

Calvert County Times

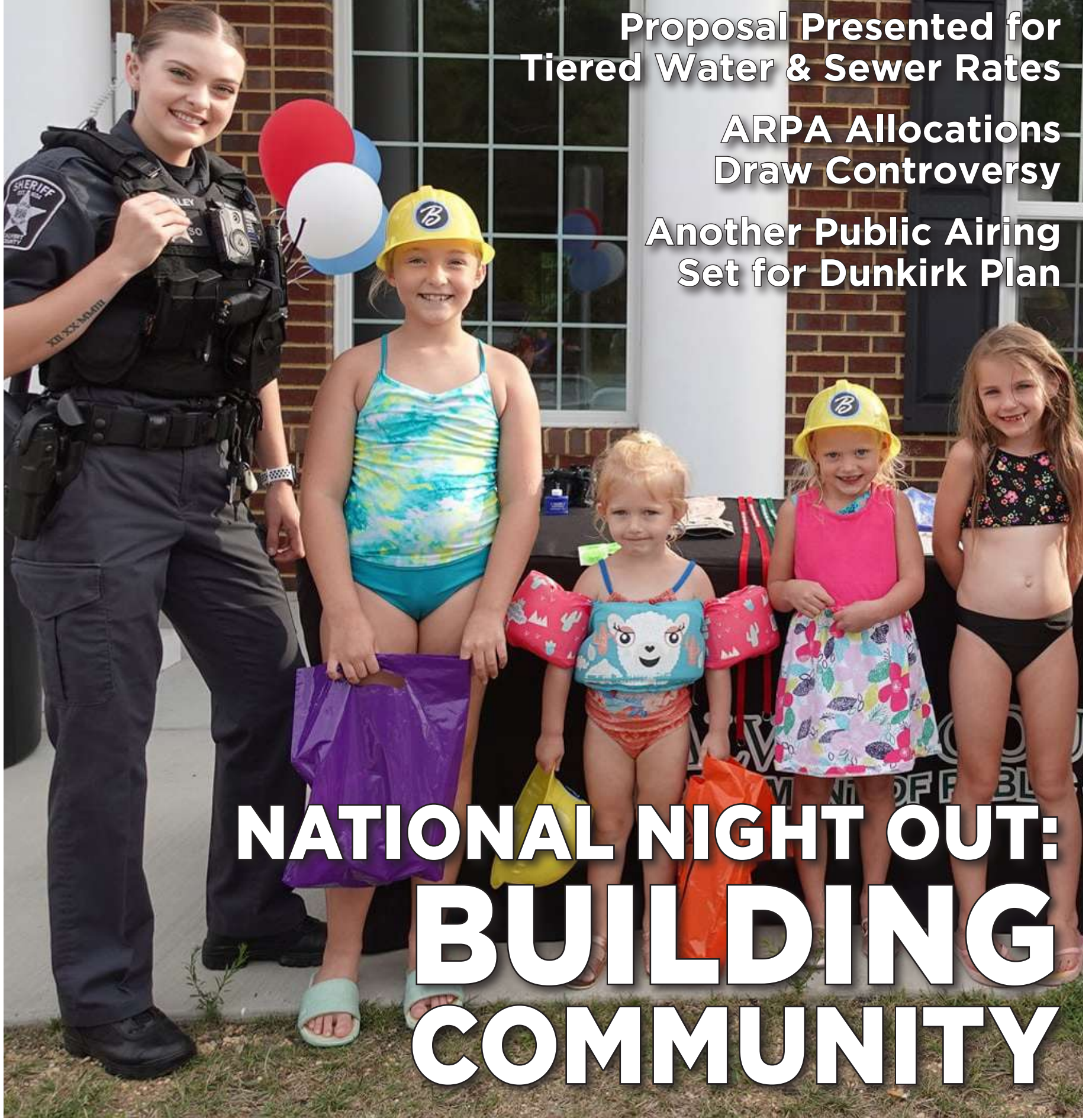
THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

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**Proposal Presented for
Tiered Water & Sewer Rates**

**ARPA Allocations
Draw Controversy**

**Another Public Airing
Set for Dunkirk Plan**



**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:
BUILDING
COMMUNITY**



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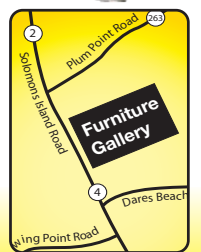
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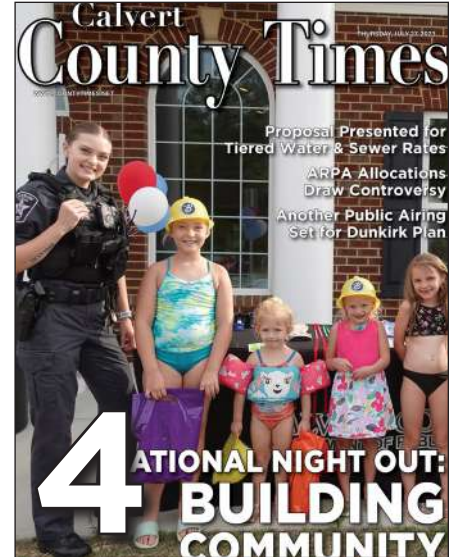
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“HUNGER IS NOT A PROBLEM. IT’S AN OBSCENITY.”

CHESAPEAKE BEACH MAYOR PAT MAHONEY QUOTING ANNE FRANK ON FOOD INSECURITY.



LOCAL
Dunkirk Plan public meeting set



ON THE COVER
Communities across Calvert are preparing to participate in National Night Out



LOCAL
Proposal presented for tiered water and sewer rates

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>THU, JUL 27</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 95° Lo: 75°</p>	<p>FRI, JUL 28</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 94° Lo: 76°</p>	<p>SAT, JUL 29</p> <p>PM Thunderstorms Hi: 94° Lo: 72°</p>	<p>SUN, JUL 30</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 67°</p>
<p>MON, JUL 31</p> <p>Sunny Hi: 81° Lo: 65°</p>	<p>TUE, AUG 1</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 83° Lo: 67°</p>	<p>WED, AUG 2</p> <p>PM Thunderstorms Hi: 83° Lo: 69°</p>	<p>THU, AUG 3</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 85° Lo: 68°</p>



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National Night Out is August 1st in Calvert



August 1st is National Night Out in Calvert County. Sponsored locally by the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Inc. (CAASA) in partnership with the Maryland State Police, Barrack "U" and the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, this is a great opportunity for residents to promote the best of their neighborhoods.

Local agencies will attend the events to share information/resources and the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police, Barrack "U" and the county's Fire, Rescue and EMS personnel will be on hand at many of the locations. Twelve neighborhoods will participate this year:

- Bayside Forest
- Calvert Pines Senior Center
- Calvertowne
- Carroll Western Church
- Foxwood
- Huntingtown Citizen's Association
- Long Beach/Calvert Beach
- Northeast Community Center
- Oakland Hall
- Prince Fred. Village & Senior Apts.
- Queensberry

• White Sands

"Calvert County has participated in National Night Out since the early 1990s and we are excited to continue the event this year. We encourage residents to join in the fun with music, food and games. Community coordinators have spent a tremendous amount of time organizing an enjoyable night for everyone," stated JoAnn Faber Tyrrell, President of the CAASA Board of Directors.

National Night Out is designed to:

1. Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness,
2. Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts
3. Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships, and
4. Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For more information, contact CAASA at 410-535-3733. A detailed list of participating communities including times and locations can be found at <https://hope4calvert.org/calendar-1/2023/8/1/national-nightout-2023>



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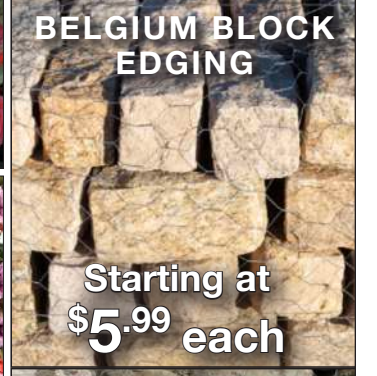
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Public Meeting to be Held on Draft Dunkirk Plan

Planner Questions Viability of Citizen Desires

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

Calvert County citizens will be getting another chance to make their feelings known about the draft Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan update. The planning commission at its July 19 meeting approved another public airing to gather input prior to the formal public hearing.

The plan has proven to be so far not controversial. Long-Range Planner Jenny Plummer-Welker explained the only expansion proposed: “to the northwest to include the Dunkirk District Park and to the northeast to include the state’s park and ride lot parcel.”

Other changes since the plan was last updated, she said, include: “economic trends, job and retail have changed, and there’s emerging issues like the county’s purchase of and development of the Ward Farm that’s near, but not inside the town center. And then the updated comprehensive plan, Calvert 2040, calls for the expansion of the town center. In addition, the Calvert County Transportation Plan was updated and adopted in 2020, and we recently completed the Bikeways feasibility study for the Dunkirk and Prince Frederick town centers.”

During previous public workshops prior to release of the draft, and through online surveys and mail-outs to all Dunkirk post office residents, “Top concerns identified

were managing growth wisely, attracting more retail to the area, remain a small community, and keeping it rural character, track congestion and walkability and infrastructure, sewer and water.”

As the result of a significant outreach effort, Plummer-Welker said, “The top two responses to the question, ‘what is your vision for the town center in 10 to 20 years?’ the top two were small town atmosphere with quality shopping services and restaurants, and little to no change. stay the same.”

She added, “Bikeways and pedestrian paths was the top response to question, ‘what transportation, transit, walking or bicycling challenges do you think should be addressed?’ The top two responses to the question, ‘what kinds of retail stores, business and personnel services and/or community facilities would you like in the Dunkirk Town Center?’ restaurants and specialty stores were the top choices.”

Perhaps the key question asked was “What do you hope the Dunkirk Town Center will be for you, your family, friends, and neighbors?” She said, “The phrase that stands out the most is ‘community place’.”

Dunkirk is largely a commercial town center with shopping centers and little vacant land. The only residential expansion allowed would be age restricted multi-family housing. Plummer-Welker said an analysis had not been made to determine how

many units could be accommodated on the vacant land.

The discussion led planning commission member Dr. Richard Holler to question whether the citizen desires could happen.

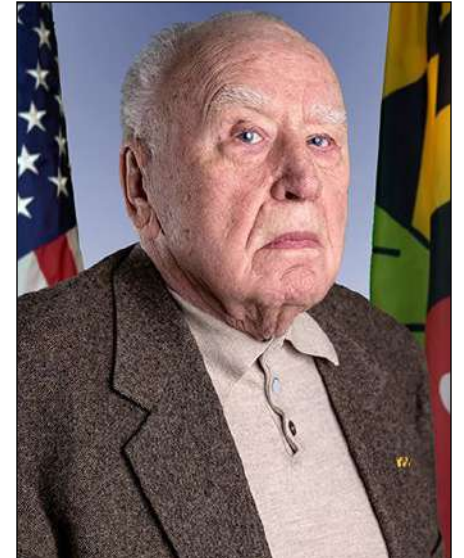
He said, “It’s like two trains headed for the same spot. You want to develop restaurants. I agree with that. You want to develop these other things, all of which have an effect on this, but this train over here that’s going to deal with this problem on another track, traveling very slowly, and that’s what I’m trying to get at. Is this really just paperwork to get through the next three years? Because nothing’s really going to happen that could solve the problem.” The problem is the lack of water and sewer service, he said.

Holler added, “Maybe it’s too early, but anybody looked at what are you going to do with the three private sewer systems that are under private ownership that have different land application arrangements, et cetera. I’m sure some of those are nearing the point where they can’t accommodate a lot of additional growth.”

Acting Director of Public Works J.R. Cosgrove said that would be part of a study to be conducted by the county.

Holler responded, “I’m not opposed to the study, I’m just worried about the timing. And I think the timing may defeat what your goals are.”

He added, “I go to Dunkirk almost every day. That isn’t a walkable area, and it isn’t going to be a walkable area. And I wonder how in our minds do we envision this becoming a walkable town center when all of the infrastructure that we’ve built with roads



Dr. Richard Holler

and parking lots and this sort of thing doesn’t say a walking area. It says it’s a car area.”

Holler suggested a study to see if water and sewer in Dunkirk could be handled by the sewage treatment facilities in the twin beaches.

Plummer-Welker said, “The newer developments like the shopping center on the north side of Ward Road and the shopping center on the south side of Ward Road on the east side of MD 4 have sidewalks.”

She also noted that the bikeways study was about to be released.

The date for the public meeting on the Dunkirk plan has not yet been released.

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More Pickleball Courts Are Coming

Hallowing Point Park Projects Planned

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is moving to close the gap in facilities for the burgeoning popularity of pickleball.

The BOCC on July 25 held a public hearing on plans to transfer \$1.2 million from capital improvements at Dunkirk Regional Park to several projects at Hallowing Point Park.

