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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

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**Commissioners Pass
School Capital Plan**

**New Charlotte Hall
Businesses Approved**

**Retired Educator
Files for Delegate**

LIBRARY CELEBRATES 75 YEARS



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

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Celebrating Local Watermen & the Heritage of St. Mary's County

Featuring family entertainment, local food, art and craft vendors, waterman of the year award, blessing ceremony, concerts and fireworks

12:00 Noon
GATES OPEN

- **Family Activities & Exhibits**
- **Food & Local Craft Vendors**

2:30 p.m.
BLESSING OF THE FLEET
AND WATERMAN OF THE YEAR

1:00 p.m.
JOEY TIPPETT AND THE
CALIFORNIA RAMBLERS

4:00 p.m.
OUT OF ORDER & FRIENDS

7:00 p.m.
CHESAPEAKE SONS

9:00 p.m.
FIREWORKS



JOEY TIPPETT
& CAL. RAMBLERS



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& FRIENDS



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7TH DISTRICT
OPTIMIST CLUB



BlessingofTheFleetSOMD



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“THAT GOES AGAINST EVERYTHING THAT WE HAVE PRINCIPLES FOR.”

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S DIRECTOR OF CAPITAL PLANNING KIMBERLY HOWE ON THE STATE'S PLAN TO FUND POORLY MAINTAINED SCHOOLS FIRST.



LOCAL 5
Schools' state funding plan approved



LOCAL 6
Auto parts store, appliance repair approved in Charlotte Hall



ON THE COVER
St. Mary's County Library is 75 years old

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, SEP 25	FRI, SEP 26	SAT, SEP 27	SUN, SEP 28
Showers Hi: 82° Lo: 69°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 66°	PM Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 65°	Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 64°
MON, SEP 29	TUE, SEP 30	WED, OCT 1	THU, OCT 2
AM Showers Hi: 75° Lo: 64°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 75° Lo: 60°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 70° Lo: 55°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 69° Lo: 53°



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Department of Aging & Human Services
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Friday, October 10, 2025
9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Free Community Event

The Community Health & Wellness Fair will include:

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- Flu Shots*
- Informational booths*
- Door prizes!*

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Estate Planning & Trusts

9:30 a.m.

Food for Thought and Moves that Matter:
Outsmarting Cognitive Decline

10:45 a.m.

Caring for the Caregiver: The Critical Role
of Self-Care

1:00 p.m.

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Commissioners Approve Schools' State Funding Plan

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County on Sept. 23 approved the FY2027 - FY2032 State Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for county schools.

The vote was 4-1, with Commissioner Mike Hewitt opposing. He was concerned that the state monies weren't assured and that the program would require an additional \$2 million in funding in the next fiscal year from the county.

During the presentation, the school system's Director of Capital Planning Kimberly Howe said that 75 percent of next year's program was approved over the summer by the State Interagency Committee on School Construction and up to 90 percent was expected later this year, but the legislature next year would have to finalize the entire amount.

If the program wasn't approved by the commissioners, the schools would lose the possibility of garnering millions of dollars in state aid next year.

The CIP calls for the county to receive \$22 million from the state in the next fiscal year, including \$15.6 million towards the Chopticon H.S. renovation.

Howe explained the process: "Back in June, we started with the Educational Facilities Master plan...and there's a lot of process that goes into us getting here today. We have the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, which you've also received, which is an accounting and recap from our Department of Maintenance of everything that needs to happen in our schools, from the lifecycle replacement of a component, which are many in a school, to other projects that we need to address as identified by the state through their maintenance effectiveness assessment or the school facilities assessment on my side of the house. And what those two state assessments look at is how we're maintaining our buildings and they're also looking at how they meet educational program. So, the maintenance plan and the educational facilities master plan are both planning documents that outline the need."

A recent report from the state Comptroller's Office concluded that 80 percent of the state's schools are poorly maintained. Howe said her colleagues around the state feel that the report will lead to extra funding.

In addition to Chopticon, all the county is asking for in the CIP is money for roof and HVAC replacements and repairs.

The state contributes 58 percent of a St. Mary's County project's cost.

Howe said the county is typically receiving \$5 million a year from the state, but that has been increased to \$10 million until the Chopticon project is completed.

"The need is greater than the funding available on both the state and local side," Howe said. "We understand that. But we're coming forward with projects that meet those minimum needs to keep the roof warm and dry when it needs to, to have HVAC when it's appropriate, and to have water in and out. So that's really where we're focused right now."

"We could definitely put in 10 more projects easily, but the funding's not there," Howe noted.

"We should be doing 12 roof replacements and 11 HVACs. What we currently have in our budget for the next six years is seven roofs and nine HVACs," she reported.

The county has managed to snag extra funding for the Chopticon project, including \$6.8 million from the state's Healthy Schools Program, which will allow the county to divert some monies to other projects.

"We will be one of the first counties in the state to use three state sources on a project to try and get it funded. We'll have traditional CIP, healthy schools and Built to Learn Act. And there's a potential for a fourth one, because we are going after a decarbonization grant for the windows and doors at Choon as well."

She said the Chopticon renovation will take three to four years. She said it's tricky, because students will have to be moved to relocatable classrooms and there's limited space on the property for them.

Howe expressed her frustration about the possible new funding. "The school systems and the projects that have the worst buildings are going get the money. They're going to go from the worst to the best. So, what you have to do to do that is you have to let them run down."

And that goes against everything that we have principles for, where schools should be safe and they should be orderly, and they should be conducive for instruction. Unless something changes, that is the direction we've heard is that that priority fund will go to the schools that are in most need, which means you haven't invested in them. And that's frustrating."

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Two New Charlotte Hall Businesses Approved

Parlett Talks About North County Growth

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Planning Commission on Sept. 22 approved two new businesses in Charlotte Hall, one in an existing building and the other in a growing commerce center.

Martinez Small Appliance Repair will be in the building that formerly housed Woods Produce. The new O'Reilly Auto Parts store will be in the Charlotte Hall Commons near the newly opened Sheetz gas station and convenience store. Both were approved unanimously and without public comment.

During the hearing on the O'Reilly Auto Parts store, center developer and long-time community leader John Parlett talked about his project and growth in Charlotte Hall.

He said, "You folks have seen previous site plans on this parcel of land. Originally it was the Charlotte Hall Veterans (Community-Based Outpatient Clinic, CBOC), which is on Lot One on the north side of John Knight Drive. Your most recent approval was for the Sheetz gas station and convenience store on Unit Number Six, which is on the south side of John Knight Drive. It just recently opened.

"The last time we were here, we talked about additional future uses. The unit adjacent to Sheetz is available, but no prospects at this time. It's set up to support a potential restaurant site. The next site to the south is Unit Eight, that we're discussing tonight for



Artist's rendering of the new O'Reilly Auto Parts

the O'Reilly Auto Parts. Adjacent to that is Unit Nine, which is laid out presently to support an 8,000-square-foot building that could be a restaurant/retail type space. We have septic to support those types of uses.

"And then Unit 10, which is at the end of the property, the cul-de-sac, Charlotte Hall Commons Way, is designed for a 70-room hotel, something that we feel would be really important for the north end of the county. There is no hotel. If you have relatives visiting that you really don't want to stay at your house, you have to send them to California or Leonardtown, or Prince Frederick or Waldorf. So, it would be really nice to have a hotel there. We've done a study for a hotel that really supports someone building one. We just have not been successful in finding that someone yet."

The property also has space for an additional medical office building.

Parlett said a traffic study was not required

but they did it anyway. The study called for a traffic signal on Route 5, which has been constructed. He said all of the road infrastructure has been constructed to accommodate whatever else comes to the center.

"We went to the expense and the effort to do a traffic impact study for the entire project so that we could do all those improvements one time for this project," he said.

He added, "My concern was that O'Reilly's comes in and they were exempt and maybe the next project that comes in is exempt and then all of a sudden people say, they've had two projects approved up there and never had to do a traffic study when in fact we did that upfront, which is really where you want these kinds of things done to master plan a project like we have there."

He said it was much like he did 15 years ago with Park Place in California. "We did a traffic impact study for that entire property. And land use and growth management keeps score every time a new use comes in. They look at the peak trips, they subtract that from our traffic study until we get to the end and we got to the end and we had adequate traffic controls in place to accommodate all of that growth."

Parlett then interjected, "There are a lot of concerns from the local citizens and every jurisdiction about what's going to happen in their neighborhood," adding there was a lot of Facebook chatter about his project.

He said, "There are a lot of folks that are really concerned about the uses that we're getting there and implying that the county somehow is involved in dictating what use goes where and that the developers are doing things that are nefarious. And none of that could be further from the truth. Developers like myself, who've been in this business my entire career, and at the end of my career, thank God, we respond to what the market

is looking for and our market, to folks like O'Reilly's or anybody, hotels, restaurants, retail, medical space, whatever, we try to provide a project or product that fits well in the community, that's well designed, well thought out, and looking for these businesses to come locate there."

He said people clamor for a family sit-down restaurant. "I will tell you that there's 30 places to eat within a two-mile radius of this site. And we have certainly spoken over the years with lots of restaurants. I've got four or five of them down at Park Place. So, I know these folks. And the problem is, in Charlotte Hall specifically, we don't have the population within a radius that they use as kind of a one-size-fits-all demographic requirement." He said he tried to lure Red Robbin and they concluded Charlotte Hall didn't check all of the boxes.

He said, "I'm not sure people realize this. They talk about all the development all the time, and all the extra people that are here. There's not a single new subdivision proposed or has been proposed for some time in the north end of the county, given the laws that changed in the state 15 years ago. You're not going to see subdivisions like we once had like down in Helen or Country Lakes or Beverly Estates or Patuxent Knolls or North Indian Creek or any of those kinds of places. Because state law says unless you're in an area that has public sewer, which we don't, you can only have seven lots per parcel. And that could be as small as a 21-acre parcel in the county based on zoning. Or it could be a thousand-acre parcel. You still only get seven lots."

"We won't see the residential growth," he said, "which I'm pretty certain suits most of the people in the north end of the county, they're, they're not interested in that."

Parlett added, "We are fortunate at this point in the Charlotte Hall area that we are seeing some commercial growth that will afford people opportunities that they didn't have before." And he added that residential growth doesn't pay for itself in the services it requires.

The other approved project, Martinez Small Appliance Repair, will be located totally within the old Wood's Produce building, whose exterior will not be changed.

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At 75, St. Mary's County Library Still Beloved

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

It all started with a generous gift. In 1950 Mrs. Mary Patterson Davidson gave Tudor Hall, the ancestral Leonardtown home of the Key family, of which Francis Scott Key was a member, to the St. Mary's County government. The sole proviso: it be used for a library.

According to a short history compiled by the library, "Its intended purpose was to honor the St. Mary's County casualties of World Wars I and II. However, at the time, the St. Mary's County Commissioners were not willing to increase taxes in order to pay for a public library, so Mrs. Davidson also supplied the basic operating funds of \$35,000 and initiated a campaign to raise the remaining necessary money.

"The timing was right. New libraries were opening up throughout the rest of the state, and St. Mary's County did not want the distinction of being the only county without a public library."

Thus was the beginning of St. Mary's County Memorial Library. Which officially opened on Oct. 15 of 1950. On that date it will celebrate the 75th anniversary of what has become one of the most important institutions in the county.

The current commissioners, in a more generous mood than their ancestors, provide annual funding. And they issued a proclamation on Sept. 16.

Here are some of the highlights of that 75-year history:

- The original collection was 1500-2000 volumes.
- Eloise Pickeral was the first librarian.
- Mrs. Davidson dies in August of 1950. In her will she left \$60,000 to the library.
- The first year saw 7,000 visitors, which doubled the next year.
- A bookmobile was added in Jan. 1951, which accounted for half of the library's circulation.
- The Lexington Park Library started in the Frank Knox Building and later moved to the Felix Johnson Education Center. In 1968 it occupied what is now the home of the Three Nitch Theatre. The current Lexington Park Library opened in 2002.
- Thirty years after that first library, the Charlotte Hall Library was established in 1982 as a bookmobile and then to a storefront in 1984 and in 1989 to its current location, which it shares with Southern Maryland Regional Library.
- The library outgrew its space at Tudor Hall, which now houses the St. Mary's Historical Society. It moved in 1984 to the old Armory building, where the National Guard and Motor Vehicle Administration were once located.
- After years of planning the combined Leonardtown branch and the Garvey Senior Center, delayed by the pandemic, was officially opened to the public in 2022.
- "In 1993 St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert County Libraries joined forces, along with the Southern Maryland Regional Library, to computerize their card catalogs and customer databases

and function as one cooperative system. This linked the library electronically to other systems in Maryland, and users now had the ability to get books more quickly from all over Maryland," according to the history.

- In 1996, the library system connected to the Internet.

Michael Blackwell is the library's fifth director, having been with them for ten years. He was asked what makes libraries such important institutions, in St. Mary's and nationwide.

He said, "The library offers services that nobody else does, if nothing else. So, we are a space where anybody can come, and they don't have to pay for a cup of coffee. They don't have to belong to a particular organization. Everybody's welcome here. But we still have an immense number of books checked out. Last year, over a million circulations. We get close to 400,000 user visits a year. We offer meeting spaces that are free. We have all kinds of important programming that are especially aimed at young minds. So, we help parents learn to read better to their children. And even before kids are in school, they're coming here to the library to get a head start on life.

"So, I would say that we're busier than ever. We offer free broadband access to people who may not have it. That community meeting space where you come talk to people you might not otherwise know."

The change in the St. Mary's Memorial Library in 75 years has been dramatic. Blackwell said, "I would say that the major change has been, not so much in libraries, but in how we've met changing demands and changing needs in the community. So, 75 years ago, if you had said there's this thing called the internet, people would've thought you were talking about magic. Now look at the cell phones. So, eBooks come digitized. I would say that the coming of the internet and then the coming of cell phones have been the biggest drivers in the last 25 years. Up until then, other than something like photocopiers, library services stayed relatively stable for about the first 50 years, certainly the first 45. And then about 1994, 1995, I think we got significant change," adding, "We've changed from being a book warehouse where we had the books and

that's what people came for to full-service entities providing literacy in many different ways. And programming, we're no longer a space that's quiet, although you can come find a quiet space. And we have study rooms now. It's where children talk."

But books are still important. "Absolutely. Books are a huge part of what we do. Some of that circulation is digital. We're trying to meet demands where people have them. So, they want a print book, we've got it. If they want an eBook, we've got it. Want a digital audio book, we offer it. So, it's a question of trying to meet demand in a very changing time."

