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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

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Non-Fatal Shooting

Home Depot Approved
for California

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St. Clement's Museum

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“IT’S NOT HOME DEPOT. AND I’M GLAD IT’S NOT HOME DEPOT.”

PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN HOWARD THOMPSON ON LOCALLY-OWNED DYSON LUMBER



LOCAL 4
Home Depot coming to St. Mary's



LOCAL 6
Proposal allows day-care in Critical Area



ON THE COVER
Laschelle McKay marks 25 years as Town Administrator

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 31 Mostly Cloudy Hi: 91° Lo: 69°	FRI, AUG 1 Cloudy Hi: 73° Lo: 64°	SAT, AUG 2 Mostly Sunny Hi: 80° Lo: 63°	SUN, AUG 3 Partly Cloudy Hi: 81° Lo: 63°
MON, AUG 4 Partly Cloudy Hi: 82° Lo: 65°	TUE, AUG 5 Mostly Cloudy Hi: 82° Lo: 68°	WED, AUG 6 Mostly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 68°	THU, AUG 7 Partly Cloudy Hi: 81° Lo: 69°

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05

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Home Depot Coming to St. Mary's County

Planning Commission Approves California Site

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

It's been talked about and rumored about for decades at various locations in St. Mary's County, including on the land that is now the site of a Harris Teeter grocery store.

Now, to the delight of many, including several county commissioners, a Home Depot national chain store appears to be becoming a reality.

The St. Mary's County Planning Commission on July 28 unanimously approved a concept site plan for the new 136,750 sq. ft. store to be located in the Oak Crest Center on Route 235 in California across from the Wildewood Center and behind the new Chipotle restaurant and the Royal Farms store now under construction.

The staff report described the property as "13.33 acres, located on property that is included within the Industrial Area Land Use and Industrial zoning (I) with PUD-IP (Planned Unit Development - Industrial Park) and Airport Environs (AE-4) overlay zone. The property is located within the Lexington Park Development District as shown on the Land Use Concept Plan incorporated into the County's Comprehensive Plan."

The planned use is allowed in the zone in which the property is located.

In addition to accessing the site from the main entrance into the shopping center (Oak Crest Drive), there will be an access road into the Home Depot property between the Chipotle and Royal Farm stores.

A handful of people spoke at the public hearing. While no one opposed the project outright, there was some concern about traffic and the impact on the existing lumber stores in the county, 84 Lumber in Charlotte Hall and the Dean and Dyson family businesses in Hollywood and Great Mills respectively.

Developer's attorney Christopher Longmore reminded the planners after the hearing that they were restricted by law from considering the competitive impact of the proposal.

The store will have a garden center to the left and a lumber yard to the right, with the main home store in the center.

There will be 451 dedicated parking spaces and an additional 41 for storage of material such as mulch available for sale.

The parking spaces proposed are less than required, although the zoning ordinance does allow those requirements to be lowered by the planning director if the applicant can provide justification. The planners were told that Home Depot's experience is that those spaces were all that is required.

Longmore explained, "The planned unit development originally included what was the South Star Chaney site right on Route 235 and then a lot of property behind it. And all of that wrapped around what was the Lafarge asphalt plant that was on the site we're here to talk about tonight. The Lafarge plant originally was not part of the planned unit development, that was brought into the planned

unit development in 2020. The Chaney site in the front originally was not proposed to be developed as part of the PUD because it was already developed with the Chaney operations at that time that had been there for a long time. The owner of the planned unit development... St. John Properties, worked with partners to acquire the South Star site and the Lafarge site. South Star site was already in the PUD but was not part of the plan to develop the rest of it because it was already developed. The Lafarge site was not part of the PUD at all when those were brought into the site. Shortly after that, on June 14th, 2021, St. John Properties came before you and had a concept site plan approved for the Lafarge site, the site that we're here for, that the Home Depot is now proposed on."

Longmore noted that the developer has already improved the road in front of the property. The developer also has contributed to the cost of construction of a third lane on Route 235 from Route 4 to the shopping center entrance. Several commission members expressed regret that the road hadn't been built yet by the state, but Longmore insisted that was imminent.

The developer's traffic consultant said with the improvements already made, the road network would be able to handle the additional traffic while maintaining the existing level of service.

Longmore said after the hearing, "I think that there's always that tension when a new business comes in, what it'll do to businesses that were there. I grew up in a family business right down the street in Leonardtown. I know that's always a concern. I think some of the businesses that were mentioned though have survived many changes in the economy. And my gut is they're going to survive this as well because some people like going to the local shops and are very loyal to it. And some folks like to go to the big stores and some people like me go to both depending on what you need."

Planning Commission Chairman Howard Thompson said he's a regular customer of Dyson Lumber. "They've just got a great store. It's not Home Depot. And I'm glad it's not Home Depot. I like Home Depot."

He said to the Home Depot representatives, "Y'all bring a whole different level of service and product to the county. And it's something that we've needed," adding, "I don't want to go into the politics of it all, but we need another store. I think they answered most of the questions that we've thrown at them tonight. You do have an intersection that's been improved."

Regarding the third lane for Route 235, he said, "We're looking for that and it's good to hear that it's been bonded and all."

"In my opinion, they've shown what I needed to see to move forward on this project," he concluded.

Several of the county commissioners praised the decision at their July 29 meeting.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Laschelle McKay Marks 25 Years as Town Administrator



Laschelle McKay during a bus tour of town for state economic development officials



McKay with Sam Crozier at the ribbon cutting ceremony for Leonardtown Wharf Park



McKay receiving the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Public Servant of the Year award in 2016

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

It's one of those jobs that when you wake up in the morning, you never know what to expect. This summer, Laschelle McKay is celebrating 25 years as town administrator of Leonardtown.

"I never know. I can't plan my day, whatever fire needs to be put out. I love working with customers, working with developers, working on projects, and I just never know what the next five minutes is going to be. We never say it's going to be a slow day. But it's, still fun."

Twenty-five years ago, then mayor, the late Chipper Norris, lured McKay away from her position as manager of the Hollywood branch of First National Bank of St. Mary's.