Director of Parks and Recreation Shannon Nazzal said in a memo prepared for the public hearing, “It has been brought forth by members of the community the desire for resurfaced tennis courts and additional pickleball court facilities. This has been determined to be a priority project. The resurfacing of the current courts at Hallowing Point Park will include all our tennis courts and will include lines for pickleball courts for multi-use. A pickleball facility will be constructed at the park to include eight outdoor pickleball courts as well as associated site work and stormwater infrastructure.”

Nazzal added, “The Hallowing Point Park

master plan has not been updated since 1998 and this adjustment of funding will allow for that process to begin to gain community input on the future of Hallowing Point Park.”

Nazzal said the resurfacing of the tennis courts can be completed by fall with the new pickleball courts to follow and the master plan taking longer to complete.

At the public hearing Joseph Cormier of Owings expressed concern that projects were being taken away from Dunkirk Regional Park. But Nazzal said other work was being done at that park, so all the work could not be accomplished now, allowing for the monies to be shifted. A new restroom is one of the projects being delayed.

After the public hearing, the BOCC closed the record. Staff will return in 10 days to request BOCC approval of the budget adjustment to transfer the \$1.2 million to Hallowing Point Park.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

New Water and Sewer Rate Structure Proposed

Charges Would Be Based on Usage

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has received a study of rates for water and sewer service that sets up a four-tiered approach in which payment is based on the amount used.

Consultant Mike Baker presented the proposal to the BOCC on July 25. It's a reaction to the public outcry when some residents over the Christmas holidays received rate increases several times what they were paying. That was based on their water usage pushing them into another equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). The rate increases were scrubbed after the outcry and now the current procedure is proposed to also be set aside in favor of a new approach that encourages water conservation.

Baker said, "The guiding principles and objective of the study: the water and sewer enterprise fund should be financially self-supporting. That is, one should not be subsidized from the other. You should not be getting subsidies from the general fund."

He added, "And water and sewer rates should be kept as low as possible over time."

But he added, "You can defer maintenance, not invest in your system and have really low rates, but at some point, something's got to happen. You have a pipe burst, you're going to need to quickly do a rate increase. So, the key is to kind of keep that low over time." He said inflation is going to be the biggest driver of costs.

"You're fairly built out," Baker observed. "We're not expecting too many new connections each year."

To keep pace, Baker estimates the need for a 9.6 percent increase in water revenues for each of the next four years, and then three percent the next two years. For sewer he is estimating a roughly 16.8 percent increase each of the next four years. "And then we can hopefully get to those three percent increases," he added.

"Your current rate structure, everybody pays a quarterly base rate. And this varies per EDU. So, if you're a typical residential customer, you probably pay \$59.34 for water and \$119.03 for sewer and then any usage."

Under the four-tier system, the first two tiers, those using 12,000 gallons or less, would pay less than they are now paying and those using more would pay more.

"So, if you can keep your bill less than 12,000 gallons per quarter," Baker said, "You'd essentially pay less under the alternative rate design than you would if you paid for the current. Same thing on sewer."

Acting Public Works Director J.R. Cosgrove said his agency would like the authority to raise rates by five percent annually without commissioner approval. But Commissioner President Buddy Hance said that authority would have to have some guidelines.

Cosgrove said, "At the end of the day, we still need to meet that revenue. We need to stay stable as a business. So, this would give public works the ability to adjust those rates by up to five percent, if need be, to still meet that revenue."

The proposal does not affect connection charges for new service. That will be the subject of another work session and further discussion.

Cosgrove said the county's last rate increase was in 2016. Hance observed, "We've not done a good job of maintaining the financial stability of the (water and sewer) enterprise fund, which is unfortunate that it's just put us where we are today."

A public hearing will be held on the pro-



Acting Director of Public Works and Transportation
J.R. Cosgrove

posed four-tier rate structure.

Any changes approved would not take effect for at least six months.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Federal Pandemic Funding Controversial in Chesapeake Beach

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Chesapeake Beach Town Council at its July 20 meeting voted to allocate \$300,000 of the \$6 million in federal funding it received under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. However, the decisions to allocate \$100,000 each to Ladies of Charity, Bayside Baptist Church and the new Twin Beaches Library were not without controversy. In fact, Mayor Pat Mahoney's vote was necessary to break a 3-3 tie on the library allocation.

The Ladies of Charity operate a food pantry at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in North Beach, and they are planning to build a new facility. Bayside Baptist Church also operates a food pantry in Chesapeake Beach.

In the resolution approving those two grants, it was noted that the town council had previously approved using ARPA monies to address food insecurity issues in the town.

The monies for the new library now under construction in North Beach will be used to help furnish the new facility.

In introducing the funding for the food pantries, Mayor Mahoney quoted Anne Frank as saying, "Hunger is not a problem. It's an obscenity."

Councilman Greg Morris argued against the food pantry funding. He said what the agencies to be funded do is important, but "equally important are amenities to our town citizens and the health of our financial position here. We're talking about collectively awarding \$300,000 tonight. This is to check ourselves moving forward here on the heels

of a dire straits financial report that was a bomb that exploded in this town hall with the reserves.

"I'm trying not to overplay it, but we were shocked when we got that report. So, we're all kind of wait-and-see what the town hall's actions are going to be with that. In the meantime, we're considering sending hundreds of thousands of dollars to organizations in and outside of the municipal limits. We were told last week that they're predicting the water park's already going to operate at a loss this year, which means that's ensuring transfer from the general fund to cover expenses.

"We've struggled and (are) unable to fund in advance the simplest amenity upgrades, some of which have been on the backburner for six years."

Mahoney vigorously disagreed. "You're wrong, sir. But having said that, you're here tonight. And, I think it has to be perfectly clear that the town received \$6 million in ARPA funds, and a hundred thousand dollars is 1.66 percent."

Mahoney added, "Our general fund has been, and will be in good shape. We cut the tax rates seven years in a row, seven years in a row. Clearly, we're not in financial straits. We're in clearly good shape."

Councilman Larry Jaworski added, "I believe, and I'm happy to be fact checked on this, that the questions or concerns expressed about the budget were specific to the enterprise funds, and that we should not be taking money from the general fund to cover that. So, I believe that those two issues are separate."

Regarding funding for the library, Councilman Keith Pardieck said, "I think this is a great cause and I will likely donate some of my own money to it, but I don't think it's the best use of the town's funds. We already provide \$45,000 a year to support the library, and we have provided support for at least 20 years."

Several attempts by council members to reduce the funding level failed before the motion for the full \$100,000 funding prevailed with Mahoney's tie breaker.

The library project was supported before the town by former North Beach Mayor and county commissioner Mark Frazer.

At the beginning of the July 20 town meeting, Ladies of Charity Food Pantry Manager Barbara Glover said, "From fiscal year that ended in June of 2023, we have seen a 25 percent increase in the number of families that we're serving. We have seen those families come back to us 25 percent more times. We have been able to give out 25 percent more food and household products in those visits. We are now averaging giving out over 4,900 pounds of food and household products each week.

"Looking at a specific day of distribution, to give you a sense for that, our longest running day that we are open is on a Tuesday. Tuesday in the first quarter of 2022, we averaged seeing 41 clients. For the past three months, that just ended in June, we're averaging 73, so that's a 75 percent increase in the number of families we're seeing at one distribution."

She said, "We are at 40 percent of our fundraising goal, which is at \$1.5 million.



Chesapeake Beach Councilman Greg Morris

And as far as construction goes, we have received preliminary drawings from an architect, and we have contracted with a local site engineering company to perform the site analysis and the site plan work."

Bayside Baptist Church senior pastor Glenn Swanson explained, "At Bayside, we are dedicated to partnering with and serving our community by providing various services for children, youth, and adults. Much of this ministry is done through our new Transformation Life Center, which after many setbacks due to the Covid pandemic was finally able to open in the fall of 2021. Every Saturday, Bayside offers a food pantry for those that are in need in our community. On average, the church assists between 40 to 70 families on a weekly basis."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

School Board, Commissioners Schedule Joint Meeting

The Calvert County Board of Education and Calvert County Board of County Commissioners will hold a joint meeting at 6 p.m. on July 31 to discuss the scope of a potential performance audit of the School System.

“Performance audit” means an assessment of an entity’s or program’s practices to determine whether the entity or program is operating economically and efficiently and whether corrective actions for improving its performance are appropriate. Md. Ann. Code, *Educ. Art.*, §5-110(a).

The purpose of this joint meeting is

to determine if there is agreement with the Calvert County Boards of County Commissioners and Education as to the scope of such an audit, and payment of a vendor to perform that audit.

The meeting will be held at the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center, 901 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, Maryland. The public may observe the meeting livestreamed or in person. Livestreaming may be accessed on the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners’ Live on Demand Link on their website.

Hospice of the Chesapeake Announces New Board Members

Several prominent members of the community recently were appointed to the boards of directors of Hospice of the Chesapeake and its foundation. Terri Hussman and Albert Zanger were elected to the Hospice of the Chesapeake Inc., Board.

Hussman, who recently finished serving her full term on Hospice of the Chesapeake’s Foundation Board, serves as program coordinator for the Hussman Foundation and co-director of the Hussman Institute for Autism. Zanger is vice president and chief financial officer for University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center.

Betty Buck, Marian Kaufman and Jerry Slocum were elected to the Hospice of the Chesapeake Foundation Board. Buck is the chair and founder of HM2 Buck for Hope Foundation and former president and CEO of Buck Distributing Company, Inc. Kaufman, returning to the board after serving two terms prior to 2021, is a psychotherapist and has taught in the Master of Social Work programs at Smith

College and Catholic University. Slocum is a business development manager and Community Reinvestment Act officer at Shore United Bank.

Members who were elected as officers of the Inc., Board include Nancy Smit, Chair; Sue Huff, Vice-Chair; Tricia Lehmann, Secretary; Mike DeStefano, Treasurer; and David Weng, Member-at-Large. Members elected as officers of the Foundation Board include Jason Cherry, Chair; Mary Frances Isakov, Vice Chair; Liz Freedlander, Secretary; and Amy Castleberry, Treasurer.

Hospice of the Chesapeake is honored to welcome these new board members and new officers in support of its mission. Headquartered in Pasadena, Maryland, with local offices in each county it serves, the organization is the largest independent nonprofit in the state of Maryland. It provides hospice, supportive and grief care services to residents of Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and Prince George’s counties.

Planning Commission Moves to Require Chair to Vote

Abstention Would Be Only for Cause

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Planning Commission is moving towards amending their bylaws to effectively require their chairperson to vote, except for cause. Currently there’s a tradition that the chair only votes to break a tie, although their existing bylaws seem to allow the chair to vote.

The decision to essentially require the chair to vote came from a three-person subcommittee that looked at voting and other bylaws proposals.

Subcommittee member, Planning Commission Vice Chair Gregory Kernan said, “If you were going to abstain, the question that we had is why. Why would you abstain? If you’ve sat through the entire discussion, what would be the reason for abstaining?”

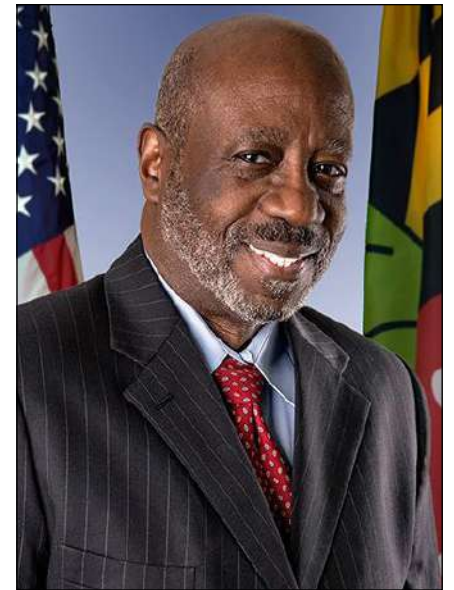
Planning Commission attorney John Mattingly enumerated several reasons for any member to abstain:

- “The member was absent at a prior meeting in which the case or subject matter was presented;
- “The member was unable to review or slap repair sufficiently to confidently vote on the case or subject matter; or
- “Three, the member cannot fully comprehend or understand the issues involved in the case or subject matter and thus cannot confidently vote on said case or subject matter.”

The commission asked Mattingly to draft a proposed bylaws change for consideration at their August meeting.

Kernan noted, “Recusals are different because when you recuse yourself, you’re giving an absolute reason why you’re doing that.” Mattingly said that would be for a conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict. A chairperson or member could recuse themselves.

Subcommittee member John Toohey dickmyers@countytimes.net



Planning Commission Vice Chair Gregory Kernan

noted on abstaining due to lack of information, “I know personally that happened to me when we were on the virtual meetings. There were times I was lost in that and had to abstain because I was not able to keep up with what was going on.”