People love the library. "There's something called a net provider score, which looks at customer satisfaction, the highest to the lowest, a scale of zero to 100 to negative 100. We are in at 92. When we look at this, people are delighted by our services. We truly have great customer service here at the library, and most retailers would very much like to have that high customer service score. I actually believe it was late last year, but the county did a survey of its services and the library of all the services the county offered ranks number one. I can't really go out into the community without it having somebody say, 'you're from the library. I really love the library.'"

Now that the hard-fought Leonardtown Library/Garvey Senior Center is a reality, Blackwell was asked what's on their horizon. He said, "The major development since Leonardtown was the growth of the mobile library. We've had a grant to do that and it's now making many stops to places that might be underserved, where there are kids who have a hard time making it to physical locations. It's going to the base, it goes out to all kinds of community events. And I'd say that's been the largest change since the Leonardtown Library.

"But in the immediate future, we have two big projects going on. One is to put a maker space in the Lexington Park Library. It's a youth-oriented maker space, but there's all kinds of things that young children with families can come and they can make designs on things. They can make all kinds of projects that will help teach them STEM skills."

He added, "We're going to be doing a

major renovation of the Charlotte Hall Library. Right now, the county's putting out an RFP to hire an architect to look at that building and figure out what we can do with it. The county has \$5 million. We're going to get at least million in matching funds from the state capital library program to try to modernize that facility as much as possible."

He pointed out, "We'll still be sharing that space with the regional library. The state helped build that building with the understanding the Regional Library would be there. And that's as central as you can get between Calvert, Charles and, and St. Mary's County."

He added, "We're hoping that we can expand out around that. And also, just thoroughly modernize the facility."

The library's evolving role has impacted space requirements. He said, "I could never have too many electrical outlets for people to charge their devices. We could never have too many small study rooms. It used to be a library would have one big meeting room, and now what we find is that lots of people just want a smaller space where they can study alone or they can have a meeting of up to four people and make noise and not worry about having noise coming from outside the library."

Each library branch has a special event planned to celebrate the 75th anniversary.

- Read, play, celebrate; Saturday, Oct. 4, 2:30-4 p.m. at Charlotte Hall Library. A family event with lots of activities for kids and family.
- Lexicon 2025; Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lexington Park Library.
- 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee, Oct. 25, 1-4 p.m., Leonardtown Library in Meeting Rooms 1&2. It will feature festivities and fun for the whole family.

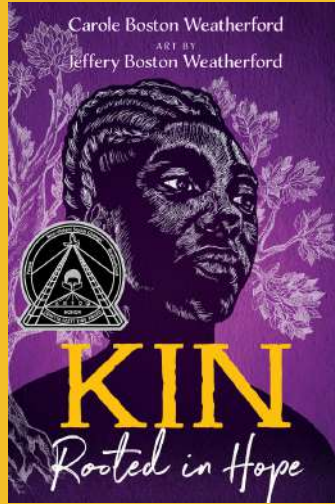
So, if everybody loves the library, does the director love his job? Blackwell said, "I'm getting up there in years. Someday I'll think about retiring, but right now I'm just enjoying my job so much. I don't even contemplate it. I've got wonderful, wonderful people who work here. We're very much admired in the community. People love their life."

dickmyers@countytimes.net



Commissioners of St. Mary's County presented a proclamation to library staff on Sept. 16 in honor of their 75th anniversary.

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Panelists: Kelsey Bush and Gwen Bankins
with both authors.



Details & more events on stmalib.org

One Maryland One Book is a program of Maryland Humanities

Mathis Announces Candidacy for House of Delegates

Adrianne Mathis, a lifelong St. Mary's County resident, retired educator, and devoted community advocate, Wednesday, Sept. 24 officially filed for and announced her candidacy for the Maryland House of Delegates in District 29B, representing Southern St. Mary's County.

Mathis is a Democrat. She would be running for the seat currently held by Del. Brian Crosby. He has not officially announced his intentions.

Born on the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and deeply rooted in the community through generations of family history, Mathis brings both personal and professional experience to her campaign. Guided by her Catholic and Baptist upbringing, she is committed to ensuring that the voices of District 29B—too often overlooked in Annapolis—continue to be heard and respected.

"St. Mary's County is my home, my heritage, and my heartbeat," Mathis said. "I am running to bring our community's spirit, stories, and needs to Annapolis with bold, balanced leadership that reflects the strength and diversity of our district."

As an educator and mother of three, Mathis has dedicated her career to youth development, community outreach, and building partnerships across Southern Maryland. Her priorities include:

- Strengthening schools through equity-focused investment and the Blueprint for Maryland's Future
- Expanding economic opportunity for working families and small businesses
- Improving access to healthcare and affordable housing
- Investing in infrastructure such as roads, broadband, and transportation to meet the needs of a growing community
- Protecting the environment and preserving the county's unique heritage for future generations/



Adrianne Mathis

"Throughout my life, I have stood alongside our youth, our small businesses, and our nonprofits," Mathis said. "Now, I am ready to deliver practical solutions that uplift every corner of District 29B."

Mathis is running a grassroots campaign centered on listening to residents through town halls and community events. She pledges to work across party lines to advance common-sense policies rooted in fairness, faith, and family.

"Annapolis needs to hear us loud and clear," Mathis declared. "With inclusive leadership and a clear vision, I will continue to fight for our families, our businesses, and our future."

Residents are invited to learn more, share ideas, and join her campaign by visiting her website at mathisformd.com, following her on social media at @mathisformaryland on Instagram, Adrianne Mathis for Maryland - Facebook, and by attending upcoming events.

Press Release

Mattapany Road Work Set to Begin

St. Mary's County Government's Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) will be making roadway improvements on Mattapany Road beginning from MD Route 5 (Point Lookout Road) extending just past St. Mary's College. This project will include road widening and asphalt paving.

The project is scheduled to begin on or about Monday, September 29, 2025, with completion in approximately 30 days, weather permitting.

A traffic control plan, to include single lane closures with signage, will be implemented for the duration of the road construction.

Drivers are asked to please remain alert for equipment, work crews, and changing

traffic patterns.

Message boards and signage will be deployed in the area prior to and during the project to serve as a reminder. Please consider alternative routes to avoid possible delays in traffic.

For additional project information, please contact Donald Bean, with DPW&T at (301) 475-4200, Ext. 3531.

For more information, please visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov or follow St. Mary's County Government on Facebook, X, and Instagram for regular updates.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government

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750mL
Josh Cellars Hearth Cabernet Sauvignon
13.99

750mL
Rombauer Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc
25.99

750mL
The Beach Rose
14.99

Wine of the Month

750mL
La Vieille Ferme Wines
9.99

750mL
Benton Lane Pinot Noir
18.99

750mL
Haziitt Red Cat Wine
9.99

1.5L, All Flavors
Barefoot Bubbly Wine
9.99

3-Liter Box, Lower Calorie
Black Box Sauvignon Blanc
15.99

WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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Sept. 24 THRU Sept. 30, 2025



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Legal Notices

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN REQUEST FOR BIDS Snow and Ice Control Program

The Commissioners of Leonardtown are currently accepting bids to perform snow and ice removal services within the corporate limits of Leonardtown. Approximately 15 miles of municipal streets and parking lots will be included in the contract.

Since bidders will have different equipment, the contract will be awarded on a "best value" basis. The bid will consist of hourly rates for various pieces of equipment. The bid will be for one two-year term with two two-year options beginning December 2025.

Interested bidders should obtain a copy of the RFP by contacting Tony Wheatley, Capital Construction Coordinator, Town of Leonardtown POB 1, 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650, or call 301-475-9791.

A pre-bid conference will be held on October 9, 2025, at 10 a.m. at the Town office conference room. A bid opening will be held on October 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

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

By Authority of: Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

If you would like to place a classified ad or legal notice, please call the County Times at 301-373-4125 or email aldailey@countytimes.net

County Times
ST. MARY'S • CALVERT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C18CV25000549

NAR Solutions, Inc.
c/o Steven Harding
PO Box 31700
Omaha, NE 68131
Plaintiff

vs.

MNM Renovations Corporation
U.S. Liens, LLC
Subhash Gupta
St. Mary's County, Maryland (for Maryland Annotated Code 14-1836(b)(1)(v) purposes only)
ANY AND ALL PERSONS having or claiming to have any interest in the property and premises situate, lying and being in the County of St. Mary's described on the Tax Rolls of St. Mary's County Collector of State and County Taxes for said County known as:
47336 COPELAND LN., LEXINGTON PARK, MD, 20653, District 8,
described as follows:
2.00 ACRES, W/S MD RT 235, LEXINGTON PARK
and assessed to MNM RENOVATIONS CORPORATION.
Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

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

47336 COPELAND LN, LEXINGTON PARK, MD, 20653 in St. Mary's County, Maryland, described as:

Beginning for the same on the right hand side of a private road leading from the Three Notch Road and is bounded on the right by the property of George Spence; bounded on the left by the property of George Barnes and is bounded by the property already owned Annie S. Chase, containing two (2) acres, more or less and being more particularly described in a deed and described secondly therein, from Francis R. Chase to Annie Chase dated September 22nd, 1942 and recorded in Liber CBG No. 23, folio 520, one of the Land Records of St. Mary's County, Maryland.

and assessed to MNM RENOVATIONS CORPORATION
(the "Property").

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

It is thereupon this 4th day of September, 2025, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary County, **ORDERED**, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this Order in some daily newspaper having general circulation in St. Mary's County once a week for three consecutive weeks, before the 2nd day of August, 2025, warning all persons interested in said Property to be and appear in this Court by the 4th day of November, 2025, and redeem the Property and answer the Complaint, or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the Property, and vesting in the Plaintiff title to the Property free and clear of all encumbrances.

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

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Shopping Center Mural Celebrates Local Voices

A bold new mural will be brightening the redeveloped Pax River Village Center in Lexington Park, standing as a powerful symbol of community pride and collaboration.

The community unveiling event will take place on September 25th at 9:30 a.m., with an opportunity to meet the artist and learn more about the mural's creation.

Created by Rosalia Torres-Weiner of Red Calaca Studio in Charlotte, NC, the mural was developed in partnership with the St. Mary's County Arts Council and shaped by the voices of residents through a series of community outreach events.

From idea boards and design workshops, the mural reflects the stories, hopes, and heritage of Lexington Park. Residents of all ages contributed ideas that inspired the final design, making the artwork a true reflection of the community it represents.

"This mural is a celebration of who we are," said Susie Glauner. "It's a visual reminder that when we come together, we can create something lasting and meaningful."

Special recognition goes to Susie Glauner, executive director and her team at the St.

Mary's County Arts Council, for her exceptional management and for discovering the gem of an artist, Rosalia Torres-Weiner, who was selected from a portfolio of over 30 talented artists. Her leadership and vision were instrumental in bringing this project to life.

The mural is part of a broader revitalization effort of Atlantic Realty Companies for the community shopping center, which includes a new lineup of retailers including ALDI, Dollar Tree, Starbucks and many others occupying updated storefronts. The shopping center leasing is being performed by KLNb on behalf of Atlantic Realty Companies.

Lexington Park has seen several outdoor updates including improved walkways and new public gathering spaces.

Artist Rosalia added, "The mural honors the past, celebrates the present, and uplifts the bright future of Lexington Park's Latino community."

For more information, please contact Kendra Chilson at kchilson@arcrealty.com

Press Release from Atlantic Realty Companies

North End Gallery presents 'Small Gems'



By Suzanne Shelden

North End Gallery in Leonardtown presents "Small Gems," artwork by Susanne Jantsch, Barbara Rushworth and Suzanne Shelden

The show is Sept. 30 – Nov. 2. North End is open Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Monday.

Opening reception will be on First Friday, Oct. 3, 5-8 p.m. Come visit this very special North End Gallery show where every artwork is smaller than 8 x 8 inches!

Susanne Jantsch, Barbara Rushworth and Suzanne Shelden have been busy making small works of art, and are promising to fill the show rooms with over 80 little paintings and a precious collection of furry felted friends you will love!

Come talk to the artists about their work on Friday, October 3rd. Just think, one of these Small Gems could be yours!

For more information contact Suzanne Shelden, sheldenstudios@comcast.net

Press release from North End Gallery



By Susanne Jantsch



By Barbara Rushworth

Free Health & Wellness Fair Oct. 10

It's that time of year again! The 2025 Community Health & Wellness Fair, hosted by St. Mary's County Government's Department of Aging & Human Services, will be held on Friday, October 10 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the University of Maryland Southern Maryland, located at 44219 Airport Road in California. This year's screenings will include body composition, glucose, skin cancer, hearing, vision, and blood pressure. The Pharmacy at PJ Bean will be providing flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. Bring your insurance card, all insurance providers are accepted!

Sound bath sessions will be provided by Whole Soul Wellness Riverside. Please note, sound baths may not be suitable for individuals with pacemakers or other electronic implants, certain forms of epilepsy, or conditions that may trigger sound-induced seizures.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and St. Mary's County Health Department will be on-site to collect medications, including diabetic supplies such as needles, lancets, and EpiPens.

Presentations this year include:

- Estate Planning & Trusts (9:30 a.m.) Presented by: Brian Ritter, Esq. Ritter Elder Law & Estate Planning.
- Food for Thought & Moves that Matter: Outsmarting Cognitive Decline (10:45 a.m.) Presented by: Ciara Hoover,

LCPC and Veronica Rivers, LCSW-C., Inner Peace Therapeutic Services, LLC

- Caring for the Caregiver: The Critical Role of Self-Care (1 p.m.) Presented by: Dr. Deon Little, University of Maryland Extension.

The St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services thanks the many sponsors that support this event, including The Pharmacy at PJ Bean, St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks – Museum Division, Morningside House of St. Charles, Cedar Lane Senior Living Community, Mid Atlantic Skin Surgery Institute, Asbury Solomons, Green Acres Nursing & Rehabilitation, The Pinnacle for Mental Health & Human Relations, Edward Jones, Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, and Harmony at Waldorf.

Want to skip the registration line? Register online at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/healthfair! Online registrants will be eligible for a special prize! Online registration closes at 12 p.m. on Thursday, October 9. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Nicoletta Pollice, Community Programs & Outreach Division Manager, at (301) 475-4200, ext. 1074, or email nicoletta.pollice@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

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MEET MOCHA

Hi, I'm Mocha — your daily dose of happiness without the caffeine crash! I'm a 7-month-old Lab mix who is basically your walking, wagging cup of joy. Just look at my face — who wouldn't want to come home to my smile every day? I'm sweet, silly, and ready to stir up some love in my forever home.

