

The Calvert County Times

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Thursday, November 19, 2020

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School Board Denies Grades 3-5 Hybrid Will be Reconsidered on Nov. 19

By Dick Myers

Editor

The Calvert County Board of Education, on a 3-2 vote, rejected the staff plan for grades 3-5 to go into a hybrid mode beginning Dec. 7. The decision at the school board's Nov. 12 meeting will be revisited at the Nov. 19 meeting to take into consideration any changes in the rate of community COViD-19 spread.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Curry said enough work had been done in anticipation of a Dec. 7 start that it could still be achieved if the board reverses itself on Nov. 19.

Board President Inez Claggett and Vice President Pamela Cousins have consistently rejected returning students to school and voted against the hybrid model for Pre-K to 2 students, which prevailed in a 3-2 vote and started last week.

New board member Pat Nutter supported the Pre-K to 2 return, bur cast the tie-breaking vote against having Grades 3-5 return. He did, however, introduce the motion for a reconsideration at the Nov. 19 meeting. That passed 4-1, with Cousins opposing.

Nutter wanted to know why make the change so close to Christmas. Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Diane Workman explained, "Some of our children are suffering. We get emails. I'm sure some of you have received emails from parents that have said, 'My child's mental health, my child's not learning anything.' If we wait until after the Christmas holidays, we've given up another month of instruction."

Nutter said his earlier vote on Pre-K-2 was based on consulting a number of medical sources, including Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky. But he said, "Today I don't feel as good as I did back then with the number shifts going up slightly." Earlier in the meeting Dr. Polsky reported increased numbers and an increasing positivity rate. Nutter said, "Now



School Boatd member Dawn Balinski

we're going to put more kids back in school."

Polsky reported to both the school board and the county commissioners last week (see separate story). He told the school board, "If people are going to congregate anywhere, in school buildings are about the safest places you can be." The proviso is social distancing including limiting numbers in classrooms, wearing masks and proper sanitation.

Cousins said she understood that "schools don't incubate and transmit viruses." But she added, "My concern is the community. The school system has no reach into people's homes and how they do practice or believe that the virus is an issue. That's not my concern. I can't control that, but that tells me that depending upon the behaviors of the community, obviously dictates the increase in the infection rate, which we've seen over the last few days going up in Calvert. So that tells me that if that's the case, then



that means there are more cases in households who may have children who may send the children to school who potentially may be carriers or could be positive themselves, which therefore increases the incidence of a case popping up in a classroom or two or three in a given week or in a given school building."

She said she guessed they could just go about dealing with cases as they arise. Or as board member Dawn Balinski described it – play Wack-a-Mole.

Polsky responded, "I certainly agree that administratively, this is a tremendous amount of work for the school system. It's a tremendous amount of work for my staff and the easy out for me would be to say, 'We need to shut everything down.' And then my staff doesn't have as much work to do. But we now have months of evidence that showed that within school facilities we don't see major transmission routes. What we're hoping to do is allow the majority of students whose parents want them to go back into the classroom to have that opportunity. And then it is our job at the health department to work with the school system to make sure that that continues to be done as safely as

possible."

Workman reported that two-thirds of the parents of the 3rd to 5th graders want the hybrid learning model, while the rest prefer to stay all virtual.

Local News

Workman said one difference between the Pre-K to 2 and the 3-to-5 models is that students would be switching classes in the latter and teachers would remain in their own classrooms. She said Dr. Polsky felt that could be done safely.

Balinski and outgoing board member Tracy McGuire supported the Grades 3-5 hybrid. Balinski said, "I want this to be able to happen. We're getting, not that many, but I'm getting emails from staff who were concerned with the uptick in the virus. But I'm also getting quite a few emails from the parents who were saying, this has changed my child's life to be in the building and to have that experience. So, I know it would be the same for the third grade through fifth grade."

She added, "I have family in Ohio. The elementary kids have been in school hybrid since September and Ohio was seeing large increases in new cases.

"And they're still open." dickmyers@countytimes.net



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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10-4

Health Officer Says Positivity on Upswing

Still Lower than State Average

By Dick Myers

Editor Calvert County is doing better than the state with positivity rates for CO-VID-19. But the trend in recent weeks for both has been up. Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky reported to the school board at their Nov. 12 meeting that the county's rate is 4.6 percent versus 5.7 percent for the state. "That's certainly a number that war-

rants attention," he said.

The increased positivity rate needs to factor in the increased number of tests. But, he said, "The positivity rate increased from roughly 3.8 percent over the past several weeks up to 4.6 percent. I will note that of the 93 positive tests from this past week only two were in the age range of the children that have gone back to school. I'm not saying that those were children who have been back to school, but just within that age range, and in the entire pediatric population, from infant all the way up to age 14, we had a total of four positive cases in the county last week."

Polsky also met with the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners sitting as the Board of Health last week for their semi-annual get together. At that meeting he reported, "The rate of COVID-19-related fatalities in Calvert are five times lower than the state average.'

"If our fatality rate was at the state average, we would have had an additional 48 deaths since March among Calvert residents," he reported

He said Calvert's fatality rate is lower because:

· Early and concerted efforts to protect nursing homes

· High rate of face mask wearing and social distancing

• Public health-private medical partnership

Polsky told the school board (see separate story) that their schools are the safest gathering place to be if the proper procedures are followed. He said they include:

 Consistent use of face masks · Social distancing to the largest possible extent

• Hand hygiene

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-6, Sat. 7:30-5, Closed Sundays

Cleaning and disinfection

· Contact tracing in collaboration with local health department

Polsky also told the school board that the health department is there to help people in need. "We know that with all the dimensions of stresses that COVID has brought on, not just the physical health aspects, but emotionally how taxing it's been. We know that for many families, there's more financial struggles for them. For anyone who feels it for themselves or for family members or anyone close to them, that they could use some help with mental health issues, substance use issues, or



Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky.

domestic violence that on our health department website, we also have contact information for people to be able to get some help.'

At the board of health meeting he reminded everyone that it's also flu season and that "COVID-19+flu=Bad News³

Polsky said there were 70,000 influenza deaths per year from 2017-2019 and 43 million people fell ill. Yet only 37 percent of adults get vaccinated. "Get your flu vaccine," he advised.

At the school board meeting, Polsky was asked, "People that are having family and friend gatherings, is that the major driver in Calvert? Like, where do people get exposed around here?"

He answered: "Contact tracing is limited in that regard. We do ask people about high-risk situations or situations where they'd be more likely to transmit. Given the main point of contact tracing is to make sure that that person understands what it means to truly isolate during the potentially infectious period, and then to identify their close contacts and make sure that they are taking proper precautions. In addition, we do ask questions about where people have been over that period of time, where they potentially acquired the virus. About half of people refuse to answer those questions and the others, we know in some cases, they withhold information."

"We do have some information, but it's not robust enough and reliable enough to really draw conclusions," he said.

But he added that he's having a virtual Thanksgiving with his parents this vear.

School Board Discusses Anti-Racism Policy *Public Comment Sought on Proposal*

By Dick Myers

Editor Public comment is being solicited on a proposed "Anti-Racism Policy" for Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS). The Board of Education at their Nov. 12 meeting agreed to circulate the proposal for 30 days for review after which a vote could be taken. The proposal drew considerable emotional comment from the board during the meeting.

The policy describes racism as a "system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities or unfairly advantages other individuals and communities."

Antiracism is defined as "the practice of identifying, challenging, and changing the values, structures, and behaviors that perpetuate systemic racism."

The policy states upfront that its purpose includes: "To acknowledge that personal and institutional racism have historically existed and continue to exist in our schools; to affirm the board's unwavering belief that combating racism in CCPS is a legal and moral imperative; and to eliminate all forms of systemic racism from CCPS by being proactive and responsive."

The staff person in charge of crafting the policy, Supervisor of Equity and School Improvement Sandy Walker, led the discussion. He observed, "Our data provides us the truth that we have racial disparities in our system. The policy clearly defines and acknowledges systemic racism and places that at the forefront of our work. To be anti-racist is to understand the nuanced, complex, deliberate design of racism in the United States. It means to be committed to a lifestyle of studying what racism looks like in all of its forms."

"This is not a policy about blame," he insisted. "It's about looking at our data and removing the barriers in order for all students to succeed."

Board member Pamela Cousins, who has spearheaded the board's effort in developing the policy and has made suggested changes to it, said, "It's not about blame, but at the same time, it is about responsibility. That we are not blaming for where we are today, but we all have a responsibility to be somewhere much better tomorrow and that's not a blame game."

She said to Walker, "I think you used the words two or three years ago, (that we) need to 'intentionally identify' areas where barriers might exist. So, this is putting that responsibility." She added, "In order for anything to be done effectively, you have to be intentional and you have to describe what it is, and then figure out ways to defend against or prevent."