Subcommittee member Chris Gadway said, “The current bylaw says the chair has the right to vote on any motion, save for a conflict. But in my opinion, it is just as important that a chair can vote out of a tie that it is to have the chair able to vote into a tie. Not to try and make a motion fail, but the motion obviously clearly would not pass at that point. And it could be revisited later in the next meeting with additional information.”

Toohey observed, “Some other bodies that I’ve observed or been a party to that’ve had a tradition where the chair only voted to break ties created more problems than it solved.”

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Youth, Adult Sports Registration Now Open for Fall

Calvert County Parks & Recreation announces open registration for fall 2023 sports. Fall sports registration is open through Aug. 4 or until divisions are full. The following youth and adult sports sign-ups are available:

Youth Soccer offers separate divisions for boys and girls in pre-K through grade 12. Cost is \$50 per player for pre-K and kindergarten divisions and \$73 for players in the first through 12th grade. Residents can choose south, central or northern district for practice and games during signup. Volunteer coaches are always needed. For information on becoming a coach please visit www.calvertcountymd.gov/3068/Volunteer-Opportunities.

Youth Field Hockey for girls in grades K-8 is an introduction to the sport with basic concepts and skills for games. Cost is \$71 per child and practice days are to be determined. Required equipment includes shin guards, mouth piece and field hockey stick.

Youth and Adult Tennis Lessons teach the fundamentals, tactical and physical skills of tennis. Registration opens at the end of July with lessons taught by Chie Tougas, one of only 30 coaches in the world to hold a Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) Master of Tennis in Junior Development.



Tougas was a senior director at a U.S. Tennis Association training facility in College Park for 12 years and is a U.S. Professional Tennis Association Elite Tennis Professional and PTR Adult Professional. Tougas has worked with all ages and skill levels. Each session lasts four weeks and multiple sessions will be offered. Participants must bring their own racquets and drinks.

Adult Fall Co-Rec Softball is available with a cost of \$770 per team. Teams will play a minimum 18-game schedule and a double elimination tournament will be held at the end of the season. Games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Dunkirk or Hallowing Point Park with a tentative start date of Aug. 15. For more information and entry forms, email sports@calvertcountymd.gov.

Adult Pickleball Ladder Leagues will

be held at Hallowing Point Park and Cove Point Park. Each league will be a round robin format and will run for six weeks. The final week will be playoffs with the top four-point leaders. Registration will open at the end of July.

Register online through the Webtrac registration portal or by phone at 410-535-1600, ext. 2649. You can also visit the main office located at 901 Dares Beach Rd., Prince Frederick, or any Calvert County community center to register.

For more program information, contact 410-535-1600, ext. 2649, or visit www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/ParksAndRecreation.

For updates on Parks & Recreation services, park availability, field closures and more visit Parks & Recreation at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyParks/ and follow Parks & Recreation on Instagram @calvertcountyparksandrec.

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



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Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thursday, July 27

Waterside Performance Series: LEE BRICE

Calvert Marine Museum
7 p.m.

CMA and ACM award winner will take the stage for CMM's third Waterside Music Series concert. Lee has taken nine radio singles to Number One: "A Woman Like You," "Hard to Love," "I Drive Your Truck," "I Don't Dance," "Drinking Class," "Rumor," "I Hope You're Happy Now," "One of Them Girls," and "Memory I Don't Mess With." Opening for Brice is multi-platinum selling artist **Elle King**. Her unique blend of rock, blues, and country has captivated audiences around the world. Gates open at 5 p.m. with food and beverages onsite. Cost of tickets are \$39 - \$89 (additional fees apply).

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Rd., Solomons
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Stop by for your job search needs! Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. This 38' mobile center features 11 computer workstations, smart board instructional technology, satellite internet access, exterior audio visual and broadcasting capabilities; state-of-the-art workforce applications and connectivity for wireless mobile devices. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Mobile Health Center from CalvertHealth

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Come talk about your healthcare questions or needs because a simple change can make a difference in you or your family's life. We are here to support you! The Mobile Health Center travels to areas of the community to bring free health services and education. Some of the services provided include cholesterol screenings, blood pressure checks, referrals, seasonal vaccinations, and more! For more information to view the full schedule or view an online tour of the vehicle visit them online. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Mad Science: Summer Fun

Southern Community Center
20 Appeal Way, Lusby
2-3 p.m.

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
6-7 p.m.

All Together Now...for spectacular science! Mad Science is back with their signature blend of science education and interactive fun! Join us for Things That Go Boom-all about chemical reactions with excellent experiments and, of course, a few explosions! All ages. Presented by Calvert Library Southern Branch, 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Reading Buddies

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Rd., Solomons
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Children that need some extra help with reading build confidence by reading with teens! With snacks, games, and reading incentives! A program for K-5 graders to practice reading in a relaxed and welcoming group space! A fun event that inspires a love of reading, offers great social activities for shy or anxious children and teens, and promotes positive interactions between childr 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Friday, July 28

On Pins & Needles

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
1-4 p.m.

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tuesday, August 1

Mornings at the Museum: Otters and Opossums

Calvert Marine Museum
10 a.m. - noon

Meet our mammals! Get to know the mammals at the Calvert Marine Museum that are found within the Chesapeake Bay estuary. Observe and learn about Calvert and Chessie Grace - our North American river otters, as well as our newest addition, Poppie the Virginia opossum. Through hands-on activities, fun games, and crafts, we will explore their habitat, behavior, and biology. Cost: \$10 per participant; for ages 5-7.

Wednesday, August 2

Mornings at the Museum: Fossil Adventures

Calvert Marine Museum
10 a.m. - noon

Participants are dropped off at Cove Point Lighthouse, where they meet CMM educators. The program leader teaches a short lesson on local Miocene fossils and what to look for. From 10 a.m. to about 11:30 a.m., explore the beach to search for fossilized shells, bones, and shark teeth. After fossil collecting, work with the museum educators to identify any fossils you have found. The program ends at 12 p.m. Cost: \$10 per participant; for ages 8-12. T

Thursday, August 3

Sea Squirts: Messy Art

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

Children 18 months to 3 years, accompanied by 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. The cost is free with museum admission. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive.

Ongoing

Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department Carnival

Calvert County Fairgrounds
140 Calvert Fair Drive
Aug. 1-5, 6 p.m.-11 p.m.

Join the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department for the annual carnival at the Calvert County Fairgrounds.

Upcoming

Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social

One-Room Schoolhouse
3100 Broomes Island Rd., Port Republic
Wednesday, August 9, 6-8 p.m.
Free admission, includes first serving of ice cream!

Bring a lawn chair and enjoy local, farm fresh ice cream while visiting the original, fully restored Port Republic One-Room Schoolhouse. You'll see where the Calvert County fourth grade students experience a day of history. There will be activities for the children, artifact display, and live music by the Calvert County Dance Band. The One Room Schoolhouse has accessibility for those who use a wheelchair or walker.

68th Anniversary Symposium: The wreck of the *Levin J Marvel*

Calvert Marine Museum
Sunday, Aug. 13, noon - 4:30 p.m.

Join survivors, *Deadly Gamble* author, and local historians for an anniversary symposium of: The wreck of the *Levin J Marvel* that tragically claimed 14 lives in 1955 on the Chesapeake Bay. Speakers include: Dr. Susan Langley, Maryland State Underwater Archeologist; Diane Donovan Harrison, Calvert County Historical Society; John Ferguson and Maggie Roberts, survivors; Bill Verge, LT., USCGR, (Ret), deckhand; Kathy Bergren Smith, author; Dale Rausch, CAPT., USCGR, (Ret); Marc Cruder, CDR., USCG, (Ret). Artifacts from *Levin J Marvel* will be on display. Admission to the *Levin J Marvel* Symposium is FREE. Regular admission applies for CMM galleries and exhibits. Co-sponsored by the Calvert County Historical Society.

Free Paper Shredding Event

Huntingtown High School
4125 Solomons Island Rd., Huntingtown
Saturday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Calvert County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division, will host free paper shredding events for county residents and businesses. Shredding documents helps prevent identity theft by destroying confidential and/or sensitive information.

Shred events will be held rain or shine.

Proof of Calvert County residency or business location is required. Paperclips and staples are acceptable. Binders and binder clips are not acceptable.

Businesses are allowed up to five banker boxes of paper per business (or the equivalent volume of five banker boxes in alternate containers). There is no limit for residents. Certificates of destruction will be provided if requested.

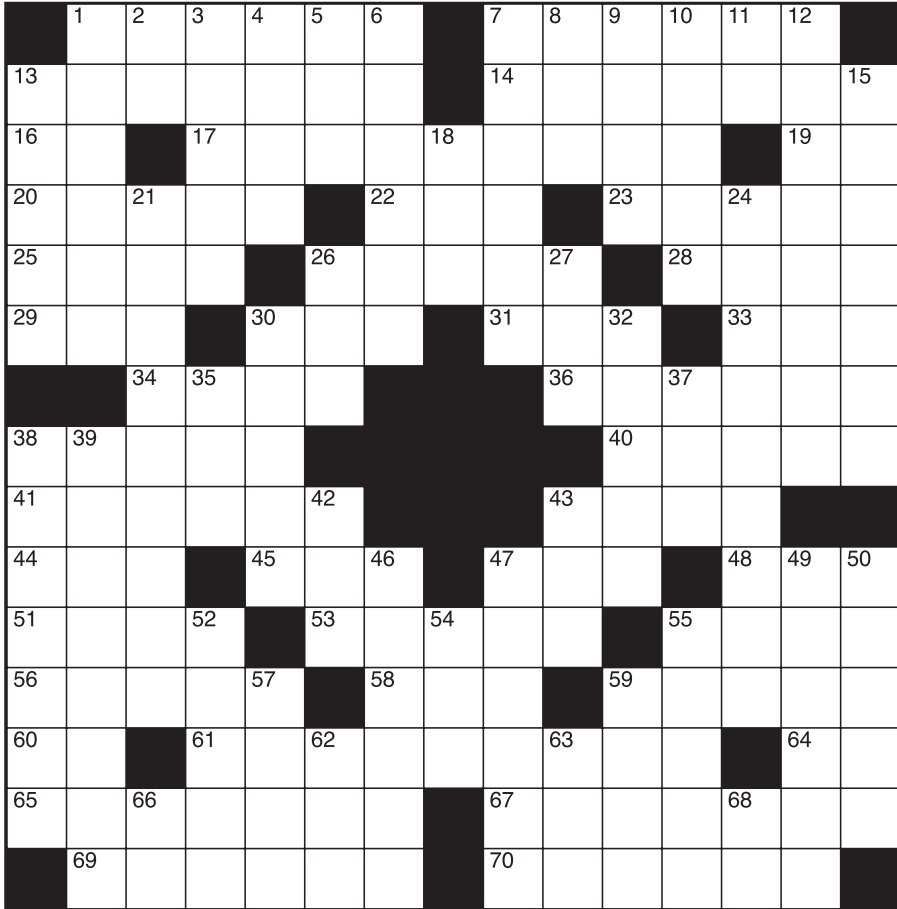
www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Recycle.

Bad Art Night

Annemarie Sculpture Garden
Friday, August 25, 5-8 p.m.

It's an outrageous night of BAD ART MAKING at Annmarie Garden. Adults-only are invited to be inspired by the works in our galleries, then undertake some unconventional and unorthodox art-making. We'll have all the supplies you'll need to have at it. Finished artwork will be displayed for all and then cast your vote for "The Best of the Worst." Prizes will be awarded! It's a great night to let loose, get "creative", and have some fun!

Cash bar, bad snacks and lively music will add to the fun. Grab a friend, come with a group, or just come alone and meet new people and join the fun. \$7/person, members free. Must be 21. Reservations not required, just come. Details here: www.annmarie-garden.org.