Skip Starbucks — adopt me instead! You'll get the happiest pick-me-up you'll ever have! Adoption hours are Mon-Fri 11am-4pm and Sat 10am-3pm. To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>.



MEET HEGGIE

Heggie is a handsome boy with a silky white coat. He's a little reserved at first but quickly warms up into a loving, loyal companion. Visit www.animalrelieffund.org or stop by the Well Pet Clinic in Lexington Park during adoption days—Saturdays, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.—to meet him!



Celtic Group to Perform in Chaptico

The Washington, D.C. based band, IONA will bring its singular representation of the greatest Celtic land in the world--America--to Chaptico on Friday, Sept. 26, hosted by Southern Maryland Traditional Music and Dance (SMTMD).

IONA treats its audience to high energy entertainment featuring multiple fiddling styles, dynamic dancing, driving percussion, and strong vocals from all the Celtic nations, including America.

Presenting the music and dance of all the Celtic countries—Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Brittany, Asturias and Galicia—IONA emphasizes that America is not only the repository of all these cultural influences, but also the progenitor of many of its own.

Audiences are encouraged to clog along, or dance Breton line dances, and join in singing.

Conceived in 1986, IONA has evolved into one of the top-rated pan-Celtic groups in the world. Co-founders Barbara Tresidder Ryan (lead vocals, Celtic bouzouki, guitar and bodhrán) and Bernard Argent (wooden flute, whistles, doumbek, back-up vocals) are joined by Air Force Band veteran Jim Queen (fiddle, banjo and vocals), Leigh Oben (guitar, bass guitar, double bass) and Marsha Searle (dance and vocals). The group has released eleven albums, the most recent of which, Silver, is



Photo Credit: Lodens Green

their 25th anniversary celebration.

For more information, and to see videos of past performances, visit IONA's website: www.IonaMusic.com

This concert was made possible in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council, and the Maryland State Arts Council.

Concert venue is Christ Church Parish Hall, 37497 Zach Fowler Rd, Chaptico, Maryland. Doors open at 7 p.m. Advance ticket sales through TicketLeap. SMTMD members \$15; Non-members \$20. Go to SMTMD.org for more information and for online sales.

Press Release from SMTMD

Bowles Corn Maze Celebrates 25 Years

What started as an idea sparked by an article on agritourism has grown into a cherished fall tradition for thousands of families across Maryland and Virginia. This year, the Bowles family is proud to celebrate 25 years of "A-MAZE-ing Memories" with its annual corn maze and fall festivities.

Back in 2000, one of the farm's owners, Tommy Bowles, first read about the concept of corn mazes bringing families together while supporting farm operations. Inspired, the Bowles family launched their very first maze featuring a design that couldn't be more Maryland: the iconic Blue Crab.

Since then, the Bowles family has selected a new theme each fall—some honoring local culture, others holding deeply personal meaning. Each design has become a canvas for both creativity and community connection.

This year, the 25th anniversary maze features a giant celebration cake, symbolizing not only the milestone but also a heartfelt tribute. The cake is dedicated to Sylvia, a beloved family member who was part of the maze's beginnings but has since passed away. Sylvia had a sweet tooth for cake, and those who knew her remember it as her favorite treat. In her honor, this year's maze is as much a celebration of her life as it is of the farm's legacy.

The Bowles Family will open their 25th season on September 27., welcoming visitors for five weekends of fall fun. Guests



can enjoy the maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, the barnyard, straw jumping pit, special weekend events, and more—all while being greeted by staff made up of the Bowles' own family and friends, many of whom have been part of the journey since the beginning. Adding to the experience is the onsite Farmer's Daughter Cupcake Shop, where visitors can treat themselves to homemade cupcakes, cookies, and sweet fall favorites.

As the Bowles family looks back on 25 years, their mission remains the same: to provide a place where families can laugh, learn, and make fall memories together.

Press Release



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Wanderings of an Aimless Mind



Hot on the Scent

By Shelby Opperman
Contributing Writer

Few things ease my mind as much as driving down some of our beautiful county roads with my window down. Driving back from Leonardtown up Rt. 234/Budds Creek Road to home in Mechanicsville is always special. Each section of road has its' own smell from corn in the fields, to fresh mown grass of course, to the just raked red dirt smell of Anderson's ballfield, to the musky scent of swamp and creeks or runs that meander all through the drive home. The smells change with the seasons naturally. The heavy sweet smell of sorghum, the fresh, bright smell of soybeans, or the woody, sweet smell of tobacco when that is planted is a nice change for the seasonal smells. I think the smell of the cornfields is my all-time favorite. I see now that the fields are getting cut down. I look forward to the bright greens of the winter wheat and cover crops to take away from the drab browns and grays of winter.



I soak up the scents trying to retain them in my scent memory bank; the area that keeps remembered smells from childhood, from big Sunday meals of fried chicken with chicken soup as a starter. Or my mother's spaghetti or pot roast – the kind of meals she started early and let slow cook all day that made the whole house smell good for days.

Of course, you can also smell all types of things with your windows down in the city. I do enjoy driving through Little Italy on our way to Johns Hopkins Bayview. Oh, the smells of all that Italian food and bakery items. You know I love lasagna. I think we have tried every restaurant in Little Italy. It's sad to see that more and more of our favorite restaurants have closed, but some keep going like they always have. As you drive down Eastern Avenue after Little Italy, you start to notice enticing aromas from each nationality's primary set of city blocks. I'd like to try all the food that wafts in the car as we drive by from Polish to Ukrainian, Peruvian, Mexican, Latin American, all the way to Greektown. There is every type of ethnic food you could ever imagine. We have been to a couple of the Greektown restaurants before the Johns Hopkins Bayview campus. We may need to try some new places.

Another area in Baltimore we love to go to after doctor appointments either at University of Maryland or Johns Hopkins is Fells Point. Fells Point has a wonderful permeating seafood smell as you walk by the restaurants and around the waterfront. Though, a few restaurants are known for their burgers like Cooper's Tavern. And it's just plain fun to people watch in Fells Point or any of the many Baltimore neighborhoods where we have eaten and explored. If you have to go for doctors' appointments you might as well make a fun day of it. Two weeks ago, I saw four doctors between two buildings at JHU for about five hours. I was sooo hungry after that. We ended up eating at the new Farmhouse Café in Bowie that day, since Robert just wanted to get out of the city, but it was already rush hour by the time I was finished anyway.

Annapolis is pretty much all seafood, especially crab cakes. We spent part of our honeymoon in Annapolis almost 24 years ago and did our own version of a pub crawl trying hors d'oeuvres and a drink at several restaurants and bars around the historic waterfront. That was so fun, and every time we are in Annapolis, I think about that. It might be time for another Annapolis weekend this fall, or we could wait and recreate the pub crawl plus add in some new adventures next November for our 25th anniversary.

I think one of the greatest places to savor all sorts of amazing food aromas is in our great county, and in our own county seat of Leonardtown. How lucky are we to have a walkable town and the larger Leonardtown area and St. Mary's County with every kind of dining experience you could ever need. Now I am so hungry again.

As for the present, I think I will go outside and take in some of my favorite smells of lawn and leaves from our own front yard by sitting in our high Adirondack chairs (across from some skeleton friends who have shown up early this year) and enjoy our own "God's Green Acre".

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook.

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In Remembrance

To schedule an obituary in the County Times, submit text and picture to aldailey@countytimes.net by noon on Tuesdays for publication on Thursdays. Any submissions received after this deadline may run in the following week's edition.

Dottie Prickett, 77



Dorothy Ann Sickle Prickett, 77, was welcomed into the arms of her Heavenly Father as she let go of Earthly pain and illness on September 18, 2025.

A dedicated military wife and mother, cherished grandmother and honored sister will be missed tremendously. Dottie as she was known to friends and (Dor or Dorothy Ann, to her siblings) was born in Leonardtown, Maryland on March 5, 1948, to William Joseph Sickle and Dorothy Greenwell Sickle, both deceased. She spent her childhood in St. Mary's County Maryland where she attended Little Flower School and St. Mary's Academy. She was confirmed in the Catholic Faith.

Dottie attended the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore Maryland where she studied Early Childhood Education. She met her husband, A.L. Prickett III (Joe), while attending a dance hosted between the college and the young Army officers. Her grandchildren very much enjoy the stories about her attending the dance with a date and asking him to hold her drink while she danced with Joe. It was said that she was so nervous about introducing Joe to her family, insisting they don't call him by the wrong boy's name, that she was the one who called him someone else's name that day.

Joe and Dottie were married in December 1969. They lived in Baltimore when Joe was deployed to Vietnam. Dottie became a mom in 1972 to a son and daughter in 1974. The Army took the family to Arizona, Taiwan, Virigina, Texas, and Washington D.C./Maryland.

As a military wife, Dottie traveled extensively beyond her simple country roots. She learned to speak Mandarin Chinese, attended graduate school, and made many trips to Mexico while living in Az and Texas. The family enjoyed extensive adventures while living in Texas. By far the most memorable (and laughed about) was driving for hours to take pictures of Bluebonnets. "Pictures?!", the children said.

She was a lifelong teacher. Dottie taught 3rd grade and pre-school. Well after leaving the profession in 1979, she continued to teach her children, then her grandchildren. Reading, writing and home economics were her specialty. Her children recall the "one thing we're going to do this summer" list that included math worksheets and reading lists.

Dottie and Joe settled in California, Maryland in the house that Dottie spend 20 years dreaming about on graph paper and magazine cut outs. She oversaw every brick, every nail, every shingle and made sure the construction crew was well fed. She spent a lot of time laying brick paths, planting (then moving) many flowers and trees. She canned vegetables from the garden and completed hundreds of sewing projects. She enjoyed having her Grandchildren visit and spent time making special sleeping places

for them and setting up toy villages for them to play. Retirement took them to Florida so they could enjoy the snowbird lifestyle, spending 6 months in Florida and 6 months in Maryland.

Dottie continued to enjoy sewing making projects for the home and clothing for her grandchildren. She enjoyed pictures and videos of all her grandchildren's activities in music, art, school or whatever interested them. She took immense pride in the Oktoberfest Drndls and vests she made every year in a Disney Princess theme for Eillen and Jack.

Dottie is survived by her devoted husband Joe III, son Joe, daughter Nell (Craig), her three granddaughters and one grandson. Also left to cherish her memory are her younger siblings, Kathy Lynn (Lance) whose visits she enjoyed as well as Kenny (Cheryl) and Betty Lou (Andy) with whom she often exchanged emails and texts over recent years, and, brother JC.

Honoring Dottie's wishes, a Service of Preparation for the After Life was attended by immediate family in her presence. Condolences may be left on the Memory Wall at mgfh.com.

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

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

David Hill, 83



David Andrew Hill, Sr., 83, of Maddox, (Chaptico) MD, was born on September 11, 1942 and died at home on September 21, 2025, surrounded by the most important people in his life: his wife, Barbara Elizabeth "Betty" Hill, his children, David A. Hill, Jr. (Denise), Barbara Yvonne Hill Burch (Richard), granddaughters, Ashley Hill (Bobby), Rachel Smallenbroek (Eric), Melissa Burch Treaster (James), Kristy Burch Garner (Jason), and David's second son, Rodney Wayne Hill.

David was blessed with three children, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. He was the son of the late William Douglas Hill, Sr. and Anna Louise (Morgan) Hill. He was born in Chaptico, MD, and was the fourth child born in a family of eight. David is survived by four siblings, Catherine "Kitty" Hill Minor (Don) of Orange Park, FL, Connie Hill Letourneau (Fulton) of Mechanicsville, MD, Virginia "Ginger" Hill Quade (Rhodie) of Chaptico, MD, Richard "Ricky" Hill (Sandy) of Hollywood, MD, and a special sister-in-law, Jo Ann Hill, of Hollywood, MD. He was preceded in death by his brothers, William D. "Billy" Hill (Mona), Joseph "Joe" Hill, and Johnny Hill.

David only lived in two towns during his whole life. He was raised in Maddox and enjoyed the simple life. He had a love of working the land and helping his parents raise tobacco crops and beautiful gardens.

He also enjoyed anything to do with the Wicomico River. He loved fishing, crabbing, oystering, swimming, and water skiing with his cousins and friends in his younger years. As he grew from his youth, he ventured out and got a job on the Wilson Line Tour Boat that toured from Marshal Hall theme park to Mount Vernon, VA. Although he didn't work there long, it was a fond memory that he loved to talk about. He even had a picture of that boat hanging in his living room.

After his adventure with the Wilson Line, he started dating his one life-love, Betty. His life really started changing then; he got a job working for Kettler Brothers Construction in Rockville, MD, and then married his love on October 2, 1965, in Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bushwood, MD. Together they celebrated almost 60 years of love.

David worked for Kettler Brothers, Inc. for 31 years and made his way back to Maddox every weekend. Although he lived in Rockville, Maddox was always home. After retirement, he and Betty moved back to Chaptico Wharf to his father's house to take care of him until his death in 1998. All three of his children had already made their way back to the county and called it home.

David eventually removed the house from the old home place, and he and his sons built a new house in 2000 and that was his and Bettys' home until his death.

David truly enjoyed his retirement. He could be found at the liquor store in Chaptico enjoying a cold beer or just roaming around at some of the other local bars playing some keno and bringing home some scratch offs for his Betty to scratch. Some of his buddies called him "The Mayor of Slabtown" — an old slang term for Maddox.

David was a great carpenter. He helped his brother, Billy, do remodeling work at his restaurants, The Halfway House and St. Mary's Landing, during his early retirement years. He enjoyed playing cards and was the King of Karaoke. He loved to sing some old Hank Williams songs and was pretty good at it too. Everyone at any party loved to hear David sing.

David was so much a part of the family and will be missed by so many friends and family.

David was one of those people that was easy to love.

The family will receive friends on Friday, September 26, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in Our Lady Of The Wayside Catholic Church, Chaptico, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12:00 PM with Father Chip Luckett officiating. Interment will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery, Bushwood, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Robert Hill, Jr., Robert "Bobby" Hill, Roger Hill, Jr., William "WT" McLaughlin, Eric Smallenbroek, and Phillip Quade III. Honorary pallbearers will be Kaye Bailey, Rachel Smallenbroek, Ashley Hill, Wesley Hill, Andy Bell, and Richard Burch.

Contributions may be made in David's memory to the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad and/or Hospice of St. Mary's.

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

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

Josh Dudley, 41



Joshua Paul Dudley, 41, of Quechee, VT, (formerly of Westminster, MD) passed away on September 14, 2025.

Born on May 25, 1984, in Cheverly, MD, he is the son of

James Carroll Dudley and Deborah LeAnn (nee: Austin) Dudley.

