the last 25 years, he was his dad's right-hand man helping his dad at Grandpap's County Harvest. Danny helped his dad sell local honey, jams, jellies, and apple butter at Annmarie Garden Maker's Market, Historic Sotterley Market, Coastal Arts Market, and various other craft shows.

Danny was preceded in death by his mother, Bernarda McGuirk Churilla. He is survived by his father, Michael Churilla of St. Leonard; his brother, Michael (Deborah) Churilla, Jr. of Richlands, NC; his sisters, Cynthia Churilla of Lexington, KY; Rebecca Willis (Mark) of Prince Frederick, MD, and Marsha Churilla Langley of St. Leonard, MD. His is also survived by his cousins, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and grand-nephews.

Danny was a life long member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church. He was baptized, received his first communion, was confirmed and will have his funeral Mass from his church.

Donations may be made in his name to St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 105 Vianney Lane; Prince Frederick, MD 20678. Thank you for your condolences and prayers.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## James Thomas "Jim" Quinn



James Thomas "Jim" Quinn, 80, of Sunderland passed away January 4, 2022, at his home, surrounded by his loving family. He was born December 16, 1941, in Washington, DC to Thomas George and Mary Ber-

nadine (Poore) Quinn. Jim grew up in Montgomery County and attended Holy Redeemer Catholic School in Kensington. After graduating from Georgetown Preparatory School in 1959, he attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, graduating in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in history. He later attended the University of Virginia, graduating with a master's degree in history in 1965. Following graduation Jim taught history at Milford Academy in Milford, CT. He married Marilyn Bauer on November 20, 1965 in Waterbury, CT. The young couple moved to Maryland in 1967, where Jim joined his family's business, Quinn Patent Drawing Service, retiring as President and CEO in 2007. Having lived in Greenbelt, New Carrollton, Bowie, and Dunkirk over the years, in 2006 Jim and Marilyn moved to a residence adjoining their daughter Mary's home in Sunderland. Jim was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in North Beach and also volunteered his time with Calvert Hospice and Project Echo. In his spare time, he enjoyed reading, watching baseball and football, and playing the stock market. His biggest priority was the happiness, security, and well-being of his wife and children.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Marilyn Quinn, daughters Mary Quinn Jaensch and her husband Robert of Sunderland, Amy Quinn Meade of Cuyahoga Falls, OH, Kelly Ann Quinn of California, MD, and son Michael James Quinn of Baltimore. He is also survived by grandchildren Alec and Erika Jaensch, Sarah Quinn and Katherine Meade, Thomas, Henry, and Brian Church, and Willa Minkey, as well as great-grandchildren Scarlett and Maren Neff; sisters Frances Marian

McCarthy and Mary Elizabeth Carroccio, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by brother William Joseph Quinn and son-in-law Paul Anthony Meade.

Visitation will be Sunday, January 16, 2022, 2-5 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home—Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane

Owings, MD 20736.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Monday, January 17, 2022 at Noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 8816 Chesapeake Avenue

North Beach, MD 20714.

Burial will be at Chesapeake Highlands Memorial Gardens, 3270 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, MD 20676

In lieu of flowers, donations in James' name may be made to Little Sisters of the Poor, Jeanne Jugan Residence,

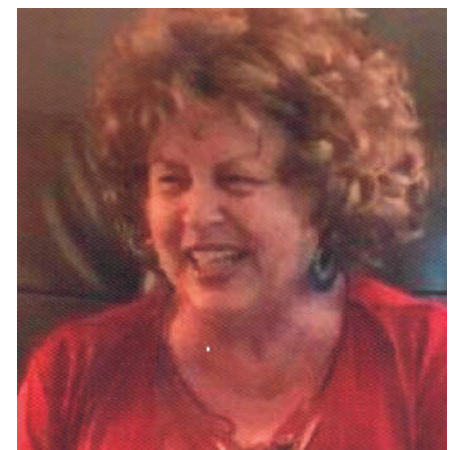
4200 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC 20017-1554;

Link:

<https://littlesistersofthepoor.org/> or Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; m 410-535-0892; Link:

<https://calverthospice.org/>

## Shelba Jean Morgan



Shelba Jean Morgan, 76, of

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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.