Supervisor of Equity and School Improvement Sandy Walker

She added, "It's a bold move, but it's the policy communicated to the district that we won't tolerate any form of discrimination and mistreatment, racism for any student, in any form or fashion."

Board member Pat Nutter said, "I've been around the block many, many times, and this has been going on for years. Why would we just, all of a sudden have a statement today." He said it should have been done long before now, but added, "You offer no real solutions." He was told the solutions would follow.

Nutter added, "It seems to me that this is November 2020 and there isn't something already here to govern this type of behavior?"

Board member Tracy McGuire, who is concluding her third term on the board, responded, "No, there wasn't. And that's why we're here because I'm finishing my 12^{th} year as a board member and for the last 12 years, we've wondered, why are African American students disproportionately punished in school? Why are these achievement gaps here? Let's try this, let's try that. And nothing we've done has worked. And over the last couple of years. I have come to believe that through unconscious bias and through behaviors that discouraged students. through processes that advantage some students over other students for services or opportunities, that those things are built into us. And the purpose of this policy is to dismantle that and build back better.'

Student Member of the Board Abigail Setzfand said, "You have to recognize the improper things you're doing. And I think that's a focus of this policy is to help staff and students understand where their behaviors are, not because they're bad people, but because we all grew up in this system that advantaged white people over black people. We grew up in it, it's how we go. And so, we're asking staff and students to acknowledge it and to do better."

She added, "I think this is also a vote of confidence for a lot of kids to speak up."

Cousins said, "Fights that occur between people about race and racism, in my opinion, is not wanting to acknowledge it exists. And this black person is sick and tired of being sick and tired of trying to tell you it does exist. And there is no way for me to tell you it exists because it happened. If it happens to me, you may not comprehend that because you're a white male, because the impact or this situation affected me and through no fault of your own, it would never happen to you. It just never would. And the only reason why it wouldn't is because you're not a black female or a black person, or a person of color or person with disability, anything like that."

She said, "We can put a policy on the paper today. We can put procedures in tomorrow, but the action, the proof in the pudding is a behavior change."

Board member Dawn Balinski noted progress that had been made. But she said, "Then Calvert High School field vandalism happens, so it just keeps reminding us that we need to be more direct and face it. So, the work is being done. The solutions are being discovered. It's still out there. So, we just have to keep trying in many different ways."

Walker said about Nutter's concern about lack of solutions, "If we expect an answer, a checklist here, do these three things, go off and be nice, or don't be racist. They're the solution. If we're expecting something linear or from a list we've already failed. So, this work is so ingrained in the very fabric of our history and this country, and the importance of this policy is the fact that it puts it on the forefront." *dickmyers@countytimes.net*



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Commissioners Tackle School Capital Budget

By Dick Myers Editor

As the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) begin to build their budget for the next fiscal year that begins July 1, 2021, the capital budget is a big part of their decision-making process. And even though the proposed six-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) contains five years that are just projections, the bottom-line number becomes a benchmark.

And according to Director of Finance and Budget Tim Hayden, the county looks at that plan to determine the needed size of the bonding authority granted by the state legislature. He noted there is so much lag time between planning to actual construction and they need the authority in hand.

The BOCC told the county's legislative delegation at a Nov. 10 meeting that they still do not know what that number will be for next year.

Delegate Jerry Clark (R: Calvert, St. Mary's), who was county commissioner for 12 years, said he appreciated what the BOCC is going through. But he questioned giving bonding authority for projects beyond the final two years of their term because a new board may change the capital project priorities.

In a briefing to the BOCC on Nov. 12 on the public schools' portion of the capital budget, several commissioners expressed sticker shock about the six-year CIP. And Capital Projects Analyst Veronica Atkinson told the BOCC that just for Fiscal Year 2022, the CIP is over a previously approved spending ceiling by \$5.9 million. Total six-year CIP is \$373 million.

The school board six-year CIP is \$102 million, of which \$44.8 million is projected to come from the state. That leaves the county responsible for \$57 million, of which \$44.8 million would come from bonding authority.

"I don't know how we can come up with \$57 million over six years," said Commissioner Mike Hart, who was the most vocal in expressions of sticker shock over the school board's request.

He was especially taken aback by the request for almost \$6 million for the replacement of HVAC systems at Calvert Elementary and Plum Point and Southern middle schools. Supervisor of School Construction Shuchita Warner said the systems had outlived their useful life and the projects were major.



Commissioner Mike Hart

The Southern M.S. project, estimated at \$3.3 million is especially complex, involving replacing the chiller/heating water plant, rooftop units, air handling units and internal equipment.

Hart quipped that the price was probably more than it cost to build the school, which dates back to the 1970s.

He also noted that the estimates in the later years of the CIP "could be a lot higher in a couple of years."

Commissioner Buddy Hance noted that there was a time in which Calvert County was building a school a year. "The systems aren't going to last forever," he observed. Hart also questioned the need for engineering studies of the HVAC system replacements. Warner said they were required to get state funding.

Commissioner President Kelly McConkey suggested it might be cheaper for the county and school system to share an in-house design consultant.

The biggest school construction projects in the six-year plan are Beach Elementary with construction set to begin next year and Northern Middle School, with a Fiscal Year 2025 start.

No decisions were made at the Nov. 12 work session. Commissioner Steve Weems suggested a more in-depth work session just on the HVAC systems so they can better understand what is involved in the projects.

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The Calvert County Times

Governor Restricts Restaurant, Bar Hours, Retail Capacity Over COVID Spike

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Citing increasing cases of CO-**VID-19** infection, hospitalizations and deaths across Marvland. Gov. Larry Hogan restricted retail stores, social and religious organizations, and many other establishments to 50 percent of their capacity starting Nov. 20 at 5p.m.

Local News

Last week Hogan restricted restaurants and bars to 50 percent of their state-rated capacity as the state's cases of COVID-19 began to surge and this week, at a Nov. 17 press conference in Annapolis, he said that contact tracing data show that many new cases spring forth from such establishments.

Also, said Hogan, far too many of these establishments fail to fully enforce public health orders, such as capacity limits, social distancing and wearing of masks, especially during the later hours or the day.

Because of this, Hogan also instituted a limit on the hours of bars, restaurants and similar establishments and venues, ordering them to close by 10 p.m. statewide, also starting Nov. 20 at 5 p.m.

"We've found that compliance with public health protocols drops dramatically at night," Hogan said Tuesday. "We've seen widespread failures to follow public health orders."

Maryland remained under a state of emergency, Hogan said, and the new restrictions included the continual wearing of masks at all indoor public places and outdoor venues were social distancing was not an option.

"The wearing of masks is our single best mitigation strategy against the virus," Hogan said

Hogan also restricted in-person visits to nursing homes and longterm care facilities across the state to situations such as compassionate care or providing aid to those with disabilities.

Anyone visiting a long-term care facility must have a certificate of negative virus testing no more than 72 hours before arriving, the governor said.

Hogan said he knew it was dif-



overnor Larry Hogan

ficult to not visit older family members during the coming holiday season but that the state's most vulnerable population had to be protected.

"You are helping keep them safe and saving the lives or our most vulnerable citizens," Hogan said.

The state's health department is also warning that anyone seeking

elective surgery should postpone it unless it is urgent or a life-saving procedure.

"I've always been a straight shooter and I'll give it to you straight," Hogan said. "More people are being infected, more people are being hospitalized, more people are being put in intensive care and more people are dying.³

For the past 13 days, Maryland has seen more than 1,000 new cases per day, he said, and there have been 2,149 new cases in the last 24 hours prior to his Tuesday press conference.

So far 4,186 Marylanders have died from the disease, Hogan said, with 26 dying on Nov. 16.

"This virus is spiking out of control," Hogan said. "Maryland hospitals are reaching capacity."

Marylanders must not grow numb to the ravages of the virus, Hogan said, no matter how well the state had reduced its growth in past months.

We are in a war right now and the virus is winning," Hogan said. guyleonard@countytimes.net



From Isaias Washout to Complete Rebuild

and How Severely-Ill Children are Benefiting

By Dick Myers Editor

Tropical Storm Isaias had a significant impact on Calvert County. The most visible to the most people was the severe flooding at the Routes 2/4 intersection with Plum Point Road north of Prince Frederick. That flooding came from Hunting Creek.

Patricia and Bruce Bradley live in Hunting Creek Farms, a six-lot farmette subdivision reached over the gravel Hunting Farms Lane, the only access. That lane goes over Hunting Creek.

In heavy rains the road often flooded and the Bradleys have seen increased flow in recent years from the creek that when they first moved in in 1984 vas virtually dry.

