

An aerial photograph of a large, multi-story building complex, likely a school or government building, featuring a central swimming pool and a marina with several boats docked. The building has a flat roof with numerous HVAC units. The surrounding area includes parking lots with cars and trees.

# Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

[WWW.COUNTYTIMES.NET](http://WWW.COUNTYTIMES.NET)

**School Construction Plan  
Goes to the State**

**County Purchases Land  
for \$1.7 Million**

**Church Buries Unknown  
Colonial Settlers**

**IS REZONING  
RIGHT FOR SOLOMONS?**

# CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS	3	COMMUNITY	6
COPS & COURTS	5	CALENDAR	8

“CALVERT COUNTY HAS MANY SMART FARMERS WHO WOULD NOT BUY A PIG IN A POKE.”

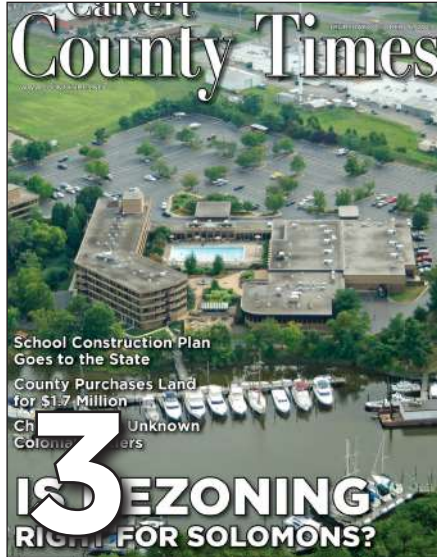
LEN ZUZA OF CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF SOLOMONS ON HOLIDAY INN REZONING



**LOCAL 3**  
County buys Goldstein Family property



**COMMUNITY 7**  
Colonists' remains laid to rest



**ON THE COVER**  
Battle continues over Solomons rezoning

## WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>THU, OCT 26</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 78° Lo: 61°</p>	<p>FRI, OCT 27</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 79° Lo: 58°</p>	<p>SAT, OCT 28</p> <p>Sunny Hi: 80° Lo: 59°</p>	<p>SUN, OCT 29</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 77° Lo: 62°</p>
<p>MON, OCT 30</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 71° Lo: 45°</p>	<p>TUE, OCT 31</p> <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 53° Lo: 41°</p>	<p>WED, NOV 1</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 51° Lo: 35°</p>	<p>THU, NOV 2</p> <p>Mostly Sunny Hi: 55° Lo: 39°</p>

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# Former Holiday Inn Rezoning Headed for Public Hearing

## Planning Commission Decision Comes on 4-2 Vote

By Dick Myers  
Staff Writer

On a 4-2 vote, the Calvert County Planning Commission has decided to schedule a joint public hearing with the county commissioners on a controversial proposal to rezone the former Holiday Inn property in Solomons for a redevelopment project. The decision came at the commission's Oct. 17 meeting.

According to a memo from Zoning Planner Rachel O'Shea, "Planning & Zoning staff received two text amendment application requests from Solomons Island SH1, LLC on behalf of Solomons Joint Venture, LLC. One requesting the base density in the Solomons Town Center D Sub-area be increased from seven dwelling units per acre with use of Transferable Development Rights (TDRs) to 14 dwelling units per acre with use of TDRs. The second request is to allow for multi-family residential units be a conditionally permitted use within the Solomons Sub-district D-1. The application states that the proposed changes will allow for redevelopment of aged and outdated structures, create jobs, and therefore have a positive economic impact and fulfill the need in the community for assisted living and memory care facilities."

The decision on the joint public hearing came after the proposal was distributed for comments from public agencies. O'Shea reported the Department of Economic Development, and the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce supported the proposal, but the Calvert Economic Development Authority (EDA) opposed it. She said the EDA did have concerns about the property sitting idle and underutilized, but "the text amendments could negatively impact the growth of the surrounding areas, and the EDA would like to see the amendments to include more comprehensive planning and development provisions that align with the county's



long-term vision and best interest."

During the discussion, planning commission member Chris Gadway asked O'Shea if staff had looked at other options for the redevelopment of the property without the need for the zoning text amendments. She replied, "No, we haven't. We've looked at ways of reducing what this text amendment covers and putting conditions on it. That hasn't moved forward. We haven't gotten that direction to add any conditions to the text amendment so that it isn't as far reaching as it currently is, but that is certainly an option. The text amendment can be amended so that it's more limited in scope."

When the vote was called for by chairperson Maria Buehler, Gadway and commission member Wilson Freeland voted against it.

The subject then came up during the public comment section when Len Zuza spoke on behalf of the Concerned Residents of Solomons.

He said he saw three sets of problems with the rezoning request. "The first set of problems

relate to the content of the official documents that contain the requested text amendments that would, number one, change the zoning from commercial to residential and increase the density from seven to 14 units per acre. These amendments would allow as many as 140 multi-family units on this 10-acre plot and potentially create an unprecedentedly-high density development that would irreversibly change the character of Solomons."

He then said, "Number two, those requesting this change provided a plan that shows luxury rental units for individuals 55 years and older, a luxury hotel and a memory care nursing unit. However, should you approve these rezonings, there would be nothing to prevent these individuals from changing their minds and requesting to build the high-density multifamily unit development that the rezoning would allow. The county would face serious problems if it tried to prevent any development that was consistent with the new zoning."

Zuza added, "Since when did the Calvert

County Chamber Commerce become a Calvert County agency? I'm not aware of such a legal standing. Why is it that its comments are given more significant weight than those of residents?"

Zuza asked, "Where is the analysis of Calvert departments that could have asked the impact of such a high-density development on county roads, water, sewer, and schools from the requested rezoning? The construction of 140 units at this location would add nearly 300 vehicles right next to the choke point of the access ramp to the Thomas Johnson Bridge. I'm not hearing any discussion about that particular implication of the request to rezone."

He concluded, "The final problem that I have is that I've heard no one address the precedent that approving this request would have in rezoning other parts of the Solomons Town Center (with) similar high-density capacities. Calvert County has many smart farmers who would not buy a pig and a poke. They'd demand to see what they're getting before they die. You are being asked to buy this rezoning despite the fact that you don't know what kind of development you're going to get if you approve these amendments. I've heard those who are proposing this particular change mention several times that they're on the verge of having their property liquidated, losing it through foreclosure. Should that happen, their plans to have the luxury residential hotel, the memory care facility could be thrown out and somebody else could come in and build those 140 units right next to our property where I live in Solomon's Landing.

"At a minimum, you should require county staff to assess the impact of the potential high-density project on critical public facilities and on the character of Solomons before you approve the requested rezonings."

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)

# County Purchases Property from Goldstein Family

## Slated for Public Works Uses

By Dick Myers  
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) has voted to exercise a purchase agreement with the Goldstein family for 142.92 acres of land on JW Williams Road in Prince Frederick. The purchase price is \$1.7 million.

The decision to purchase the property came after a public hearing at the Oct. 23 VOCC meeting at which no one spoke.

Deputy Public Works Director Thomas Jones said at the meeting the property would be used "to enhance public safety at the Barstow Convenience Center and to furnish the Prince Frederick Wastewater Treatment

Plant with an additional discharge area in Prince Frederick." He added on questioning from Commissioner President Buddy Hance that the property could also be used as a site of a water tower.

The property at 255 JW Williams Road is near the College of Southern Maryland Prince Frederick Campus and backs up to property owned by the county on Stafford Road where the convenience center and the Department of Public Works facility are located.

The property was purchased from Philip T. Goldstein, Louisa Horton Goldstein and Margaret Goldstein Janney, family of the late Maryland comptroller and Calvert County legend Louis Goldstein.

Jones reported to the commissioners that

the original option was signed December 13, 2022, and "During the conduct of due diligence, the county discovered the land area was significantly less than expected. The purchase price was reduced to reflect the missing acreage and memorialized in an Amendment to the Option Agreement." The amendment was mutually agreed to by both parties.

Jones said, "A deposit was given when the Option Agreement was signed: \$50,000. Funding is currently available in account: CIP\_000016 Barstow Convenience Center."

The decision to purchase the property was unanimous.

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)



Louis L. Goldstein. Courtesy of Maryland State Archives

# County Signs Off on School Construction Plan

## Includes New Northern Middle School

By Dick Myers  
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has approved sending a letter of support to the state for the school system's Fiscal Year 2025 school construction program. That includes the beginning of funding for a new Northern Middle School that has increased state funding.

In addition to Northern Middle School, the FY '25 plan includes HVAC systemic replacement at Windy Hill Middle School, select HVAC equipment replacement at Plum Point Middle School, wall and select skylight replacements at Plum Point and HVAC equipment replacement at the Mary Harrison Center. The school system has already received funding for several of the projects under a special state grant, but Northern Middle School still must receive approval from the state's Interagency Committee on School Construction, which requires county support.

Commissioner President Buddy Hance noted that the commissioners signing the letter was not a guarantee of county funding.

The request for the Northern M.S. project for FY '25 is \$8,012,000 of which \$3,813,800 is the county share. Total project cost estimate is \$57.2 million.

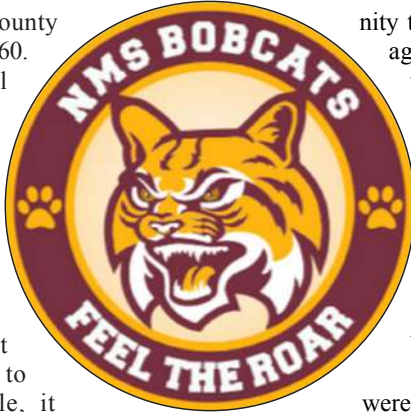
The state share total for FY '25 is

\$9,827,660, and the county share request is \$5,266,960.

Director of School Construction Shuchita Warner explained at the commissioners' Oct. 24 meeting: "Typically our allocation when it comes to CIP from the state averages about \$3.8 million a year. And at that rate, if we were to fund Northern Middle, it would take almost nine years in state funding to complete that project. But because, with legislation, the Build to Learn Act funds are available and have been allocated specifically for Northern Middle, we can actually cash flow and get the project done in a quicker timeframe."

She said because the project is eligible for the additional state funds, "We are getting a commitment of \$33,728,000 from the state. That is a combination of CIP funds and Build to Learn ACT funds, which are about \$13.5 million," adding, "that \$33.7 million is greater than the normal 56 percent from the state."

She said, "The state will kick in another five percent. So, they're giving us 61 percent for this project. This is a rare opportu-



nity that we likely won't get again; what that equates to is basically \$3.3 million additional from the state that we're getting for that project."

Warner predicted that groundbreaking for Northern M.S. is planned for January 2025, with completion by December of 2027.

As the commissioners were told several weeks ago, in order to come up with the needed local funding, a proposed new HVAC system at Patuxent Elementary School has been delayed until FY '31. That drew concerns from Commissioner Mike Hart, and he reiterated them at the Oct. 24 meeting.

Warner insisted that the current system at the elementary school is adequate and also defended putting the replacement in the construction program several years ago based on the system's age, similar to what is done for other HVAC projects.

She said there also could be some savings and life extension by converting the current boiler to a gas operation.

Hart remained unconvinced and when the time came for a vote, he was the only one to oppose sending the letter.

During the meeting, the commissioners also discussed the status of athletic facilities with Warner and school board member Dawn Balinski.

Hart was told the fourth tennis court at Patuxent High School is slated for repair beginning this week.

Warner said the new Northern Middle School project would bid as an alternate two additional tennis courts which along with their existing two could be used by the high school, supplementing their four courts.

Balinski said, "Historically, Calvert County has not concentrated very much on sports. When I finally caught up to that, or the board, about four years ago, we were getting lawsuits against us only having a limited number of tennis courts at Northern High School, and so the board started asking the questions, why aren't we getting input from our athletic directors to help solve this? The level of our inattention to sports has risen to a level where we have finally started putting it into the CIP."

Balinski, who lives in the southern part of the county, said there was no preference in the CIP for north versus south.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

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# CALVERT SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of October 9 – October 15, 2023, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,844 calls for service throughout the community.

## Burglary: 23-73289

On October 15, 2023, S/DFC Ostazeski responded to Vintage Treasures and Used Furniture Store located at 13864 Solomons Island Road in Solomons, for the report of a commercial burglary. Investigation revealed a passerby noticed the door to the store had been broken and called police. Deputies arrived on scene to discover unknown suspects forced entry to the building using a wooden pallet to break the lower pane of glass on the automatic sliding door. Broken glass and several metal pieces were found lying inside the storefront. The building appeared vacant. The estimated value of damaged property is \$900.00.

## Damaged Property: 23-71611

On October 9, 2023, DFC Sturdivant responded to the R&J Liquor Store located at 2797 West Chesapeake Beach Road in Owings, for an alarm call. Upon arrival, Deputy Sturdivant observed the sliding glass window for the drive-thru to be broken. Nothing appears to have been stolen. The estimated value of damaged property was \$3,000.00.

## Damaged Property: 23-72585

On October 12, 2023, Deputy R. Jones responded to the area Sycamore Road and White Sands Drive in Lusby, for the report of a traffic complaint. The complainant advised two subjects were riding dirt bikes on the roadway and on people's property. The dirt bikes have caused ruts and damages that need fixed. The estimated value of damaged property is \$500.00.

