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5 **LOCAL NEWS COLUMNISTS** 15 **LETTERS OBITUARIES** 17 **COMMUNITY** 14 **CALENDARS** 23

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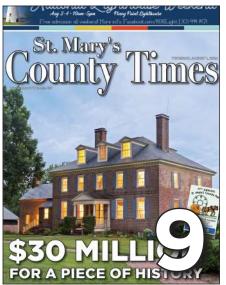
COMMISSIONER ERIC COLVIN ON THE NEW FIVE-DOG RULE IN THE ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE.



Federal funds boost YMCA project



Leaders briefed on RAC 2.0 proposal



ON THE COVER Mulberry Fields is up for sale

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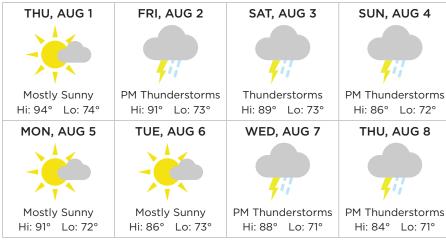
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Support Grows for Amending Animal Ordinance



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Last week advocates from the animal rescue community spoke publicly to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County in opposition to the recently updated and installed animal control ordinance, specifically the restriction of pet owners to five dogs before being required to get a kenneling license.

This week Commissioner Eric Colvin said he wanted to explore ways to amend the ordinance to address what he believed was the local government establishing a purely arbitrary number on dog ownership.

"The big concern is the five-dog limit," Colvin said during the July 30 business meeting in Leonardtown. "To me it seems to be that it's a little bit of government overreach. We put this arbitrary, five-dog number out there." Colvin said he has engaged the county attorney and county adminis-

trator in finding ways to "take away this arbitrary number and still meet the... intent of what we're trying to do, which is protect the animals and protect the people of the county."

Colvin said he believed the balance could be struck with relative ease in the ordinance with a few minor changes and was waiting for county staff to come up with a proposal to be debated later by commissioners.

Animal rescue advocates speaking last week at a public forum said the new ordinance would make it harder for them to take in and foster many puppies given up or abandoned by their breeders or previous owners and led to their eventual death or euthanasia.

To come into compliance with the county's newly updated ordinance, they said, would also be an unwelcome expense and make their efforts more difficult.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Federal Delegation Awards Funds to YMCA

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Maryland's 5th Congressional Representative Steny Hoyer, and its two Senators, Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin, all Democrats, awarded hundreds of thousands in federal funding to the YMCA project here in St. Mary's County last week.

The main chamber of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County in the Chesapeake Building was full July 26 with purple-t-shirt-clad supporters of the long-awaited project with about a \$15 million price tag.

The project is being funded in part by the county commissioners and private donations and now with \$850,000 from a congressional "earmark," or funds directed by elected officials to a specific project in their district.

While the practice has been widely criticized in some political circles as "pork barrel" spending, Hoyer defended the practice, saying it allowed a representative to get funding for a worthy project that might be overlooked otherwise.

"We're trying to help a little bit and I'm glad we could do that," Hoyer told those assembled.

Sen. Ben Cardin, who is not seeking reelection, praised the community members who have for several years continually pressed leaders for an agreement with the YMCA of the Chesapeake to run a new facility on Great Mills Road in Lexington Park.

"Thank you for sticking with it," Cardin said. "Now we're actually going to make it happen."

The YMCA has been seen an opportunity to provide activities and services to the underserved population and to the economically disadvantaged from physical fitness and well-being to jobs and skills training.

"This is about bringing community together," said Van Hollen. "It opens the door for young people and for their families.

"We think this is a good use of federal tax dollars"

Commissioner Mike Hewitt, who has been one of the most ardent local supporters among elected leaders for the project, said a YMCA was long overdue as a needful catalyst for revitalization of Lexington Park.

"It needs regeneration," Hewitt said of the county's oldest urban center. "The YMCA is part of that."

Robbie Gill, CEO of the YMCA of the Chesapeake which has agreed to run the facility, which will still be owned by the county, reiterated that the non-profit is inclusive of all in spite of their ability to pay for a membership.

"The Y[MCA] turns no one away due to financial limitations," Gill said.

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Sheriff's Office Prepares for National Night Out



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Deputies with the sheriff's office are getting ready to meet with their community members when celebrations for National Night Out begin Aug. 6 countywide, said Sheriff Steve Hall this week.

Hall said the National Night Out celebration, which began decades ago as a way for law enforcement and first responders to bond with communities who wanted to stand up to crime in their neighborhoods, is one of the most important events of the year for his agency.

"It's been well over 30 years now [since the sheriff's office first took part] and it's amazing it's still going on," Hall told The County Times. "It's one of the best things we do."

By getting sheriff's deputies out in the community in a friendly, non-confrontational manner, where they can enjoy each other's company, said Hall, both sides can learn to understand each other better and learn to cooperate to fight and prevent crime.

This was especially important for newer,



younger deputies who have recently joined the agency, the sheriff said.

"I don't know that there's a more profound crime prevention program that we do," Hall said. "We need to have that galvanized relationship with the community."

Hall said that the agency first began participating in National Night Out around 1991 and in that one particular instance, the inaugural celebration, that a unique phenomenon occurred.

"There was one call for service the first year we did National Night Out and that was a noise complaint which came because of a National Night Out event," Hall said.

To have such a reduction in calls for service, and presumably criminal activity, for even a brief period of time, was something he hoped could be replicated.

Hall said he plans to attend events in the northern, middle and southern regions of the county.

"I'll be all over," said Hall.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

New St. Clements Island Water Taxi Approved

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The local group of activists and volunteers that works to preserve historic St. Clements Island — the St. Clements Hundred — will get a new water taxi soon to aid in that mission after the Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved using \$700,000 in state bond money to have the vessel custom built.

County planning documents show the vessel would have a 40-person capacity and be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The vessel would be used for transporting grounds and landscape equipment to the island by the St. Clements Hundred staff and volunteers, transport participants of all, varying abilities to and from the island during county museum division-sponsored events and provide transportation on and off the island in the event of a weather emergency.

Mike Hutson, a member of the St. Clements Hundred, said the boat would be "catamaran-style with a center cavity and a pilot house in the back."

"It would be much like a landing barge," Hutson told county commissioners at their July 30 business meeting. "It will be 45-to-50 feet long.

"It's going to be brand new."

The vessel would also be serviced by a boat lift to keep it out of the water when not in use for ease of maintenance and lengthened service life, Hutson said.

The vessel will also be designed entirely in Maryland by a builder based in Annapolis; Cerny Yacht Design, Hutson said.

In addition to the \$700,000 in acquisition costs for the vessel, the annual operations costs, according to county project documents, would be \$59,000 to be divided between storage at Colton's Point Marina, pay for the boat's captain, fuel, maintenance and insurance.

There are plans to develop a memorandum of understanding that would allow county emergency personnel to operate the vessel for transport in hazardous situations when sheltering in place on the small island is not feasible

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Tri-County Council Briefed on Alternate Regional Agricultural Center Plan

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Momentum seems to be shifting in the effort to build a regional agricultural center (RAC) in St. Mary's, with some elected leaders favoring a new approach that includes using a vacant grocery store still under lease in Charlotte Hall instead of building an entirely new facility as originally planned on county-owned land near a convenience center.

LOCAL NEWS

At a special meeting of the executive board of the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland last week, staff presented a proposed business plan for how the alternate RAC, which would be known as the Southern Maryland Food Processing Center, would operate.

The space under consideration is the old McKay's/Shoppers Food Warehouse located on Mohawk Drive just next to the border with Charles County; the move to this alternative site is a result of about six years of delays for the original project.

Under the original agreement with the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) the facility was to be used to process already slaughtered livestock for eventual sale by local farmers, plus the sale of some value-added farm products.



Under the new proposal, the facility would be used to process meats, poultry, seafood, produce and other cottage industry-made foods, said Craig Sewell, marketing and livestock program manager for SMADC, and support 20 full-time employees.

"It could accomplish a lot," Sewell said of the proposed pre-built site.

Costs have also increased over time, Sewell said, for the original RAC proposal.

According to his presentation: "The last estimate for building the RAC from the

RAC design group was near \$7 million.

"And that was before the changes requested by the St. Mary's [County] Health Department in the 10-month delay to get septic approved."

Del. Todd Morgan (R-Dist. 29C), who attended the meeting on July 25 virtually, voiced his displeasure with how long the process has taken and now with the proposal to switch to a new, pre-built site.

"I don't like power grabs," Morgan said during the meeting.

Morgan later clarified that he feared that SMADC would want to take over the operation of the RAC in its new form, but saddle St. Mary's County taxpayers with the majority of the bill.

The memorandum of understanding on the project states that the facility, whatever it may be, must be owned by the county.

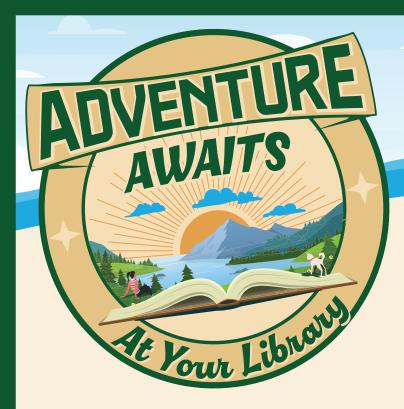
Sewell himself said in the meeting that SMADC could not sublease the property, which is currently still being leased by Shoppers Food Warehouse despite ceasing operations there.

The county, Sewell said, would have to own the property or in conjunction with other members of SMADC, which includes Calvert, Charles, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties.

The county and SMADC should not move so quickly to abandon all of the work put into building the original site, Morgan said, who noted only Charles County has so far shown an interest in helping with the cost of owning and operating the pre-built site on Mohawk Drive.

"If it's that important, let's see everyone else put some skin in the game," Morgan said. "The burden shouldn't be placed solely on St. Mary's County tax payers."

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Historic St. Mary's Mansion, Grounds Up for Sale



Photos by Oleks Yaroshynskyi

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

An historic nearly 500-acre plantation nestled away on the banks of the Potomac River in Leonardtown has been up for sale for almost a year now with an asking price of \$30 million.

Not widely known because it has always been held in private ownership over the centuries — yes, centuries — Mulberry Fields is still owned by the Jansson family, which first took possession of it about 70 years ago.

Built in 1763, Mulberry Fields has survived the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War as well as efforts by developers to reshape its land and character.

It still stands today.

Holger and Mary Jansson, long since passed away and having left the mansion and the grounds, much of it split between agricultural land and pristine forest, to their children, became well known in the community for their philanthropy and advocacy for preserving historical resources like Mulberry Fields.

They opened their home in the mid-1970s to archaeologists eager to study a remaining example of Georgian-style home architecture and a prime example of the gentrified, agrarian lifestyle of the mid-18th century in St. Mary's County.

One of those young archaeologists was Henry Miller, now a Ph. D and Maryland Heritage Scholar at Historic St. Mary's City.

He was a little saddened at the prospect of such a cultural and historic resource passing out of the hands of the Jansson family who had long held it in trust.

"Holger and Mary did so much to protect it," Miller told The County Times. "Everything [in the interior of the mansion] is original from the 1760's.

"I would hope whoever acquires it would respect the building; it's the best Georgianstyle mansion in St. Mary's County.

"It's a fabulous building."

According to a prospectus of the property the last major additions were made to the manor house in 1832.

The plantation was also once home to dozens of slaves who worked the grounds there until the Civil War.

"The Maryland Historical Trust documents that William Somerville [one of the owners] held a slave labor force of about 46 men, women, and children by the early 1800s," the prospectus reads. "Most worked in the fields, cultivating corn, wheat, flax, and cotton."

There are numerous other structures on the property surrounding the manner house, with some of them rented out as living space. One such building is an art studio.

There are conditions on the sale and use of the property.

"The Maryland Historical Trust Deed of Easement allows industrial or commercial activities to be conducted at Mulberry Fields if the external appearances of its buildings are not altered," the prospectus reads as one of the conditions. "Owners of Mulberry Fields must abide by a conservation easement, a historical preservation easement, and three road easements.

"Approximately 100 acres of the land is currently leased out for farming purposes. Approximately 300 acres of the land is forest."

