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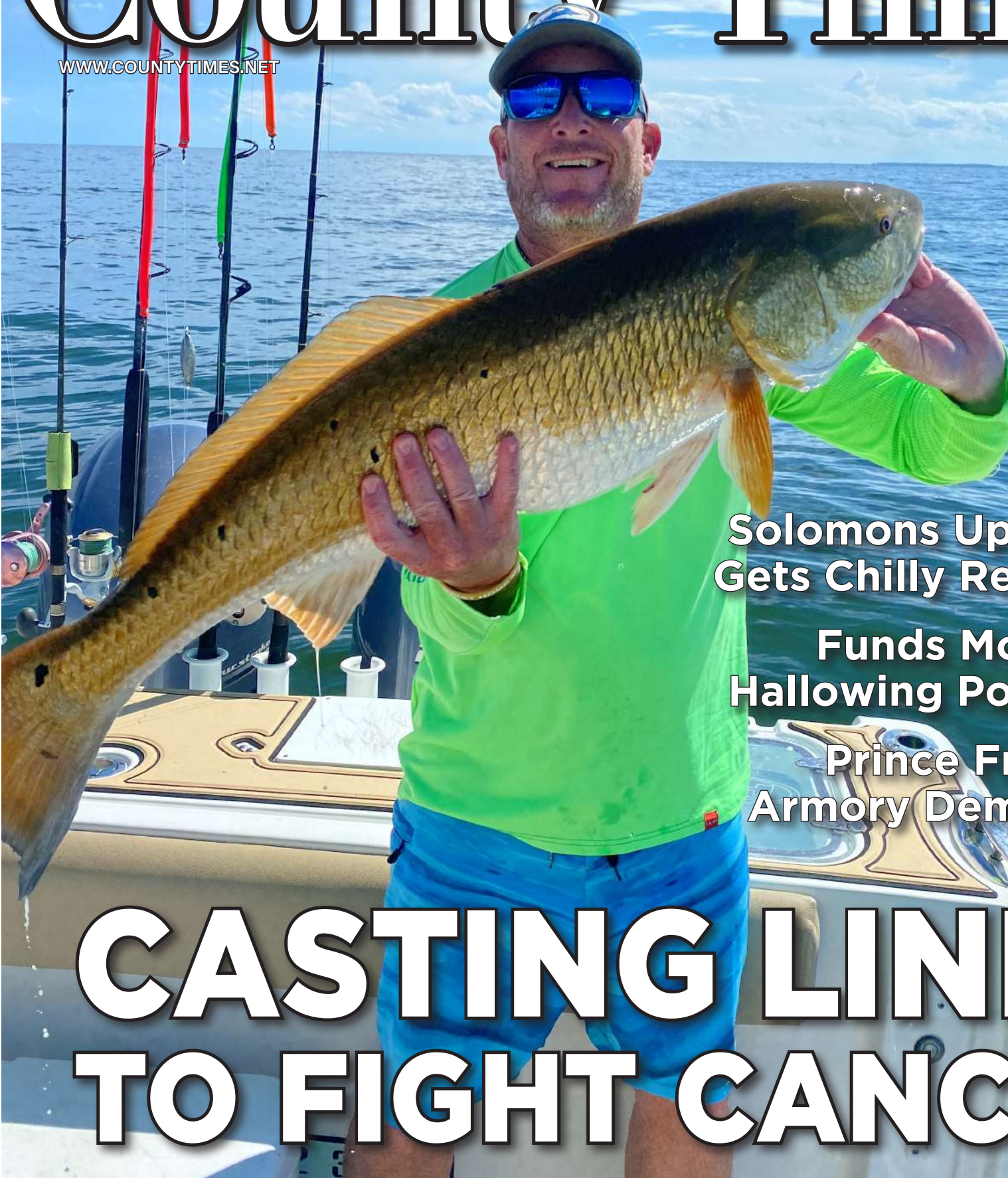
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Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023

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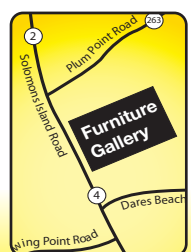
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“THIS A GATEWAY FOR APARTMENTS.”

COMMISSIONER MIKE HART ON HIS REASON TO OPPOSE SOLOMONS UP-ZONING TEXT AMENDMENTS



LOCAL 6
Commissioners frown on Solomons up-zoning



LOCAL 6
Prince Frederick Armory demolished



ON THE COVER
Fishing tournament to raise funds for cancer care

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>THU, AUG 10</p> <p>Rain/Thunder Hi: 77° Lo: 65°</p>	<p>FRI, AUG 11</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 85° Lo: 68°</p>	<p>SAT, AUG 12</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 88° Lo: 71°</p>	<p>SUN, AUG 13</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 87° Lo: 69°</p>
<p>MON, AUG 14</p> <p>PM Thunderstorms Hi: 86° Lo: 69°</p>	<p>TUE, AUG 15</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 83° Lo: 64°</p>	<p>WED, AUG 16</p> <p>Sunny Hi: 82° Lo: 66°</p>	<p>THU, AUG 17</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 85° Lo: 68°</p>

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Reelin' In for a Good Cause

It's a Fishing Tournament with a Difference

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

CalvertHealth Foundation's newest fundraiser is a labor of love for the organizer. For one thing, Darren Rickwood is an avid fisherman, and the event called "Reelin' for a Cause" is geared to fishermen (and women) of all levels of experience and skill sets.

But it's the cause that is really near and dear to Rickwood's heart. The beneficiary of the event is Cancer Care at CalvertHealth.

Rickwood told The County Times, "Recently my wife was diagnosed with breast cancer and was treated and is still going through follow ups at CalvertHealth. And my father, I moved him from Eastern Shore. He was being treated on Eastern Shore for cancer, and he continued his treatments here at CalvertHealth."

He added, "Before Covid, during Covid, and after Covid, the last probably three-and-a-half years, I've been in and out of CalvertHealth and dealing with them in Oncology Department and the doctors and really got a feel for how they treated and handled their patients and just was amazed. My dad knew everyone. He knew no one here, and he came in and they greeted him and welcomed him with open arms. Every single person, the staff they have, is amazing."

"And of course, my wife. I mean, that was something right after my dad that was kind of scary, brand new and going through that whole thing, the doctors were

amazing. The treatment facilities, everything was fantastic."

Rickwood is a former member of the CalvertHealth Foundation Board of Directors.; He was familiar with an event held annually in Anne Arundel and he always wanted to try something similar here.

He said in Anne Arundel it's called "Fish for Cure. It's the same idea. It benefits cancer research at Anne Arundel Hospital. I've fished in it multiple years and it's a great benefit."

So, he and a friend took the idea to the board, and they jumped on it.

"Reelin' for a Cause" is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16 in Solomons. It's a catch and release fishing tournament and the captain/team that raises the most money will be crowned winners of the Captain's Challenge. In addition to the bragging rights for the next year, a plaque with the Captain's Challenge winner will be displayed in the medical center.

Rickwood said, "This is not something you sign up the day of or come to the party and donate a bunch of money at the party. Yes, you can do that, but this is designed for people to love to fish or fish tournaments to get involved in something very different."

He added, "You do not get in this tournament to win money. You get in this tournament to raise funds for Calvert Health. And it's about glory. It's about name recognition. It's about bragging rights. If you are the largest fundraiser, you get your name on a plaque that's going to go at Calver Health. If you catch the biggest fish or the biggest stringer on fish, you get a trophy."

Boat owners can get together teams to go out, or your team can do as Rickwood is doing and charter a boat. But he cautioned it's a busy time for charter captains so if you want to do it that way you need to do it soon. He can assist in finding a captain for you.

It's a great way for a business to get their employees involved in a good cause and have fun at the same time. "There're actually sponsorship levels within the tournament



that they come in as a large donor or sponsor where we do the charter boat for them. It's part of the package. They get a charter boat, we'll reserve it."

"We have a lot of doctors, we have a lot of surgeons, we have a lot of nurses, and they want to be part of it and do a team. They know nothing about fishing," he noted.

But if you want to use your own boat, that's fine. He said, "I talked to two yesterday that have their own boats. I'm trying to get them to sign up and they're looking for a team so they can go out on their own personal boat and fish the tournament."

He explained, "At the end of the tournament we're actually doing a benefit party." It'll be at the Tiki Bar.

"We're putting up a tent and doing, not a full sit-down dinner, but there's going to be food, drink, awards, music, everything."

The event will support the advancement of cancer care at CalvertHealth, including

the development of a robotic surgery program and the continued affiliation with Duke Health. Duke Health, a national leader in cancer care that will open doors to clinical trials and research for local patients close to home.

According to CalvertHealth, "Our cancer mission is to bring the best oncology care available to Calvert and our neighboring counties. One out of every three persons will be touched by cancer in their lifetime – and every single one deserves the most advanced cancer care locally."

Rickwood said the fishing tournament was timely, being right in the middle of the foundation's cancer center fundraising effort.

For more information or to sign up for the Sept. 16 Reelin' for a Cause you can call Rickwood at 443-532-5660 or the foundation office at 410-414-4570.