## Property Destruction: 23-72211

On October 11, 2023, Deputy Gadwill responded to the 1600 block of Mint Court in Prince Frederick, for the reported burglary that had already occurred. Investigation revealed a window had been broken out of a vacant residence. The estimated value of damaged property is \$350.00.

## Theft: 23-71660

On October 9, 2023, M/DFC Wood responded to the 9100 block of Woodland Way N. in Owings, for the report of a theft from a vehicle. Contact was made with the complainant who advised a vehicle pulled into the victim's driveway at 3 a.m. and a tall skinny male wearing a hoodie entered two vehicles on the property and stole a Coach wallet, credit cards and \$80 in US currency. The estimated value of stolen property is \$85.00.

## Theft: 23-71608

On Oct. 9, 2023, Deputy Newtown responded to the 9100 block of Woodland Way N. in Owings, for the reported theft from a vehicle. Contact was made with the complainant who stated his neighbors contacted him after finding his credit cards laying in the grass. The victim advised his Government issued SIPER token and \$200 in cash were stolen out of the center console. Deputies made contact with a second citizen in the 1100 block of Fawn Lane who had jewelry stolen from their vehicle. A third citizen in the 9100 block of Bear Claw Court in Owings, reported her purse and its contents were stolen from the vehicle. The estimated value of stolen property is unknown. Citizens are reminded to removed valuables from their vehicles, lock your car doors, turn on outside lights, and lock up your home. If you see something, say something.

## Theft: 23-72047

On October 10, 2023, Deputy Smith responded to the 600 block of Mohave Court in Lusby, for the report of a theft from a motor vehicle. The complainant advised unknown suspect (s) siphoned fuel out of the gas tank in one of her vehicles. The estimated value of stolen property is \$45.22.

## Theft: 23-72500

On October 12, 2023, Deputy Gadwill responded to the Fairgrounds on Rt. 231 in Prince Frederick, for the report of a theft. Contact was made with the complainant who advised the rear Maryland registration plate was stolen from his vehicle that was parked in the Fairground lot for sale.



Antwaun Augustus Williams

The theft occurred sometime between Oct. 7 and Oct. 12. The estimated value of stolen property is \$135.00.

## ARRESTS

On October 12, 2023, at approximately 12:35 a.m., DFC Plant observed a large box truck without operable rear tail or marker lamps traveling north on Rt. 4 in Prince Frederick. Deputies recognized this vehicle from a previous traffic stop and advised the driver was suspended and told not to drive. Deputy Plant activated his emergency equipment with lights in his marked patrol vehicle in the area of Huntingtown High School. The box truck continued north failing to stop for marked patrol vehicles with emergency lights and sirens activated. The suspect vehicle was observed traveling at high rates, crossing the white lines nearly striking a guardrail. A rolling road block was successfully executed; the vehicle was stopped just prior to Bright Lane in Owings. The driver, **Antwaun Augustus Williams**, 51 of Capitol Heights, was placed into custody. As Williams exited the vehicle, he was observed to be smoking a cigarette dipped in Phenylcyclohexyl Piperidine (PCP). Williams was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, Fleeing and Eluding and



Marci Bethany Pitt

other traffic related charges.

On October 12, 2023, DFC Plant responded to Fox Run Liquors located at 701 N. Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of a theft.

The complainant advised a female wearing a jacket and pajama pants entered the store and stole a bottle of Canadian Mist Whiskey then exited the store passing all points of sale. The suspect was identified as **Marci Bethany Pitt**, 27 of no fixed address. Pitt was observed on store surveillance placing the bottle inside her jacket. A search of Pitt's person incident to arrest revealed a Phencyclidine (PCP) "dipper" cigarette. Pitt was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was charged with Theft: Less than \$100.00.

*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](mailto:ccsotips@calvertcountymd.gov)*

## Deputies Seeking Driver in Solomons Hit-and-Run

Calvert County Sheriff's Deputies continue to search for the driver involved in a hit-and-run collision involving a bicyclist.

On September 27, 2023, at around 7:56 p.m., deputies from the Calvert County Patrol Bureau responded to the area of S. Solomons Island Road in the area of Langley Lane in Solomons, for the report of a collision involving a bicyclist and a vehicle.

Investigation revealed the bicyclist was traveling north on S. Solomons Island Road equipped with headlights and rear reflectors when the cyclist was struck from behind by a white four-door SUV. The driver of the white SUV did not stop.

According to witnesses on scene, the

striking SUV continued driving north on S. Solomons Island Road and was last seen traveling across the Thomas Johnson Bridge.

Emergency crews responded to the scene and transported the patient to CalvertHealth for injuries received.

The striking vehicle, a white BMW SUV, is believed to be missing the passenger side view mirror cover. Investigators are asking anyone who may have witnessed this crash or possibly has surveillance footage of this incident, to please contact Dep. R. Jones at [Ryan.Jones@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:Ryan.Jones@calvertcountymd.gov). Please reference case: #23-68719.

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# Breast Cancer 5K Raises Record Funds



More than 700 runners, walkers, cheering spectators and volunteers crowded the streets and sidewalks of Solomons in a show of pink for CalvertHealth's 14th Annual Breast Cancer 5K Walk/Run on Oct. 14. Through the combined efforts of sponsors, donors and participants, this year's 5K brought in more than \$102,000 to benefit the Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care at CalvertHealth, which is now a Duke Health affiliate for cancer care. That relationship provides patients in the region with access to cancer research, treatment advances and clinical trials only available at the best cancer hospitals in the country.

CalvertHealth Foundation Trustee and 5K Committee Chair Barry Friedman said, "The 5K is more than just a race, it's an inspirational and encouraging experience for all participants. It spreads an incredible sense of hope and showcases what an amazing community we have here in Southern Maryland." He continued, "These are the moments when our community's spirit shines its brightest." For some, it was a way to show their support for a great cause, but for others, the event has a much deeper meaning. Many came to support a mom, to remember a friend, to celebrate a survivor or to honor a loved one.

Friedman said since its inception, the Breast Cancer 5K has raised more than \$500,000 to support the critical work of the Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care. These funds have helped further the center's mission to provide women and men in Southern Maryland access to an experienced team of breast health experts and the most sophisticated technology available today.

CalvertHealth Foundation Board Chair

Denise Bowman shared her own experience with breast cancer. "We talk about the rates of cancer being higher in our area and I am one of those statistics. I was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer at age 55. But I truly believe that CalvertHealth and its cancer care program can create survivors among all of us. I don't think of the diagnosis. I don't think of the treatment. I think about being a survivor. I think about being able to continue to live my life." Bowman encourages all women to get their annual mammograms, acknowledging that early detection does, in fact, save lives.

The top finisher overall was Carlos Williamson, 16, with a time of 17:52 and in addition to thanking all the participants and donors for their support, on behalf of the 5K Committee, Friedman also extended a special thank you to all 5K sponsors, including Associates in Radiation Medicine; American Radiology Services; Asbury Solomons; Calvert Internal Medicine Group; City National Bank; Sneade's Ace Home Center; COA Barrett, LLC; College of Southern Maryland Alumni Association; Dickinson Jewelers; Dunkirk Vision; 231 Farm & Outdoor Sports; A&W Insurance Services, Inc.; Cedar Point Federal Credit Union; Comfort Keepers; Dr. Ramona E. Crowley, in Memory of Dr. Sheldon E. Goldberg; Empire Graphics; Garner Exteriors, Idea Solutions, Mr. Frank and Mrs. Linda Smith; McKinstry Consulting; Parraid, LLC.; Sam Barbieri Webster Group with RE/MAX United Real Estate; Spalding Consulting, Inc.; The Groat Family; A.H. Hatcher; Dixie Miller and Jim Ritter, In Memory of Jay Sorkin and Betty Ritter; KAIROS, Inc.; RE/MAX One and SMX Tech.



First place overall winner, Carlos Williamson, finished with a time of 17:52.



First place overall women's winner, Madison McCurry, finished with a time of 19:50 and was congratulated by CalvertHealth Foundation Board of Trustee Member Barry Friedman and CalvertHealth President and CEO Jeremy Bradford.

# What's Coming to Calvert

The following list of pending Category 1 site plans was presented to the Calvert County Planning Commission at their Oct. 18 meeting. That means that the proposals are on the list for consideration by the planning commission at a future meeting. The meeting was in a hybrid form, both virtually and in person at the Harriet E. Brown Community Center (HEBCC), 901 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick.

1) CSPR-142807, 655 STR Gymnastics & Dance, located at 655 Skinners Turn Road, Owings, on multiple lots totaling 1.9 acres, zoned light industrial (I-1), using private water and sewer. Proposed 10,800- square-foot building for holding classes in gymnastics (7,400 sf) and dance (3,400 sf). The submitted plan indicates a possible address change due to dual road frontage. The concept submittal was accepted March 23, 2022. Agent: Wilkerson & Associates

2) CSPR-142842, Sunset Terrace Condominiums, Mixed Use, located at 14474 & 14478 South Solomons Island Road, Solomons, on two lots totaling .42 acres, zoned Solomons Town Center. Proposed 19,191-sf, three-story building for mixed use: 1,000 sf commercial retail space and 18,191 sf for eight condominiums with parking and site improvements. This project is on public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted July 27, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

3) CSPR-142856, Solomons Condominiums, located at 14516 & 14518 South Solomons Island Road, Solomons, on two lots totaling .67 acres, zoned Solomons Town Center. Proposed 34,483-sf, four-story building for mixed use: 2,450-square-foot commercial retail space and 32,033 sf for 13 multi-family condominiums with parking and site improvements. This project is in the Critical Area and on public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted July 27, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

4) CSPR-142881, Prince Frederick Town Center South, Shopping Plaza, located on South Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, on 115-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Forest District. This project will have private water but will utilize public sewer. Proposed 75,099 sf of disturbance for commercial retail space with parking and site improvements. The concept submittal was accepted September 28, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

5) CSPR-142988, St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department, located on Calvert Beach Road, St. Leonard, on a 5.076-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Village District Subarea B. This project will have public water but will utilize a private septic system. Proposed 4.1 acres of disturbance for demolition of the existing pavilion and construction of a two-story, 40,280-sf fire & rescue service



building with eight double loaded apparatus bays. The concept submittal was accepted June 28, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett..

The following Major Subdivision Proposed Project List for Upcoming Review was also submitted at the same meeting.

1)SD-142770, Lusby Villas, Lot located on Lusby Parkway in Lusby. One commercial lot proposed on one parcel consisting of 24.87 acres, Zoned Lusby Town Center, Village Residential Office District, Tier I. The Preliminary Plan submittal was accepted January 26, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett

2) SD-142999, Magnolia Ridge, located on Fox Run Boulevard, Prince Frederick, on a 31.29-acre parcel, zoned Prince Frederick Town Center, New Town District and will be served by public water & sewer. Proposed 164 Townhouse Units and 96 Apartments with a density of 8.3 units per acre. The project proposes 3.04 acres of recreation area and 12.58 acres of open space. The Preliminary Plan submittal was accepted August 23, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett

3) SD-142999, Magnolia Ridge West, located at Armory Road and Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, with frontage and access from Dares Beach Road & Armory Road. The project is proposed on multiple parcels totaling 26.30 acres, zoned Prince Frederick Town Center, New Town District. The subdivision proposes 79 townhome TDR lots on 4.58 acres total with a density of 3 units per acre. This project will be served by public water and sewer. A total of 19.47 acres of total open space is provided, including 3.81 acres of proposed recreation area. The preliminary submittal was accepted September 27, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett

*Concept submittals have been removed from this list. There is no assurance that those projects will reach Preliminary Plan status. If/when they do, they will be placed on this list under their Preliminary Plan project number.*

## Maryland Colonial Era Settlers Laid to Rest



In a unique event, the remains of nine unknown settlers of the 1600s were laid to rest in the churchyard of Christ Church in Port Republic, Calvert County on October 14.

The remains of eleven different people, including one small child, an adolescent, two young adults (20 – 29 years) and seven older adults (35 years and older) were recovered by archaeologists in the 1970s from the remains of Calverton (also known as Battle Town), an early colonial settlement on the banks of Battle Creek, off the Patuxent River, in Southern Maryland.

Calverton was the first seat of Calvert County, and a rare 1682 plat of the settlement shows a prison, a courthouse, and a “chappell.” Today, nothing is visible above ground and much of the 20-acre site has succumbed to shoreline erosion over the years.

The remains were taken to Pennsylvania, and it wasn’t until recently that archaeologist and retired Calvert County historic preservation planner, Kirsti Uunila, led an effort to bring back the remains and have them undergo a forensic analysis by

Towson University. Two were deemed to be of Native American ancestry and these remains were returned to a Native American tribe for reburial. The remains of the other nine were of European ancestry and were brought to Christ Church for reburial.

Christ Church, the county’s first church, was founded around 1672 on its current site, not far from Battle Creek, and was very likely the successor to the “chappell” at Calverton on Battle Creek. The current rector (pastor) of Christ Church, the Rev. Christopher Garcia, was “honored to lay these remains to rest once again in our churchyard.” The graveside Committal was adapted from the Church of England’s 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*, the prayer book that would have been in use at Calverton in the late 1600s. The remains were reburied together in one casket, handmade in the colonial style, and donated by Jeff Thompson of Colonial Woodwrights.

*Press Release from Christ Church.*

## Calvert Dad Buying Dream Car with \$100,000 Prize

A Calvert County resident who enjoys playing Powerball and crossword-themed scratch-offs tried his luck recently with the seventh edition of the \$100,000 Crossword game. The player wound up in the Lottery Winner’s Circle, celebrating a \$100,000 top-prize win.