Lothian passed away January 3, 2022 at her home after a long battle with Alzheimer's. She was born March 21, 1945 in Princeton, West Virginia to Rujay and Helen (Thornton) Clark. Shelba was raised in Prince George's county and attended Bladensburg High School. She was married to Wesley C. Morgan, Jr. May 5, 1973 in Landover Hills Baptist Church. They settled in Lothian in 1988. Shelba was an executive secretary with the Maryland State Highway Administration retiring in 2012.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Deale. In her leisure she enjoyed going to yard sales and over the years has amassed a large doll collection.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings Ronnie, Rujay and Jimmy Clark and Brenda Janzegers, Bonnie Sue Donley and Joyce Swenton. Surviving are her husband Wesley C. Morgan, Jr., sons Wesley C. Morgan, III of Lothian and Erik E. Morgan and his wife Amanda of Chesapeake Beach; sister Linda Henegar of Churchton and brothers Michael Clark and his wife Toni of Front Royal VA, Larry Clark of Waldorf and Dennis Clark of Colmar Manor.

A Celebration of Life to be held at a later date.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Seasons Hospice, 5457 Twin Knolls Road Ste #100, Columbia, MD 21045; Link:

<https://www.nhpco.org/providers/seasons-hospice-palliative-care-of-maryland-inc/> or Alzheimer's Association, National Capital Area Chapter, 8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 400, McLean, VA 22102; Link:

[https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df\\_id=39209&mfc\\_pref=T&39209.donation=form1](https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df_id=39209&mfc_pref=T&39209.donation=form1)

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Helen Lee Phelps



Helen Lee Phelps, 95, formerly of Huntingtown, Maryland went home to be with the Lord on January 1, 2022 at The Hermitage in Solomons, Maryland. Helen was born on June 16, 1926 to Alvin and Lillie (Jones) Buckler in her childhood home in Stoakley (Prince Frederick), Maryland. Born the ninth of ten children, Helen spoke often of working on the family farm as well as helping her mom prepare meals for a family of 12 and the farm workers! Helen graduated from Calvert High School. She was proud to know that the school Alma Mater she wrote in high school is still being sung there today. In fact, her great-grandson graduated last year with his class singing the song his great-grandmother had written.

On October 1, 1944, Helen married Lewis Phelps (from Texas) and she quickly went from farm life to Navy wife. Together, Helen and Lewis raised three children: Judith, Tom, and Dotty. Navy life afforded the family opportunities to live in Hawaii, California, Washington State, and Cambridge, Maryland. During Lewis' many deployments, Helen took on the responsibilities

of being a Navy wife. She took care of three children, household finances, and their home, with determination and love.

After 20 years of Navy life, Helen and Lewis decided to retire and make Calvert County their home. Lewis owned a service station and Helen worked for Garner and Duff Florist for many years. Helen also volunteered more than 20 years in her daughter Dotty's first grade classroom where many children were blessed by her loving attention. Helen loved nothing more than spending time with her grandchildren as they were growing up. When she was later blessed with 12 great-grandchildren, her heart was filled with love for each one. Helen enjoyed cooking and will be remembered by family and friends for her wonderful meals, famous chicken salad, lemon meringue pies, pound cakes, donuts, and Christmas cookies.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Lewis Riley Phelps, brothers: Stanley, Gorman, and Thomas, and sisters: Grace Humphreys, Marguerite Gettier, Doris Hall, Lucille Wood, Thelma Trott, and Betty Phelps. She is survived by her daughter Judith Sturgis and husband Ben of Huntingtown, son Tom Phelps and wife Rosemary of Huntingtown, and daughter Dotty Schenk and husband Darryl of Sunderland. She is also survived by five grandchildren: Mary Susan Roorda (Chris), Tom Phelps (Karen), Ben Phelps (Mary), Amy Bevard (Bruce), and Julie Leach (Matt). Helen leaves behind 12 great-grandchildren: Owen, Clara, Andrew, Sara, Caleb, Jacob, Hannah, Anna, Abby, Lily, Lucy, and Thomas.

Helen was a member of Bay-side Baptist Church. Loved by all who knew her, Helen will be remembered fondly as a woman who loved and served others with the love of Christ.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Maryland, 1 Aisquith Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202; Link:

<https://rmhcmaryland.org/>  
Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Elmer Paul Hall, Jr.