So, after every heavy rain Bruce would inspect what happened. "It's impressive to see that amount of water. So as soon as the rain slacked off enough that I felt like I could, I pulled my phone out to get a good picture. I strolled down there. It was probably about 11:50."

He expected to see a lot of water from a lot of rain. "My first view was of soil, claycolored soil, which was strange because I wondered how we got so much dirt up on the roadway. But when I got down closer, what I was seeing was where the road on the far side was exposed from 63 feet of roadway being washed out."

He said, "I was just stunned because of the expanse of missing soil and the realization that we had no way out of our lane and no easy solution."

Little did he know at the time that in front of him was not only a gaping hole where the road used to be but also an incredible journey leading to a solution that included helping the seriously ill kids at St. Jude's Children's Hospital, a pediatric treatment and research facility focused on children's catastrophic diseases, particularly leukemia and other cancers.

First, a little history. Patricia Bradley said, "In 1984 we purchased the first lot for sale in (the 322-acre) Hunting Creek Farms (HCF) in order to build into a south facing hill an earth-bermed, passive solar house that was designed, blueprints were prepared, and was literally and physically built ourselves."

She said they were seeking "a selfsufficient, sustainable and conservation lifestyle."

They also wanted, she said, "acreage to start a small farm both with animals and gardens." She had graduated from the University of Maryland with a major in Dairy Science. The property includes some pasture, forested areas, Hunting Creek, and a portion of the marsh.

The property was part of the T. Reid Hutchins farm purchased by Bay Mills and subdivided into six lots. Each was put into Agricultural Preservation and the woodland put into a Forest Management Plan, which is still in effect. They have raised and sold organic vegetables.

The couple met while working on veterinary medicines at the Food and Drug Administration on the USDA Research



Patricia and Bruce Bradley stand in front of the sign announcing the partners in the road replacement project.

Center. They've had a few timber harvests and they were 2013 Calvert County Tree Farm of the year.

Mrs. Bradley said, "When we purchased the lot, on the west border of the property and where Hunting Creek runs, there was a railroad bed (the Baltimore & Drum Point Railroad) that had been built in 1870 to 1890 to support train transportation in the hopes Drum Point would be a deep water port but Baltimore ultimately took that distinction. This rail bed has been approved for acceptance in the MD Historical Trust. This piece of Calvert County history has been partially demolished and continues to be due to erosion from increased water flow due to development up creek."

She said, "In the early years the amount of water that ran in Hunting Creek was considered an intermittent flow, such that in the summer it would occasionally dry up enough to not have any flowing water. This has changed so that now has a constant flow year-round. Construction of Fox Run Shopping Center seems to have increased the flow of water. With the construction for the new middle school and around Armory Place the flow has dramatically increased and caused erosion on the outflow of the original pipe under Hunting Farm Lane. It was felt this was due to the removal of large tracts of forested areas and the huge increase of impervious surfaces.'

The subdivision is private property, and the county is not responsible for any road maintenance. It is the responsibility of the landowners, six in HCF and one landlocked property with a right of way.

As Bruce Bradley was looking at that washed out road, he saw a huge financial project that would be the responsibility of just seven landowners. But first there was an even more pressing problem. They were all stranded. The fire department told them if there was a fire, it would burn down because they couldn't get to it. The community came together to begin to forge some temporary solutions to their immediate problem.

Donations were secured from local businesses such Lusby Hardware, TSC, Jim's Aire, Ace and Chaneys.

One of the construction companies submitting a quote, J. Keen, donated material and time to build a pedestrian bridge across Hunting Creek.

They were landlocked for eight weeks. The immediate issue was their cars were on the wrong side of the creek. Some neighboring property had access to Clay Hammond Road. The community, Bruce said, "cut down some trees and we had a dry stretch of weather. So they created enough of a path that they could use a tractor with a tow strap and people could get a vehicle per household out through the narrow path, through the woods and out to private property; a landowner let us go through their property." He added, "And then we parked those vehicles up at the Route 4 side on the Cox family property. So, to do any errands, we could walk down the hill on our side, across the foot bridge up the fill and then get to our vehicles."

He recalls buying a 40-pound bag of cat litter because it was cheaper in bulk, and forgetting he had to make that long haul up the hill.

Soon after the washout, several television stations did stories about the homeowners' plight and an employee of Crofton-based Delmarva Site Development heard one of them.

The problem and the solution had found a match.

Delmarva President Matthew Facchina tells The County Times that for the past few years they have supplied labor and materials to a worthwhile construction project, raise money in the course of doing it, and the proceeds go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. They usually make the donation during the holiday on-air fundraiser on Washington, DC country station WMZQ.

They don't do it alone. They enlist the support of construction companies they do business with.

Facchina said he sat down with the homeowners and explained what they do. He said he told them, "Their problem can go away. The problems of the children (at St. Jude's) don't go away so easily."

The community had started a Go-FundMe account. They totally bought into what Facchina was doing and began raising other monies in the community. Facchina said his goal was to raise what the company had donated to the project in labor and material. He estimates that to be \$150,000 plus another \$50,000 from the partners.

The community can still donate through the end of the year by going to: https:// fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Walk/ Walk?team_id=258060&pg=team&fr_ id=122562

The Bradleys in their time here have immersed themselves in issues related to agriculture and the environment. The washout experience has left them with a resolve to call attention to the increased runoff caused by development which has led to the increased water flow in their little creek. They have developed a checklist of issues that need to be resolved:

• "Planning and Zoning and the Board of County Commissioners approving development within town center that have steep slopes and highly erodible soils

• "To minimize forest loss or at least mitigate with native species and not within Town Center boundaries

• "Require adequate erosion and sediment control plans that are implemented and maintained properly during construction to include regular inspections to ensure compliance before, during and after construction

• "Ensure environmental site design practices are used to reduce storm water runoff from the Town Center to near zero to protect Hunting Creek watershed."

They also would like to see reestablished the dormant Hunting Creek Watershed Task Force.

What's happened since Isaias has also underscored the problem. Mrs. Bradley said, "Our biggest concern is shown by the photo of the creek level being about 6-8 inches from the top of the box culvert opening after 3.2 inches of rain measured during Zeta's remnants. What happens during a 7- or 10-inch rain? It will overflow onto the lane crossing again, even before the construction that was just approved of 67 townhomes, Armory Square development, or the proposed alignment of the Northeast Prince Frederick Loop Road. We do not want to have our vehicular access washed out again in our lifetimes and it appears this will occur with the development planned/recently approved for the Prince Frederick area."

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CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

During the week of November 2 – November 8 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,311 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property / Theft: 20-56945

On November 2, 2020, Deputy Flynt responded to Ponds Wood Road in Huntingtown for the report of vehicle tampering. The complainant advised sometime between 3:00am and 7:00am on October 30th, an unknown suspect(s) had attempted to steal a Harley Davidson motorcycle by cutting the frame of the motorcycle to remove the chain and lock. The suspect cut a Dyno Jet Power Vision tuner and the ignition switch from the bike and attempted to remove the radio. The complainant advised a vehicle parked on the property was also rummaged through and a portable battery charger was stolen. The total value of stolen and damaged property is \$4,910.

Theft: 20-56982

On November 2, 2020, Deputy Kwitowski responded to Calvert Towne Drive in Prince Frederick for the report of a theft. The complainant advised that sometime between October 30th and November 2nd, an unknown suspect(s) stole the year sticker from their license plate. The value of stolen property is unknown.

Theft: 20-57383

On November 4, 2020, Deputy Burggraff responded to Mackall Road in Saint Leonard for the report of a theft. The complainant advised that sometime between October 18th and November 2nd, an unknown suspect(s) stole a political campaign sign from their yard. The value of stolen property is \$5.

Arrests:

On November 3, 2020, Deputy Parks and Deputy Naughton conducted a traffic stop on Solomons Island Road at Pardoe Road in Lusby. Upon making contact with the occupants, Deputies detected the strong odor of marijuana emanating from the passenger side of the vehicle. The occupants exited the vehicle and the passenger, Tyrone Corde

Claggett (33), advised he had marijuana in his jacket pocket. A search was conducted and Deputies located a tied plastic bag containing raw marijuana, an orange syringe cap, and an empty syringe in



his shoe. Claggett was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS Administer Equipment Possession/ Distribution.