McKay grew up in Kingwood, West Virginia and got into banking there as a loan officer, a skill that she transferred locally when her family moved here.

McKay said, "When I left the bank, the president of the bank at the time told me that I would be back in less than a year, that I would hate it. And 25 years later, I love it. Somebody asks me every day when I'm going to retire, but I still have a lot I want to do. I was diagnosed with Parkinson's four years ago, but so far I've still been able to keep on working and I hope to stay involved for a long time to come."

When did the light come on that this was in fact going to be a long-term gig for her? She said, "I probably thought he was right the first few months, but I really fell in love with the work right away, and it was just something different every other minute, and I just enjoyed it so much right from the beginning. Of course, I get overwhelmed sometimes and get stressed out, but I never say I want to quit. I never feel like I made a mistake. I feel like I'm where I'm meant to be."

She added, "This is where you can really make a difference in government."

At the time she joined the town, Mayor Norris was an appraiser for her bank. He said, "I really think with your bank branch manager experience, you would be great for the

job, your personality would be a good fit."

He took her on a tour. "I liked the idea of something new. I liked the managerial side of my job and banking was just getting more regulated and I just really wasn't happy with what I was doing. So, I wanted to try something new. And Mayor Norris had told me that they had a project they were thinking about doing, a museum there, and Tudor Farm was getting ready to develop back then. And here we're 25 years later and it's really just getting ready to develop, but there just seemed to be a lot of exciting things going on, and it was a good opportunity."

But she added, "And then quickly I found out all the other things that he didn't tell me about. Like the wastewater treatment plant."

She knew nothing about wastewater treatment plants, and it turned out to be one of the biggest parts of her job.

She learned by "being in meetings, being put on the spot? I just found very quickly that you had to make decisions and learn really quickly. And, the administrator had already left, so there wasn't someone (for advice), so I asked a lot of questions of the long-time treasurer at the time, then I just tried to learn on my own."

I've been thru two upgrades of the wastewater plant and now we are finishing up an expansion that will give us capacity for growth."

With the upgrade, she said, "We're able to continue developing and growing. We've been the fastest growing municipality for probably about 15 years actually. Fastest growing percentage wise in Maryland. And we're St. Mary's only municipality," and thus a designated growth area.

When she joined Leonardtown, the town hall was in the former post office (now the location of Good Earth). The town had just moved there from historic Tudor Hall. It is now in a building on Washington St. near the square which had been part of the old First National Bank of St. Mary's branch.

Her biggest accomplishment as administrator? "I didn't even know that Leonardtown was a waterfront community until when I came here. And so, it was in

private ownership and was not in very good shape. And now it's a thriving public park with a lot of additional potential. We have slips down there now. We have just tons of activities going on and people walking up and down all day."

She added, "The steamships came in down there in the 1920s. It was always a central feature of the town, and so it's nice to have it back into the public use again. And, when you have homecomings or proms, you'll see lines of kids down there getting their picture taken at sunset. There's a playground down there now, so kids love playing on the playground. It's just a very active, usable public park."

The town has a dream of creating a restaurant there since Leonardtown Wharf burnt down decades ago.

McKay said, "We have a design now of a food hall and we have someone interested in that. So, we're working with them to see if we can bring that to a reality as part of our new waterfront plan. It's a beautiful building and it would have different types of food that families could choose from or visitors could choose from. So, we're hoping to make that a reality. We just last year purchased an additional parcel of land to make some additional parking down there."

As to the long dormant development of Tudor Farm, she said, "It is now moving forward. The private developer owns part of the 400 acres, and the town owns 240 of the acres. So, we want to expand the waterfront we own out to the winery, which is about two and a half miles of waterfront. And then, the private developer would be building houses and some multifamily. We also have in the plans for a smaller hotel/conference center on our property."

She noted, "The private developer that owns it now has sat on it for probably 15 years waiting for the right time. And he's now done his traffic study and has been meeting with us with his updated plan. And it's actually started to make significant investment in the planning. I know that it's just about ready to be submitted to start through the process."

McKay observed, "Over the years I've seen a lot of people come and go, and sometimes I'll be in meetings, and I'll have the historical knowledge that maybe State Highway didn't know that this something has already been done on Route 5. And I'm like, yeah, we did that years ago, and then they go find it. We don't have to do that again. So, it's kind of nice to have all that historical knowledge."

The state is mired in a fiscal challenge. McKay said, "There may not be as much grant funding available. We have had extremely good success getting millions of dollars in grants since I've been here. We have proven ourselves to the state that we spend the money, as we said we were going to. We do the reporting on time. And so, we have been very successful with grants, and I know that there's just not quite as much available these days."

Her biggest challenge over the years? "You have to be an expert in all subjects. With the county administrator, they have department heads that get the information, but they don't have to run the whole department. Here, we don't have department heads. It's a very small organization. We still have less than 20 employees, and we've doubled in size since I've been here. So, I have to really know what's going on in all areas, what the needs are for the future and how to handle growth and make sure that our citizens are getting the best care that we can give."

"I have a great talented, long-term staff. That's very helpful. And I think, as a team, I've been very lucky. I've only had two mayors in my whole 25 years, Mayor Burris and Mayor Norris, and many wonderful, supportive Town Council members that have all worked together. And so, it's been consistency, consistency of the staff, consistency of the direction we're going in, and everybody working together as a team. It's not just one person that has made us successful, the businesses, the relationship we have with the business association and all the businesses. It's just really been a team effort."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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St. Mary's County

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Proposal Allows Day-Care Centers in Critical Area



All Saints Church in Avenue

By Dick Myers
 Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County will hold a public hearing on Aug. 26 on a proposal to allow day-care centers in the Resource Conservation Area (RCA) Critical Area Overlay zone, the area in the county around the Chesapeake Bay watershed that is protected by state law. The commissioners also will send the request to the State Critical Area Commission for approval.

Director of Land Use & Growth Management Jessica Andritz explained to the commissioners on July 29, "We were approached a few months ago by (attorney) Chris Longmore on behalf of his client, the vestry of All Saints Church in Avenue."