In 1994, Josh moved to St. Mary's from Glenn Dale, MD with his family. He grew up surrounded by a loving family with strong values. He is a 2002 graduate of Leonardtown High School. He earned his associate's degree from the College of Southern Maryland. He took courses at Salisbury University and Bismark State University in Electrical Power management and went on to build a career in the electrical industry for the past twelve years, as a distribution designer with TRC (The Reliability Company), where his dedication and skill did not go unnoticed.

He was an avid baseball player, playing for the Babe Ruth league where he was the MVP. In high school he played football and baseball. After high school he played for "The Wave" and was the team captain. He enjoyed spending time on the water, swimming, fishing and crabbing. He also played golf for fun. He enjoyed cheering on the Washington Redskins, Washington Capitals, and Baltimore Orioles.

Josh is survived by his loving parents, James and Deborah Dudley; his sisters, Deborah Gail Dudley of Lexington Park, MD, and Maggie Lynne Dudley (Mike) of Hollywood, MD; and his beloved nieces and nephew, Avery Dean, Henry "Mikey" Dean, and Emory "Emmie" Dean. He is preceded in death by his sister, Kendra LeAnn Dudley Arnold. He will also be deeply missed by extended family, friends, and all who knew him.

Family will receive friends on Friday, September 26, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., with a service held at 6:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Graveside Service will be Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Fort Lincoln Cemetery in Brentwood, Maryland.

Serving as pallbearers will be his father, James Dudley and his friends: Mike Hall, Thomas Maddox, Kingsley Nwachu, Jimmy Young, and Albert "Dink" Dennison. Honorary pallbearers will be his mother, Deborah Dudley and sister, Maggie Dudley.

Memorial contributions may be made in Josh's name to a charity of your choice.

Joshua's kindness, humor, and love will live on forever in the hearts of all who were blessed to know and love him.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

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SoMD Fall Fun CALENDAR

Autumn Harvest on the Farm

September 26–October 26
Lyon Family Farms
39010 Lyon Ln., Mechanicsville
Admission: \$12/person, children 3 and under are free

Join us for our first Autumn Harvest on the Farm! We open each weekend for some farm fun days filled with pumpkin picking, a petting zoo including mini highland cows from our friends at @K&J's Co Op, LLC, photo ops, food trucks, local vendors, and fun activities for all ages.

Available for on-site purchase:

- Apple cider slushes & apple cider donuts
- Food truck on-site almost daily
- Meat stand with beef, chicken & pork
- Assorted in-season produce
- Honey
- Farm made jams

Hours:

- Fridays & Saturdays 10am–5pm
- Sundays 10am–2pm

Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

September 27 – October 26
Bowles Farms
22880 Budds Creek Rd., Clements
Admission: \$15/person, children 3 and

under are free

Check out Southern Maryland's largest corn maze at Bowles Farms! Find your way through 14 acres of corn plus enjoy food, cupcakes, rides, a playground, barn yard animals, and other fall activities for all ages, including a pick-your-own pumpkin patch (additional fee applies).

During their 2025 fall season (September 27th through October 26th) the farm is open to the public on Saturdays from 10am to 6pm and Sundays from 10am to 5pm.

RiverFest

September 27, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City
47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City
Admission: Free

RiverFest, a celebration of the St. Mary's River and its watershed, is free and open to everyone! Discover 101 ways to protect and enjoy our waterways, enjoy live music and enjoy tours of Historic St. Mary's City. Visit exhibits and vendors from Southern Maryland. Come face-to-face with birds of prey, snakes, terrapins, and other seldom-seen neighbors. Join the ceremonial Wade-In at 2 p.m.

Remember to bring your change of clothes for the River Wade-In in honor of

the late Sen. Bernie Fowler. We will start the procession to the waterfront at 2 pm in the pavilion. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors. We can't wait to see you there.

The St. Mary's City Militia will be conducting their annual militia muster concurrently with RiverFest. If you are sensitive to loud noises, they will be firing their weapons at 10:30 am and a little after 1 pm.

Hosted by the St. Mary's River Watershed Association

Taste of St. Mary's

September 27, 12–4 p.m.
St. Mary's County Regional Airport
44174 Airport Rd., California
Admission: Free; Tasting Tickets \$1.25 each (card payment only, at the door)

One of the county's most famous events! Rain or Shine – get ready for culinary fun for the whole family. Enjoy food tastings, aircraft displays, activities for the kids, live music, a car show and more! Try samples of food and drink specialties from local restaurants, food trucks, and caterers.

Best of categories include Best Appetizer, Best Entrée, Best Dessert, Best Specialty and People's Choice.

Fall Paw Crawl

September 28, 12–4 p.m.
Leonardtown

Join us for fun filled pet friendly event. Downtown Leonardtown will be filled with a variety of pet vendors, rescues & other activities. Grab a bite to eat or a drink at one of the pet friendly restaurants.

- Food & Drinks
- Pet Activities
- Rescue Groups
- Pet Vendors
- Contests

Scarecrow Stroll

October 3–31
Leonardtown

Check out the unique and custom scarecrows all throughout Leonardtown and vote for your favorites! Hosted by the Leonardtown Business Association.

Monster Market

October 4, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13470 Dowell Rd., Solomons
Admission: Entry to the market area is free

Continued on page 5

THE TOWN OF LEONARDTOWN PRESENTS

**SUNDAY
OCT 19TH
1-4 PM**

**MONSTER MASH
BASH**

Trick-or-Treat Trail

Costume Contest

Kid's Crafts

Food & Drinks

Music w/ DJ Keegz

ghosts, ghouls and other goblins
gather at:

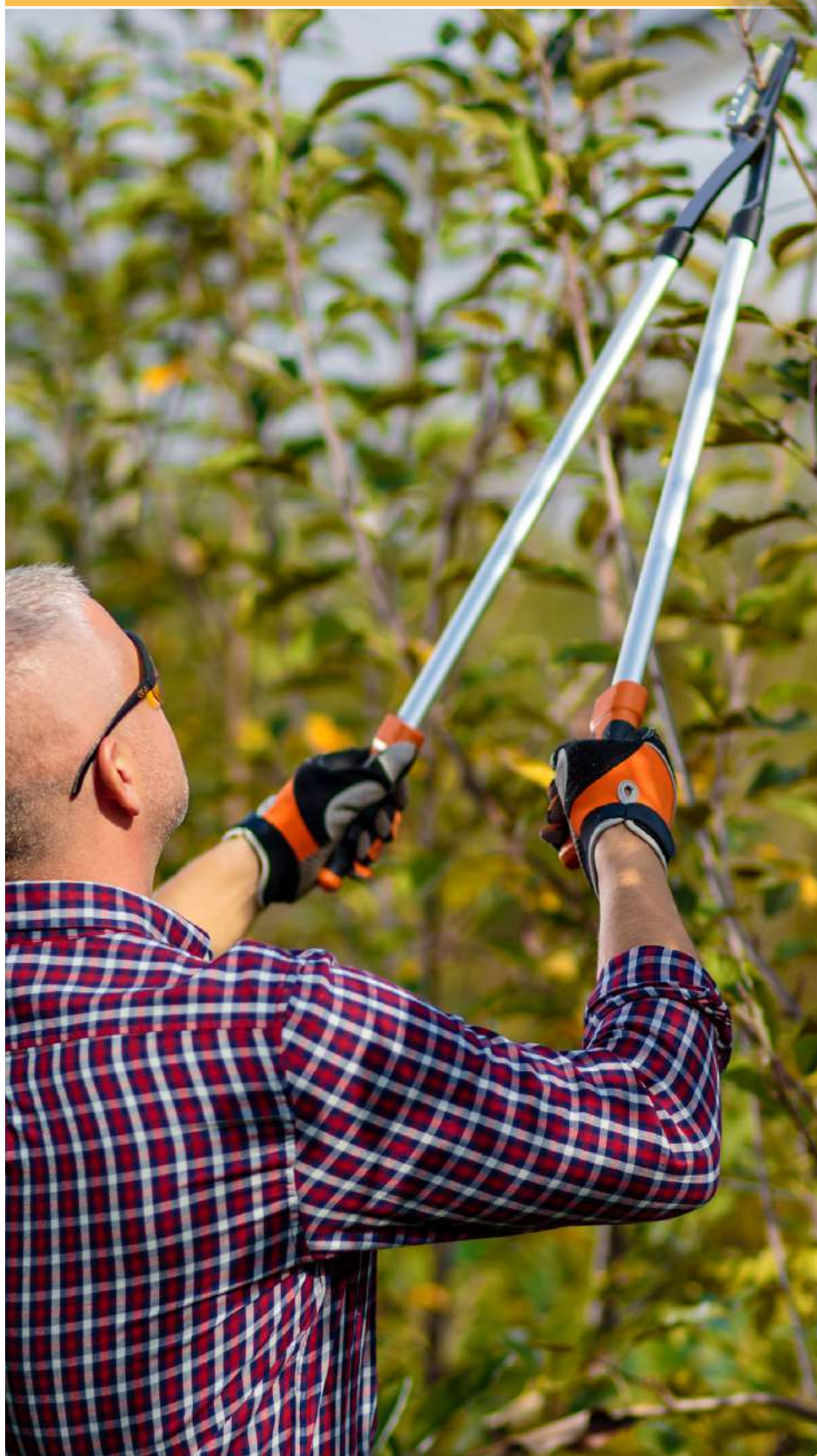
LEONARDTOWN WHARF

More Information:
www.VisitLeonardtownMD.com/EventsCalendar
Aris.Nazarova@leonardtownmd.gov or 301-475-9791

Leonardtown
A most exceptional place!



In addition to overhead lines, SMECO has many underground electric lines. Call **Miss Utility** at **811** before you dig.



Stay safe around power lines



As we slide into fall, many people are finishing projects around the house and yard in preparation for the coming winter months. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

- Never climb power poles or transmission towers.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- Keep equipment away from overhead lines when carrying ladders, pool skimmers, and pruning tools.
- If you are doing work close to power lines—such as trimming trees, working on your roof, or doing exterior renovations—keep yourself, your ladder, and anything you are handling a safe distance from the power line.
- Contact SMECO to disconnect power if you are doing work that requires close contact with overhead lines attached to your home.
- Use a licensed electrician for all electrical work.
- Plant trees away from power lines.



Download our free mobile app or use our texting service to report an outage or pay your bill.
smeco.coop/services



Continued from page 3

If you love fall and all things Halloween-related, then this market is for you! Let's indulge our love of autumn with this over-the-top Monster Market featuring lots of great shopping inspired by the season! You'll find more than 50 booths featuring a colossal assortment of handmade, homemade, and homegrown products. It's monstrous!

Fall Market

October 4, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Southern Trail Distillery
27227 Morganza Turner Rd., Mechanicsville
Admission: Free

Join us for our 6th Annual Fall Market at Southern Trail Distillery. The Market features 40 local vendors, 3 food trucks, and of course all the delicious Southern Trail cocktails!

HydraFX is playing 12:00-3:00! You don't want to miss out on all the fun!

Blessing of the Fleet

October 4, 12-10 p.m.
Leonardtown Wharf
22510 Washington St., Leonardtown
Admission: \$15; kids 10 and under free

The Blessing of the Fleet commemorates the time-honored tradition of blessing the Southern Maryland watermen's fleet of boats. Join the celebration of these watermen and the heritage of St. Mary's County. The event will feature family entertainment and activities, headliner band The Chesapeake Sons, local food, art and craft vendors, a blessing ceremony, waterman of the year award, an evening concert, and fireworks to finish out the night!

Brüderfest

October 4
Brüdergarten Beer Garden
22725 Duke St., Leonardtown
Admission: \$5 at the door

Get your furry friends ready for the costume contest and Weiner dog races, and enjoy lots of human games, food, prizes, epic eats, and of course, beer!

Experience Calvert Festival

October 4, 12-5 p.m.
North Beach
Admission: Free

Join us for a FREE family day at The Jewel of the Chesapeake Bay, presented by Cove Point LNG. This is your chance to experience the best of what Calvert County has to offer—all in one beautiful waterfront location!

What's waiting for you:

- Live music to keep you entertained
- Activities for the whole family
- Local vendors showcasing Calvert's finest
- Delicious food trucks with something for everyone

Set against the enveloping backdrop of North Beach, this festival celebrates our community's spirit, creativity, and connection to the Chesapeake Bay.

Antique Tractor & Truck Parade

October 5, 1-3 p.m.
Leonardtown Square
22670 Washington St., Leonardtown

Come out to Downtown Leonardtown to see antique power of yesteryear, including tractors and trucks, in parade and on display. Kids of all ages will be returned to a time when these fine machines worked the fields and hauled freight on the roads creating our beautiful Southern Maryland landscape. The parade will course through Leonardtown ending with a display of antique power in Town Square. All proceeds benefit Christmas in April St. Mary's County.

"One Maryland, One Book" Author Event — KIN: Rooted in Hope

October 8, 7-9 p.m.
Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center
47855 College Dr., St. Mary's City
Admission: Free

Join author Carole Boston Weatherford and artist Jeffrey Boston Weatherford for an inspiring discussion about their book Kin: Rooted in Hope. Event is FREE for all ages; no tickets required.

Released in 2024, the book is a work of art, history and personal genealogy — the authors' search into their family tree led them to ancestors who were among the founders of Maryland. Hybrid in form, and even more expansive in what it has to say, Kin: Rooted in Hope is a book created by, and about, a Black family and its generations. With each poem and its accompanying illustration, Carole and Jeffery tell their family story through each of their kin and the world they lived in: the Chesapeake Bay, the plantation house, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman and more.

The author talk will begin at 7:00 p.m., with a book signing and sales to follow. Local historical organizations will offer exhibits in the lobby, starting at 6:30 p.m. and continuing through the conclusion of the event.

Patuxent River Appreciation Day

October 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Calvert Marine Museum
14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons
Admission: Free

Come celebrate the Patuxent River at the original fall event held since 1978! This event includes live music, food and drink vendors, makers of homespun goods, a petting zoo, FREE boat rides, toy boat building, displays and activities celebrating the river! Explore the museum grounds to visit dozens of nonprofit and community groups that help keep our area a wonderful place to live and play!

Wheels and Wings Car Show

October 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Patuxent River Naval Air Museum
22156 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park

An ideal event for both automotive and aircraft enthusiasts. At the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum, see foreign, domestic, old school, and new school vehicles, as

Continued on page 7

Join the Shell-ebration!

The 59th Annual

US OYSTER FESTIVAL

Home of the US National Oyster Shucking Championship

October 18 - 19, 2025

St. Mary's County Fairgrounds

Oysters, every way, every day, local food favorites, and over 30 beers to taste and enjoy!