Accompanied by his daughter, the lucky man shared the story of his big win. He bought a total of three \$10 instant tickets at Wawa #591 in Prince Frederick. Initially, he purchased one scratch-off and headed home. When he played the game, the lucky player realized he won \$20. The next morning, the winner found himself in line again at Wawa #591 getting coffee and bought two more \$100,000 Crossword scratch-offs. The first game he scratched won the top prize. The second one was a non-winner.

“I was so excited but I couldn’t show it,” he said. “I didn’t want anyone to know that I won.”

The Southern Maryland resident said he plans to spoil himself with his newfound fortune by buying his dream car, a 1976 Corvette. He will also share the remainder of his prize with his wife and daughter.

Wawa #591 that sold the instant ticket is among several of his favorite Lottery retailers. The store, located at 305 Market Square Drive in Prince Frederick, will receive a \$1,000 bonus from the Lottery for selling a \$100,000 top-prize winning scratch-off.

The \$100,000 Crossword game went on sale in August and now has six top prizes remaining. The game is still packed with other prizes, ranging from 12 \$10,000 prizes down to more than 346,290 \$10 prizes.

## The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter Celebrates Five Years

On Nov. 1, 2023, the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter will celebrate five years of service to Calvert County. The Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter is named in honor of former County Commissioner Linda L. Kelley, who was widely known as a vocal animal rights advocate. On Nov. 1, 2018, the shelter opened its doors to fulfill Kelley’s vision of humane treatment of animals and providing resources to the citizens of Calvert County. Now, five years later, the shelter additionally partners with the Department of Public Safety, Animal Control Division, to provide a broader range of services to the citizens and animals in our community.

Public Safety Deputy Director Crystal Dowd stated, “We thank the community for its unwavering dedication and commitment to our mission. Together, we have made a profound difference in the lives of animals and the people of Calvert County. Here’s to many more years of hard work, compassion, countless lives saved and making a positive impact in our region.”

Since the shelter opened, it has grown in numerous ways. Examples include:

- **Foster and Volunteer Program:** The established program has been instrumental in saving the lives of animals that required round-the-clock care, as well as providing enrichment and socialization of the animals to ensure adoption. It’s a testament to the incredible support received from shelter volunteers.
- **Rescue Partnerships:** Through numerous rescue partnerships, the shelter has expanded its reach and

found loving homes for 1,384 animals!

- **Full-time Veterinarian:** This invaluable addition has allowed the shelter to establish a surgical area where necessary surgeries can be performed on site. This includes spay/neuter procedures, which help control the pet population.
- **Monthly Drive-Thru Free Rabies Clinic:** The shelter offers a monthly drive-thru rabies clinic, ensuring pets in our community receive essential vaccinations that help prevent illnesses.
- **Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) Grant for Spay/Neuter:** The shelter received a grant from the MDA that enables the shelter to provide free spay/neuter services to pet owners who financially would have been unable to obtain the surgery.

In honor of the shelter’s anniversary, and as a token of appreciation for continued community support, the shelter is offering reduced adoption fees of just \$5 for all animals to qualified adopters from Tuesday, Oct. 31, through Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023. To learn more about the adoption process, visit [CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com/3168/Adoption](http://CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com/3168/Adoption).

For more information on the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter and animals available for adoption visit [CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com](http://CalvertCountyAnimalShelter.com).

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

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# Calvert Community Calendar

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

## Thu, Oct 26

### JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Southern Branch  
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons  
10 a.m.-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 device access. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

### Tween/Teen Anime Night

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

A fun night of anime! Tweens/Teens in grades 6-12 invited. Come hang out with friends and other fans of anime. We will watch anime, talk about our favorite manga and sample some books, use art supplies for anime creations, and try some Japanese snacks! -257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

### Witchcraft Halloween Cruises

Calvert Marine Museum  
3 p.m., 4:15 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Stir up a little magic this month with a one-hour Halloween sail aboard the vintage yacht *Witchcraft*. Discover the Bay's most well-loved ghost stories with your spirited crew. Guests are invited to dress in costume and bring their favorite witches brew and snacks. Cost of a ticket is \$40/person; max 6 people per charter. Must be 18 or older to cruise.

## Fri, Oct 27

### Bad Art Night

Annemarie Sculpture Garden  
and Arts Center  
4:30-6:30 p.m.

It's an outrageous night of BAD ART MAKING. 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. \$7/person, members free. Must be 21. Reservations not required, just come. Details: [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org).

### Halloween Drive-Thru

Hallowing Point Park  
4755 Hallowing Point Rd, Prince Frederick  
6:30-9 p.m.

Bring the family to enjoy a drive through the park to enjoy Halloween displays. Various stops along the way will be sponsored by CCPR, local organizations and local businesses. Children up to age 12 will receive a small pumpkin and other goodies while supplies last! FREE, no registration required. Please note: entrance to the park for this event will be from Jibsail Road. FREE. 410-535-1600 ext. 8200

## Sun, Oct 29

### Hound of the Town

North Beach Boardwalk  
9023 Bay Avenue, North Beach  
12-2 p.m.

A costume parade just for dogs and dog lovers! This dog costume parade will take

place on the boardwalk. Owners will walk their furry friends along the parade route where they will be introduced and judged by a panel of judges. The prize categories include: Best Dog Costume, Funniest Costume, Best Overall Hound of the Town, Best Dog/Owner Costume Combo, and Most Original Costume. Prizes will be awarded at the end of the parade. Please note only dogs can be entered in the dog parade! Registration begins at noon. \$10/dog. 443-646-2415

### Boo Bash

North Beach Pavilion  
9023 Bay Avenue  
Registration is from 2:15-3 p.m., panel and judging begins at 3 p.m.

Family fun in North Beach! Children's costume contest (registration 2:15-3:00 p.m. on the pavilion), followed by parade and judging and trick or treating at local businesses. 301-855-6681.

## Mon, Oct 30

### Reading Buddies: Young Readers

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch  
3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

At this event, elementary aged children will do fun activities and read out loud to teen volunteers. Teen volunteers can earn one service learning hour for participating. Reading Buddies is a space for K-5 graders to practice reading in a relaxed and welcoming group! 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

## Tue, Oct 31

### Witchcraft Halloween Cruises

Calvert Marine Museum  
3 p.m., 4:15 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Stir up a little magic this month with a one-hour Halloween sail aboard the vintage yacht *Witchcraft*. Discover the Bay's most well-loved ghost stories with your spirited crew. Guests are invited to dress in costume and bring their favorite witches brew and snacks. Cost of a ticket is \$40/person; max 6 people per charter. Must be 18 or older to cruise.

## Thu, Nov 2

### Sea Squirts: Yoga Whale

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

Children 18 months to 3 years, with an adult, are invited to discover the museum together through music, stories, and special activities. Join us for story time and a craft, available while supplies last. Sessions are 25-40 minutes. The cost is free with museum admission. Sign up at the Admissions Desk when you arrive.

## Upcoming

### American Indian Heritage Day

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum  
10515 Mackall Road, St. Leonard  
Saturday, Nov. 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Celebrate 10,000 years of history and culture with activities, educational demonstrations, native dancers and more! FREE

### "On-Watch" Memorial Service

"On Watch" statue at the end of Dowell Road in Dowell  
Sunday, Nov. 5 -2 p.m.

Join Calvert Marine Museum us in thanking all our veterans for their service at the site of the On Watch Memorial. Refreshments will be served on-site following the program.

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

To be considered for publication, articles and letters to the editor submitted must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. Submissions must be delivered by 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication to ensure placement for that week. After that deadline, the County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.



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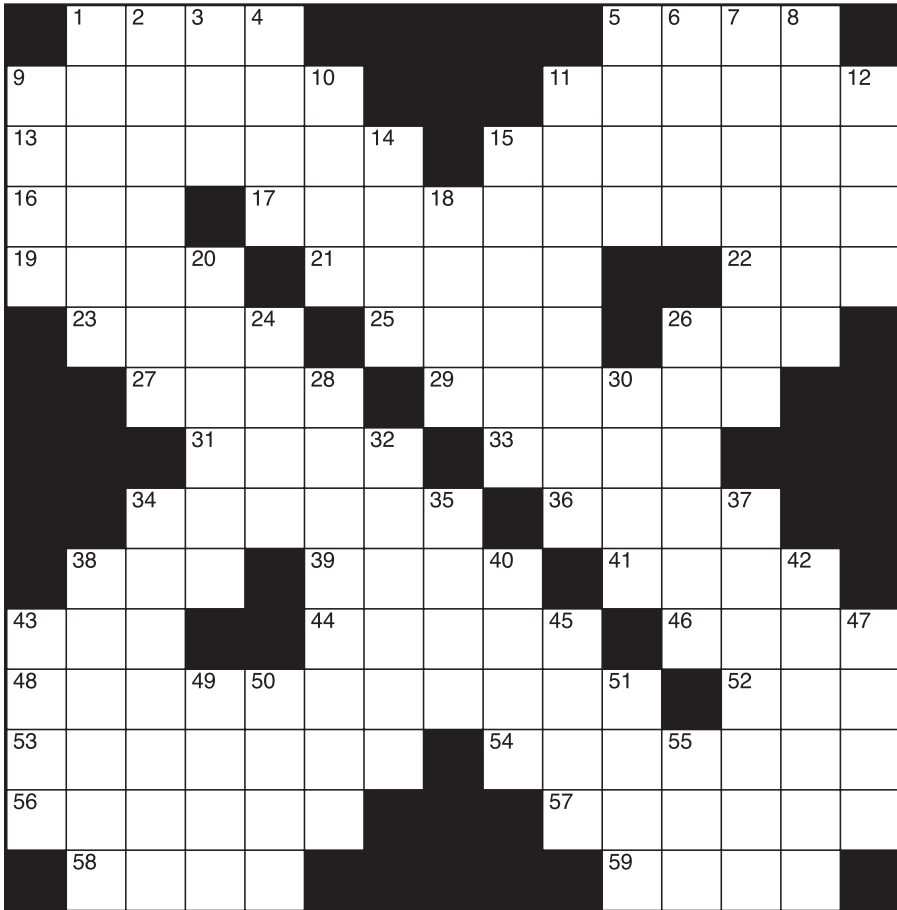
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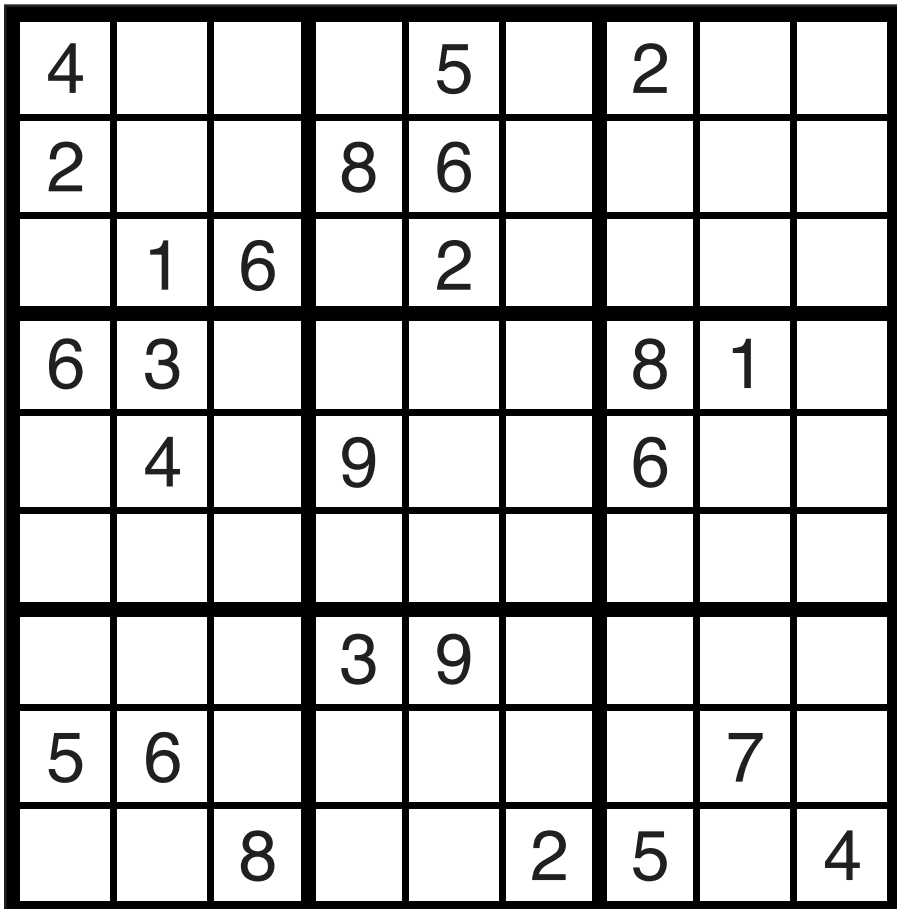