Andritz said, "What the church is looking to do is to establish a Head Start program to provide some daycare uses, kind of tucked away in certain areas of the county where we know childcare can certainly be a burden to families with young children."

She added, "We know that Head Start programs have a really great reputation for helping to jettison our little people on to do great things, whether it's in public school or private school. It just really gives them the social skills and some of the early learning that needs to go on for our young families to continue to live here and be successful here in St. Mary's County."

Andritz explained, "I could certainly tell you a little bit more about the property, but I don't want to focus too much on the property because what is before you today as a request for a public hearing and also consensus for us to send the application up to

the critical area commission, so that it can be reviewed formally by their staff."

She said, "I don't want to focus on the location in particular because a zoning amendment, should it be approved by you, would apply throughout the county. Let me be very clear, it is a limited text amendment. And when we present it to the state, we actually won't use the term amendment. That is strategic. We view it internally as a refinement, something that is not going to open the flood gates, but it is quite limited in nature."

Andritz said, "Something that is very important to note here is that doesn't mean that daycares are going to start popping up everywhere in the county and certainly in the critical area. That's not what this is about. It's about using existing space that is already there, repurposing it, sometimes adding it as a complimentary, you can call it accessory use within an existing structure."

Commissioner Eric Colvon said, "I think the reuse of existing facilities is something that we have had some familiarity with in the past and made some changes."

I think this is a great thing," he said. "I'm excited for this."

Commissioner Michael Alderson Jr. said, "This addresses a huge need in the 7th District. I appreciate the fact that we're using existing structures and we're not adding anything new. I can't wait to see this move on through."

The decisions were unanimous for the public to hear and sending it to the State Critical Area Commission.

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School Projects Added to Capital Plan

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County have approved a request by the Board of Education to move unused monies from other projects for some school building improvement projects. Total funding involved is \$1,384,745.

The school system's Director of Capital Planning Kimberly Howe told the commissioners at their July 29 meeting, "We have started the process of the FY 27 CIP (Capital Improvement Program) and as part of that...there's a lot of collaboration that happens in the Division of Supporting Services between maintenance, operations, design and construction and capital planning on what our needs are. And we have a lot of buildings that were built in the 1990s and those are now still all coming due. And we've had these discussions in the past about what those needs are."

She said the new director of maintenance "has really been doing a deep dive into our critical infrastructure needs. What does it take to ensure we have continuity of service? So as a result of that, we evaluated our HVACs, our roofs and water in and water out. Those are the mission-critical items that need to happen at a school to ensure that it opens every morning and functions as it's supposed to."

Howe said, "Based on several months of work, we looked at everything. We looked at every school and every component that we could. And based on those findings, we identified

\$1,384,745 in project scope studies and designs for some smaller projects that we need to do." The projects were approved by the school board at their July 16 meeting.

She said, "What we have for you today is a budget amendment utilizing projects that we have completed or deferred to future years due to more pressing needs."

Projects being reduced:

- Building Infrastructure Programmatic PS1805 \$1,044,644
- Lexington Park E.S. Roof/HVAC PS2601 \$40,000
- Ridge E.S. PS2602 Roof/HVAC \$40,000
- Relocatables for Various Projects PS1403 \$260,101
- Projects to increase:
- Benjamin Banneker ECC – Lift Station (Design) \$100,000
- Hollywood E.S. Well Tank Replace (Design) \$50,000
- Chopticon H.S. Well House Controls (Design) \$50,000
- Chopticon H.S. Sewage Site Upgrade (Study/Design) \$125,000
- Ridge E.S. Bladder Tank Replace/Well Vault Mod \$50,000
- Esperanza M.S. Chillers Replace (Design & Construction) \$809,745
- Kitchen Hood Repairs (Various Sch-Construction) \$200,000

The changes in the CIP were approved unanimously by the commissioners.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Officer Involved in Non-Fatal Shooting of Armed Suspect

On July 23, 2025, at approximately 6:10 p.m., an officer-involved shooting occurred in California, MD. The preliminary investigation revealed deputies located a subject identified as Nathaniel Mekhi Golphin, 19, of California, MD, wanted on a search warrant at a retail store in the San Souci Plaza. As deputies approached Golphin, he fled. Deputies pursued him. Golphin displayed a firearm, and a deputy discharged his agency weapon one time, striking Golphin.

Deputies immediately rendered aid until emergency medical personnel arrived on the scene. Golphin was transported via Maryland State Police Aviation Command to an area trauma center for treatment and remains hospitalized in stable condition.

The suspect's firearm was recovered at the scene.

No other injuries were reported.

Detective Corporal Warren Forinash, an eight-year veteran of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, was identified as the deputy who fired his weapon, striking the suspect once. Per agency policy, Cpl. Forinash has been placed on administrative leave pending investigations by the St. Mary's County Sheriff's

Office of Professional Responsibilities and Criminal Investigations Division. In accordance with Maryland law, the Independent Investigations Division (IID) of the Office of the Attorney General was contacted and briefed but declined to investigate at this time.

A warrant with criminal charges against Golphin has been issued for the following:

- Handgun on person
- Loaded handgun on person
- Possession of a firearm being under 21 years of age
- Firearm possession with a criminal violent felony conviction
- Illegal possession of ammunition
- Knowingly altering a manufacturer's identification number on a firearm

This incident remains under investigation, and updates will be provided as the investigation continues. Anyone who may have witnessed the incident and has not yet given a statement is asked to contact Detective Andrew Burgess at 301-475-4200, ext. 8041, or by email at Andrew.Burgess@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Press Release from SMCSO



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St. Clement's Island Museum Gets Groundbreaking Date



Artist's rendering of the new St. Clement's Island Museum

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County are pleased to announce the approval to award the St. Clement's Island Museum construction project contract to W.M. Davis, Inc., marking a significant milestone in preserving and enhancing one of Maryland's most treasured historical sites.

A public groundbreaking ceremony will be held at the St. Clement's Island Museum on Tuesday, August 26, at 2 p.m., and all community members are warmly invited to attend.