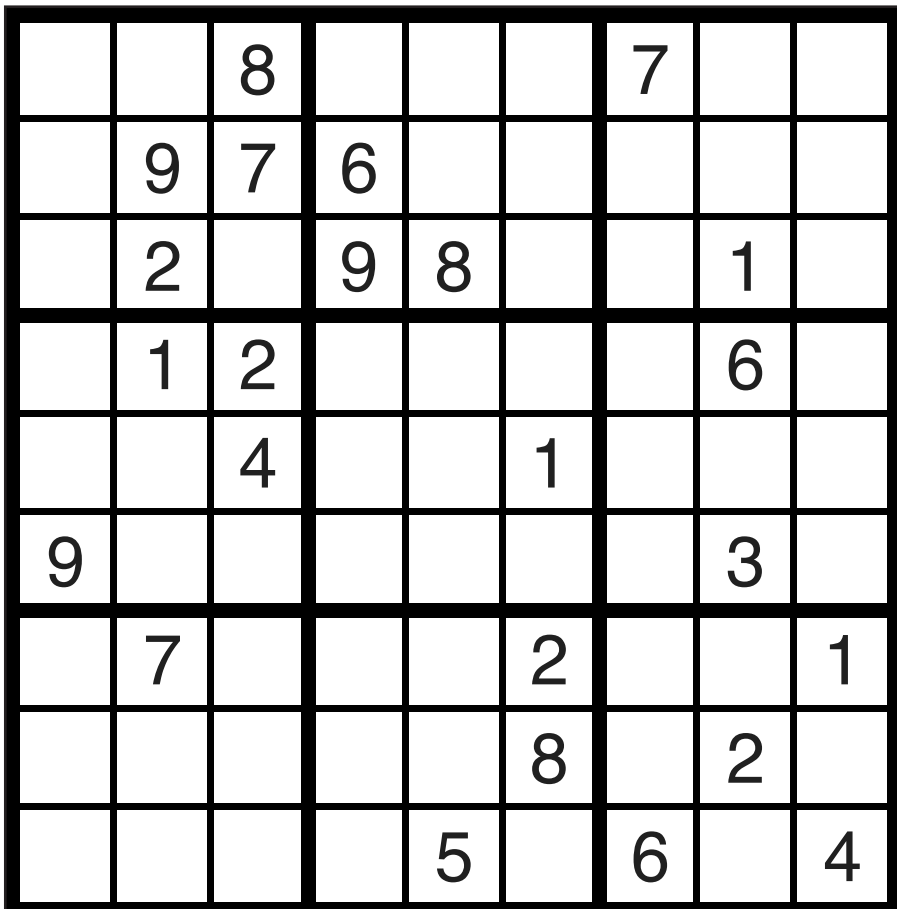


CLUES ACROSS

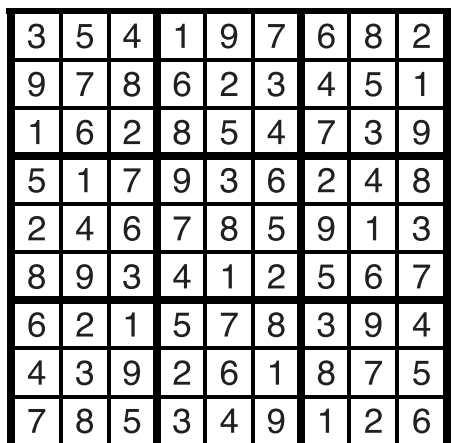
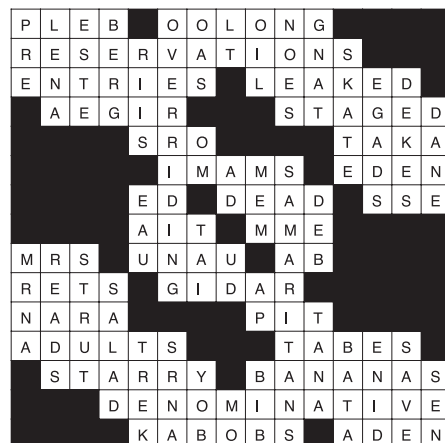
- 1. Bonus materials
- 7. Formal names
- 13. Free from restraints
- 14. One who scrapes away
- 16. Type of device
- 17. Skin cancers
- 19. The Show Me State
- 20. Plate glasses
- 22. Red-brown sea bream
- 23. Small (Fr.)
- 25. Flightless Australian birds
- 26. High IQ group
- 28. Stiff structures
- 29. Revolutions per minute
- 30. Where a bachelor lives
- 31. Licensed for Wall Street
- 33. A place to park
- 34. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 36. An important creed in Catholic Church
- 38. 18-year astronomical period
- 40. Furies
- 41. Removes from the record
- 43. Noted child psychiatrist
- 44. Feline
- 45. High schoolers' test
- 47. Not happy
- 48. They __
- 51. On top
- 53. Precious stones unit of weight
- 55. Moved quickly
- 56. Seagulls
- 58. A seed with hooks or teeth
- 59. Partner to "oohed"
- 60. Exclamation of surprise
- 61. Most unpleasant
- 64. Organization help service members
- 65. Type of cockatoo
- 67. Humorous criticisms
- 69. Went through and organized
- 70. Wakes up

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Settle in tents
- 2. Big
- 3. Books
- 4. Masses of eggs in fish
- 5. Language
- 6. Not standing
- 7. Chinese philosophy
- 8. Computer giant
- 9. A device to catch
- 10. Emits coherent radiation
- 11. Actor O'Neill
- 12. Smallest interval in western music
- 13. Not lower
- 15. Revolves
- 18. Leavened bread
- 21. Number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Cable
- 26. Adult male
- 27. Airborne (abbr.)
- 30. Bullfighting maneuvers
- 32. Broadcast
- 35. __ Angeles
- 37. Vehicle
- 38. Not religious
- 39. North American peoples
- 42. A baglike structure
- 43. Body art (slang)
- 46. Picked for a role
- 47. Actress Tomei
- 49. Former hoopster "Big Country"
- 50. Icelandic poems
- 52. More pleasant
- 54. It can add flavor to meat
- 55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 57. Expression of annoyance
- 59. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Body part
- 66. Thus
- 68. In reply (abbr.)



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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, Jul 27

Vacation Bible School

Living Word Community Church
39371 Harpers Corner Rd, Mechanicsville
9 a.m. to Noon

VBS-TWISTS & TURNS. 7/24 through 7/28 Registration open -online@lwcclife.org Following Jesus Changes the Game PSALM 25:4. Come out and have some fun!! (301) 884 0167

Fri, Jul 28

"The Waterman's Widow" by Carol Booker

Loffler Senior Activity Center
21905 Chancellors Run Rd, Great Mills
10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Carol Booker has written a new book and will be at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Friday, July 28, at 10 a.m. to talk about it! "The Waterman's Widow" tells the story

of Captain Littleton T Condiff, a popular Solomons Island MD mariner, who was shot while in bed on September 13, 1900, and the trial of his wife, who was in bed beside him. This book is available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and more. Register for this talk at www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging or leave a message on our reservation line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660.

Sat, Jul 29

growingSTEMS—Combat Robotics Summer Camp

The Hive—A growingSTEMS Center
Commerce Avenue, Hollywood
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

growingSTEMS is happy to offer a Combat Robotics summer camp focused around Termite Class Combat Robots! Competitors in grades 3-7th are able to participate in this 2-day camp. Each camp will run on Saturday and Sunday, 10-3PM each day.

Camp sessions will be available for the

following dates:

- July 29-30
- August 5-6

There will be 12 slots per camp and each camp will be limited to 3 of each robot design.

All competitors must pre-register for the event, walk-ins are not accepted. Registration and more information can be found on our website—www.growingstems.org/product/termite-class-combat-robot-summer-camp/

Sat, Jul 29

Texas Hold'Em @ HVRS

Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad
23469 Rescue Lane, Hollywood
6 p.m. to Midnight

\$85.00 buy-in for \$20k in chips. Rounds are 20 minutes each. Doors open at 5 pm, tournament starts at 6pm. BYOB, food and sodas will be available for purchase.

See www.hvrs.org for more info. Chance at Blind Bounty included in your buy-in. Tables deal their own cards, dealers are

not provided. Late Entries permitted until 1st break, approx. 7 pm cut off. No rebuys allowed. Pull tabs for sale as well. **We will now have an ATM on site.**

PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT IS AT THE RESCUE SQUAD, NOT THE FIRE HOUSE

Sun, Jul 30

Holders Only Event (pull tabs)

Mechanicsville VFD
28165 Hills Club Rd., Mechanicsville
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

An afternoon of playing just holders! There will be a \$1000 cash drawing at the end of the event.

To Benefit the Southern Maryland Boot Scooters and the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

For ticket or flyer information email: SoMdBBootScooters@gmail.com or call Leslie at 240-577-2579

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\$14.99

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\$23.99

Yuengling
24 pk.

\$19.99

Jack Daniels
1.75 LTR

\$39.99

Sutter Home
1.5 LTR

\$9.99

Bud Light & Budweiser
24 pk. 10 oz can

\$19.99

Cupcake
750 MI

\$7.99

BOTA BOX
3 LTR

\$18.99

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



Will It Go Round in Circles?

I feel like I am living in an Italian restaurant, I wish it was because there were lots of amazing Italian meals I was cooking, but no, it is due to me putting drops of oregano oil all over, under, and near anyplace I see ants. And this is on top of all the organic citrus ant killer I've been using. You know how I feel about ants when they decide to invade my house either once or twice a year, and sometimes for no known reason they don't come some years at all. My mission becomes "kill ants". I'm afraid to let any live just in case they will go and tell their friends to come back and terrorize me too. The ants don't seem to like the cupboards or drawers (thank goodness), just the tops of both counters, and both bathroom floors.

Does oregano oil keep ants away? I have no idea, but the concentrated oil is enough to keep me away from any snacks in the kitchen. And it is the reason I am outside writing my column in the firepit area.

And why do we have oregano oil in the first place? That's because my husband saw/read somewhere that it helps sore throats and congestion. This was about the time when the Canadian wildfire smoke was at its worse, and we all seemed to have scratchy throats and eyes. At first, my husband was steeping his own fresh oregano tea, which he swears really helped with his throat and sinus. Of course, the entire house smelled like oregano and consequently burned a clear path through my sinus cavities as well. Somehow he found out about oregano oil and thought that it would be easier to use by putting a few drops of the oil in hot water.

So off we went on the oregano oil hunt. I told my husband that we should check at Mystic Moon & Wellness Center right here in Mechanicsville/Charlotte Hall area that sells Holistic items and essential oils among their many items. I love going in there because it smells so good. We headed there and they had the oregano oil. I thought we would go home, and he would try the drops in hot water, but much to my shock he opened the bottle in the car and squeezed a few drops onto his tongue. I had my hand up to say, "wait, did you read it?" but it was too late. The cab of our pickup truck was already filling with the pungent aroma and suddenly my head opened up like I'd breathed in a large snort of chlorine; my head was spinning and circling. As I looked over at my husband, who had pulled out of the parking space but was stopped in the middle of the parking lot with a stunned expression, I could swear that the top of his head had blown off - or was that mine. When he was able to read the little vial's label it said: Do not take internally, though he says it helped him.

Did this stop him on his oregano oil journey? No, a few day's later while in Waldorf, we stopped by MOM's Organic Market where (this time) he carefully read the label, which did state that this particular oil could be used both internally and externally with additional instructions where not to use it (as if that would really even need to be written). But again, did my guy wait until we got home before diluting it? No, he glugged a few drops of that down right in the parking lot. And like before, the entire truck cab was enveloped in a suffocating, pungent smell which seemed to soak into every fiber of clothing and every pore of my body and came close to swearing me off pizza forever.

Now, over the last few weeks I have started using the oregano oil as ant deterrent and it does scare the wits out of the little creatures. It makes them go around in circles because their sense of smell has been burnt out of them... hey, wait, this explains why I haven't been able to sit down while writing this. And why I took Mindy's antibiotic capsule instead of my stomach capsule, and... I could find a million things to blame on that stupid oregano oil.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Help get your teen started with a Roth IRA

To be successful in most endeavors, it's important to develop good habits — and that's certainly the case for investors. And the earlier one develops these habits, the better. So, if you have teenagers who may be starting to work at part-time jobs, now may be a great time to introduce them to investing — and one place to begin might be a Roth IRA.

As you may know, a Roth IRA is a popular retirement savings vehicle — its earnings can grow federally tax-free, provided withdrawals aren't taken until the investor is at least 59½ and has had the account five or more years. But because a Roth IRA is funded with after-tax dollars, contributions can be withdrawn at any time, penalty-free, to pay for any expenses — including college. Roth IRA earnings can also be used to help pay for college, although these withdrawals will be taxable. However, if a child is the account owner, a lower tax bracket will likely apply.

In 2023, up to \$6,500 per year can go into your teenager's Roth IRA, as long as the amount contributed doesn't exceed the amount of their taxable compensation for the year. And your child doesn't have to put all the money in — you and the child's grandparents can also contribute. In fact, you might want to "match" your child's contributions up to the limit to provide an incentive for them to continue investing in the Roth IRA. Not only will your matching contribution help build the Roth IRA's assets but it can also instill in your child's mind the benefit of earning a match — which can prove valuable later on, when your child is in the workforce full time and has a chance to receive an employer's matching contributions in a 401(k) or similar plan.

Your child may well find a job at a local restaurant or shop, as these businesses have experienced a shortage of workers the past couple of years. But if you have a family business, you can employ your teen to provide income that can go into a Roth IRA. Furthermore, if the business is one parent's sole proprietorship, or it's a partnership in which each partner is the parent, the payments for a child younger than 18 are not subject to Social Security and Medicare taxes. As an employee, your child must perform reasonable tasks necessary for the business and be paid reasonable wages — that is, wages comparable to what you'd pay a regular employee for the same work.