The Chesapeake Mermaid returns- 2 shows daily!

★ NEW LIVE MUSIC STAGE ★

SATURDAY
Bootleggers
Whiskers
One Trick Pony
Funkzilla
Myles Deep Band



SUNDAY
Blair Ritch Project
Reluctant Jazz Band
WestMob Band
HydraFX



Shucking Contests
2pm Daily
Amateurs Welcome

U.S. National Championship Sunday!

Rotary Club of Lexington Park

USOysterFestival.org



Thanks to our generous 2025 sponsors

SAIC

Visit ST. MARY'S MD



Sponsorship opportunities at usoysterfestival.org/sponsor

FALL FUN IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

THERE IS LOTS OF HISTORY AND HERITAGE TO EXPLORE IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY THIS FALL!

Water Taxi Tours to St. Clements Island

38370 Point Breeze Road
Colton's Point, MD

Open Daily
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Facebook.com/SCIMuseum
301-769-2222

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum

44720 Lighthouse Road
Piney Point, MD

Open Daily
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Facebook.com/1836Light
301-994-1471

Old Jail Museum

FREE
ADMISSION

41625 Courthouse Drive
Leonardtown, MD

Open Daily
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Facebook.com/TheOldJailMuseum
240-925-3427

Drayden African American Schoolhouse

18287 Cherryfield Road
Drayden, MD

Open select days
or by appointment

Facebook.com/DraydenSchool
301-994-1471

Maryland Begins Here!

at the St. Mary's County Museums

Discover fascinating stories, beautiful water views, and a full year of lively festivals and fun events at the St. Mary's County Museums. Climb the oldest lighthouse on the Potomac, take a boat ride out to St. Clement's Island, or learn the tales of the Old Jail in Leonardtown.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MUSEUMS
VISIT [MUSEUMS.STMARYSMD.COM](https://museums.stmarysmd.com)



Continued from page 5

well as amazing airplanes on the flight line. Spectator tickets can be purchased at the museum on the day of the event.

Octoberfest: Roots & Rhythms

October 11, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Thomas Family Farm
20037 Tippet Rd., Lexington Park
Admission: \$23.18

Mark your calendars for Roots & Rhythms Oktoberfest — where culture, flavor, and music come together like never before!

Enjoy the soulful sounds of Latrice Carr and the high-energy mixes of DJ Colbert, keeping the vibe alive all day long.

Come hungry and ready to indulge in bold flavors, fresh oysters (included with admission while supplies last), and a variety of delicious food from local vendors. Sip on craft brews, savor seasonal favorites, and shop unique finds while the kids enjoy activities and family-friendly fun.

Sponsored by Thomas Family Farm, this is more than an event—it's a celebration of culture, community, and connection.

Whether you're here for the beer, the beats, or the people, Roots & Rhythms Oktoberfest is the place to be. Bring your crew, bring your family, and let's raise a glass to good times!

Shuck It! Solomons

October 11, 12 p.m.
Solomons

Join us in Solomons for the First Annual

Shuck It! Solomons — a brand-new event celebrating the rich oyster heritage of the Chesapeake Bay!

Enjoy a variety of oyster and seafood dishes, live entertainment, special retail offers, themed boat rides, interactive demonstrations, and more. Don't forget to pick up your Oyster Passport and explore participating Solomons businesses for a chance to win oyster-themed prizes!

SOMD Pride: Existence is Resistance

October 12, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Lexington Manor Passive Park
21675 Coral Dr. S., Lexington Park
Admission: Free

Join Southern Maryland Pride as we Celebrate our 8th Annual Pride Festival! This year's theme, "Existence is Resistance" underscores the importance of visibility and resilience within the LGBTQIA+ community.

Our festival will feature a diverse line-up of attractions, including LGBTQIA+ small businesses, community resources, a variety of vendors and independent creators, delicious offerings from food trucks and food stalls, a dedicated Kid's Zone, live entertainment from a DJ, captivating drag performances, aerial artists, inspiring speakers, a silent auction and more!

Let's stand together and continue building a safe, inclusive community where everyone belongs and is celebrated.

Vampire Manor

October 17, 7-10 p.m.

Historic St. Mary's City State House
18751 Hogaboom Ln., St. Mary's City
Admission: \$90 per person, \$160 for two

You have been summoned.

When the sun sets on Historic St. Mary's City, the veil lifts—and the manor awakens. Vampire Manor is a 21+ immersive evening of elegance, eeriness, and unearthly entertainment. The night will include devilishly delicious cocktails and food, a costume contest, a fire dancer, live music, a silent film screening, tarot readings, and much more.

Buy tickets at hsmcevents.com/vampire-manor

Village Days

October 18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
10515 Mackall Road, Saint Leonard
Admission: Free

Step back in time and try your hand at an ancient skill with this free, drop-in program. Each month we explore a new topic such as fire-making, pottery, or hunting in our Woodland Indian Village. Join us and learn a little about what life was like for Maryland's first peoples.

This program is generously supported by the Friends of JPPM.

Halloween in the Garden

October 18, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13470 Dowell Road, Solomons
Admission: \$5/person online; \$8/person at the gate (if not sold out); members

free w/advance reservation; age 2 & under free

Are you ready for a howling good time at Annmarie's Halloween in the Garden? Join us for this family-friendly Trick-or-Treating festival. The garden will be decorated for the season with lots of great Halloween and fall decor, with fun photo ops around every corner! More than 60 local businesses and organizations will be here handing out treats for the kids, plus there will be fun and games, a DJ dance party, food trucks, and more! So dress up the whole family and enjoy a spooktacular day at Annmarie! Advance tickets required.

Lower Marlboro Freedom Day

October 18, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church
6519 Lower Marlboro Ln., Owings
Lower Marlboro Hall
3911 Lower Marlboro Rd., Owings

As the War of 1812 raged into the summer of 1814, British troops sailed up the Patuxent River in a bid to take Washington, D.C. On their way, they stopped at the port of Lower Marlboro in what is now Owings to commandeer supplies and offered freedom to local enslaved men and women in exchange for their service to the British war effort. Fourteen people won their freedom that day, on what we now commemorate as Lower Marlboro Freedom Day.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to enjoy the fall weather while celebrat-

Continued on page 9

Zimmerman's Greenhouse

28025 Point Lookout Rd. | Leonardtown, MD 20650
IN LOVEVILLE

Come see us for all your fall decor needs...

Pumpkins | Corn Stalks | Indian Corn
Straw | Mums | Apple Cider | Baked Goods

... and fresh produce!

Apples | Sweet Potatoes | Cabbage | Kales

SOIL & MULCH

BUY 10, GET ONE

FREE

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

GOURDS

FILL A ½ BU. BOX FOR

\$15

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

GLAZED POTS

10% OFF

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

SHRUBS & TREES

LEFTOVER STOCK

25% OFF

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

Open Monday–Saturday 8am–5pm

Leonardtwn 7th Annual SCARECROW STROLL



The Scarecrow Stroll kicks off Friday October 3rd and runs through the month of October.

Come stroll around town and vote for your favorite!

VOTING BEGINS 10/3/25
AND ENDS 10/27/25
WINNER ANNOUNCED 10/30/25

More Info
VisitLeonardtwnMd.com/scarecrowstroll

Leonardtwn BUSINESS ASSOCIATION VisitLeonardtwnMd.com County Times

Leonardtwn GINGERBREAD LANE

Enjoy a Sweet Stroll through Leonardtown & Vote for your favorite Gingerbread Character



This December Washington St & Fenwick St will be full of Holiday cheer with your Gingerbread creations!

Gingerbread Lane begins 12/5/25

Would you like to join in the fun and create your own Gingerbread character? Reserve Yours today at VisitLeonardtwnMD.com/gingerbreadlane or email leonardtwnmaryland@gmail.com for more info

25 YEARS Leonardtwn BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

VisitLeonardtwnMd.com

Fall Paw Crawl



Leonardtwn MARYLAND

September 28, 2025 12 pm to 4 pm
Downtown Leonardtown

- Food & Drinks
- Pet Vendors
- Pet Activities
- Costume Contests
- Rescue Groups
- Demos & more
- Pawfect Citizen Certification

VisitLeonardtwnMd.com

25 YEARS Leonardtwn BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Schedule of Events

- 11am: Pup Up Yoga at Spice Studio (Humans Only)
- 12pm to 4pm: Vendors, Adoptions, Passport Stamping
- 12pm to 4pm: Creative Color at St. Mary's Arts Council
- 12pm to 4pm: Linny's Dog Gym (Town Market lot)
- 12pm to 4pm: Mini ascent Work Demos with TNT K9 Training (Town Market lot)
- 12pm to 4pm: Pet Themed Flash Tattoos at Blue Scarab Tattoo
- 12pm to 4pm: Rally Course & Pawfect Citizen Certification (Town Market lot)
- 12:30pm: Trick Dog Demo with Tried and True Train and Stay (Beside St. Mary's Arts Council)
- 1:15pm: Costume Contest Sign Up Ends
- 1:30pm: Costume Contest (Town Market lot)
- 2:15pm: Trick Contest Sign Up Ends
- 2:30pm: Trick Contest (Town Market lot)
- 3:15pm: Trick Dog Demo with Tried and True Train and Stay (Beside St. Mary's Arts Council, grass park)
- 4pm: Thank You - Turn in your Passport to Balance Paws or Town Market

Balanced Paws Pet Care

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Town Market

Continued from page 7

ing our local history and heritage. Activities include walking tours, speakers, entertainment, food and exhibits at the historic Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church and Lower Marlboro Hall in Owings. Free parking.

59th Annual U.S. Oyster Festival

October 18 & 19
St. Mary's Fairgrounds
42455 Fairgrounds Rd., Leonardtown

This weekend-long event brings fresh and local oysters by the bucket load. You can enjoy them raw, grilled, fried, steamed, and everything in between!

Watch as contestants go head-to-head in the weekend's main event, the shucking competition. Plus, enjoy live music, artisan vendors, and loads of family-friendly fun all weekend long!

Attended by thousands, this beloved two-day festival celebrating the best of Southern Maryland and America's oyster culture culminates in the U.S. National Oyster Shucking Championship, where top shuckers from across the nation compete for the title of U.S. National Champion and the opportunity to represent our country in the World Oyster Opening Championships in Galway, Ireland.

Monster Mash Bash

October 19, 1-4 p.m.
Leonardtown Wharf
22500 Washington St., Leonardtown

Get ready for a fang-tastic night of Halloween fun at the Monster Mash Bash, where ghosts, goblins, and ghouls of all ages are invited to join the festivities! This Halloween extravaganza is packed with activities, treats, and entertainment that will make your spooky season unforgettable.

- Costume Contest
- Trick or Treat Trail
- Art Activities
- Food & Activity Vendors

Pumpkin Festival

October 25, 12-5 p.m.
Dixon Family Farm
27075 S. Sandgates Rd., Mechanicsville

Our first ever Pumpkin Festival! Join us for a cozy day on the farm filled with pumpkin picking, hands-on floral workshops, live music, food trucks, craft vendors, and fun fall activities for all ages. From toe-tapping vintage American music to cookie decorating, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Hound of the Town

October 25, 12 p.m.
North Beach Boardwalk
9023 Bay Ave., North Beach

A costume parade just for dogs and dog lovers! This dog costume parade takes place on the boardwalk along the Chesapeake Bay. Owners walk their furry friends along the parade route where they are introduced and judged by the panel of judges. Prizes are awarded at the conclusion of the parade. Only dogs can be entered in the dog parade.

Boo Bash

October 25, 3 p.m.
North Beach Pavilion
9023 Bay Ave., North Beach

Family fun in North Beach! Children's costume contest (registration 2:15-3:00 p.m. on the pavilion), followed by parade and judging and trick or treating at local businesses.

Bats & Booze

October 25, 4-10 p.m.
Southern Trail Distillery
27227 Morganza Turner Rd., Mechanicsville
Admission: \$5

It's the creepy, crawly time of year and we are ready to get our party on with HydraFX! Music, drinks, food, costume contests, raffles, & door prizes...make sure to make plans to come by!

Wear your best costume to win our costume contest...and just have a great time with the Southern Trail Crew! 21 & over with valid ID.

Hit or Miss Nu Metal Halloween Bash

October 31, 8-11 p.m.
The Rex Theatre
22695 Washington St., Leonardtown
Admission: \$10+

Join us with Hit or Miss & DJ C-Note to have the best Halloween ever! \$1,000 costume contest plus hits from Korn, Papa Roach, Limp Bizkit, Slipknot & more.

American Indian Heritage Day

November 1, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
10515 Mackall Rd., Saint Leonard
Admission: Free

Join us as we celebrate 10,000 years of history and culture! This free event features native dancers, educational demonstrations, and tons of fun activities!

Railway Museum Sweet Treat Express

November 15, 2-3:30 p.m.
Northeast Community Center
4075 Gordon Stinnett Ave.,
Chesapeake Beach
Admission: Free

Bring your family and come build some sweet train engines out of candy and treats with us! No reservations required. Drop-ins welcome. Free and open to the public.

The String Queens

November 15, 7-9 p.m.
Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge
Performing Arts Center
47835 College Dr., St Marys City
Admission: \$25+

Praised for its authentic, soulful, and orchestral sound, The String Queens (TSQ) is a dynamic trio that creates stimulating musical experiences that inspire diverse audiences to love, hope, feel, and imagine! With an array of repertoire spanning from the Baroque era to the Jazz Age to today's Billboard Hot 100 Chart, TSQ performs versatile programs that take listeners on a rousing musical journey through time and a multitude of musical genres.

Brüderfest

October 4, 2025

Brüdergarten Beer Garden

22725 Duke Street, Leonardtown
11 AM - 'til

Beer
Epic Eats
Visiting Brewers
Live Entertainment
Human Games
Dog Contests
Prizes
Family Friendly
'til 7 PM
\$5 entry 11 & older

Featuring HydraFX
6 PM




SEPT. 27, 2025 12:00 - 4:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

FOOD AND BEVERAGES TICKETED

TASTE OF

ST. MARY'S

AT THE AIRPORT

Enjoy Food & Drinks from local vendors

- Aircraft on display • Model airplane demonstrations •
- Classic Car Show • Hand-Crafted Dollhouse Raffle •
- Kids: Make-and-take Arts & Crafts • Axe Lane • Games & more •

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2025 Bowles Farms Corn Maze

"Celebrating 25 Years of A-Maze-ing Memories!"