On November 3, 2020, Deputy Clark and Corporal O'Donnell were on assignment at Huntingtown High School for the National Election. A female subject, Angel

Jernee Somerville (34), approached the line after the poll closing time and was advised she would not be granted access inside the building to vote, due to not being in line prior to polls closing. Somerville

then met with another subject further ahead in line and was again advised to leave, but refused. Somerville reached the entrance to the high school, still refusing to exit the line, was placed under arrest and was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was charged with Disorderly Conduct On November 3, 2020, Deputy Aranda responded to Tractor Supply in Hunting-

town for the report of a subject trespassing. The complainant advised Brandon Joseph Wesley Jones (31) was inside the store after pre-

viously being trespassed. Calvert County Emergency communications confirmed that Deputy Flynt trespassed Jones from the Tractor Supply indefinitely on August



Brandon Weslev

12, 2020. Jones was detained and Deputy Aranda observed multiple hardware items in Jones' sweatshirt pocket which Jones had not paid for. Jones was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Trespass: Private Property, and Theft Less Than \$100

On November 5, 2020, Deputy Lewis responded to Prince Frederick Ford to assist Deputy Naughton with a subject in custody for theft. Deputy Naughton advised Deputy Lewis that the male subject, Tyrell Lamar

Douglas (23), was observed by Walmart employees attempting to steal four Onn. TV's. Douglas was observed walking through the store with the TV's, walking past the checkout registers with-



out paying and exited the

store. At this time, Deputies were notified of the theft in progress and Douglas abandoned the shopping cart, exiting the parking lot in his vehicle. Deputies located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. Multiple items were located inside the vehicle which Douglas admitted to stealing from various stores in different counties. Douglas was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Theft: \$100 to under \$1,500.

On November 6, 2020, while working at Rod N' Reel in Chesapeake Beach, Deputy Plant observed a male subject who was known to have an active warrant. Deputy Plant made contact and detained the male.

Gene Donald Crabbe (43), and a search was conducted by Deputy Plant and Deputy Cress which resulted in a prescription bottle containing seven Amphetamine and

Gene Crabbe Dextroamphetamine tablets.

Crabbe was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana and served with his warrant

On November 8, 2020, Deputy Hardy responded to Cliff's Motel in Saint Leonard for a welfare check. The complainant advised a male subject fell through a window and was laying on the floor. Deputy Hardy made contact with a male and female subject in the motel room and observed both subjects to have slurred speech and lack of balance. There was also a large amount of blood on the bed from the male, Tristao Commodore (43). After multiple commands. Commodore exited the room and

was evaluated by EMS. Deputy Hardy observed several empty "99" shot glasses, a small bag of marijuana, several grinders, unlabeled pill bottles and a bowl of unknown liquid. Commodore and

the female subject were advised to remain in their room to avoid further incident. A short time later, Deputy Hardy responded back to the motel room for reports of Commodore falling through the window again. Deputy Hardy attempted to place Commo-

Tristao Commodore

dore under arrest. Commodore resisted attempts and continued to act disorderly. After a struggle and with assistance from other Deputies. Commodore was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Disorderly Conduct, Failure to Obey Reasonable/Lawful Order, Resisting/Interfering with Arrest, Intoxicated Public Disturbance, and Assault-2nd Degree.

Editor's Note:

The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated.

MARYLAND STATE POLICE CRIME REPORT

The below incidents, investigations, and arrests are, in part, demonstrative of the Prince Frederick Barrack's effort to ensure that Calvert County is a safe place to live, work,

and visit.

Concealed Deadly Weapon / Warrant / CDS Violation - On October 28, 2020, TFC Backus stopped a vehicle in the area of 13855 Solomons Island Rd, Solomons, MD, for a traffic violation. A search of the vehicle was conducted due to the odor of marijuana. During the traffic stop, the operator, Cedric Troy Mackall, DOB: 8/29/1964. It was later discovered during the investigation that Mackall had a stun gun concealed on his person. Mackall was also found to have an open warrant for Failure to Appear - Driving Without a License. Marijuana was also discovered in the vehicle as a result of the search. As a result, Mackall was arrested for the warrant and concealed weapon and then transported to CCDC without incident.

Motor Vehicle Tampering / False Statement - On October 29, 2020, TFC Kelly responded to 355 White Sands Drive, Lusby, Maryland, for a reported vehicle tampering. During the investigation, it was learned that Manuel Enrique Salamanca, DOB: 6/14/2002, had been previously attempting to gain entry into the victim's vehicle. When Salamanca was discovered by the victim, they were confronted and advised they were only trying to get out of the rain. Salamanca advised the trooper that he lived in CRE and had walked up to the neighborhood earlier in the morning. Salamanca's address was actually very close by. Due to the false statements and the complaint from the the victim, Salamanca was arrested and transported to CCDC without incident.

Driving While Impaired / CDS Possession - Phencyclidine - On October 30, 2020, Tpr. White stopped a vehicle at 136 E Chesapeake Beach Road, Owings, Maryland, for traffic violations. The driver, Walter Forte, Jr., DOB: 8/9/1960, failed to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests satisfactorily and was arrested for DWI. A search incident to a lawful arrest revealed one cigarette that had been treated with suspected Phencyclidine (PCP). Forte was placed under arrest and transported to the MSP Prince Frederick Barrack for processing. Forte refused the intox-

imeter test and was subsequently transported to CCDC without incident.

First Degree Assault - On October 31, 2020, TFC Matthews responded to CalvertHealth Medical Center for a report of a subject suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was identified as Len'Trez Tremaine Hall (DOB: 08/24/1996). Hall had a gunshot wound to his left collarbone. Hall was transported to CalvertHealth Medical Center by multiple witnesses/friends. Maryland State Police (MSP) Criminal Enforcement Division (CED) - Central South was contacted and responded. Hall was subsequently airlifted to MedStar Washington Hospital Center in stable condition. A suspect description was obtained as a light skinned black male wearing a black hoodie and blue jeans. The suspect is approximately 16 - 19 years old, has an approximately four (4) inch afro with dreads/curls on top and he is clean shaven. The suspect is roughly 5'9" to 6'1", thin build, and approximately 175 - 195 pounds. After further investigation and witness interviews, a search warrant was obtained by TFC T. Davis for 7576 Wayside Drive, Sunderland. That search warrant was executed with the assistance of the MSP STATE Team, Troopers from CED, the Prince Frederick Barrack, and deputies from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office. The investigation is ongoing.

Burglary / Trespassing- On November 6, 2020, S/T Costello was dispatched to 313 Serenity Court, Prince Frederick, Maryland for a reported Burglary / Trespassing. It was determined, through an investigation, that Steven Terrell Wheeler, DOB: 10/15/1994, had gained access to the residence with permission from the victim and took some of his own belongings. Wheeler had been previously issued a No Trespass Order for a similar previous incident. Wheeler had already left the area prior to police arrival. Charges are pending for Wheeler for Burglary 3rd Degree and Trespassing.

All persons charged with a crime are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. News releases are a service of the Maryland State Police. Contact the barrack, division, or unit issuing this release for more information.

Press Release from MSP Prince Frederick Barrack

Thousands in Southern Maryland pay for dentistry they never get done!

BY: JEFF TOMCSIK Research Reporter

Statistically about 50% of the local population have dental insurance. Of that percentage only 50% of them properly use the dental benefits they are paying for. Most of them have no idea what benefits they have and how easy it is to lose them. To make the most of their dental benefits the consumer needs to understand how dental insurance works.

Dental insurance plans can be confusing. There are several components to a dental insurance plan. First there is the monthly premium that must be paid by the consumer, or in some cases their employer. There is the discount that is applied to all the dental codes that the insurance company negotiates with the dental offices. These discounts only effect "in-network" dentists and usually average about 30% off the usual and customary rate that a person without insurance would pay. Then there is the annual maximum. This is the amount that the insurance company is willing to pay on the insured's behalf per year. This typically ranges between \$1000 and \$3000 depending on the plan and how much the premium is per month.

While it certainly is a benefit to the consumer to have the lower fees that are negotiated on their behalf between the insurance company and the dental practices that are in-network, this discount doesn't make the cost of the annual fees worth the value. Those who have a healthy smile, would likely never use the restorative benefit or at least not much of it. In other words, a 30% discount on something not being used or purchased doesn't hold any value.

Most of the insurance plans pick up the entire or at least most of the insured consumers' preventative maintenance. This is usually the procedures that are recommended to be done twice per year by your hygienist. This may include cleanings, x-rays, fluoride, exam, and the like. The insurance company would have you believe they are the hero for paying for these visits, but in fact, the consumer paid for them. They just allowed the consumer to spread the payments out throughout the year in monthly payments or weekly deductions from their payroll. Insured individuals that don't take advantage of their preventative visits by seeing their hygienist twice a year are literally throwing their money away. It would be the equivalent of paying for two nights in an upscale hotel in DC but never showing up for the stay! Who would do that? These dental visits are of equivalent value; but yet 25% of the insured public throws these visits they paid for away.

Regular preventative maintenance visits drastically reduce the likelihood of major restorative procedures in the future. It is a known fact that preventative dental care not only saves the integrity of the smile but it truly saves the patient from high cost restorative care in the future.