"St. Clement's Island Museum is a cornerstone of both our county's and state's heritage," said Commissioner President Randy Guy. "The upgraded facility will not only honor our history but offer an enhanced and inspiring space for generations to learn, reflect, and connect with Maryland's roots."

The new 9,450 square foot, two-story museum will be built on the footprint of the existing facility, offering sweeping views of the Potomac River and honoring the site's rich historical significance.

Notable features of the new museum plan include:

- A children's activity room and formal conference room
- An interior circular staircase reminiscent of a lighthouse tower, in addition to an elevator
- A full exhibit redesign incorporating original museum elements and the voices of the Piscataway Nation
- A new exhibit on the founding of Maryland, designed in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution, as part of the lead-up to the 400th anniversary of Maryland's founding which will be celebrated in 2034
- A native-plant landscaping plan
- Reinstallation of the beloved *first landing mural*, which will have a place of honor in the first-floor gallery

"The new museum is designed not just as a space for education, but as a community landmark that will honor Maryland's beginnings, celebrate diverse cultural narratives, and inspire generations to come," said St. Mary's County Museum Division Manager, Karen E. Stone.

St. Mary's County Government is grateful for the longstanding partnership with the

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), whose ongoing commitment has been instrumental in supporting the museum and preservation of the first landing site. Their collaboration was critical in obtaining the necessary permitting for the new building, and the county is pleased to be moving forward with a new lease agreement that will expand accessible green space and offer dedicated handicapped parking, ensuring the site remains welcoming and inclusive to all.

Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2025, with project completion estimated for December 2026. To accommodate construction, the current museum building is planned to close at the end of summer 2025. Events typically hosted on museum grounds may be relocated or paused during construction. However, some services will continue, including:

- Water taxi service to St. Clement's Island (seasonal operation)
- The museum store (limited inventory)

Visitors will be able to access both from the annex building, located across the street from the current museum and build site for the new facility.

Join us on August 26 to celebrate the beginning of this exciting transformation for the St. Clement's Island Museum—where history meets the future.

For more information, please call St. Clement's Island Museum at (301) 769-2222 or visit Facebook.com/SCIMuseum.

The St. Mary's County Museum Division was established by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the historic sites and artifacts which illustrate the natural and cultural histories of St. Mary's County and the Potomac River. These sites include St. Clement's Island Museum, Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, the Old Jail Museum, and the Drayden African American Schoolhouse. With this as its charter, the Museum Division serves as a resource, liaison, and community advocate for all St. Mary's County public and private cultural assets. For more information, please visit: museums.stmarysmd.com.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government

Colvin Files for Reelection for Third Term in District 1

Commissioner Eric Colvin (R) has officially filed for reelection to continue serving as the St. Mary's County Commissioner from Commissioner District 1. St. Mary's County Commissioner District 1 stretches from the southern portion of the Town of Leonardtown to Point Lookout and includes Valley Lee, Tall Timbers, Ridge, and a portion of Lexington Park

A commissioner must reside in the district that they are running for, but the commissioners represent the entire county and all voters can vote for all commissioners.

Commissioner Colvin is currently serving in his second term as the commissioner from the first Commissioner District.

According to a campaign press release, "During his two terms in office, Commissioner Colvin has demonstrated a fiscally conservative and detail oriented approach to building the county budget. He has prioritized Public Safety and support for First Responders, County infrastructure needs, including broadband internet expansion and improvement, and local government transparency."

Commissioner Colvin has been active in both the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) and the National Association of Counties (NACo), where he is currently serving as a Vice-Chair for the NACo IT Standing Committee and member of the NACo Resilient Counties Advisory Board. He is a graduate of the MACo Academy for Excellence in Good Governance.

When reflecting on running for a third term, Commissioner Colvin stated, "Serving as a county commissioner has been one of the highest honors of my life. Being elected to represent our residents is really about ser-



vice; this is not a job I take lightly. If chosen to represent the people of St. Mary's County for a third term, voters can feel confident that I will continue to do the hard work. I want St. Mary's County to continue to be a wonderful place to live, work, raise a family, and enjoy life."

The primary election day is Tuesday, June 23, 2026, with Early Voting taking place June 11th through June 18th. If you would like to learn more about Commissioner Eric Colvin and his bid for re-election, you can visit his website at www.VoteColvin.com to find more information, read about Commissioner Colvin's background and qualifications, or see how you can help in his reelection bid.

Chris Kaselemis Retires



The Commissioners of St. Mary's County on July 29 honored Chris Kaselemis on his retirement after 10 years as Director of Economic Development.

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Auction

Tri County Livestock Auction

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the Month – Auction begins at 4 PM
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Housewares, Tools, Misc. Items

Cal Ripken/Orioles Memorabilia, Holiday Decorations, Crocks, Glassware, Misc. Tools, Oak Quilt Rack, Oak File Cabinet, Desk, Poly Table with Chairs & Bench, Etc.

Auction Preview: Tuesday, AUG 5, 2025, 5 pm – 7 pm
(Westfield Farm Arena, 26689 Laurel Grove Rd., Mechanicsville, MD)

Online Auction Closes: Thursday, AUG 7, 2025
starting at 6 pm

Pickup of won items Friday, AUG 8, 9 am – 5 pm

Mechanicsville VFD Public Consignment Auction

Saturday, SEPT 6, 2025 – 9 am

Mechanicsville VFD

28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicsville, MD

Farm, Lawn & Garden Equipment/Items – Tools – Furniture/Crafts – New Handcrafted Quilts – Fall Produce – Baked Goods, More

For more info call the MVFD Auction Phone line at 240-466-1512.
This is a community auction event held in coordination with the local Amish Community; MVFD; JD Cox; Hayes Auction Services, LLC; Farrell Auction Service, LLC; and others. More info coming soon!

www.FarrellAuctionService.com

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Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C18CV25000359

James V. Dahlstrom
Plaintiff

vs.

James Watkins
Cecelia Watkins
Commissioners of St. Mary's County
Office of the County Treasurer for St. Mary's County
ALL PERSONS that have or claim to have any interest in property described as Lot 15, Block 55, LONGVIEW BEACH, having an address of Upland Drive, Bushwood, Maryland 20618
Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property, sold by the Collector of Taxes for the State of Maryland and St. Mary's County to the Plaintiff in the proceeding described as: Lot 15, Block 55, LONGVIEW BEACH, and assessed to James Watkins and Cecelia Watkins, the improvements thereon being known as Upland Drive, Bushwood, Maryland 20618.

The Complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 2nd day of June, 2025, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary County, **ORDERED**, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this Order in some daily newspaper having general circulation in St. Mary's County once a week for three consecutive weeks, before the 2nd day of August, 2025, warning all persons with an interest in said property to be and appear in this Court by the 2nd day of August, 2025, and redeem the property and answer the Complaint, or thereafter a Final Decree will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the said property, and vesting in the Plaintiff a title in fee simple, free and clear of all encumbrances.

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

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Letters to the Editor

'Moving our community forward'

I wish to thank the St. Mary's County Commissioners for the vote to approve Atlantic Realty's workforce housing development project for Lexington Park.

As I was told years ago, St. Mary's was the first county in the United States to have the foresight to adopt an air installation compatibility use overlay zone (AICUZ). However, the impact of that decision froze the core area of Lexington Park as there is no increase in commercial square footage possible and, at one point, the county made its residential development restrictions even more stringent than the Navy's AICUZ requirements.

Over time, this had a chilling effect on the length of Great Mills Road, especially as sprawl development, super-heated by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) build up, marched further up Rt. 235, creating even less reason to reinvest.

These were difficult but necessary choices our commissioners made then and ones the community continues to support now. The AICUZ protects one of our state's largest employers from encroachment, makes St. Mary's more competitive in future BRAC deliberations, and continues to support opportunities for increased Naval Aviation research, test and evaluation, and procurement and the mission of other commands thriving behind those gates.

But we need to remember that the commissioners, residents and business owners in Lexington Park have and continue to do so much more than simply adhere to the AICUZ ordinance.

Initially a health department located beside the Carver Elementary School in the South Hampton neighborhood was closed and the county laid plans and ultimately built a new Carver many miles away on Great Mills Rd. Thankfully, a vibrant Health Hub opened in Lexington Park not too long ago finally bringing much needed services back to the community.

The entire 84-acre Lexington Manor neighborhood of 342 dwelling units was acquired, and the remaining 110 families living there, admittedly in dilapidated circumstances, were relocated. All but one of the duplexes was demolished. Public reinvestment in the Lexington Manor Passive Park and the adjoining John G. Lancaster Park has created vibrant recreational assets for the surrounding community.

The county constructed a new building to relocate and expand the Lexington Park Library outside of the AICUZ boundary. It's

worth noting that this branch has the highest circulation of any library in Southern Maryland. Bay District Fire Department relocated from the AICUZ to a property adjacent to the library and what a stunning facility they now have. In preparation for those developments, Gabe and Joyce Gabrelcik donated a portion of the land needed to extend FDR Blvd. from Great Mills Road through to South Shangri-La.

So, as I used to say when pitching this, "The front door of our new library won't be facing the back door of our strip joint, cause that's not the education we intend for our children!" Of course, many of you know exactly what I'm talking about. The Lexington Park Rescue Squad now calls FDR home as well.

In the meantime, the county acquired the squad's former property, now the Sheriff's District 4 Station. And the former library, why, that's the home of The Newtowne Players who will kick off their 22nd season this September.

And now, with Atlantic Realty, we have significant private reinvestment in the core of Lexington Park topping off other commercial façade improvements, trendy businesses such as St. Inie's Coffee, MedStar St. Mary and other medical providers locating on Great Mills Road, Stewarts Grant moving forward, the construction of the YMCA, and so much more.

This is exactly what any plan for the revitalization of an aging commercial area seeks to leverage. But none of the localities I have worked with throughout Maryland have willingly reduced residential and commercial capacity and moved so many families and public and nonprofit assets away from its core while simultaneously striving to improve the very community that will always be St. Mary's County's gateway to our largest employer.

We should take credit for all that has been accomplished to not only limit future residential growth and cap commercial square footage in the AICUZ but also for strategically reducing the number of homes and the commercial footprint from what existed when the overlay zone was first adopted in the '70s.

Choosing to invigorate the Park with new housing located outside of the AICUZ was a difficult vote, and I applaud you for moving our community forward.

Robin Finnacom
Former Director
Lexington Park Revitalization Plan



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County Times

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 <p>16 To 20-Ct. EZ-Peel Shrimp</p> <p>6.98 lb.</p>	 <p>Fresh Rockfish Fillet</p> <p>15.99 lb.</p>	 <p>Fresh Perch Fillets</p> <p>9.99 lb.</p>	 <p>Fresh Ahi Tuna</p> <p>9.98 lb.</p>	 <p>5 To 8-Up, Large Snow Crab Legs</p> <p>9.98 lb.</p>