Miller said his first visit to Mulberry Fields left a lasting impression on him.

"It was the first 18th century mansion I ever encountered in my life," Miller said. "I was thrilled... you could feel the history."

Holger and Mary Jansson had many other interests in St. Mary's County but they all focused on maintaining and preserving the unique ways of life here.

Holger and his son Gordon were both artists who helped found the North End Gallery which still operates in downtown Leonardtown. The Janssons were also influential in starting the summer concert series at St. Mary's College of Maryland, and start-





ing the Potomac River Association.

The concert series began life in the mid-1980s as the Tidewater Music Festival and was held at Mulberry Fields.

The family was also instrumental in using their influence to stop an oil refinery from being built approximately 50 years ago in Piney Point.

Starting in 1968 Holger served as the director of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission as well.

Miller said he was glad to have been able to call the Janssons his friends.

"They wanted to share the building [the Mulberry Fields mansion] with others," Miller said. "They recognized its significance and character.

"The Janssons were so generous."

Miller held out hopes that Mulberry Fields would stay much the way it had for the past generations.

"I hope whoever acquires it respects the integrity of Mulberry Fields and what a remarkable historical asset it is for St. Mary's County and Maryland," Miller said. "It's like being in another world when you go there.

"It takes you back to the agrarian world of the 18th and 19th century."

Mulberry Fields was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

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1980 Basshunter Length: 11'6" Color: Blue

Registration Number: MD7311AE Hull Identification Number: MD7311AE

Contact Nathan Faus: (570) 930-2013 24945 Nelka Lane Leonardtown, MD 20650

Thirty days following publication of this notice, applicant will seek title to the vessel described below unless proof of an existing ownership interest has been presented. Vessel is described as:

1987 FISHER Length: 12' 0" Color: Light Brown

Registration Number: MD 5213 AU Hull Identification Number: FMC86149E787

Contact Dustin Horst: (240) 925-4511 41370 Friendship Ct Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Notice is hereby given that the following vessel has been abandoned for more than 180 days on the property of: Janet Teeple Muller, 143 Peach Grove Lane, Clear Brook, VA 22624. Her phone number is 540 974-4024. The vessel is described as:

Boat Registration Number: MD1968 CB Hull Identification Number: MDZ50389J773

Vessel Name: Graf Spee

Builder: O'Day, Dragonfly Sailboats

Length: 17' Color: Green

Application for title will be made in accordance with Sections 8-722 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article if this vessel is not claimed and removed from the above property within 30 days of this notice.

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



Communities Invited to Participate National Night Out

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community and by bringing police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Want to join in the celebration? The following local communities will be celebrating National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO):

- Birch Way
- Breton Bay
- · Cecil's Mill
- Cedar Cove
- Clarks Rest
- Country Lakes
- Forest Way Cul-de-sac (Wildewood)
- Golden Beach
- Greenbrier
- Hollywood Shores
- · Leonard's Freehold
- · Leonard's Grant

- Leonardtown Villages
- Longview Beach
- Meadow Lake
- Myrtle Point
- · Patuxent Homes
- · Persimmon Hills
- South Woods Estates (River Bay)
- · Spring Valley
- St. James Neighborhood
- St. Joseph's Community
- The Woods at Myrtle Point
- Town Creek
- · Villages of Leonardtown
- Westbury
- Wildewood

"We are thankful to our partners in local law enforcement for their efforts to serve, protect, and engage the community," said Commissioner President Randy Guy. "We hope all participating communities have a fun National Night Out!"

Does your neighborhood want to participate? Deadline to register is Friday, August 2, 2024. Contact the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) with additional inquiries via email to smcnno@stmaryscountymd.gov. Learn more about NNO at: https://natw.org.

20 Businesses Pass Compliance Checks

On July 24, 2024, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Alcohol Enforcement Unit conducted several alcohol compliance checks within St. Mary's County.

The covert compliance checks involved using an underage Sheriff's Office Confidential Informant, hereafter referred to as CI. The CI was 19 years old and was accompanied by Sergeant Robbert Merritt, both of whom were dressed in athletic wear. The CI was directed to enter the store and request or retrieve an alcoholic beverage from the business location to purchase it.

Twenty alcohol retailers were visited, and 19 were compliant with Maryland law. However, one retail business failed to ask the CI for any identification, and the CI was able to purchase an alcoholic beverage illegally.

The following businesses asked for identification from the underage individual:

- 2000 Liquor: 21800 N Shangri-La Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20653
- ABC Liquors: 22741 Three Notch Rd., California, MD 20619
- Bradfords Neighborhood Market LLC: 23860 Hollywood Rd., Hollywood, MD 20636
- California Wine & Spirits: 23123 Camden Wy., California, MD 20619
- Cook's Liquors & Deli: 18400 Point Lookout Rd., Park Hall, MD 20667
- Corner Liquors: 46920 South Shangri La Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20653
- Early Bird: 23791 Mervell Dean Rd., Hollywood, MD 20636

- H.V. Liquors: 22576 Macarthur Blvd. Ste. 322, California, MD 20619
- Hermanville C-Store: 21151 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653
 Jughead Liquor Wine Beer: 16036
- Three Notch Rd, California, MD 20619

 Lex Wine & Spirits: 46400 Lexington
- Village Way, Lexington Park, MD 20653

 Marketplace Wine & Spirits: 44920
 Saint Andrews Church Rd., California,
- MD 20619
 Ridge Market: 13270 Point Lookout Rd., Ridge, MD 20680
- Rod'n Reel: 18161 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653
- Sign Of The Whale Liquors: 21899
 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park,
 MD 20653
- St Mary's Fine Wine And Spirits: 20141 Point Lookout Road, Great Mills, MD 20634
- St. James Deli & Spirits: 19343 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653
- Twist Wine & Spirits: 22608 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653
- Wildewood Wine & Spirits: 23415
 Three Notch Rd., California, MD 20619

The following business failed to ask for identification from the underage individual:

 Baymart and Deli: 16591 Three Notch Rd., Ridge, MD 20680

The alcohol violation report was forwarded to the St. Mary's County Alcohol Beverage Board for review.

Traffic Stop Leads to Arrest and Recovery of Stolen Firearm



On Sunday, July 28, 2024, while conducting proactive traffic enforcement in Lexington Park, Deputy Joseph Senatore initiated a traffic stop on a Ford F-150 for an equipment violation. Upon approaching the vehicle, Deputy Senatore observed a firearm in plain sight, leaning against the passenger's left leg on the front passenger side of the truck.

The driver and the passenger were detained, and the truck was searched. The firearm was identified as a loaded 7.62 X 39mm Draco pistol with ammunition cham-

bered. A subsequent check of law enforcement databases revealed the weapon was listed as stolen through the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office in Virginia.

The passenger of the vehicle, a 17-yearold juvenile, was arrested and charged as an adult with transporting a handgun in a vehicle, a loaded handgun in a vehicle, possession of a stolen regulated firearm, possession of a firearm by a minor, and related charges.

The suspect was transported to the Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown to await a bond hearing.

Hollywood Man Charged with Multiple Counts of Assault

On Thursday, July 25, 2024, Patrol Deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to a call from a business owner for the report of a suspicious incident that had occurred Wednesday, July 24, 2024, at approximately 9:45 p.m. in the parking lot of an establishment located in the 25000 block of Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown, MD.

Deputies spoke to the victims, who were employees of the business. They were advised that on Wednesday, as they were leaving work following their shifts, a coworker drove past, rolled down his vehicle window, and pointed a firearm at them.

In speaking with the business owner and the victims, Deputies were able to identify the suspect as Carl James Zimmerman, 19, of Hollywood, Maryland.

Zimmerman was located at his residence and arrested without incident. The weapon, a "bullpup" style 12-gauge shotgun that was legally registered to Zimmerman, was recovered. The suspect was transported to the Detention and Rehabilitation Center in



Carl James Zimmerman

Leonardtown and charged with four counts of first-degree assault and four counts of second-degree assault.

Those with additional information about this incident are asked to contact Deputy Mina Geric at Mina.Geric@stmaryscountymd.gov or 301-475-4200, ext. 8166.

Letters the Editor

'Enthusiastic support' for two candidates

The SMC Times letter to the editor of 7/18/24, by Phillip Wentz, criticized the highly qualified At-Large SMC school board candidate Brandie Edelen as being "immature and unprofessional" in her reaction to the SMC teachers' union's vote against endorsing her candidacy. Edelen's response included criticism of the union for "causing rot in the school system" and "not caring about the students."

Among evidence of the union's negative impact (rot) are its long record of support of permissive policies that endanger safety of classroom schoolteachers and their students. And their continuing opposition to health screening kids for drugs to protect them from harmful drug use and related violence

Such endangerment of teachers and students in the current fearful violent public education environment, is well-documented in periodic behavioral student surveys. It is a major cause of continuing loss of student enrollment headcount and the difficulties of teacher recruitment.

The younger candidate, Josh Guy may be less experienced. But from his excellent closeup witness as a recent teacher in the SMC schools, he has provided important documentation quantifying the "rot," as in his previous LTE of 6/20/24, titled, "Our students deserve safe schools." In it he cited official statistics revealing that hundreds of SMC students were arrested or suspended for violent attacks on unprotected students and teachers in a single school year. He also advocated use of legal and effective "Alternative Schools" to isolate dangerous offenders from their terrorized student and teacher victims.

Therefore, while I enthusiastically continue my support for the more experienced and highly qualified Brandie Edelen for service on the SMC school board, I likewise enthusiastically support the continuing candidacy of Josh Guy whose well documented advocacy accentuates the urgency of the need for our government and school officials to enact new and effective initiatives -immediately- to begin in the new approaching school year, to authorize and implement "zero tolerance" of violence against students and teachers.

DeForest Rathbone Leonardtown, MD

'Unconcerned with even the appearance of fairness'

On July 12, 2024, the Education Association of St. Mary's County (EASMC) announced its endorsement of candidates for election to the St. Mary's County Board of Education.

The endorsement process consists of a candidates' questionnaire and a video interview for the consideration of its members. Of note is that I was not offered the opportunity to participate. I did not receive the questionnaire or an invitation to be interviewed. Was I politically stonewalled. Why?

Based on its history of endorsements, I am aware of the EASMC's predilection of support for Democrats. I am also aware of my opponent, Cathy Allen, being registered Democrat. I surmise the EASMC's endorsements are politically motivated.

According to Maryland Code, Election

Law § 8-802, (a)(1)(i), "Members of boards of education shall be elected on a nonpartisan basis." School board candidates file certificates of candidacy "without party designation or regard to party affiliation," and are designated as "unaffiliated" on election ballots. Essentially, by the letter of the law, this is the extent of "non-partisan" school board elections.

As demonstrated by the EASMC, the non-partisan nature of school board elections is a pretense. In general, there is no adherence to even the spirit of the law. The EASMC was unconcerned to show even the appearance of fairness.

Elena Brewer







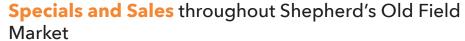






Weekend Specials

The Good Earth Natural Food Store is offering a Pink Pineapple Smoothie with pineapple, apple, beet crystals, agave syrup and coconut water





Friday, August 2

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Visit the Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center for FREE tours and extended hours for First Friday

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. St. Mary's County Parks and Recreation hosts family roller skating at Leonard Hall Recreation Center

5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Audience Participation Drum Circle on the St. Mary's County Art's Council Lawn

5 p.m. - 7 p.m. First Friday Reiki Share with SPICE Studio

5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Ride the FREE Leonardtown Trolley

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Parents Night Out at MADE by You

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Live music at Port of Leonardtown Winery featuring WIP-SOMD and Scratch Mobile Kitchen food truck on site

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Live music in Leonardtown Square featuring Funkzilla

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Mad Splatter Shack FREE art activity in LTown Alley

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Local Book Launch with Christine Trent at Marie & Nash

7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Karaoke at Social Coffeehouse featuring Invincible Entertainment with DJ Ernie

8 p.m. - 11:45 p.m. Rodeo Night at Action Lounge and Billiards



Saturday, August 3

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Zumba Class at Port of Leonardtown Park

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit the Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Live music at Port of Leonardtown Winery featuring Wildgood and Scratch Mobile Kitchen food truck on site

5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Ride the FREE Leonardtown Trolley

Sunday, August 1

8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Rise + Shine yoga at the Wharf with Evolve instructors

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday Brunch at Social Coffeehouse with live music

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit the Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center

12 p.m. - 2 p.m. "Ice Cream Social-izations" at Earthwise Pet Leonardtown

12:30 p.m. Frozen Drinks and Flower Arrangement Workshop at Town Market LLC

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Live music at Port of Leonardtown Winery featuring Brian Grumbine and Heidi's Eats & Sage's Treats food truck on site

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. St. Mary's County Parks and Recreation hosts family roller skating at Leonard Hall Recreation Center

8 p.m. Game of Thrones: House of the Dragon showing at Social Coffeehouse

The information presented here is accurate at the time of posting and is subject to change. Please check the event/organization pages/websites for current information.