But wherever your child's wages come from, using some of them to help fund a Roth IRA can be a good move. For one thing, it gives you a chance to explain the value of putting time on your side when you invest — simply put, the more years you invest, the greater your chances of accumulating the resources you need to meet your goals. And by helping your teen open a Roth IRA, which holds stocks, mutual funds or virtually any other type of security, you can discuss the different risk/reward characteristics of various types of investments — the kind of basic knowledge that all investors should have.

Once your teen's first paychecks start coming in, consider bringing up the idea of opening a Roth IRA — you may well be opening the door to a lifetime of consistent and informed investing.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Contributed by David McDonough

Financial Advisor at Edward Jones

Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr. Suite 302

Leonardtown, MD 20650

301 997 1707

Edward Jones[®]

In Remembrance

He was a long-time member of the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department serving his community for 29 years 8 months of dedicated service. Jake also served for many years as a delegate to the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Maryland State Firemen's Association and attended their meetings and conventions and in 2013, Jake was inducted into the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association Hall of Fame. He loved going to parades and was proud of our equipment, especially Engine 17. That's the one you could hear for miles away. On Sunday, October 19, 2014, members of the Leonardtown V.F.D., its Auxiliary, and family members and friends of Past Chief John F. "Jake" Mattingly gathered at the fire station to recognize the contributions that he has made to the department during his many years of active service. The event was also to officially dedicate the new Seagrave Pumper Tanker Engine 14, recently placed in service, in honor of Jake's service to the department. This was probably one of the proudest moments of his many years in the department. He was also a fixture at the annual fire department carnival where he served ice cold refreshments. He was a member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church.

Jake is survived by his sons, David Francis Mattingly, and John Kevin Mattingly (Jenny), both of Leonardtown, MD, his sister, Kitty Parlett of Charlotte Hall, MD, his brother-in-law, Tommy Hall and many extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his beloved parents, Joseph Woodley (Tom) and Mary Pauline, wife, Mary Agnes (Miles) and sister, Diane Hall, and brothers, James Bernard and Joseph Woodley Mattingly, Jr.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, July 27, 2023 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., with Fireman's Prayers at 7:00 p.m., at Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, 22733 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend David Beaubien on Friday, July 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 22800 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will follow the Mass at Charles Memorial Gardens, Garden of Hope, lot 776 in Leonardtown, MD.

Serving as pallbearers will be: John K.

Parlett, Tim Parlett, Bobby Parlett, Joe Parlett, Robert Moeller, and Kevin Cain.

Honorary pallbearers will be: Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department and The Auxiliary of Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department.

The family would like to thank Jake's special angels from the St. Mary's Hospital and the St. Mary's Nursing Center.

Memorial contributions in Jake's memory may be made to Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD and St. Francis Xavier, Manor House Restoration Fund, 21370 Newtowne Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Ernie Standish, 77



Earnest (Ernie) Vance Standish Jr., 77 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2023. Ernie was born on July 30, 1945 in Waynesboro, Virginia to Earnest Vance Standish Sr. and Katherine Coleman Standish.

Ernie is survived by his son David Standish and was preceded in death by his wife of 51 years, Janet Evans Standish and his son Steven.

Ernie was born to a military family. His father was a soldier in the United States Air Force. He was serving at Pearl Harbor during the attack in 1941 and then went on several overseas deployments during World War 2.

His mother raised four children – Ernie's older sister Shirley Esposito and younger siblings John Standish and Nancy Tippett. The family lived for a time on Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs and eventually relocated to a home off Sandgates Road in Mechanicsville.

It was this area where Ernie spent most of his life. He graduated high school from Margaret Brent and soon after met and started dating Janet Evans. In 1967, Ernie was drafted and served honorably in the 9th Infantry Division of the United States Army.

He was deployed to Vietnam for two years where he served as a helicopter mechanic at Bearcat Base and earned a National Defense Service Medal and an Aircraft Crewman Badge. When he returned from the war, he married Janet and they began their family.

With his mechanical skills, he was employed by Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) where he earned a distinguished career and eventually retired as part of management. Ernie was a planner – his primary responsibility was to schedule maintenance on the power plant to keep it operational. This job included managing the logistics of the maintenance such as the inventory of parts and also managing the maintenance process to ensure everyone remained safe. He took his job seriously, was very organized, and had great attention to detail. Later in his career, he served as the Equal Employment Opportunity manager and organized PEPCO's fundraisers for the United Way before he retired.

Ernie loved his country. He was a member and past Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2632 in California, MD. He was part of the VFW Honor and Color Guard which performed military honors including marching in parades at the local, state, and national level.

He had many passions. Growing up, he was part of his high school basketball team. After his military service, Ernie enjoyed

playing on horseshoe and softball leagues. Later, he became an avid golfer. At one point, he became enthralled with storage auctions often surprising his wife and son with the fact that he "won another". But his true passion was playing cards with his friends, in tournaments, and at the casino. He truly looked forward to this every week. During the summer months, he loved picking steamed crabs with family and friends and telling stories about his wilder younger years. And he really enjoyed a good laugh.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his memory to the Veterans of Foreign Wars either by mailing a check to VFW Post 2632, 23282 Three Notch Rd, California, MD 20619 or going on the web to vfw.org and clicking Donate.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 27, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 7:00 PM with Rev. Chris McCombs officiating. Interment will be private.

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

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



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For details and to place your notice of remembrance, call 301-373-4125 for assistance.



REMEMBRANCES
IN PRINT & ONLINE

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County

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.

Pasco Fusco, 73



Pasco Louis Fusco, husband and father, passed away at age 73 after a short illness. He was born in Johnston, Rhode Island on October 15, 1949 to Pasco Fusco and Adeline

(Ferri) Fusco. He attended Johnston High School, graduated, and enlisted in the USMC. He has been a resident of St. Mary's County since 1974, having accepted a position with DynCorp at Pax River Naval Air Station.

Pasco, (Pat) was married to his spouse of 50 years, Celeste Anne (Pothier) Fusco. They have one child, Rachel Anne Fusco of Lusby, Maryland. Pat was an avid fisherman and belonged to the local Bassmasters Club for a time. His enjoyment was finding just the right bait and technique to catch "the big one". He enjoyed the sport whether or not it involved competition. Many were the days spent on St. Mary's Lake with what he called "bassin assassins" and garlic spray to entice the fish. He also loved to play his guitar and could be found, especially during the holidays, visiting local nursing homes to sing with his group of friends. He spent many hours at home with his guitar, wearing his headphone amp; practicing and singing

his church songs and favorite music. He had recently begun to teach himself how to play the mandolin.

Pat loved animals and had the patience to befriend anything that wandered into the yard. Feral cats would eventually allow him to pet them and sit on his lap, he shared his banana with a ground hog every morning, rabbits who would sit at his feet and eat carrots or other tidbits that he might have had, deer would wait in the yard for him to bring out the corn to fill the feeder. Black vultures were his favorite and nearly every morning during nesting season they would arrive for a handout. Soon, they were frequently at the house, "knocking" on the door with their beaks, when he did not come outside fast enough. The adults would bring their young each year to enjoy roast chicken, cheddar cheese and drink from the pool. He most recently began wood carving classes at the Loffler Senior Center. He was able to finish carvings of a kestrel as well as a blue jay, both of which won ribbons at the county fair.

He loved movies-any movie, especially with surround sound. He could quote many of them and enjoyed talking about them after. Another favorite thing of Pat's was eating out. He loved to eat and frequented the local restaurants of St. Mary's, always leaving behind a few of his dollar bill origami animals. Actually, he left them everywhere. He was always folding dollar bills, sitting on

the couch, riding in the car, walking around the stores. If someone took interest, he gave them one. If it was an animal, he knew he would make their request. So, if you see a dollar bill folded into a frog, peacock, snail, elephant, baby elephant, rhinoceros, giraffe, donkey, dolphin, butterfly, you can think to yourself "Pat was here."

Pat was easy going and kind, always willing to help a friend. There is no one that he turned away if they needed help.

He is preceded in death by his father Pasco, mother Adeline, and sister Linda Ann Jones. He is survived by his sister Kathleen Hyde, his spouse Celeste and his daughter Rachel.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in Calvary Bible Church Lusby, MD. Where a funeral service will be held at 10:30 AM with Pastor Dan Simmons officiating. Interment will be held in Chesapeake Highland Memorial Gardens Port Tobacco, MD. Pallbearers will be, Scott Owens, Gill Lott, Johnathan Palmer, and Wade Thompson.

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.

Gay Boecker, 81



Gay Scott Boecker, 81, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on June 18, 2023 at her home.

She was born on July 30, 1941 in Florida to the late John Bernard Scott and Mary Frances (Lanier) Scott.

Gay was born in Jacksonville, FL and grew up in Winter Haven, FL. She took pride in being the 12th great-granddaughter of Pocahontas. She graduated as valedictorian from Centre College (Danville, KY) and earned a master's degree from Rollins College (Winter Park, FL). She married the love of her life, Donald V. Boecker, RADM, USN (Ret.) on November 1, 1980 in Alexandria, VA. Gay enjoyed a fulfilling career in education as an English & History Professor for colleges in Florida and Virginia. She spent many of her years living in Virginia, Florida, Maryland, and Idaho. During her life as a military wife, she served for one year as the President of the Washington D.C. Navy Officer's Wives Club and also volunteered for many associations dedicated to the support of military wives. Along with her interests in real estate and the love of books, her true passions were taking care of Don, their dogs and horses on their ranch in Idaho, watching the osprey & bald eagles from their porch in Maryland, and sunrises in Florida.

Gay is survived by her husband, Donald Vaux Boecker; her children, Michele Heckman (Gregory) of Virginia Beach, VA, Stephanie Prettyman (William) of Virginia Beach, VA, Virginia Robbins-Bugg

(Gary) of Danville, KY, Danielle Primack (Russell) of Briarcliff Manor, NY, and Scott Robbins (DeAnna) of Cottonwood Heights, UT; her sister, Ann Kopelousos (John) of Jacksonville, FL; 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

There will be a memorial service on July 29, 2023 at 11:00 am at Church of Ascension, 21641 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the service.

Interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to a charity of your choice. Condolences to the family may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Jake Mattingly, 91



John Francis "Jake" Mattingly, 91, of Leonardtown, MD passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 22, 2023 with his family at his side.

Born July 18, 1932 at home in Leonardtown, MD, he was the son of the late, Joseph Woodley Mattingly and Mary Pauline Cusic Mattingly.

Jake is a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County graduating from Our Lady's Medley's Neck Catholic School in 1947 and St. Mary's Academy in 1951. On December 4, 1952, he married his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Mary Agnes Mattingly, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church. He was devoted to Mary Agnes and has missed her every single day since her departure on December 8th, 2006. Their love story began with in high school and spanned over five wonderful decades. Those fortunate enough to spend a moment with Jake know their love story did not end there. Even in her absence, not a moment passed where his treasured Mary Agnes was in his thoughts. Saddened as his family was to say goodbye, they find comfort in knowing that he was reunited with his beloved Mary Agnes 4 days prior to her birthday a long awaited dance. Together they celebrated over 54 wonderful years of marriage before her passing in December 2006.

On August 9, 1951 Jake enlisted in the National Guard and served as a truck driver until his honorable discharge on August 8, 1954. He spent his entire career working for C&P Telephone, now Verizon, as a skilled systems technician until his retirement in 1988. He then began helping his son by delivering flowers for David's Flowers from 1989 to 2021.

Jake served the Leonardtown Vol. Fire Department for over twenty-eight years as an active member, joining the department on January 21, 1952. During this time he held many officer positions up to and including serving as Fire Chief from 1962-1965 and 1967-1972.



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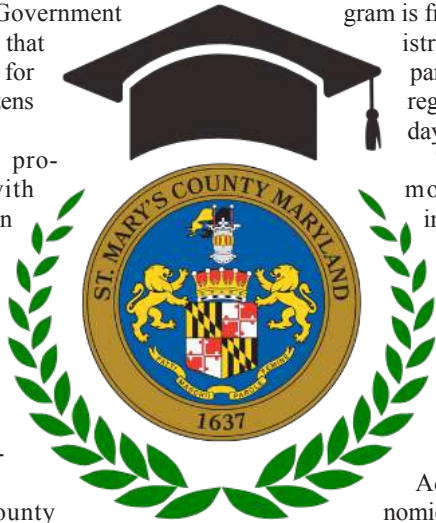
Citizens Academy Offers Inside Look at County Government

St. Mary's County Government is excited to announce that registration is now open for the 2023 session of Citizens Academy!

Citizens Academy provides participants with the opportunity to learn more about county government programs and services. The academy will meet on Tuesday evenings, between September 5 and November 7, 2023, from 6 to 9 p.m. at various county locations.

"At St. Mary's County Government, we strive for transparency and community engagement in everything we do," said David Weiskopf, County Administrator. "This program gives our residents a chance to learn more about our county government programs and services, and how to get involved. The academy class fills every year, so don't hesitate to register!"