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Former Youth Coach Sentenced for Child Porn, Sex Abuse

U.S. District Judge Theodore D. Chuang on Aug. 3 sentenced former youth and high school football coach, Moshe Michael Imel, 53, of Owings to 40 years in federal prison, followed by lifetime supervised release, for two counts of production of child pornography involving two minor victims. Imel also pleaded guilty to charges related to the sexual abuse of minors in three cases in the Circuit Court for Calvert County.

The sentence was announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Erik L. Barron; Special Agent in Charge James C. Harris of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI); Calvert County Sheriff Ricky Cox; and Calvert County State's Attorney Robert Harvey.

According to his plea agreement, between July 2018 and November 2020, Imel was an assistant football coach at a Calvert County High School. In March 2021, law enforcement interviewed two victims who reported that beginning when Imel coached the individuals in a youth football program and continuing through high school, Imel groomed and then sexually abused the victims. Specifically, Imel admitted that he directed each victim to expose and touch himself in a sexual way and ultimately engaged in sexual contact with the victims on numerous occasions. Imel also created sexually explicit videos of the victims documenting his abuse.

A search warrant was executed at Imel's home and confirmed that the basement—including the action figures lining the walls, the computer setup, the cameras, sex toys and other paraphernalia—was as the victims had described it to law enforcement. A review of fourteen electronic devices seized at Imel's residence revealed that they all contained child pornography or evidence of Imel's sexual contact with minors.

This case was brought as part of Project



Moshe Michael Imel

Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorney's Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.justice.gov/psc. For more information about Internet safety education, please visit and click on the "Resources" tab on the left of the page.

United States Attorney Erik L. Barron commended the HSI, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, and the Calvert County State's Attorney's Office for their work in the investigation. Mr. Barron thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy F. Hagan, who prosecuted the federal case and recognized Calvert County Assistant State's Attorney Rebecca N. Cordero, who is prosecuting Imel's case in the Circuit Court for Calvert County.

Press Release from U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland

Sheriff's Office Says Stay Safe, Stay Informed

In a continuing effort to keep Calvert County residents safe and informed, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office has partnered with Calvert County Emergency Management and will be utilizing Calvert County Alert, a countywide notification system.

The service allows our agency to quickly provide you with critical information for a variety of situations, such as up to the minute emergency crime and traffic alerts, road closures and detours, missing persons information, severe weather, evacuations and as well as other relevant safety and community event information.

You will receive these important notifications based on the locations you identify. They can be sent to your home phone, mobile phone, business phone, e-mail addresses, through text messaging, and

more. You pick where, you pick how.

"We have a duty to ensure public safety, community awareness, and emergency response," said Sheriff Ricky Cox. "To uphold this commitment, when critical information and public service announcements are available, we need to reach our residents as quickly and reliably as possible."

The County is working with Everbridge (formally known as NIXLE), a critical event management company, to keep residents informed with fast and reliable communications. Calvert County joins more than 6,400 organizations around the world in utilizing the Everbridge platform, including many cities throughout the National Capital Region, as well as airports, transit authorities, hospitals, and K-12 school districts and universities.

Press Release from CCSO

Commissioners Frown Upon Solomons Zoning Text Amendments

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Two proposed zoning text amendments that would allow multi-family dwelling units such as apartments in a part of the Solomons Town Center and increase the density allowed in that town center from seven units to 14 were not well received by the Calvert Board of County Commissioners last week.

The proposed text amendments made it into consideration by the commissioners before a deadline that proclaimed there would be no further consideration of text amendments until the entire zoning code was finished with its own update process.

Planning and zoning staff, who recommended that the commissioners approve the text amendments, said the rule change would allow for the redevelopment of aging properties in the Solomons Town Center as well as aid economic development there.

There is also a need for assisted living and memory care facilities in the Solomons community which these text amendments would help support, they argued.

The section of the Solomons Town Center that would be most affected by the amendments would be the D1 section, which is at the heart of the town center just north of Lore Road.

Commissioner Mike Hart said his constituency had told him in no uncertain terms that they did not want apartments or any other high-density development in that district, or in Calvert generally.

“In my first four years [on the commissioner board] led me to make a lot of mistakes,” said Hart. “I was elected for ‘no apartments,’ people made that clear to me.”

“This a gateway for apartments.”

He seemed to admonish planning staff, including the director of the department Mary Beth Cook, over the proposed text amendments.

“People live here for the rural character, we talk about this constantly,” Hart said. “We do not have the infrastructure in place for high-density housing.”

Hart continued to say that in the past eight years, despite the perceived need for senior housing, that the county had not been able to produce any affordable housing stock for seniors on a fixed income.

He did not believe these text amendments would solve the problem.

Commissioner Catherine Grasso echoed Hart’s comments.

“For me, I can’t go against what my constituents put me here to do,” Grasso said.

Commissioner Chair Earl “Buddy” Hance said: “If you’re looking for direction from us, I don’t think there’s any appetite to up-zone everything you’ve got on the table today.”

The commissioners voted to send the proposals on to the planning commission for a work session — minus Hart’s support — but Hance reiterated that when the amendments came back to the commissioners unchanged they would not vote for them.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Prince Frederick Armory Demolished

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The aging National Guard Armory in Prince Frederick is now being demolished, announced Calvert County Commissioner Earl “Buddy” Hance this week after decades sitting at the heart of the seat of much of county government.

“We began demolition... this past week,” Hance said at the Aug. 8 commissioner meeting. “The building was very old and it had a lot of issues so we’ve decided to tear that building down.”

The county received a state grant in the amount of \$2.5 million to fund the demolition project.

“We’re going to build a community pavilion to host farmers’ markets and community events,” Hance said. “We’re very optimistic about the wonderful events that are going to be held there.”

The county received the state grant in

December of last year and the pavilion to be built there will be of an open-air design.

The armory was built in 1953 but because the state deemed that it did not meet its criteria as an historically significant building it was not included as part of the Maryland Historical Trust.

The county planning commission approved the demolition plan for the structure in May.

At that time county planners said that the building would have required extensive renovation if it was to be brought up to modern standards as it was not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The north masonry wall was failing and likely would have to have been replaced; the removal of asbestos materials and lead paint used throughout the structure were also noted obstacles to renovation.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Hallowing Point Park Budget Amendments Approved

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Calvert Board of County Commissioners adopted and approved without discussion a request from one of its department directors to take monies from the Dunkirk District Park project and allocate it to further improvements at Hallowing Point Park.

A total of \$1.2 million in additional funding will go to improving tennis courts and building new pickleball courts at Hallowing Point Park, according to planning documents submitted to county commissioners at their Aug. 8 meeting.

“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,” planning documents stated. “A pickleball facility will be constructed at the park to include eight outdoor pickleball courts as well as associated site work and stormwater infrastructure.”

The improvements at the park will also help determine its future use by the community.

“Additionally, 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,” wrote Shannon Nazal, director of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

To make the transfer of funds possible, \$600,000 was taken from improvements to the Dunkirk park restrooms and \$600,000 from the overall development budget for the park, planning documents show.

In other news the county commissioners also approved a request from the Department of Technology Services to renewing the contract for use of the county’s emergency management software used to broadcast mass notifications of an emergency to residents, businesses and visitors by the thousands in just seconds or minutes.

In his request to the county commissioners, technology services director Stephen Pereira said that by seeking a multi-year deal with vendor Everbridge, the county would be able to save \$12,334.

The annual subscription costs \$47,500, Pereira wrote, while the second year of the standard contract currently in effect would raise that annual fee to \$54,834.

The commissioners adopted and approved the request, again without discussion.

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CALVERT SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of July 24 – July 30, 2023, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,705 calls for service throughout the community.

Property Destruction: 23-53778

On July 30, 2023, Deputy R. Jones responded to the 600 block of San Gabriel Road in Lusby, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised sometime between 6 p.m. on July 29 and 8 a.m. on July 30, an unknown suspect(s) egged the victim's vehicle parked outside the residence. Egg shells were observed on the ground next to the vehicle and the paint on the vehicle had been scratched due to the egg residue. The estimated value of damaged property is \$1,000.00.

Theft: 23-52298

On July 24, 2023, DFC. Dymond responded to Terrance Drive in Prince Frederick, for the reported theft. The com-

plainant advised numerous tools and yard equipment had been stolen from a storage trailer on the victim's property. The estimated value of stolen property is approximately \$1,800 - \$2,000.00

Theft: 23-53177

On July 28, 2023, DFC Murphy responded to the 300 block of Seagull Beach Road in Prince Frederick, for the reported theft. Contact was made with the complainant who advised a ground hog had been causing issues at the neighborhood lot, so the complainant placed a live animal trap on the lot located in the 300 block of Overlook Drive. Sometime between 5:30 p.m. on July 27 and 6:30 a.m. on July 28, an unknown suspect(s) stole the animal trap. The estimated value of stolen property is \$69.00.

Theft: 23-52598

On July 25, 2023, Deputy McCourt responded to the 300 block of Rivers Reach

Court in Prince Frederick, for the reported theft. The complainant advised sometime on July 24, an unknown suspect(s) stole the victim's prescription medication from inside her residence. The estimated value of stolen property is \$80.00.