Maze Theme: "Celebration Cake"

Location

Rt. 234 and Pincushion Rd
22880 Budds Creek Road
Clements, MD 20624
BowlesFarms@rcn.com
301-475-2139



Enjoy....2 Phase Maze

- Kiddy Maze
 - Giant Slides
 - Kids Play Area
 - Barn Yard Animals
 - Wagon Ride
 - Barrel Train
 - Food & Refreshments
 - Large Covered Pavilion
 - Inside Restrooms
 - Pumpkins For Sale
 - Group Rates Available
 - Corporate Events
- Farmer's Daughter
Cupcake Shop



www.BowlesFarms.com

Fall Season

Sept 27 – Oct 26

Weekend Fall Fun
Sept 27 to Oct 26



NO PETS
ALLOWED



Hours of Operation

Week Days - School & Daycares: By Appointment Only

Saturday's: 10:00AM to 6:00PM

Sunday's: 10:00AM to 5:00PM

Admission

\$15.00 Per Person (3 and Under Free)

Group Rates Available 15 or More



2025 FALL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

LIVE AT 38250 NEW MARKET TURNER RD.
ONLINE AT EQUIPMENTFACTS.COM

OCTOBER 17 • 8:30AM

Vehicles • Farm Equipment • Heavy Equipment

OCTOBER 18 • 8:30AM

Antiques • Flowers • Tools • Vintage Cars
Building Materials • Lawn Equipment • and More

PREVIEW OCTOBER 16 • 8AM–5PM

See equipment at EquipmentFacts.com

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LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED



October 12th, 2024

12:00pm - 4:00pm

Free To Attend

Bring yourself, friends, and family for a fun afternoon at beautiful Camp Maria featuring live music, raffles, delicious food and drink, and plenty of activities for kids.

**41290 Camp Maria Rd
Leonardtown, MD**

 campmaria.org

13th Annual Camp Maria OYSTER SCALD Sponsored By:



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- Oysters (Fried and Scalded)
 - Stuffed Ham
 - Fried Chicken
 - Beverages
 - Pulled Pork
 - French Fries
 - Baked Goods
- (Including Beer and Wine)

Meet Us on Campus!



Get a closer look at St. Mary's Ryken this year!

Our campus is open for:

KNIGHT FOR A DAY

*Visits through December
for 8th–11th graders*

CAMPUS TOURS

*Year-round, led by
current students*

OPEN HOUSE

*Sunday, Oct. 19
1–4 p.m.*

FINE ARTS & ATHLETICS EVENTS

*Throughout the fall,
winter and spring*

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Visit www.smrhs.org/admissions to apply today!

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www.smrhs.org/visit



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A COLLEGE-LIKE CAMPUS. A HIGH SCHOOL THAT FEELS LIKE HOME.



COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

CRAFT / VENDOR FAIR

November 8 • 11 – 5 pm

Free Admission

Over 35+ Carnival Attractions

Battle Dome Laser Tag, Cyclone,
32' Rock Climbing Wall
Jokers Wild, Adrenalator,
Extreme Air Jumper, Meltdown
Mind Winder, Human Tumbler
24' Raiders of The Lost Temple Slide
High Voltage Xtreme Arena,
SuperSonic, Fun Park, Pony Rides
Black Ops Obstacle Course
& Much More!

**Over 30 Crafters &
Vendors!**

**Door Prizes!
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Hamburgers, Hot Dogs
Pulled Pork, Pizza
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Cotton Candy
Popcorn, Churros,
Funnel Fries
Nachos & Much More!**



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Callaway, MD off Rt. 5 / 301-994-3080
www.KCAeagles.org • Rain Date: November 15

Fall Harvest and Local Meats

Auction

Live, In-Person and
Seated Style Auction!

Locally-Raised USDA Meats (Beef, Pork and Lamb)

**Pumpkins – Mums – Produce – Apples – Lawn/Garden Concrete
Items – Handcrafted Quilts – Crafts – Outdoor Poly Furniture –
Baked Goods – New Tools - Toys – 20' x 20' Tent – More**



SATURDAY - OCTOBER 4, 2025 - 4 pm

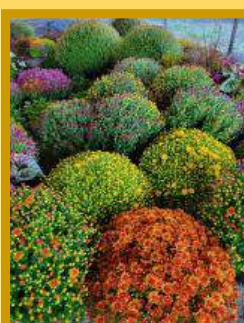
(Auction Preview and Registration begins at 2 pm)

Westfield Farm Arena & Auction Barn

26689 Laurel Grove Rd - Mechanicsville, MD



Mums, Pumpkins, Apples, Fall Produce, Handcrafted Quilts, Meats (see below), Coolers (variety of sizes), Wrench Sets, Dutch Oven, Ball Caning Jars, Pyrex Sets, Fishing Reels, Garden Hoses, Bird Baths, Work Boots, Charcoal, Locally-Made Outdoor Poly Furniture, Baked Goods, Meat Grinders, Vacuum Sealer & Bags, Air Compressor Hoses, Tool Boxes, Lawn/Garden Concrete Items, Perennials, Selection of New Toys, Iron Flag Holders, Travel Bags, Ratchet Straps, Baking Pans, Tool Bags/Holsters, Snacks, Water Nozzles, Much More



Special Mention: Locally-raised meats (Steaks, Hamburger, Roasts, Pork Chops, Sausage, Bacon, Scrapple, Lamb and More). We purchase animals from local County Fair 4-H Livestock Auctions and have the meats processed at a USDA facility. We then offer these quality meats – vacuumed-sealed and recently-frozen – ready for your freezer. Bring you family, friends, neighbors and coolers! A great opportunity to purchase quality meats!



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St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Thu, Sep 25

St. Mary's County Community Resource Day

Bay District Volunteer Fire Department
46900 S Shangri-La Dr. Lexington Park
2-7 p.m.

Join us a free event dedicated to supporting individuals and families in need, in partnership with many local organizations. This event offers a wide range of on-site services including job skills and employment resources, healthcare services and information, on-the-spot assistance from local providers, free meals, and backpacks filled with essentials like socks, hygiene items, and gift cards. Local barbers will also be providing free haircuts. For more information, contact Cynthia Brown at 301-475-4200 ext. 1846 or email Cynthia.Brown@stmaryscountymd.gov

Fri, Sep 26

SMTMD Fall Concert: IONA

Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall
37497 Zach Fowler Rd., Chaptico
7 p.m.

The Music of Iona weaves the music and dance of the seven Celtic Nations of the old world with their progeny on the North American continent. Presenting their unique arrangements of traditional tunes, Iona has been a dominant force in the North American Celtic music landscape since 1986, entertaining with song, dance, and their humorous and informative commentary. \$15 SMTMD members; \$20 Non-members.

Advance sales through TicketLeap (go to smtmd.org). You may also purchase at the door with cash, check, Zelle, or Venmo. Refreshments will be made available.

Outdoor Movie Night

Alice in Leonardtown Mural Parking Lot
7:30 p.m.

Get ready for an evening of cinema magic! Gather your family and friends, bring blankets & lawn chairs and enjoy a movie night under the stars. For more information, please reach out at 301-475-9791.

Sat, Sep 27

Community Yard Sale (Inside)

St. Mary's County Fair Grounds
42455 Fairgrounds Rd., Leonardtown
7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Reserve a space for \$20. (size: 8 ft. X 9 ft.); NOTE: An additional fee of \$10 will be charged for each additional table purchased for space.

Danny D's Food Truck will be selling Breakfast & Lunch!; For more information or to reserve a space(s) contact: Becky at dbksk@atlanticbb.net or call 301-904-1656; or Agnes at agnes.birch54@gmail.com or call 301-904-0946.

Craft Vendor Fair

St. Mary's County Fair Grounds
42455 Fairgrounds Road, Leonardtown
7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Reserve a space for \$30 (each additional

space \$20). For more information or to reserve a space / spaces contact: Diana at beaconplus@verizon.net or call 240-298-1780; or Becky at dbksk@atlanticbb.net or call 301-904-1656.

Brown Bag Auction

Ridge Volunteer Fire Department
13820 Point Lookout Road
Doors open 11 a.m., auction begins 1 p.m.

Sponsored by Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad Association. Tickets are \$1/each, 6/\$5, 14/\$10 or 25/\$20. Bring a non-perishable food item for our local Food Pantry and receive five free tickets (limit 1 per family). Food, drinks and desserts will be on sale by the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. There will also be a Vendor Fair during the auction.

SOMD Suicide Prevention Summit

University System of Maryland
Southern Maryland
44219 Airport Rd., California
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Life-saving tools & strategies—practical insights on recognizing warning signs, supporting loved ones in crisis, and accessing local mental health resources. Register now at: somdchooselifeuym.eventbrite.com

Blazin' Keys Dueling Pianos

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department
24801 Three Notch Rd., Hollywood
7 p.m.

Presented by Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. \$20

Per Person. Tickets Sold in Advance

BYOB. Food trucks, desserts, 50/50 raffle. To purchase tickets: www.hvfd7.com or 240-538-249

Sun, Sep 28

East Coast Drifters Fall Classic Car Show

Mechanicsville Moose Lodge
27636 Mechanicsville Rd., Mechanicsville
8 a.m.-3 p.m.

All years cars, trucks & motorcycles are welcome. Top 70, 25 late model and several specialty awards. First 100 receive dash plaques. Registration \$20 at gate. Spectators \$5 (under 12 free) Registration cut-off Noon. For more info call: Chuck 301-751-5602 or Rich 240-538-4266 eastcoastdrifters.com (rain date Sept. 28).

Family and Friends Day Celebration

First Missionary Baptist Church
46370 Pegg Lane, Lexington Park
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join us during our 10 a.m. Divine Worship Service. We will worship the Lord and celebrate Families and Friends. The theme is 'Family and Friends Bonded Together in Love'. The guest preacher is Reverend Keenan Bond, Pastor of Holy Corinthians Missionary Baptist Church, Maywood, Illinois.

The Celebration will be In-House and Virtually. The virtual phone number is 617-691-8533 or virtual meeting ID: join.free-conferencecall.com/fmcb0. For additional information, please contact 301-863-8388.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

UPCOMING EVENTS

Art to Unwind

Art doesn't have to be intimidating, or time consuming. Instead, it can be a chance to explore creativity, the ability to make mistakes, and an opportunity to try something new. Each session will feature a small art and/or craft project that can be completed in an hour to an hour and a half. Lexington Park Library on Monday, September 29 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Estate Planning

Join Williams, McClernan, & Stack LLC for an overview of estate planning basics and to have your questions answered. Have you ever wondered

about the difference between a will and an estate? Or what a power of attorney or advanced directive is? This seminar will go over what these estate planning tools are and how to best use them. And make sure you bring your questions!

Please note: This event is not a legal consultation. Williams, McClernan, & Stack LLC will answer general questions, but cannot provide legal advice during this seminar. Leonardtown Library on Tuesday, September 30 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

How Poetry Brings History to the Present Mind

This year's One Maryland, One Book is

"Kin: Rooted in Hope" written by Carole Boston Weatherford with art by Jeffery Boston Weatherford. Their book focuses on the Weatherford's own ancestors who were among the founders of Maryland and gives these individuals voice through enslavement, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. This program combines a book discussion group with a poetry writing session. Participants are invited to bring in a family photo, artifact, etc. that has multi-generational ties, and write a poem honoring that memory by adding details that breathe new life into it. Paper and writing utensils provided, no experience needed! Lexington Park Library on Thursday, October 2 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Native Plant Swap and Seed Swap at the Front Yard

This free event offers both experienced and new gardeners a chance to add native plants to their yards. In doing so, you will be creating habitat for our native birds, bees and butterflies. If you're new to gardening with native plants, this event is

the place to get started! Meet and chat with native-plant enthusiasts, view native plants in the Front Yard gardens, and take home free plants and seeds! If you're an experienced native gardener, please spread the joy by bringing your favorite plants and seeds to swap and share. Leonardtown Library on Saturday, October 4 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Read, Play, Celebrate! 75th Anniversary Jubilee!

Join us in honoring 75 years of community, learning, and imagination at our Diamond Jubilee Celebration! Whether you're a lifelong library lover or visiting for the first time, this is a celebration for everyone. We will have a special diamond scavenger hunt, photo booth and games for the entire family to enjoy! Charlotte Hall Library on Saturday, October 4 from 2:30 - 4 p.m.



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40								41	
42									43

- CLUES ACROSS
- CLUES DOWN
1. Gas usage measurement

4. Muslim mystic

8. Towards the mouth or oral region

10. Monday (Spanish)

11. Frame for a coffin

12. Rub out

13. John ___, English educator 1467-1519

15. Small round particle

16. Chilean seaport

17. News service

18. Pay for dinner

21. Glamorous city

22. Subway rodent

23. “The Raven” author

24. Buddhist festival

25. Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)

26. Indigenous person of Thailand

27. “The Blonde Bombshell”

34. Series-ending episodes

35. Bluish greens

36. Aquatic mammal

37. Unit of measurement

38. Eye membranes

39. Indian god of dissolution

40. People of Scotland

41. Leak slowly through

42. Rock icon Turner

43. Midway between south and southeast
1. Large hat covering

2. “From what is earlier” (Latin)

3. Celtic

4. Retirement region

5. A way to change posture

6. Touches

7. A small island

9. Rubbish

10. A citizen of Laos

12. A place to dance

14. 19th letter of Greek alphabet

15. Mild expression of surprise

17. 17th letter of Greek alphabet

19. Descriptions

20. Men’s fashion accessory

23. Thieves of the sea

24. Prohibit

25. Card game

26. French and Belgian river

27. Underling

28. Downwind

29. Type of medication

30. German city

31. Animal disease

32. Martini ingredients

33. Get away from

34. Stuffed (French)

36. Type of precipitation

4					3			
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SEPTEMBER 18 SOLUTIONS									
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3	9	2	8	6	4	1	7	5
6	2	9	3	1	8	7	5	4
4	8	7	5	9	2	3	1	6
1	3	5	4	7	6	8	9	2
5	6	3	2	8	7	9	4	1
9	7	4	1	5	3	6	2	8
2	1	8	6	4	9	5	3	7

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- Additions
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Saturday 7 am to 4 pm • Sunday Closed
Closed for Lunch 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm

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IN STOCK



Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thu, Sep 25

TACOS Teen Advisory Council of Students

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons
5-6 p.m.
Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
4100 5th St., North Beach
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Teens! Calvert Library needs you! We want the library to be a safe space where teens can hang out and freely access books, information, and form community. TACOS meets monthly to help us with our events and services planning. You can receive one Service Learning hour for each meeting attended. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Yoga on the Terrace - All Levels

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
4100 5th St., North Beach
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us for our summer yoga series with a gentle flow class for all levels on the beautiful terrace overlooking the Bay. In the case of inclement weather, the class will be canceled. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Fri, Sep 26

Calvert County Veteran Services Program

Southern Pines Senior Center
20 Appeal Lane, Lusby
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Are you a veteran or close family member looking for assistance? The Calvert County Office on Aging is partnering with ServingTogether to provide support twice a month, every second Wednesday and fourth Friday. Walk-ins are encouraged. No appointment is necessary. Visit servingtogetherproject.org/calvert for more information.