Fox 5 Zip Trip is coming to Leonardtown!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2 7 am - 11 am

FOX 5 Zip Trip is the weekly Friday series that highlights the best spots to visit around the D.C. area. This event will include on-air personalities and crew who will broadcast live from the properties to highlight our local businesses and community. Spectators are encouraged to come out and show support!





Important Note:

The Square will be closed from parking starting Aug 1st at 9 pm to Aug 2nd at 12 pm.

The Square will be closed from vehicular traffic/thru traffic **Aug 2nd** from **4 am – 12 pm**

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MEET CALIBER

My dog's not fat. He's just a little Husky!

Hi there, my name is Caliber. I'm a 9-MONTH-OLD Husky and I have more ZEST FOR LIFE than a squirrel on caffeine! I'm a HOUSEBROKEN whirlwind who loves backvard escapades but I actually prefer the cozy indoors for my naps. I know some commands but I might need a refresher since my EXCITEMENT bubbles over like a shaken soda can! I'm on the hunt for an ACTIVE HOME with older kids who can match

my ENERGY and ZEST. Ready to bring home a tornado of fun? ADOPT ME TODAY!Hurry on down during adoption hours, Mon-Fri 11am-4pm and Sat 10am-3pm.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-

Beach Combing, DIY Windchimes & More Fun at Piney Point

Families, kids, and adults of all ages can enjoy free outdoor activities while visiting Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park on the second Saturdays of the month. Modeled loosely after "Forest School" learning styles in Denmark and Sweden, the Nature & Forest Play for All Ages Series encourages discovering nature through hands-on, tactile, "no right or wrong way to play" experiences. These activities encourage visitors to explore nature and the outdoors through curiosity and play. Age is not a factor; adults need to connect with nature in relaxing, simple ways, just as much as children do!

Themed activities will be held on the following dates:

- August 10, 2024 (12 p.m. 1:30 p.m. families & children; 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. adults): Beach Combing. We'll be turning over cove rocks, looking for crabs, fish and other organisms, and discussing the smaller ecosystem around us. Sand and sediment microorganism viewing under a camera microscope is an option. Participants should wear clothing and shoes that can get wet.
- September 14, 2024 (10 a.m. 4 p.m.): FamilyFest on the Potomac. Join us for a fun day filled with family activities and food at Piney Point Lighthouse

Museum's Family Fun Fest on the Potomac. Formally RetroFest, our activities will have a retro focus, such as rock pet painting and adoption, retro games like jacks and can tosses, and tie

- Saturday, November 9, 2024 (12 p.m. 2 p.m.): Outdoor Autumn Play Skills & Forest Stories. Families, teens, and kids of all ages are welcome to bring a snack and picnic! Optional activities include a natural windchime craft, pumpkin bowling, leaf stamping, leaf people drawings for holiday cards, naturally scented sensory bins with wooden measuring tools, DIY autumn spice playdough, rock painting, DIY Tic-Tac-Toe kits.
- December 14, 2024 (12 p.m. 2 p.m.): Tale of the Christmas Spider. Enjoy the Christmas Spider story and ornament building with hot chocolate. Learn more about our winter insect friends.

Registration is not required but encouraged so that we can ensure we have enough materials. Please call ahead and let our staff know which session(s) you would like to attend. Admission is free. Play is rain or shine if there are no safety concerns. For more information or to register, please visit www.Facebook. com/1836Light or call (301) 994-1471.

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Drive Safely Around Horses and Buggies

Did you know that St. Mary's County is home to an Amish community of approximately 350 families? In honor of Amish Safety Day on August 1st, St. Mary's County Government (SMCG) reminds residents to slow down and be courteous when driving near Amish horses and buggies. Many people do not expect to see Amish buggies on the road, and they are not as visible as cars, trucks, and bicycles. These factors make them more vulnerable when on public roads. Accidents between a car and buggy can be serious and have often led to severe injury or death.

Chaptico and Mechanicsville are the primary areas of residence for the Amish community in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Highways which serve as major arteries for Amish horses and buggies are Thompson Corner Road (Maryland Route 236) and Budds Creek Road (Maryland Route 234). Amish buggies may also be seen on other St. Mary's County roads, including Point Lookout Road (Maryland Route 5) and near the St. Mary's and Charles County line.

Here are some tips for how to travel safely around Amish horses and buggies:

Take it slow in areas where there is a high prevalence of Amish. The average horse and buggy only travels 15-20 miles per hour.

Give them room by passing in the other lane whenever possible. Allow 20 feet between your vehicle and the horse before returning to the travel lane.

Do NOT use the horn or make any unexpected or loud noises. Horses can be easily spooked, especially by loud noises such as a car horn, revving engine, noisy exhaust pipes, or squealing brakes. This can cause a safety hazard for the Amish horse and buggy operator, as well as the vehicle operator.

Do not stop to take photos. While horses and buggies can be very interesting, it can be dangerous for the horse and the operator if you stop nearby for a photo-op, especially if stopping in front of or next to the horse.

Observe driving habits. A horse and buggy is not the same as a motorized vehicle, and therefore will not behave as one. Buggies will drive as close to the right side of the road as possible but may move toward the center when making a turn. Most buggies do have turn signals.

Leave plenty of room between your vehicle and the back of the buggy when stopped at an intersection. A buggy may roll back slightly once stopped, or a horse may take a few steps backward. This could cause damage to the front of your vehicle if you are stopped too close.

Be alert for horses at night. Most buggies utilize flashers during the day and night, but the horses may be harder to see at night.

Stop the car if the driver signals the horse is spooked and wait as long as reasonable and necessary until the horse is calm enough to safely pass.

Wanderings Amage Aimless Mind by Shelby Oppermann

Thursday, August 1, 2024



The '70s Still 'Colour My World'

I say loudly, in the voice of Jan Brady, of The Brady Bunch, "Laundry, laundry, laundry!". I know, it has to be done, and often, especially married to a pool man. Sometimes though I wish that the cycles were about 10 minutes each instead of 59 minutes or more each, because, I'll say it, "I forget the load in the washer and dryer all the time" while I start on other things or run errands, etc. I am sure I put that dryer on fluff more than I should, even with the buzzer turned on high. I'm normally upstairs, or outside, or in my workshop, so I don't know why I bother to



turn the dryer buzzer on anyway. I may hear it now since I'm in the office upstairs, however the laundry room is below our bedroom on the opposite side of the house. Maybe I should start setting my cell phone alarm when I put in a load. Also, why don't split foyers have the laundry room upstairs where the bedrooms are?

Right now, I'm in that awful, in between cortisone shots time, where I can look at the laundry basket and think that should really go downstairs, or look at the furniture and think, "Wow, that really should be dusted" and then I realize that, oh, my subconscious is saying, "That means you dummy!". Actually, I can hear Fred Sanford add, "That means you, you Big dummy!". I really must be stuck in the 70s, not that that's a bad thing, since I still love all the music, colors, and memories. Weren't shag rugs so soft? And wasn't it nice without all the distracting technology of cell phones and social media. You could lay on that shag rug with your head in the middle of two large speakers listening to your 45s or your albums and nothing would disturb you other than your mother calling you down for dinner. Or sit and read a book outside under a tree with no interruptions. Those truly were my most favorite things in the world as a child through the teenaged years. It was still the same for me in college when I brought my 70s albums, receiver and large speakers to our tiny dorm room in 1979 as you can see in the photo – all that was missing was a fluffy shag rug to lay on.

My husband and I love to sit out front either in our firepit area or in front of his man-cave old Mustang garage and listen to the 70s music stations on TV through Breezeline's Music Choice. I love all the 70s rock including heavy metal and once in a while my husband will listen to a little bit of that for my sake, though we both love soft rock and classic rock which is a happy medium for us. We can sit companionably for hours, not saying a whole lot, each lost in our old memories of where we were when we first heard a song. Some nights, we talk the whole time about our memories, whether it be concerts we have seen together or earlier in our lives, or about trivia associated with each artist or band. The talkative nights are normally the nights with a glass or so of wine, or a tumbler of Bourbon: My husband enjoys a bit of Bourbon over a large cube for sipping, and I've found in the last few years that I love Kentucky Mules, Old Fashioneds, or even better, smoked Old Fashioneds.

Well, I don't know how I got from laundry to Bourbon. It may be due to an author asking in one of my cozy book clubs today on Facebook (yes, a wonderful distraction), "Readers, how about you? Which sleuth are you most like?" to which I replied, "I'm more like Miss Marple. I take the long, convoluted method of explaining things, or getting my thoughts out by word or on paper...but I eventually arrive at the answer." This is just the way my mind works. Could my mind be this way from all those distractions I have availed myself of in the last 26 years since my first cell phone and my first clunky computer a few years later? Or is it just the start of remembering older stored memories more than the thousands of images we see and hear through TV or scrolling each day? I panic most every day that I have not written something down on the call log that has come in on our business line, or on my cell phone, which could be by phone call, text, Facebook Messenger, or by email. Then there are appointments and events and birthdays...and on and on that we all have to keep track of on our "can't live without" phone calendars, although I still use my trusty little 4" x 6" purse sized notebook for back up. The world does seem to be spinning faster. I think I'll turn up the old Chicago song of Colour My World with the beautiful waltz tempo which has been playing softly in the background on repeat, and just maybe I can slow my own world down just for today.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Are you afraid of outliving your money?

Do you worry about running out of money during your retirement years? If so, how can you help prevent this from happening?

In the first place, if you have this type of fear, you're far from alone. Consider this: 58% of retirement savers from all age groups, including current retirees, say that outliving their assets is their greatest retirement fear, according to a study by Cerulli Associates, a financial services research organization.

This type of fear can certainly affect your quality of life when you retire. Still, there's no need to panic – because you can take steps to help prevent the running-out-of-money scenario. Here are a few to consider:

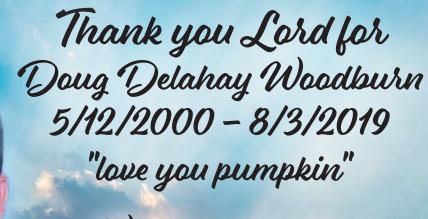
- Know how much you'll need during retirement. You need to get a clear picture, or at least as good an estimate as possible, of how much money you'll need to support your retirement lifestyle. Once you do retire, some costs, such as transportation or other work-related expenses, might go down, while others – medical expenses, in particular – will likely go up. The fear of running out of money, like many fears, is caused largely by what you don't know, so having a good sense of how much you'll need in retirement can help reduce your anxieties.
- Build financial resources before retirement. You're probably at your peak earning capacity in the years close to your retirement, so consider contributing as much as you can afford to your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.
- Maximize your Social Security payments. You can start collecting Social Security as early as 62, but your monthly benefits will be larger if you can afford to wait until your full retirement age, between 66 and 67. (Payments will "max out" at age 70.)
- Re-enter the workforce. Going back to work in some capacity is one way to possibly help build retirement resources and delay taking Social Security. If you have a particular area of expertise, and you enjoyed the work you did, you might be able to go back to it on a part-time basis or do some consulting. You could boost your cash flow, and potentially extend your contributions to an IRA and to an employer's retirement plan.
- Cut costs during retirement. Possibly the biggest cost-cutting measure is downsizing – are you willing and able to move to a less expensive area or scale down your current living space? Of course, this is an emotional decision, as well as a financial one, and downsizing isn't for everyone, but it might be something to at least consider. As for the lesser ways of reducing expenses, take advantage of senior discounts, which are offered in many areas, including entertainment, public transportation, restaurants and retail establishments. And look for other opportunities, such as cutting out streaming services you don't use.
- · Look for more income from your investments. As you get closer to retirement, and even when you do retire, you might want to adjust your investment portfolio to provide you with more income-producing opportunities. However, even as a retiree, you'll want some growth potential in your investments to help keep you ahead of inflation.