ARRESTS



Hayden Alexander Crowell

On July 27, 2023, Cpl. Livingston was on routine patrol when he observed a black motorcycle proceed through a solid red light. The motorcycle then passed the deputy's marked patrol vehicle and sped up to a high rate of speed fleeing the deputy. A description of the motorcycle was broadcasted to units in the area. The motorcycle was observed driving on the shoulder, weaving in and out of traffic, passing vehicles on the shoulder and running solid red lights at speeds in excess of 100 mph. Deputies witnessed the motorcycle turn down Broomes Island Road in Port Republic. Moments later deputies located the motorcycle and its operator in the area of Mackall and Parran Road in St. Leonard. The driver, identified as **Hayden Alexander Crowell**, 20 of Lusby, was taken into custody and transported to the Calvert

County Detention Center where he was charged with Attempting to Elude a Police Official Vehicle by Failing to Stop along with numerous other traffic related charges.



Heather Nicole Hugel

On July 27, 2023, DFC Shoemaker initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for an equipment violation in the area of NB Rt. 4 and Southern Connector Blvd in Lusby. Further investigation revealed the driver, **Heather Nicole Hugel**, 33 of Great Mills, was in possession of CDS paraphernalia. A vehicle search revealed one burnt glass pipe with white powder residue, on plastic rod with white powder residue on the tip, and unburnt copper wire. Hugel was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

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

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

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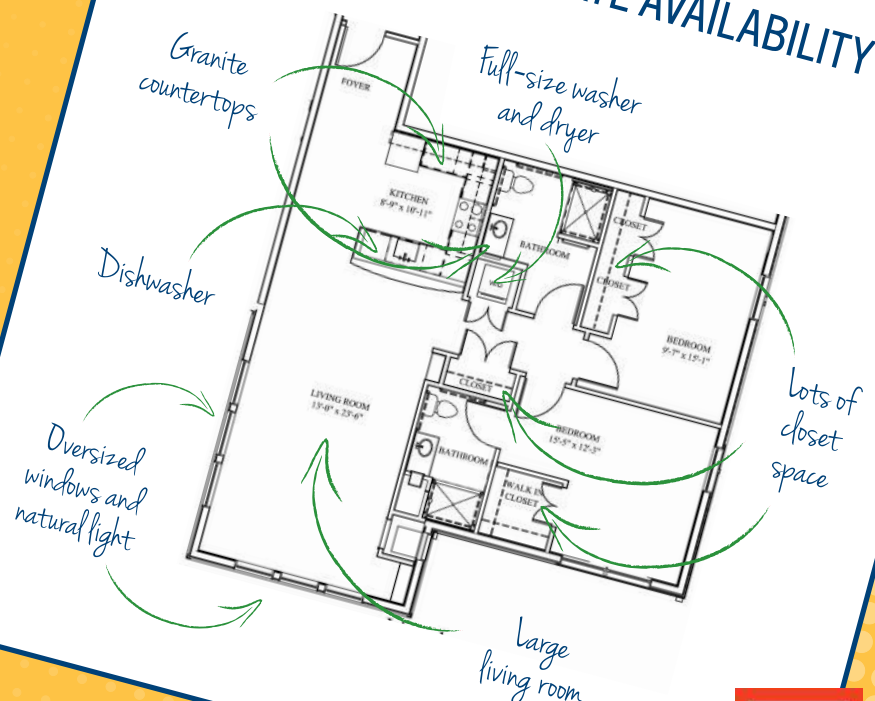
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Screwpile Regatta Makes the Most of Good Conditions



The Solomons-based Tartan P270 *Wicked Good* heads upwind during the 2023 Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta in Chesapeake Bay off of Solomons on Saturday, July 15, 2023. Erik Gyorgy of Lexington Park is at the helm. *Wicked Good* won four of five races to win the regatta's PHRF 3 class. Photo by Wilbur Keyworth.

by Tim Flaherty
Contributing Writer

The 31st edition of the annual Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge sailing regatta made the most of good conditions in the Chesapeake Bay off Solomons during the first two days of its three-day run in July, conducting five races on the main course before fluky and light air cancelled racing on the final day.

Thirty-seven boats registered for the regatta, which was hosted by Southern Maryland Sailing Association and was based at Safe Harbor Zahniser Marina in Solomons. Screwpile is considered a classic event in the Chesapeake Bay sailboat racing scene.

Several local boats scored class victories. James Whited of Solomons, skipping his J-111 *Bad Cat*, won the CRCA Spinnaker class, narrowly defeating Lusby's Norm Dawley on his Custom 40-footer *Pursuit*. This class and a CRCA Non-spinnaker class sailed two races on a course designed for cruising sailboats.

Solomons residents Dave and Jacki Meiser led their team aboard their Melges 32 *One Trick Pony* to a narrow victory in the PHRF 1 class, which featured the fastest boats in the regatta. One of the

most impressive efforts in the event was by Lexington Park's Mark Gyorgy and his team on *Wicked Good*, a Tartan P270. *Wicked Good* won four of its five races on the main course to easily outdistance its class competitors.

The 2023 Calvert County Trophy was awarded to Robert Michaelson of Randallstown, who brought his Gulfstar 40 *Anna Mae* to Screwpile from the Bodkin Yacht Club near Baltimore. This trophy, sponsored by the Calvert County Department of Economic Development, is awarded to the winner of the most competitive class, who is then considered to be the overall Screwpile champion. *Anna Mae* won the CRCA Non-spinnaker class by a tie-breaker.

This year, Screwpile was also used as the Mid-Bay Championship for the Chesapeake Bay PHRF, which is the predominant handicapping system in this region. *Barba Roja*, a Pearson 31 skippered by Stephen Birchfield of St. Leonard; and *Stingray*, a Dufour 40 led by Elliott and Alexa Peterson of Solomons; joined *One Trick Pony* and *Wicked Good* in winning their respective PHRF class championships.

Full Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge results are posted at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm>.



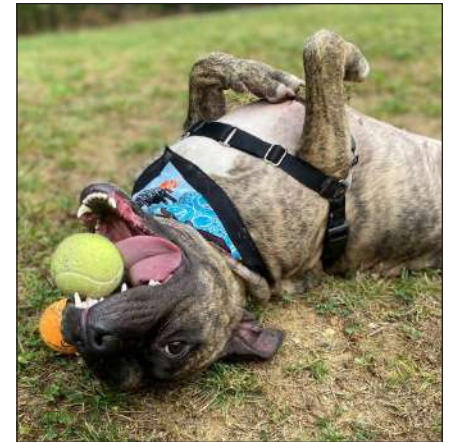
Stephen Birchfield of St. Leonard (third from left) and his crew from *Barba Roja* accept the award for the Mid-Bay PHRF Championship at 2023 the Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge Regatta awards ceremony held at Safe Harbor Zahniser's in Solomons, Maryland, on July 16th, 2023. Photo by Tim Flaherty.

Sweating Off the Shelter Pounds Adoption Event

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is at capacity for housing shelter animals. To help unite these wonderful animals with forever homes, the shelter is hosting a "Sweating Off the Shelter Pounds" adoption event and waiving fees for any adoptable animal that has been at the shelter for 30 days or more to qualified adopters. The Sweating Off the Shelter Pounds adoption event will run from July 12 through Aug. 12, 2023.

The shelter has a variety of animals available for adoption, including cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, a snake and a female pig. During the event, the kennels for the animals with waived fees will be marked, along with the total number of weeks they have been at the shelter. The shelter will not guarantee or hold animals for adoption if another qualified individual is prepared to adopt the animal, and the availability of animals offered at the shelter changes daily. Please visit CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com/3168/Adoption to complete a pre-screening application.

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter, located at 5055 Hallowing Point Road, in Prince Frederick, is an open-admission animal shelter managed by the Animal Shelter Division of the Calvert County



Department of Public Safety. Shelter hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call 410-535-7387 to schedule an intake appointment. For more information about adopting from the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter visit www.CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com.

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.

Thu, Aug 10

Magician Brian Curry: Summer Fun

Northeast Community Center
3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach
10-11 a.m.

Southern Community Center
2-3 p.m.

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

Join magician Brian Curry as he brings children's books magically to life with state-of-the-art multimedia, music and amazing illusions that will get everyone excited about reading. Sponsored by Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons, 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
Online via Zoom
6:30-8 p.m.

Get tips and support from other caregivers. Facilitated by Jeannette Findley and JC Hooker. Please register to receive the Zoom link. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Fri, Aug 11

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. For library resources on this topic, click here! 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sat, Aug 12

Toy Boat Building

Calvert Marine Museum
1 - 4 p.m.

Make a toy boat from wood under the Corbin Nature Pavilion! Visitors will be accommodated on a first come, first served basis. For ages 5 and up. Museum admission required, with a suggested donation of \$2 per boat. Sponsored by the Patuxent Small Craft Guild.

Sun, Aug 13

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

Calvert Marine Museum
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.

Mon, Aug 14

Introduction to Digital Culture

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m..