Citizens Academy is open to St. Mary's County residents, 18 years of age and older and limited to 25 participants. This pro-



gram is free, but advance registration is required to participate; deadline to register is 5 p.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023.

To register, or for more information, including the full list of 2023 session topics, dates, and locations, please visit: stmaryscountymd.gov/CA.

Topics covered in Citizens Academy include County Administration, Economic Development, Recreation & Parks, Land Use & Growth Management, Public Works & Transportation, Emergency Services, as well as information from our partners at the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, St. Mary's County Health Department, St. Mary's County Library, the Department of Social Services, and the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission.

For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at (301) 475-4200, ext. 1340.

Last Chance to Register for Museum Art Kids Classes



Young artists are invited to join art instructor, Ms. Ellen Duke Wilson this summer to explore fine arts through St. Clement's Island Museum Art Kids classes. Young artists will expand their understanding of art and history while learning to sketch, paint, and sculpt. Students will also reflect on how making art can impact society in positive ways for future generations.

At the end of each session, all participants create an individualized work of art to share with their family and community. These classes are geared towards children ages 7 to 17. Preregistration is required and

the cost is \$5 per child. All materials are provided; however, participants are asked to bring a light snack. Parents are encouraged to sign up soon as slots fill up quickly.

Don't miss the chance to participate! Last classes this summer will be held August 8 - 10, 2023.

For more information regarding St. Clement's Island Museum Art Kids, or to sign up your child, please call Christina Barbour at (301) 769-4723. For more information on this or other events, visit [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum).

The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Big bull reds like these are now on the Middle Grounds and can come up any time.

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Great news: Bluefish, and Spanish mackerel have invaded the middle grounds off Point Lookout below the target ship in the bay. Planers and small spoons are the ticket. Bluefish are also at the Targets and at Cedar Point.

Big bull redfish (Red Drum) are consistently cruising in the mud leads and the triangle. They have come up breaking into bait fish. These schools number into hundreds if not perhaps a thousand fish. They have been spotted on side scan sonars and visually. Jiggers and trollers can score easily if they can get their lures in front of them; the big reds move fast. When asked where they are, I answer: everywhere and nowhere.

Good news: The spot fishing is great. The Patuxent river has spot in amazing numbers.

Bloodworms (their favorite), lug worms, night crawlers, squid, shrimp all work. Boat or shore the spot are here and hungry.

Perch are numerous, fun to catch, great to eat, and eager to bite lures or bait.

Crabs are plentiful and big.

Rockfish season resumes in the bay on August first. They are up the Patuxent in the shallows. They will hit top water plugs at dawn. The minimum is 19 inches and the max is 31 inches; one per day per person.

The Potomac river striper season resumes August 21, minimum 20 inches, max 31 inches; two per day.

Slot reds and speckled trout are in all their favorite locations.

Largemouth bass and pickerel are being caught in excellent numbers at St. Mary's Lake.

Life is good.

Public Cooling Centers Now Open

With extreme heat in the forecast for the remainder of the week, St. Mary's County Government is announcing the availability of cooling centers for the public. Residents that need to take refuge in a cool place, can go to one of the following locations:

Garvey Senior Activity Center
23630 Hayden Farm Ln., Leonardtown
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)

Loffler Senior Activity Center
21905 Chancellor's Run Rd., Great Mills
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)

Northern Senior Activity Center
29655 Charlotte Hall Rd., Charlotte Hall
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)

Charlotte Hall Library
37600 New Market Rd., Charlotte Hall
9 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Friday - Saturday)

Leonardtown Library
23600 Hayden Farm Ln., Leonardtown
9 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Friday - Saturday)

Lexington Park Library
21677 FDR Blvd., Lexington Park
9 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Friday - Saturday)
1 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Sunday)

Three Oaks Center
46905 Lei Drive, Lexington Park
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)

Highest temperatures of the week are expected on Thursday, July 27 and Friday, July 28, 2023. Visit ready.gov/heat for tips on keeping yourself, family, pets, and neighbors safe during extreme temperatures.

"The Little Council That Could"

By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

If you like reading popular "comeback" stories where individuals or groups faced with great obstacles find the means to accomplish their goals, then you should enjoy this report concerning a local men's group's recent remarkable achievements! Whether it be a modern-day sports story concerning Tom Brady's or Peyton Manning's legendary abilities to bring their football team back from a huge deficit or about the "Miracle Comeback Mets" in the 1969 World Series, or even the iconic Children's story "The Little Engine That Could," this story of the volunteer efforts of the Father Sebastien de Rose Knights of Columbus Council #13091 in Valley Lee this past year is truly amazing.

The Knights of Columbus is a worldwide organization of nearly two million Catholic gentlemen who, along with their families, come together to support the needy and less fortunate within our midst. These fine volunteers care for all within their community without regard for one's religion, ethnicity or creed. They have been performing their charitable good works for more than 140 years since their founding in New Haven, Connecticut in 1882.

The Father Sebastien de Rose Council is one of the smallest of the 132 Councils scattered throughout the State of Maryland. Currently, the Council has 50 members. This number is somewhat deceiving as there are a dozen or so members who actually perform a majority of the effort to support



Grand Knight Dave Reumont, Asst. Manager Will Miller, Store Manager Becky Elledge, Asst. Manager Bryan Edwards, and Tootsie Roll Chairman Chuck Shilling

many annual programs. The Council was originally established aboard the Naval Air Station Patuxent River for the active-duty military and retiree families attending services at the St. Nicholas Chapel aboard the base. But once the number of active-duty personnel assigned to the base dropped to a low level, the Navy no longer assigned a Catholic Chaplain to the Station. Rather than dismantle, the Council was transferred to St. Georges Parish. With the support of their Pastor Father Paul Nguyen, they continue to grow and provide support for the needy in Valley Lee and surrounding communities.

The Pandemic period had a great impact on this group's ability to complete many of its usual tasks. Virtual meetings had a detrimental effect on their close teamwork that produced their fine reputation for accomplishment. And declining attendance at meetings directly added to the Council's failure to achieve the same level of success it had enjoyed in the past. Additionally, they had difficulty in filling leadership positions within the organization. Thus, they were unable to fully support their regular charitable activities that earned them many honors the previous year.

Fortunately, as the COVID threat began to diminish, a sudden enthusiasm for folks to get out and mix with one another once more brought about a positive change. Things began to improve with the installation of Grand Knight David Reumont, and the transfer of two experienced Knights, Chuck Shilling and Steven Leman-Davis into the Council. The communication skills of the new Grand Knight were significant in putting the Council back into action. The arrival of these new enthusiastic members greatly aided this group's ability to conduct charitable feats in support of local non-profit organizations.

Chuck Shilling developed a safe method for holding a Winter "Polar Plunge" to benefit the Special Olympics organization at a time when all other scheduled Plunges throughout the State were cancelled. He organized many successful "Tootsie Roll" events that brought in needed monies. His former Council earned many awards due to his imagination and "can do" spirit and attitude. For his many achievements, Chuck received the Knights of Columbus "Maryland Citizen of the Year" for 2021.

Several other Council Knights became motivated and rose to the occasion. Chris Wilcox reached out and involved many local businesses in the holding of Council "Fish Frys" and "Lenten Dinners." Larry Quichocho and Dennis Stachowski took the time to repair most of the kneelers in the St. Georges Church. The two of them together with many member's wives and families help clean the chapel on St. George's Island. Steven Leman-Davis brought his fine raffle experience to support most Council

functions throughout the year. And Dennis Hackethorn's abilities obtaining food donations from the Base Commissary while locating coats, scarves and gloves for the needy were phenomenal.

Their actions had a positive impact as evident by the recognition achieved by the Council at this year's Knights of Columbus Convention held in Annapolis. This small group of men earned the largest number of Awards for any Council in Maryland! Their achievement included five First Place Awards for their service program efforts in the categories of Family, Faith, Community, and Life activities. They were further honored with their presentation of the "General Excellence Award" as the top performing Council within their Division.

Finally, Chuck Shilling's actions were pivotal in the Council's successful Tootsie Roll Drive to raise needed donations for "The People With Disabilities Program." The group collected \$4265, the most of any Maryland Council. This annual program normally provides funds for local Special Olympics activities as well as the Southern Maryland Community Resources Inc., two non-profits who provide care for people with special needs. Chuck expanded this year's program to include the Warrior Canine Connection, Inc, a national organization that provides "Therapy Service Dogs" for U.S. military personnel who suffer mentally and physically due to adverse actions experienced during their military service. These severe and debilitating injuries are directly related to 6000 veteran suicide deaths occurring each year.

With the help of Grand Knight Reumont and his fellow Brother Knights, Chuck was able to solicit donations in front of the local Weis Market in Callaway. When most merchants no longer permit charities to set up shop at their storefronts for any reason, Chuck's friendship with the Weis store manager Becky Lumpkin Elledge allowed the Knights to raise more than \$26 thousand dollars over the past 6 years. And once more the outstanding community support of the Weis Market organization and Becky's steadfast help, the Council was able to raise their record amount for the Lord's special people in just one weekend. It goes without saying the local non-profits greatly appreciated this financial support from these good Knights.

Their wonderful accomplishments were acknowledged by the Maryland State Council and were chosen as the top "Life Program" within the State. Their story has been submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration and selection at the international level of competition this year. Their actions serve as an outstanding example of the human spirit and what a few can do with the right motivation when they fully put their heart into helping others. These "comeback" stories are especially needed in this day and age with all the doom and gloom caused by the bad weather, the rise in the crime rate, and the inability of many people to get along today. More "good" news stories like this provide hope and encouragement for the future. Thank you Knights for all you do to make our world a better place!

Pet OF THE WEEK

MEET DOODLE DOO



How does a rooster romance a hen?
He takes her to a chick flick!

Hi there, my name is Doodle Doo. I'm very busy right now looking for a henhouse to call my own. I'm very committed to my mission and I'll make you so glad you gave me a chance to do the job I love! Be sure to set your alarm cluck and come meet me during adoption hours, Saturday 10am-3pm and Monday-Friday 11am-4pm. BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! And remember, ALWAYS OPT TO ADOPT, please don't shop!

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



Chill Deals



8-Ct. Sponge Bob Yoplait Go-Gurt

2.48



5 To 8-Oz. Natural Slices Or Borden Shredded Cheese

2/\$5



16-Oz. Borden American Cheese Singles

3.98



4-Pack, Selected Dannon Activia Yogurt

3.48



32-Oz. Selected Coffee-mate Creamer

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6.48



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3.98



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6.98

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12-Oz. Cans 24-Pack Yuengling

18.99



18-Pack, 12-Oz. Cans Coors Light

14.99



10-Oz. Cans 24-Pack Bud Light

19.89



12-Oz. Cans 30-Pack Miller Light

24.99



12-Oz. Cans, Select Variety 12-Pack Twisted Tea

15.99



1.75L Ketel One Vodka

37.99



1.75L Bacardi Gold Rum

23.99



1.75L Crown Royal

42.99



750ML Hendrick's Gin

30.99



1.75L Tito's Vodka

30.49



750 ml Seaglass Wine

10.99



750ML Federalist Select Wines

11.99

Wines of the Month



750-ml Boordy Wine

11.99

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Curly's Pulled Pork BBQ

1.98
6-Oz.
Hormel Pepperoni

11.98 Lb.
Certified Angus Beef
Half N.Y. Strip

10.98 Lb.
Certified Angus Beef
Whole Boneless Beef New York Strip

12.98 Lb.
Certified Angus Beef
Boneless New York Strip Steaks

5/\$5
12 Oz. Bar S Meat Franks

4.98
9 Oz. Deli Shaved
Oscar Mayer Turkey Breast

2/\$8
2 To 3-Oz., Frozen
Lobster Tails

15.96
2-Lb. Bag, 16/20-Ct. Jumbo
Nature's Best EZ Peel Raw Shrimp

7.98
8 To 14-Ct.
Snow Crab Clusters

2/\$7
7 To 10 Oz. Selected Salads of the Sea Dips

2/\$7
15 Oz. Reg. Or Bunsized
Ball Park Beef Franks

3.98
12 To 14-Oz., Selected Sausage, Kielbasa Or
Johnsonville Brats

FARM to TABLE

2/\$7
2-Lb., Washington State
Red Or Gold Delicious, Gala or Pink Lady Apples

\$2.48 Lb.
Great Healthy Snack
Northwest Fresh Bing Cherries

.88
Farmers Finest
Large Green Bell Peppers

5/\$5
Hothouse Grown, Fresh
Jumbo Seedless Cucumbers

2/\$6
1-Lb., Fresh
Red Ripe Strawberries

FAMILY FAVORITES

1.18
5-Oz., In Water
Chicken Of The Sea Chunk Light Tuna

2/\$5
15.5 To 16-Oz., Selected
JIF Peanut Butter

3/\$5
15 To 16-Oz., Selected
Hunt's Manwich Sauce

3.48
30-Oz., Regular Or Light
Food Club Mayonnaise

1.78
15-Oz.
Libby's Country Sausage Gravy

2.28
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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

Deputies Assaulted While Serving Warrant

On July 22 at 10:33 PM deputies located suspect Glenn Bernie Fluray Flores, 30, who had multiple open arrest warrants.

