



In 1776, history was made when Marylanders repelled the British Army on St. George's Island. Relive history at this special semiquincentennial event.

Saturday, April 5th • 10am–4pm • Piney Point Lighthouse
For more info, visit [Facebook.com/1836Light](https://www.facebook.com/1836Light) or call 301-994-1471



St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

WWW.COUNTYTIMES.NET

**Commissioner Defends
School Funding**

**Townhome Project
Loses Latest Appeal**

**St. Mary's City Chapel
Exhibit Opening Soon**

**RUN FOR HOSPICE,
RUN FOR HOPE**

It's NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April
6-12

"I love the library because it's a place to learn, grow, and be in a community!"

"I love my library because it's a place where knowledge is always within reach, no matter who you are or where you come from."

"Libraries have become more than a place to check out books — they are places where you can meet with others, learn, and expand your horizons."

"I love our libraries because they are dedicated to partnering with nonprofit organizations like mine to educate our community!"



101 REASONS WHY I LOVE MY LIBRARY



"Public libraries are more than just buildings filled with books; they are hubs of learning, innovation, and community engagement."

"Libraries did not exist in my home country. Coming here, the library was my solace and entertainment center in my first few years ...still is."

"We are grateful to be able to use the tutoring rooms when working with our adult learners."

"I love my library because libraries bring us together! It's a place where everyone can share their voice and learn from different perspectives."

Come visit
and discover
all the reasons
to love
your library!

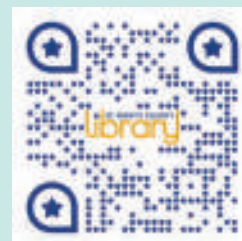
Calvert
LIBRARY
#calvertREADS



ccpl
CHARLES COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ccplonline.org



★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY
library
stmalib.org



CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS	5	OBITUARIES	21
COMMUNITY	16	CALENDARS	23
COLUMNISTS	20		

“I WILL GUARANTEE WE WILL GIVE THEM MORE THAN MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT THIS YEAR.”

COMMISSIONER MIKE HEWITT ON THE COUNTY PORTION OF THE SCHOOLS BUDGET



LOCAL 7
Senior citizen pushes petition for more handicapped parking at Garvey Center



LOCAL 9
St. Mary's City chapel exhibit soon to open



ON THE COVER
Run For Hospice enters its 28th year

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>THU, APR 3</p> <p>Cloudy</p> <p>Hi: 79° Lo: 62°</p>	<p>FRI, APR 4</p> <p>Cloudy</p> <p>Hi: 68° Lo: 55°</p>	<p>SAT, APR 5</p> <p>AM Showers</p> <p>Hi: 72° Lo: 66°</p>	<p>SUN, APR 6</p> <p>Cloudy</p> <p>Hi: 80° Lo: 52°</p>
<p>MON, APR 7</p> <p>Showers</p> <p>Hi: 57° Lo: 45°</p>	<p>TUE, APR 8</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p> <p>Hi: 52° Lo: 33°</p>	<p>WED, APR 9</p> <p>Mostly Sunny</p> <p>Hi: 53° Lo: 39°</p>	<p>THU, APR 10</p> <p>Mostly Sunny</p> <p>Hi: 63° Lo: 48°</p>

Celebrating 50 YEARS of serving SOUTHERN MARYLAND!

REAL ESTATE SALES
AUCTION SERVICES
CONSULTING
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
FREE MARKET ANALYSIS

FITZGERALD REALTY & AUCTIONEERS

BILLY FITZGERALD — "MR. LISTER"
O: 301-884-7000/1-800-MRLISTER
C: 301-481-3378
www.fitzgeraldrealty.net

**GONNA SELL GIVE US A YELL
WANNA BUY GIVE US A TRY**

37601 Golden Beach Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
info@fitzgeraldrealty.net

DO YOU FEEL CRABBY WHEN YOU GET YOUR INSURANCE BILL IN THE MAIL?

GIVE US A CALL. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID.

Burris' Olde Towne Insurance

Auto • Home • Business • LIFE

LEONARDTOWN 301-475-3151 **BRYANS ROAD 301-743-9000**

WWW.DANBURRIS.COM

AN INDEPENDENT AGENT REPRESENTING ERIE INSURANCE GROUP

Sell it - Buy it at Auction

Tri County Livestock Auction
1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the Month – Auction begins at 4 PM
Located Off MD Rt. 6 West – Charlotte Hall, MD

ONLINE AUCTION
Tools, Collectibles, Catering-Related Items

Crocks – Hand Tools – Mechanic Tools – Collectibles – Catering-Related Items
(Some tools/items are new)

Online Auction closes:
Monday, April 14, 2026 starting at 6 pm.

In-Person Auction Preview:
Friday, April 11, 2025, 5 pm – 7 pm

Upcoming "Live, In-Person" Auction
Spring into Spring Lawn & Garden Auction
Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 4 pm
Westfield Farm Arena & Auction Barn
Mechanicsville, MD

Bedding Plants – Hanging Baskets – Combo Planters – Porch Planters – Handcrafted Quilts - Toys – Lawn/Garden Items

www.FarrellAuctionService.com
301.904.3402



LOSE THE RATE

At Cedar Point Federal Credit Union®, our goal is to help you save on your monthly auto loan payment. Join us for our **Rate Loss Challenge** and shed that extra rate in time for warmer weather! Visit any branch or apply online at www.cpfcu.com/offer.

- ✓ **1% off** your qualifying auto loan rate
- ✓ **30 days** to find the perfect car
- ✓ Rates as low as **3.99% APR**



Starting **APRIL 2025**

For a **LIMITED TIME** only!



*This offer applies only to auto loans on vehicles up to 10 years of age. Limitations apply. **APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates valid beginning April 1, 2025. For a Limited Time Only. Federally Insured by NCUA. Persons who live, work (or regularly conduct business), worship or attend school in, and businesses and other legal entities located in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties, Maryland, are eligible for membership. Government and/or military affiliation is not required to do business with Cedar Point

Commissioner Fires Back at Superintendent Over Budget Comments

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Commissioner Mike Hewitt publicly challenged comments made by school Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith last week regarding the decision by local elected leaders to flat fund the public schools.

Smith made his comments during a more-than-three-hour school board meeting March 26, in which a packed meeting room of parents, educators and even children spoke on the importance of maintaining the fine arts and music in public education.

"The county commissioners are anticipating at least \$15.5 million worth of new revenue and the school system is flat funded for next year," Smith said. "You might want to consider spending some of that on the children and those who work with children in St. Mary's County."

The county, so far, has agreed to fund \$134.3 million in local tax payer funds to schools.

At the April 1 meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County Hewitt said he was disappointed in Smith's comments.

"He took the opportunity to say... how last year a majority of commissioners voted to raise taxes for education and that we weren't giving them the money," Hewitt



Commissioner Mike Hewitt

said. "That's not true.

"They got [an additional] \$7 million last year."

That money allowed the school system to raise starting teacher salaries to \$60,000 a year, Hewitt said, some the state's Blueprint for Education required but not until July 1 of 2026.

"Now they're talking about additional negotiated agreements they've had and that they need this additional money," Hewitt



Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith

said. "In the last 10 years... we have over-funded maintenance of effort by more than \$68 million."

Hewitt said despite this, the school system would still say it was not being given enough funding.

"You can never fund education enough but you can only give so much," Hewitt said. "We don't know what the state is going to pass down to us."

Budget uncertainty at the state level, pri-

marily a \$3.3 billion shortfall, could mean many costs traditionally borne by the state, such as teacher pensions, could be shifted to individual counties.

"These are unfunded mandates," Hewitt said. "But we're one of the few counties in the state who has met Blueprint funding requirements."

"We're currently funding the Board of Education at 2029 levels; we're way ahead."

Hewitt criticized the spending of the school board as focused too much on administrative salaries.

He said the school board is spending \$101 million for teacher salaries but \$26 million on pay for administrators.

"They're too heavy on administrative costs," Hewitt said. "It's too heavy, they need to look there."

Hewitt was confident the commissioners would still provide more funding for schools once the state had finalized its own budget.

"I will guarantee we will give them more than maintenance of effort this year, Hewitt said. "It may not be what they said they have to have... but let's hope we have a kinder, gentler process going forward."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Grove Family
Health

Experience the Grove Difference

Ready to see how simple and personal healthcare can be? Whether you're an individual, family, or business, we're here to help.



Visit GroveFamilyHealth.net or call **301-481-5358** to schedule your **free consultation**.

25482 Point Lookout Rd Unit #201 | Leonardtown, MD 20650

Providing Proactive Primary Care

What Is Grove Family Health — And Why Is Direct Primary Care the Future of Healthcare in Our Community?

Have you ever felt rushed through a medical visit? Waited weeks to be seen? Or have you been hit with a confusing bill after what should have been a simple appointment? You're not alone—and it's exactly why **Grove Family Health**, your local family primary care clinic, was created.

Based in Leonardtown, Maryland, Grove Family Health is a new kind of healthcare experience—a **family clinic built on trust, time, and accessibility**, all made possible through a model called **Direct Primary Care (DPC)**.

What Is Direct Primary Care (DPC)?

Direct Primary Care is a simple, affordable, and relationship-based approach to healthcare. Instead of billing insurance for every visit, test, or procedure, patients pay a flat monthly fee—much like a subscription—to receive ongoing care.

DPC practices are built around **direct access to your provider, transparent pricing, and longer appointments** that prioritize prevention and whole-person wellness. This model allows patients to avoid co-pays, surprise bills, and long wait times.

It's healthcare on your terms—**unrushed, proactive, and deeply personal**.

What Makes Grove Family Health Different?

At **Grove Family Health**, that Direct Primary Care model is brought to life by **Sheri Dean, CRNP**, a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner with more than 20 years of experience. She opened the clinic to serve her community with **more time, more access, and more heart**.

As a member, you get:

- Unlimited in-office visits for wellness, sick care, and chronic condition management
- **Direct communication with Sheri by phone, secure messaging, email—even after hours**
- Access to **telehealth and in-home visits** when appropriate
- Personalized attention and appointment times long enough to truly address your concerns

And yes, we have a waiting room—but **most patients barely spend any time in it**. You're seen when you're scheduled, and your visit is never rushed.

We also coordinate with your insurance when helpful—like for labs, prescriptions, imaging, and specialist referrals—so your coverage still supports you, without interfering with your care.

Not Ready for Membership?

That's okay—**Grove Family Health also offers affordable, one-time urgent care visits** for non-members. Whether you need help for a minor injury, infection, or sudden illness, you can get fast, high-quality care without the long waits or inflated costs of traditional urgent care centers.

A Smart Option for Small Business Owners

For small business owners, Grove Family Health is more than a clinic—it's a **partner in keeping your team healthy**.

- Already offer insurance? DPC enhances it with faster access, fewer absences, and better outcomes.
- Not offering insurance yet? A Grove membership gives your employees **real care and peace of mind**—without the overwhelming cost of traditional plans.

Flat Iron Farm Southern Maryland Auction Company

Spring Heavy Truck, Construction & AG Equipment Auction

April 11th, 2025 starting at 8:30 AM

45840 Flat Iron Road, Great Mills, MD 20634
Proxibid.com, Equipmentfacts.com & live at site.
Consignments accepted up until April 9th, 2025.



2006 Peterbilt 335 dump truck
Allison Automatic & 285 HP Cummins



2015 Freightliner Tri-Axle Dump
Steerable axle, auto-shift high lift gate



Takeuchi TL12v2 Track Skid Steer



2012 AP255E Asphalt paver



John Deere 844K Wheel Loader



Case 580SN Backhoe. Low hours



2019 Weiler P385B asphalt paver

20 tri-axle dump trucks from model year 2015-2023. Mack, International, Kenworth, Freightliner & Peterbilt. Half have automatic transmissions. Very nice trucks.

15 Road Tractors
2 Bulldozers
20 Mini excavators
6 late model high end asphalt rollers
20 Skid steers track and tire
8 Big excavators
25 Pickup trucks

7 Scissor and man lifts
5 Wheel loaders
1 CAT crawler loader
5 Backhoes
1 Gooseneck trailer with cans
20 Utility and closed in trailers
10 Farm tractors

5 Forklifts
10 Sea containers 40s and 20s
5 diesel air compressors
10 Lawn mowers
4 diesel generators
200 Support equipment (bucket, forks etc.)

Buyer's Premium 10% in person, 12% on-line.

**We now auction for St. Mary's County
local government and SMECO**



If trucking is needed, contact:

Right Wing Transort LLC
P.O. Box 1 Hydes, MD 21082
Andrew: 443-271-3811



**Southern Maryland
Auction Company**

www.southernmarylandauctioncompany.com

240-237-8131

Senior Citizens Seeks Parking Reform at Garvey Center



Susan and Keith Blizzard sign Fred Calvert's petition for more ADA parking at the library senior center

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

There are about a dozen parking spaces for handicapped visitors to the Leonardtown Library/Garvey Senior Center, but one man says it's not enough.