Take your digital skills up a notch so that you can thrive online! From communicating with others to staying healthy, digital tools and technologies affect much of our lives. Learn more about using the internet to contacting your lawmakers, learning about health related topics, connecting with others offline and online, and exploring your interests and passions. You'll also learn best practices for staying safe online and using social media. Laptops will be provided for those who register online before the event, but cannot be guaranteed for those who decide to drop in. Please call the library at 410-535-0291 or email James at james.angle@calvertlibrary.info for any questions. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862.

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
1-4 p.m.

Stop by for your job search needs! Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. 410-257-2101.

Tue, Aug 15

Mornings at the Museum: Otters and Opossums

Calvert Marine Museum
10 a.m. - noon

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.

Wed, Aug 16

Reading Buddies

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
6-7 p.m.

At this event, elementary aged children will do fun activities and read out loud to teen volunteers. Teen volunteers can earn one (1) service learning hour for participating. It's a great way to socialize and build reading confidence! Bring your favorite books, or pick one of ours when you get here—we have plenty! Read and engage in fun activities with teen volunteers. Have fun! How it works for teen Reading Buddies: Email Mary to volunteer! Read and engage in fun activities with young readers to build their confidence. Earn one (1) service learning hour for school! 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

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.

Thu, Aug 17

Little Minnows: Messy Science

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

This month's theme is Messy Science, for preschoolers ages 3 - 5, accompanied by an adult. This program focuses on one of the museum's three themes. 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

Clear the Shelter

Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter
5055 Hallowing Point Rd., Prince Frederick
Month of August

The shelter will waive adoption fees for adoptable animals during this campaign, made possible through a collaborative effort between Friends of the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter and the Board of County Commissioners. Regular adoption procedures still apply during the event.

The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is an open admission animal shelter managed by the Animal Shelter Division of the Calvert County Department of Public Safety. Shelter hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To schedule an intake appointment, call 410-535-7387. Animals of all ages are available for adoption, including dogs, cats, rabbits, roosters, pigs and more. For more information about adopting from the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter visit www.CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com.

Upcoming

Bad Art Night

Annemarie Sculpture Garden
Solomons
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.

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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, Aug 10

Tech Rescue: Emergency Contacts & Medical Info

Northern Senior Activity Center
29655 Charlotte Hall Rd, Charlotte Hall
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Cost: Free

Keilan Ruppert, Program Specialist & resident tech guy, will teach you how to add emergency contacts & medical info to your smartphone devices. This is extremely important to set up. Paramedics/EMT staff can access this information to better assist you during emergency situations. It can also help folks contact loved ones if your device is found in public. Class will be in the computer lab, but you must bring your cell-phone/smartphone with you. Some phones have a unique process to set up this feature and may need to be addressed individually.

Fri, Aug 11

Music Celebration

Leonardtwn Wharf
Washington Street, Leonardtown
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

R&B Celebration featuring The Rise Band & Show from 5PM-6 PM and Latrice Carr from 6 PM—8 PM. On the Water's Edge at the Leonardtown Wharf (sponsored by Jimmy Hayden of RE-Max 100 and Homes for Heroes). The evening also includes R&B line dance lessons with Renee Stevens. Originally scheduled June 24, 2023.

Sat, Aug 12

MVFDA Community Yard Sale

Mechanicsville Vol. Fire Dept.
28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicsville
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Food & raffle tickets available for purchase. Inside or Outside spaces available for \$20.00. Contact Lori Greathouse 301-399-1713. Prepay by check send to MVFDA address or Paypal is \$22.00

Knights of St Jerome's Dinner & Scholarship Festival

Knights of St Jerome Hall
Rt 235 at the corner of Trapp Rd.,
Dameron
Dinner sales begin at 11am
Car & Motorcycle Show 3-6pm
Scholarship presentation at 6pm

The Knights of St Jerome's presents the Annual Dinner & Scholarship Festival.

Carry-Out or Dine In.
Fried Fish, Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Corn, Dessert, Soda & Water. \$25 per person

DJ John Barnes, Dunk Booth, 50/50 Raffle

Sun, Aug 13

Breakfast—All-You-Can-Eat- 2nd Dist. VFD&FS

Social Hall of 2nd District VFD & RS
45245 Drayden Road, Valley Lee
8 a.m to 11 a.m.

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Home Fried Potatoes, Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage Links, Ham, Bacon, Creamed Chipped Beef, Sausage Gravy, Spiced Applesauce, Grits & Biscuits

Drinks: Assorted juices, milk and coffee will be available.

Adults—\$13.00; Children 6 to 12—\$6.00; Children 5 & under are free

Proceeds from this fundraiser are for the Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad to continue to keep our community safe.

For more information call: 301-994-9999

Farmers Feeding St. Mary's



The second annual Farmers Feeding St. Mary's County Program will offer free, farm fresh produce at two community events in 2023!

<p>Thursday, August 17 Bay District Volunteer Fire Department 46900 S. Shangri-La Dr, Lexington Park, MD 1-7 p.m. <i>While Supplies Last</i></p>	<p>Saturday, September 16 U-Haul Parking Lot 46041 Signature Lane, Lexington Park, MD 9 a.m.-1 p.m. <i>While Supplies Last</i></p>
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The Commissioners of St. Mary's County, the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services, the St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development, Feed St. Mary's, and the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources are pleased to offer these valuable community events!

For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1050, or visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging





Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



Beach (House) Baby



Robert and I got back home Saturday after a wonderful week in the Outer Banks with 21 members and friends of my husband's side of the family. One family group drove in from Vermont, another from Florida, and the rest of us from Maryland. 18 of us, including 5 teenagers, two small children, and a fun-loving dog were in one large Beach House called Sea Spirit which overlooked the great Atlantic Ocean – it was on the other side of the street from the houses next to the dunes. The view was spectacular since there wasn't a house in front of us. I spent many happy hours on the top floor balcony watching the waves and listening to the roar of the crashing waves. And here at home I miss the refreshing breezes.

Our beach house had three floors with 7 bedrooms and 6½ bathrooms. It also had balconies, a pool, a pool table, and a large hot tub. The other 5 teenagers were staying at the old beach house on the ocean side that my stepdaughter Michelle's best friend Nikki from college's family has owned since the early 1940s I believe. Nikki's beach house was only 12 houses away. My stepdaughter arranges this lovely vacation for the whole family.

We all got a workout when we first arrived because the house is set-up like two split foyers on top of each other. You have the set of steps leading up to the first floor which is naturally raised on stilts in the Outer Banks houses, and then you have two sets of steps to the 2nd floor which is where our master bedroom with bathroom was located, and then you had another set of steps leading to the kitchen and family area/dining room. By mid-week, some of us, even the really fit ones, were moaning or even crawling up the steps (that would be me).

Each family had one day of the week that they would cook breakfast and dinner which worked out perfectly. I now know that my over-sized skillet which needs to go over two burners is enough to cook the main part of dinner for 23 people. Everyone used it and I will definitely bring it if we do this again next year. At breakfast and dinner, the roving teenagers and Nikki would come up to eat, talk, laugh, and play pool. The hot tub seemed to be a big hit with all ages.

Everyone but me came back with a nice tan, and a few burns here and there. My new biologic medication has left me with a very heat sensitive rash on my arms and legs unfortunately, though I have never been a Beach Baby except in my teenage years. I was perfectly happy to stay on the top floor or top floor balcony of Sea Spirit with my books and a cross-stitch project I was working on for someone. The rest of the family congregated down in front of Nikki's beach house most every day to play cornhole and generally have a good time. I missed getting in the family beach photo, but Michelle said if I come to her house in my bathing suit she can photoshop me in. I said only if she can photoshop a tan on me too.

The meals throughout the week were amazing from lasagna, tacos with homemade guacamole, and homemade queso, spaghetti, lots of garlic bread, an amazing chicken dish, to 4 breakfast casseroles one morning, to French Toast, Put Roast, and quite a few other meals. I really thought I must have gained about 10 to 15 pounds, but was surprised when I got home to find out I was exactly the same weight as when I left. I know it was all those steps. Now I wish there would have been one more set of steps, so I could have lost a few pounds. Well, I suppose I could just walk up and down our split foyer steps a dozen more times a day. By this time next year I should be Beach Baby ready...yeah right.

To each new summer's adventure. Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

How will you exit your business?

If you own a business, you've always got a lot on your mind. But no matter how busy you are today, you need to think about tomorrow. Specifically, you'll want to create an exit strategy for the day you want to move on from your business to a new phase in your life.