**CLUES ACROSS**

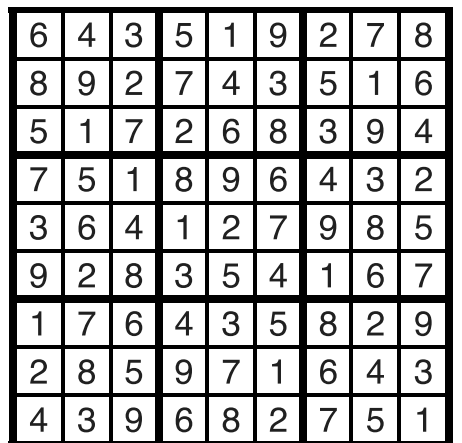
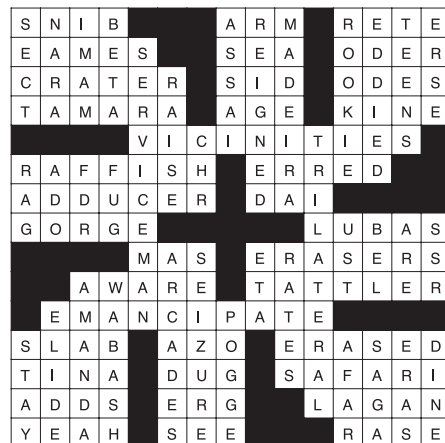
- 1. Male children
- 5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to \_\_\_"
- 9. Unfolded
- 11. Digestive disease
- 13. Wednesday
- 15. Malignant tumor
- 16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
- 17. Slowed
- 19. Letter of the Semitic abjads
- 21. Weights of cars without fuel
- 22. Former CIA
- 23. Asian country
- 25. Instead
- 26. Ancient Egyptian King
- 27. Privies
- 29. Shopping trips
- 31. Paradoxical anecdote
- 33. It's on the table
- 34. Ancient Persia ruler
- 36. Small American rail
- 38. File extension
- 39. Days (Spanish)
- 41. Everyone has one
- 43. South American plant
- 44. About ilium
- 46. Vanished American hoopster Bison
- 48. A type of breakfast
- 52. Uncooked
- 53. Examined
- 54. Christian recluse
- 56. Strong posts
- 57. Some are for pasta
- 58. Skinny
- 59. School-based organizations

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Ringlet
- 2. Type of complex
- 3. Midway between north and northwest
- 4. It becomes something bigger
- 5. German courtesy title
- 6. Genus of birds
- 7. Marked by public disorder
- 8. Least aggressive
- 9. Russian city
- 10. Insect repellent
- 11. Interruptions
- 12. Scoundrels
- 14. 1,000 calories
- 15. What one does overnight
- 18. Dwarf planet
- 20. Pipe
- 24. Black powdery substance
- 26. Set of four
- 28. Canned fishes
- 30. North Carolina college
- 32. Secured
- 34. A disgraceful event
- 35. Physical suffering
- 37. The home of the free
- 38. Some are boys
- 40. Satisfy
- 42. Makes very happy
- 43. South American plants
- 45. Modes of transportation
- 47. Female sheep
- 49. Type of torch
- 50. Piece of merchandise
- 51. Jump over
- 55. Wife of Amun



**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**



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2005 Harley Davidson Road King  
1998 Heritage Springer  
1988 Corvette L-98



1980 Toyota Tow Truck (8000 original miles)  
2011 Corvette Grand Sport Coupe ZR1 package  
1996 Corvette Collector's Edition (1700 original miles)  
1969 COPO Camaro Replica (496 engine, 4 speed)  
2018 Lexus LC500 (14,000 miles)  
1937 Chevrolet Tow Truck  
1940 Packard Business coup V8 Chevy Power  
1969 Chevelle SS (396 engine)  
1966 Chevy II 434 stroker (9 inch full tub rear)  
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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](mailto:timescalendar@countytimes.net) with the listing details by 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication.

## Fri, Oct 27

### HomeSpun CoffeeHouse Open Mic

37494 Zach Fowler Rd, Chaptico  
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Acoustic musicians of all skill levels are warmly welcomed to perform a few of their favorite tunes, beginning promptly at 7:30 PM. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Admission is \$8; performers are admitted free of charge.

Contact Chris Dudley in advance at [ccdudley@rocketmail.com](mailto:ccdudley@rocketmail.com) to sign up to perform. Visit [www.smtmd.org](http://www.smtmd.org) for directions and more information.

### The Haunting at Piney Point: A Family-Friendly Halloween Exp

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum  
44720 Lighthouse Rd., Piney Point  
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Take a walk through the maritime museum building at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum—IF you dare! For two nights only, our wooden watermen boats that once plied the waters of the Potomac and Chesapeake transform into haunted pirate galleons, and the local “after-life” wildlife have come out to play.

This self-guided Halloween-themed

tour is FREE to the public and appropriate for ALL AGES. Exhibit features mild Halloween fun with low lighting and spooky sounds, but no gore, jump scares or any other shock value. Stairs are present in parts of the museum, but the rest of exhibit is wheelchair accessible.

The main museum building will remain open for restroom use and giftshop purchases. Rips Hotdogs will be on site Friday, October 27th offering food and snack options after the experience.

For more information, please call 301-994-1471 or visit [fb.me/e/ebxQ5KLug](https://fb.me/e/ebxQ5KLug)

## Sat, Oct 28

### SMCPS 8th Annual STE(A)M Festival

St. Mary's County Fairgrounds  
42455 Fairgrounds Rd., Leonardtown  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event aims to build awareness of STEAM education and STEAM-related fields and careers. Featuring hands-on activities and experiences for families within St. Mary's County, this year's theme is STEM-ertainment. The SMCPS STEAM Festival will be held Saturday, October 28th, from 10:00-2:00 at the St. Mary's County

Fairgrounds. This event is free and open to the public. All ages are welcome!

### Bluegrass For Hospice

Flat Iron Farm  
45840 Flat Iron Rd., Great Mills

Bluegrass festival to benefit St. Mary's Hospice. Featured bands include Danny Paisley and The Southern Grass, Junior Sisk Band, Jay Armsworthy and Easter Traditions and many more.

For more information call Jay Armsworthy at 301-737-3004.

## Wed, Nov 1

### Leonardtown Mayor To Speak

The Olde Breton Inn  
21890 Society Hill Rd., Leonardtown  
Dinner at 7:00 pm, speech at 7:30 pm.

Hosted by the Leonardtown Lions Club. Mayor Dan Burris will speak on the State of Leonardtown what is going on in Leonardtown and where we are headed in the future.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call Frank Nuhfer at 301-904-8140.

## Sat, Nov 4

### An Autumn Evening in Chaptico

Christ Church Pavilion Hall  
37497 Zack Fowler Rd  
6 p.m.

Music, Dinner and Silent Auction! \$50 a person includes music by *GrooveSpan*, a Surf and Turf dinner with all the trimmings and a Silent Auction. Call 301-884-3451 to reserve your spot!

In person music by GrooveSpan, Surf and Turf Reserve @ 301-884-3451

## Ongoing

### Seniors Dancing for Wellness

Clagett Hall  
15837 Prince Frederick Rd., Hughesville  
Every Third Thursday of the Month  
4:30 to 8:30 pm

Hand Dancing, Line Dancing, Freestyling Dancing to Old School Music at its BEST! Admission: \$10. BYOL and BYOF

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# St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

## Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1658  
Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 1080  
Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 3101

Unless otherwise specified, all activities are open to Senior Activity Center participants ages 50+. Please call your local Senior Activity Center or visit [StMarysMD.com/aging](http://StMarysMD.com/aging) for the most up-to-date information.

### Medicare Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment for Medicare Part D prescription drug plans will continue through December 7, 2023. By now, everyone enrolled in a Part D drug plan should have received their 2024 annual notice of changes, which states the changes in premiums, co-pays, and Extra Help status. To compare your options for 2024 visit [Medicare.gov](http://Medicare.gov).

If you need assistance call one of our SHIP Counselors at the Northern Center 301-475-4200, ext. 3104; Loffler Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1654; or Garvey Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1064.

Assistance with the cost of Medicare

Part D drug costs is available through the Maryland Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program and the Social Security Extra Help Program.

### Veterans Resource Day

The Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to host Veterans Resource Day on Friday, Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the University of Maryland – Southern Maryland, located at 44219 Airport Rd, California, MD.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will be on site from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. to answer questions and assist with claims processing!

NEW! Chromebooks will be available for

qualifying households! For more information, visit <https://www.stmaryscountymd.gov/IT/LaptopGrant/>

There will be more than 20 organizations serving veterans on-site. Join us for a presentation!

- Protecting Yourself Against Fraud & Identity Theft  
Presented by Navy Federal Credit Union 10-11 a.m.
- Learning about Service Animals  
Presented by MK9 Service Dogs 12:30-1:30 p.m. – NEW TIME

Free lunch will be provided at 12 p.m. by Mission BBQ.

This event is free and open to the pub-

lic. Veterans, active service members, their friends, and their families are all welcome to attend Veterans Resource Day.

Do you want to skip the registration line? Register online at [www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging/veterans/](http://www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging/veterans/)! Online registrants will be eligible for a special prize! Online registration closes at 12 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2.

Many thanks to our generous event sponsor: SMECO!

For more information, contact Sarah Miller, Community Programs & Outreach Division Manager, at 301-475-4200, ext. 1073, email [sarah.miller@stmaryscountymd.gov](mailto:sarah.miller@stmaryscountymd.gov).

# ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### The Discovery Of St. Mary's Fort With Travis Parno

Join Travis Parno with a presentation on St. Mary's Fort at Charlotte Hall Library on Friday, October 27 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Registration is required on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). In the spring of 1634, approximately 150 European colonizers arrived on the shores of what is today the St. Mary's River and gave the land they claimed the name "Maryland." Within days, they began construction of St. Mary's Fort, a wooden fortification that would be their home for the next eight years. The archaeological remains of St. Mary's Fort lay hidden until recently. In this presentation, Travis Parno, Acting Executive Director of Historic St. Mary's City, shares the story of the re-discovery of St. Mary's Fort, highlighting the latest finds from the dig site. Artifacts recovered from the excavations will be available for viewing.

### Native Plant Swap and Seed Swap: at The Front Yard

If you're new to gardening with native plants, this event is the place to get started! Meet and chat with native-plant enthusiasts, view native plants in the Front Yard gardens, and take home free plants and seeds at Leonardtown Library on Saturday, October 28 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. If you're an experienced native gardener, please spread the joy

by bringing your favorite plants and seeds to swap and share. Strange as it sounds, we're trying to prevent the spread of invasive jumping worms, so please follow these simple steps when bringing your plants to the event:

- Dig up your plants.
- Shake the dirt off the roots.
- Gently rinse the roots clean.
- Label each plant (include the botanical name if you can).
- Bring them to the Swap & Share in a bucket of water or wrapped in wet paper and tucked in a plastic bag.

For more information, contact Liz Curtzi, Friends of St Clements Bay, at [curtzeli@gmail.com](mailto:curtzeli@gmail.com)

Participating partners include St. Mary's County Master Gardeners, St. Mary's County Master Naturalists, Butterfly Alley and Friends of St Clements Bay.

### Making Bricks in Colonial and Early Republic Maryland

Dr. James Gibb will present on the topic of historical brickmaking, with a special focus on what bricks can tell us about Maryland history in a virtual discussion on Monday, October 30 from 7- 8 p.m. Occasional loads of brick were imported into Colonial Maryland, but most were made locally, often on the building sites for which they were intended. This illustrated presentation describes pre-industrial brickmaking, the products recovered archaeologically, and the kinds of

information we can glean about the past from these seemingly banal, but varied building blocks of Maryland history. Register on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org) with an email address to receive the Zoom link the day before the event.

### Writer's Survival Kit

With NaNoWriMo just around the corner, this bag of goodies will help prepare you to write that 50,000 word novel, or for any other writing you may have to do, in the next 30 days. Every writer knows the struggle to create the perfect literary creation and National Novel Writing Month, especially, can drive any writer insane. This kit has been designed to help with that. Contents will include writing prompts and exercises, information on local writing events and groups, recommended reading lists (including nonfiction books on writing, memoirs by authors, and finished NaNoWriMo novels), inspirational goodies, and other fun things to bring a smile to your face when the writing gets you down. This kit will be available to be picked up at any of the 3 St. Mary's County Library branches on November 1. When registering, please indicate which branch you would like to pick-up at. Register for your kit on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

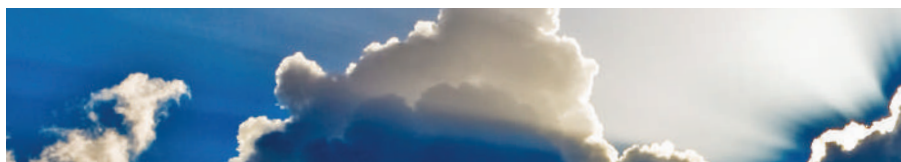
### St. Mary's County Library Closures

All three locations of the St. Mary's County Library will be closed on Friday

and Saturday, November 10 and 11 in observance of Veterans Day. In addition, Lexington Park Library will be closed Tuesday, October 31 through Thursday, November 2 for HVAC work. Our other locations will be open normal hours on those days.

### Thanks! It Has Pockets!: An Introductory Sewing Class

Have a skirt, dress, kilt that you love, but it doesn't have pockets? Learn how to add your own! Bring a garment to work on and we'll provide the rest on Thursday, November 2 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Leonardtown Library. Register on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). This will be a hand-sewing based program rather than a machine-sewing one. Sewing skills are not necessarily required, though they will help you with the process. We will go over all the steps needed to add your own pockets to your clothing so that you will never find yourself lacking somewhere to put your phone, wallet, keys, etc. Needles, thread, and fabric for the pockets will be provided. Just be sure to bring your own clothing item to work on. We highly recommend you select a garment that you are not extremely attached to, in case of any accidents. Items with side-seams may be easier to maneuver your first time, though we will go over how to add pockets to items with or without them.