Fred Calvert has been working since November of 2023, he said, to get more handicapped parking spaces there and have them put closer to the front entrance to the building to ease the burden of seniors coming to partake in activities there.

He spends his mornings there at the public property getting signatures for his petition drive to improve parking for seniors and the disabled; so far, he said, he's gotten about 160 signatures as of April 1.

The County Times visited Calvert that day at the library/senior center and witnessed several people sign it and say that either more parking was needed or that what was available was often full.

Along the front of the building are 12 such spaces, he said, most of which are full in the mornings but almost completely empty by the afternoon.

But the layout of those spaces, he said, makes it difficult for seniors with mobility problems — Calvert has to use a walker — to make it to the front door.

"It's 234 feet from that last space [in front of the building] to the front door," Calvert said. "I've had to park out in the street because [the parking lot] has been full."

Calvert said he worked for Giant food stores for more than 20 years as a store planner and has knowledge of how best to place parking spaces for facilities.

He said the number of spaces could be increased by taking the story garden at the site and moving it to another location to make way for more handicapped parking closer to the front entrance.

Deputy County Administrator David Yingling said he was looking forward to meeting with Calvert about possibilities for improvements, which will depend much on what the county can afford to spend in its capital construction budget.

One option to improve the situation, aside from adding ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] parking was to put an awning along the front of the building to protect those coming to the front entrance from inclement weather, said Yingling.

"We're open to listening to Mr. Calvert's ideas and I'm looking forward to speaking with him," Yingling said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Wentworth Nursery

REWARD MEMBER SPECIALS

Not a member? Stop by and Sign-up Today.

SPRING IS HERE

<p>Spring 4.5" Pansy's Mix Colors \$3⁷⁵ each</p>	<p>Blooming Spring Bulbs In Pots STARTING AT \$6⁹⁹ each</p>
<p>Garden Flags for Every Occasion SAVE 25% OFF</p>	<p>Farm House Bird Feeders Custom Design SAVE 25% OFF</p>
<p>All Terra-cotta Clay Pottery Mix & Match SAVE 25% OFF</p>	<p>All Garden Tools, Rakes, Shovels, Hoes & More SAVE 25% OFF</p>

NEW FRUIT TREES ARE HERE!!!

<p>BUY 5 or MORE Fruit Trees Get 1 FREE</p>
--

PRIVACY TREES & SHRUBS FOR SCREENING

<p>BUY 10 or MORE Privacy Trees SAVE 20%</p>

SHADE, FLOWERING & ORNAMENTAL TREES

<p>SAVE \$25 off* Any Maryland Native Tree with your Maryland Tree Coupon Min Price \$75 *See Store for details</p>
--

Calvert County residents can use their county tree coupon of \$50 Per Tree.

YES you can use both coupons and SAVE up to \$75 PER TREE.

NOW SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS FOR...
Landscape, Hardscape, Maintenance & Lawn Care
Schedule an Appointment Today. 800-451-1427 or WentworthNursery.com

Wentworth Nursery

Spring Hours:
Mon-Fri 9-7, Sat 9-6, Sun. 9-5
Project Center Opens @ 7:30 am Mon-Sat.
Sale Ends: 4/9/2025

Prince Frederick Garden Center
1700 Solomon's Island Rd,
Prince Frederick, MD
410-535-3664 • 866-535-3664

Oakville Garden Center & Landscape Project Center
41170 Oakville Road, Mechanicsville, MD
301-373-9245 • 800-451-1427

WentworthNursery.com ShopWentworthNursery.com

GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES - FOR SALE!!

\$325,000.00



22335 Exploration Drive #1020, Lexington Park
1st Floor Office Condo - 1,825 s.f., 2 bath-rooms, shower, kitchen, open floor plan.

\$485,000.00



22335 Exploration Drive #1000, Lexington Park
1st Floor Office/Retail Condo - 2,784 s.f., open floor plan, 2 half bathrooms, utility room w/ shower.



BILLY FITZGERALD - "MR. LISTER"
O: 301-884-7000/1-800-MRLISTER
C: 301-481-3378

GO NNA SELL GIVE US A YELL - WANNA BUY GIVE US A TRY

37601 Golden Beach Road Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
www.fitzgeraldrealty.net info@fitzgeraldrealty.net

BATTLE BY THE BAY

TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL



1ST PULL OF THE YEAR!

TICKETS
ADULT \$20
KIDS \$10
UNDER 5
FREE

ST. MARY'S COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS • LEONARDTOWN, MD

APRIL 12TH

GATES OPEN AT 4PM PULL BEGINS AT 6PM

**RAIN DATE
APRIL 13TH**



10,500 HOT FARM TRACTORS



6200 NATIONAL 4X4 TRUCKS



8000 PRO STOCK TRACTORS



STREET DIESEL TRUCKS



SEMI-TRUCKS



ALTERED FARM TRACTORS



**NEW VEHICLES
ON SITE!**



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LEONARDTOWN VOL. FIRE DEPT.



**CHECK OUT THE
LATEST PRODUCTS
FOR SPRING!**



FOOD

PRESENTED BY
GREATMILLS TRADING POST



Atlantic Tractor

We Live It.



JOHN DEERE



BAYTRACTORPULL.COM

St. Mary's City Chapel Exhibit to Open Soon

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

It's a project nearly 40 years in the making, but another piece of the puzzle that is St. Mary's City is being laid into place.

On April 12, the completed exhibit and interior of the chapel at St. Mary's City will be on display for the public, a replica of the first brick building ever built in Maryland.

The completion of the chapel exhibit project has been part of a painstaking effort to recreate how English Catholic colonists who first came to these shores in the 1630s worshipped.

"When you enter you would have a sense of what a 17th century person would've seen," said Dr. Henry Miller, Maryland Heritage Scholar at Historic St. Mary's City. "We've reconstructed that entirely."

The exhibit will include a replica of the altar at the chapel and the communion rail as well as a tabernacle, Miller said.

Also, in the crucifix-shaped interior of the chapel, a copy of an ancient portrait, who's original can be found in Rome, will hang above the altar.

It is a painting of Mary and Jesus that was first copied in 1569 when the pontiff of the Catholic Church gave permission to reproduce it so the Society of Jesus could use it around the world in its various missionary posts.

"Archaeology and documents from the time suggest the chapel was dedicated to Mary," Miller told The County Times.

In one of the crucifix arms in the chapel will be an exhibit of the lead coffins contain-



The original foundation of the chapel (left) and the reconstructed exterior (right). Photos courtesy of Historic St. Mary's City



ing the remains of members of the Calvert family, whose head Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, founded Maryland on the principal of religious tolerance.

Those lead coffins were unearthed in the 1990s as part of a major archaeology project and have now been replaced in the exact place they were discovered.

In the second arm of the church will be an exhibit that will explain the nature of the building itself, with a portion of the original foundation visible to the public that was found by an architectural historian named Chandlee Forman before World War II.

"No one knew it [the remains of the chapel] was here until 1938," Miller said.

The position of the chapel is exactly opposite the state house in St. Mary's City, the first capitol of the colony, providing a statement of balance, archaeologists believe, between the

influence of the church and the state.

"There was no official religion in Maryland at that time," Miller said. "There was a separation of church and state."

Lord Baltimore had established the colony to allow Catholics to worship freely, far away from persecution in their native England. But other religions were allowed to worship as they saw fit in Maryland as well.

The chapel at St. Mary's City represents the founding of the Catholic faith in the English colonies, and by extension, the United States, Miller said, pointing out the significance of the site.

The first Catholic diocese in America would be founded in 1790 in Maryland, he said.

"There's a direct relationship here," Miller said. "The seeds of faith planted here in 1630 continued despite oppression in the 18th century."

It was also no accident that this English Catholic chapel was built here so long ago.

"This could not have been built anywhere else in the entire English-speaking world," Miller said. "It was forbidden by law for Catholics to have a free-standing church."

English Catholics could have places of worship in their homes, Miller said, but not in public.

"It's a physical symbol of the idea of liberty of conscience Lord Baltimore built his colony on," Miller said, noting these same ideas of liberty of conscience, free exercise of religion and having no state-established church were still found today in the United States Constitution.

"This site truly has national importance," Miller said.

There are future prospects of continually developing the chapel site, he said, including doing ground radar surveys to find other centuries old burials of colonists there.

There are also plans to rebuild the rectory on the site, Miller said, where a ghost frame currently stands to mark its place.

The construction of the chapel, which was completed finally in 2009 took so long partly because of the techniques involved, which meant 17th century methods of construction, Miller said.

"That meant using wood scaffolding and raising bricks by hand on a windlass crank," he said. "We tried to make this re-creation as historically accurate as possible."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

A Southern Maryland Revolutionary War Family Event

REBELS & REDCOATS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH, 2025
Piney Point Lighthouse • 10 am - 4 pm

In 1776, history was made when Marylanders repelled the British army on St. George's Island.
Relive history at this special semiquincentennial event.

FREE!

ALL AGES! FOOD, FUN, PROGRAMS AND MORE

Family and Kids Activities ★★ Live Music
Historic/Educational Programing ★★ Refreshments and Food
Period Reenactor Encampment ★★ Museum/Lighthouse Tours
Fun For All ★★ And More!

DON'T MISS THE FIRST MARYLAND REGIMENT
Interact with members of The First Maryland Regiment, costumed history reenactors who will be staging an encampment demonstrating Colonial era drilling, weapons, cooking, living quarters, music and more.



SOUTHERN MARYLAND
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

This event/program is part of the Southern Maryland 250th Semiquincentennial, Maryland 250th, and America 250th celebrations, commemorating Southern Maryland's contributions to our nation's founding



St. Mary's County
Museums

www.museums.stmarysmd.com • bit.ly/RebelsRedcoats2024

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum and Historic Park • 44720 Lighthouse Road, Piney Point, MD 20674 • 301-994-1471

This semiquincentennial event is made possible by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area.



HOLCOMB'S **LANDSCAPING** LLC.



We do more than just landscaping

Commercial & Residential

- Mowing
- Trimming
- Mulching
- Landscape Design
- Sod Installation
- Grading
- French Drains
- Aerating
- Overseeding
- Top Dressing
- Driveway Installation & Repair
- Seal Coating
- Crack Sealing
- Hardscaping
- Pavers
- Retaining Walls
- Snow Plowing
- Brush Hogging
- Outdoor Lighting

Site Services

- Erosion & Sediment Control
- Super & Silt Fences
- Smart Fences
- Grading
- Dry Wells
- Bio Ponds
- Rain Gardens
- Stormwater Pond Management & Repair

Utilities

- Water, Sewer, Storm
- Grease Interceptors

Call for a Free Estimate • 301-997-8444
jon@holcombslandscaping.net

Serving Southern Maryland for 14 Years

Run for Hospice in Leonardtown This Saturday



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

There is still time today to register remotely to participate in the 28th annual Run For Hospice event in Leonardtown set to take place April 5.

On-line registration for the event ends at 4 p.m. to allow for time to finalize t-shirts and other materials to be picked up by participants on race day.

The event is divided into two parts — a 10-kilometer run that starts at 8:30 a.m. and a five-kilometer run/walk that starts at 8:45 a.m.

The 10-kilometer race takes a rural route around Leonardtown, while the five-kilometer run/walk takes a path through the streets of the town.

The Defender's Cup is also part of the 5K

race and is a team competition.

Racers who want to join in the event can still register on the day of the race from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

The annual event helps raise funds for the Hospice of St. Mary's House and gives runners and walkers the chance to memorialize friends and family members who have passed on.

St. Mary's Hospice House helps ensure quality end-of-life care and that no one has to endure in loneliness.

Also taking part of the event this year is the non-profit Cycling Without Age, which offers bike rides for those who are unable to walk, ride or are otherwise disabled so they can enjoy the budding spring weather.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

County Wants Input on Revising Animal Ordinance

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

An updated animal control ordinance was adopted by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County last year but it immediately drew concern from animal rescue groups and other pet owners over a new requirement to have a kenneling license for anyone possessing five or more dogs.

Under the revised animal ordinance, a property where five or more dogs were kept would be considered a commercial animal establishment and thus would be required to have the kenneling license.

The proposed revision would remove such a place from the definition of being a commercial animal establishment.

The public hearing on the animal control ordinance revision will be held April 29.

The time has yet to be determined.

When this part of the ordinance was first under consideration, numerous rescue groups

as well as individuals involved in animal rescue expressed worry that their efforts to save wayward dogs would be made even more difficult with the added expense and regulations.

The ordinance also would have affected military personnel with dogs who left them in the care of people who already had several canines while they went off on deployment.

The request for the public hearing came from Department of Emergency Services Director Jennifer Aubert-Utz.

Utz said the narrow change would not affect an animal control officer's ability to enforce statues regarding animal abuse or other parts of the ordinance.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt praised Utz for bringing the change before the commissioners.