To develop this strategy, you'll need to address these key questions:

- *How much do you need (or want) for your business?* Ideally, you'll want the sale of your business to meet your retirement and estate-planning goals. So, you'll need to think carefully about these goals and what costs they may entail. And these issues aren't just financial — for example, when you think about how you may want to spend your time in retirement, you might realize that you don't really want to exit your business completely. So, you might decide to sell just part of it, or sell it entirely, but stay on to help manage it or possibly do some consulting for the new owners.
- *How much is your business worth?* You may want to calculate your business' value three to five years before your planned exit. You could do this on your own, but it's typically advantageous to use professional valuation services. If you're gifting or selling your business to family members, selling it to an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) or settling an estate, you'll need to get a more formal qualified appraisal to meet IRS standards.
- *How can you close the gap between what you need and what your business is worth?* The amount you need from the sale of your business to support your retirement goals may be more than what your business is actually worth. To help close this gap, you could try to boost your business's profits through the usual means, such as introducing new products, raising prices or cutting costs. But you might also try to lower the amount you need from the sale by working longer, reducing your personal spending and saving more outside the business.
- *Who will take over your business?* When planning for a successor for your business, you have several choices, including selling to a family member or an outside buyer. Going public or liquidating the business are also options. These are distinct paths, but depending on your circumstances, one might be more appropriate for you than another. To cite just one factor, if you don't have an obvious choice for a family member to take over the business, you might have to consider other buyers. In any case, you'll need to explore all the economic and personal factors involved in the choice of successor.
- *Who can help you with your exit strategy?* Exiting a business can be complex. To ensure you're making the right moves for your overall financial and family situations, you may want to build an exit strategy team, possibly consisting of your financial, legal and tax advisors. You may also need to enlist the services of a commercial banker and a business evaluation expert. Each of these professionals can bring a different area of expertise to your exit decisions, and together they can help address all the issues related to your exit strategy.

Exiting your business will take a lot of planning and decisions — but if it's done right, it can be worth the effort.

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

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In Remembrance

Lois Menard, 71

Lois Ann Menard, 71, of Great Mills, MD, passed away on July 31, 2023 in California, MD. Born on March 27, 1952 in Leonardtown, MD, she was the daughter of the late

Blanche M. Money maker and the late Lloyd A. Money maker, Sr. Lois was the loving wife of the late Victor A. Menard, Sr., who preceded her in death on March 6, 2011. She is survived by her children, Victor A. Menard, Jr. (Jennifer) of California, MD and Jennifer A. Marsh (Josh) of Park Hall, MD, her older sister, Patricia M. (Money maker) Redmond (George) of Little River, SC, her grandchildren Jesse M. Marsh (Stormie) of Lexington Park, MD, Sydney R. Vanderborcht (Alec) of Leonardtown, MD, and Brady Menard of California, MD, two adorable great grandsons, as well as her beloved nephews, nieces, great-nephews, great nieces, and "chosen" family members. Lois is preceded by her younger brother, Lloyd A. Money maker, Jr.

Lois was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Great Mills High School in 1970. She went on to graduate from the College of Southern Maryland (AS, Computer Programming) in 1996. Lois was a Budget Analyst NAWCAD Comptroller at the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, MD. She was well-received by all who she supported and those who worked side-by-side with her. Lois retired in 2012 after 25 years of service.

Lois spent the end of her final days at her son and daughter-in-law's home; where she passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side—her sister, both children and their spouses, three grandchildren and two of their spouses, and two great-grandbabies.

Lois was a super sweet, caring, loving, and giving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, friend, and lady. She was always willing to take in her daughter's stray animals and her oldest grandson's stray friends, so she was Grandma to many! Lois had many early mornings waiting for the school bus with her grandchildren, while doing so, grading the drivers that went by or learning new words, or looking for zebras in trees. Lois loved knitting with her friends at the Loffler Senior Activity Center and meeting her granddaughters for lunch at any of the local Mexican restaurants. Lois had many spoiled fur babies; Sophie and Spritz were her doggies and Lily and Calvin were her kitties. All have been taken in by family for continued love and care.

Lois enjoyed watching the hummingbirds that would visit every spring and summer. She always had a feeder outside her living room window so she could watch them frolic. Lois also enjoyed shopping, shopping with her sister, and crafting.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 9:45 AM with Rev. Nancy A. Eichorn officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Great Mills, MD. Serving as pall-

bearers will be Brady Menard (grandson), Jesse M. Marsh (grandson), Josh M. Marsh (son-in-law), Alec Vanderborcht (grandson), Scott Mathews (nephew), and Joe M. Porter (Lois' personal handy man).

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society in support of "Psyched for Life."

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.

T.W. Bell, 63

Thomas Webster Bell III, "T.W." 63, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on August 3, 2023 in Solomons, MD. Born on November 13, 1959, he was the son of Dorothy

G. Bell of Leonardtown, MD, and the late Thomas W. Bell, Jr. T.W. was the loving husband of Mary F. Raley Bell. The two of them met in high school and were married on October 18, 1980. He is survived by his children Tiffany L. Corbett of Leonardtown, MD, Brittany B. Nelson (Gary) of Leonardtown, MD, Stephanie B. Dahlstrom (Michael) of Leonardtown, MD, and Courtney T. Bell (Chase) of Leonardtown, MD, his siblings, J. Andrew Bell of Leonardtown, MD, Gary S. Bell of Leonardtown, MD, and Mark J. Bell of Leonardtown, MD, as well as six grandchildren and one granddaughter on the way. In addition to his father, T.W. was preceded in death by his brother, Francis G. Bell and his son-in-law, Christopher B. Corbett.

T.W. was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Ryken High School in 1977. He was the Collision Repair Center Manager for Bell Motor Company until 2008. In 2009, T.W. went to work for a Government Contractor. He was the owner/operator of Bell Trucking for over 35 years, and co-owner of Bell Boys Bus Service in Leonardtown, MD. T.W.'s hobbies included playing hardball, softball for Pennies, Budweiser, and others. He was to go to the Orioles Minor League however, he was working on the family farm and a tree fell across his shoulders and intervened. He was a 2012 Hall of Fame Inductee for the Slow Pitch Softball League, and belonged to the Leonardtown Vol. Fire Department (Assistant Engineer) and served for 41 years. T.W.'s greatest love was his wife, four girls, grandchildren, and family. He was such a gentle giant, making him the right person to be a girl dad. T.W. could be seen in the evenings and weekends working on the Breton Bay family farm.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, August 10, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 7:00 PM at Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 11:00 AM at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Leonardtown, MD, with Father David Beaubien officiating. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Catholic Cemetery, Helen, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Gary Nelson, Michael Dahlstrom, Chase Burroughs, Gary Bell Jr., Michael Bell, and Al Raley. Honorary pall-

bearers will be Andy Bell, Gary Bell, Sr., Mark Bell, A.J. Bell, Chris Bell, Bradley Bell, Josh Phetteplace, Buck Trossbach, Johnny Russell and Charlie Cooksey.

Contributions may be made to the Leonardtown Vol. Fire Department, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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.

Junior Cusic, 88

Quincy Edward "Junior" Cusic, 88, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on Saturday, August 5, 2023 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Junior was born

March 3, 1935 to the late John Quincy and Nora Catherine Bussler Cusic. He was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He is predeceased by his loving wife Ethel Inez Cusic, brothers Elwood Cusic, James Cusic and sisters Yvonne Wood, Teresa Raley and Catherine Raley. He is survived by his daughters Debbie Johnson (Ray) and Karen Montgomery (John/Monkey), brother Harry Cusic and companion Doris Lawrence.

Junior was named Quincy after his father and Edward after his uncle George Edward Bussler. The late Irene Wood nicknamed him Little Junior and the name stuck ever since. He was born in 1935 at home on the farm at Delabrooke. He went to Oraville school, which was a one-room schoolhouse for grades 1-3 and went to the school next door for grades 4-6. The schools had no electricity or plumbing and the only heat source was a wood stove. There was a spring nearby where Junior's job was to get the water for drinking. And there was an outhouse for the bathroom. In 1946, the family moved to a farm that his father purchased at Rt. 6 and Delabrooke Rd., an area known as Scabbletown. Junior attended Margaret Brent High School for 6 years and graduated in 1952. He farmed for two years and held several jobs to include Parlett's (carpentry), farmed at Cremona, farmed at Trent Hall and did carpentry work for Horace (Wiggy) Buckler.

Junior married Ethel Inez Langley on August 3, 1957 at St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church in Benedict, MD. They were married for 56 years and had three daughters, Debbie Johnson (Ray), Sandra Wood (Tony), and Karen Montgomery (John/Monkey). Junior worked for Duke Construction Company for three years, Elmer Bailey for 15 years as his foreman and started his own business in 1976 where he built over 100 custom built homes plus other buildings, garages, etc. He built homes for his oldest daughter Debbie and his youngest daughter Karen and 2 homes for himself. He was a hard worker, never took a sick day and would help anyone, any way he could. Junior loved camping, fishing, reading, watching NASCAR and baseball and his biggest joy was doing things for other people. He loved sitting on his porch overlooking the farm and watching the boats on the water. You could set his watch by his stomach, eating the same

times everyday – 5am – 12pm – 5pm and dessert was a must! Cake, pie or ice-cream. He loved his fruit trees and vegetables fresh out of the garden and canning all for the winter. He was the best dad, friend, and Uncle Junior to many. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers at 7:00 PM at the Mattingley Gardiner Funeral Home in Leonardtown, MD. A mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on August 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM with Father Andrew Royals officiating at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Morganza, MD. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery in Helen, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Junior's nephews and great-nephews: Johnny Cusic, Tom Langley, Gerald Wood, Steve Wood, Jeffrey Raley, Sr., Jeffrey Raley, Jr. Honorary pallbearers are Jimmy Herriman, Raymond Quade and Mark Hughes.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., P.O. Box 37, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

Eddie Russell, 79

Charles Edward "Eddie" Russell, Sr., 79, of California, MD formerly from Mechanicsville, MD passed away on July 29, 2023, in Leonardtown, MD. He was born on

February 7, 1944, in Riverdale, MD, he was the loving son of the late Edith Anna Allen and William Howard Russell. Eddie was the loving husband of Georgia L. Russell whom he married on September 29, 1962, in Seat Pleasant, MD. He is survived by his children Charles E. Russell, Jr. of NC, William A. Russell (Lori) of Wyoming, 11 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren. Along with his brother Allen L. Russell (Rowena) of Huntingtown, MD. He was preceded in death by his daughter Dawn M. Buckler.