Flores resisted, assaulting three deputies. Two received minor injuries which required medical attention.

Flores attempted to disarm a deputy during the course of this arrest. Use of the taser was required to take Flores into custody.

Flores was arrested and charged with the following crimes:

- Attempting to disarm a law enforcement officer
- Assault second degree (3x's)
- Resisting arrest
- Disorderly conduct
- Property destruction less than \$1000
- Failure to comply with a peace order (warrant)



- Property destruction less than \$1000 (warrant)
- Harrassment: race/religion/person/group (warrant)

Drug Bust Nets Cocaine, Arrest

On July 19 the sheriff's office executed a residential search and seizure warrant on Great Mills Road. As a result of this action it was determined that Margaret Patricia Hare was in possession of cocaine and packaging items indicating CDS distribution.

Hare was arrested and charged with multiple CDS-related offenses.

This operation was carried out by the Sheriff's Office Vice Narcotics and Criminal Intelligence Units and the Emergency Services Team.



Great Mills Man Killed in Hughesville Crash

On Saturday, July 22 at approximately 10:30 p.m., Troopers from Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack responded to Maryland Route 5 in the area of Huckleberry Drive for a report of a serious motor vehicle collision involving a passenger vehicle and a motorcycle. Due to the circumstances, Trooper First Class M. Posch, Advanced Collision Investigator (ACI) from the MSP Leonardtown Barrack responded to assume the investigation.

A preliminary investigation conducted by Troopers indicates a 2008 Ford Taurus operated by Judith Chastain, 79, of Waldorf was attempting to make a left turn from southbound Maryland Route 5 onto Huckleberry Drive.

At the same time, a 2023 Yamaha YZF600

operated by Jose Emmanuel Jimenez, 25, of Great Mills was traveling northbound on Maryland Route 5 at Huckleberry Drive.

Chastain failed to yield to oncoming traffic and drove the Ford into the travel path of the Yamaha. The Yamaha subsequently collided with the Ford and Jimenez was ejected from the Yamaha. Jimenez was pronounced deceased on the scene. Driver error appears to be a factor in this collision.

Anyone who may have witnessed this crash is asked to contact the Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack Duty Officer at (301) 392-1200. The investigation is continuing. (23-MSP-026179)

All persons charged with a crime are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Philip H. Dorsey III
Attorney at Law

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Ranked among the Nation's Top Individual Producers based on 2022 home sales in the RealTrends "America's Best"

Local agent Jimmy Hayden was recently recognized in the 2023 "America's Best Real Estate Professionals" rankings by RealTrends + Tom Ferry. The prestigious survey is made up of five categories for participating agents and teams in the U.S. based on 2022 numbers. The five categories are: individual producers, Small teams (2-5 agents), Medium teams (6-10), Large teams (11-20) and Mega teams (21+). Each category has two subcategories – one for transaction sides and one for sales volume. Hayden placed 107th in the individual rankings for 41 transaction sides and had \$16,599,002 sales volume.

"It's an honor to be included in this list of hardworking and dedicated real estate professionals across the country," said Hayden, Agent with RE/MAX 100. "I'm more grateful than ever for each client who trusted me to help them buy or sell a home in Southern Maryland over this truly unforgettable year."

Last year as well as this year are proving to be another monumental year. In 2022, Hayden achieved the Platinum Club award with RE/MAX for the third consecutive year.

"We are incredibly proud of these RE/MAX agents for being recognized as the best" said Nick Bailey, RE/MAX, LLC President and CEO. "This honor is a testament to their unwavering commitment to excellence and their dedication to providing exceptional service. It underscores our brand's ongoing position as the best option for productive professionals."

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Legal Notices

Notice is hereby given that the following vessel has apparently been abandoned for 180 days on the property of Ted Fitzgerald, 12636 Edelman Rd, Bryantown, MD 20617, 240-320-7450. The vessel is described as: Hull #BYQA15FMA797, Bayliner 27', white and blue. Application for title will be made in accordance with Section 8-722 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article if this vessel is not claimed and removed from the above property within 30 days of this notice.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-CV-23-000331

Jack Raleigh
801 SW 8th Way
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33315
Plaintiff

v.

Linda Simon
3354 Wescott Drive
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684

Susan Buick
2624 26th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94116

Leslie Burkhalter
106 Sandgate Court
Millersville, Maryland 21108

Kenneth C. Willard
1420 12th Street
Oakland, California 94607

ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property described in the complaint adverse to the plaintiff's title, or any cloud on the plaintiff's title to the property.

Defendants

NOTICE

Jack Raleigh has filed a petition/complaint/motion entitled: Verified Complaint to Quiet Title and for Adverse Possession in which Jack Raleigh is seeking a final decree that Jack Raleigh has absolute ownership and indefeasible title and right of disposition to real property known as 30 Acres N S Curley's Road.

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County that the relief sought in the aforementioned Verified Complaint to Quiet Title and for Adverse Possession may be granted unless cause be shown contrary. All Persons Unknown are to file a response to the Verified Complaint to Quiet Title and for Adverse Possession on or before September 10, 2023.

Failure to file the response within the time allowed may result in a judgement by default or the granting of the relief sought.

This Notice shall be published in some newspaper published in this county at least once a week in each of three successive weeks on or before August 10, 2023.

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

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National Spotlight Shines on St. Mary's Heritage Designation May Lead to Grants

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

"You can't throw a stone around here without hitting heritage," said Lucille Walker, executive director of Southern Maryland National Heritage Area. Walker gave a briefing to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County at their July 25 meeting.

The national spotlight is shining even brighter on St. Mary's County with the federal designation earlier this year of the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area. "It's a big achievement," she said of the designation. There are only 62 nationally.

Walker explained, "We are a state heritage area, and that means that we inform the state, we inform Maryland's history, and it began here. So that's pretty obvious, but we're also of national importance. We inform the nation. So, it's really important that people understand that, from a western perspective, this obscure peninsula at the corner of the universe at a time in the 1600s was the first time that any type of religious freedom was put into law at all, ever, and that is a basic human right that was established here. We're also the first place that a woman ever petitioned for the right to vote — Margaret Brent. The first place that a person of African descent ever was elected in America — Matthias de Souza. And a number of other firsts."

She added, "This county and this region also takes its responsibilities very seriously and understands that with these amazing firsts also came challenges. And also, there were costs and consequences. And so that's also what this is about. We still have first people. And even though Matthias de Souza was of African descent and served in a legislature, it was just a couple of decades later that a law was passed that allowed for the enslavement of people of African descent and their children in perpetuity. So, we were taking a look at all of that."

She said achieving the national designation required an extensive community and legislative effort. And also, she said, "This is not a partisan issue. This is about elevating heritage and history and all of our stories." When the final vote came in Congress, however, those opposed were largely Republican because of the bill's Democratic Maryland sponsors.

The bill moved through Congress quickly.



Walker said Southern Maryland was the fastest to make it.

"It usually takes 10, 20 years if it happens at all. This one happened in two. And a lot of that is because of the story of what we bring to the table and also the energy that everyone was bringing to this initiative, because it's not just this initiative, it's also about the fact that we're going to be turning 400 (in 2034)."

Walker told the commissioners, "This is also about saying, come look at who we are. Come visit, come be part of this amazing region. So, we had a launch and it was great, and several of you were there."

Walker said they've rebranded the region to emphasize the region's firsts, established a steering committee and are doing a management plan that is essential to tapping into the annual \$1 million over 10 years available to heritage areas. Their current budget is only \$160,000, with \$100,000 from the state and \$20,000 each from the three Southern Maryland counties.

Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland is providing office space and is handling the fiduciary responsibilities, Walker said.

The draft management plan will soon be available for public comment. The final draft will be submitted to the National Park Service. "That's why we're doing it as quickly as possible, because we want to be able to access the federal funding as quickly as possible," she said.

Meanwhile as a state designated heritage area, they are providing grants to local agencies, such as tourist destinations like St. Mary's City.

Another initiative is plugging the area into the 250th celebration of the American Revolution. Walker said, "The largest engagement of the Revolutionary War (in Maryland) was here in St. Mary's (The Battle of St. George Creek)."

Commissioner Eric Colvin said, "I know I'm a little biased, but St. Mary's County is the key to this whole national heritage area and just everything that's happened here, it's very impressive."

Colvin emphasized "cooperation and coordination" and Walker agreed.

"It's a much smoother path if we're all walking it together." Walker noted.

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County Releases Highway Safety Plan

Lists Most Dangerous Roads, Times

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer



Director of Public Works and Transportation Jim Gotsch

A just released highway safety plan for the county is a gold mine of information according to several of the county commissioners.

Director of Public Works and Transportation Jim Gotsch explained to the commissioners at their July 25 meeting, "Back in 2003, the federal government pushed to each of the states the requirement to develop a strategic highway safety plan for the roadways. And so, the state of Maryland's been doing that since 2003. We're on the fifth plan. When Governor Hogan and Pete Rannm, the Secretary of Transportation, were in office, they suggested that this be pushed down to each of the counties so that the counties developed their own plan. And then MDOT (Maryland Department of Transportation) would make funding available for each of the counties."

Gotsch said the local plan "frees us up for funding. So, the funding for the study came from MDOT. It was managed by the Tri-County Council."

The report details where most of the traffic injuries or fatalities occur and offers proposed improvements.

Gotsch said, "From 2017 to 2021, there were 1,567 crashes on St. Mary's County roadways where the occupant was either killed or seriously injured. If I, if I remember correctly, 82 were fatalities."

Commissioner Mike Hewitt wanted to know if crashes that didn't involve injuries were even recorded. Gotsch said in months of meetings with law enforcement he learned "there's thousands of crashes that are never reported."

During the meeting, the commissioners enumerated numerous locations which they had heard complaints about, including Merchant's Lane and the Route 245 and Hollywood Road intersection in Leonardtown, the crosswalk on Route 235 at the Wildewood Center, Gunston Drive, and the southbound left turn off FDR Blvd. onto First Colony Blvd.

Regarding Merchant's Lane, Gotsch said, "They're changing that to a protected left turn."

On the FDR intersection, Gotsch said a roundabout is planned there.

Gotsch noted, "in their study, they've found that 63 percent of all the K&I (killed and injured) crashes were impairment by

drugs or alcohol. And then more than 46 percent, about half of the K&I crashes occur on 60 miles of roadway. We have 1,661 lane miles in the county. So about 800 miles of roadways, 60 miles contain half of the crashes."

And surprisingly, he said, "More than 32 percent of the crashes occur right in the middle of the daytime from noon to six o'clock. Which interestingly enough, is when the peak drunk driving time is."

The statistics also show, "Seven percent of the crashes involved vulnerable roadway users, which include bicycles, pedestrians, horse and buggies, and sometimes includes motorcycles as well."

Regarding the new crosswalk between Wildewood Center and Aldi's, Hewitt said, "We have to figure out a safe way to get them across there. I'm not about building overpasses or things like that, but it doesn't make sense that we have these wide intersections that vulnerable people can't get across in the time allowed."

Almost all of the 60 miles of the most dangerous roads are owned by the state so fixes would have to come from them. The only county road is Pegg Road, and Gotsch said, "We are putting sidewalks on Pegg Road."

The state roads, Gotsch said, were 5 and 235 coming down from Charlotte Hall, a little stretch of 5 in Leonardtown, Chancellors Run Road, and Great Mills Road. "So that's where the, the focus of their improvements would be."

The plan includes immediate, short- and long-term solutions.

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Leonardtwn Prepares for Big Duck, Big Crowds

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Big Yellow Duck is arriving in Leonardtown next week and the preparations for its long-awaited coming mean it's going to take over the town for the First Friday of August.

The enthusiasm for the duck has been growing since it was announced to make a stop in the county seat months ago, said Town Administrator Laschelle McKay.

"We've had a huge response from our call for volunteers," McKay told The County Times. "It'll take up a lot of space down at the wharf."

Volunteers will be running back and forth all weekend long, she said, bringing food to visitors and transporting them with golf carts to and from the wharf, while visitors gather around the monstrous happy form.