"When you see something that needs correcting, you correct it," Hewitt said. "We've seen the effects of this ordinance and we want to change to it fit the needs of our constituents."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



PINE HILL TECHNOLOGY PARK

- » Flexible lease terms to work with your contract schedule
- » Right outside Gate 3, only 3 miles from Gate 2
- » Build-to-suit opportunity for flex space
- » Lovely, quiet campus setting
- » Pad site available with electric and lighting already on site

TALK TO US:

1,500 to 15,000 sq. ft. possible



48015 Pine Hill Run Rd.
Lexington Park, MD 20653

Barbara Svenson
(301) 502-7876
3660barbara@gmail.com

O'Brien Realty

(301) 863-2400
obrienrealty.com

Community Shred

&

Medication

Take Back Day



DROP OFF LOCATION:

St. Mary's Government Campus
41780 Baldrige Street
Leonardtown, MD

April 26th, 2025
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Items To Bring:

- ✓ Paper Documents
- ✓ Medications



SYRINGE COLLECTION
CONTAINERS ON SITE

For More Information
St. Mary's County Health
Department
smchd.org/disposal

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

nicoletta.pollice@stmaryscountymd.gov
301-475-4200, ext. 1074.
<https://stmaryscountymd.gov/aging/>



Brought to you by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County

Riverside Townhome Project Rejected by Appeals Board



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The months-long effort to get approval for a 42-unit townhome project just north of the intersection of Route 4 and Three Notch Road in California apparently failed when the county Board of Appeals rejected the concept site plan at their March 27 meeting.

The project, known as Riverside Townhomes, was taking their second run at the appeals board so far this year after their concept site plan had been rejected by the county Planning Commission late last year.

And while this latest hearing was a de novo appeal — an appeal in which the record was started afresh and prior testimony rescinded in favor of newer information and changes the developer had made to the project's initial proposal — the appeals board sided mostly with the concerns of the planning commission over traffic worries the homes would create at the county's busiest intersection.

The developer had plans to create a new shoulder space on northbound Three Notch

Road just after the right hand turn off of Route 4 that would allow for school buses to pull over to drop off and pick up students but appeals board members were still concerned that other drivers would still use that shoulder as an alternative to an acceleration lane that was already there.

"The improvements we're making are above and beyond what we showed the planning commission," said Sang Oh, attorney for LAHACO Investments LLC.

Still, the appeals board was adamant.

"We all know it's a failing intersection," said appeals board member Rita Weaver. "I just think this is going to add more issues and problems to the area."

Appeals board member Ronald Payne said the board's charter for approval was bound by the project's meeting the requirements of the zoning code and the health and safety standard for the community.

"I don't see where this promotes safety," Payne said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Public Hearing Set for Pax Village Townhouse Project

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The county Planning Commission is set to hold a public hearing in Leonardtown April 14 on a concept site plan for 91 new town homes to be built at the former Millison Plaza in Lexington Park, now known as Pax River Village Center.

The aging shopping center, among the first ever built in St. Mary's County, has been undergoing an extensive revitalization and renovation after being purchased by Atlantic Realty LLC, which specializes in refurbish-

ing such aging commercial properties.

Once completed the newly remodeled shopping center will include many of the same businesses there operating now but will showcase a new Starbucks coffee shop and an Aldi's grocery store.

The entire revitalization project encompasses the shopping center's approximately 25-acre footprint.

The grocery store is currently under construction as are many of the façade improvements.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Chesapeake Window Cleaning Co.

Inside and outside, by hand. Residential specialists serving the local area full-time for 30 years. Locally owned and operated. Working owners assures quality.

410-280-2284 • 301-656-9274

Licensed, bonded and insured.

Ask about our low- pressure, no damage soft washing service, to remove deeply embedded dirt. For concrete, stone, brick and siding.



**COMMERCIAL
REAL ESTATE**

AUCTION

SAT., MAY 10 @ 10:00 a.m.

4410 AUSTIN LANE, WHITE PLAINS, MD

PREVIEW! SAT., MAY 3 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

**RARE FIND FOR INVESTMENT OR OWNER USE!
ROOM FOR EXPANSION OR REDEVELOPMENT!
LOTS OF PARKING!
CENTRALLY LOCATED TO DC, SO. MD, & VA!
SHOWING BY APPOINTMENT!**

**PROPERTY
LOCATION**

4410 AUSTIN LANE, WHITE PLAINS, MD

Formerly Austin Paving & Sealing — WHITE PLAINS COMMERCE CENTER

AUCTION

SAT., MAY 10, 10:00 a.m.

RAIN OR SHINE!

PREVIEW

SAT., MAY 3, 8:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.



INFO

- Contractors Yard
- Room for expansion or redevelopment
- 5 AC. +/- Zoned Industrial (IG)
- 3 AC. +/- is cleared, open, flat
- Improved by appealing brick & metal building w/ metal roof
- 2 story - office space 1st floor - 1,800 sq.ft.
- Mezzanine with bath on 2nd floor - 1,800 sq.ft.
- 3 Service Bays totaling 4,500 sq.ft. with 20 ft. ceiling, rollup doors, heated by propane each with own 1/2 bathroom
- Total bathrooms: (1) Full bathroom (5) 1/2 bathrooms
- 3-Phase electric, 400 AMP Service
- Has a Phase I Environmental Study

CONTACT

FOR SHOWING &/OR TERMS & CONDITIONS

CALL: AUCTIONEER BILLY FITZGERALD

O: 301-884-7000 or C: 301-481-3378

Fitzgerald Realty & Auctioneers

37601 Golden Beach Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
www.fitzgeraldrealty.net
info@fitzgeraldrealty.net
301-884-7000





“WHY IT MATTERS” Jimmy Dicus with Colin Quigg

As a hospice volunteer I’ve been honored to care for our St. Mary’s neighbors and profoundly moved by experiences shared with each. Simple acts of providing and feeding a favorite meal, watching tv or reading to them, listening & providing a hand to hold are easy to give. Yet the effect of their lives on mine I could never repay and profoundly shaped and influenced my life. Such was the case caring for a young teen diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer. Though 10 years older than this handsome boy would ever be, he was more than

I’d ever become. Though I privately lamented his prognosis, I never heard him complain. Instead, his focus and concern were for family, friends and even me. I couldn’t help but be inspired by his grace. In his last days and hours the pain from the cancer was so severe only one medication was capable of providing relief. Though expensive and not covered by insurance it was immediately and mercifully administered by hospice to keep him comfortable as possible. In these moments I was grateful he was in hospice care; physically comforted, emotionally embraced, surrounded by those who loved him. Witnessing the precious miracle of life in its final hours stays with you, becomes a part of you and informs your understanding of Life and death. Every human life is a fleeting, one-of-a-kind miracle from the dna in our blood to the hopes & dreams in our hearts. And the most difficult thing any of us will ever do is face death. And ALL of us will have to face it. These revelations were inspiration for an event to promote awareness of hospice care and raise money to help provide it.

Hospice doesn’t turn anyone away. Our team of Drs., nurses, health aides, counselors, volunteers meet patient & family wherever THEY are in this journey of life. When the patients journey ends Hospice continues caring for the family with grief and bereavement support tailored for both children & adults. Though grief is natural part of our human condition no one should be forced to bear it alone; it can be a shared and even cathartic experience as remembering and commemorating a loved one’s life keeps their spirit alive. 30 years ago when we started the run & walk we didn’t have online registration - just paper forms filled out & mailed in. But in addition to their name, we noticed participants writing names of loved ones. So many we added a designated space on the form for those names AND designed a special memorial bib so the names could be displayed during the event; the beginning of a beloved tradition you’ll see displayed this Sat April 5th. I’d like to ask you to join us and help hospice of St. Marys continue to provide this compassionate care to our community by participating, donating, or sponsoring the event. 100% of ALL net proceeds benefit hospice of St. Mary’s.

Donors can honor loved ones on our “memory wall“. And our memorial bibs are free to all participants. In addition we have an incredible brunch that Run Washington says “sets the event apart from any other running event in the MD-DC-VA Region”. Including S. Maryland stuffed ham, mission BBQ, on-site grilled hot dogs, pasta salads, fruit, bagels, etc. But best of all your support will allow Hospice to provide care those in our community facing a life-ending illness. You can register on-site Sat AM at the Governmental Center or make a donation on-line at runforhospice.org. If I can answer any questions about our event or Hospice care in general you can call me 240-925-5423. Thank you. You’re support means everything. Jimmy Dicus

My name is Colin Quigg. I am currently a hospice volunteer and huge supporter of all that goes on behind the scenes in hospice facilities. My Mom passed away when I was 19 and my Dad passed when I was 21 both from Brain Cancer. They spent their final days in hospice care and I wanted to chime in on this piece and share a bit of my experience with hospice and the impact it has on families and individuals in their final days of life.

Through completing the training to become a hospice volunteer I have learned so much about the value of utilizing hospice care when someone is at the end of their life. Hospice offers emotional, spiritual, financial and medical support that can take a lot of stress and weight off of the shoulders of the families and individuals during the end of life process. Nearly every person I have encountered who either works or volunteers with hospice have been angels and have the same thing to say. You will always receive much more than you could ever give to these amazing people you will meet in hospice. It is the greatest gift to be welcomed into such a precious, vulnerable, and transformative moment in another’s journey and all parties truly benefit from this.

It is truly amazing that we have created something like hospice care that is available to everyone at the end of their life. This care can drastically help the families and individuals to live out their final days in a more comfortable and well supported space. The care that both of my parents received was invaluable and helped our family tremendously and I have continued to see the same with each person I have encountered on this path. Please consider donating or joining the Hospice walk/run to fundraise for the St. Mary’s county hospice team.

Man Receives Life Sentence for Murder

State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling announced that Marvin Orlando Johnson, 39, of Mechanicsville, Maryland, was sentenced to Life, plus an additional 20 years in prison, for the premeditated murder of his stepfather on May 24, 2023.

Following a four-day jury trial in July 2024, a St. Mary's County jury found Johnson guilty of first-degree murder and the use of a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence for shooting and killing his stepfather.

On May 24, 2023, deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to a residence on Three Notch Road in Mechanicsville for a report of a male victim suffering from a gunshot wound to the head. The victim was pronounced deceased by responding deputies who observed injuries consistent with the victim having been shot in the head with a shotgun.

The State requested the Court to impose the maximum sentence of Life plus 20 years in prison. The Defense requested the Court to deviate from the sentencing guidelines and recommended a sentence below the sentencing guidelines, which was Life to Life.

The Court carefully listened to arguments presented by both the State and the Defense and ultimately sentenced the Defendant to the maximum sentence of Life plus 20 years, as follows:

- First-degree murder: Life in prison;



Marvin Orlando Johnson

- Use of a firearm in the commission of a violent crime: 20 years in prison, to run consecutive to the first-degree murder charge.

Special Assistant State's Attorney Jeff Maylor, Team Captain, Gun Violence Enforcement Division of the Baltimore City State's Attorney Office and Assistant State's Attorney Zach Varda prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Detective Andrew Burgess of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office was the lead investigator.

The Honorable Amy Lorenzini presided over the case.

Jury Finds Man Guilty in Domestic Violence Incident

State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling announced today that a St. Mary's County jury found Robert Humphries, III, 29, of Waldorf, Maryland, guilty of felony robbery, felony third-degree burglary, second-degree assault, theft, and multiple counts of malicious destruction of property, stemming from a domestic violence incident.

On August 9, 2024, deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to a residence in Lexington Park and discovered that Humphries had broken through the victim's front door, assaulted her, stole her property, then fled the scene. The crimes were committed in the presence of the victim's child.

The next day, Humphries returned to the victim's apartment, forcefully robbed her of her phone, and broke one of her apartment windows.

After a two-day jury trial, a St. Mary's County jury convicted Humphries and determined that he committed the crimes of violence in the presence of a minor. This finding provides prosecutors with the ability to advocate for an additional five years of incarceration at sentencing.

"The Defendant terrorized the victim over a period of two days and robbed her in her own home," said State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling. "Our office will continue to vigorously prosecute domestic violence offenders and advo-



Robert Humphries, III

cate for domestic violence survivors."

After the jury's verdict, the Court granted the State's request to revoke Humphries's bond pending a sentencing hearing. The maximum sentence is 40 years and 210 days in prison.

Senior Assistant State's Attorney Donna Pettersen, Chief of the Domestic Violence Unit, prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Deputies Tyler Nichols and Mina Gerig of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office were the lead investigators.

The Honorable Amy Lorenzini presided over the case.

Legal Notices

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Ordinance No. 227

The Commissioners of Leonardtown will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at the Town Office, 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD. The purpose of the hearing will be to present for public review and receive public comment regarding the Leonardtown 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update. Copies of the documents are available for public review at the Leonardtown Town Office on the Town website at <https://leonardtown.somd.com/> under the Government tab.