Eddie graduated from Bladensburg High School in 1962, and moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 1979. He was an Installer for Tyco International for 50 years, retiring in 2013.

The family will receive friends on Monday, August 7, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. Where a funeral service will be held at 12:00 PM in the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow in Queen of Peace Catholic Cemetery Helen, MD with Deacon Joe Lloyd officiating. Serving as pallbearers will be Charles E. Russell, Jr, Pat Etheredge, Ray Buckler, Ray Buckler, III, Jeff Daye, and Matt Stueckler. Honorary Pallbearers will be Patrick Etheredge and Brandon Etheredge.

Contributions may be made to the Mechanicsville Vol. Rescue Squad P.O. Box 15 Mechanicsville, MD. 20659

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.

Legal Notices

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



Letters to the Editor

ACTS Thanks St. Mary's For Their Support

Your belief in ACTS as a valuable community asset helps us to meet our mission, which is serving those in need of convalescent medical equipment. This includes those living primarily in St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert counties, as we lend out medical convalescent equipment free of charge for 120-day periods.

During the past calendar year, our volunteers recorded over 6,800 hours in serving those who are now a part of our clientele. We are in need of more volunteers to support our efforts, so if you have some time, it would be greatly appreciated. We volunteer in three- and one-half hour shifts Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays.

We were able to provide assistance to 4,485 households and provided 8,418 various pieces of convalescent medical equipment during the past year.

I would like to express our appreciation to all of those who have provided some very generous donations during the year. If you wish to provide a donation, please mail your check to:

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PO Box 54
Bushwood, MD. 20618

Please visit us online (www.ACTS-SMC.org) to find out more about our organization and for a more detail view of the kind of services we are providing to our clients.

Your continued support of ACTS reminds us how fortunate we are to be part of this community.

*Sam Brown, President
A Community That Shares (A.C.T.S.)
Phone: 301-769-4199
Email: Actsmail1@gmail.com*

If you would like to submit a Letter to the Editor, please include your name & town of residence.

Email: aldailey@countytimes.net
P.O. Box 250 Hollywood, MD 20636



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COUNTY TIMES EDITORIAL

The Memory is Not Just the Duck!

By Thomas McKay
Publisher

Leonardtown, MD, a most happy place! This past weekend, some 50,000 or more, visited Leonardtown, and ventured down to the bottom of the hill to put on their "Happy Face".

The joyful faces of children, of moms, of grandmothers, and yes, the guys too, it was a beautiful thing to witness. A celebration of the 15th anniversary of the opening of the Wharf Waterfront Park, a masterpiece for Leonardtown which has been the "Happy Face" of Leonardtown since its inception, hosted the world's largest rubber duck.

The iconic pictures of the Compass Rose and the promenade with its beautiful landscaping and memorialized benches to sit and enjoy the beauty are some of the most published photographs anywhere. Because it is beautiful.

This past weekend was not just about an iconic and excessively large symbol, the Duck, coming to Leonardtown to celebrate the anniversary, this weekend was a full-on display of the character of the town, and the people who have helped create and manifest that character.

First, the citizens of Leonardtown, Leonardtown Fire and Rescue Departments, businesses, and taxpayers within the town. It is not always easy to be the place that is special. It is not always easy to go outside the normal routine to be that place where special things happen. There is extra traffic, roads closed, pedestrians everywhere, people you don't know and places you can't get to, and things that are not so easy to do, simple things like going to the post office.

To share the joy of your little town is one of the greatest gifts a community can offer, and Leonardtown, you do it as well as anyone, thank you.

Second, the Community Volunteers, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department, The County Emergency Management Department, The County Economic Development Department, Visit St. Mary's Tourism, and the business community are always there to support the town. This past weekend, these agencies, the people who make up these agencies, delivered services at a level that proved they are some of the best in the business.

Thirdly, the Leonardtown elected officials, the Mayor, Dan Burris, and the Town Council: Jay Mattingly, Mary Slade, Nick Colvin, Christy Hollander, and Heather Earhart. With limited staff and resources, they have the courage to think big. They have the courage and wisdom to support their small town in ways that are not always easy. There are always those few who criticize everything, and they get their fair

share, but they are resilient, strong, and determined to make a difference. And this past weekend, they all showed their love of Leonardtown. They were all on the ground, working, sweating, helping, serving, doing whatever they could to put smiles on thousands of faces.

And fourth, but certainly not finally, is the staff of public servants that work for the citizens of Leonardtown. They are a small staff that does monster work, all the time. A team of true professionals, talented, hard-working, and always on the ground. There are towns in Maryland with twice the staff that do half the work, and not nearly as well.

This small staff operates a large water system, a large and modern sewer plant, land use and permits department, oversees the careful and creative development of planned communities which are the best in the region, Capital improvement projects large and small, roads, public parks, developed a wonderful winery, an Art's and Entertainment District, Maryland Main Street program, an array of community events, both large and small all year round, hands-on support for local businesses, and so much more.

This past weekend, this team demonstrated above and beyond they are the best value in government services you will find. The entire team showed up, and even though the mission was larger than anyone would have imagined, they did not waver, they did not complain, they did what was necessary and they did what was beyond necessary. They all, as is normal, took on any job that needed to be done.

They represented Leonardtown to people from all over the east coast with pride and professionalism. They worked extra long hours, without breaks, without regular meals, without enough help, but with big, happy, larger-than-life results. They should all be so proud of the Town they serve, and the job they do.

We are blessed in St. Mary's County to have local government staff, both at the Town level and at the County level that serve their community better than most. Together they make our county a wonderful place to live, and a wonderful place to visit, spend a few dollars, and go back home with a "Happy Face". For many of us, we will remember this past weekend not because of the 50,000 or more "Happy Faces" who came to witness the world's largest Rubber Duck, no, we will remember it as the weekend when the small town of Leonardtown lifted itself to the top of the world of "Happy Places".

Editor's note: The Leonardtown Administrator is the wife of the Publisher of The County Times.

Pet OF THE WEEK



MEET MELIODAS

My Promise: I will make you laugh a lot harder, cry a little less, AND SMILE A LOT MORE!

Hi there my name is Meliodas. I may look like a big dog, but I'm only 25 POUNDS! As you can see, the biggest thing I have is my WONDERFUL SWEET FACE! I'm the PERFECT SIZE to travel everywhere with you. My previous owners said I'm a FRIENDLY, HAPPY dog who loves to SNUGGLE up to YOU. I'm only 3 YEARS OLD, I do know some commands, but I've never had a chance to live with other animals yet. Come in to meet me and all the other LOVEABLE pets available for adoption. Adoption hours are Saturday 10am-3pm or 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>



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Shop With a Cop - St. Mary's County

We had another successful Shop With a Cop - St. Mary's County School Supply Event today thanks to all our incredible volunteers, sponsors, and generous donations.

We helped nearly 40 children in St Marys County, MD get school supplies and clothes, totaling close to \$8000.00.

A very special thanks to:

- Fraternal Order of Police - St. Mary's County, MD Lodge 7
- St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office
- Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack
- St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office
- St. Mary's College of Maryland Public Safety
- Office of the Maryland State Fire

Marshal

- Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Natural Resources Police
- Optimist Clubs of St. Mary's County
- Pizza Hotline Charlotte Hall, MD
- VFW Post 2632
- Walmart
- St. John's Summer Program Volunteers
- Shop With a Cop - St. Mary's County Board Members

We look forward to seeing more kids for our Christmas event in December.

If you would like to donate to Shop With a Cop - St. Mary's County, please mail a check to St. Mary's Shop with a Cop, Inc, P.O. Box 2336, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or send via Venmo @SMC-SWAC.



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NAVAL AIR STATION PATUXENT RIVER *News*

PMA-265 Holds Change of Command

The F/A-18 and EA-18G Program Office (PMA-265) welcomed a new program manager Aug. 3 when Capt. Michael “Sniff” Burks relieved Capt. Jason “Stuf” Denney as PMA-265’s 15th program manager during a change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station Patuxent River.

Vice Adm. Francis Morley, Principal Military Deputy for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition), served as the keynote speaker. He described the role of PMA-265 program manager as one of the most demanding and rewarding jobs in the Navy, overseeing the F/A-18 – the backbone of Navy Marine Corps tactical aviation – as well as the EA-18G.

“Under Stuf’s leadership and with the contributions of all of you, PMA-265 exceeded the Secretary of Defense’s mandate of 80% capable by the end of FY19, which was the only platform to do so,” Morley said.