The dental insurance company wins when the patient waits to go to the dentist. Those

who pay for dental insurance every year but never go to the dentist are writing a free check to the insurance company. The insurance companies are keeping the money they've earmarked for preventative care as well as the entire annual maximum for those patients. Putting off dentistry until it hurts could easily escalate to \$5000 worth of treatment or much more in one year. The dental insurance company will only contribute \$1500 because that is the average maximum on any given plan which leaves the out-of-pocket due at \$3500 for the insured individual in this example. Whereas, had they gone to the dentist every year and had the work done as needed over the course of four years, their out-of-pocket may have been zero, as the \$1500 per year (\$1500 x 4 years = \$6000) would have covered \$6000 over the four year period.

But the insurance companies do not let annual maximums roll over. They have a strict use it or you lose it policy. One would think that the insured consumer would be able to accrue his or her benefits since they literally paid for them and did not use them. Not the case; leftover benefits become pure profit for the insurance companies. The insurance companies are in business to make money, not to save smiles.

Dental providers see patients every day who put off dentistry and then struggle to pay for the work they need to have done. It is very sad for both the dental provider who wants to help the patient and for the patient who is in pain or embarrassed by the condition of their smile. Dental providers want their patients to see them as recommended but can't force anyone to do anything. This is why they try to educate them about the benefits that they have with their insurance company, so that when they need work, they understand how to best take advantage of their insurance.

Most dental plans end at the end of a calendar years. The average plan allows for a \$1500 annual maximum. Someone treatment planned today to have \$3000 in restorative treatment done, can start the procedures in November or December and finish them in January. This will allow them to take maximum advantage of the dental insurance they've paid for.

Call your dental office. Ask them if they are in-network with your insurance. If they are, schedule an appointment for a cleaning and a checkup. See if you have any dental work that needs to be done. Then ask your dental office what your annual limit is and how much remains. If you have work that needs to be done, use your annual benefit before the end of the year. Remember, if you don't use it, you lose it.

This article is curtesy of Tidewater Dental with locations is St. Mary's and Calvert Counties. Visit them on the web at www. TidewaterDental.com



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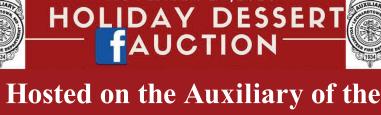
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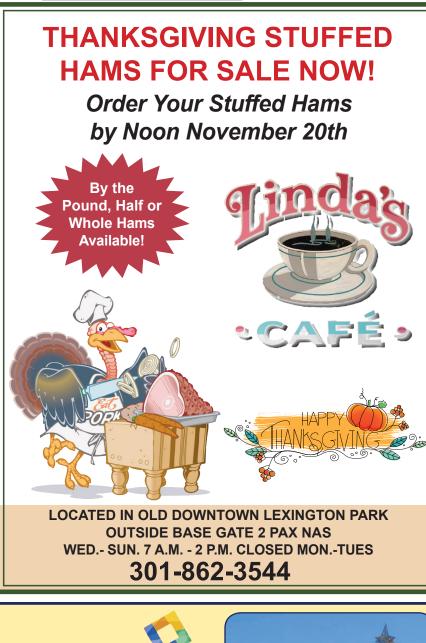
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Big Conversation Committee Presents Award to Calvert Library



Big Conversation steering committee presented a plaque to the Calvert Library on Monday Nov 2, Pictured are Calvert Library Executive Director Carrie Willson and Public Relations Director Robyn Truslow, with the plaque presented by Diane Davies on behalf of the Big Conversation Steering Committee and the Big Conversation Partners in Dismantling Racism and Privilege in Southern Maryland.

by Zoom on Sept. 13 to hear an expert panel and then meet in small groups to explore inequities in health care in Southern Maryland. This eighth Big Conversation was led by Middleham and St. Peter's Parish and its 21 community organization partners spanning the three Southern Maryland counties.

The success of the forum in this time of COVID-19 was attributable to how well the partners contributed their talents and resources. In particular, the Big Conversation steering committee acknowledges the work of the Mediation Centers of Calvert, St. Mary's, and Charles Counties and Calvert Library. The mediation centers served as small group facilitators. Calvert Library provided the technology resources needed to turn

We appreciate all of the comments on the story in the Nov. 12 edition about Radio in Southern Maryland. There were a few errors that were brought to my attention by readers that I attribute to brain freeze, an errant spell checker or my stupidity. They include:

WMJS-LP is in the basement of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Prince Frederick, not Trinity Episcopal Church.

KDKA, the first station, is on 1020 not 1120.

WPTX started on the second floor of Jack Daugherty's Merchandise

More than 220 individuals convened the annual Big Conversation into an online event. The Library is committed to this partnership and taking an active role in making the community stronger.

The purpose of the Big Conversation is to bring the community together to address national issues on a community level. The past three years the focus has been on dismantling racism. This year's focus was on health care inequities in Southern Maryland titled "Many Wounds to Heal: Health Care Inequities - How Does it Affect Me?"

The forum resulted in a comprehensive set of findings and recommendations that will guide the partners and the health community in addressing these inequities by providing better health care for all.

Press Release from Big Conversation.

Mart which later was sold to the Raley family and became Raley's Sales Center. Jack son Tom said his late dad did a daily morning show in the station's early days. Jack would go on to become a legendary banker in Lexington Park.

As I thought would happen, many have pointed out people who I should have mentioned. To all of those left on the cutting room floor, Happy 100th anniversary to all of you.

are).

As we used to say, keep those cards and letters coming in (whatever they

Golf Classic Raises Funds for Behavioral Health Services

The CalvertHealth Foundation held its 31st annual Benefit Golf Classic at The Cannon Club in Lothian on October 19. More than 125 participants including sponsors, golfers and supporters helped raise \$70,000 to support our community's increasing need for mental health services. Proceeds from this year's Benefit Golf Classic will provide support for the \$5.2 million Behavioral Health Renovation project and its programs and services, currently underway at CalvertHealth.

CalvertHealth President and CEO Dean Teague expressed his gratitude to the golfers, sponsors and employees who make it all possible. "Thank you all for participating in this important event for our Foundation as we come together to raise funds to support behavioral health services in our community. Your generosity will allow CalvertHealth to better serve a patient population that needs our services the most," said Teague. Once complete, the newly designed and re-appropriated space will provide age-appropriate, enhanced therapeutic healing environments for both adolescents and adults seeking behavioral health services at CalvertHealth Medical Center. Since the inaugural Golf Benefit Classic in 1990, the event has raised more than

\$1.5 million to fund patient care equipment and vital hospital services at CalvertHealth Medical Center.

In total, 116 golfers took to the green making up three flights. The winner of the first flight was TITLEMAX -Wanda DeBord. The Mark Frisco Century 21 New Millennium team took top prize on the second flight and the team from Compu Dynamics won the third flight.

Reflecting on the success of the day, tournament committee member Mickie Frazer shared, "What another wonderful tournament CalvertHealth hosted again this year. We had a great turn out and raised funds for a much needed cause - behavioral health. Now more than ever, behavioral health issues have become an even greater health crisis and I am so thankful for everyone who pulled together to support this important initiative.'

Plan B Technologies, a CDI Company, President – DMV Donnie Downs said, "As a long-time community member and business owner, I am proud to support the efforts of our local medical center working tirelessly to serve the needs of our community." Plan B Technologies, Inc. has been a long time sponsor of the CalvertHealth Golf Classic.



The winning team of the first flight: TITLEMAX- Wanda DeBord with a score of 55. Pictured from left to right: Colt Miller, Jimmy Baker, Taylor DeBord and Ryan Hutchins

Teague extended special thanks to sponsors All American Ambulance and Transport; Leach Wallace Associates, Inc. Member of WSP; Med-Star Georgetown University Hospital; North American Partners in Anesthesia; Adfinitas Health; Alteon Health; Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman; Plan B Technologies, Inc., a CDI Company; Power Solutions; The Concord Advisory Group; Varsity Vending.

Press Release from Calvert Health

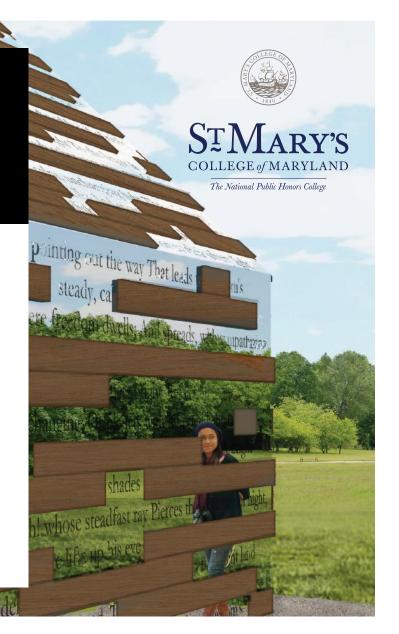
FROM ABSENCE TO PRESENCE THE VIRTUAL DEDICATION OF THE COMMEMORATIVE TO ENSLAVED PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND Saturday, November 21, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m.