The public is invited to attend and/or send written comments to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650 to be received no later than April 14th, at 3:00 p.m. Special accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon request.

By Authority: Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Calvert – St. Mary's Metropolitan Planning Organization (C-SMMPO) will conduct a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting at the Calvert Marine Museum in the Waterfront Lounge, located at 14200 Solomons Island Rd. S., Solomons, MD 20688 on Monday, April 21, 2025, beginning at 11:00 a.m. for the purpose of discussing project updates and TAC agenda items. The agenda can be viewed at <https://www.calvert-stmarysmpo.com/>.

This public meeting is to accept public and staff comments on the regarding items on the TAC meeting agenda. Public meetings are open to the public. Members of the press may attend.

Comments may be submitted on or before Friday, April 18, 2025, and should be addressed to the Long Range Planning Division, P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or Karly Maltby, Calvert – St. Mary's MPO Administrator, with St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management via email at Karly.Maltby@stmaryscountymd.gov

This meeting can be attended virtually, the Meeting ID is 430 427 6617 and the call-in number is (301) 715-8592. Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4304276617?omn=87286148130>

For questions or more information, please contact Karly Maltby, Calvert-St. Mary's MPO Administrator, with St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management at (301) 475-4200 ext. 1507 or via email at Karly.Maltby@stmaryscountymd.gov or visit <https://www.calvert-stmarysmpo.com/>.

Any person requiring special arrangements related to the Americans with Disabilities Act shall notify the C-SMMPO no less than 72 hours prior to the date of the scheduled meeting so that necessary special arrangements can be made in order to facilitate participation. All content of these proceedings is subject to disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act. Photographic and electronic audio and visual broadcasting and recording devices are used during the meetings. These are public meetings and attendance at these meetings automatically grants St. Mary's County Government permission to broadcast your audio and visual image.

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

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County

Pets of the Week

sponsored by:



"No such thing as a bad dog."
Nutrition • Training • Grooming • Daycare • Walking

Temporarily located inside Well Pet Clinic
21800 N Shangri La Dr, Unit 16 • Lexington Park
Call/Text: 240-431-7834

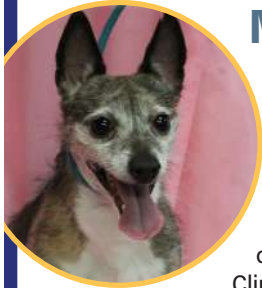
MEET BRUNO

Hello, my name is Bruno. I'm the best 18-pound cuddle champ around! As a 10-year-old lovebug I'm an indoor, front-declawed pro at bed-hogging and heart-stealing! If you're looking for a big, warm, purring companion, then I'm totally ready to be your new favorite blanket! Adopt me today! Adoption hours are Mon-Fri 11am-4pm and Sat 10am-3pm. To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



MEET MAX

The 5 year old Jack Russell Mix who is looking for a comfy bed to sleep in and a human to call their own! Max has been doing great with many dogs of different sizes and personalities! He would do best in a home with no kids. Are you interested in giving Max his Furever home? Go online and fill out an application at www.animalrelieffund.org, call 301-866-0303 or stop by Saturdays at the Well Pet Clinic for adoption days between 11am-2pm!



Rec & Parks to Host 42nd Annual Easter Egg Festival



On Saturday, April 12, 2025, St. Mary's County Government's Department of Recreation & Parks (R&P) will host the 42nd Annual Easter Egg Festival at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds. This rain or shine event will be held from 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. and is open to the entire community. The Easter Egg Festival has become a staple of the Southern Maryland community every Spring and many are looking forward to its return this year!

For a \$7.00 fee, children can participate in egg hunts, visit with the Easter Bunny and Ms. Cottontail, enjoy face painting, arts and crafts, live animals, and lots of other bunny approved activities. Live entertainment will be offered by local performing groups as well as a first responder area offering "touch a truck" opportunities. There will be more than 25 local merchandise and information vendors and the option to purchase food from at least 10 different food vendors.

Admission to this event is free but children's egg hunt tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.stmaryscountymd.gov/easter or at the St. Mary's County

Recreation & Parks main office, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tickets can also be purchased at the gate on the day of the event, beginning at 10 a.m.

St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks thanks all our sponsors for their support and donations! This year's sponsors include Patuxent Orthodontics, Dugan, McKissick & Longmore, Window Depot, Indian Bridge Kennels, PSI Pax, Wawa, MedStar and the Commissioners of Leonardtown.

Net proceeds from the Easter Egg Festival, along with the department's annual golf tournament, are used to fund the R&P Scholarship Program which provides qualified applicants the opportunity to participate in an activity at an up to 50% prorated amount of the registration fee.

For more information, please visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov/easter or call the R&P Office at (301) 475-4200 ext.1800.

Never miss an update! Follow R&P on social media at: www.instagram.com/stmarysrecandparks and www.facebook.com/stmarysmdrecreation.

Drayden Schoolhouse Offers Free Public Open Houses

St. Mary's County Government's Museum Division, in partnership with the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC), will be offering free Open Houses for visitors and the community at the Drayden African American Schoolhouse in Drayden, on the first and third Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open House dates include: April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17, June 7, 19, 20 & 21 (special Juneteenth holiday weekend hours), July 5 & 19, August 2 & 16, September 6 & 20, and October 4 & 18.

The Drayden African American Schoolhouse is one of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses, and its story represents a significant part of St. Mary's County's African American history. Visitors are invited to learn more about the restored schoolhouse, its rich history and importance to education in St. Mary's County. Hear the real stories about how African American students learned in this school up until the mid-20th century.

"The Division is pleased to offer open houses at the Drayden African American

Schoolhouse each month so guests can learn more about this important piece of our county's African American educational history," says Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division. "We further appreciate the continuing support of the volunteers who staff it for us, most of whom are members of the UCAC."

Volunteers will be available on site during the open houses to share stories about the schoolhouse's history with visitors. All ages are welcome, and admission is free. The St. Mary's County Museum Division also offers special programs for school, bus, and other tour groups who would like to schedule a visit to the Drayden site. Individual visitors who would like to see the schoolhouse during times outside open house hours can contact the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum at (301) 994-1471 to arrange a visit.

For more information about the Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open Houses, programs, admission prices, and more, visit the Drayden African American Schoolhouse Facebook page at [Facebook.com/DraydenSchool](https://www.facebook.com/DraydenSchool) or call (301) 994-1471.

2025 SPRING CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

38250 New Market Turner Rd
Mechanicsville

MAY 2 • 8AM

Vehicles • Farm Equipment • Heavy Equipment

MAY 3 • 8AM

Antiques • Flowers • Tools • Vintage Cars
Building Materials • Lawn Equipment • and More

PREVIEW MAY 1 • 8:30AM

See Equipment at EquipmentFacts.com

TAKING CONSIGNMENTS NOW



HAYES
AUCTION SERVICES

HAYESAUCIONSERVICES.NET
(301) 861-7738

LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED



BRADFORDS

NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET

TONGS. SPATULA. FIRE.

IT'S FLAMIN' FLAVOR DAYS



73% Lean, 10-Lb. Chub
Fresh
Ground Beef
3.29 Lb.

Family Pack Ground Beef \$3.48-Lb.



1-Pc.
St. Louis Style
Pork Ribs
2.98 Lb.



Certified Angus Beef
Boneless Sirloin
Tip Roast
5.98 Lb.

Whole Sirloin Tips \$4.98-Lb.



Certified Angus Beef
Boneless
Ribeye Steaks
13.98 Lb.



12 Oz., Reg. Or Thick
Gwaltney
Bacon
3.98



16-Oz., Selected
Jimmy Dean
Rolled Sausage
4.98



Sold in a 6-Lb. Box,
75% Lean, 24-Ct.
Hottel's Party Pack
Beef Patties
\$24



13 To 14-Oz.,
Selected Kielbasa Or
Hillshire Farm
Smoked Sausage
3.98



Fresh
Tilapia
Filets
4.98 Lb.



16 To 20-Ct.
Texas Gulf
Shrimp
9.98 Lb.



Delicious!
Sea
Scallops
17.89 Lb.



Flounder
Fillets
5.98



1-Dozen
Local
Oysters
7.98

Beer, Liquor and Wine



12-Oz. Bottles
12-Pack Bud
Light Lime
14.49



12-Oz. Cans
24-Pack
Michelob Ultra
25.99



12-Oz. Cans
15-Pack
Milwaukee's
Best Ice
8.99



12-Oz., Cans
8-Pack Nutril Fruit
Variety Pack
17.00



12-Oz. Cans
8-Pack
Devils Backbone
Smash
21.49



750mL
Jose Cuervo Tequila
Gold Or Silver
Gift Packs
19.99



1.75L
Dewar's
White Label
32.99



1.75L
Malibu
Rum
21.99



750mL
Patron
Reposado Tequila
50.99



1.75L, All Flavors
New Amsterdam
Vodka
18.49



1.75L
Canadian Club
1858 Whiskey
18.49



1.75L
Canadian Mist
Whisky
15.49



1.75L
Elijah Craig
Small Batch
57.99



1.75L
Jim Beam
Black 7 Year
40.99



1.75L
Ketel One
Vodka
35.49



1.75L
Tanqueray
Gin
37.99



750mL
Chloe
Pinot Grigio
9.99



750mL
Casillero del
Diablo Chardonnay
11.29



750mL
Seven Daughters
Veneto Moscato
12.98



1.5L
Schmitt Schone
Riesling
13.99



750mL
Minuty
Rose
22.99



750mL
Chandon
Blanc Demi Sec
21.69



750mL
La Luca Prosecco Or
Prosecco Rose
12.19



750mL, Selected
Menage A Trois
Wines
9.99



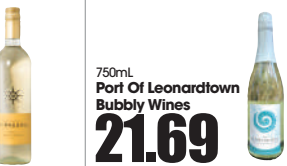
750mL
Port Of Leonardtown
Bubbly Wines
21.69



750mL
William Hill
Merlot
12.29



750mL
J.Lohr
Paso Robles Merlot
14.99



750mL
Mirassou
Pinot Grigio
9.99



750mL
Port Of Leonardtown
Bubbly Wines
21.69



750mL, Selected
Menage A Trois
Wines
9.99

WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

PRICES GOOD FROM
April 2 THRU April 8, 2025

WE ACCEPT:



23860 Hollywood Road,
Hollywood, MD 20636 • 301-475-2531

STORE HOURS:

Mon-Thru: 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM, Fri-Sat: 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM, Sun: 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Leonardtown

MARYLAND

A MOST EGG-CEPTIONAL EGG HUNT

APRIL 4, 5 & 6, 2025

Hunt Starts at Noon Each Day!

All the Details!

- Eggs will be hidden starting at Noon each day & some businesses might hide throughout the day.
- Eggs will be hidden throughout Leonardtown Square, Leonardtown Wharf & Leonardtown Winery Park.
- The Egg hunt is for ALL ages however the Eggs hidden at the wharf will be ONLY for Children.
- Eggs will contain a variety of small toys, stickers, key chains, etc some Eggs will be special WINNER eggs with gift cards, prizes & more.
- This is a “relaxed” egg hunt, stroll around town, enjoy the sites & find some eggs.
- Please limit yourself to 5 eggs per person, so everyone gets a chance to join in on the fun!
- Egg collection bins will be placed around town if you would like to recycle the plastic eggs you found.



Leonardtown
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

VISITLEONARDTOWNMD.COM



All Weekend Long

A Most Egg-ceptional Egg Hunt begins at 12pm on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Eggs will be hidden in the Square, Wharf & Port of Leonardtown Park. Win small prizes and try your luck to win a golden prize! (Limit 5 eggs/person)

First Friday specials throughout Shepherd's Old Field Market

Try the Good Earth Natural Food Store's **new smoothie**: Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie



Friday, April 4

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Visit the Old Jail Museum for FREE tours with extended hours for First Friday

5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Meet Michael Munshaw at the St. Mary's Arts Council. He is an Illustrator/Graphic Designer who has been in the industry for many years.

5 p.m. - 6 p.m. St. Mary's Arts Council Audience Drum Participation Circle

5 p.m. - 8 p.m. North End Gallery opening reception for their April showing, "Enchanted April"

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Weekly reset Sound Bath at Sound Flow

6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Wine Glass Painting Class at St. Mary's Marketplace

Saturday, April 5

8:30 a.m. 25th Annual Hospice Run/Walk

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. First Saturday of the month at Town Market, LLC. Shop from a variety of visiting vendors

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Spring Vendor Event at St. Mary's Marketplace

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Master your Emotions: Transfer anger into inner strength with Qi Gong & Yin Yoga

4 p.m. The Rex Theatre presents Midgets with Attitude, this is a 21+ event.

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Ocean Song: An immersive sound bath experience at Sound Flow Studio

Do you want to advertise on this page?