Elmer Paul Hall, Jr., 82, of Huntingtown passed away January 1, 2022. He was born May 15, 1939 in Prince Frederick to Elmer Paul, Sr. and Alice Edna (Maston) Hall. Elmer was raised in North Beach and attended Calvert High School. He married his



wife Karen on December 27, 1961 and they lived in North Beach before moving to Huntingtown where they have lived for the last 40 years. Elmer worked for Krick Heating and Plumbing for a few years before going to work as a steamfitter for Local Union 602. Elmer loved hunting, bowling, slot machines, and spending time with his family and friends, especially his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and best friends Junebug King and Fred Johnson.

Elmer is survived by his loving wife of 60 years Karen Hall, daughter Kelley Hall, grandchildren William Hall and his wife Shannon, Kaitlin Demeber and her husband Andrew, Shelby McGuire and her husband Michael, and Lane Hall, great-grandchildren Ellie and Grant Hall, Charlee Demember, and Rivers and Pheobee McGuire, and nieces Belinda Cole and Jodie Lineham. He was preceded in death by his son William Paul "Booty" Hall.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home-Owings.

## Lemon Beall Owens III



Lemon Beall Owens III, 65, of Marion Station MD went to be with the Lord on January 1, 2022. Lemon was born on August 29, 1956 to Lemon "Sonny" Owens Jr. and Nancy (Mills) Owens in Annapolis, MD. Lemon was raised in Harwood, MD where he attended Southern High School.



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He worked as a heavy equipment operator in his younger years. He enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting, bluegrass music, and had a love for all animals. Lemon is survived by his mother Nancy Owens, Brother Kevin Owens, daughters Lorretta Freeman and husband Taj of Lothian, Lorraine Davis and husband Mike of Lothian, and grandchildren Grace Soper and husband Nathen, and Colton Davis and Korbin Parker. Lemon was preceded in death by his father Lemon Beall Owens Jr., and his twin brother Leonard Owens.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Frances R. "Fran" Shoemaker



Frances R. "Fran" Shoemaker, 97, of Hagerstown, MD, formerly of St. Leonard, MD passed away on December 31, 2021 in Roanoke, VA. Fran was born in January of 1924 in Washington, D.C. to A. Randolph and Elizabeth Rowles. Fran attended Western High School in Washington, D.C. She married M. Eugene Shoemaker and raised four sons. She was a member of the Red Hat Society and longtime member of Christ Episcopal Church of Port Republic, MD & St. Ann's Episcopal Church of Hagerstown, MD. She was predeceased by her parents and her husband. She is survived by her sons, Gene L. Shoemaker, of St. Leonard, MD; Dan E. Shoemaker, of Idaho; Timothy A. Shoemaker, of Berlin, MD; and Frank R. Shoemaker, of Roanoke, VA. She is also survived by her 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. The family will receive relatives and friends on Wednesday January 12, 2022 at the Rausch Funeral Home from 10am – 12pm. Funeral services will immediately follow. Interment will take place at Christ Church Cemetery in Port Republic, MD.

Funeral arrangements were

by Rausch Funeral Home-Port Republic.

### Denise Marie Ptack



Denise Marie Ptack, 54, of Huntingtown passed away December 29, 2021 at her home. She was born November 15, 1967 in Washington, DC and was employed as a school bus driver for Calvert County Public Schools. Denise is survived by her husband Kenneth Ptack, children Caitlyn Mister, Cassandra Prince, Eileen Ptack, Kyle Ptack, and Landon Ptack, as well as 9 grandchildren and one on the way.

A memorial service and celebration of Denise's life will be held at a later date.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Gerarde "Gerry" Query Barth



Gerarde "Gerry" Query Barth of Solomons, MD, passed from life to eternal life to be with our Heavenly Father on January 5, 2022, after a joyous and fruitful 87 years. She died at home with her devoted husband of 64 years, Joe, at her side. A loving and treasured wife and mother of six, Gerry was born and raised in Norfolk, Virginia, which is also where she met and married the love of her life, Lieutenant Junior Grade Joe Barth of the U.S. Navy.

Over the course of their first 32 years together, they travelled the United States and abroad following Joe's naval career. Always supportive of her husband's endeavors, Gerry made dozens of moves with their children and turned every duty location into a warm and loving home for their family. After Joe retired from the Navy in 1984, the two of them settled in Arlington, Virginia, where they remained for the next 31 years. Over that period, they enjoyed spending time with their family and friends, traveling together, their membership at the Army Navy Country Club, and a myriad of other activities in the Washington, D.C. area. An active member of St. Agnes Catholic Church, Gerry volunteered with Meals on Wheels delivering

food to those in need for over 20 years. Leaving their longtime residence and dear friends behind, Gerry and Joe recently moved to Southern Maryland to be closer to many of their children and grandchildren. Gerry is survived by her husband, Rear Admiral Joseph John Barth Jr., U.S. Navy (Retired); sisters, Marie and Margaret; her children, Joanne (Joe), John (Dottie), Helene (Steven), Stephen (Sue), and Marie (Dave); 16 grandchildren; and, 9 great grandchildren. She is predeceased by her beloved son, Andrew (Anne), and her siblings, Randolph, Lyons, and Aubrey.