Ultimately, the more you can bolster your financial security before and during retirement, the less fear you may have of outliving your money.

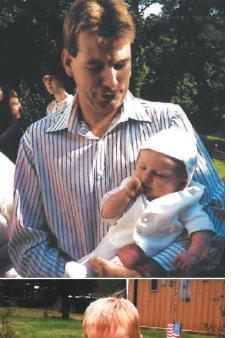
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC Contributed by David McDonough Financial Advisor at Edward Jones Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr. Suite 302 Leonardtown, MD 20650 301 997 1707



Doug was taken from us 5 LONG years ago, people say it gets easier, I say it gets harder...
Praying and music are what keeps me going.
Many songs remind me of Doug, my favorites are: Carry on Wayward Son by Kansas, Comfortably Numb by Pink Floyd, and Nothing Else Matters by Metallica, those song titles say a lot...
I am going to end with Doug's original memorial, just make it bigger, just like his heart was...



Words cannot say
We miss you everyday
Through the month of May
We remember your Birthday

















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

Robert Kerr, 72



Robert Anthony 72 Kerr. Mechanicsville, MD, peacefully passed away on July 24, 2024, surrounded by loved ones. Robert was born in New Jersey on December

18, 1951, to Alexander Taylor Kerr and Mildred Agnes Kluber.

His passion for knowledge and books led him to graduate of Fairleigh Dickenson University and to earn a Master's Degree at GW University.

Mr. Kerr devoted his life to service and worker rights having retired from the Seafarers International Union where he successfully worked as a writer and activist.

His passion for equality is reflected by his work with the St. Mary's County Commission on People with Disabilities, his one-term presidency of the Southern Maryland Center for Life and two-term Vice-presidency of the American Council of the Blind of Maryland where he also served as Legislative Director until 2007.

Making sure his legacy would endure the test of time, Mr. Kerr was instrumental in the passage of two bills by the Maryland General Assembly. One that empowers and assists blind and visually impaired people to use voting machines, and a law that bolstered the protections of the use of service animals.

A lover of books, music and fine wine, Robert is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Lisa M. Kerr, son, Lloyd M. Kerr and daughter in law Ana.

The family will receive friends for the visitation on August 1, 2024, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am with prayers at 11:00am at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will follow after the service at 12:15pm at Charles Memorial Gardens, 26325 Point Lookout Rd, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

In lieu of flowers, please consider the

at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

Joe Dick, 95



Captain Joseph L. Dick, USN, Ret, passed away peacefully on July 23, 2024 with his loving family by his side. He was predeceased by parents, John and Mary Dickshinski,

and four brothers; Clem, Eugene, Edward, and Jack, and sister Irene. He is survived by his sister, Dorothy.

Joe was born in Nanticoke, PA in 1928. After moving to Chicago, Joe Dick graduated from Northwestern University in 1952 with a degree in Zoology. In his spare time, he formed the gymnastics team, competed on the collegiate level, and lettered.

He served with distinction for 30 years in the United States Navy, including tours as the Naval Attache and as the Assistant Naval Attache to the US Embassy in Ottawa, Canada. He served on many US Navy ships, including Commanding Officer of the USS Myles C. Fox (DD-829) and Executive Officer of the USS Little Rock (CLG-4). Joe received numerous medals, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, and special recognition from the Secretary of the Navy.

Joe was an active church member and champion for the local church and community. He led his children's church youth groups, lent his support for church suppers and outreach programs, and served as the Sunday School Superintendent at Trinity Episcopal Church, in St Mary's City, MD. He participated in Cursillo. Joe also coached his children's soccer and gymnastics teams and served as PTA president at Friendly High School. Joe was a long-time member of the Lions Club, serving from 1982 to the present. He also served as President of the Lions Club.

in St Mary's County, MD from 1984-1999, including Winning on Wellness, which he created. Later, along with Tommy McKay, he helped form the only Co-Op Winery in the United States in 2007. His vineyard was his hobby and passion for over 40 years.

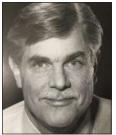
In 1982, he and his wife of 70 years, Nancy, purchased and restored St Michael's Manor in Scotland, MD. They ran a bed and breakfast for many years. They had numerous interesting guests over the years including a former Secretary of the Navy.

In 2002, Joe ran for state delegate in district 29B. Although the campaign was ultimately not successful, the entire family participated in the effort.

He is survived by his wife Nancy and five children: Susan Belmore (Glen), David Dickshinski, (Elinor), Dr. Laura Swett, (Dr. Bruce), Jonathan Paul (Maria), Jeff Dickshinski (Trish). Grandchildren: Sean Belmore, Anna Lancaster (CJ), Tim Dickshinski (Pooja Kothari), Ben Dickshinski (Jess Bazzelle), Hannah Dickshinski, Christa Day (Jeff Ballin), Dr. Katherine Aboud (Dr. Assad), Jamie Knecht (Emily), Sarah Dickshinski, Leah Dickshinski. Great Grandchildren: Emilee, Payton, Carlie, Jordan Lancaster, Sami Aboud, and many nieces and nephews.

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

Steve Wilcoxson, 74



Stephen Wilcoxson, 74, died June 27 at York Hospital after a long series of illnesses. Born June 17, 1950, in Fredericksburg, Virginia, Steve was the son of the late

Earl and Harriet Wilcoxson. He graduated from Great Mills High School, where he played football and was bitten by the theater bug. He enlisted in the Navy and served in Vietnam.

In the '70s, he acted in several south central Pennsylvania community theaters and worked on outdoor dramas like "Wings of the Morning" in St. Mary's City, MD as technical director. He also co-founded a sandwich shop in New Orleans in the famed Maple Leaf pub.

In the early '80s, Steve took a variety of jobs, from deep-sea diving for oil companies to staging then-new IMAX technology for the Canadian Pavilion at the New Orleans Worlds' Fair. He met his beloved wife Vicki in the early '80s, and they married in 1985 at St. Charles Avenue Christian Church. As Vicki earned multiple degrees in nursing,

Continued on page 18





In Remembrance

Continued from page 17

Steve graduated from Davenport College in Michigan with Paramedic certification.

During the '90s, Steve and Vicki lived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Steve as paramedic and bodyguard to the royal family, Vicki as hospital nurse who wasn't permitted to drive. When Steve and Vicki decided to return to the States, he was presented an award for serving as Disaster Coordinator to the King Fahad National Guard Hospital, chief of the Hospital Disaster Preparedness Response team. He also earned certifications from the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), diving the Red Sea from Jordan and the Caribbean from Jamaica.

Steve and Vicki moved to Shippensburg, and he launched Gettysburg Stage, a troupe dedicated to performing mature, literary plays. They made their debut with "You Can't Take It With You" in 2000, produced by the Adams County Arts Council. The company presented thought-provoking plays through 2003.

Steve was already struggling with health issues when the couple moved to Florida. He'd faced serious medical problems for the last 25 years of his life, weathering each new challenge with gratitude to be alive and with Vicki at his side. But they missed friends and connections in Pennsylvania. They moved back to Waynesboro, where Vicki continues

to serve as Cardiac Nurse Practitioner.

Steve is survived by wife Vicki, stepson Zachary Pfeiffer (Angelique Carson) of Washington D.C., sister Harriet Beck (Lewis) of Connecticut, niece Jennifer Soltanas, nephew David Beck, and two great-nieces, Cailyn Soltanas and Briana Beck plus cousins.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, September 28 in the Gettysburg GAR building, 53 E. Middle Street, Gettysburg. There will be refreshments and displays of Steve's remarkable life. Kingston Court (York) retired chaplain Helen Pinder will present remarks and invite friends to tell stories and reminisce about Steve.

Norma Redden, 90



Norma Ann Redden was born November 19, 1933, and raised in Washington DC. This was four years after the stock Market crash in 1929. The family was poor just like

everyone else in the nation. During this dire time in history, most families did not have modern conveniences. I believe Norma lived her life no different later in years. She did not waste or overspend unless she

desired it. She always thought of someone else before herself. She was also a big tipper for services rendered. She knew about hard work. Her entire life was always trying to help someone. Family was always first. Norma had tragedies but has always said "She Was Blessed". She lost her father when she was nine years old in 1942. I believe Norma regarded life as precious and always kept close to the family. Her brothers William, Buck, and Mo along with her sister Doris were always very close. They never moved far away from each other.

Norma got married at 17 to her husband Bill October 2, 1951. Together they had two children, Debbie in 1954 and Sam in 1958. Family and friends were always around for holidays and special parties. Norma evolved into the main cog in the family. Always helping when needed in some form or another. Norma and Bill cared for her mother Florence (Grandma to everyone) since 1968. Norma always provided for her mom, whether it be rides to bingo, special trips, or just a quiet place to live. They moved to Forestville, Maryland to buy their first home in 1966.

They raised their children in Catholic Schools and stressed education as the single most important thing. Catholic principles were also important to Norma. She prayed every night before bed.

She started work at 17 with the C & P Telephone Company as an operator. Her sister Doris and mother Florence also worked at the same job. The only time she didn't work was to have her two children. Her work effort was superior. She always felt she wasn't smart due to her lack of education. However, Norma retired with 33 years of service with the phone company. She was a lifetime member of The Telephone Pioneers of America and proud union member of the Communication Workers of America Local 2108.

Norma lost her husband, Bill on July 13, 1981, who died of a sudden aneurism of the brain. She was devastated but was the strongest woman you will ever know. Her faith in God pushed her through tough times. Norma still felt blessed for the time they had; just shy of thirty years.

After a few years, Norma started to volunteer at the VFW and American Legion to get out of the house and as usual help people. She kept in close contact with a few of the older generation of family. When someone was sick, she was always there for support. She was a member of the Cooties, dressing up as clowns and visiting old age homes and children functions.

Norma again met a special person in her life, Carl Hoffman. Norma knew Carl from work and the VFW. Norma called Carl to set him up with a friend named Jeanette. Carl thought Norma was asking him out. It turned out be a great relationship. He was the most softest, caring person for her. A true gentleman in every sense of the word. They travelled everywhere and she, again, said she was blessed to have two loving people in her life.

During this time, tragedy struck again when Norma's mother Florence was killed in a car accident Feb 25, 1989. Norma was

also hurt with several operations and physical therapy.

Norma was always positive about bad things happening. She dealt with the pain and continued living life to its fullest. She spent time with grandchildren and great grandchildren at every event of their lives.

Norma and Carl moved from Forestville, MD to St. George Island in 1998. They travelled all over the world on trips with the local clubs. Visiting friends of Norma and Carl were always special to both of them. Norma always bragged about trips to Lewes, Delaware to see Carl's friend Jack Flaherty. Carl was a huge Redskin fan and baseball fan as well. Norma followed the games but didn't really have a favorite team. She would just cheer for the team you wanted to win. She also loved to dance and could cut a mean rug in her day. Music was always being played at the house when she was cleaning or decorating for the holiday parties. Christmas always took place at the Redden house. Family and friends as usual.

Tragedy struck again when Carl passed November 10, 2010. They had been together 25 years.

Again, Norma was devastated, but kept her faith in God. Norma lived the last 14 years alone on the Island. She volunteered at the St. George Island Improvement Association for several years. She loved the people and the island with all her heart. She didn't want to miss the sunrise on the water. She had too many friends to list and was loved by everyone. She lived life to the fullest. She has been to the depth of the water scuba diving, skiing in the mountains, numerous cruises, Cancun trips with the family, sporting events, and also loved watching her great grandchildren performing in sports and theater. In her words, "live life to the fullest and don't let the man get ya". She will be missed by all.