Contact Jen Stotler: 301-247-7611 or jen@countytimes.net



FREE

Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open Houses

April 5 • April 19 • May 3 • May 17
11AM-2PM

Learn more about one of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses and its rich history and importance to education in St. Mary's County

18287 Cherryfield Road • Drayden, Maryland
[Facebook.com/DraydenSchool](https://www.facebook.com/DraydenSchool)



ST. MARY'S

Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

21585 Peabody Street
Leonardtown, MD
301-475-8000
www.smnci.org

- Long-term care
- Rehabilitation services
- Respite care

To schedule a tour or speak to admissions, please call 301-475-8000 ext. 125



Thank You to Our Wonderful Sponsors:



LOCAL WINES FROM LOCAL VINES




PORT OF LEONARDTOWN WINERY

Live music every weekend!
301-690-2192 • www.polwinery.com
Open 7 days a week Noon - 6 pm • 23790 Newtowne Neck Road

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Time for some financial spring cleaning

Spring is here — which means it's once again time to wash the windows, organize your cabinets and steam your carpets. This year, in addition to tidying up around your house, why not also consider some financial spring cleaning?

Here are some suggestions to consider:

- *"De-clutter" your investment portfolio.* When you embark on your home cleaning mission, you might notice that you have redundancies — three blenders, two vacuum cleaners, and so on. Similarly, you might find duplications in your investment portfolio, perhaps in the form of multiple, near-identical stocks or mutual funds. If so, then it might be worthwhile to consider selling some of these investments and using the proceeds to boost your portfolio in other areas in which you may be lacking.
- *Cut back on "overgrown" investments.* Now that winter is over and you're venturing outside more, you may notice some overgrown shrubbery or some tree branches that need pruning. And while it may sound counter-intuitive, you might also have some investments that have grown too big for your needs. For example, you might own some growth-oriented investments whose value has increased so much that they now take up a larger percentage of your portfolio — and carry a higher degree of risk — than you originally intended. If that's the case, you might be better off by selling some of these investments and purchasing others to help bring your investment mix back to its desired alignment.
- *Dust off your investment strategy.* With more sunlight now pouring in your house, you might notice that the corners of your walls and ceiling may need a good dusting. And as you continually work to strengthen your financial foundation, you may need to dust off your investment strategy, especially if you've recently experienced changes in your life, such as a marriage, addition of children, new job, and so on. And as you move closer to retirement, you may also need to adjust your strategy in some ways. For one thing, you might want to adopt a more conservative investment approach in the years immediately preceding your retirement, though you'll still need to have some growth potential in your portfolio to help keep you ahead of inflation.
- *Protect yourself from financial dangers.* As you go about your household spring cleaning, you may find actual physical dangers that need to be removed or stored more safely, such as sharp objects or broken tools. And as you navigate daily life, you may also find threats to your financial safety — the need for an expensive home improvement, or a major car repair or an unexpectedly large medical bill. If you don't have the money available to pay these expenses, you might be forced to dip into your retirement accounts or run up your credit card or take out a high-rate loan. To protect yourself from having to make these moves, you may want to maintain an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account, separate from those you use for your daily living expenses.

Of course, some of these moves can take some time — but by getting started on them soon, you can help put your financial house in better shape by the time the next spring cleaning rolls around.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

*Contributed by David McDonough, Financial Advisor at Edward Jones
Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr. Suite 302, Leonardtown, MD 20650
301 997 1707*

Edward Jones®

A View From The BLEACHERS



Cup of Coffee

By Ronald N. Guy
Contributing Writer

27. 16. 9. As in 27 wins and a Sweet Sixteen berth — both milestones last reached nine years ago. That is what the Maryland men's basketball team accomplished this season. And what a fun team it was. The diverse ingredient list meshed perfectly: star freshman Derik Queen; Ja'Kobi Gillespie, Rodney Rice and Selton Miguel, three huge portal additions; and Julian Reese, the rarest of college athletes — a senior who spent all four years at Maryland. The season featured buzzer beaters — both for and against the Terps — gritty conference battles, a cool nickname ("The Crab Five", an ode to those five aforementioned starters, Michigan's "Fab Five" from the early 1990s and our state's fabulous crustacean) and an epic bank shot by Queen to send the Terps to the Sweet Sixteen.

So, all is good in College Park, then. Ahhh...if it was that easy it wouldn't be life or major college sports. There's a fly in the ointment. A black spot on the sun. Pineapple on pizza. Fruit in beer. Pick your favorite idiom that best expresses a flaw in a masterpiece.

Head coach Kevin Willard wasn't happy and now he's off to Villanova. He didn't like not knowing who will be Maryland's athletic director/his boss (AD Damon Evans recently departed for SMU). And he wanted more NIL money for the basketball program. More resources and a clear chain of command. These are fair asks.

The issue is Willard used the NCAA Tournament platform as his Festivus, an "airing of grievances" to the extreme pleasure of Frank Costanza. A day before his team was play its opening round game in the sport's crown jewel event (a moment that can create memories for a lifetime) and while he was still very much employed by Maryland (at \$4M a year), Willard chose the podium in front of a national audience to register his complaints against the university. His intentional "me" moment. All while the Villanova job sat conspicuously available. There are no coincidences, as the saying goes, or boundaries for seeking personal gain, apparently.

Since that initial bombshell press conference, Willard did little to dispel the rumors of his departure. In the same breath that he repeated his issues with Maryland, he pledged his love for the university and his focus on his players and this moment. It's a lot of yada, yada, yada, to use another Seinfeld reference. Willard filled the Maryland punch bowl with so much, well, not punch that he couldn't return to College Park. So be it. This is the game now.

College basketball is still amazing. The athleticism is off the charts. The tournament remains a fantastic experience. But for fans — the ones with long history, lots of memories, psychological scars and incredible highs with their schools, the ones who bleed the colors and wear the gear and genuinely hurt after losses — this product feels inorganic.

Willard never loved Maryland. He loved the opportunity when he got it and the accompanying salary. Do the players love Maryland? Maybe Reese. Queen, a local kid? Hard to say, but when asked about listening to his coach, he quipped that Willard's the guy paying him. The rest? Did they choose Maryland or did Maryland simply offer the best financial and basketball situation?

The competition still matters — coaches coach hard and players play hard. The score still matters — you can't fake it at this level and win 27 games. And the overall experience still matters. But the name on the front of the jersey and the colors don't matter; in most places everyone involved in these programs is there for a cup of coffee and personal gain. Everyone is on a one-year contract eyeing their next move.

A lot of suits profited off college sports for a long time. Players sharing in the revenue they create seems right; massive coaching salaries do too. But the fan experience doesn't have the same depth anymore. There's no marination, no team building, only an annual frenzy catering to a powerful force: self-interest. Which, in this melancholy "View", makes college sports a reflection of the modern world it exists within.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

In Remembrance

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

Lois Guy, 71



Lois Marie Farrell Guy, 71, of Avenue, Maryland passed away Thursday, March 27, 2025, surrounded by family in her home. Born February 13, 1954, she was the

daughter of the late Agnes Lorraine Farrell and Charles Henry Farrell.

Lois is survived by her siblings, Rose Ann Friess (Henry, Jr.) of Bushwood, MD and Leonard Edward Farrell (Terree) of Waldorf, MD. She had one niece, Melissa Lynn Friess-Bailey (T Bailey III), of Avenue, MD. She was preceded in death by her parents, Lorraine and Charles Farrell and her brother, Charles William Farrell.

Lois, a lifelong St. Mary's County resident, graduated from Chopticon High School in 1973. After high school she worked at the Pentagon but soon found her calling working at St. Mary's Hospital where she worked for years with her sister. But the majority of Lois' career was dedicated to serving the residents of St. Mary's Nursing Center from where she retired in February 2019. She often spoke about her co-workers who became her life-long friends.

Lois was a devout Catholic and patron of Holy Angels Catholic Church in Avenue. She valued spending time with her family and the network of friends whom she met while working at the local hospital and nursing facilities. Lois was a caring individual who always tried to help others whenever possible. One of her favorite hobbies was

cooking – she loved to cook and when she did it was always enough for a feast. Often, she would prepare meals and share them with family and friends for the joy of it. She also loved her sewing machine! For years she was the family seamstress known for making last-minute fixes. She loved crocheting and spent hours creating items for family and friends. Her willingness to share her talents with others epitomized her kind-heartedness toward everyone.

She was always up for a road trip, going shopping, dancing, or, occasionally, going to play the slots for fun. Lois enjoyed the simple things in life and could always be found outside on a sunny day tending her gardens or caring for her lawn.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, with prayers recited at 7:00 PM, in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 10:00 AM, in Holy Angels Catholic Church, Avenue, MD, with Father Kevin Fields officiating. Interment will follow at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be T. Bailey III, Dennis Lacey, Jr. Farrell, Keith Hewitt, JW Vallandingham, and Timmy Vallandingham.

Memorial contributions can be made to Holy Angels Catholic Church, 21340 Colton Point Road, Avenue, Maryland 20609.

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

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

MATTINGLEY ~ Gardiner FUNERAL HOME

and CREMATION SERVICES, P.A.



301-475-8500

41590 Fenwick Street • P.O. Box 270
Leonardtown, MD 20650



www.mgfh.com



IN MEMORIAM

JOHN WILLIAM BETZ, SR.



Our beloved passed on 19 March 2021 in Reston, VA. Born 15 November 1936 to Raymond Sylvester Betz and Frances Christinia Sheetz in Washington District of Columbia, he was the grandson of Frank Lawrence Betz and Rosa Helen Durlauf.

Married 15 August 1969 at the home of the brides parents, Mr. And Mrs. William John Davies, Jr., Sumner, Bethesda, MD, John and Marilynne shared 52 years. He was survived by his wife Marilynne, son John William (Chris) Betz, Jr, wife Allison, sons Aulden Davies Snyder, Richard George Snyder and grandson, John William (Ryan) Betz III. In addition, his brother-in-law, William John Davies III and sisters-in-law, Teresa Barbaro Betz of Silver Spring, MD, Gwynneth Birt Offner of Boston, MA; four nieces, two nephews, and three grandnephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and a sister-in-law; Raymond Sylvester Betz, Jr, Charles Francis Betz and his wife, Cecelia. Burial was Fort Lincoln Cemetery, District of Columbia.

John graduated from St. Johns College High School and majored in Environmental Science at American University. One of his joys was visiting unspoiled Hatteras Island and surrounding area from 1980 when the connecting bridge opened. Visits from three day weekends to two weeks, continued until the birth of his grandson in 2006.

Gardening was a spare time joy, raising most of their vegetables, from asparagus to winter squash.

Mr. Betz founded and was CEO of Lewis & Sheetz, a tristate hardware distribution company covering VA, MD and DC.

On 23 December 2024, he was joined in everlasting life by his son, John William Betz, Jr. Generous, always kind, both faced each new day with a genuine, positive spirit.



*A Tribute to the Loved One
Whose Memory Lives
On Forever in Your Heart*

Honor the memory of your cherished one by sharing the story of their life with friends, neighbors and associates here in the community.

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



REMEMBRANCES
IN PRINT & ONLINE

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County

Handy Gal Services

Commercial and Residential Cleaning, Odor Removal Ozoning, Laundry Services, Errand running and Grocery services, Organizing and Packing/Moving services (on a smaller scale), Pet sitting & Walking, Power Washing, Window Cleaning, Grass Cutting, Elderly Care & Assistance, Boat Cleaning, Weeding Gardens, Gutter Cleaning, Help around the house, Help getting back and forth to the Doctors, Trash And Junk Removal

**AND SO MUCH MORE!
ALL FOR A LOW PRICE!**

Just call Sam 410-830-1223
References Available



HAYDEN'S HOME IMPROVEMENT

Don't Move Just Improve!

SERVICES

- Additions
- Remodeling
- Basements
- Roofing
- Painting
- Siding
- Decks
- Window Replacement
- Block & Stone Work
- Drywall



Hayden's Home Improvement can turn your house into your DREAM HOME!

Locally owned and operated.
Serving St. Mary's County
MHIC#72239

Call today for a free Estimate

301-994-2900

Cold Spring Structures

301-884-SHED (7433)

Shop and Office: 26888 Mary Dixon Rd. | Mechanicsville

Quality Storage Sheds and Garages



**"FOR ALL
YOUR STUFF!"**



Self-Service Display: 23710 N. Patuxent Beach Rd. | California

By the Solomons bridge (St. Mary's side)

LOCALLY OWNED! BUILT! SOLD!

Jay Brubacker, Builder/Retailer

Grey Beard Stump Grinding

Serving Calvert, Charles, and
St. Mary's Counties

**Professional Guaranteed Work
Every Time**

**No Job Too Big,
No Job Too Small.
We Do Them All!**



Call for a Free Estimate At 301-481-8207



**COLE
TRAVEL**

46924 Shangri-La Drive • Lexington Park, MD

301-863-9497
www.coletravel.biz

*Let us plan
your next vacation!*



SHOP LOCAL!