The family will receive friends on Friday, October 27, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by Reverend Ryan Braam at 11:00 a.m., at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church, 43950 Saint Johns Road, Hollywood, MD 20636. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery, 38888 Doctor Johnson Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659. Celebration of Life will take place after the services at 26835 Three Notch Rd, Mechanicsville, Md 20659

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Michael's name to Johns Hopkins Neurology.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Wallace Young, 85**



Joseph Wallace Young Sr., 85 of Mechanicsville, MD, departed his life on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at home surrounded by his loving family.

Wallace was born on July 17, 1938 in Helen Maryland. He was the son of the late James H. Miles and the late Mary T. Young. He was raised by his mother Mary Young and his step father, William E. Young Sr. Wallace was affectionately known as Gator, a name given to him by his aunt Rosetta Young.

Wallace received his education at St. Joseph Colored School in Morganza, Maryland. Wallace spent most of his life working on the farm with his cousin George Young, who was like a brother to him. After graduation Wallace went to work for St. Mary's County Public Schools. He was a custodian at Margaret Brent Middle School. Wallace later went to work at Scheibel Construction Company, where he was affectionately loved. Wallace had an exceptional work ethic, no matter what the job was and then later retired at the age of 65.

On December 20, 1959, Wallace married the love of his life, Agnes M. Hill. From their union they had ten children. They honored God when he said "Be fruitful and multiply". They were more than husband and wife they were best friends and dancing partners. Though Wallace was weak and found it hard to breathe, he asked Agnes if she knew him. She replied "of course I know you; we've been married for 65 years with a soft whisper." Wallace replied, "And it's been a good 65 years."

Wallace was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He loved life and family and wasn't ashamed to show it. He looked forward to family gatherings with a houseful of children and grandchildren. Wallace enjoyed playing horse shoes, drinking his VO. Wallace was also a member of the Bee Bobbers Band, where he played the guitar. It was said he plucked

a mean guitar and even appeared with the band on American Bandstand. Wallace was a celebrity. Wallace was also a longtime member of the Horse Shoe Social Club.

Wallace is preceded in death by his parents, William and Mary Young, and James H. Miles Sr. Daughters, Mary and Faye Young, sisters, Mary T. Courtney, Delores Young and Mary Miles; Brothers James Miles Jr., and John E. Miles; (Aunts) Rosetta Young, Lucille Young and Louise Holt; Grandmother and grandfather Cecilia and James Reed; One uncle, George A. Young; two sister -in-law, Bernice Young and Sarah Scriber and three brother-in-laws James P. Courtney II, Walter Mitchell, Ditty Scriber.

In addition to his beloved wife Agnes, Wallace is survived by his daughters Agnes L. Young (Joe Dorsey), Veronica A. Mills (Desales Mills), Jacqueline J. Duodu (George Duodu) and Renae Young. Wallace has fourteen grandchildren; twenty-five great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

(Sons) Joseph W. Young Jr., David Young (Barbara Young), John P. Young (Melissa) and Jamie Young.

Sisters, Patricia Phillips (Pete), Maxine Stewart (Donald), Diane Mitchell, Charlene Herbert (Paul), Janice Broome (Joseph), Barbara Golf and Donna Owens, Brothers, Robert Young (Bernice) and William Young, Jr. (Darlene Young).

Sister-in-laws Cecelia Hill, Elsie Hill, Ann Hill, Ruth Hill, brother-in-law Joseph Hill

Wallace may be gone but never forgotten. He leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 8:30AM to 9:30 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 10:00 AM in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Morganza, MD with Father Drew Royals officiating. Interment will follow in Queen of Peace Catholic Cemetery, Helen, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be John P. Young, Larvell Herbert, James Chase, Jr., Robert Young, George Duodu, and Jonathan Miles. Honorary Pallbearers will be Eric Chase, Darnell Miles, Kelly Holt, and Thomas Scriber.

The Young family wishes to thank Father Drew, Hospice and each of you for the many acts of kindness shown during our time of bereavement. We thank you for all the many acts of love, the many calls, cards, flowers, visits and prayers.

A special thank you to Wallace's amazing caregiver, Mary Baker, words can't truly express our love and gratitude for the many months of care and support you provided for our loved one. Your kindness and attention and becoming his dear friend means the world to us and we're truly grateful.

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

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

# Southern Maryland Online



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# In Remembrance

To schedule an obituary in the County Times, submit text and picture to [aldailey@countytimes.net](mailto: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.

## Liz Abell, 88



Mary "Liz" Elizabeth Abell grew up in Ridge, MD, and graduated from St. Michael's High School. On 11 June 1960, she married the love of her life, Robert (Bobby) Benedict Abell in a

beautiful mass celebrated at St. Michael's Church in Ridge. The couple spent 62 wonderful years together, which resulted in three lovely children, Robert Tracy Abell (Laurel) of Bel Air, MD, Kenneth (Kee) Warren Abell (Juanita) of Mechanicsville, MD and Mary Lynn Abell Lowe (David) of Ridge, MD, along with 15 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Liz worked at St. Michael's School for many of her early years as a 2nd Grade teacher and substitute teacher. She was adored, respected and loved by her students and enjoyed seeing them later in life talking about the wonderful memories. She would be stopped by students asking her if she remembered teaching them at St. Michael's, exclaiming, "She was my 2nd grade teacher. She was awesome". In addition, Liz was a lifetime member of St. Michael's Church in Ridge, MD and a longtime member of the

St. Michael's Ladies of Charity.

Liz was also a homemaker and loved spending time with family and friends, going to dances, playing cards and watching baseball games. Most important in her life was her loving husband, her family and her many pets, especially her two Shih Tzu's, Smoke and Angel.

Liz was a wholly devoted wife and an amazing mother. Her loyalty to her family was unmatched. She was faithful to her religion and lived her life with honesty and integrity. She radiated both strength and warmth, and was a source of refuge for both her family and her friends. She will be missed immensely.

Liz was preceded in death by her husband Bobby in 2022, and her parents, Henry Warren and Mary Catherine Delozier. She is survived by her children, Tracy, Kee and Lynn, many grandchildren and great grandchildren, along with sisters-in-law, Peggy, Mary Vanna, Joanne, and Patty and brothers-in-law, Joe and Eddie.

Pall bearers will be Tracy Abell, Kee Abell, David Lowe, Josh Abell, Matthew Abell, Scott Abell, Jimmy Hamilton and Timmy Tennyson.

Family will receive friends for Liz's Life Celebration on Monday, October 30, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with prayers recited at 7:00 p.m., at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 16566 Three Notch Road, Ridge,

MD 20680. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev. Peter Giovanoni on Tuesday, October 31, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., at St. Michael's Church. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 456, Ridge, MD 20680 or St. Michael's Church, P.O. Box 429, Ridge, MD 20680.

Condolences to the family may be made to [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

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

## Michael Mills, 63



Michael Patrick Mills, 63 of California, MD passed away on October 12, 2023 at his home with his wife and daughters by his side.

He was born on April 1, 1960 in Olney, MD to James Aloysius Mills and Betty Lee Coffman Mills.

Mike was one of the most genuine people and had a true love of life. Above all else, he was a family man and his faith in God was ever present. Mike was one of a kind and will always be remembered for his ability to make people laugh and make

a positive impact in the lives of others. He was active in coaching his daughters, especially in softball, and found joy in helping others. He will forever be remembered as a legend and his legacy will be carried on by his family and friends.

Michael is a 1978 graduate of Damascus High School and a graduate of Montgomery College, earning an Associate's degree in business management. On August 14th, 1982, he married his beloved wife, Mary Melissa Mills, at St. Mary's Church in Barnesville, Md. Together they celebrated 41 wonderful years of marriage. He was employed as the Facilities Manager at Hewlett Packard.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mary; daughters, Tiffany Ann Mills (Rob) of Virginia Beach, VA, Lauren (Lolli) Melissa Mills (Darren) of Hollywood, MD, Kelsey Lynn Wilkerson (Christopher) of Waldorf, MD and bonus son Jonathan Dwyer (Carey) of Silver Spring, MD; siblings, James Aloysius Mills, Jr of Hebron, MD, Pamela Bradford and husband David of Hebron, MD, Thomas O. Mills, Esq. of Frederick, MD, Christopher E. Mills and wife Diana of Delmar, MD and Samantha Mills of Hebron, MD. Michael also leaves behind many nieces and nephews and eight grandchildren; Kamryn, Jayden, Paige, Emma, Jack, Vera, Tyus and Quincy. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Patricia Berard.

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**Sell it - Buy it at Auction**

**Grocery Auction - Hughesville VFD/EMS**

Saturday, November 4, 2023 - 5 pm  
Hughesville Vol. Fire Dept. - Hughesville, MD

### Online Collectible and Estate Auction

Advertising Signs/Items • Maritime Items • Oyster Cans • Blacksmith Forge, Anvil • JD Riding Mower (X534, 300 hrs) • (3) Snowblowers (Honda Hybrid, John Deere, Toro - all like new) • Chipper/Shredder • Oak Living Room Set (nice) • Dining Table, China Cabinet, Buffet • Local Books/Items • Oyster Knives • Tobacco Spears • Vintage Lights • Hunting Stands & other Items • Corning Ware • Holiday Items • Costume Jewelry • Vintage Coke, Pepsi Coolers • Tools • Household Items • More

Online Auction Opens: WED, NOV. 1, 2023 (may open earlier)  
In-Person Auction Preview: FRI, NOV. 3, 2023 - 3 pm to 7 pm.  
Online Auction Closes: WED, NOV 8, 2023 beginning at 6 pm.

Check Website or Facebook frequently for updates & pictures.  
[www.FarrellAuctionService.com](http://www.FarrellAuctionService.com)

### Stauffer Brothers Community Public Auction

Saturday, November 11, 2023 - 8 am  
41400 Friendship Court, Mechanicsville, MD  
(Assisting Randy Ridgely and others for this large community auction.)

[www.FarrellAuctionService.com](http://www.FarrellAuctionService.com)

**301.904.3402**



# A View From The BLEACHERS



## THE SANCTITY OF COMPETITION

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

Remember when humans made telemarketing calls? The next-level annoyance of the computer voice on the other end of those calls now makes one nostalgic for the uninvited, person-to-person contact of yesteryear. Or what about when phones couldn't suggest finishing words to text messages? Or when homes lacked voice-commanded doohickies that could change the television channel or settle a trivia argument with a spouse? How about stubborn automated phone trees for everything from a doctor's office to a credit card? Good luck circumventing these tangled systems to reach a live human. And remember to listen to the message in its duration because "Our menu options have recently changed." Being lost in a corn maze has nothing on the hopelessness of a phone maze.

As for the writing craft, I do wonder what the future holds. Perhaps it is time for a disclaimer to accompany this column: every single word you are reading was generated by a human (me). No ChatGPT here, my friends. Never. Ever.

Professional integrity aside, artificial intelligence has arrived, and it promises unreconcilable change: a mind-scrambling coexistence of fantastic improvements, random frustrations, amazement (how far we've come) and fear (too far?). As George Will once said, "The future has a way of arriving unannounced." And here we are.

Sports remain largely an analog-based respite from technology. Sure, much has changed – how games are played, in-game communications, advanced statistics, athletic and orthopedic improvements, and the consumption experience (high-definition television, high tech stadiums, go anywhere viewing on handheld devices) – but sports are still about getting the better of the opponent on an individual or team level. Did the ball go in the basket? Was the puck buried in the net? Was the ball barreled up at it crossed the plate? The scoreboard is final judge and jury. It is raw, unpredictable and fantastic.

At the heart of sports' allure is the sanctity of the competition itself – that unequivocal belief in the authenticity of the combatants' struggle. Without that, sports dissolves into nothing more than a charade. The Big Lie, to steal from today's toxic political parlance. Something far worse than professional wrestling, fake reality television and faux live music concerts.

It would be nice to report that such violations of trust never happen. Nice just left the building, though, if it ever was present to begin with. As with most things involving our species, the lure of fame, fortune, legacy and power has, on a few occasions, caused the integrity of sports to be recklessly peddled. Quickly scan any moment in history and this is clear: hubris and greed are pervasive flaws.

A few of the 1919 Chicago White Sox (Black Sox scandal) sought a pay day. The New England Patriots (Spygate), the steroid users of the late 1990s/early 2000s and the 2017-ish Houston Astros (sign stealing) sought a competitive advantage. Who knows what Pete Rose (betting on baseball) was thinking. The famous are now infamous. All wear a scarlet letter, their legacies graced with a well-earned asterisk.

Unfortunately, that dubious fraternity may have another member.

The University of Michigan football team, a speed bump on Ohio State's path to the Big Ten crown no more, is now the conference's elite team and squarely in the national title conversation. With head coach Jim Harbaugh already under NCAA investigation and fresh off a self-imposed three-game suspension, the compliance hawks have returned to Ann Arbor amidst allegations of illegal sign stealing. Pulling from a familiar damage control playbook, Harbaugh has denied any knowledge and a lower-level staffer has been suspended. That we're left to trust the NCAA, not exactly a bastion of business ethics, to deliver justice only intensifies the stench of this situation.