The family will be doing a graveside service on August 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

Norma is survived by her children Deborah Jean Windsor of St. Leonard, MD and Clayton William Redden (Sandra) of Hernando, FL; and her brother Charles "Moe" Roland Moroney (Rita) of Clinton, MD; her grandchildren Ronda Libby, Russell Windsor (Samantha), Robert "Clay Windsor (Michelle), Ryan Redden (Brittney) and Dana Ruhe (Jeremy) and great grandchildren: Austin Libby (Morgan), Garrett Libby (Elizabeth), Lilly Windsor, Aaron Windsor, Wyatt Libby, Shane Windsor, Abby Windsor and Roman Redden and her Great-Great Grandchild, Harper Libby and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by her husband Clayton Willard Redden, her sister Doris Virginia Moore and her brothers, William "Bill" Webb Moroney and Franklin "Buck" Moroney.

Serving as pallbearers will be Austin Libby, Garrett Libby, Aaron Windsor, Wyatt Libby, Shane Windsor and Roman Redden.

In lieu of flowers please send donations

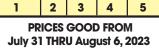


Continued on page 20





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In Remembrance

Continued from page 18

in Norma's memory to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Condolences may be made at www.brins-fieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Blaine Caldwell, 90



We are sad to announce the passing of Blaine Charles Caldwell of Hollywood, MD. He died at the age 90 on April 16, 2024 in his home.

Blaine (Red) was

born in Metamora, Ohio, the son of Reva Dora Caldwell and Charles Alexander Caldwell. Blaine served our country as a United States Marine in the 1st Marine division in Korea from 1951 to 1953. His last duty station was Patuxent River Naval Air Station where he was honorably discharged.

He worked in the Lexington Park A&P grocery store for 30 years. He also worked at the Rexall drugstore, High's, Dean Lumber, McKay's Foodland, Copsey's Seafood, Lowes, and Ace Hardware. He was a member of the Lexington Park Volunteer Fire Department where he served as chief and several related positions. Blaine also served in the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad, The Marine Corp League, American Legion of Avenue, MD, Optimist Club of Mechanicsville, Moose Lodge of Hollywood, VFW of California Md. and Elks Lodge 2092.

He loved St. Mary's County and the people in it. He enjoyed boating, fishing, crabbing, hunting, coaching Little League baseball, target shooting, gardening, dancing, traveling, reading, genealogy, singing in the barbershop quartet, and eating seafood.

In addition to his mother and father, he was preceded in death by his sister, Emily Rose Riggins, and brothers, Allan Kent Caldwell and Rick Gene Creque; and his first wife, Shirley Ann Hill. He is survived by his loving wife of 32-and-a-half years, Julia Dent Caldwell; two sisters, Janet Ann Harestad and Judy Kathleen Furniss; his brother, Randy Loyd Creque; two sons, James Blaine Caldwell and Stephen Kent Caldwell; and one daughter, Rebecca Ann Clarke; as well as eight grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Blaine was known for his volunteer work and his kindhearted, easy going, positive attitude. He was a loving husband and father. Blaine heard the gospel salvation message and trusted Christ as savior and will be in heaven for eternity.

We invite people that knew Blaine to join us in a celebration of his life and bring pho-

tos or any pertinent information to The Bay District Fire Dept. Hall on August 25, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers you may make a donation to Hospice of Callaway Md. or a local charity of your choice.

Judy Pulvirenti, 76



Judy Pearl (McGranahan/Morazes) Pulvirenti, 76, of Mechanicsville, MD, peacefully passed away on July 20, 2024, surrounded by loved ones. On June 30, 1948, Judy

was born in Norristown, PA to Hugh A. and Pearl K. McGranahan.

Judy graduated from Methacton High School in 1966. Once her children were in school, she dedicated her time as a Paraeducator with St. Mary's County Public Schools, providing media support to Oakville Elementary and special education support to Esperanza and Leonardtown Middle schools. She cherished the opportunity to support children and aid in their growth. Each day, she found immense joy in witnessing their progress, no matter how small. The children's laughter and determination inspired her, fueling her passion to make a difference in their lives. She often worked closely with their families, offering guidance and reassurance, ensuring they felt supported and understood. In 2012, Judy retired after 22 years with the St. Mary's County school system.

Judy was blessed to be the mother to Krista Morazes Cook (John) of Hollywood, MD, Nicholas Morazes (Christina) of California, MD, and Heidi Roeser (Trey) of Raleigh, NC and grandmother to grand-children Addison Morazes, Hannah Roeser, and Josie Roeser.

While her children were in school, Judy supported the Athletic and Band Boosters of Chopticon High School. She was a proud member of the Collective Education Association of St. Mary's County, the Patuxent Presbyterian Church, and the drama director and choir member at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Judy loved spending time with her friends and family; traveling, dancing, crafting, shopping, and visiting former President's homes. She will forever be known as the world's best soccer mom and list maker.

Judy is predeceased by her parents and sister-in-law, Nancy McGranahan (Jack). In addition to her children, she is survived by her beloved husband, Guy "Tommy" Pulvirenti of 12 years and his children; Maria Snyder (Dan), Francesca Breitmaier (Troy), Anne Marie Bell (Michael), grand-children; John Pulvirenti, Thomas Snyder, Gia Arnold, Dani Snyder, Troy Breitmaier, Jr., Mariana Breitmaier, Adriana Breitmaier, Emma Breitmaier, and great-grandchild Ellie Mae Snyder, Judy's brothers; Hugh "Jack" McGranahan (Carol) of Berwyn, PA,

Larry McGranahan (Linda) of Douglassville, PA, niece Amy Schaeffer (Chris), nephews Jeffrey McGranahan (Malinda) and Sean McGranahan (Emily).

On Friday, August 9, 2024, the family will receive friends for the visitation from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A. 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 10, 2024, at 10:00 am at Patuxent Presbyterian Church, 23421 Kingston Creek Road, California, MD 20619. A celebration of Judy's life will follow the memorial service at the church. In memory of Judy, wear teal or blue in support of Ovarian Cancer Awareness.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance https://ocrahope.org.

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

Arrangements by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

Howard Fleming, 78



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our dearly beloved Howard Charles Fleming, 78, of Mineral, VA. Howard was born in Poplar Springs, MD,

on November 15th, 1945 to the late Charles and Pearl Fleming. Howard would have been married to the love of his life Norma Lea Wachter for 59 years in September.

In addition to his wife, Howard is survived by his son, Eric (Becky), daughter Kimberly (John), grandchildren, Jason (Crystal), Sheraden, Amber, Abigail Rose, and Savannah, great granddaughter, Angeli, sister, Doris Keen, several sister and brother in-laws, and many nieces and nephews. Howard was preceded in death by grandson Andrew and sister Jane Stull.

In 1963 two weeks after graduating from Glenelg High School, he joined the United States Navy and was stationed at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. After leaving the Navy he continued with the Navy Reserves while working for the Department of Defense and retired after 30 years. After retiring from the DOD he went to work for J.F. Taylor, Inc. (govt. contractor) where he retired after 13 years. For over 50 years all of his military and employment life were spent at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Howard and Norma built their life together in St. Mary's County. Howard supported Norma with her love of softball and bowling. Their love for agriculture got their children involved in 4-H. When the 4-H projects got out of hand, Burnt Mills Farm was established with Brown Swiss and Guernsey cattle. Burnt Mills Farm received State and National recognition for their cattle. Howard served on the board of the Maryland Brown Swiss Association and Maryland Guernsey Association. Howard and Norma were the Junior Advisors for the

MD Brown Swiss Juniors for many years. Their biggest enjoyment was chaperoning the Junior's to the National Show's in Harrisburg, PA, the World Dairy Expo in Madison, WI, and the North American in Louisville, KY. In 2004 they continued their life at Lake Anna, VA where Howard's greatest enjoyment was driving the boat and jet skis. After his health deteriorated he loved riding around the neighborhood on his golf cart. A celebration of life will be held on August 10, 2024 at 1 pm at Poplar Springs United Methodist Church, Mt. Airy, MD. In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Fisher House Foundation.

Geraldine Dinkins, 79



Alma Geraldine Dinkins, 79, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family at Hospice House of St. Mary's County on Friday, June 28,

2024, after bravely battling cancer.

Born in 1945 in Queen City, Texas, Geraldine was the daughter of the late Leonard and Lois Moore.

In 1965, she married Kenneth Ray Dinkins in Malden, Missouri, and together they raised two children. Geraldine earned her Bachelor of Arts from Pittsburg State University in Kansas and dedicated herself to elementary education, serving her community with passion.

A devout Christian, Geraldine lived her faith as a Preacher's Wife, spreading her love and wisdom across the country. She was also a talented quilter, known for crafting beautiful quilts for her family and charitable causes. In her leisure time, she enjoyed playing cards and bocce ball with friends and family.

Before moving to Southern Maryland in 2022 to be closer to family, Geraldine was active in the Palm Street Church of Christ in Lonoke, Arkansas. In Maryland, she became involved with the St. Mary's County Church of Christ and embraced her new community.

Geraldine is survived by her daughter, Teresa (Kevin) Parsons of Lexington Park, Maryland; son, Kenneth Ray Dinkins, Jr. of Denver, Colorado; 4 grandchildren: Jeremy (Lindsey) Parsons, Ashley (Jeremy) Duncan, Ryan Parsons, and Sean McCaffery; 3 great-grandchildren: Blakely Duncan, Nathan Parsons, and Levi Duncan; brother, Jesse Moore; brother-in-law, Reed Leon Dinkins; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins whom she cherished.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Kenneth Dinkins, her parents, Leonard and Lois Moore, and her brother, Leonard Moore.

A Celebration of Life will take place at St. Mary's County Church of Christ in California, MD on August 18, 2024, at 3:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's County, Maryland.









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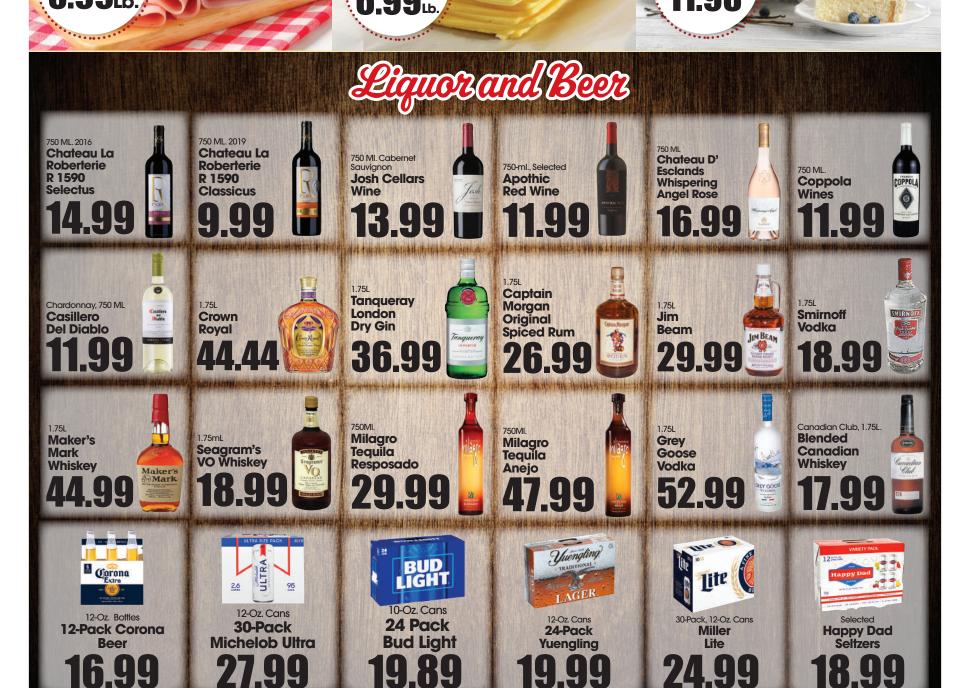












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lary's Community

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

Thu, Aug 1

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

21690 Colton Point Rd., Avenue 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

American Legion Post 221 invites all activeduty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. E-mail us at alpost221@aol.com or call 301*481*6625 for more information. Tell them you saw the announcement on the SoMD Internet Calendar.

Sat, Aug 3

Crab Cake Dinner

•

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First Saints Community Church 16378 Piney Point Rd., Piney Point Noon to 5 p.m.