**50,000
REASONS**

TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

Advertise with the County Times and
reach up to 50,000 potential customers
in print & online each week.

Call us at 301-373-4125 to learn more.

DAVE'S ENGINE SERVICE

"Where Service Comes First"

Plastic Road Pipes

6" - 24" in Stock

Other Sizes Available

Competitive Prices - Quantity Discounts

Monday - Friday 7 am to 6 pm

Saturday 7 am to 4 pm • Sunday Closed

Closed for Lunch 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm



27898 Point Lookout Road • Loveville, Md • 20656

St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Fri, Apr 4

St. George Catholic Church Lenten Fish Fry

19199 St Georges Church Rd, Valley Lee
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Fresh fried catfish or Steamed Shrimp dinner with side of Pancit, French fries, soup or fried fritters! \$20 each, every Friday for lent! Hope to see you soon!

Revolutionary War Book Talk with Author Patrick O'Donnell

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum
44720 Lighthouse Rd., Piney Point
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Join nationally award winning author Patrick O'Donnell for a book talk about his book, Washington's Immortals: The Untold Story of of an Elite Regiment Who Changed the Course of the Revolutionary War, at the Maritime Building at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park, followed by a Q&A. Before the lecture, you will be able to purchase his book from our museum store or enjoy the museum exhibits. A reception will follow.

This book discusses the Marylanders who served in the American War for Independence and helped Washington "hold the line" to fight another day.

Call 301-994-1471 for more info.

TICKETS REQUIRED! See link to reserve your FREE ticket: [BookTalk2025.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Sat, Apr 5

Rebels & Redcoats: Southern Maryland Revolutionary War Event

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum
44720 Lighthouse Rd., Piney Point
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FREE family fun event commemorating the American War for Independence as it happened in St. Mary's County. This event is being held on land at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum near the site of the Battle of St. George Island—the only Revolutionary War battle to occur in Maryland.

Exhibits and displays by other organizations related to our local 18th century history will also be on hand, along with food trucks, educational and period programming,

kids and family activities, reenactors, period encampment, military demonstrations and much more.

DON'T MISS! Experience life in camp for Maryland's Revolutionary War soldiers and militia men as we continue the celebration of the nation's 250th anniversary. Visit their tents, learn about what they wore and carried, join the militia for a rifle drill, and listen to some military music.

INFO: www.facebook.com/events/944108850988491

Pork Loins and Beef Sandwich Sale

American Legion Post 221
21690 Colton Point Rd., Avenue
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pork loin, sliced roast beef, and BBQ beef sandwiches will be sold on both Saturday and Sunday at American Legion Post 221 @ 21690 Colton Point Rd (Rt. 242), in Avenue, MD. The event will be from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and sandwiches will cost \$8.00 each. For more information e-mail us at alpost221@aol.com or call 301*481*6625.

Wed, Apr 9

Historically Speaking: The Surprising Legacy of Maryland's Spiro T. Agnew

The Inn at Leonardtown
41655 Park Ave., Leonardtown
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Late Spiro T. Agnew, Governor of Maryland from 1967 to 1969 and US Vice President from 1969 to 1973 under Richard Nixon, was a colorful figure to put it mildly.

Professor of History Charles Holden has written extensively on Agnew and his impact on the way he left his mark on American politics.

Chuck Holden has taught at St Mary's College of Maryland since 1999. His books include: In the Great Maelstrom: Conservatives in Post-Civil War South Carolina (2002) and The New Southern University: Academic Freedom and Liberalism at UNC (2011). He is also a co-author on Republican Populist: Spiro Agnew and the Origin of Donald Trump's America (2019). His op-eds have appeared in The Washington Post, The Baltimore Sun, The Charlotte Observer, the Des Moines Register, and the History News Network.

**FREE
ADMISSION**

First Landing Wine & Arts Festival




Sample wines from the First Landing Wine Trail
at St. Clement's Island Museum on the shores of the beautiful Potomac River.

Saturday, April 12 • 10am–5pm • St. Clement's Island Museum

Art & Craft Vendors • Local Wine & Craft Beverages • Kids' Activities • Food • Live Music

For more information: 301-769-2222 or bit.ly/FirstLandingWineFest2025




Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thu, Apr 3

Song Circle

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

Join us for a fun and creative Song Circle! Whether you're a musician, singer or just love to hum along, this event is for you. Lead or learn folk and acoustic tunes in a casual, welcoming jam session. Bring your instrument, voice or enthusiasm. Spectators are welcome too! Come enjoy the music, energy and community spirit! 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Awful Artworks: Bookworm

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

This Awful Artworks will be all about creating a piece of art based on your favorite book! Join us for an exploration of art in all its forms! We will provide the art materials (if you have art supplies gathering dust, bring them to share), you provide the creativity! Each piece created will have a tag with the name of the art, the artist, and a brief description of the piece. All art will have the opportunity to be displayed in the library. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Fri, Apr 4

Annmarie After Hours: Fairies in the Garden

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
5-7 p.m.

The magical opening of our "Fairies in the Garden" exhibit featuring over 100 fairy and gnome houses! The houses will be displayed together on the patio of the Arts Building; seeing them all together before they are scattered in the woods is a special treat. There will be a fairy-inspired craft in the artLAB, food trucks on-site, and live entertainment. See you there! Food Trucks: Annmarie Cash Bar, Scratch Mobile Kitchen, Mully's Brewery. Live Music: Kaitlyn Likas.

Admission: Adults \$5, Kids (age 3-17): \$3, Toddlers (age 2 & under) free. Members free. Reservations NOT required!

Sat, Apr 5

Volunteer Orientation at Freedom Hill Horse Rescue

7940 Flint Hill Road, Owings
1-3 p.m.

Become a Volunteer at Freedom Hill Horse Rescue! We are always in need of passionate, hardworking, and dependable individuals to assist with feed shifts, training, events, programs, and other tasks. Prior to attending, YOU MUST EMAIL Freedom.Hill.Org@gmail.com TO REGISTER FOR A VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION. www.fhhr.org/volunteer

Bake Sale

Rolands Grocery
7875 Bayside Rd., Chesapeake Beach
8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Ggrab some homemade sweet treats, homemade dog treats and meet some great dogs available for adoption from the Humane Society of Calvert County.

WOD's Working Dogs

Old Line Cross Fit
301 Najoles Rd., Millersville
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Humane Society of Calvert County has been invited to participate in the awesome event to raise funds for our nation's first responder K9s, providing them with life saving ballistic vest, medical care and more..

Barn Quilt Trail Tour

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Join us for a bus tour of the Barn Quilt Trail through Calvert County! You and friends will embark on a guided tour of the Calvert Barn Quilt Trail as you learn about the quilt square designs and the meaning behind them. The tour is a fundraiser for the Arts

Council and Friends of Calvert Library! Still a few spaces left! The tour bus is ADA accessible, but please note that some barn quilt squares require leaving the bus to view. A little walking is needed for this tour to be able to see all barn quilt squares. Please let us know ahead of time if you utilize a wheelchair so we can notify the bus company prior to the day of the event. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Mon, Apr 7

Public Input Session

Harriet E. Brown Community Center
901 Dares Beach Rd., Prince Frederick
6-7:30 p.m.

The Student Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee (SSWAC) will conduct a special meeting for its second quarter public input session that will summarize the Committee's actions in its second quarter, discuss next steps and provide the opportunity to leave public comment outside of the Committee's normal meeting schedule. The public may join in-person or online via Zoom: Meeting ID: 834 1239 4552; Dial-in number: 301-715-8592 www.calvertcountymd.gov/SSWAC.

Tue, Apr 8

Lawyers in the Library

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
1-3 p.m.

Need help with an expungement? Have civil legal questions? Meet briefly with an attorney at the library to get hands-on help. Calvert Library, in partnership with Maryland Legal Aid, offer free one-on-one legal services on a variety of civil issues to financially eligible individuals. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Social Security: Medicare

Zoom
1:30-2:30 p.m.

We invite you to this virtual presentation to learn about Medicare eligibility requirements, enrollment periods, the application process, and resources. Presentation by Diana Varela, Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration followed by Q&A. This event will not be recorded. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Wed, Apr 9

Veteran Services Program

Southern Pines Senior Center
20 Appeal Lane, Lusby
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Are you a veteran or close family member looking for assistance? The Calvert County Office on Aging is partnering with ServingTogether to provide support twice a month, every second Wednesday and fourth Friday. Walk-ins are encouraged. No appointment is necessary. Visit <https://servingtogetherproject.org/calvert> for more information.

Upcoming

Southern Maryland Caregivers Conference

Southern Pines Senior Center
20 Appeal Lane, Lusby
Friday, April 11
8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,

The Calvert County Department of Community Resources, Office on Aging Division, will host the 32nd annual conference that will offer 15 sessions designed to support and educate caregivers. Topics will include building resilience in the caregiver, assistive technology, dementia care, medication management, nursing homes and assisted living, along with many others. Attendees will also hear from Maryland Secretary of Aging Carmel Roques. The registration fee is \$45 and includes breakfast, lunch, three breakout sessions, the opening and closing caregivers and their families.

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

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.



County Times

P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636

CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of March 17, 2025 – March 23, 2025, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 2,016 calls for service throughout the community including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 39
- Disorderly: 15
- Domestic: 25
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 37
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 884
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 17
- Traffic Complaints: 75
- Traffic Stops: 476
- 911 Hang Ups: 50
- ARRESTS: 37

Arson: 25-22806 On March 20, 2025, Deputy Hill responded to the 2900 block of Sixes Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of property destruction. The complainant reported an unknown suspect(s) set fire to the victim's barn. Deputy Hill observed the barn to be burned. The estimated value of the damaged property is \$1,500.



Toney Robert Key, Jr.

CDS Violation: 25-22520 On March 19, 2025, Deputy Brown initiated a traffic stop on Bayside Road in the area of the Fastop in Chesapeake Beach for an equipment violation. Upon making contact with

the driver **Toney Robert Key, Jr.**, 22 of King George, VA, Key advised Deputy Brown a firearm was inside the vehicle. A vehicle search revealed a loaded black AR-15-style rifle and a pill bottle containing suspected cocaine residue. Key was placed into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, Loaded Handgun in a Vehicle, and Handgun in a Vehicle.



Julia Nicole Gallodoro

CDS Violation: 25-22156 On March 18, 2025, at 3:11 p.m., Cpl. Shrawder observed a Chevy Equinox traveling at an extremely high rate of speed northbound on Rt. 4 near Solomons Landing in Solomons. The

vehicle abruptly turned onto Patuxent Point Parkway, almost on two tires. The Chevy then sped through the parking lot of the crowded McDonald's parking lot slinging dirt and dust into the air. Cpl. Shrawder activated his emergency lights and sirens in an attempt to stop the Chevy. The vehicle was traveling 85 mph in a 35 mph zone. Cpl. Shrawder pursued the vehicle northbound on Rt. 4 as the Chevy passed multiple vehicles on the shoulder, driving aggressively and negligently reaching speeds of 125 mph. Deputies deployed stop sticks near Sweetwater Road in Lusby, which successfully struck the driver's side

tire. Despite losing a tire, the driver continued traveling at over 100 mph until the vehicle became disabled near the north entrance to HG Trueman Road. Deputies performed a Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT), safely stopping the vehicle. The driver, **Julia Nicole Gallodoro**, 29 of Lusby, was taken into custody. A search of the vehicle led to the discovery of suspected cocaine and drug paraphernalia. Gallodoro was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Cannabis, Fleeing and Eluding Police, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, Driving without a License, Negligent and Reckless Driving, and several other traffic-related charges.

Damaged Property: 25-23596 On March 23, 2025, Deputy H. Jones responded to the 600 block of Patuxent Reach Drive in Prince Frederick, for the report of malicious destruction of property. The complainant advised an unknown suspect(s) put a white powdery substance in the gas tank of the vehicle. The estimated value of damaged property is currently unknown.

Theft: 25-22137 On March 18, 2025, Cpl. Shrawder responded to the 14000 block of S. Solomons Island Road in Solomons, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised an unknown suspect(s) stole a black striped Nautica purse and its contents from the victim's vehicle between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The estimated value of stolen property is \$100.

Theft: 25-22466 On March 19, 2025, Deputy Campbell responded to the 1800 block of Stinnett Road in Huntingtown, for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between 9 p.m. on March 18 and 5 a.m. on March 19, an unknown suspect(s) stole items from two unlocked vehicles in the driveway of the residence. The estimated value of stolen property is \$100.

Theft: 25-23633 On March 23, 2025, DFC Sylver responded to Patuxent Wine & Spirits located at 11728 Rousby Hall Road in Lusby for a reported theft. The investigation revealed a white female, approximately in her mid-20s with purple hair, wearing a black jacket, entered the store, picked up a bottle of tequila, and concealed it in her jacket. She then exited the store, got into a blue two-door Acura, and left the area. The estimated value of stolen property is \$50.