Beside holding our noses, where does that leave sports fans? Simply to digest another alleged episode of remarkable arrogance. What was the impact of Michigan's willful disrespect for competitive integrity? Like the Astros and Spygate, there was certainly some. So much for sports being a safe space from artificial intelligence. In a traditional sense, it is; but when it comes to nefarious information gathering, humans can be as troubling as the machines they create.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

# The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Puppy drum are still schooled up in the Patuxent and are eager to hit cast jigs. Remember, they must be 18 inches to keep; release gently.

By Ken Lamb  
Contributing Writer

Hold on to your fishing rods! We have a week of summer lined up for the last of October! The fish should be on a tear to feed up before the cold comes back. This week's forecast promises near 80 degrees for highs with lows near 60; light winds from the southwest; a delicious mixture.

Rockfish are plentiful for trollers and lure casters. Shore fishermen are finding eager stripers at dusk and dawn in the shallows. Stick baits, bucktails, jigs heads with paddle tail plastics and BKD's will all produce on running tides. Jiggers at slack tides can find keeper reds and stripers on the Patuxent River Bridge pilings. Trollers in the Patuxent

and Potomac find stripers at all water depths hitting small tandem rigs, single lures, and smaller umbrellas. The fish range from 22 to 30 inches on average.

The bottom fish are still active in the mouth of the Patuxent. Capt. Bernie out of Solomons (301-672-3282) scored on a cool, windy day last Friday. He is not booked this Sunday (get 'em while you can).

White perch are in the creeks and rivers.

Crabs are still acting like it's the Fourth of July.

The bass, pickerel, and crappie are active in St. Mary's Lake and farm ponds.

Let's go fishing on this gift of fabulous weather in this late season. Everything will be iced up soon enough!

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS PARTY!**

SATURDAY, OCT. 28TH  
9:00 PM - CLOSE

FEATURING  
DJ SAMMY SAMMZ

**BRÜ** ++

BRUDERGARTEN BEER GARDEN  
22725 DUKE STREET, LEONARDTOWN

**DJ SAMMY SAMMZ & DANCE FLOOR**  
9 PM

**PRIZES FOR SUGAR SKULL FACE PAINT CONTEST**  
10 PM

**SIGNATURE COCKTAIL**

**NO COVER**

**21 AND OLDER WITH VALID ID REQUIRED**



## Free Shredding Event Announced



It's time to clean out your filing cabinets and desks to get rid of confidential, private, or important personal documents that you no longer need to keep!

The Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) will host their 16th biannual Community Shredding Event on Saturday, October 28, 2023, from 8 a.m. – noon at the St. Andrews Landfill, located at 44837 St. Andrews Church Road.

This community event gives residents the opportunity to have their confidential, private, and important documents destroyed by a professional shredding service at no cost. This type of shredding turns sensitive documents into confetti-sized pieces, ensuring that confidential material cannot

be copied. All paper material shredded during the event will then be recycled.

Please refrain from bringing materials that are not confidential in nature, such as newspapers and magazines (acceptable for recycling at the six Convenience Centers) as they will cause the truck to fill up more quickly. The shredder can handle simple staples, paper clips, spiral notebooks, and thin metal prongs, however it cannot accept 3 ring binders. Please limit the number of boxes you bring to 3 standard bankers' boxes (10"H x 12"W x 15"D) per person so we can serve as many residents as possible.

For more information, please call DPW&T at (301) 475-4200, ext. 3550.

## Red Ribbon Week Unites Community to Live Drug-Free

This week during national Red Ribbon Week, the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) is partnering with the St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) in providing students activities that promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

Red Ribbon Week is celebrated each year from October 23-31. The Red Ribbon Campaign, sponsored by the National Family Partnership, is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the nation, reaching millions of young people.

This year's theme, "Be Kind to Your

Mind. Live Drug Free.", is a reminder that people can reach their full potential by living drug-free. Communities take a visible stand for a healthier lifestyle by hosting drug prevention activities.

"We appreciate our partnership with SMCPS in spreading the message of Red Ribbon week each year to the students," said Tammy Loewe, SMCHD Behavioral Health Division Director. "By living drug-free, our youth can become the best self they can be."

Visit [smchd.org/prevention](http://smchd.org/prevention) for resources to help with drug prevention and recovery.

## Nine Quilts of Valor Awarded



The Mission of the Quilts of Valor (QOV) Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. PAX Sound of Freedom, the Southern Maryland unit for QOV, did just that on October 21, 2023, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park.

Shown in the above photo, left to right, are: Frank Taylor (Navy - 4 years), Edwin Johnson (Air Force - 23 years), Yvette Marine Johnson (Army - 6 months), Bruce Maynard (Air Force - 10 years), Carol Bremm (Navy - 11 years), Lowell Johnson (Army - 3 years), Patrick O'Connor (Navy

- 20 years), Joan Sabree (Army - 24 years), and John Briscoe ((Army - 2 years).


To date in 2023, PAX Sound of Freedom has awarded 103 quilts to local service personnel and veterans. Nationally, the total amount of quilts awarded is 359,727.

If you, a family member or friend served in the U.S. armed forces, you are entitled to receive a Quilt of Valor. If you have any questions about Quilts of Valor or are interested in helping the local group produce quilts, please contact PAX Sound of Freedom Group Scheduler, Miriam Boles, at (240) 298-1744 for additional information.

*An Autumn Evening  
in Chaptico*

Dinner and Silent Auction  
with music by

*Groove Span Duo*



Jennifer Cooper    Carl Reichelt

\$50.00 per person

*Saturday, November 4, 2023*

*6:00 in the evening*

**Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall**  
37497 Zack Fowler Road, Chaptico, MD  
For Reservations, call Church Office (301) 884-3451

## Classified Ads

### Human Factors Engineers

Human Factors Engineers (F/T) needed to work for KGO, LLC in Huntingtown, MD. Freq. eve. & weekend work. Some remote work permitted w/in normal automobile commuting distance. Will apply human factors knowl. to the dsgn & construction of work envrmts, mgmt systems & tasks, utilize MS Power BI to reduce potential human error, increase productivity, lower lifecycle costs, enhance overall occupancy & support system performance. Significant customer interface. Must have Master's deg. in Industrial Dsgn. Send resume to Mary Kate Zabroske at 281 Llewelyn Ln, Huntingtown, MD 20639.

### SHELTIE PUPPIES FOR SALE

Take a look at the litter at Zimmerman's Produce, 25920 Friendship School Rd., Mechanicsville. All puppies will be checked by a veterinarian and ready for pickup November 1st.

# Volunteers Sought for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County are calling all citizens interested in volunteering their time to the community by serving on various boards, committees, and commissions. Detailed descriptions of the various boards and membership applications are available on the County's website at <https://www.stmaryscountymd.gov/boards/>. All applications must include a resume and be submitted no later than November 20, 2023.

The following vacancies are open to all applicants:

- Adult Public Guardianship Review Board
- Agriculture, Seafood & Forestry Commission
- Airport Advisory Board
- Board of Trustees Museum Division
- Commission for People with Disabilities
- Commission for Women
- Commission on Aging
- Commission on the Environment
- Economic Development Commission
- Human Relations Commission
- Recreation & Parks Board

- Transportation Advisory Committee
- Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board

The following vacancies have special requirements for applicants:

- Board of Appeals – Must have some planning experience.
- Electrical Examiners Board – Must be a licensed electrician.
- Family Violence Coordinating Council – Must be a victim of domestic violence or the family of a person who has been a victim of domestic violence.
- Historic Preservation Commission – Experience in architecture, architectural history, history, or archaeology.
- Metropolitan Commission (3 vacancies) – Applicants must live in 4th, 5th, 6th, or 8th Districts.

Planning Commission – Must have some planning experience.

Interested citizens can download an application from the county's website or call Diane Gleissner at 301-475-4200, ext. 1707, for more information.

# Public Mural Painting Day at St. Mary's County Health Hub



The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), in partnership with the St. Mary's County Arts Council, the St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation, Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, and PNC Bank, will host a Public Mural Painting Day at the St. Mary's County Health Hub in Lexington Park.

St. Mary's County community members are invited to a Public Mural Painting Day on November 4, 2023, from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Health Hub. Participants will help paint a mural on the outside of the Health Hub building, creating a beautiful visual for our community. This event is open to residents of all ages and skill levels. All supplies will be provided. This event will also feature community resources, a Bay

District Volunteer Fire Department firetruck, and activities for children.

"Painting murals together is such a wonderful way for our community to welcome the Hub and recognize the importance of the services associated with it. This initiative reflects the spirit of partnership that has made the Hub possible," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "We are grateful to our community partners for this fun activity supporting health and wellness."

To learn more about programs and services offered at the St. Mary's County Health Hub, please visit [smchd.org/hub](http://smchd.org/hub).

In case of inclement weather, rain dates for the event are November 5 or 12. If a rain date is necessary, information will be shared on SMCHD's social media channels.

# Pet OF THE WEEK



## MEET SHENHE

Whenever you're sad, remember there's this thing called...a kitten!

Hello everybody, my name is Shenhe. HEADS UP cuz I'm not your typical kitten! I'm an 8-WEEK-OLD FEMALE with STRIKING black and white fur, much like my namesake from the popular video game. I'm a little ball of ENERGY AND CURIOSITY who's ready to explore the world around me! My DEAREST WISH is to explore it with YOU! I've got a feline that you and I will be the purrfect match! Now, I'm currently in search of a LOVING HOME where I can play and grow with a CARING FAMILY. Just like my in-game counterpart, I'm bound to bring JOY AND ADVENTURE into your life! Please come MEET ME during adoption hours Mon-Fri 11am-4pm and Saturday 10am-3pm. You'll be so glad you did!

BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! 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>



# VETERANS DAY SALUTE

In honor of Veterans Day 2023, The County Times invites you to submit the names of family members who have served in the Military Services. The names will be published in The County Times Veterans Day Salute on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Email names to [timescalendar@countytimes.net](mailto:timescalendar@countytimes.net) or mail to PO Box 250 Hollywood, MD 20636.

Local businesses are also invited to join in our salute to local veterans. Call us at 301-373-2131 for details

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# NAVAL AIR STATION PATUXENT RIVER *News*

## 'SAR Dog' Deploys with Newest Medical Expeditionary Capability



Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Bradley Christian, a native of Mexia, Texas, deployed as part of the Navy's first En-Route Care System (ERCS) medical expeditionary capability aboard the Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group (IKECSG) on a regularly scheduled deployment, Oct. 14.

Christian, who is assigned to Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command (NMRTC) Patuxent River, is a part of a 2-person ERCS team with an integrated intensive care mobile unit that supports medical care for up to one-to-two critically injured or ill patients at a maximum of eight hours during transport.

He is a 2019 graduate from Cypress Ridge High School in Houston and has two uncles who have previously served in the military. Today, he is a search and rescue (SAR) medical technician with the NAS Patuxent River "SAR Dogs," which is responsible for SAR support to the research, development, test, and evaluation (RDT&E) mission at NAS Patuxent River.

"We are here to mainly support the medical evacuation capability in order to prepare patients for flying," said Christian, who volunteered to deploy on a ship for the first time in his naval career to support the ERCS. "We also have the opportunity to provide training aboard ship and integrate with the medical teams."

The ERCS will be a component of the overall skills and readiness within the medical department aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69).

"We are excited to expand the strike group's medical response capabilities with the addition of ERCS," said Cmdr. Jason Condino, the IKECSG senior medical officer. "This allows us the ability to evacu-

ate critically ill patients while maintaining full medical capabilities back on the ship. Implementation of this team aboard IKE aligns with long-term plans to meet fleet-wide requirements in support of distributed maritime operations."

The ERCS provides patient assessment and treatment, ventilation support, physiological monitoring, intravenous therapy, medication administration, supplemental oxygen therapy, airway maintenance, head and limb immobilization, and resuscitation and hemorrhage control.

"The life support system that we have provides everything we need for patient care in one unit," Christian explained. "We previously flew with separate units, but now this will help tremendously with being able to move patients more efficiently."

As Christian and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the Navy.

"Hearing my parents tell me that they are proud of me, gives me a sense of pride by serving in the Navy," reflected Christian.

The Navy's ERCS program has achieved its initial operating capacity and provides a ready, rapidly deployable and combat effective medical force to improve survivability across the full spectrum of care, regardless of environment.

Navy Medicine — comprised of approximately 44,000 highly-trained military and civilian health care professionals — provides enduring expeditionary medical support to the warfighter on, below, and above the sea, and ashore.

*From Bobbie Camp  
Naval Medical Forces Atlantic  
Special to NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs*

# Chill Deals



16-Oz. Reg. Or Light Food Club Sour Cream

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

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**4.98** Lb.