“Stuf, you and your team pioneered the Naval Sustainment System-Aviation (NSS-A) model, and this year surpassed full mission capable readiness rates for the first time in the history of the program,” Morley continued. “You all made great strides in condition-based maintenance...and drastically improved the Service Life Modification

effort, reducing cost per aircraft by about half.”

Morley also shared a message to Denney from Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro.

“I wish to extend my sincere appreciation for the outstanding leadership and professionalism you provided to the United States Navy while assigned PMA-265,” Morley read on behalf of Del Toro. “Your leadership as these aircraft transitioned from production to sustainment has been critical to the continued success of the naval aviation mission. You were instrumental on the development and implementation of the Naval Sustainment System principles currently in use across the Navy. We are fortunate to have such dedicated professionals as you working for the Navy.”

Denney has led PMA-265 since July 2019. Throughout his tenure, he managed an international business portfolio of over \$16 billion, oversaw the successful transition of the Blue Angels from the legacy Hornet to the Super Hornet, led the on-time completion of the first EA-18G Growler capability modification and smoothly accelerated the divestiture of the Navy’s F/A-18A-D legacy Hornet. With Denney at the helm, the F/A-18E/F and EA-18G readiness program won the Aviation Week Overall Excellence Award in 2021.



Burks, a PMA-265 alumnus, will pick up the mantle as the PMA-265 program manager. Among his many career accomplishments, he served in PMA-265 as the F/A-18 E/F deputy program manager, leading the stand-up of NSS-A and Super Hornet readiness recovery. Most recently, he served as the acting vice commander of NAVAIR.

Burks graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1998 with a Bachelor

of Science degree in aerospace engineering and earned his wings in February 2000. He earned a Master of Science degree in systems engineering from Johns Hopkins University in 2007.

PMA-265 is responsible for acquiring, delivering and sustaining the F/A-18 and EA-18G aircraft, ensuring mission success for U.S. Navy and Marine Corps aviators, as well as international partners.



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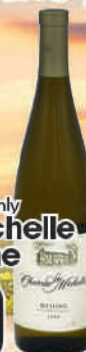
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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

Identity Needed for Theft Suspect

On Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at approximately 4:10 PM, the subject pictured entered the St. Mary's Gas Station, located in Clements. After walking around for a moment, he concealed a bottle of alcohol under his shirt and tucked it into his waistband and then left the store without paying.

The suspect appears to be a white male, possibly in his 30s, with what appears to be tattoos on his lower left arm and left leg.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspects and or this incident is asked to contact Deputy A. Cucinotta #393 at Anthony.Cucinotta@stmaryscountymd.gov or call 301-475-4200 ext. 8174. Case #41290-23

You can also call Crime Solvers 24/7 at 301-475-3333 or send a text to Crime Solvers at 274637.

Type "Tip239" in the message block and select SEND. After you get a response, continue your conversation.

Note: Tip239 is case sensitive and must be typed in the message block as shown.

With Crime Solvers you never have to give your name. If your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a cash reward.



Inmates Charged with Assault

Five inmates at the St. Mary's County Adult Detention Center in Leonardtown were charged with assaulting an employee of the Department of Corrections.

They are:

- Jontae Lamont Parker
- Aubrey Robby Robinson
- Jadon Bardon Somerville
- James Reginald Flanagan
- D'Montre Montez Bush



Jontae Lamont Parker



Aubrey Robby Robinson



Jadon Bardon Somerville



James Reginald Flanagan



D'Montre Montez Bush

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Duck Brought Tens of Thousands to Leonardtown

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For three days last weekend the World's Largest Rubber Duck, also known as Mama Duck, dominated the waterfront at the Leonardtown Wharf, bringing tens of thousands of people into the downtown area along with much-desired-by-local-businesses tourist dollars.

Visitors were not confined to the Southern Maryland area, either. Some came from as far away as Bowie in Prince George's County and Rockville in Montgomery County but also from other states such as Virginia, West Virginia, Virginia, Florida, Connecticut and Arkansas, said Laschelle McKay, town administrator.

The town had expected as many as 10,000 per day but McKay said that rough estimations of attendance far exceeded that number.

"We believe we had 50,000 people over three days," McKay said. "There were times when the entire wharf hill was completely covered in people coming back and forth all day."

During the three days the duck was in town many kept coming to see it even after the hours for visiting had expired, she said.

"We had to deflate the duck to stop people from coming," McKay said.

Inflating the duck was no mean feat, requiring much of the pre-dawn hours to achieve.

Businesses were well pleased, if a bit overwhelmed, by the sheer attendance numbers, McKay said.

Many businesses in the downtown had profits far and above their average business days during the duck's stay in town.

"It actually went tremendously well," McKay said. "A lot of restaurants ran out of food."

"They were just overwhelmed."

Joe Curley, owner and operator of The Rex restaurant and bar on the square, said he had never seen anything like the turnout they had in town for the duck before.

"It was amazing," Curley told The County Times. "I can't believe that many people came."

"I told someone that the rubber duck turned out to be a golden goose for Leonardtown."

Curley said having so many people come to Leonardtown could only help raise its tourism profile throughout the state and

beyond.

"We couldn't have picked a better way to get publicity for us," Curley said. "We were swamped; it was great."

"We're all licking our wounds today."

Ken Held, owner of The Slice House pizza restaurant, said for the first time in four years of operation, he ran out of ice.

Despite being overwhelmed by customer demands at times — they ran out of a Peking Duck special pizza by noon on Saturday — he said he made more money by far than any Black Friday.

"It was beyond my wildest expectations," Held said. "We had our best week ever."

"It was such a home run; it was so perfect in its simplicity."

Town staff, including McKay and Mayor Dan Burris, drove shuttles to take visitors to and from the duck's nesting place at the bottom of the hill and council members were also on hand to assist.

It was an all-hands-on-deck effort by the town.

Vendors of food, drink and duck-related merchandise dotted the wharf property as the throng of people ebbed and flowed up and down the hill on Washington Street; golf carts and gators driven by volunteers shuttled people up and down from the wharf as well.

Many visitors also sported duck-related clothing proclaiming their admiration for the inflatable, yellow, appeared-to-be-smiling waterfowl standing roughly 60-feet tall.

Along with estimates reaching perhaps 50,000 visitors or more for Mama Duck, operators of the shuttles going to and from the attraction said that as many as three-quarters of the attendees were from outside Maryland.

Town Commissioner Mary Maday Slade said the event was a complete success, but it was also a teachable moment for the town.

"I think we learned a lot from this," Slade said. "We learned more about how we want to grow and what kind of events we want to have in the town."

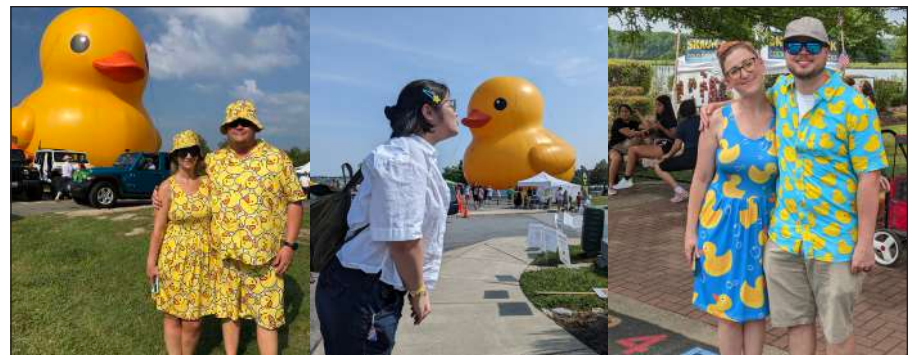
While the event is believed to have brought a tremendous amount of money into the town, Slade admitted the sheer amount of people and effort it took to make it happen was not something the town wanted to try and replicate every weekend.

"It was a headache for residents," Slade said. "But they were OK with it."

The key, she said, was to find those kinds of events that brought real energy to



Crowds make their way down Washington Street to see "Mama Duck." Photo by Ron Bailey.



Visitors came dressed on-theme to take photos with the duck. Photos by Nicole Stewart (L) and the Town of Leonardtown (M, R).

Leonardtown to bring in more people to patronize businesses.

The duck, she said, showed them what was possible and effective to achieve that goal; now the town had to find a balance.

"We need to embrace that," Slade said. "We need to find out what's going to engage people."

She saw parents with their children coming to see the duck and could see the light

in the little ones' faces when they saw the towering inflatable.

It showed that what brought children to town brought their parents as well.

"If something is going to keep my kids engaged, I'll drive three hours to take them to see it," Slade said.

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County Times

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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."

Ranking nearly 24,000 top producers, "America's Best Real Estate Professionals" is the industry's largest ranking of agents based on homes sold.

About RE/MAX 100:

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Inventor Claims Sustainable Energy Breakthrough



Donald Ghogomu, center, with his invention

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A local inventor and scientist with a background in the aviation industry says he has constructed a prototype machine that both uses mechanical energy to produce electricity and uses that same electrical power to produce more mechanical energy.

Essentially, claimed Donald Ghogomu, in front of a small audience at the Lexington Park Library Aug. 5, he has created a generator that sustains itself — he used the term homeostatic — without the use of external fuel such as gasoline or diesel.