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

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Calvert – St. Mary's Metropolitan Planning Organization (C-SMMPO) will conduct a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting at the Calvert Marine Museum in the Waterfront Lounge, located at 14200 Solomons Island Rd. S., Solomons, MD 20688 on Monday, April 21, 2025, beginning at 11:00 a.m. for the purpose of discussing project updates and TAC agenda items. The agenda can be viewed at <https://www.calvert-stmarysmpo.com/>.

This public meeting is to accept public and staff comments on the regarding items on the TAC meeting agenda. Public meetings are open to the public. Members of the press may attend.

Comments may be submitted on or before Friday, April 18, 2025, and should be addressed to the Long Range Planning Division, P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or Karly Maltby, Calvert – St. Mary's MPO Administrator, with St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management via email at Karly.Maltby@stmaryscountymd.gov

This meeting can be attended virtually, the Meeting ID is 430 427 6617 and the call-in number is (301) 715-8592. Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4304276617?omn=87286148130>

For questions or more information, please contact Karly Maltby, Calvert-St. Mary's MPO Administrator, with St. Mary's County Government's Department of Land Use & Growth Management at (301) 475-4200 ext. 1507 or via email at Karly.Maltby@stmaryscountymd.gov or visit <https://www.calvert-stmarysmpo.com/>.

Any person requiring special arrangements related to the Americans with Disabilities Act shall notify the C-SMMPO no less than 72 hours prior to the date of the scheduled meeting so that necessary special arrangements can be made in order to facilitate participation. All content of these proceedings is subject to disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act. Photographic and electronic audio and visual broadcasting and recording devices are used during the meetings. These are public meetings and attendance at these meetings automatically grants St. Mary's County Government permission to broadcast your audio and visual image.

Southern Maryland Online

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

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS
LOCAL ADVERTISERS

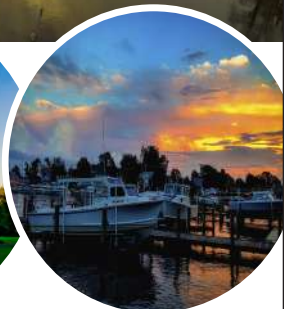
REAL ESTATE
SERVICES

VEHICLES

EMPLOYMENT

CHILD CARE

GENERAL MERCHANDISE



WWW.SOMD.COM • CLASS.SOMD.COM

Revised Capital Budget Approved

Emergency Double Dispatching Questioned

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has tentatively approved a \$61,363,584 capital improvement plan for the next fiscal year that is a 31 percent reduction from an earlier staff Recommended budget.

Acting Capital and Grants Management Specialist Danielle Russell told the BOCC on April 1, "The Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 6-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which covers FY 2026–FY 2031, has been developed to guide the planning, funding, and implementation of capital projects across the county. This process began in September 2024 and included a comprehensive review of all open projects, coordination with county staff, and preparation for the presentation of the CIP to the BOCC. Key updates include aligning projects with established standards, closing projects and returning unspent allocations to the general fund, and refining project scopes to be more transparent."

She said, "Following the debrief discussion held on March 18, 2025, staff have prepared recommendations for FY 2026 capital budget reductions and overall CIP suggestions. The recommendations focus on grant-funded projects and long-term investments in infrastructure, facilities, and key community resources. Additionally, based on the commissioners' feedback, documentation has been included to denote staff designations of "W" (Want) and "N" (Need), with a brief justification for any items marked Need (N). Documentation also includes identifying projects that are ongoing or in progress."

Russell explained, "Overall, the six-year recommendations reflect a \$72,970,045 (14 percent) reduction in the Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2026-2031."

The plan as revised by the county administrator's office, Russell said, includes "the sheriff's office and detention center. We did stagger those because they were major construction. So, the overall look was that we were pushing things out two years. The sheriff's office, we did keep in FY 27 and then the

detention center got pushed out three years so that it starts after the end of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office facility construction."

There was considerable discussion at the April 1 meeting of the practice of dispatching both a paid crew and a volunteer crew on the same emergency call. That concern led Deputy Director of Public Safety Crystal Dowd to say, "If it would be your wish, I could get together a work session to review with emergency communication, career EMS and a representative from the volunteer system to discuss this."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance responded, "You mean with us? We don't need to be in a work session with them. They need to work this out. It just makes no sense that you don't understand. We have a paid career crew sitting in a station with an ambulance right beside them. We are double dispatching the paid crew and a volunteer crew to run a call because we've always doubled dispatch to make sure you get an ambulance on the street. If there's a career crew sitting in that station, they're going to get on the street. All we're doing is wasting time and



Commissioner President Buddy Hance

money double dispatching when we have career crews sitting in a station."

Dowd said she would get the parties together and work out a solution.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Citizen Activist

Appointed to Planning Commission

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has appointed David Bury of Breezy Point to the county planning commission. He replaces Dr. Richard Holler, whose term expired on February 28.

Bury, a citizen activist, was a frequent speaker at the planning commission on growth issues.

Bury, 68, has lived in the county since 1992. He is retired from federal service as an intelligence analyst, specializing first in Russia and then in China. Prior to that, he had 11 years in Air Force Intelligence. He retired from federal service two years ago and now has a part-time job working as a consultant on Taiwan issues for the Institute for Defense Analysis.

He applied for the position, he said, because "I am very interested in making sure that as Calvert continues to develop residentially and commercially, that it develops within the constraints of its own infrastructure. And that includes, particularly, roads and traffic congestion, but also, working with the county commissioners in what the future county budget can sustain."

Was he surprised at being chosen. He said, "I had actually been, lobbying several of the commissioners for, some time and I think the big argument that I was trying to offer is my familiarity with zoning regula-



David Bury

tions, the adequate public facilities ordinance, and some of the other legal factors that go into growth decisions. So, I think that the county commissioners, were interested in getting more of those perspectives on the planning commission."

He was passed over two times previously before this appointment.

He noted, "I've been interested in growth issues for the last 15 or 20 years. And, we've seen the philosophy of the county commissioners, change over that time, from very pro-growth, to I think more of a smart growth philosophy."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

County to Hire Eight

More Emergency Communicators

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has approved the hiring of eight new emergency communications staff. Four will be Public Safety Call Taker positions and the other four Dispatcher I positions.

Department of Public Safety, Emergency Communications (EC) Division Chief Stanley Harris, in a memo to the BOCC on April 1, said, "In July 2023, the (EC) engaged Mission Critical Partners, LLC (MCP) to conduct a workforce optimization study, aimed at providing a comprehensive assessment of the communications center. This study was requested, in part, to evaluate and provide recommendations for ongoing recruitment and retention challenges in Emergency Communications."

Harris said, "The report identified that the current authorized staffing level of 20 telecommunicators and four supervisors is insufficient to meet the affected workload. To address this, the report recommended increasing the authorized full-time equivalence by four public safety call takers and four dispatcher I's."

Harris added, "The fiscal impact of adding the additional eight full-time employees (FTE) annually is \$798,592. To expedite the hiring of the additional FTE for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2025, Budget Amendment: BA2025-000318 increases the State 911 Grant Revenue by \$219,494. The increase in the revenue allows for an increase of salaries by \$162,132, overtime by \$26,258, and night differential by \$31,104."

Regarding the 911 fund, Harris said,

"In FY 24, the Calvert County portion of 911 surcharge is 75 cents per eligible subscriber," estimating revenue for the fiscal year at more than \$2 million. "That is why this is being allocated for the staffing. That is one of the eligible expenses."

He said the shortage of dispatchers has been narrowed to only two vacancies. He noted, "We have a pipeline of 15 applicants that we're going to interview over the next couple of weeks. So, we're hoping we'll be able to fill those two vacancies and some of these positions if it's approved today."

He said their retention rate is now better than that recommended in the study.

Harris explained, "A call taker, their primary function is to answer 911. That's pretty much what they do all day long. They answer 911, and non-emergency calls as well. A dispatcher does that plus dispatches police, fire, and EMS. So, they would be the dispatcher on the other end of the line or the radio when the police or the fire department go out on the scene."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance said, "People have heard me recently talk about how serious our budget issue is and why would we be entertaining adding additional staff today? I think I've alluded to in the past, there are certain positions we are going to have to hire as bad as our budget is. And 911 call takers and dispatchers are positions we have to have. When somebody absolutely picks up the phone for an emergency, somebody's has to take that call."

The approval to add the eight staff was unanimous.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

School Board Review Minimum 50 Percent Grade Policy

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The policy of Calvert County Public Schools (CCOS) to give a minimum marking grade of 50 percent to students regardless of whether they do the work or not has run afoul of the wishes of the school board.

At the board's March 27 meeting, Vice President Lisa Grenis said, "Hold onto your seats, people. Improving academic excellence is an important part of our strategy. To achieve that, we should eliminate the 50 percent policy. This policy is unfair to students and our teachers. Advancing students who do not put in the work and in some cases do not even show up for class, only sets them up for failure in school and life. There are no jobs that pay you 50 percent for doing zero work."

Grenis added, "Our teachers agree. A recent CCPS survey showed that 92 percent of our high school teachers and 95 percent of our middle school teachers are not in favor of the 50 percent to children who do not do the work. One CCPS teacher stated in an email to the Board of Ed just recently, "Right now I have a student in my first period class. When he comes to school, he signs in late, usually around 9 a.m. That is the third period for this quarter. He's been to class late, but he was here five times out of roughly 45 days. I've laid eyes on him five times. Out of 34 assignments, he has attempted three of them. He has earned nine percent, but I am required to give him 50 percent. It is ridiculous. Students should not be rewarded simply because their name exists on a class roster." She goes on to say, "Please reconsider revising the policy at your next work session."

Grenis said, "So, to improve academic



Board of Education Vice President Lisa Grenis

excellence and to support our teachers, I would like to make a motion to discuss policy number 3415 at a future board meeting. I would like for Scott McComb (supervisor of secondary school instruction) to attend the meeting and present options to the 50 percent policy."

Student Member of the Board Grace Minakowski said, "On the student end, I completely support discussing and amending this policy. It's an issue for students who go above and beyond and are getting similar grades to students who do not do the same."

Grenis added, "I want to be clear; we're not trying to penalize a child who takes a 10-point test and misses eight of them. That child deserves 50 percent. We're looking at good faith effort. If you refuse to do the work, we refuse to give you 50 percent."

The motion to review the policy passed unanimously.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Chesapeake Window Cleaning Co.

Inside and outside, by hand. Residential specialists serving the local area full-time for 30 years. Locally owned and operated. Working owners assures quality.

410-280-2284 • 301-656-9274

Licensed, bonded and insured.

Ask about our low- pressure, no damage soft washing service, to remove deeply embedded dirt. For concrete, stone, brick and siding.

LOCAL ADVERTISING IS MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER.

TO SEE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE COUNTY TIMES, CONTACT US AT 301-373-4125



ANN CAREGIVERS LLC

personal care & hygiene | mobility & assistance
meals, laundry, & cleaning | appointments & errands

In Home Care for Your Comfort and Needs

240-521-9555

AnnCaregiversLLC.com | AnnCaregiversLLC@gmail.com



COMEDY INVASION

For Project Graduation

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025
Doors open for Silent Auction at 6:30 p.m.
Auditorium Seating Open at 7:45 p.m.
Show Starts at 8 p.m.
Calvert High School Auditorium,
520 Fox Run Blvd., Prince Frederick

TICKETS
\$40 in advance
\$50 at the door
\$35 for CAASA members and students 13-18

Available for purchase at
(cash and check only):
CAASA Office
Prince Frederick
Floral Expressions
Owings

Tickets may also be purchased online at:
<https://ComedyInvasion2025.eventbrite.com>

Presenting
CAPITOL FOOLS
FEATURING FORMER CAPITOL STEPS MEMBERS

For more information, contact the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse at 410-535-3733.

EXCEPTIONAL CARE FOR A *Lifetime*



Excited to be more active and fun for her.

Hasn't seen Mom smile this much in years.

Become Your *Best Self*

**Making a resolution is easy.
Keeping it? That's where we're here to help.**

The expert team with *CalverHealth's Surgical and Non-Surgical Weight Management program* empowers you to make 2025 your year - the year you become the active, vibrant person you know you can be!

Now Treating Patients in Prince Frederick and Waldorf!

 **CalverHealth[®]**
Center for Digestive Diseases
& Weight Management



Personalized Plans for Every Patient

Our team will work with you to design a personalized plan that may include:

- **Bariatric Surgery:** Robotic-assisted advanced laparoscopic procedures
- **Lifestyle Guidance:** Sustainable habits for long-term success
- **Dietary Support:** Nutritional advice to fuel your journey
- **Medical Solutions:** Weight-loss medications to jump-start your transformation

**Transform Your Life in 2025.
Get Started Today!**

CalverHealthMedicine.org/Transform

CSM Enrollment Trends Upward

Calvert County Leads the Growth

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

Bucking a trend of recent years, the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) experienced a significant enrollment spike in Fiscal Year 2024, with Calvert County students showing the largest growth.