Come on out to St. George Island's Annual VENDORSHOW@HVFD7.COM Crab Cake Dinner!

\$28: Crab cakes, ham, parsley potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce and roll. All proceeds support local missions.

Sun, Aug 4

Vendor Show by HVFD Ladies Auxiliary

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department 24801 Three Notch Rd., Hollywood 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There will be a bake sale and a 50/50 raffle. Free parking and free entry. Vendors include: Tastefully Simple, Pampered Chef, Scentsy, Lip Sense, Origami Owl, Perfectly Posh, Mary Kay, Rada Cutlery, Party Lite, Optimal Air, Permanent Jewelry By Sheri, Avon, Bugeye Coffee, Style Hunter Boutique, Paper Pie, Amish book Author, Southern MD Stories Author. For more information or to rent a table, e-mail:

Wed, Aug 7

Lions Club Event

Olde Breton Inn 21890 Society Hill Rd., Leonardtown 7:30 p.m.

The Leonardtown Lions Club will host Mr. Timothy W. Maier as their guest speaker. His presentation will address: "What is a journalist?", "what do 'future journalists' need to take in high school and college to become a journalist?," and "upon graduation from college, and what kinds of jobs would be on the table for a journalist graduate?"

Maier is the publisher and Executive Editor of the Baltimore Post -Examiner. He has launched several online journalism products and will address numerous issues relating to preparing for a career in journalism. Maiers presentation is open to the public.

Thu, Aug 8

Shakespeare in the City: "Much Ado About Nothing"

The Inn at Brome Howard 18281 Rosecroft Rd., St. Mary's City 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Historic St. Mary's City & the New Towne Players invite you to experience the magic of Shakespeare's comedic masterpiece—a delightful journey into the heart of love, laughter, and the artful complexities of human connection.

All outdoor performances are at 7:30pm on the lawn of The Inn at Brome Howard, with food trucks on site. (Rain venue is Dodge Center at St. Mary's College). There will be one Indoor Matinee on Sun. Aug 11, 3pm at Dodge Center. For list of dates & ticket purchase: www.newtowneplayers.org

ST. MARY'S COUNT



Behind the Scenes Library Tour

Curious about the inner workings of your library? Want to learn more about what the library offers? Join us for this comprehensive tour at Leonardtown Library on Friday, August 2 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. You'll visit the back room to see how we get your books to you, spend time in our computer lab for an overview of key virtual services, and see a demo of the equipment in our Makerspace! Register on www.stmalib.org.

Meet the Artist Ayanna Proctor: Elikhatink (In the Village): New Art Installation and Reception

Piscataway artist, Ayanna Proctor, will discuss her new installation in the Maryland Room at Leonardtown Library representing life in the village. The event will include a hands-on display of cultural items, a Q&A session, and light snacks. Leonardtown Library on Saturday, August 3 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Ayanna Proctor is an enrolled tribal citizen of the Piscataway Nation (Turtle Clan). Her inspiration is continuously derived from her Eastern Woodland heritage, rewilding and time spent in New England winters and the Shenandoah Valley. Ayanna is an award-winning quillwork artist as well as a cultural preservationist and historian. She practices traditional woodland farming, hide tanning, wild-crafting, as well as other ancestral skills. Her artwork has been exhibited in the US, Canada and Europe. This art installation is made possible by grants through the St. Mary's County Arts Council. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Biodiversity and Native Gardening 101

Are you ready to embark on a green-fingered adventure? Unearth the secrets of gardening with our Biodiversity and Native Gardening 101 program, perfect for beginners and enthusiasts alike! Charlotte Hall Library on Saturday, August 3 from 2 - 3 p.m. Unlock the joys of gardening and watch your world bloom! Join us for Biodiversity and Native Gardening 101 and let your green dreams take root. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Be Your Best Self at School: What To Do When You **Experience Conflict**

We don't always get along with everyone. Join us and the Community Mediation Center staff at Lexington Park Library on Tuesday, August 6 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. to explore how to work through common conflict situations at school. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Composting Workshop

Learn how to turn your trash into garden treasure! Compost is the best fertilizer for your plants and garden - and you can make your own for free! In this interactive workshop, you will learn the basics of how to create your own at-home compost, using materials you might have otherwise thrown out. Walk away with the knowledge and tools to compost - whether on an acre or in a condo! Informational session is free, and discounted compost bins may be purchased by cash or check at the end of the program. Lexington Park Library on Monday, August 12 from 6 - 7 p.m. This program is made possible with support from the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Program and the LMPP Community Garden. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Reptile Wonders

Meet real, live reptiles from around the world! From baby tortoises to giant pythons, learn about their habitats, diet, adaptations. & behaviors. Three sessions:

- · Fifth District Park Pavilion (37880 New Market Turner Rd, Mechanicsville, Maryland 20659) on Saturday, August 17, 9:45 a.m.
- Leonardtown Library on Saturday, August 17, 12:30 p.m.
- Lexington Park Library, Saturday, August 17, 3:15 p.m.

Most seating will be on the floor- feel free to bring a blanket! Space may be limited and will be filled on a firstcome, first-served basis. This event is supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Loteria (Bingo) for Everyone!: Bilingual Bingo

It's a family event! All ages can have fun learning Spanish while playing Loteria, • a fun Bingo game. Fun prizes for the winners! Lexington Park Library on Saturday, August 17 from 10 - 11 a.m. Join us for a morning of Loteria (Mexican Bingo) for all ages! The bingo boards have colorful pictures with Spanish words labeling the picture. Pictures will be called in Spanish and translated to English, giving you an opportunity to learn new Spanish or English words! Register on www.stmalib.org.

Calvert Community Calendar

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

Fri, Aug 2

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch 4100 5th St., North Beach 1-4 p.m.

Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. 410-257-2411. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Wet and Wild Water Play

Kellam's Field Chesapeake Beach 10-10:45 a.m.

Calling all Pre-Schoolers for a Wet and Wild collaboration program with CCPR and Calvert Library Twin Beaches. Dress to get wet and plan to beat the heat and have some water play fun. Don't forget your towel and sunscreen. We will share stories, rhymes, songs, and other early literacy fun! https://CalvertLibrary.info

First Fossil Friday!

Calvert Marine Museum 1-4:30 p.m.

Fossil hunters, bring your fossil finds from the Calvert Cliffs or other local areas to be identified! This service is provided for free; however, admission fees apply for access to CMM exhibits.

Sat, Aug 3

Fossil Field Experience

Calvert Marine Museum 9 a.m. – noon

Come and explore the fossils at Cove Point. Learn more about fossils: where to find them, how to identify them, and what they can tell us about the past. This program is for adults and children ages 8 and older that are accompanied by an adult. Pre-Registration required at least two business days before the program. Cost: \$25 per participant.

Dungeons & Dragons - TEENS

Calvert Library Prince Frederick 850 Costley Way 12:30-4 p.m.

Meet up and have fun with D&D. Players ages 13 - 19 of all levels and interest are welcome. Registration is required. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Dungeons & Dragons - TWEENS

Calvert Library Prince Frederick 850 Costley Way 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join our Dungeon Master (DM) to learn about D&D and start playing the magical, mystical role playing game (RPG)! The DM will bring prepared characters so all you need to do bring is yourself! 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Mon, Aug 5

Book Discussion

Calvert Pines Senior Center 12:45-1:45 p.m.

Join us to discuss Where the Crawdads Sing, an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Active Play—Active Fun!

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch 4100 5th St., North Beach 2-4 p.m.

Kids and Tweens can come jump and play on

our Active Floor—an interactive gaming system you play with your feet! You'll be floored! 410-257-2411. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Tue, Aug 6

Tarot Study Group: Drop-In Program

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

Come learn and practice tarot as a creative tool, for self-reflection, introspection, meditation, thoughtfulness, or as a fun hobby. This month we will focus on the meanings and patterns of the number and court cards. Registration requested. 410-326-5289. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Wed, Aug 7

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch 4100 5th St., North Beach 3-4 p.m.

Get tips and support from other caregivers. Facilitated by Susan Brayford and Sandra Raviv. 410-257-2411. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Chess Club

Calvert Library Fairview Branch Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings 12:30-2 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m.

Looking to sharpen your chess skills? Come drop in and challenge new opponents! All skill levels and ages are welcome. Please bring a chess board along if you own one. 410-257-2101. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Dungeons & Dragons - ADULT

Calvert Library (Zoom/Roll20) 6-9 p.m.

Come have fun with D&D, a role playing game for adults of all experience levels. Registration required. 410-535-0291. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Senior Book Discussion

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch 4100 5th St., North Beach 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join us this month to discuss The First Ladies by Marie Benedict. The daughter of formerly enslaved parents, Mary McLeod Bethune refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work. 410-257-2411. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Tween Summer Book Fest

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

Join other book lovers during this fun summer book club! Each month we will read a new book and come together to discuss, play games and do activities. Did we mention there will be snacks?! The first ten (10) registrants get a copy of the book to keep! Contact your library branch at 410-257-2411 to pick up your book at least one week before the event. August's book is the graphic novel "Saving Sunshine" by Saadia Faruqi. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

Work on Whatever Wednesday

Calvert Library Prince Frederick 850 Costley Way 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bring your project and supplies. Whether it's paper craft, scrapbook, quilting, origami, or whatever you're working on. Come for the whole time or just a couple of hours. Get your projects done and make new friends! Registration is not required but you'll get a reminder if you do. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. https://CalvertLibrary.info.

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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.





P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636



Letters the Editor

Oppose Lusby Villas

Lusby Villas is the wrong time for this development. Thus, I strongly oppose this project for the following reasons:

Thursday, August 1, 2024

- 1. The Lusby Town Center does not need additional traffic. Rousby Hall Road, where this project will front, is overburdened with traffic now, and there is dangerously scarce accommodation for pedestrian and bike traffic. The Lusby Town Center Master Plan that addresses traffic, bicycle lanes, and public safely was adopted and approved in 2002, but it has not been updated since. A major development bringing more people and more traffic to the Lusby Town Center should not be approved until a new traffic study is completed and the Town Center Master Plan is undated.
- 2. Lusby Villas will impact impervious surfaces that feed into waterways and eventually into the Patuxent River. The subdivisions of Chesapeake Ranch Estates and Drum Point are densely populated with many septic systems now failing. This project will only add to the pollution of the waterways and environment.
- 3. Crime is a concern in the first district where the Lusby Town Center and this project is purposed. Pick up a weekly copy of the Calvert County Times and read the Police Blotter. More people equal more crime. With respect to Planning Commission Chairman, John Toohey, who stated it was a good project because it would provide affordable housing, I would like to know what his definition of affordable housing is and

how he would guarantee Lusby Villas would provide the affordable housing he envisions. The tax records indicate this property is owned and would be developed by Lusby Town Center, LLC. This is the same group that developed Lusby Center Shopping Center, and in January 2005, submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to the Planning Commission. The memorandum stated, "The owner shall deliver a deed conveying fee simple title to the Village Green Area containing approximately two acres of ground, more or less." Do residents remember the 'It is Your Lusby' signs that subsequently showed up in the Lusby area? Beautiful drawings were submitted showing a gazebo that would host concerts and other civic events; the walkways and landscape were picture perfect. Yet, what did the residents of Lusby get? An enormous mound of dirt and the surrounding area that is overgrown with weeds.

It is not in anyone's best interest to approve this project without further evaluation and thoughtful planning. Many citizens have spoken out in opposition to the development of Lusby Villas. It is county government and the Planning Commission's obligation to serve the citizens' wishes. Presently, this project cannot assure affordable housing, but without question, will cause traffic congestion, increased crime, and reduction of safety on Rousby Hall Road.

Art Carson Lusby, Maryland

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that the following vessel has apparently been abandoned for 180 days on the property of Marina West located at 4055 Gordon Stinnett Ave. Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732 301.855.8450. The vessel is described as 34' 1990 Sea Ray pleasure boat with a fiberglass hull, ID # SERF2147K990, Vessel # MD 724AY. Application for title will be made in accordance with Section 8-722 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article if this vessel is not claimed from the above property within 30 days of this notice.