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

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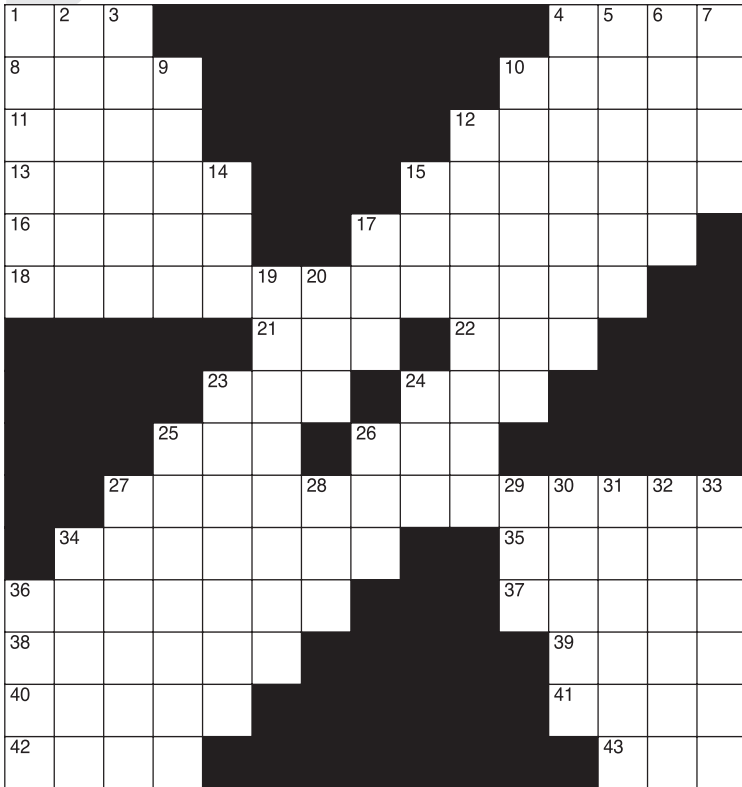
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# GAMES & PUZZLES



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Adequate yearly progress (abbr.)
- 4. Silicon Valley's specialty
- 8. Gather a harvest
- 10. Famed mathematician
- 11. No (slang)
- 12. Students use one
- 13. Type of molecule
- 15. Play make-believe
- 16. Large barrel-like containers
- 17. Touching
- 18. Treats allergies
- 21. Calendar month
- 22. Single
- 23. Cease to live
- 24. Brew
- 25. What ghosts say
- 26. Geological