CSM President Dr. Yolanda Wilson, presenting the college's annual report on April 1 to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) explained, "One of the most exciting reflections of our current success as a college is our continued growth in enrollment at all of our campus locations. It mirrors the broader trend that we're seeing in higher ed across Maryland and our country. Community colleges are perfectly structured to meet the needs of all learners, whether it's in the non-credit pathways like HVAC, or in the degree completion pathways like engineering."

Wilson said, "At the close of fiscal year 2024, CSM had welcomed 14,971 credit and non-credit learners for the academic year. About half and half. This marks an overall 4.5 percent increase compared to the previous fiscal year. And of those learners, 7,952 were enrolled in credit classes or degree-seeking courses. That was an increase of 4.3 percent over the year before. And there were 7,304 continuing education students, or non-credit or credit-free pathways like HVAC, welding, plumbing, et cetera. That represented a 4.1 percent increase over the year before and of our total enrollment."

Bringing the numbers home, Dr. Wilson noted, "In Fiscal Year 24, there were 18.7 percent or 2,800 students from Calvert County.

This includes 2,041 credit students, meaning degree seeking and 801 continuing education students or credential seeking students. This represents for Calvert County an 11.2 percent increase in Calvert students from the previous year. So, this county had the largest growth out of all three counties last year alone."

She added, "Also significant is that CSM experienced the largest growth in our dual enrollment population. This also occurred with the largest growth here in Calvert County with a 49.9 percent increase over the prior year. So, you grew your early college and your dual enrollment pipelines. During 2024, CSM had 733 Calvert County students attending, either as dual enrolled students or early college student. They're dual enrolled (if) they're taking the college courses in the high schools, early college at Prince Frederick campus.

So explained, "CSM offers more than 300 transfer agreements with more than 70 partnering four-year institutions on average. The last three cohorts of students, 28.5 percent of our Calvert County students transfer to a four-year institution. And their top three transfer institutions were University of Maryland Global Campus, which is our online presence, University of Maryland College Park, and Towson."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance wanted to know what was behind the enrollment growth. Dr. Wilson said, "I have an amazing team, because leadership, we know, is a team sport. And I would say that they are out there and really trying to show the refreshed kind of brand of CSM, that we are your partners. We're here to serve your needs. And what can we do to help you

meet your goals as we meet our goals. So, our approach to kind of really collectively and collaboratively and collegially working together, I think makes a huge difference."

Former CSM student and now University of Maryland senior Brianna Garcia, a Calvert County resident, relayed how choosing to go to CSM out of high school enabled her to palay success at the four-year institution.

Dr. Wilson said, "At CSM, we are steadfast in our commitment to addressing the evolving needs of employers for an educated and skilled workforce. We are dedicated to strengthening Southern Maryland's labor market by building a robust pipeline of trained professionals to meet those demands."

She said, "During Fiscal Year 24 CSM awarded 753 associate degrees and 555 certificates that included 244 recipients right here from Calvert County. And over the last three fiscal years, 24.4 percent of our degree recipients have been Calvert County residents to put those degrees and certificates into an economic perspective."

She said of a report on economic impact by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges, "The total annual impact of Maryland's community colleges resulted in \$8.7 billion in added income, or the equivalent of 113,805 jobs supported."

One new initiative at CSM is aimed at laid-off federal employees. "In the next week, we have a task force that we've developed to help connect them to jobs in our region, help connect them with interviewing skills and resume writing skills, and what the opportunities are at our local chambers and different job fairs that we're going to host in partnership with Tri County Council, and what our



CSM President Dr. Yolanda Wilson

opportunities are, what the options are in the school systems, so on and so forth. Laptop loaner assistance, tuition, payment plans, all of that to help our federal employees."

Dr. Wilson said, "With regard to information technology and cybersecurity, we're very proud to share that CSM Cybersecurity Associate Degree program ranks among the best in the US. According to intelligent.com, the college ranked number 10 of 34 top programs in the country with a score of 89.71 out of a hundred points. Our cybersecurity program is also designated by the Department of Homeland Security and the National Security Agency as a center of Academic Excellence in cyber defense for two-year programs. Very difficult to get that and keep that designation."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Split School Board Revises Mission Statement

'Inclusive and Supportive School Community' Removed

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

In their first disagreement, the new Calvert County Board of Education, with three new members, voted 3-2 at their March 27 meeting to revise the school system's mission statement.

The current mission statement, presented by staff as part of a proposed Strategic Plan, read, "CCPS (Calvert County Public Schools) nurtures an inclusive and supportive school community to empower students with a rigorous academic foundation that ignites a passion for learning and raises the bar for excellence in education."

Board Vice President Lisa Grenis advanced an alternative that read, "CCPS will raise the bar for excellence in education by empowering students with a rigorous academic foundation."

Grenis explained, "Now that we have a board that is focused on academic achievement, I think it's important that we honor our commitment to making that Calvert County's priority."

Board member Paul Harrison said, "I think we're forgetting a big piece of our success," adding, "I would like to suggest

that we put in rigorous academic and 'career ready' foundation because I think we're leaving out a population of CTA (Career and Technology Academy). Grenis accepted Harrison's amendment.

Student Member of the Board Grace Minakowski said, "Can I ask why we took out the piece about 'inclusive and supportive school community?'"

Grenis said, "Because a mission statement should be very targeted. Everybody in our system, when they walk up to you, they need to be able to remember what our mission in this county is. You want to keep it short, direct, and to the point. And I think that the way we're rephrasing it is something that's memorable. I think it's achievable, and I think it sets the message of what our priority is."

Minakowski said, "I would agree with that completely. The piece about inclusive and supportive school community, I think, also recognizes the role that families and community members and fellow students have on a student's success. So, I do think it may be important to keep in the mission statement because we're not recognizing students as just the individual. We're including the entire environment."

Harrison argued, "The mission has gotten

too big. We can't save all the homeless dogs and feed all the families at the same time. We have to focus on what we can control. So, when you get into the other elements, your strategic goal can't encompass everything."

Board President Jana Post said, "I agree with Grace, and I think when we talk about inclusion and support, it goes together with those things and we should not drop it."

Grenis said, "I'd like to say that those things are within the plan. They do not have to be part of the mission statement."

Post countered "Are people going to read the mission statement or are they going to read the whole plan?"

Board member Mellissa Goshorn argued that safety should be included in the Mission Statement. She said, "I was a part of this process. I met with the interviewers. The number one concern of every single person in my group was safety."

Goshorn and Post opposed the motion by Grenis which prevailed.

The board also has some serious reservations about the strategic plan, and in the end asked staff to do more work on it.

Post said, "We paid a company \$68,000 several years ago to create, facilitate whatever, a strategic plan. That was a complete

waste of money, in my opinion. But I will say that I'm going to applaud staff because I know that, while there may have been some input that we received from the community and other members of the school system, it was not comprehensive in my opinion."

Goshorn told staff that a lot of the plan was too general. "We've been a school system for a long time. We have a lot of really great staff here. We should already know a dozen different things that we want to do. And the strategic plan is our guiding plan for how we budget. So, if there's not very specific things like we need to increase the number of tier two supports or tier three supports, or we need smaller class sizes, we as a board can't effectively plan the budget to support the strategic plan. If the strategic plan looks like this, just quite honestly, we need very concrete things that you guys want to do so we can support you in that."

Chief Operations Officer Dr. Susan Johnson said staff would revise the plan based on the board's concerns, and bring the revision back to them.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



The Charm and Quality of the Past with the Convenience of Today

USDA CHOICE BEEF

Fresh Cut Prime Steaks
Pork Chops | Rotisserie Chicken

FULL SERVICE
MEAT DEPARTMENT

Custom Orders Welcome

LARGE ALCOHOL
SELECTION

Liquor | Wine | Cold Beer

HERSHEY'S "BEST"

Hand-Dipped Ice Cream
12 Taste Tempting Flavors
Half Gallons - 30 Flavors
Pints | Ice Cream Cakes

FRESH MD CRAB MEAT

Lump | Jumbo Lump

FULL LINE OF
GROCERIES, MEAT,
FRESH PRODUCE

Hot & Cold Sandwiches
and Subs & MORE!

Chicken Salad &
Homemade Desserts

Local Honey

Amish Baked Goods
Delivered Weekly

Berger & Otterbein's
Specialty Cookies

EXCHANGEABLE PROPANE TANKS

4300 HUNTING CREEK RD. HUNTINGTOWN, MARYLAND

410-257-2222 • 7 AM - 9 PM EVERY DAY • WWW.BONESGROCERY.COM

CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS	4	CALENDAR	9
COPS & COURTS	8		

“ALL WE’RE DOING IS WASTING TIME
AND MONEY DOUBLE DISPATCHING
WHEN WE HAVE CAREER CREWS
SITTING IN A STATION.”

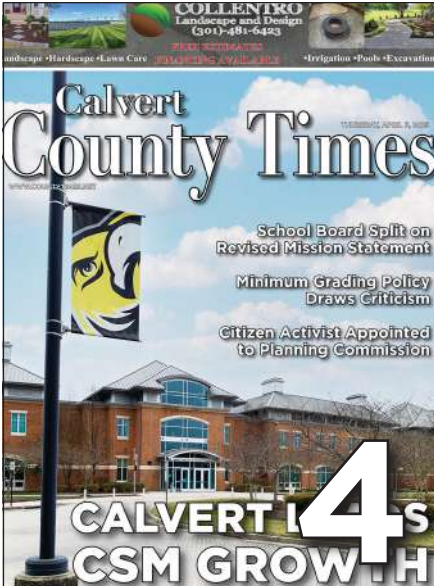
COMMISSIONER PRESIDENT BUDDY HANCE



LOCAL 6
School board reviews grade policy



LOCAL 7
Activist gets planning commission seat



ON THE COVER
Enrollment rises at College of Southern Maryland

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, APR 3	FRI, APR 4	SAT, APR 5	SUN, APR 6
Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 62°	Cloudy Hi: 67° Lo: 55°	AM Showers Hi: 69° Lo: 64°	PM Showers Hi: 76° Lo: 51°
MON, APR 7	TUE, APR 8	WED, APR 9	THU, APR 10
AM Showers Hi: 57° Lo: 46°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 51° Lo: 33°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 53° Lo: 39°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 63° Lo: 49°



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS
SERVING ST. MARY’S & CALVERT COUNTY

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County

ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY
THURSDAY & ONLINE AT
COUNTYTIMES.NET

Brought to you by the Calvert County Homeless Service Board, the Nonprofit Institute at CSM, the Southern Maryland Local Homeless Coalition and the Calvert County Department of Community Resources

CALVERT COUNTY
Community Resource Fair

Friday, May 2, 2025 | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Prince Frederick Campus
115 J. W. Williams Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

410-535-1600, ext. 8803

FREE
EVENT!

FIND RESOURCES FOR:

- Housing and Utilities
- Jobs and Transportation
- Food and Clothing
- Veterans
- Medical and Personal Care
- Legal and Vital Records



Transportation shuttle services are available.
Scan the QR code or visit the website to learn more at
www.calvertcountymd.gov/CommunityResourceFair

It's NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April
6-12

"I love the library because it's a place to learn, grow, and be in a community!"



"Public libraries are more than just buildings filled with books; they are hubs of learning, innovation, and community engagement."

"I love my library because it's a place where knowledge is always within reach, no matter who you are or where you come from."

101 REASONS WHY I LOVE MY LIBRARY

"Libraries did not exist in my home country. Coming here, the library was my solace and entertainment center in my first few years ...still is."

"Libraries have become more than a place to check out books — they are places where you can meet with others, learn, and expand your horizons."



"We are grateful to be able to use the tutoring rooms when working with our adult learners."

"I love our libraries because they are dedicated to partnering with nonprofit organizations like mine to educate our community!"



"I love my library because libraries bring us together! It's a place where everyone can share their voice and learn from different perspectives."

Come visit
and discover
all the reasons
to love
your library!

**Calvert
LIBRARY**
#calvertREADS

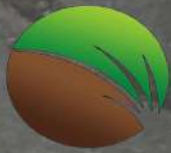


ccpl
CHARLES COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ccplonline.org



★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY
library
stmalib.org





COLLENTRO
Landscape and Design
(301)-481-6423

FREE ESTIMATES

FINANCING AVAILABLE



•Landscape •Hardscape •Lawn Care

•Irrigation •Pools •Excavation

Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

WWW.COUNTYTIMES.NET

**School Board Split on
Revised Mission Statement**

**Minimum Grading Policy
Draws Criticism**

**Citizen Activist Appointed
to Planning Commission**

**CALVERT LEADS
CSM GROWTH**