Sat, Sep 27

Empowerment Communities Luncheon

Calvert County Baptist Church

2190 Solomons Island Rd. S,
Prince Frederick
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The NAACP Calvert # 7011 B is inviting pastors, faith leaders, and church members to attend. The gathering will celebrate the historic partnership between the Church and the NAACP – a bond that has fueled the fight for equality, justice, and opportunity for generations. Together, we will strengthen our shared mission, connect in fellowship, and inspire action to uplift Calvert County. Please RSVP by Sept.13 by calling 240-466-1899.

Antique Appraisal Roadshow

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
Item drop-off at 10 a.m.
Appraisal information shared 11a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Got a hidden treasure? Bring your antique or collectible for a \$10 appraisal by expert Todd Peenstra, or just come to watch and learn about the fascinating world of collectibles! All proceeds benefit the Arts Council of Calvert County and Friends of Calvert Library. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Halloween Swap at the Library

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850
Costley Way, 2-4 p.m.

Get ready for a spooky, sustainable Halloween! Bring gently used costumes and decor to swap for something new-to-you. Save money, reduce waste, and find the perfect frightful or festive touch for the season. All ages welcome. Let's make this Halloween fun and eco-friendly! Registration requested. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sun, Sep 28

Fossil Club Meeting & Free Public Lecture

Calvert Marine Museum
1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

Join us in the museum's Harms Gallery

for the CMM Fossil Club meeting at 1:30 p.m., followed by a free lecture at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Briana Pobiner of the Smithsonian Institution will present "The Role of Scavenging in Human Evolution."

Mon, Sep 29

Introduction to Sewing—Wallet Style Organizer

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
4100 5th St., North Beach
6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for a brief introduction to sewing. At this event, you will learn the basics of the Bernina sewing machine in our Makerspace and create your own wallet-style organizer! Participants must complete the Bernina sewing machine online certification piece before this event. Click through to the full event description for the certification link. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tue, Sep 30

Astronomy Night

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Come see what the night sky has to offer in the field behind Fairview. Learn about the equipment used to view the sky from the Astronomy Club of Southern Maryland. All ages welcome. Outdoor only event, weather permitting. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Wed, Oct 1

Homeschool Day in Solomons

Calvert Marine Museum
Annemarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Autumn – Exploring the Wonders of Day & Night in Nature! Pick up an interactive Homeschool BINGO card at CMM, complete the tasks at both sites to earn BINGO, and turn it in at AMG for the chance to win

a prize! Ideal for K - 5, but all ages can discover something new.

CMM activities: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

AMG activities: Noon-3 p.m.

Admission applies at both locations. CMM members get free admission to CMM. Please check each location for specific admission prices.

Thu Oct. 2

Sea Squirts

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

This month's theme is Camouflage. 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 craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. Cost is free with museum admission. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive.

Upcoming

The Band of Brothers at PRAD

Calvert Marine Museum
Oct. 11

The Band of Brothers Inc. PTSD/Suicide Prevention Group of So. Maryland will have an information table at PRAD. We offer support for all Veterans in need of our services, as well as support for the local community.

We provide help with VA Military Compensation Claims by appointment.

Our method is derived from our military experiences when we were surrounded by others who think and dressed as needed to work together to survive. A veteran will miss this camaraderie when leaving after serving our country, and as such, we attempt to create a similar environment for our 'Brothers and Sisters'. For more information call (301) 481-6752.

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The County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's and Calvert County. The County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

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 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 County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.



County Times

P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636



Join us
for a heartwarming
tradition at the
*Calvert
County Fair!*

Meet Hannah the Hospice Hog.

You can bid on her at the livestock auction.

All proceeds will benefit Hospice of the Chesapeake patients and families in Calvert County.

Thank you to the Said family at **Grand Oak Farm** for continuing this tradition with loving care and generosity.

www.hospicechesapeake.org

CALVERT COUNTY FAIR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Senior Citizen & Special Needs Day: 9 am – 4 pm free admission and free bagged lunch (for Calvert Co. citizens) for seniors and special needs persons

- 5:00 pm Carnival Opens for Everyone (Wristband Night)
- 6:30 pm 4-H and Open Swine Show (Show Ring)
- 7:00 pm Calvert County Idol Semifinals (Pavilion)
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Youth Day: Calvert County Public Schools closed - youth under 18 free until 4 pm
"Canned Food to Feed the Hungry" Accepted at Gate from Youth

- 9:00 am 4-H and Open Goat Show
4-H and Open Sheep Show
- 6:00 pm Horse Pull
- 7:00 pm Calvert County Idol Finals
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 9:00 am 4-H and Open Cattle Show
- 10:00 am Carnival Opens
- 1:00 pm Corn Hole Tournament
- 4:00 pm DJ Graham Cracker
- 5:00 pm 4-H Livestock Auction Registration
- 6:00 pm 4-H Livestock Auction
- 6:00 pm Southern MD Mini Pullers
- 7:00 pm Frank Vieira Band
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Entertainment at various times throughout the day: Agri-Puppets • The Foam Zone • Wild Beal's Speedway • Odyssey Mobile Archery • Andy Rotz Entertainment • MD Agricultural Showcase Trailer

- 10:00 am Fair Main Gates Open
- 10:00 am Antique Tractor Pull
- 10:30 am Calvert County Fair Children's Contest
- 11:00 am The Uncloved Day Gospel Music
- 1:00 pm Horseshoe Pitching Contest
- 1:00 pm Chesapeake Country Cruizers
- 3:00 pm 4-H and Livestock Awards Program
- 3:00 pm The Uncloved Day Bluegrass and Country Band
- 5:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 6:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Officially Close for 2025



Community Crab Feast



Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025

Choose your time: 1-3 p.m. or 4-6 p.m.

Abner's Crab House at 3748 Harbor Road in Chesapeake Beach

A fundraiser for the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc. (CAASA)



\$55
per person

- All-you-can-eat steamed crabs
- Basket of hushuppies
- All you can drink water, soda and iced tea (cash bar)
- 50/50 raffle and door prize fun

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets online or visit
CAASACrabfeast2025.eventbrite.com

For more information, call 410-535-3733

Calvert County services are accessible to individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations please contact us at adacoordinator@calvertcountymd.gov or 410-535-1600, ext. 8802 (voice). Please call the Maryland Relay for the hearing and speech impaired at 800-735-2258.

Calvert County Fair: A Tradition Like No Other



By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Fair, which is in full swing this week, always tries to come up with some things different each year. But for an institution that has been in existence since 1886, there must be something enduring.

“We like to keep tradition here,” said Fair Board President Larry Titus. “We like to keep it family and community friendly.”

Agriculture, which was the reason for its founding, is still the fair’s rock-solid foundation.

“We try to keep the tradition of the county, as much agriculture as we can,” Titus said, “Although we know that we’re in a technological world now. But we at the county fair want to keep our tradition, and our history strong.”

Maintaining those rural roots is consistent with the county commissioners’ resolve to retain through planning and zoning the county’s rural character.

Titus said, “It’s still a wholesome family entertainment type event, where we can invite folks in the family. We try to keep our prices low. We didn’t increase any of our entry prices or any of those things. They may see some increase in food, because grocery stores have gone up a little bit. But we try to keep our prices the same as we did in past years, so that it’ll be entertainment for a reasonable cost.”

Titus is a retired state trooper who is currently head of security for the school system. But he grew up on a farm. “I was raised on a tobacco farm, which is quite a history for Calvert County. We were tobacco farmers, and we were corn farmers, and we had livestock, and we lived on the land. That’s what got me interested in the county fair, just the agricultural part of it and just growing stuff that keeps us alive.”

And he did it all growing up, including that back-breaking task of cutting tobacco.

Southern Maryland’s King Crop used to be a significant part of the fair. Now it’s been relegated to an exhibit.

He said, “We had our garden with fresh vegetables, as well as we had little orchard behind us with apples. So, we had food regardless of what the weather was. We had food to put on the table that we had raised with our own hands.”

That tobacco exhibit, he said, “shows what tobacco crops looked like, as well as what the harvest looked like and what the finished product looked like, how it was packaged for sale.”

He got involved with the fair being a state trooper for 20 years, “just guarding everybody, keeping everybody safe. But I have always been in and around there since I was a teenager at Calvert High School, because the fair was right across the road at that point. I had been involved in some facet of the fair. I’ve actually been on the fair board since 1989.

With his law enforcement background, he was asked if the fair is a safe place. “Yes, absolutely. We partner with law enforcement, we have a very strong law presence every day. As well as we are very vigilant. We have rules of what is allowed and what is not allowed. We want to keep it as wholesome as a family event as we can. Thanks to our law enforcement partners from the county Sheriff’s Office and the Maryland State Police, they’re on site doing all the operating times of the fair.”

He added, “Of course, we don’t predict the future, but we do all we can, we use our due diligence to try to maintain a safe environment from the time you walk through our gates to the time you leave our property.”

So, what’s new this year? “We have some different entertainment. We have Agrippets for kids. We have the phone zone, which is a neon kind of game for younger kids. And then we have the Wild Beal’s Speedway, who were the big races from last year, as well as we have a thrill show that is called ROTZ Entertainers, which I think folks find that pretty interesting. And of course, because we’re agricultural, we have the Maryland Agriculture Trailer here, so young people can see where their milk comes from, where the potato chips come from.”

For such a busy man, why did he take on the presidency? He explained, “I just love the county fair, and I love people. I love working with people. I love to see people have fun. I like family entertainment. And I loved the fair myself. I loved it as a child, and I wanted to pass that on to young people.”

dickmyers@countytimes.net

THE Wentworth Weekly

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CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of September 1, 2025 – September 7, 2025, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 2,160 calls for service throughout the community including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 89
- Disorderly: 18
- Domestic: 33
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 53
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 1064
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 29
- Traffic Complaints: 61
- Traffic Stops: 305
- 911 Hang-Ups: 61
- ARRESTS: 28

During the week of September 8, 2025 – September 14, 2025, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 2,174 calls for service throughout the community, including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 60
- Disorderly: 6
- Domestic: 28
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 50
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 1057
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 24
- Traffic Complaints: 58
- Traffic Stops: 384
- 911 Hang Ups: 57
- ARRESTS: 35



Kathryn Rene Smith

Disorderly Conduct: 25-72557 On September 1, 2025, at approximately 4:45 p.m., DFC Deinert conducted an impaired driving investigation near Dares Beach and Armory Road in Prince

Frederick. The passenger, **Kathryn Rene Smith**, 29 of Prince Frederick, exited the vehicle and began yelling profanities, causing a disturbance that interfered with the stop. She was briefly detained as deputies tried to de-escalate the situation; however, she continued yelling profanities, making threats, and screaming at deputies throughout the DUI investigation. Smith was taken into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center, where she was charged with Disorderly Conduct and Obstructing and Hindering.

Damaged Property: 25-73248 On September 3, 2025, DFC Mister responded to the 200 block of Mason Road in Prince Frederick for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised that a vehicle on his property had been vandalized. Investigation revealed all the windows, including the sunroof, had been broken and the front bumper removed. The estimated value of the damage is \$1,000.

Burglary: 25-73594 On September 4, 2025, Deputy Parrott responded to the 12900 block of Parran Drive in Lusby for the report of a burglary. Investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) entered the residence through an office window and stole several watches, a Streamdeck console, crystals, and U.S.

currency. The estimated value of the stolen property is \$8,550.



Tanya Yvette Lockwood

Disorderly Conduct: 25-73632 On September 4, 2025, at approximately 9:46 p.m., Sgt. Foote responded to the American Legion located at 11820 HG Trueman Road in Lusby, for the

report of a disorderly subject. The complainant advised deputies that an intoxicated female was inside the establishment while management was attempting to close for the evening. Contact was made with **Tanya Yvette Lockwood**, 51 of Lexington Park, who was advised that staff requested she leave. Deputies offered to assist Lockwood in finding a ride, but she refused and became argumentative. After several attempts to explain that she could not remain on the premises, Lockwood was advised she was under arrest for disorderly conduct and failure to obey a lawful order. Lockwood resisted arrest but was ultimately taken into custody. She was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Disorderly Conduct, Resisting Arrest, and Failure to Obey a Reasonable/Lawful Order.

Theft: 25-73521 On September 4, 2025, Deputy Armbruster responded to the 7900 block of Mount Harmony Lane in Owings, for the report of a theft. The complainant reported an unknown suspect(s) stole a license plate off the victim's boat trailer parked at the residence. The estimated value of stolen property is \$100.



Carol Ann Emmell

CDS Violation: 25-74232 On September 6, 2025, DFC Sturdivant responded to the 1700 block of Horace Ward Road in Owings for a welfare check. Callers reported a woman in the roadway who appeared to be under the influence, and a vehicle stopped in the middle of the street. Deputies made contact with **Carol Ann Emmell**, 65 of Chesapeake Beach, who reported she had lost her vehicle keys. A consent search of the vehicle revealed controlled dangerous substances (CDS) and CDS paraphernalia. Emmell was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was charged with CDS: Possession – Not Cannabis and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

CDS Violation: 25-74855 On September 9, 2025, at approximately 1:24 a.m., deputies responded to the 7-Eleven located at 685 Prince Frederick Blvd. in Prince Frederick, for a suspicious vehicle. Deputy Currie made contact with the front seat passenger,



Paul Brown

of a yellow liquid, suspected PCP, in his pocket. Brown was taken into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center. During a secondary search at the jail, a green capsule containing an unknown substance was found concealed in his underwear. Brown was charged with CDS: Possession – Not Cannabis and Possession of Contraband in a Place of Confinement.



Duane Paul Mokshefski

Theft: 25-74994 On September 9, 2025, Deputy Campbell responded to the Wawa at 305 Market Square Drive in Prince Frederick for a reported theft. The complainant advised that a male, later identified as **Duane Paul Mokshefski**, 50, of Huntingtown, entered the store, grabbed a grocery bag, and stole three Red Bull energy drinks and two breakfast sandwiches. Mokshefski exited the store without paying and was subsequently arrested. He was charged with Theft Less Than \$100 – Shoplifting.