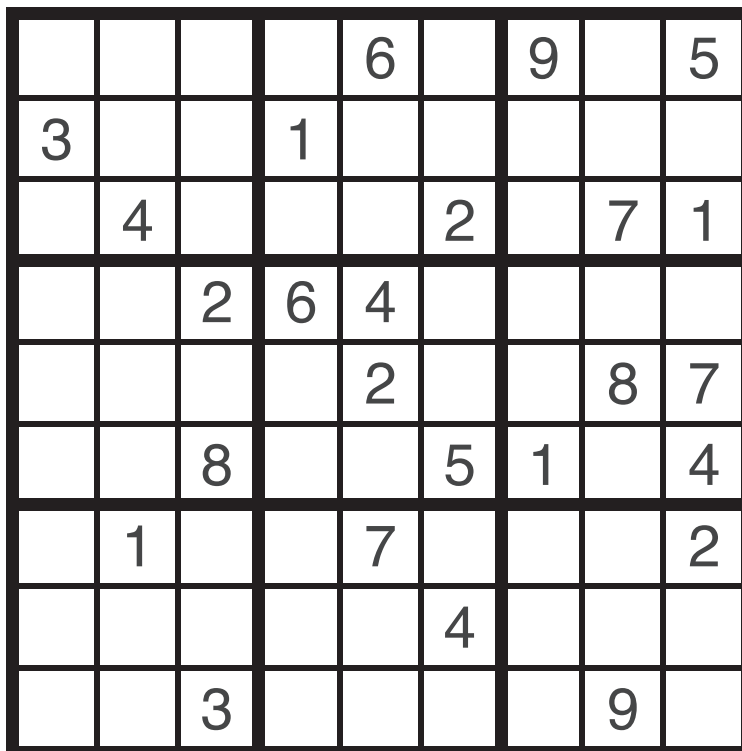
time

- 27. Focus
- 34. Discomfort
- 35. A citizen of Iran
- 36. Trip
- 37. Imitate
- 38. Makes happy
- 39. Double-reed instrument
- 40. Body parts
- 41. Transgressions
- 42. One-time emperor of Russia
- 43. Time zone

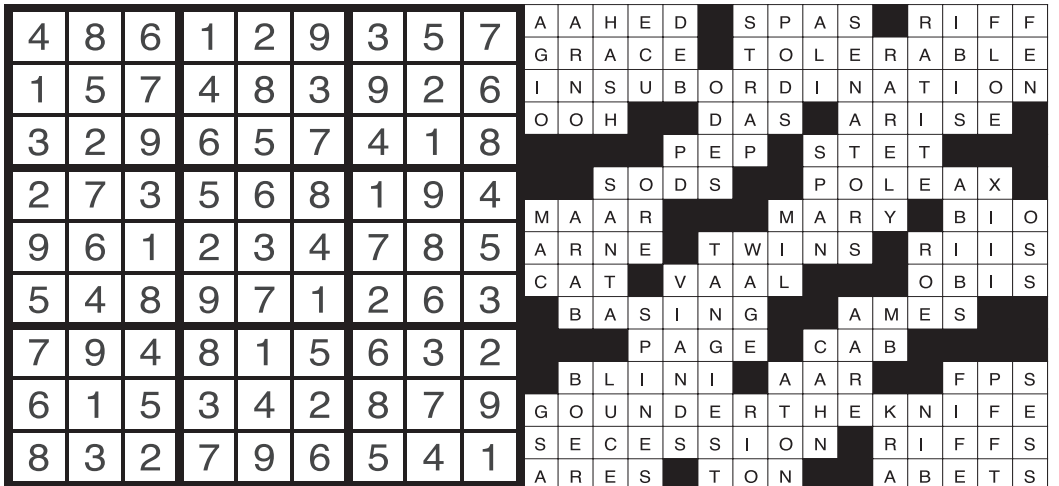
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Used in treating bruises
- 2. One who cultivates a small estate
- 3. One who supports the Pope
- 4. Annuity
- 5. Geological period
- 6. Grab onto tightly
- 7. Kept
- 9. Chinese city
- 10. The most direct route
- 12. Type of tooth

- 14. \_\_\_ kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- 15. Popular veggie
- 17. Supervises interstate commerce
- 19. Foolish behaviors
- 20. Witness
- 23. Gives
- 24. Expression of creative skill
- 25. A way to prop up
- 26. Midway between northeast and east
- 27. Winter melon
- 28. Supernatural power
- 29. Target
- 30. Threes
- 31. A type of poetic verse
- 32. They make some people cry
- 33. Kindest
- 34. Forman and Ventimiglia are two
- 36. A way to liquefy



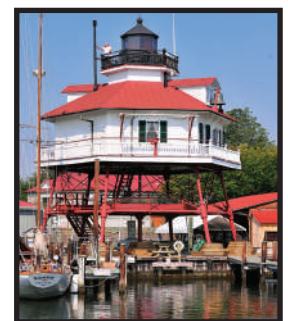
**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



**Publisher** Thomas McKay  
**Associate Publisher** Eric McKay  
**General Manager** Al Dailey [aldailey@countytimes.net](mailto:aldailey@countytimes.net)  
**Advertising** Jen Stotler [jen@countytimes.net](mailto:jen@countytimes.net)  
 Tim Flaherty [timflaherty@countytimes.net](mailto:timflaherty@countytimes.net)  
**Editor** Dick Myers [dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)  
**Staff Writer** Guy Leonard [guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)  
**Graphic Designer/Layout Artist** Jim Lucke [jimlucke@countytimes.net](mailto:jimlucke@countytimes.net)  
**Contributing Writers** Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

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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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2. The Historic Sotterley's  
NovemBEER



3. St. Mary's  
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4. 7th District Optimists/St.  
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