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The Commemorative is an immersive art experience that honors the story of resilience, persistence, and creative problem solving that defined the lives of the enslaved individuals that lived in St. Mary's City between 1750 and 1815. Constructed on the St. Mary's College of Maryland campus, the Commemorative provides visitors with the space to acknowledge and learn from the lives of those who once toiled there, while providing a place for reflection and introspection about the nature of slavery and its connections to modern society.

This virtual dedication will feature a keynote message by nationally-known writer Jelani Cobb. This artistic construction being erected near the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium features commissioned work by artists Norman Lee and Shane Allbritton of RE:Site and poet Quenton Baker.

TO EXPERIENCE THE VIRTUAL DEDICATION, VISIT: WWW.SMCM.EDU/COMMEMORATIVE/



SMECO Employees Fundraise for Area Hospitals

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) recently donated \$55,700 to three local hospitals in Southern Maryland to support hospitals' care providers and operations during the CO-VID-19 pandemic. The three hospitals are CalvertHealth in Prince Frederick, University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center (UM CRMC) in La Plata, and MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown.

Each organization will receive \$18,566. "We selected these three organizations as this year's recipients because their services are vital to our communities, and their budgets and personnel have been stretched thin during the pandemic," explained Natalie Cotton, SMECO's government affairs and community relations director.

Richard Jarboe, SMECO's supply chain director, stated, "We had planned to hold our annual charity golf outing, but determined that the health risk was too great. Our appreciation of our vendors who whole-heartedly agreed to honor their donations is immeasurable."

"As a non-profit hospital, our budget must prioritize costly medical equipment, staffing, and other critical expenses. There is often little remaining for aesthetics or upgrades," Christine Wray, FACHE, President of MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, said. "Thanks in part to SMECO's donation-along with contributions from our own associates-we are closer to building a comfortable outdoor picnic area where our team members can take a well-deserved break outside

'Construction has been in the planning stages for more than a year. Our healthcare workers will use the space to take a meal break, decompress, and get some fresh air during long shifts." Wray added, "Through the challenges of COVID-19 and beyond, the community support we've received has meant so much to our team. Many thanks to SMECO. We greatly appreciate the coop's support.'

Dean Teague, President and CEO of CalvertHealth, stated, "Our sincere thanks to our community partner, SME-CO, and everyone who contributed to this gift. As our healthcare team focuses on COVID-19 and the treatment for our community, this gift is especially appreciated. The impact it will have is significant." He went on to say, "During the past months, gestures of generosity in all forms have fueled our efforts. It's about people caring for others, and we are extremely thankful for our community."

CalvertHealth Foundation Trustee and Second Vice Chair Marianne Harms remarked, "SMECO is always so reliable and generous to our community. Everyone working there and on the board is a



Accepting a contribution from SMECO on behalf of the hospital are, from left, Craig Renner, Director of Marketing and Communications for the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center (UM CRMC) and Leanne Lakes. Chair of the UM CRMC Foundation. Natalie Cotton, at right, SMECO's government affairs and community relations director presents the contribution of \$18,566 to the hospital.

part of this community."

"SMECO has been a great partner to our Foundation," said Leanne Lakes, Chair, Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation. "This generous contribution helps further support our mission to help UM CRMC provide the best possible medical care in our region."

Cotton commented, "We are especially thankful for business partners who provided donations. Major contributors include Adams, Jenkins and Cheatham; Booth and Associates; Community Bank of the Chesapeake; Duncan Weinberg Genzer Pembroke; Glen and Barbara Ives; ICF International; McNees Wallace and Nurick LLC; New River Electrical Corporation; Penn Line; Prudential; Schiebel Construction; Sumter Utilities; TRC Solutions; UDC; and VFP; and we thank them for their support.'

Jarboe added, "We are grateful to our Golf Outing sponsors for their generous contributions. Platinum Sponsors include Altec, Anixter, AUI Power, Brandywine Power, ICF International, Irby Utilities, New River Electrical Corporation, The Okonite Company, Sargent & Lundy LLC, Southern Maryland Cable, and Wesco Utility. Gold Sponsors include SMO Energy. We rely on them for their donations and appreciate their assistance."

"We are planning to hold our ninth bike ride in the fall of 2021," explained Cotton. "For eight years, we held the event on the first Saturday in June, and many of our cyclists participated in all of our annual rides. We hope that by hosting the event in the fall, we can avoid any concerns about the pandemic next year." She concluded, "We are always grateful for the donations from our contributors, and we're thankful they have been so generous.'

In eight years, SMECO employee fundraisers have contributed \$383,800 to local organizations. Contributions, which may be tax deductible, can be made to the SMECO Charitable Foundation.

Press Release from SMECO.

Student Life Team Distributes Food to CSM Students

During Mobile Hawk Feeder Event



CSM's Student Life Coordinator Melissa Chambers and Operations Manager. Student Life and Athletics Andrea Sherman prepare care packages for distribution.

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Student Life team recently held a drive-thru food distribution event at CSM's Prince Frederick Campus to help CSM students who are struggling financially and experiencing food insecurities. Approximately 800 pounds of food were given to students who pre-registered to come to the campus, and deliveries were made to two students who did not have transportation. The Oct. 14 "Mobile Hawk Feeder" student event was the fourth food drive-thru sponsored by CSM since the pandemic began.

"Many of our students, and their families, are still struggling with food insecurities," explained Stu-dent Life Coordinator Erika Abell. "Together with our Student Government Association and community partners, we continue to mobilize to create care packages. These students are our family and we approach our support for them holistically. When we know our students are struggling, we do whatever we can to help.'

The CSM Student Life team first met in May to empty the campuses' Hawk Feeders micro-food pantries and at that time, packed up 140 bags of food to give away. Since the Mobile Hawk Feeder effort began, nearly 2,800 pounds of food has been distributed to CSM students.

Contributing to the latest Prince Frederick Campus event were Life-Point Church of Waldorf's Pastor Michael and Angela Rogalski. Previous drive-thru events were supported by Pastor John Lewis with the Servants of Christ Church, New Life Church and the Charles County Department of Social Services, who all donated food. In addition, the CSM Foundation supported the ef-



CSM Men of Excellence Program Coordinator Tim Fenner assists with distribution during the Mobile Hawk Feeder event

fort through funding from its "Help a Hawk" emergency fund.

Since 2017, CSM has offered food provided through Hawk Feeders at each of its four campuses. Hawk Feeders help address the short-term basic food needs any student may be experiencing. Built by a CSM faculty member Bill Luyster, the Hawk Feeders are stocked through individual donations by faculty, staff and students as well as through food drives, under the adage, "Give what you can, take what you need."

Press Release from CSM.



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CSM "GivingTuesday" to CSM Chief of Staff **'Help a Hawk'**

Benefits Students Impacted by Pandemic

When the pandemic hit in March 2020 and Gov. Larry Hogan ordered Marylanders to stay home, Lisa Tolomei - a single mother of two - immediately settled into her Chesapeake Beach home office. Her daughters Caitlyn and Emily weren't so lucky. The day after Lisa started working from home, Caitlyn was laid off. And the day after that, Emily lost her job. All three Tolomeis are parttime students at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM).

"Caitlyn had just signed a six-month lease on an apartment and her plan was to continue school full time, work and start a life with her future husband," explained Tolomei. "Everything changed in an instant. Her getting laid off meant I needed to assist in paying her bills, making sure she had tuition, rent, car insurance, etc. Emily was planning to start CSM this fall, and she was working to save money for a car. All of our plans and savings got sidelined by COVID almost overnight."

But Tolomei and Caitlyn soon learned they would be receiving financial assistance from CSM through CAREs Act funding and CSM's 'Help a Hawk' scholarship - an emergency fund established to help ease the burdens of pandemic-driven unemployment and fatigue; and to keep existing CSM students enrolled.

"I was awarded the Help a Hawk scholarship and it helped me so much,' said Caitlyn Tolomei. "Suddenly, I was furloughed and living off of unemployment and occasionally watching my godson. I had no clue how I was going to pay my bills, let alone my school needs. Thanks to the scholarship, I was able to pay for my classes and books and stay in school this fall. I am so grateful.'

"The CARES Act funds helped me buy the kids food, assist with any residual costs for tuition, and make sure my kids were taken care of," shared Lisa Tolomei. "I also received scholarship assistance from CSM Foundation's Help a Hawk fund which allowed me to continue taking classes during the pandemic. I am grateful to CSM for their generosity and quick assistance. CSM helped my family and many other families tremendously.'