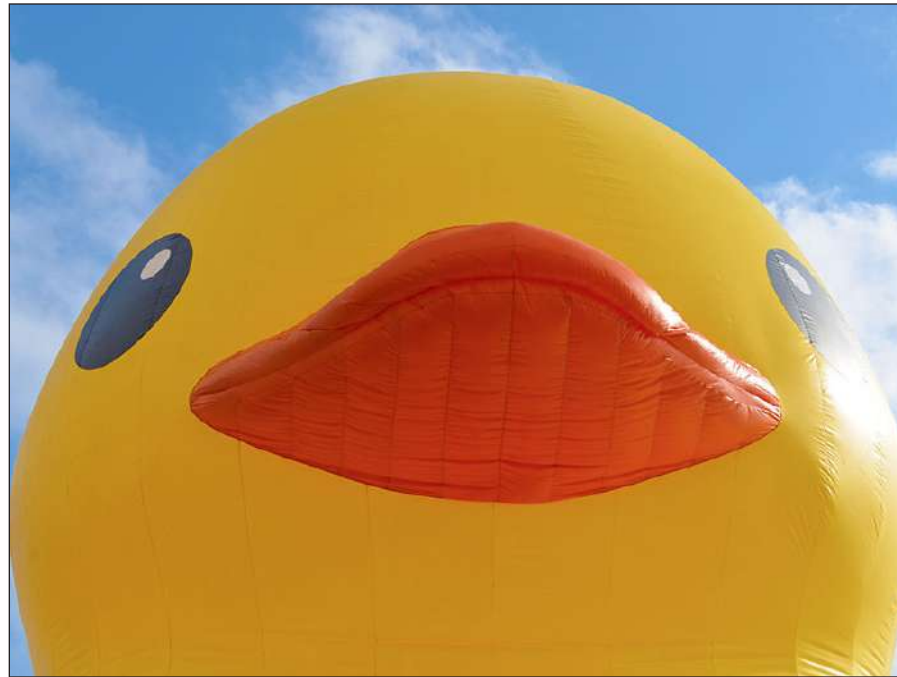
McKay said this could be one of the biggest events the town as ever held.

She expects the three-day event to bring a total of approximately 30,000 people — between out-of-town visitors and county residents — to the wharf to see the gargantuan duck.

"We're trying to plan for 10,000 people a day," McKay said. "It's big, crazy. It could be like Christmas in April three days in a row."

The duck will be staying in the region for a while as well, at least as the crow flies, as its next stop will be Crisfield in Somerset County on the Eastern Shore.

The town has received some negative response from residents when they learned that the duck would not be on the water, rather it would be on land; but there was a



good reason for that, McKay said.

"It's too unstable on the water," she said. "If the wind picks up, it just rolls everywhere."

But, being on the land will allow visitors to get close enough to it for pictures, McKay said.

The duck event will cause a lot of short-term changes in town, particularly in the town square and at the wharf, which will also be celebrating its 15-year anniversary starting Aug. 4.

"The wharf will be closed to traffic for the weekend," McKay said. "And we'll have lots of activities in the town square."

Parking on Aug. 4 will be available at Leonardtown and Duke elementary schools as well as St. Mary's Ryken High School; shuttles will run regularly from those three locations to bring people down to the wharf.

For Saturday and Sunday parking will expand to include the county governmental center on Leonard Hall Drive, she said, with more shuttle service included.

On that Friday and Sunday, access to the duck will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., said McKay, and hours of access on Sunday will be from noon to 4 p.m.

There are musical acts scheduled for the town square, McKay said, and a scavenger

hunt planned to take place at all the businesses there as well.

Vendors will be on hand in the alleyways surrounding the town square, too.

The event puts the spotlight not only on the duck but showcases the many businesses and services, old and new, the town square has to offer.

The event dovetails with the town's long-term strategy of boosting its core businesses for maximum exposure at major events.

Each of the businesses will have their own activities planned as well, McKay said, with food available at nearby vendors and down at the wharf. Activities will be available for adults and children alike.

The World's Largest Rubber Duck is owned by Minnesota-based Christopher Samborski and has made its presence known throughout the world for several years now.

Samborski said years ago he was in Los Angeles promoting a tall ships festival when a friend of his told him what he was doing would not be enough.

"He said I needed to go big or go home," Samborski said. "He said I needed to build the world's largest rubber duck."

Samborski contracted with builders who had specialized in working with balloons who then used inflatables for advertising and the 8-ton, 64-foot wide, 74-foot long duck was born.

"It's just so big, you can't miss it," Samborski said. "You forget all your troubles when you see her; it just exudes happiness and joy."

"She's a big girl."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Images left around Leonardtown by a mystery sidewalk artist ahead of the Duck's arrival

Publisher Thomas McKay
Associate Publisher Eric McKay
General Manager Al Dailey aldailey@countytimes.net
Advertising Jen Stotler jen@countytimes.net
Staff Writers Dick Myers dickmyers@countytimes.net
 Guy Leonard guyleonard@countytimes.net
Contributing Writers Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

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St. Clement's Island Museum Project Still Moving Forward



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The county continues to move ahead with the planned demolition of the St. Clements Island Museum in Coltons Point, though any progress has been restricted so far to the approval stages.

"The good news is we're moving forward," said county parks and recreation director Arthur Shepherd.

Shepherd said he had made a request of the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation, which is overseeing the project and hoped to have a meeting with them to discuss the specifications of their bid on the project.

The meeting of the county Museum Board of Trustees was held in Leonardtown July 17.

"Everything's in place to keep going," Shepherd told the trustee board.

The next steps he said, would be bid solicitations sent out to potential contractors and awarding of a contract.

Shepherd said construction on the new

facility should begin sometime either this fall or in the winter.

The bidding documents, he said, should come out late this summer or into the early fall.

When The County Times first reported on the plan to replace the museum, county officials said they had planned to have a contractor selected for the project by January of this year, with construction beginning soon after.

The current one-story building will be replaced with a more modern two-story facility.

The museum was built in 1984 and has aged considerably, developing structural integrity problems.

The new building will not only have more space for exhibits but tell a much deeper story about the English colonists who first came to St. Clements Island and founded Maryland in the early 17th century, county officials with knowledge of the project said.

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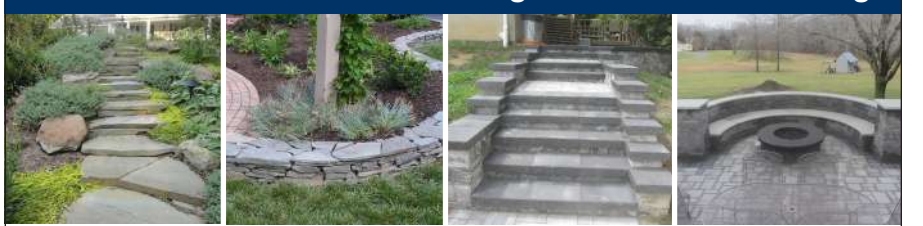
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St. Mary's Sheriff's Office Wants You for National Night Out

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is calling on communities to lock their doors, turn on their outdoor lights and come out to greet their neighbors for National Night Out, a decades long tradition of neighborhoods standing up against crime.



The sheriff's office plans to send deputies to neighborhoods throughout St. Mary's to bolster partnerships between citizens and law enforcement in rooting out crime and other problems, sometimes even before they can start.

This year, National Night Out falls on Aug. 1, next Tuesday and, according to Sheriff Steve Hall, 27 communities have officially signed on to participate with law enforcement, stretching from Charlotte Hall to South County.

"Our part of it is to galvanize our contacts with the county and make sure our presence is there," Hall told The County Times.

"Once upon a time people used to have block parties. You used to know your neighbors; we're trying to revitalize that feeling of community."

For the past several years the sheriff's office has been fighting the scourge of gun violence, particularly among young men in Lexington Park, and in some cases arresting suspects was difficult due to a lack of residents coming forward with vital information on perpetrators.

Focused law enforcement efforts have helped to improve that situation, Hall said, but the struggle to win the trust of those who could face reprisal from criminals continues.

National Night Out's sole purpose is to reestablish or strengthen those community bonds needed to fight crime.

"That's what we want to get back," Hall said. "Crime won't take hold in a community that's not afraid to call us."

Hall has been participating in National Night Out for years; the sheriff's office has been participating for more than three decades, he said.

Hall said the number of communities participating this year was impressive.

"It's one of the highest levels of participation I've seen and we've been doing it for 31 years," Hall said.

Will he be able to stop at every community next week?

"I'm going to try," Hall said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

School Board Confirms Next Year's Calendar

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

After considering two options last week for modifying the calendar for the coming 2023/2024 school year, the St. Mary's County Board of Education decided to convert just two of its early dismissal days to virtual learning days for students.

Dr. Dale Farell, chief of staff, said the first recommendation was for four days of virtual instruction but elementary school parents balked at that idea.

"The secondary students and parents didn't seem to have a problem with the four virtual days but most of the concern came from elementary levels," Farrell said.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the state school board has authorized as many as eight days of virtual learning for students during the school year if local boards of education so desired them.

But after several rounds of community input, the board decided on a pair of virtual learning days, spaced far apart on the school

calendar.

The first would be Oct. 9, according to the school board documents from their July 19 meeting, while the other would be on March 22.

For Chesapeake Public Charter Schools those virtual learning days will be January 12 and May 23.

The virtual days would be confined to just one day per semester in both cases.

May 14 will also be a non-school day for students under the new calendar as that day is Primary Election Day and is by state law a holiday, though it will still remain a duty day for school staff, though telework options could be made available.

Schools are used as polling places for voting precincts throughout St. Mary's.

The last day of school is June 13, with two-hour early dismissal days on June 12 and June 13.

The final school day for Chesapeake Public Charter School is June 10.

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Brawl Leads To Near Fatal Stabbing, Arrest

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer



Steve Yair Hernandez-Maldonado

A Lexington Park man has been arrested and charged with one count each of first-degree and second-degree attempted murder for allegedly stabbing another man in a melee on Winding Way July 22 in which perhaps half-a-dozen combatants were involved.

Steve Yair Hernandez-Maldonado, 19, remains incarcerated in the Leonardtown detention center on a no-bond status.

According to charging documents filed against the defendant in St. Mary's County District Court, a family member of his became embroiled in a fight when he allegedly punched a member of another neighborhood group that had "disrespected" him earlier.

Apparently, the animus between the two groups had been growing throughout the day of the brawl through various other minor incidents.

Eventually three men on each side of the argument came to blows, the court papers stated, and at some point during the altercation, Hernandez-Maldonado is alleged to have retrieved a folding knife with a length of between three-to-five inches in blade length and stabbed the victim — Jason Avalos Hernandez — necessitating the victim be airlifted to the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Prince George's County for treatment.

Hernandez-Maldonado also faces first- and second-degree assault charges and when he was identified as the suspect and arrested he was found to have two warrants out for his arrest on separate charges.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Libraries to Prohibit CCW Handgun Carry

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Up until recently only authorized law enforcement officers and civilians with permits to carry concealed handguns could lawfully bring weapons into a St. Mary's County library.

Now the Board of Library Trustees is poised to change that policy to match pending state law set to go into effect Oct. 1; SB 1 prohibits the carry of permitted concealed weapons in many public places, including state and county government buildings.

Though the law is being challenged in court as being unconstitutional, the trustee board is moving to come into compliance with it.

They brought up the change to library policy at their latest business meeting July 14.

Under the new policy, only authorized

law enforcement agents would be allowed to carry concealed weapons.

"This is the policy most libraries in Maryland do have," said county library system director Michael Blackwell to the trustee board.

But board members seemed to realize banning concealed weapons of any sort, permitted or not, was more easily said than done.

"Why are we doing this?" trustee Judith Gwynn asked. "Why are we saying citizens with concealed carry permits cannot come into the library with their weapon?"

"We aren't saying that," said trustee Sharon Fitzsimmons. "We're saying that if they have it concealed, we would never know."

Essentially, library staff would not be searching for or asking visitors if they were carrying concealed weapons despite the change in policy.



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“CRIME WON'T TAKE HOLD IN A COMMUNITY THAT'S NOT AFRAID TO CALL US.”
SHERIFF STEVE HALL ON THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



LOCAL 3
Stabbing leads to attempted murder charge



LOCAL 8
St. Mary's readies for National Night Out



ON THE COVER
The duck's arrival could be one of the biggest events in Leonardtown ever

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 27 Mostly Sunny Hi: 95° Lo: 76°	FRI, JUL 28 Partly Cloudy Hi: 95° Lo: 76°	SAT, JUL 29 PM Thunderstorms Hi: 95° Lo: 72°	SUN, JUL 30 Scattered Storms Hi: 80° Lo: 66°
MON, JUL 31 Sunny Hi: 82° Lo: 65°	TUE, AUG 1 Mostly Sunny Hi: 84° Lo: 67°	WED, AUG 2 PM Thunderstorms Hi: 84° Lo: 69°	THU, AUG 3 Partly Cloudy Hi: 86° Lo: 68°



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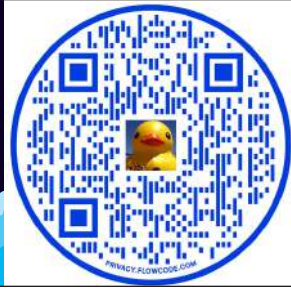
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