Tevon Anthony Middleton

CDS Violation: 25-75745 On September 11, 2025, Cpl. Buckler observed a hand-to-hand drug transaction in the parking area of 300 Fairgrounds Road in Prince Frederick. Following the transaction, one of the vehicles left the area and was stopped by Deputy Jones for an expired registration. K9 Zeus conducted an open-air sniff and alerted to the presence of narcotics. A search revealed a pill bottle missing 55 Alprazolam pills, a plastic tear-off with white residue, and several folded \$20 bills. The driver, **Tevon Anthony Middleton**, 36 of Prince Frederick, admitted to 'giving away' pills and was taken into custody. Upon intake at the Calvert County Detention Center, corrections staff located additional paraphernalia on Middleton's person. He faces charges of CDS Distribution, CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute, Possession of Contraband in a Place of Confinement, and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

CDS Violation: 25-76180 On September 12, 2025, Deputy Morgal responded to the 3700 block of 7th Street in North Beach for a reported assault. The suspect, identified



Anthony Alfred Parks

as **Anthony Alfred Parks**, was taken into custody. While being detained, Parks requested deputies retrieve his electronic cigarette from his vehicle. Upon opening the driver's door, deputies observed copper wire fragments (CDS paraphernalia), two white rock-like substances suspected to be crack cocaine, and a container commonly used to package CDS. Parks was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, and Assault-Second Degree.

Damaged Property: 25-76054 On September 12, 2025, Sgt. Kelly responded to the 6000 block of Dusk Drive in Prince Frederick for a reported trespassing. Investigation revealed an unknown suspect drove through the victim's yard, knocking over and damaging a cement bird bath. The estimated value of the damaged property is \$150.

CDS Violation: 25-76504 On September 14, 2025, Deputy Grabill conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling 35 mph in a 55-mph zone and failing to maintain its lane of travel. The driver was identified as **Raul Antonio Osorio Chavez**, 53 of Laurel (no photo available), who was found to have a suspended license and an active arrest warrant. Chavez was taken into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center. During a search at the jail, deputies located two white bags and plastic wrap containing a white powdery substance suspected to be crack cocaine. Osorio Chavez was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, Possession of CDS While Confined, and multiple traffic violations.

Damaged Property: 25-76673 On September 14, 2025, Deputy Parrott responded to the 8300 block of Circle Drive in Lusby for a reported theft. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect removed the victim's green mailbox from its wooden post and scattered mail throughout neighboring yards and the roadway. The estimated value of the stolen and damaged property is unknown at this time.

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

Anyone with information about these incidents is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800 and reference the case number provided. Citizens may remain anonymous thru the 'Submit a Tip' feature on the Calvert County Sheriff's Office mobile app. To download, visit <https://apps.myocv.com/share/a39520678>. Tipsters may also email ccsotips@calvertcountymd.gov

New STEM Center Unveiled at Southern Middle School

Constellation, Ripken Foundation Collaborate

The Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation are proud to announce a new, state-of-the-art STEM Center at Southern Middle School, a coordinated effort designed to empower the next generation of innovators and leaders.

The classroom transformation began in June with Constellation awarding a \$40,000 grant to the Ripken Foundation to install the STEM Center, along with an additional \$5,000 grant directly to the school to purchase classroom supplies and support the makeover. Calvert Cliffs employees and interns played a hands-on role in bringing the project to life, assembling equipment, painting and setting up the classroom. The effort culminated on Thursday, Sept. 18, with a celebratory ribbon cutting, officially unveiling the new learning space to students and the community.

"This project provided a great opportunity to give back to the youth of our local community. These are students who will one day make up our very workforce here at the Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center," said Plant Manager CJ Smith. "We hope the new STEM Center will provide a unique and exceptional learning experience for students now and for years to come."

The STEM Center seeks to create an inspiring and engaging new environment for students to explore science, technology, engineering and math. This interactive classroom will offer hands-on learning opportunities in coding, robotics, 3D printing, and other innovative technologies, a curriculum that specifically aligns with the



Ripken Foundation's mission.

"At the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to explore, create and dream big. The new STEM Center, made possible through the generous support of Constellation, will open doors for students to develop the skills they'll need to succeed in the classroom and beyond," said Joe Rossow, Executive Vice President, STEM and Measurement Outcomes.

The STEM Center will additionally focus on developing critical thinking, problem-solving and teamworking skills, while

giving students early exposure to cutting-edge tools and real-world technical projects. It is designed to not only make STEM fun and engaging, but to also build confidence, spark interest in future careers and prepare students for advanced courses, higher education and the workforce of the future.

"Our Southern Middle School community appreciates this opportunity provided by district partners, Constellation and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation," said Assistant Principal Willanette Thomas-Lohr.

"The STEM Center will be a valuable resource to our teachers and students for

years to come. I am grateful for a dedicated area of our school that will allow our students to explore and connect to their learning, and challenge their creativity," she added.

The Calvert Cliffs Clean Energy Center is Maryland's leading producer of emission-free energy. Its two reactors can produce up to 1,790 megawatts (MW) of clean, emissions-free energy, enough electricity to power the equivalent of more than 1.3 million homes.

Press Release from Constellation Energy

Constellation Invests in Clean Energy

During a summer of extended heatwaves and record-breaking humidity, Constellation's emissions-free clean energy centers ran at nearly full power, further proof that nuclear is the most reliable and cost-effective energy source on the grid at a time of rising demand and increasingly volatile weather.

The company's 21 nuclear reactors at 12 sites from the Midwest to the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast collectively operated 98.8 percent of the time during the months of June, July and August, keeping the lights on and air conditioners humming for the equivalent of 16 million homes and businesses.

Ongoing investments in these plants preserve and extend the immense and irreplaceable value they provide to the grid and society via reliable, affordable, and clean generation.

"Constellation has reinvested billions of dollars to upgrade and enhance our U.S. nuclear fleet with state-of-the-art equipment and controls, and that investment is paying huge dividends for families and businesses in the PJM, NYISO and MISO service territories," said Joe Dominguez, Constellation President and CEO. "Like the well-known phrase about the postal service, neither snow nor rain nor heat or gloom of night will keep our team from powering America 24 hours



Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant

a day 365 days a year. That is our promise; that is our commitment."

Capacity factors are used throughout the nuclear industry to measure a reactor's reliability and operational performance. Constellation has led the nation in capacity factors for more than a decade, producing 4 percent more than the industry average, which is the equivalent of having another reactor's worth of power. In fact, all of Constellation's 21 nuclear reactors operate at a higher capacity factor today than the year they came online.

Reliability is critical for powering the data economy, onshoring of manufacturing and electrification of transportation. In addition, Constellation is pursuing investments in equipment and technology to increase the output from its existing nuclear plants and restarting the Crane Clean Energy Center in Pennsylvania. Together, this could add up to 2,000 megawatts of new, clean and reliable baseload capacity to the grid.

Technical experts at Constellation's nuclear facilities prepared for the extreme summer heat by performing tens of thou-

sands of preventative maintenance tasks during spring refueling and maintenance outages designed to help all reactors run uninterrupted during the hot summer months. Each year, Constellation performs technology upgrades and installs new and enhanced equipment to ensure reliability during periods of severe weather. Unlike any other energy source, a typical nuclear plant can operate uninterrupted for up to two years without refueling, regardless of weather. These tasks are beginning anew for the fall maintenance season in preparation for increased winter demand.

Constellation's fleet of clean energy centers in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast U.S. includes Calvert Cliffs in Calvert County; Pennsylvania facilities Limerick and Peach Bottom in Montgomery and York counties; and New York facilities Fitzpatrick and Nine Mile Point in Oswego County and Ginna in Wayne County. Its Illinois fleet includes Braidwood in Will County, Byron in Ogle County, Clinton in DeWitt County, Dresden in Grundy County, LaSalle in LaSalle County, and Quad Cities in Rock Island County.

Press Release from Constellation Energy

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Town Center Surveys Show Traffic Concerns

Citizens Urge Retaining Rural Character

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

As staff of the Department of Planning and Zoning begin the process of updating the town center master plans for Huntingtown, Owings and St. Leonard, they have the results of surveys from those towns as a starting point.

One of the most controversial discussions likely to occur in the coming months is whether those three should continue as they are as town centers or morph into something else.

The surveys were presented to the county commissioners and a lively discussion on that topic ensued.

But the surveys also elicited comments on other topics and show that traffic concerns still continue to be important. They were listed as the main concern in Huntingtown and Owings and only slightly less important in St. Leonard.

In presentations to the commissioners and to the planning commission on Sept. 16, Long-Range Planner Tay Harris presented the survey results.

For Huntingtown, they are:

- Main Draws
 - Basic services
 - Community
 - Shopping and dining
 - Rural character
- Biggest Challenge
 - Traffic and infrastructure
 - Opposition to growth
 - Community division
 - Vacant/unappealing businesses
 - Limited support for amenities
- Biggest Change
 - Traffic and congestion
 - Bowen's market sold
 - New development
 - Business turnover
 - Community character
- Most Loved Characteristics
 - Rural and small-town Character
 - Community and safety

- Local charm and tradition
- Convenience
- Nature and open space
- Support for local businesses
- Key Elements to Retain or Enhance
 - Retain rural, small-town feel
 - Limit growth
 - Enhance support of local businesses
 - Improve infrastructure
 - Enhance community amenities
 - Retain community anchors
- Top Three Topics
 - Land use
 - Environment and natural resources
 - Parks and recreation

For Owings, the following results were reported:

- Main Draws
 - Basic services
 - Small-scale shopping/medical
 - Lifestyle and location
 - Minimal draws
- Biggest Challenge
 - Traffic and roads
 - Overdevelopment concerns
 - Environmental limits
 - Lack of identity/draw
 - Community opposition
- Biggest Change
 - Traffic
 - Business closures
 - Housing growth
 - Decline in appearance
 - Rising home prices
 - Increased crime
 - The gun range
- Most Loved Characteristics
 - Rural character/country feel
 - Small/quiet/peaceful
 - Community and safety
 - Convenience/location
 - Nature/environment
- Key Elements to Retain or Enhance
 - Retain Rural and small-town character
 - Limit development
 - Retain community and heritage
 - Retain green and public spaces

- Enhance walkability and amenities
 - Top Three Topics
 - Land use
 - Environment and natural resources
 - Parks and recreation
- For St. Leonard, the surveys showed:
- Main Draws
 - Restaurants and food
 - Shopping and local businesses
 - Convenience services
 - Community and small-town character
 - Education and work
 - Biggest Challenge
 - Limited retail and dining
 - Infrastructure and growth constraints
 - Preserving small-town character
 - Appearance and maintenance
 - Community and zoning
 - Limited amenities and walkability
 - Business attraction and viability
 - Traffic and safety
 - Biggest Change
 - Businesses
 - Traffic and infrastructure
 - Aesthetic and environment
 - Housing and population
 - Community and amenities
 - Most Loved Characteristics
 - Small town feel
 - Community
 - Convenience
 - Farms/rural
 - History
 - Safe
 - Slow growth

- Key Elements to Retain or Enhance
 - Retain small town charm, small businesses
 - Enhance walkability, access, transportation infrastructure, amenities, safety and aesthetics
 - Maintain green spaces and parks
 - Protect historic landmarks
 - Enhance sustainability and natural resources
- Top Three Topics
 - Land use
 - Environment and natural resources
 - Economic vitality

Planning and zoning staff will be holding three Public Informational Meetings in October:

- Oct. 6 – St. Leonard Town Center Public Informational Meeting 6 p.m. at Crossroads Christian Church (150 Ball Road in St. Leonard)
- Oct. 14 – Huntingtown Town Center Public Informational Meeting 6 p.m. at the Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department (4030 Old Town Rd. in Huntingtown)
- Oct. 20 – Owings Town Center Public Informational Meeting 6 p.m. at Grace Brethren Church (9870 Old Solomons Island Rd. in Owings)

The meetings will be broadcast live at www.youtube.com/@CalvertCountyGov or watch the meetings on demand.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

School Bus Driver Convicted of Assaulting Student

On September 18, Mark Travis Bright, 60, of Prince Frederick, was convicted of second degree assault in Calvert County District Court.

The assault occurred on the last day of the 2024-2025 school year. Bright was operating a school bus when he and an elementary school student had an exchange of words. During that exchange, Bright slapped the student in the face. The slap was observed by other students on the bus.

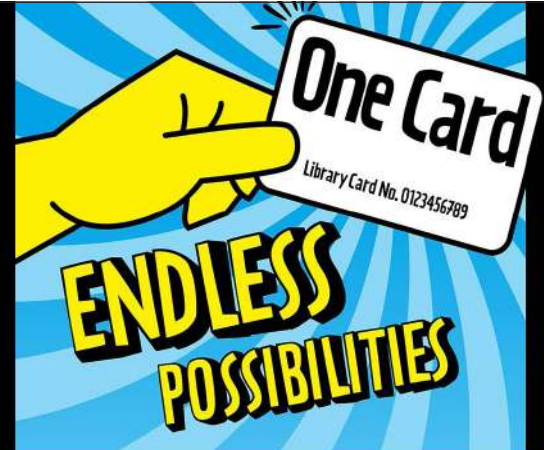
Bright was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended to 20 days of active time, followed by three years of probation. As a condition of probation, Bright is prohibited from operating a school bus.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant State's Attorney Patrick R. Cathro.



Mark Travis Bright

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney



September is

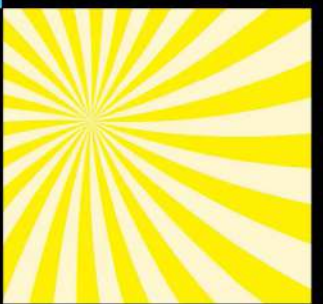
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“WE LIKE TO KEEP TRADITION HERE.”

FAIR BOARD PRESIDENT LARRY TITUS



LOCAL 4
School bus driver convicted of assault



LOCAL 6
New STEM center unveiled at Southern Middle School



ON THE COVER
138th Calvert County Fair is this weekend

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, SEP 25	FRI, SEP 26	SAT, SEP 27	SUN, SEP 28
Scattered Storms Hi: 80° Lo: 69°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 67°	PM Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 66°	Showers Hi: 73° Lo: 65°
MON, SEP 29	TUE, SEP 30	WED, OCT 1	THU, OCT 2
Cloudy Hi: 74° Lo: 64°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 75° Lo: 60°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 70° Lo: 56°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 68° Lo: 53°



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Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

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**Town Center Survey
Shows Traffic Concerns**

**Bus Driver Sentenced for
Assault on Student**

**STEM Center Unveiled at
Southern Middle School**

COUNTY FAIR

KEEPS TRADITION ALIVE