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Annual Jousting Tournament Announced



Christ Church invites you to the 157th annual Calvert County Jousting Tournament. The event will take place on August 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Christ Church, located at 3100 Broomes Island Road in Port Republic.

In one day, in one location, travel back in time to the family friendly simple pleasures of yesteryear. In the morning, enjoy the delights of the church bazaar. Browse the attic treasures, peruse gentle-used books, visit the children's corner for face painting, savor a hot dog, fresh lemonade, and a snow cone, and take home homemade baked goods and preserves. At noon head to

the jousting field to cheer on Sir Knight and Fair Lady as they spear rings as small as 1/4" on running horses. In the afternoon, cool off in the historic Christ Church for soothing organ recitals. Top off your day with a traditional church supper in our air-conditioned parish hall, or take it boxed and ready to go, featuring homemade fare of deviled crab, fried chicken, ham (choice of two), potato salad, apple sauce, and more.

For more information, visit https://www.christchurchcalvert.org, email info@christchurchcalvert.org, or call 410-586-0565



Law Enforcement, Community Come Together for National Night Out

By Dick Myers Staff Writer

Across the country and in Calvert County the annual National Night Out (NNO)takes place this year on Tuesday, August 6.

According to the NNO website, "National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances."

Calvert County Sheriff Ricky Cox said of the benefit of NNO to law enforcement, "It benefits us well. I wish we could do more of it, because it seems like we only do it one day a year in August. For me moving forward, I would like to do it more than once a year. That's what I'm looking forward to doing. It gives the opportunity just to have that partnership that I hope it grows between us and sheriff's office. Also, we get to interact with local fire departments, our paid EMS. and our volunteers too, because they come out in the communities with us too as well.



which is kind of cool because we work well together here in our community. And, it just bolsters that kind of relationships that we have between us and the fire service as well."

He added, "What we're looking for, too, is for partnerships in the neighborhood. We're also looking to make our community stronger and safer as a whole. And, it gets the citizens here to know their deputies. And, since I've been elected as sheriff, I've started the neighborhood deputy program. So, I think right now we have 14 to 15 different communities inside our county that I assigned a deputy to. And that deputy hears all the concerns. And a lot of them got invited to their Easter community parties, summer parties. So it's kind of cool to see it actually working in place."

While a deputy at NNO, Cox said, "I liked to see the smiling faces on the kids because



they look up to us. I interacted a lot with the kids out there. We played basketball, we had corn hole set up in a lot of them."

In the Calvert NNO communities, attendees will enjoy visits from law enforcement, local Fire and EMS, and various community agencies. It's a great chance to meet your neighbors, make new friends, and have some fun.

- Bayside Forest 6 8 p.m. Beach Area off Deane Avenue, Prince Frederick
- Broomes Island Civic League 5 9 p.m. 4080 School Rd., Broomes Island
- Calvert County Office on Aging (Calvert Pines) 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. 450 W Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick
- Calvert Towne 4:00 6 p.m. 100 Serenity Court (Community Area), Prince Frederick
- Gray-Ray American Legion Post 220

- 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. 2105 Sixes Road, Prince Frederick
- Huntingtown Citizens' Association 6 7:30 p.m. Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department, 4030 Old Town Road, Huntingtown
- Northeast Community Center 6 8 p.m. Kellam's Field, 3825 Gordon Stinnett Avenue, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732 Collaboration with NBFD and the town.
- Oakland Hall 4 7 p.m. Oakland Hall Clubhouse, 2425 Comptrollers Court, Prince Frederick, MD 20678
- Patuxent View Community Association 4-7 p.m. Corner lot/Seagull Beach Rd & Dawn Drive, Prince Frederick
- Prince Frederick Village & Prince Frederick Seniors 5 p.m. 340 Fair Ground Road, PF
- Queensberry FRIDAY, August 9, 2024 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. 1519/1520 Larkspur Ct., Huntingtown
- White Sands 6 8 p.m. 8585 Sycamore
- Yardley Hills 6 8 pm Community Center, 700 Yardley Hills Dr., Prince Frederick

dickmyers@countytimes.net

CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of July 15, 2024 – July 21, 2024, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,738 calls for service throughout the community including. but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 68
- Disorderly: 20
- Domestics: 15
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 41
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 760
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 33
- Traffic Complaints: 63
- 911 Hang Ups: 68
- ARRESTS: 43



Meagan Marie Bailey

CDS Violation: **24-54828** On July 16, 2024, DFC Strong responded to the 3400 block of Cox Road in Chesapeake Beach, for the report of a 911 hang-up. Upon arrival, contact was made with Meagan Marie

Bailey, 30 of Harpers Ferry, WV. Further investigation revealed several pieces of drug paraphernalia with residue were located inside the Bailey's vehicle. Bailey was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

CDS Violation: 24-55082 On July 17, 2024, Calvert Deputies initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for an inoperable taillight near Armory Road and Main Street



Sharon Oshee Pratt

in Prince Frederick. Further investigation revealed a K9 sniff of the vehicle resulted in a positive alert. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed a plastic tear-off with white residue, 64 Fentanyl pills, and

\$266 in US Currency. Sharon Oshee Pratt, 21 of Washington D.C., was arrested and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute, CDS Possession-Large Amount, and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.



Craig Michael Conway

Disorderly Conduct: 24-55786 On July 21, 2024, deputies responded to the Tiki Bar located at 85 Charles Street in Solomons, for an active fight in progress. Upon arrival, deputies observed

a white male, Craig Michael Conway, 53 of Arlington, VA, advancing on the security staff. Despite multiple loud verbal commands from deputies to back away, Conway continued to scream and push forward, causing a scene in front of onlookers. While being placed into custody, Alina Pitts, 30 of Arlington, VA repeatedly tried to inter-



Alina Pitts

fere, ignoring deputy's commands to back away. Conway was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Disorderly Conduct, Failure to Obey a Reasonable/Lawful Order of a Law

Enforcement Officer, Intoxicated Public Disturbance, and Resisting/Interfere with Arrest. Pitts was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Second-Degree Assault, Obstruction & Hindering, Disorderly Conduct, Failure to Obey Reasonable/Lawful Order of a Law Enforcement Officer, and Intoxicated Public Disturbance.



Kolten Takoda Ford

Property Destruction: 24-55936 On July 21, 2024, Deputy Chase responded to BAIA Coastal Italian Kitchen & Wine Bar located at 8323 Bayside Road in Chesapeake Beach, for a disor-

derly patron. The complainant advised an unknown male kicked in the restroom door and shattered one of the toilets. Toilet paper and blood were discovered all over the bathroom floor. The suspect, Kolten Takoda Ford, 26 of Chesapeake Beach, was trans-

ported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Disorderly Conduct and Malicious Destruction of Property/ Value less than \$1000. The estimated value of damaged property is \$300.00.

Theft: 24-54423 On July 15, 2024, DFC Newton responded to the 5300 block of Huntingtown Road in Huntingtown, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between 7:40 p.m. on July 14 and 11:47 a.m. on July 15, an unknown suspect(s) stole a black and green Ryobi wet tile saw from a vehicle parked outside the residence. The estimated value of stolen property is \$110.00.

Theft: 24-54824 On July 16, 2024, Master Deputy Cress responded to the 11800 block of Crown Drive in Dunkirk, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised an unknown suspect(s) stole a package containing six iPhones off the front porch. The estimated value of the stolen property is

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

Lusby Villas Memorandum of Understanding Questioned

By Dick Myers Staff Writer

The proposed 276-unit Lusby Villas apartment complex continues to be a hot button issue. The 2005 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the planning commission and the property owner, which is the underpinning of the rights alleged by the developer, was called into question by two speakers at the public forum at the county commissioners' July 30 meeting. The planning commission is scheduled to take their final vote on the project at their August meeting.

Myra Gowans, founder of Calvert Citizens United (CCU) addressed the commissioners about the "legislative and legal oversight for the county that you all are using or perhaps not using, but maybe you don't even know what's going on, that's a possibility."

She said she received a timeline from planning and zoning on Lusby Villas including the 2005 MOU and the 2020 project submittal. She asserted, "I look up the memorandum of understanding, and this is questionable. First of all, you've got a document that's dated the 26th day of January 2005. The Planning Commission signed this document. I don't even think they had legal authority to do that. It's usually the county attorneys that do this for a memorandum of understanding," adding, "On the back page has it signed in 2005 by all the planning

commission members, Johnny Gott (the property owner) signs the document in 2004 in January. What does that tell us? What does that say? That says that this document is altered, has been altered, or there's a missing document. Now, nobody in their right mind would do a document like this without notaries. There're no notaries on this, no notarizing of the signatures. You also have this document that everybody is relying on for the development of the property."

She added, "This document that was signed, that was agreed to, this document is the whole document that everybody's referring to, this memorandum of understanding, which is questionable because Johnny Gott's signature is at another time and place. Now, the other thing is that you have to worry about here is Johnny Gott is referred to as the owner. Johnny Gott signs this as the managing member; what the heck is a managing member? That could be a secretary."

Gowans said, "You have a false document here, and everybody's putting all their eggs into this basket. Now the other thing is in this document says 'time is of the essence.' What does this mean in legal terms? It means it's critical. This is a critical issue. You must work to get this handled and done immediately. You must quickly and efficiently and with haste do this project. In 2005, adding "If you don't do it when time is of the essence, you're in breach of your



Myra Gowans

agreement. This is a problem, and it has to be addressed and it has to be looked at."

Josh Johnson, chair of the Calvert County Republican Central Committee, noted the traffic study, which is now being revised, doesn't meet state and local requirements. "All this is normally done by the way before it even passes the first time around."

He added, "I've been listening to people. I've had a lot of people come up to me and they're concerned. They do not want this."

Johnson said, "We already have a thousand more units. I do appreciate what Commissioner Ireland was saying (see separate story) about trying to be able to have some housing for those that might need it. Keep in mind, we already have 8,000 to 9,000



Josh Johnson

affordable housing units here and we have another thousand that are already proposed.

"So, another thing to keep in mind, there's different values for different people. Some people want to have paths and they want to walk on that. I think that would be great in some areas, but keep in mind our values are not necessarily that way. And the values of the people that came out to all these town halls that might not be their values. They appreciate what they have. They appreciate keeping this area rural, and that really needs to be the values of what we have because that's what they're telling us and that's the reason why they got us selected."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Sentence Imposed for Child Pornography

Hunter Lee Kirby, 27, of Prince Frederick, was sentenced on July 26 to 35 years in prison, with 10 years of active time, for distribution of child pornography and sex abuse of a minor. The sentence was imposed by Judge Andrew S. Rappaport of the Calvert County Circuit Court.

In July, 2023, the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force received a cyber tip that Kirby was accessing and sharing child pornography on his electronic devices. The court issued a search warrant that led to the seizure of these devices. Multiple images of child pornography were identified and Kirby was arrested. Further investigation revealed that Kirby had unlawfully touched a minor female.

Upon his release from prison, Kirby will be on 5 years of supervised probation. He will also be required to register as a sex offender for life.



Hunter Lee Kirby

This case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant State's Attorney Rebecca N. Cordero.

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney

Chesapeake Window Cleaning Co.