Beer, Wine and Liquor

<p>12-Oz. Cans 30-Pack Busch Light</p> <p>24.49</p>	<p>12-Oz. Cans 30-Pack Miller Lite</p> <p>25.99</p>	<p>12-Oz. Cans 12-Pack High Noon Variety Pack</p> <p>26.99</p>	<p>12-Oz. Bottles 12-Pack Corona Extra, Light, Or Premier</p> <p>19.99</p>	<p>355mL Cans 8-Pack Surfside Lemonade Or Iced Tea Variety</p> <p>19.99</p>
<p>750mL Proper Twelve Irish Whisky</p> <p>25.99</p>	<p>750mL Famous Grouse Blend Scotch Whiskey</p> <p>25.99</p>	<p>750mL Glenlivet Founders Reserve</p> <p>53.99</p>	<p>750mL, By Willett Distillery Willett Noah's Mill Bourbon</p> <p>58.99</p>	<p>1.75L Maker's Mark Whiskey</p> <p>48.99</p>
<p>750mL, Includes 4 Shot Cups Crystal Head Vodka Gift Set</p> <p>48.99</p>	<p>1.75L Absolute Vodka</p> <p>31.99</p>	<p>1.75L Patron Tequila Silver</p> <p>84.99</p>	<p>1.75L Captain Morgan Spiced Rum</p> <p>27.99</p>	<p>1.75L Beefeater London Gin</p> <p>31.99</p>
<p>750mL D'usse Cognac Vsoop</p> <p>55.99</p>	<p>750mL, All Flavors Sweetland Cellars Wines</p> <p>9.99</p>	<p>750mL Port Of Leonardtown Barbera Reserve</p> <p>28.99</p>	<p>750mL, Select Variety Chateau St. Michelle Riesling</p> <p>9.99</p>	<p>750mL XXL Sparkling Moscato Or Rose</p> <p>12.99</p>
<p>1.5L, All Varieties Beringer Main & Vine Wines</p> <p>8.49</p>	<p>750mL Filvine Red Blend</p> <p>12.99</p>	<p>750mL Orin Swift Cellars 8 Years In The Desert Red Wine</p> <p>43.99</p>	<p><i>Wine of the Month</i></p> <p>750mL, Selected Santa Cristina Wines</p> <p>10.99</p>	
<p>750mL J. Vinyards & Winery Pinot Noir</p> <p>19.99</p>	<p>750mL Cline Shifting Tides Sauvignon Blanc</p> <p>16.99</p>	<p>750mL Hampton Water Bubbly Rose</p> <p>23.99</p>	<p>750mL Justin Chardonnay</p> <p>17.99</p>	

WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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NAVAL AIR STATION PATUXENT RIVER *News*

Navy Demonstrates Multi-Day Solar UAS Flight

The Navy, in partnership with Skydweller Aero, recently achieved continuous solar-powered unmanned flight during a nonstop three-day test from Stennis, Mississippi.

Led by the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), the test of Skydweller UAS marks a significant advancement in both long-endurance solar-powered UAS technology and its potential to enhance maritime intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR).

"This demonstration is a prime example of how NAWCAD partners with industry to deliver what the fleet needs," said NAWCAD Commander Rear Adm. Todd Evans. "It also reflects the technical depth of our workforce and our ability to translate ideas into capability."

The 73-hour flight proved Skydweller's ability to maintain continuous solar-powered operation and demonstrated the feasibility of achieving a positive energy balance to power the aircraft during extended flights. It also validated the system's communication links, autonomous real-time decision making and ability to adapt to turbulent weather.

"Integrating Skydweller into the Navy's ISR architecture creates a layered and resilient network that maximizes the capabilities



of all our assets," says NAWCAD's Special Purpose UAS lead Bill Macchione. "This collaborative approach ensures we have the right platform for the right mission, optimizing our resources and enhancing our overall maritime domain awareness."

Skydweller's strength lies in its ability to provide continuous, wide-area surveillance over extended periods, enabling more advanced systems to focus on missions that require such specialized capabilities as rapid

response and advanced sensor packages.

NAWCAD began experimentation with Skydweller's solar-powered UAS capabilities in 2020 to address U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) operational challenges, including drug trafficking and border security. This technology provides continuous surveillance over vast areas, enabling the U.S. and its allies to enhance maritime security and disrupt illicit activities. NAWCAD will conduct further testing

with Skydweller later this summer in the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility.

NAWCAD's military, civilian, and contract personnel operate test ranges, laboratories, and aircraft in support of test, evaluation, research, development, and sustainment for all Navy and Marine Corps aviation platforms. Based in Patuxent River, Maryland, NAWCAD also has major sites in St. Inigoes, Maryland; Lakehurst, New Jersey; and Orlando, Florida.

National Lighthouse Weekend

at Piney Point Lighthouse

August 2-3 • 10am-5pm

- Oldest lighthouse on the Potomac
- Enjoy tours of the museum & historic park
- The keeper's quarters & lighthouse will be open
- Climb to the top of the lighthouse!

Free admission all weekend!



Great for kids and families



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Set Sail with Museum's Dinner & Cruise



Limited tickets remain for the final cruise of St. Clement's Island Museum's 2025 Dinner & A Cruise Series. These themed cruises offer locals and visitors alike the opportunity to enjoy a fun evening on the St. Clement's Island Water Taxi with a delicious seafood dinner at Morris Point Restaurant.

The remaining cruise is Sunday, September 21, 2025, with the theme "What Lies Beneath the Potomac River" from 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$85 per person or \$160 per couple (ages 21 and older only – no one under 21 will be admitted), and include the boat ride, water tour, and seafood dinner.

For more information or to reserve your ticket, visit: <https://bit.ly/DinnerCruise2025> or email Janet Cooper at Janet.Cooper@stmaryscountymd.gov. Like, follow, and stay up to date with Museum events online

at: Facebook.com/SCIMuseum.

The St. Mary's County Museum Division was established by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the historic sites and artifacts which illustrate the natural and cultural histories of St. Mary's County and the Potomac River. These sites include St. Clement's Island Museum, Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, the Old Jail Museum, and the Drayden African American Schoolhouse. With this as its charter, the Museum Division serves as a resource, liaison, and community advocate for all St. Mary's County public and private cultural assets. For more information, please visit: museums.stmarysmd.gov.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Museum Division

Leonardtown Lions Donate to Mission of Mercy



Pictured (R) is Dr. Dylan Schneider, board member of the Mission of Mercy (M.O.M) receiving a donation check from Leonardtown Lion George Kirby. M.O.M is a Southern Maryland Dental Group of volunteers who provide free dental work to the underserved in the tri-county area. For more information on services provided by the Mission of Mercy volunteers, to donate or become a partner contact Jean Wathen at 301-884-4438

Get Ready for National Night Out

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office invites you, your family, and your neighbors to be part of National Night Out 2025, taking place Tuesday, August 5, 2025, from 6 to 8 p.m. in neighborhoods across the county!

National Night Out is a fun and free annual event designed to bring communities and law enforcement together. It's a chance to turn on your porch light, step outside, and spend the evening getting to know your neighbors and the public safety officials who serve your community.

From block parties to cookouts and everything in between, National Night Out is about building stronger neighborhoods and safer communities together. Deputies, Maryland State Police, elected officials, local fire departments, rescue squads, and other community partners will be stopping by participating neighborhoods to say hello and show their support.