1.75L Tito's Vodka



**30.49**

1.75L Tanqueray London Dry Gin



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**19.89**

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**10.99**



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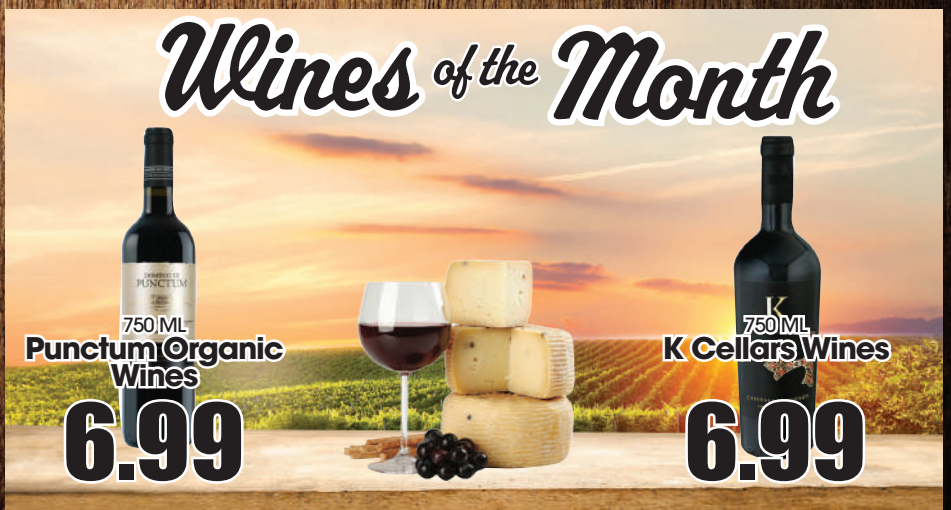
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**Florida Tangerines**  
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Soft Or Strong  
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**4/\$5** 15.6 To 15.8-Oz., Selected  
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# ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

## Suspect Wanted for Violating Pre-Trial Release Arrested for Stabbing

On Saturday, October 21, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the 46800 block of Morningside Lane in Lexington Park for a reported stabbing.

Deputies located a 36-year-old male victim suffering from multiple stab wounds. The victim was flown to the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center (UMMC) for treatment.

The suspect, positively identified as Terrell Anthony Duckett, 27, of Lexington Park had an active arrest warrant for violating a pre-trial release agreement and was taken into custody at the scene.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the victim and suspect met through a social media app and did not know each other prior to this incident.

Earlier in the month, on October 12, Maryland State Police had apprehended Mr. Duckett for operating a stolen vehicle. Following an attempted traffic stop and a brief pursuit, the suspect had been confined to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center. On Monday, October 16, the District Court placed Duckett on House Arrest with GPS monitoring as part of his pre-trial supervision. On October 16, Mr. Duckett cut off his GPS ankle bracelet and failed to appear for a court hearing.



Duckett is currently being held at the adult detention center and is charged with:

- Escape Second Degree
- Felony Assault First Degree
- Assault Second Degree
- Identity Fraud to Avoid Identification, Apprehension or Prosecution for a Crime
- Motor Vehicle/Unlawful Taking, Obstructing and Hindering
- Failure to Obey a Reasonable/Lawful Order
- Theft of \$1,500 to under \$25,000
- Unauthorized Removal of a Motor Vehicle.

## Identities Sought for Persons of Interest in Robbery

At approximately 4:10 p.m. on Sunday, October 8, 2023, the subject pictured entered the Best Buy store in California, MD, and while in the store, grabbed a Sony Play Station 5 from an employee. The suspect then fled to a waiting Kia parked just outside.

The robbery suspect is described as a black male with visible arm tattoos and wearing a baseball cap with the Florida Mariners logo.

Anyone with information about the identity of either of these subjects or this incident is asked to contact Dep. Max Schell at Max.Schell@stmaryscountymd.gov, or 301-475-4200, ext. 8161. Please refer to Case # 56225-23.

You can also call Crime Solvers 24/7 at 301-475-3333 or text 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. You may be eligible for a cash reward if your information leads to an arrest.



# Letters to the Editor

## In Support of Speed Cameras

It seems to me the Board of Commissioners of St. Mary's County are going about the traffic problem at the intersection of Route 242 and Route 5 all wrong.

The problem is not about the traffic, but the speeders and law-breakers. A speeder will always be a speeder, a law-breaker will always be a law-breaker.

Why not hit them where it will hurt — in their wallets?

Speed cameras at dangerous intersections will not only automatically send them fines, but will generate revenue to pad the county's coffers. Money from speed cameras in [Washington] D.C. has built a new school there. Why not put them to use in our county?

*Erin Hayes  
Mechanicsville*

## Not All Heroes Wear Capes

I would like to share my experience with the St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services Team from early September 2023. Some may ask why share this? There are several reasons why. The first is to make people aware of how every minute counts during the times of a medical emergency! Do not talk yourself out of the call to 911! Time is everything in an emergency! The other reason is so these first responders and emergency medical teams are acknowledged and should be thanked for all of the great work that they do for our county. They appreciate a call or note letting them know the status of the patient, this means the world to them... a simple thank you costs nothing and goes a long way.

I do not believe there are any words that can express my newly added appreciation and respect for the members of the Emergency Services Team. I truly believe that once you see the members in action, just watching them work so quickly and professionally, will be something that you will never forget.

On the morning of September 7, 2023, my husband asked me to call 911. My call was received at 10:22AM. Paramedic, Kayla Currie, arrived at our home within minutes as we were fortunate, she was in the area when the call was dispatched. Moments later EMTs, John Chrisman and Megan Wallace, arrived. Kayla was quick to get to work. Watching her in action was AMAZING! As she continued to monitor my husband, she was reading multiple electrocardiograms (ECGs) and making phone calls to establish his destination. Until I heard her start mentioning "Trooper", I thought we were going to St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown. I think everybody knows as soon as you hear somebody in the medical profession and maybe others say "Trooper", that means there's a helicopter ride coming.

We never knew until we met them again yesterday, that she knew from the moment she walked in our home that, YES, he was having a heart attack. John also noted during our meeting yesterday that one look at my husband and Kayla, he also knew that he needed to prepare the ambulance for transport as my husband would be flown out from a local ball field. Initially the destination was Southern Maryland Hospital; however, as we were waited for Trooper 3 to arrive, the destination was changed to Washington Hospital Center.

As I arrived at the ball field to wait on the

arrival of Trooper 3, I sat in the ambulance with my husband, Kayla, John, and Meagan. Kayla continued to multi-task with phone calls confirming Washington Hospital Centers' approval of receiving my husband as a patient that needed critical and immediate medical attention upon his arrival and continued to read multiple ECGs.

ALL of the quick work done by Kayla, John, and Meagan saved my husband's life. As a result of their quick response, providing medical attention, and transporting him to the helicopter in an extremely short time, made all the difference in the world.

As I drove to Washington Hospital Center, I received a phone call from a nurse at 12:21PM informing me that my husband had already been in and out of surgery and was in recovery doing fine.

The call to 911 and the quick response by everybody involved is attributed to my husband being alive today. Look at everything that transpired from the minute I called 911 and the minute I received a phone call from Washington Hospital Center stating that he had been in and out of surgery. This was all done in under two hours! If that isn't beyond amazing, I don't know what is.

Even though most of this article is speaking of our experience, with a specific paramedic and two EMTs, our thanks and gratitude also extend to the 911 operator that received my call and walked me through what I needed to do, to Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department for assisting in the loading of my husband onto Trooper 3, to the paramedics on Trooper 3, to the pilots of Trooper 3 for a very quick flight to Washington Hospital Center, and to the great staff at Washington Hospital Center that was standing by awaiting his arrival to save his life!

I would also like to thank the Chief of EMS, Tom Raley, and the Assistant Chief of EMS, Todd Bowman, for organizing a very emotional meeting with Kayla and John, so we could express our gratitude in person. Sadly, Meagan was not able to be there because she was on a call, helping to save others. However, with everything that has happened, we both look forward to lunches and hopefully other celebrations with our heroes, Kayla, John, and Meagan.

Thank you for reading this article and please remember to always be thankful for the people that are out there taking care of us.

*Dawn and Bobby Wood  
Hollywood, MD*



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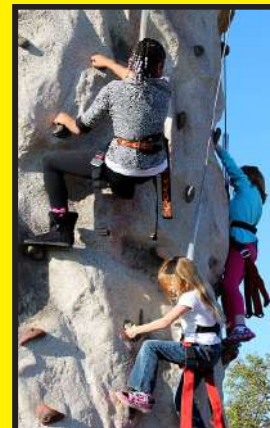
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# Potassium Iodide Available for Residents Near Calvert Cliffs



Potassium Iodide (KI) tablets will be offered to eligible community members on Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at a drive-thru event at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) routinely distributes KI tablets to county residents living or working within the 10 mile emergency protection zone (EPZ) of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. These distribution events are for general community preparedness.

Registration is required for pickup of KI tablets at this event. For more information or to register, please visit [smchd.org/ki](http://smchd.org/ki) or call (301) 475-4330. Community members may also bring their expired KI tablets for collection and safe disposal. Please do not contact the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant for KI tablets. Free emergency preparedness kits will also be provided to the

first 300 community members who receive KI tablets at this event.

St. Mary's County residents living or working within the 10 mile EPZ (zones 6 & 7). This area includes the following zip codes:

- 20659 – Mechanicsville
- 20636 – Hollywood
- 20619 – California
- 20653 – Lexington Park

"An emergency event involving radiation exposure from the power plant is very unlikely, but it is important for our community to be prepared," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "KI should only be taken when advised by public health officials during an active emergency incident."

For more information about KI or to register to receive KI tablets, please visit [smchd.org/ki](http://smchd.org/ki).

# National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative

The misuse of unused medications has become a significant public safety issue in our area, leading to accidental poisonings, abuse, and many overdoses. This event provides an opportunity for all of our community members to dispose of unwanted pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications in a safe way. Through this event, we aim to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from our communities, keep our local families safe,

and reduce the number of drug overdoses we are seeing across our area.

The Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack is participating in the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 28, 2023. Citizens are encouraged to turn in their unused prescription medications to the dropbox in the lobby of the Leonardtown Barrack.

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## Congratulations!



# Homelessness Fears Over Fading of Mobile Home Community

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

For decades the Lord Calvert Mobile Home Park on Great Mills Road has been one of a dwindling number of communities that could accommodate low-income residents and families.

Now, there are plans to redevelop the land upon which the mobile homes now sit, which means some 200 estimated residents would have to be displaced.

This week, members of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County tried to allay growing fears that those living there might be made homeless for lack of affordable housing elsewhere in the county.

"What we need to do is make sure we have a safety net," said Commissioner Mike Hewitt when addressing members of the county's Chamber of Commerce at their annual State of the County luncheon in Lexington Park.

Earlier that day, at the regular meeting of the county commissioners, Hewitt said: "There's been a lot of talk about the potential for the increase in the homeless population due to what's going on at the Lord Calvert [Mobile] Home Park..."

"There's been a lot of consternation about what will happen to those people."

The rent residents were typically paying for a lot there at the community on Winding Way was \$600 a month, Hewitt said, with residents often owning the trailers on the plot of land they rented.

"We're not dragging our feet," Hewitt continued. "We're not going to be surprised by it."

"The county, the Housing Authority, the developer, and the Department of Social Services have had several meetings regarding this potential relocation — probably in 2025."

"Understand, we are working on it."



Dolly Griffin, the chair of the WARM (Wrapping Arms Around Many) Nights program, which partners with local churches to provide bed space and shelter for homeless people during the cold winter months, sounded the alarm last week to the commissioners when she spoke out at a public forum in Leonardtown.

The problem facing the county, she said, was a serious one as WARM Nights could only provide 15 shelter billets a night this winter and the county had no plan to deal with the overflow of homeless people who would be left out in the cold when temperatures began to drop to freezing levels.

In a later interview, Griffin, who lives in Lexington Park, which is widely regarded as having the highest concentration of homeless in St. Mary's, said the future of Lord Calvert Mobile Home Park had the potential to make the homeless problem worse.

She estimated that between Charlotte Hall to the southern reaches of the county there were about 100 homeless people ranging

from "couch surfers" who were able to stay with friends and relatives and those actually on the street or living in the woods in tents.

"The way the rent situation is right now... some of those people are going to be hard pressed to find a place they can afford," Griffin told The County Times. "Where do these people go?"

While elected leaders have pledged to deal with the problem, they have not presented any details of what a solution would entail.

WARM Nights also does not take anyone under the age of 18 years old, she said, which means that a displaced family with young children would not be able to get a berth there even if there were room, whenever the redevelopment should occur.

"Are they not going to be going to school?" Griffin asked of those possibly displaced children.

Brian Norris, president and CEO of the Cherry Cove Group, which owns the mobile home park, confirmed the redevelopment

project would entail removing all of the trailers currently situated there and result in anyone still there being displaced.

"There's nothing new except that we might do something in the next 18 months to two years," Norris said. "There's nothing imminent."

Norris said Cherry Cove would "do what's written in the Maryland regulations if it comes to that point," speaking of the redevelopment and displacement.

The purpose of the redevelopment, Norris said, would be to create a new According to Maryland law regarding mobile homes and relocation assistance:

For parks with more than 10 sites, the relocation assistance paid to each household must be equal to the amount of rent paid, not including taxes and utilities, for the 12 months immediately preceding the date the resident vacates the premises. According to Maryland law, relocation assistance is first paid with half to a resident within 30 days after the park owner receives the resident's written notice of the resident's intention to vacate and the date on which the resident intends to vacate.

The other half is to be paid within 30 days of the resident vacating the premises, according to state law.

If a resident does not vacate the park by the date specified by the resident, the resident forfeits the balance of relocation assistance due, unless the park owner agrees in writing to a different date.

If the owner decides not to close the park, the owner is not required to pay relocation assistance after a notice is sent to the residents that the park will not be closing.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

# Appeals Board Returns To Cannabis Farm Complaint

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The county Board of Appeals is scheduled to continue hearing the case of a complaint filed against the continuing operations of the major industrial cannabis growing facility in Abell today.

The last time the appeals board met on the case was back in July.

In question is the county's approval of an amended site plan for Seven Point Agro Cultivation Center on Abell Road that allowed for an expanded mound septic system.