"No student should have to choose between affording to live and affording to learn," said CSM Acting Executive Director of the CSM Foundation Chelsea Clute. "That is why this December 1 on GivingTuesday, we are asking for the public's show of solidarity and support for our CSM students and we are asking them to help replenish our Help a Hawk fund. The pandemic is far from over and we are asking our communities to help us, help our students until they can get back on their feet"

GivingTuesday is a global generosity



movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Created in 2012 as a simple idea: GivingTuesday is a 24-hour giving event that encourages people to do good by giving, collaborating, and celebrating generosity.

The Help A Hawk Fund provides aid to CSM students experiencing financial hardship and began in March 2020 as a Student Emergency Fund in response to COVID-19. To date, the CSM Foundation has raised \$148,000 in support of students impacted financially by CO-VID-19. More than \$120,000 has been awarded to 378 students thanks to the foundation's Help a Hawk efforts. Continued contributions will replenish the fund and provide direct relief to students in the form of Hawk Feeder care packages; tuition assistance; and technology and educational supplies.

Generous donors and supporters of the CSM Foundation have already pledged to match 2020 GivingTuesday gifts, dollar for dollar. Visit the CSM Foundation website for a list of matching donors or for more information on how to become a matching donor. Participants can also make a donation during one of CSM's 'Power Hours' on Dec. 1 (8-9 a.m., 12-1 p.m. or 6-7 p.m.) and be entered into a live drawing to win exciting prizes.

Learn more about GivingTuesday at CSM by visiting online at https:// foundation.csmd.edu/news-events/giving-tuesday-2020?j=69503061&sfmc sub=1070123979&1=7667323 HTML& u=727493720&mid=10184794&jb=0

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (S.748) Charitable Giving Incentive: Includes an above-the-line deduction (universal or non-itemizer deduction that applies to all taxpayers) for total charitable contributions of up to \$300. The incentive applies to contributions made in 2020 and would be claimed on tax forms next year. The bill also lifts the existing cap on annual contributions for those who itemize, raising it from 60 percent of adjusted gross income to 100 percent. For corporations, the bill raises the annual limit from 10 percent to 25 percent. Analysis of S.748 prepared by the National Council of Nonprofits.

Press Release from CSM

Elected to National Group

Will Represent Northeast Region

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announces that Chief of Staff Larisa Pfeiffer has been elected the Northeast Region Representative and Member-at-large for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN). In this capacity, Pfeiffer will provide leadership, facilitate communication and develop programs for the annual ACCT Congress.

ACCT is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees who govern more than 1,200 community, technical and junior colleges in the United States and beyond. Located in Washington, D.C., ACCT is a major voice of community college trustees to the presidential administration, U.S. Congress, the Departments of Education and Labor and more. The Northeast Region includes Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

In her CSM position as the college's first chief of staff, Pfeiffer relies on peers serving in similar roles in community colleges and four-year institutions to understand higher education and governance trends and policies; and to create a shared knowledge network.

In addition to being elected to the PBSN, Pfeiffer received a membership grant for the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education this July. This furthers Pfeiffer's network and access to information resources that aid in her service to presidential leadership at CSM.

"Larisa's support of CSM's Board of Trustees and our senior leadership team is exceptional," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "Her new role with ACCT is an extension of her widely known commitment to the success of all community colleges as well as her passion for transforming lives through lifelong learning and service."

Prior to serving as CSM's chief of staff, Pfeiffer spent four years as the institution's lead community engagement coordinator and five years as the college's business and information technology coordinator for CSM Workforce Development division. She has also served as an adjunct professor of Communication.

"CSM helped me enter the world of higher education as a student and then as a professional," said Pfeiffer. "My



CSM Chief of Staff Larisa Pfeiffer

family and I have all enjoyed personal enrichment, workforce development, and academic courses through CSM. The college is an extension of our family and our ability to contribute meaningfully to our community is a direct result of our relationship with CSM"

Pfeiffer holds an associate degree in Arts and Sciences from CSM; a bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Maryland, a master's in Communication from Southern New Hampshire University, and is currently a doctoral candidate of the Community College Leadership program at Ferris State University. She was recently published in the April 2020 Vol. 10 Issue 1 of AT IS-SUE "Building the Community College Leadership Pipeline: Prioritizing Succession Planning". Pfeiffer's dissertation research is focused on onboarding and education practices of new trustees appointed to community college board governance.

"I consider myself a helper," she shared. "My experience and educational attainment align deeply with my commitment to ensure the mission of the community college continues to serve the needs of our community and that CSM leadership is fully supported to ensure this important work gets done.'

Press Release from CSM.

Marcelle married her late husband, Sgt.

Anthony Miller (U.S. Army), and after liv-

ing in various countries during military tours

of duty, eventually made their home in the

United States. After the death of her hus-

band, Marcelle worked in the restaurant and

retail industries, while raising her two daughters. She later met her life companion, Frank

Family was Marcelle's greatest love. She

treasured her children and embraced every

moment with them. In later life, she also

helped raise her grandchildren, all of whom

she loved dearly. She especially loved being

Mémé to Matthew, Alyssa, Hannah, Ava, and

Charlotte. She also enjoyed spending time

soul was full of kindness and her heart filled

with unwavering and unconditional love for

her children, grandchildren, and great grand-

children. She was a courageous woman who

possessed strength beyond her body. Mar-

celle has gained her wings, and will be missed

In lieu of flowers, memorial contribu-

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Fu-

tions may be made in Marcelle's honor to the

American Heart Association at http://www2.

heart.org/goto/Marcelle Miller.

Marcelle was gracious and selfless. Her

("Sunny") Bibb, Jr.

with the family pets.

Lauren Kaye Schroeder



Lauren Kave Schroeder, 64, of Dunkirk passed away November 14, 2020. She was born June 6, 1956 in Washington, DC to Everett and Bernyce (Kinnischtzke) Sanborn. Lauren was raised in For-

estville and graduated from Crossland High School. She later attended nursing school at Union Memorial and earned her registered nursing license in 1992. Lauren married Alan Lee Schroeder on July 9, 2005 and they lived in Dunkirk. Lauren was employed as a registered nurse at Doctors Hospital and Calvert Memorial Hospital, retiring in 2013. Lauren loved spending time with her grandchildren and enjoyed watching them play sports. She was an avid fan of the Washington Capitals, Nationals, and Redskins.

Lauren is survived by her husband Alan Lee Schroeder and daughter Kylene Nickoli, both of Dunkirk and grandchildren Adam, Jack, Luke, and Evie. She was preceded in death by her parents Everett and Bernyce Sanborn and brothers Gary and James Sanborn.

Graveside Service will be Monday, November 30, 2020 at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham, 11301 Crain Highway. Burial will be at the cemetery. Cheltenham, MD 20623.

James C. Fisk



James C. Fisk, 79, of Dunkirk passed away November 13, 2020 at his home. He was born June 7, 1941 in Lewiston, ID to Bert and Doris Aurelia (Weeks) Fisk. Jim moved

with his family to Washington, DC when he was 6 years old and later to Hillcrest Heights in 1954. He graduated from Suitland High School and later Capital Engineering Institute with a degree in engineering. Jim was drafted into the United States Army in 1964 and honorably discharged in 1966, after serving as the food inspector at Fort Jackson. Jim married Ellen Maiorany in 1967 and they have lived in Dunkirk since 1983. He worked for many years in specialized computer sales, selling computers to various government agencies. Jim was a member of the Calvert County Board of Elections for many years and a very talented man who embraced his Idaho heritage. In his spare time, he enjoyed woodworking, furniture making, working on cars, and fixing things. Jim's family would like to give a special thanks to his caregiver Joyce Agbemafle.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife Ellen in June of 2019 and sister Marcella Sunderland. He is survived by his brother Bradford Fisk and his wife Carolyn of Falls Church, VA, nephews Benjamin and Michael Sunderland of Owings and Brent Fisk of Washington, DC, and niece Susan Fisk and her husband Garrett Munro of Kent, OH.

Visitation will be Friday, November 20, 2020, 1-2 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at MD Veterans Cemetery-Cheltenham, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

Memorial Contributions mav be made to Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 3 International Drive, Suite 200, Rye Brook, NY 10573; 888-557-7177; Link: https://www.lls.org/ or Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link:https://calverthospice.org/

Marjorie Ann Walsh

Marjorie Ann Walsh, 82, a longtime resident of Annapolis passed away November 10, 2020. She was born December 23, 1937 in Baltimore to Thomas and Geraldine (Bollinger) Walsh.