Some of this year's registered neighborhoods include:

- Bay Ridge Estates
- Birch Way
- Breton Bay
- Cecil Mills
- Cedar Cove
- Country Lakes
- Forrest Way
- Golden Beach

- Heard's Estates
- Hickory Hills
- Hollywood Shores
- Leonard's Freehold
- Leonard's Grant
- Lexington Village
- Lord Calvert
- Meadow Lake
- Meadows at Town Run
- Myrtle Point
- New Hope Lane
- Nicolet Park
- Spring Valley
- St. Joseph's
- Town Creek
- Westbury
- Wicomico Shores
- Wildewood
- Woodmore
- and many others!

Want to get your neighborhood involved? There's still time, but please register your event by Saturday, August 2, 2025.

Visit www.firstsheriff.com/community/national-night-out or email smcnno@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Let's come together to celebrate community, build trust, and have some fun—because when neighbors know each other, we're all safer.

Press release from SMCSO

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MEET ROVER

Hi, I'm Rover, a hound with big dreams, bigger paws, and a GPS set to "adventure." I'm a 5-year-old legend who started at one end of the county and nearly crossed into the next state, possibly in pursuit of snacks or life's deeper meaning. But no one came to claim me, so after 25 days at the shelter, I'm ready to trade my roaming days for a fenced yard, a cozy bed, and endless belly rubs. Think you've got what it takes to keep up with this lovable explorer turned homebody? 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 at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



MEET MAX

Max the 5-year-old Jack Russell Mix 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 young kids. Max is a sweet guy, who takes sometime getting comfortable with you, once he trusts you it's all love after that. 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!



August

1-3





FREE

Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open Houses

August 2 & 16 • September 6 & 20
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

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Weekend Specials

Specials & Sales at Shepherd's Old Field Market throughout the whole store

Friday, August 1

10 am - 7 pm Visit the Old Jail Museum for FREE tours with extended hours for First Friday

5 pm - 6 pm First Friday Audience Participation Drum Circle at St. Mary's County Arts Council - Free event open to all ages and skill levels

5 pm - 8 pm North End Gallery Opening Reception: Inside Out, a one man show featuring the work of Freeman Dodsworth

5 pm - 8 pm Live music at Port of Leonardtown Winery with Justin Allen and El Jefe Wood Fired Pizza food truck on site

5 pm - 8 pm St. Mary's County Arts Council Opening Reception: Fun in the Sun

6 pm - 9 pm Dungeons & Dragons Game Night at Crafts N' Stitches

5 pm - 10 pm Catch the FREE Leonardtown Trolley





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FIRST FRIDAY



Saturday, August 2

9 am - 10 am Zumba Class at Port of Leonardtown Park

9 am - 4 pm First Saturday of the Month Market at Town Market LLC

10 am - 5 pm Visit the Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center

2 pm - 5 pm Live music at the Port of Leonardtown Winery with Justin Moyer and Napa Grill food truck on site

Sunday, August 3

8 am - 9 am Rise + Shine Yoga at the Leonardtown Wharf

10 am - 5 pm Visit the Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center

12 pm - 10 pm Sunday Funday at Action Lounge & Billiards: Free pool, cornhole & darts

2 pm - 5 pm Live music at the Port of Leonardtown Winery with Garbiel Heisey and Mouth of the Bay food truck on site.

2 pm - 5 pm Family Skate at Leonard Hall Recreation Center



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The Tackle Box Fishing Report

We are getting a break from the heat wave this weekend, just in time for the beginning of the fall striper season in Maryland waters with lasts from August first to December tenth. There have been striper by-catch by fishermen seeking trout, reds, bluefish and trout in the two-week striper protection period; enough to predict excellent catches starting this Friday.

In the mean time, bluefish have been schooled up and braking on th4e surface in the mid-bay area near the target ship. Fishermen found bluefish between Point No Point and the Target ship this week in big numbers in the four to eight pound range. Trollers using surgical eel lures or spoons with in-line sinker rigs or planers have done very well. We saw our first spanish mackerel of the season that took a spoon in the bluefish frenzy this week.

Lure casters find the edge of the breaking and cast top water plugs, Gotchas, or metal jigs. A six pound bluefish on light tackle is a challenge and great fun.

Big cobia were observed swimming under the bluefish this week.

We had lots of folks buying chum, alewife, and live eels this week, but no feed-back on catches.

Spot, croaker, and white perch are making

life fun in all waters now. The Patuxent is loaded with big spot from the three legged to Helen creek. The best perch locations in the Patuxent are above Half Pone Point. The spot are sharing the water with both croaker and white perch in the Potomac at St. George Island, Breton Bay, Cobb Island and Ragged Point. When the porpoise move in, the fish move out. The spot are big to jumbo now. By the first of September they are going to be gigantic.

Catches of speckled have been consistent in the mouth of the Potomac and in the mouth of St. Jerome's creek. Skilled lure casters in the shallows have found plenty of trout at dawn and dusk along with some puppy drum and pesky out of season rockfish.

The Potomac fall season for striped bass does not open until September first, however the Maryland tributaries of the Potomac are open August first. It is imperative to know where the lines of demarcation are.

Crabs are running with gusto now. Plenty of them and they are big!

Some excellent catches of crappie have been made at St. Mary's lake.

Bass and bluegill are very active at dusk and dawn.

If you are not catching fish, its because you ain't going!

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind



Traveling Through Utah

By Shelby Opperman
Contributing Writer

I am already missing the 3% to 13% humidity in Utah, though it was very hot. We went out there from Tuesday the 22nd to the 28th to visit my brother Bob and his wife Kathy (Kat) [BobKat :)] who have lived there since 1986 when my brother retired as a pilot for Alaska Airlines. He was already previously retired as a Lt. Col/ Test Pilot from the Air Force at Hill AFB in Ogden, Utah. I hadn't been to Utah since sometime in the 90s and my husband Robert had never been out there. Bob and Kat live on the side of one of the Wasatch Mountains, and I have been telling Robert for years how you can see The Great Salt Lake from their yard which meanders upward with beautiful gardens and steps to a spot with sagebrush on the highest level. You get a good workout there. However, I was surprised to find how much their trees, and the trees in the neighbor's yard in front of them have grown. You can still see the lake, salt areas, and Antelope Island (in one of the photos), just not as much of them as I remember. But that was okay, because each day we went on a grand new adventure to amazing places and sights. The first night they grilled a large, marinated flank steak with homemade lime and cilantro rice, and sauteed green beans which was amazing. It was a beautiful cool evening on their flower and vegetable filled patio. It is truly a beautiful oasis.