The owner of the property, Blue Griz LLC, tried to have the citizens' appeal against their operations there dismissed from before the zoning appeals board in May but failed.

In their argument against dismissing their case, the citizens appellants argue that

then-land use director Bill Hunt approved a building permit in 2021 for the facility that would bring in 20 employees to work on 800 medical cannabis plants; but the county subsequently passed zoning laws that restricted such operations in the rural preservation district.

In their latest filing on the complaint, the citizen appellants claim the size of the septic mound would grow to 1,150 gallons per day from just 400 gallons per day.

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County did this in response to community uproar about such a large project in an environmentally sensitive area with no public community input.

These new zoning regulations made the cannabis farm a legal, non-conforming use. But the owner of the facility, Seven Points Agro, owned by Blue Griz, LLC, would soon offer an amended site plan that brought the facility to more than 70 employees tend-



ing to 23,000 cannabis plants.

A 50,000 square foot cannabis growing warehouse already exists on the property with potential plans to build another of the same size.

The appellants argue that the amended

site plan improperly authorized the expansion of that non-conforming use that exceeds the limits of the zoning ordinance.

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# Veterans Resource Day



**ST. MARY'S COUNTY**

DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES

*Working Together ~ Caring About You*

**Hosted by the  
St. Mary's County Department of  
Aging & Human Services**

**Friday, November 3, 2023**

**9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**University of Maryland at Southern Maryland**

**44219 Airport Road, California, MD**

## **Presentations:**

**Protecting Yourself Against Fraud & Identity Theft - Navy Federal Credit Union**

**10 a.m.**

**Learning about Service Animals - MK9 Service Dogs**

**12:30 p.m.**

## **Organizations on-site will include:**

**A Community that Shares  
Humana Military/TRICARE  
Freedom Hearing  
Warfighter Advance**

**NAWCAD  
US Department of Veterans Affairs  
Habitat for Humanity  
Navy Federal Credit Union**

**College of Southern Maryland  
MD Insurance Administration  
St. Mary's Health Department  
St. Mary's Emergency Services**

**Claims processing available all day with Disabled American Veterans (DAV)!**

**Lunch provided by Mission BBQ for attendees at 12 p.m.!**

**For more information, contact Sarah Miller**

**Phone: 301-475-4200, ext 1073**

**Email: [sarah.miller@stmaryscountymd.gov](mailto:sarah.miller@stmaryscountymd.gov)**

**Website: [www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging/veterans/](http://www.stmaryscountymd.gov/aging/veterans/)**

*Brought to you by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Department of Aging & Human Services*

## Commissioners Approve School Budget Amendment

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved a fiscal move by the county Board of Education this week that will allow the school system to spend an additional \$4.3 million on needed projects.

The approval by commissioners came two weeks after the school board voted unanimously to take the \$4.3 million from their unassigned fund balance and put it towards operations and construction projects.

The total fund balance for fiscal 2023, last fiscal year, was \$19.2 million, of which \$14.9 million was allocated to be spent on health care (\$6.6 million), boosting the fiscal 2024 budget (\$4 million) and to costs such as fuel and snow removal and emergencies (\$500,000 each), according to school system documents.

"That \$6.6 million will cover two years of health care calls at 5 percent," the school system's chief financial officer Tammy McCourt told county commissioners.

School officials explained that many of the things purchased with an allocated fund balance were still to be received by

the system, which is why the money had yet to be spent.

The budget amendment approved this week allowed spending towards post-employment benefits, renovations to bathrooms and the concession stand at Leonardtown High School, sidewalk repairs at Lettie Marshall Dent, White Marsh, Leonardtown and Park Hall elementary schools and Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center and other expenditures.

The money will also pay for playground upgrades at Green Holly and Greenview Knolls elementary schools.

"What's important to note about the \$4.2 million is that represents 1.7 percent of our \$252 million for the fiscal 2023 budget," McCourt said. "So, we came within 98.3 percent of the resources provided and were used as planned..."

McCourt said that the current fund balance recommended for the local school system by the Government Finance Officers Association was about \$45 million but because their revenue stability was high and their spending volatility was low they could afford a relatively small fund balance.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

## Linda's Café Finds A New Home

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

For more than 30 years Linda Palchinsky has operated the restaurant bearing her name on Tulagi Place in Lexington Park, garnering praise and love from her customers for homestyle meals, a friendly wait staff and operating as a community anchor in the county's oldest urban area.

Palchinsky told The County Times that after the close of this year, she will say goodbye to Tulagi Place, though not Lexington Park.

She has signed a lease, she said, to move into the Days Off Deli building on Millstone Landing Road just off Three Notch Road.

"It's going to be tough for me," she said of leaving her long-time place of business. "I've been here too long."

"I'll be sad when I go."

But Palchinsky said she was excited to be able to continue serving the community as she had for the past decades.

In a social media statement released Oct. 20, Palchinsky said: "At Linda's Cafe, we firmly believe that change brings new opportunities for greatness."

"While we will still be serving our beloved locally sourced, community-based food that we have been known



Linda Palchinsky outside her current location on Tulagi Place

for over the past 35 years, we are also adding some exciting features to enhance your experience."

Those new additions will include "a full-service bar and a breakfast happy hour accommodating our overnight workers with drink, specials, and food specials starting at 7 a.m."

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## Commissioners Approve Purchase of More FDR Blvd Land



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The county has purchased one more easement necessary to continue the next phase of the construction of FDR Boulevard, costing taxpayers \$11,500.

The easement is temporary, county planning documents show, and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County unanimously approved the purchase at their Oct. 24 business meeting.

The parcel in question is a little over 6,000 square feet in size and sits in front of the Discovery office park in Lexington Park; it is required for the continued construction of Phase 3B of FDR Boulevard which would run from Buck Hewitt Road to Pegg Road.

This would be the final leg of the project still in the county's construction budget and would serve — as elected officials and planner hope — to alleviate traffic on Three Notch Road to which it runs parallel.

In the meantime, the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation is busy working with construction contractors to finish connecting pieces of FDR Boulevard from Chancellors Run Road to MacArthur Boulevard.

This section of the road runs parallel to a church property and an Elk's Lodge, behind the San Souci shopping center to connect to a traffic roundabout in the San Souci subdivision neighborhood currently under construction.

Public works chief Jim Gotsch recently told The County Times that inspectors would be going through the construction progress with the contractor Oct. 30 with the road finally being opened to traffic sometime in the first two weeks of November.

Construction contractors also working on improving Buck Hewitt Road by reconstructing and expanding the sidewalks for pedestrians.

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## Big Winning Lottery Ticket Unclaimed

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Someone in St. Mary's County may be holding a winning state lottery ticket worth almost \$130,000, but if they have it they may not know what they have.

The Maryland Lottery reports that a World Championship Poker game ticket was sold at Pal Liquors and Gas Station at 25965 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown on Oct. 22.

The ticket is worth precisely \$124,754, according to state lottery officials.

The World Championship Poker game is one of many so-called Fast Play lottery games the state uses to generate revenue for numerous uses.

It is a \$5 ticket that allows the player to have five chances to win; the game has since been closed by the state lottery and tickets for it may no longer be purchased, according to The Maryland Lottery.

The state mandates that winning Fast

Play games must be claimed within 182 days of the date listed on the front of their ticket to obtain the cash prize.

The Maryland Lottery has announced that whoever has the winning ticket purchased in Leonardtown has one of "the biggest Maryland Lottery wins of last week."

The Maryland Lottery is actively looking for the winner holding the Leonardtown ticket; winners of such a large cash prize must present themselves and their ticket in person to lottery officials to make their claim.

"Winners of prizes larger than \$25,000 must redeem their tickets at the Maryland Lottery Claims Center in Baltimore, which is open by appointment only," state lottery officials have announced.

The Maryland Lottery encourages players to check their tickets by scanning them at any lottery retailer or with the lottery's mobile apps, state officials announced.

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# Speed Camera Ordinance Establishes Fines, Operating Hours

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The newly proposed speed camera ordinance before the Commissioners of St. Mary's County would impose a \$40 fine on motorists who violate the speed limit in the vicinity of a school where they are placed, the text of the proposal states.

Commissioners voted to approve the measure to go before a public hearing next month.

The sheriff's office is ready to move quickly on the program, said Capt. Shawn Moses at the Oct. 24 commissioner's meeting.

"The sheriff [Steve Hall] is prepared to go live as soon as possible," Moses said. "It would be our hope [for the] first of the year."

Moses noted that the first month the speed cameras would be in use that there would be no citations, only warnings given to motorists.

The fines could be contested in District Court, the proposed ordinance states, but failure to pay the fine otherwise could result in the state's refusal to register the offender's vehicle as well as the suspension of the registration.

The proposal states that: "Revenue received by the county from this School Zone Speed Camera Safety Program shall first be used to recover the costs of implementing and administering the [speed camera program]." "Any remaining balance shall be used

for public safety purposes as set forth in the annual budget adopted by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County," the ordinance continues.

The ordinance's drafting required the cooperation of the sheriff's office, which is the original requester of the law, the school system and the State Highway Administration (SHA).

For speed cameras to be placed on state highways — as they would have to be in St. Mary's in at least some instances — the county must first have the approval of SHA.

The proposal defines a school zone as a "designated roadway segment within up to a half-mile radius of a school for any of the grades of kindergarten through grade 12 where school-related activity occurs, including: ravel by students to or from school on foot or by bicycle; or the dropping off or picking up of students by school buses or other vehicles.

John Houser, Assistant County Attorney, said the cameras could be placed in any school zone the commissioners so designate, including private or parochial schools.

The speed cameras would only operate between the hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays, the proposal states.

The sheriff's office would assign "one or more deputies" to monitor the cameras, the proposal states, but may enter an agreement

with an outside contractor to fulfill that duty.

Before using the speed cameras, the county commissioners would be made to advertise their upcoming installation — as the cameras would be mobile — in local news publications and place signs to note their locations to passing motorists as well, the proposal states.

Were one of the cameras moved to another site before adequate notice were given, the proposal states, a citation could not be written against a motorist driving above the speed limit until the appropriate warning signs were installed and for at least the first 15 days after those signs were placed.

There would be no points assessed on a motorist's license as a result of getting a speeding camera ticket, Houser said.

"It's just a civil violation," Houser explained.

One commissioner said it would likely not take motorists long to find out where speed cameras had been placed.

"It's pretty hard to miss a silver R2-D2 on the side of the road," said Commissioner Mike Alderson. "Ask me how I know."

Houser noted that the speed cameras would only be triggered to activate by a passing vehicle going at least 12 miles an hour over the speed limit, and not below that.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt, who said he opposed red light cameras because he

believed they caused rear end collisions, said speed cameras "changed his paradigm" on traffic safety solutions.

"I'm going to support this because I believe it's the first step to slow down unsafe drivers," said Hewitt.

Moses said for the last 10 weeks that the sheriff's office partnered with state police have pressed much of their resources into the Slow Down St. Mary's initiative, which has focused on pulling over speeders and other traffic violators and assigning fines.

The use of the speed cameras was another measure that needed to be used to increase the campaign against unsafe driving, he said.

"It's unfortunate but we have to do something," Moses said.

In a recent survey given by the sheriff's office of more than 1,200 respondents over several months, almost 75 percent said curbing speeding and other unsafe driving actions was their highest priority when it came to quality of life in St. Mary's.

The concerns over speeding and dangerous drivers even eclipsed worries over drugs and gun violence, the survey showed.

The public hearing for the speed camera ordinance was scheduled for the evening Nov. 14 with the exact time to be determined.

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## Home Grown Farmers Market

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# CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS	3	SPORTS	17
COPS & COURTS	11	OBITUARIES	18
COMMUNITY	14	CALENDARS	20

“IT’S UNFORTUNATE BUT WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.”

CAPT. SHAWN MOSES ON THE NEED FOR SPEED CAMERAS



## OPEN HOUSE

October 28th, 2023 (Sat)

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 Big win lottery ticket remains unclaimed



**LOCAL 7**  
 Trailer park could be redeveloped

A CELEBRATION OF Justice and Equity  
 St. Mary's County Times  
 SPEED LIMIT 30  
 SCHOOL PHOTO ENFORCED SPEED  
**3** DEBATE CONTINUES OVER SPEED CAMERAS

**ON THE COVER**  
 Residents will have a chance to weigh in on speed cameras

## WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>THU, OCT 26</p> <p>Partly Cloudy                  Hi: 79° Lo: 60°</p>	<p>FRI, OCT 27</p> <p>Partly Cloudy                  Hi: 79° Lo: 58°</p>	<p>SAT, OCT 28</p> <p>Sunny                  Hi: 82° Lo: 59°</p>	<p>SUN, OCT 29</p> <p>Partly Cloudy                  Hi: 79° Lo: 61°</p>
<p>MON, OCT 30</p> <p>Partly Cloudy                  Hi: 72° Lo: 45°</p>	<p>TUE, OCT 31</p> <p>Partly Cloudy                  Hi: 55° Lo: 40°</p>	<p>WED, NOV 1</p> <p>Mostly Sunny                  Hi: 52° Lo: 34°</p>	<p>THU, NOV 2</p> <p>Mostly Sunny                  Hi: 55° Lo: 39°</p>

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# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

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**Trailer Park Could  
Be Redeveloped**

**Cannabis Farm  
Hearing Continues**

**Linda's Cafe Finds  
New Home**

**DEBATE CONTINUES OVER  
SPEED CAMERAS**