Marjorie is survived by her sisters Lucille Gray, Donna Coplan, and Patty Walsh. She was preceded in death by her brother Thomas Irving Walsh, Jr.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

Joseph Peter "Joe" Torre



Joseph Peter "Joe" Torre, 51, of Huntingtown passed away November 10, 2020 at his home surrounded by family. He was born November 19, 1968 in Cheverly to Philip Joseph Sr. and Kathryn Alice (Hunter)

Torre. Joe was raised on the South River in Turkey Point in Edgewater and he spent his childhood swimming, crabbing, fishing, and ice skating on the river. He is a graduate of

South River High School. Joe married his wife Nicole on December 7, 1998 and they lived in Riva for a year before moving to Huntingtown. He was employed as a construction manager for the Smithsonian Institution and was also a member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Prince Frederick. Joe was an extremely talented person who could fix anything. He renovated his entire house and made his own solar hot water heater. When he wasn't tinkering with things around the house, Joe was fishing, crabbing, and watching his daughters play sports. He loved spending time with his family and will be greatly missed by many.

Joe is survived by his loving wife Nicole, daughters Melissa Kathryn and Heidi Helga Torre, father Philip Torre, Sr. of Ocean View, DE, siblings Philip Torre of Stevensville, Tony Torre of Pasadena, Terri Coulbourne and husband Richard of Chester. Kathy Lueders and husband Richard of Berlin, and Gina Knapp and husband Chris of Shady Side, mother in law Helga Woehrle of Germany and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Memorial Service will be Sunday, November 22, 2020, 2 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home-Owings, 8325 Mt. Harmony Lane, Owings, MD 20736.

Interment will be private.

Marcelle ("Tina") Renée **Colette Miller**



Marcelle ("Tina") Renée Colette Miller, 86, of Dunkirk. Marvland. passed away on November 10, 2020. She was born on March 13, 1934 in Poitiers. France to her parents, the late René and Marcelle

(Soudé) Foucreau. Marcelle was preceded in death by her brother, Claude Foucreau, her husband, Sgt. Anthony Miller (U.S. Army), and her life companion, Frank ("Sunny") Bibb, Jr.

Marcelle is survived by her sisters, Geneviève Pageaud (Claude, deceased) of France and Odile Millet (Henri) of France; brothers, René Foucreau (Monique) of France and Patrick Foucreau (Monique) of France; daughters, Kathleen Akil (Sam) of Sunderland, Maryland and Wendy Miller-Blancke (George) of Owings, Maryland; son, Alexander LoBianco of Dunkirk, Maryland; grandchildren, Matthew Curtin (Erica), Alyssa Blancke and Hannah Akil; great-grandchildren, Ava Curtin and Charlotte Curtin.



immensely.

neral Home.

Tina Marie Brown, 50, of Prince Frederick, Maryland passed away on November 7, 2020 in Prince Frederick, Maryland. Tina was born on November 10, 1969 in Prince Frederick and although she didn't go far

from home in her short lifetime, Tina lived her life freely, and with a zest. She never met a stranger, and cared for everyone, especially children. She was known for playing with all the children in the neighborhood.

Tina is survived by her husband, David Hammaker, daughter Kayla Fraley and her husband Joshua, and 2 sons: Joshua and Kevin Billingsley. Grandmother of Chase, Julia, and Elsie Fraley. Tina is also survived by her mother, Wanda Mays; sisters Sharon Brown, Cathy Bean, and Denise Stephens, and her mother in law, Nora Quesenberry.

Funeral arrangements were made Rausch Funeral Home.





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

Thursday, November 19

Business Survival in These Crazy Times (Zoom) Live Long & Prosper. 7:00pm-8:30pm.

Join us for a panel discussion with business attorney Lisa Smith Sanders, Health Department Director Dr. Larry Polsky and business consultant and CEO of Kemit Group, Joel Hill. Get tips and best practices and bring your questions about how to help your business live long and prosper! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Friday, November 20

Writers by the Bay. 7:30pm-9:00pm.

Looking for a writers' group? All writers and would-be writers are welcome to come for critique & camaraderie. Please email pfwriter@comcast.net or DACwriter@verizon.net to receive the link to join the meeting. Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Sunday, November 22

Calvert Library's Book Bites: Teen and Middle Grades.

2:00pm-3:00pm.

Listen to the first chapters of popular, new and recommended books for teens. New chapters are posted every week. Search "Calvert Library's Book Bites Teen" on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you listen to Calvert Librarians read podcasts. the first chapters of popular, new and recommended young adult and middle grade books that are available in our digital collection. New episodes post every Sunday at 2 pm and Wednesday at noon. Find us on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Simplecast and more! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Monday, November 23

It's Elementary!

9:00am-9:15am.

Science, technology, engineering, art, math? What will we talk about this week? Kindergarten through fifth graders are invited to join Calvert Library each week for It's Elementary! Enjoy a story followed by a fun at-home STEAM based activity using common household items! Check out Calvert Library's It's Elementary! on Facebook, Youtube, Instagram and Twitter and don't forget to invite your friends! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Monday, November 23

Books & Toys Book Discussion One for the Money by Janet Evanovich.

8:00pm-9:00pm.

Book discussion for adults, playtime for kids! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https:// CalvertLibrary.info.

Tuesday, November 24

Storytime Online. 9:00am-10:00am.

Storvtime is back in session online! Join vour favorite librarian as we continue to develop early literacy skills through movement, music and stories. We will introduce early literacy and demonstrate ways to nurture prereading skills while you are at home. Checkout Calvert Library's Storytime Online on our Facebook page or our Youtube channel and don't forget to invite your friends! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https:// CalvertLibrary.info.

Tuesday, November 24

Dining with Diabetes 4 Part Series.

6:00pm-7:30pm.

Join University of Maryland Extension (UME) Family & Consumer Sciences Educators Mona Habibi and Erin Jewell for a Free 4 Part series. Dining with Diabetes is a national program designed for adults with type 2 diabetes. The program teaches skills needed to identify and understand important information about managing the disease. Dining with Diabetes complements and does not replace other diabetes education and management programs. Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Wednesday, November 25

Calvert Library's Book Bites: Teen and Middle Grades.

12:00pm-1:00pm.

Listen to the first chapters of popular, new and recommended books for teens. New chapters are posted every week. Search "Calvert Library's Book Bites Teen" on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you listen to podcasts. Calvert Librarians read the first chapters of popular, new and recommended young adult and middle grade books that are available in our digital collection. New episodes post every Sunday at 2 pm and Wednesday at noon. Find us on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Simplecast and more! Calvert Library Virtual Branch, 410-535-0291. https://CalvertLibrary.info.





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

Thursday, November 19

Little Minnows

Calvert Marine Museum; Various times

For preschoolers ages 3 - 5, with an adult. This program focuses on one of the museum's three themes. Join us for story time and a take away craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 15-20 minutes. Capacity limited to 12 people per session. This month's theme is Mighty Dinosaurs. This program is now offered at various times throughout the day, to accommodate guests during all sessions. For specific times, please visit calvertmarinemuseum. com.

Paint Party at NBVFD Cancelled

Saturday, November 21

NBVFD Auxiliary Yard Sale North Beach Volunteer Fire Depart-

ment; 8 a.m. - noon Be a BUYER or a SELLER! It's your choice! Either way, we would like to see you there! The cost to reserve a table is \$15 for one or \$25 for two. Tables must be reserved in advance by contacting Diana, after 5:00pm, at 410-231-1775. Social Distancing will be practiced by having everyone to stay 6 feet apart. Face covering/mask is a requirement while in attendance. There will also be a bake sale!

Paper Shredding Event

Huntingtown High School; 9 a.m. - 1 р.т.

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, will host a free paper shredding event for county residents. The shred event, held rain or shine, can help prevent identity theft by destroying confidential or sensitive documents. Residents are required to wear face masks and practice safe social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Proof of residency is required.

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ongoing

Holiday Market Place CalvART Gallery; Thursday - Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Paintings, photography, pottery, clay works, jewelry, steampunk, woodworks, cards, and much more! Shop online at calvartgallery.com.



YOUR ONLINE COMMUNITY FOR CHARLES, CALVERT, & ST. MARY'S COUNTIES



The Calvert County Times

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The Calvert County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of Calvert County. The Calvert 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 Calvert 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 Calvert County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/ edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the Calvert County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The Calvert County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.



County Times

LOSE THE RATE

At Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, our goal is to help you save on your monthly auto loan payment. Join us for our **Rate Loss Challenge** and shed that extra rate this holiday season!



1% off your qualifying auto loan rate



Rates as low as **1.65% APR**

30 days to find the perfect car

Mark your calendar!

Rates as low as

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1.6

for one week only! NOV 27 - DE





Visit any branch or apply online at cpfcu.com/offer

Offer applies only to auto loans on vehicles up to 10 years of age. Limitations apply. APR = Annual Percentage Rate.