"It is a multi-purpose device and it is adapted for both electric vehicles and home use," Ghogomu told to The County Times in making his invention public. "It is the first of its kind in the [United States] and perhaps the world."

"It powers your electric car to run non-stop."

Ghogomu, who lives in Lexington Park, said he got the idea after losing his job and being homeless for a time.

He said he owned a mechanical flashlight with a turn crank on it that, while he was living in his car, inspired him to build what he calls his omni-electric generator.

If his claims are true, it could be a monumental scientific discovery.

Ghogomu, who said he developed the 400-pound generator and battery combination in his Lexington Park apartment last year, believed that he had essentially come

up with a way to solve the world's energy shortage problems.

The group who witnessed the unveiling of Ghogomu's invention were mostly friends and acquaintances of his, some of whom were members of the same Prince Frederick church he attends.

Ghogomu said he was a graduate of the Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology in Tulsa, OK, and that his invention would help solve the problem of constantly needing to recharge electric vehicles.

"No need for external power sources to recharge your batteries or exit the freeway for energy," he said. "This electric generator, unlike most modern generators, does not use fuel/gas, hydro, solar, nuclear, or wind energy."

"It is unique. The first of its kind."

There was no independent review of Ghogomu's device that day at the library, but an acquaintance of his, Wayne Hilliard, was impressed with Ghogomu's invention and presentation.

Hilliard, a U.S. Navy veteran with a background in ordinance technology, said the invention needed to be "analyzed by true professionals in the [green energy] industry."

"Over all it was very informative with regards to the preparation [of the presentation]," Hilliard said.

Ghogomu said that he is pursuing a patent for his invention.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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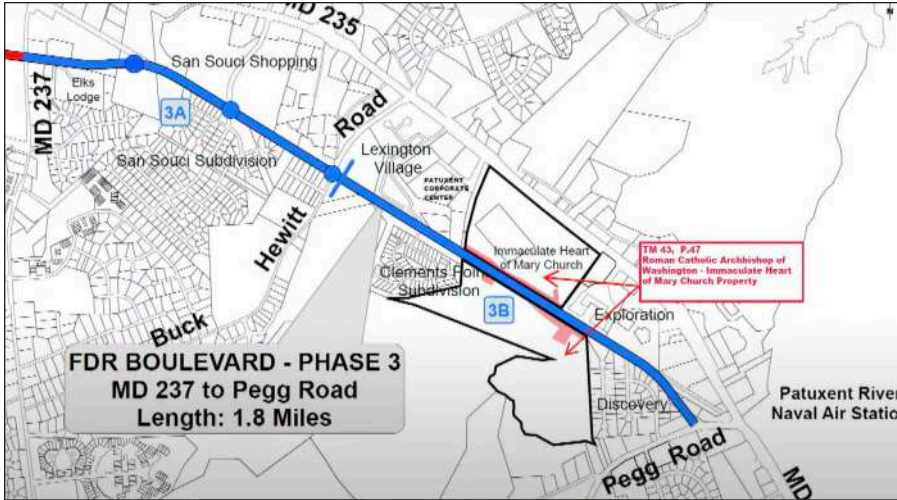
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County Approves FDR Boulevard Acquisition



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As construction continues on the latest stretch of FDR Boulevard — from Chancellor’s Run Road to MacArthur Boulevard — the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County have authorized another deal to purchase more property to allow for the transportation project’s eventual conclusion.

This time the county is acquiring property from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Lexington Park to allow for the future buildout of FDR Boulevard to connect with Pegg Road.

That would place the final piece of FDR Boulevard immediately across from Gate 1 of Patuxent River Naval Air Station, one of the most heavily used intersections in the county.

FDR Boulevard is one of the most needful of projects, county officials have said, and is viewed as vital to reducing traffic congestion on Route 235 by providing a parallel route for motorists.

“This is the largest piece of property on

Phase 3B,” said county public works chief Jim Gotsch at the Aug. 1 business meeting of the county commissioners. “What we’re requesting is \$392,311.”

That money would be used to purchase an undeveloped piece of land currently owned by the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt noted that the easement purchase by the county would effectively bisect the church’s property, which is easily visible from south-bound Route 235.

County planning documents show that there are 23 parcels of land that are required to build Phase 3B of FDR Boulevard and the county had either acquired or where in the process of acquiring 20 or 87 percent, of the land needed

Gotsch told commissioners that neither side of the deal was entirely happy with it but both were able to reach this compromise.

“They wanted more and we wanted to pay less,” Gotsch said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Motorcyclist Killed in Lexington Park Crash

On August 3rd at 4:56pm, deputies from your Sheriff’s Office responded to the area of Three Notch Road and East Rennell Avenue for an accident involving a motorcycle.

Upon arriving at the scene, deputies found the operator of the motorcycle was deceased. The Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to assume the investigation.

Preliminary investigation revealed a 2012 Ford Explorer, operated by Christine Elizabeth Bowling, 38, of Hollywood, was attempting to make a U-turn when she failed to yield right of way to the motorcycle.

The motorcycle, a 2023 Kawasaki ZX636 operated by Jake Alexander Garrett, 28, of Lexington Park, collided with the Explorer, causing Garrett to be ejected.

Garrett was pronounced deceased on the scene. Bowling was transported to an area hospital for treatment. At this time, speed appears to be a contributing factor in the collision.

If you witnessed this collision, or events leading up to the collision, please contact Corporal Shawn Shelko at (301) 475-4200 Ext. 8147 or by email at Shawn.Shelko@stmaryscountymd.gov.

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Mistrial Declared in Murder Case

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In mid-July the trial began for Latres Cockerham, accused in the first-degree murder of 19-year-old Joseph Oakes in a drive-by shooting last year on Pegg Road along with several other defendants.

But a procedural problem brought that trial to an abrupt halt on July 18, court records show.

After a juror passed a note to Judge Amy Lorenzini stating that they knew a witness in the case and had communicated with them — not about the case — because they both shared a place of employment, the judge declared a mistrial.

Cockerham was remanded to the county adult detention center and is set for a new hearing in October and a new trial in May of next year.

Cockerham has been in detention for more than a year awaiting trial.

Along with a first-degree murder charge, Cockerham faces 47 additional charges in the slaying of Oakes.

Sheriff's detectives writing in an application for a statement of charges against Cockerham, show the accused may have been the driver of the vehicle that came alongside the Nissan Rogue multi-passenger vehicle being driven on Pegg Road by Oakes and — from several other shooters — opened fire into the victim's vehicle.

There were five others in Oakes' vehicle the day of the shooting, which sheriff's



Latres Cockerham

investigators say was caught on surveillance footage from one of the cameras in a community on Pegg Road.

One person was wounded and taken to a nearby trauma center, while another was apparently grazed in the leg by a passing projectile, according to charging documents.

The surveillance footage shows the vehicle driven by Oakes passing by the neighborhood on Ronald Drive when another vehicle, a Nissan four door car, drives up beside Oakes' vehicle on the passenger side.

It was then that "multiple subjects" fired into the victim's vehicle, charging papers stated.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Planning Commission to Be Briefed on School Construction

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Next week the county planning commission is set to hear the St. Mary's County Public Schools five-year plan for school construction and renovation; the plan includes information showing that state funding — at least from some sources — for the system's Capital Improvement Plan is likely to dwindle.

Under the state's Built to Learn Act the county school system was initially able to get \$16.3 million but that has been reduced to \$14.9 million, according to school system documents.

Currently the state's share of construction and renovation costs for county schools is 58 percent, but there is some good news for the county.

Schools that have between 55 and 80 percent of their students living in poverty can get a five percent increase in capital funding, while a school with 80 percent or more of its students living in poverty can receive an additional 10 percent in construction funding.

School presentation documents show that

the system has three more years to benefit from the Aging Schools Program at the state level as new legislation will discontinue that funding in 2026.

The school system has received approximately \$50,000 a year in the past, school project documents state, which it has used on several bathroom renovation projects.

The school system report states that they will continue to focus on renovating schools and modernizing them instead of new school construction; student enrollment has not reached sufficient levels to justify building any new buildings.

Eight schools are set for renovation or modernization in fiscal 2025 including Lettie Marshal Dent, Piney Point, Benjamin Banneker, Lexington Park and White Marsh elementary schools and Great Mills and Chopticon high school.

Green Holly Elementary School is scheduled to receive a systemic renovation of its roof and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system that same year.

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“WE BELIEVE WE HAD 50,000 PEOPLE OVER THREE DAYS.”

LEONARDTOWN ADMINISTRATOR LASCHELLE MCKAY ON THE WHARF FEST FEATURING MAMA DUCK



LOCAL 3
Mistrial in murder case



LOCAL 6
Inventor unveils sustainable energy creation



ON THE COVER
Tens of thousands flocked to Leonardtown for Mama Duck

WEEKLY FORECAST

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MON, AUG 14 PM Thunderstorms Hi: 86° Lo: 69°	TUE, AUG 15 Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 65°	WED, AUG 16 Mostly Sunny Hi: 82° Lo: 67°	THU, AUG 17 Mostly Sunny Hi: 87° Lo: 70°



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on Renovations**

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