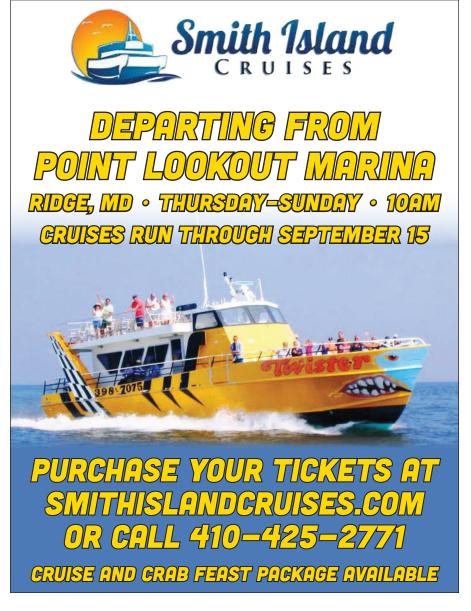
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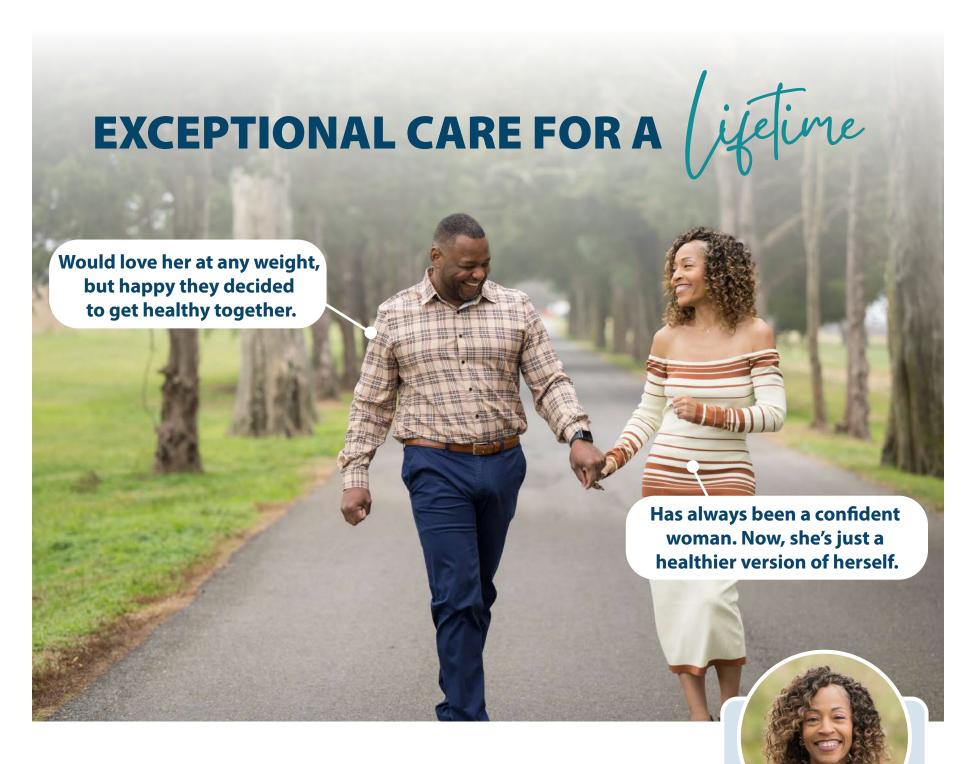
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- CaShawn

Prince Frederick

Mayor Candidate Reacts to Current Mayor's Criticism

By Dick Myers Staff Writer

Former Chesapeake Beach mayor and current mayoral candidate Bruce Wahl has reacted to criticism of him by current Mayor Pat Mahoney.

Mahoney said at the July 18 town council meeting, "Thirty-six years ago, in 1988, Bruce Wall was appointed by Mayor Gerald Donovan to the town council. Bruce was loyal to that administration for his entire time in office." Donavan, who has since passed away, was operator of the Chesapeake Beach Resort and Spa and the Rod 'N Reel Restaurant, which has gaming machines and sports betting. The facility is now operated by his family.

"To be clear to the world, you will not see a Bruce Wahl sign in my front yard. This is not the same town it was in 1988. Probably, you know, close to a large percentage of our registered voters weren't even born in 1988. Our citizens expect more and deserve better now," Mahoney said.

Wahl responded, "There are three establishments in the town that have gaming that's authorized by the state. I personally am not a person that does any gaming. I don't, it is just not what I do. But I also believe that these businesses operate legitimately, they support the community. They contribute, if I'm not mistaken, somewhere near 25 percent of the tax revenue of the town. So, I don't see it as evil. I don't participate in it, but I believe in live and let live, if this is legal, it's authorized in the state. I don't see any reason to attack those businesses. And candidly, they contribute a lot to the community. I think the Rod 'N Reel has about 230 employees, a lot of whom live in the town.

"I think the Traders has over a hundred, many of them live in the town. So, it's providing revenue to the town. It's providing employment for the citizens. It's providing nice places to go. And, when you walk into these establishments, you don't have to do the gaming, that's a choice. And so, I don't have a problem with it. Mahoney has had a problem with it, and he always has the entire time he has been on the council. I don't know what the root of that is."

Wahl feels the waterpark should be kept open and refurbished. He said, "The water park is a huge issue. Last year they rose the rates so high. My wife has always had a season pass at the waterpark. We paid for that every year. And last year, they did away with the middle tier, which was the county residents. So, all they had was town residents and everybody else. They raised the rate so high, the place was deserted. And then at the end of the season, they complain that they lost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Well, is any of this a surprise? No. It seems like it was deliberate, and that was the excuse to shut it down."

Wahl said the waterpark should be for residents and visitors alike.

He said he was originally appointed to the council by Donovan because of his experience with waterparks in Virginia. He said, "Originally the concept was we were just going to build a swimming pool. And this was back in the 80's.'

He added, "I came up with this swimming pool concept, and Mayor Donovan said it needs to be more entertaining than that. Why don't we build a waterpark? So, we changed it from just a plain swimming pool to a waterpark, and it ran successfully for years and years and years."

Wahl observed, "This thing about the waterpark sinking was the excuse for shutting it down. The entire waterpark is built on hundreds of pilings that are driven down to bedrock," adding, "If it's sinking, the whole earth is sinking."

"To completely shut it down, keep everybody away, and not have a plan to repair, I think they're spending tens of thousands of dollars for consultants to figure out what to do, which I don't know that that makes a whole lot of sense. The waterpark needs to be reopened so we give our high school kids summer employment. So, we have places to keep my wife entertained and everybody else."

Wahl said, "Mahoney's comment that got captured at a work session about, we don't want that people down here. I don't know exactly what he was referring to, but I can kind of figure out what he might've been referring to."

Wahl said he hadn't been in good health since leaving the mayor's office but has lost 150 pounds and had a heart transplant. He said, "My health is better now than it's been in probably the last 30 years."

He said after he retired from National Public Radio in 2019, "I hadn't paid a whole lot of attention to what had been going on in the town until earlier this year. And when I started digging into it, I was pretty appalled at a lot of the things that I see are going on. And so, after a lot of careful thought and a lot of prayer, to be quite honest with you, and lengthy conversations with my wife Becky, I decided to go ahead and run again."

"I think that I bring back to the town council a sense of civility, although if you attend the current meetings or observe the current meetings, there doesn't seem to be much dissension among the council. When I was mayor, there was a faction led by Pat Mahoney that basically would oppose everything that I did. If I had said, the sun's



Bruce Wahl

gonna come up in the east and go down in the west, they would've said, no, nope. We're gonna have it come up in the west and go down in the east. That's how bad it was."

Meanwhile one of the other candidates for mayor, Councilman Greg Morris, has reportedly withdraw and will instead seek to be re-elected to the council. Morris did not return The County Times' call for comment. Councilwoman Valerie Beaudin is the other announced candidate.

dickmyers@countytimes.net





Planned Unit Developments Rejected

Commissioners Vote Against 3-2

By Dick Myers Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), on a 3-2 vote, has decided to keep the prohibition of planned unit developments in place in the county. Commissioner President Buddy Hance cast the tie-breaking vote during a July 30 meeting at which the update of the zoning ordinance was finalized for a second draft expected later this month in advance of a scheduled Nov. 10 public hearing.

Zoning planner Wil Hager explained, "A plan unit development is a mixed-use development that must combine residential with a combination of recreational, commercial, or institutional elements. The goal of a PUD is to achieve a substantially higher quality development that provides a public benefit that would otherwise not be obtained. And a key factor with a PUD is that a PUD proposal requires Board of County Commissioners approval."

Director of Planning and Zoning Mary Beth Cook said of the public benefit, "It really could be up to the applicant, whatever they want to include with their proposal. It could range anywhere from anything really. A library, a community center, something that would typically not be included in a normal application that comes into the office for review. It's an addition, kind of like a give and take, if we're requesting that, if you give us some leniency or some flexibility that we don't have to adhere to these regulations and

we can do this instead."

County Attorney John Norris explained that the PUD was contract zoning, "It's a proposal from the developer that does go through a public hearing process before the planning commission. Under the state law, the Planning Commission then makes a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. One, whether it's consistent with your comprehensive plan and any of your town center master plans that might be applicable. And also makes a recommendation as to whether or not the Board of County Commissioners should approve it. And then that goes to a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. because it is actually creating what is a mini zoning ordinance that just applies to that piece of property."

Commissioner Mike Hart led the charge against PUDs. He said, "It sounds like it makes the county code irrelevant. If there's a project and there's something county code dictates must happen, it gives the board the authority to say that that ordinance no longer applies if they're satisfied with the offer from the builder.'

Hart used as an example two people who want to open a restaurant. He said, "We have parking restrictions on how many parking spots per tables. Solomons is the only one that does this shared thing. But restaurant A's got a lot of money and he's got a great relationship with board members. And he says, Hey, I'll build you something over here if you relax your parking regulation. Person B

doesn't have that kind of money and he can't buy you something over here. So, person A can build his restaurant or person B cannot because he's got nothing to offer.'

He added, "It seems to me he's buying his way for a more relaxed code. And to me that sets a table for a whole lot of corruption. And it sets a table for people that prey on you when you're new. They come out because they know you don't know. You haven't been through the ringer yet."

Hart said he experienced such a situation with a person who had contributed to his campaign and then expected special zoning favors.

Hart observed, "Big corporations are able to go in and do this same exact thing where a small business owner cannot because they can barely afford to do what they're doing. But they have a fair business as well. They're providing the service as well."

Commissioner Catherine Grasso was equally as opposed to the PUDs. "I believe that the table should be fair for everybody. And the rules are the same. I am adamantly against these PUDs because they rely on the credibility of who sits in these seats. And I think it just puts too much power on these seats and not enough on the public out there. And staff. I think it puts pressure on staff to come up with ways.'

Cook said contract zoning was allowed. She noted, "This is a successful planning tool that's used across the country. And I really think the desire is to get a more attractive product."

Norris said a nearby example of a PUD

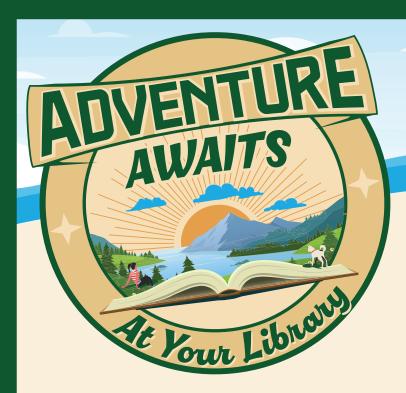
was Wildewood in St. Mary's County.

Commissioner Mark Cox said, 'So, in my opinion I think it's a valuable tool to put in a toolbox. And I'll give you an example of that. Let's go back to Armory Square. I believe we had...four or five text amendments we did with the first group. If we had a PUD, we would not have been there. And if we had a PUD with the second group, we could have navigated the citizens' wants and needs through town halls and we could get their opinions and we can navigate with the developer early on and not at a late stage of what they want, what the citizens want in the development."

Commissioner Todd Ireland said, "Senior housing...is definitely a need here in the county as is start-up housing. How many parents have kids in the county who can't afford to live here? Kids are moving from here to DC to apartments because they're more affordable, because they're walkable communities, much like our comprehensive plan spells out being vibrant walking communities, which we don't have here.

That left Hance as the swing vote, and he said he had mixed emotions. But in the end he concluded, "I've been struggling with this for a while, as most of you can probably tell. And, I'm going to have to be a No because I am concerned that it does make it easier for three commissioners to make changes, even though I know they can without it (the PUDs).

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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"I'VE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THIS FOR A WHILE."

COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT BUDDY HANCE ON HIS VOTE AGAINST PUDS



LOCAL Chesapeake Beach candidates clash



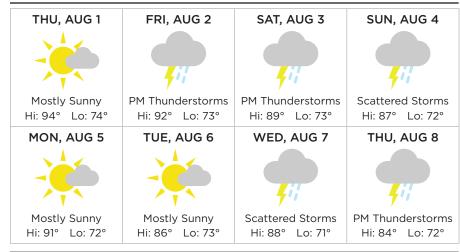
Lusby Villas agreement questioned



ON THE COVER

Calvert readies for National Night Out

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