Tuesday and Wednesday took us on trips through what locals call the Fruit Loop where the road passes by endless farmstands of fruits and vegetables. You have never seen an onion until you go through the Fruit Loop; they are huge! We also visited Smith and Edwards, a store that covers everything you could ever imagine from vintage tanks and military items to clothes, to everything, but it is larger than a Super Walmart. We also visited beautiful Bridger City and went through miles of mountains, ranches, and farms.

Thursday we made the trek to Park City where the 2002 Winter Olympics were held and where the 2034 Winter Olympics will be held. My brother took us through all the winding mountain roads which surround Park City to marvel at all the million(s) dollar homes where stars and athletes live. We stopped at The St. Regis Deer Valley where we took the Funicular railway (made by cable car specialists in Switzerland) from one level of residences to the upper resort building: with a 20 to 80 degree slope angle. Just for fun, we had hors d'oeuvres and drinks up there on the patio as you can see in one of the photos. Then we made our way back down to Park City and strolled through shops and galleries, ending with more hors d'oeuvres at the Wasatch Brewing Company. My sons and I went there in 1992 with my brother and sister-in-law, and I was happy to see it was still there. Luckily we didn't go in the old jail again because I'm never sure if my brother will let me out of the cell.

Our trip on Friday took us to Bear Lake in Garden City, Utah and we went a little ways into Idaho. Bear Lake, which is about 109 square miles, and is referred to as the Caribbean of the Rockies because of it's amazing freshwater turquoise lake due to suspended limestone deposits. The area has so much history. The Rocky Mountain Rendezvous in 1827 and 1828 between mountain men Jedidiah Smith and Jim Bridger, other mountain men and native Americans engaged in fur trading, and other goods and supplies was one of the many events occurring there. All my brother really wanted I think was a raspberry shake from LaBeau's. It was like a mini Ocean City there with sooo many people.

Saturday was our day for driving the short distance out to The Great Salt Lake and Antelope Island where they still have a working ranch/museum called the Fielding Garr Ranch. Oh my gosh was it hot and dry. I now know what the characters meant in the old Western movies when they said, "I'm parched". The life on the island from 1848 to 1981 had to be tough in the heavy snows of winter and the harsh desert sun of summer. We loved seeing all the buffalo freely roaming the island. And no trip to Utah would be complete without a trip to Salt Lake City and visiting Temple Square and the city proper. We ended Sunday with dinner at Ruth's Diner which opened 93 years ago at the base of a mountain in an old trolley car. Ruth was quite a character by all accounts, so our family fit right in. As you can tell, it was a great trip seeing Bob and Kat. The only thing we really had to worry about was the bobcat which had been sighted in the neighborhood, though that would have just added to our adventure.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby.

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

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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.

Anita Lacey, 89



Agnes Anita Lacey, 89, of Clements, MD, passed away at her home, surrounded by her loving children, on July 24, 2025. She was born on September 12, 1935, in Leonardtown, MD. She was the daughter of the late Daniel Jefferson Bowles and Mary Ethel Bowles. On June 21, 1952, she married John Gilbert Lacey Sr., at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bushwood, MD. They celebrated 58 years of happiness together.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John Gilbert Lacey, Sr., (June 22, 2010), her oldest son, Robert Samuel "Bobby" Bowles, as well as an infant child, Brenda Eileen Lacey.

Anita is survived by her children, John Gilbert Lacey Jr., Agnes Marie Lacey, James Francis Lacey (Barbara), Mary Virginia Rice (Billy), and Barbara Eileen Jones (Harry), four grandchildren, Brenda Sue Hill, Sarah Jean Springer, Jason William Rice, Amanda Jean Rice, and Jeremy Wayne Graves and Missy Payne, who were like grandchildren to her, and five great grandchildren.

Anita came from a large family, being one of 11 children; Renie Quade, Dorothy Lacey, Catherine Vandebos, Tinka Buckler, Thomas Bowles, James Bowles, and Joseph Bowles.

Anita was preceded in death by her brother, Jeff Bowles, Sr., George Bowles, and her sister, Alice Thompson.

Anita was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, MD. She was a hard-working housewife that had no limits to hard work. She spent many hours working with her family in the tobacco and corn fields.

She loved harvesting vegetables out of the garden and canning them to feed the family. She enjoyed sewing, placing knickknacks around her home, and taking care of her flowers. Taking care of her children and making sure they were fed and had clean clothes was a daily task that she loved doing. Anita was famous for her homemade biscuits, which we all loved to eat. If she wasn't at the sink washing dishes, stove cooking, washing clothes, or hands in bread dough, there was something seriously wrong.

Anita loved working at the Spring and Fall dinners at Sacred Heart Church in Bushwood. She enjoyed getting out with the parish family until her body wouldn't allow it any longer. She was a devoted Catholic, giving everything she had to attend weekly Mass until the day came that she could no longer attend. She truly missed seeing the church, especially at Christmas.

The family will receive friends on Monday, August 4, 2025, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where prayers will begin at 7:00 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bushwood, MD, with Fr. Golas officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Clyde Farrell, Robert Lacey, Jason Rice, Jeremy Graves, Jimmy Lyon, and Brian Springer.

Contributions can be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, P.O. Box 37, Bushwood, MD 20618 or ACTS, 21808 Colton's Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609.

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

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



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SoMD August Events

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

August 1, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge
Performing Arts Center
47835 College Dr., St Marys City
Admission: Pay what you wish

Come hear beautiful symphonic music performed by a world-class ensemble in exquisite acoustics as the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra returns Friday, August 1st at 7 PM to southern Maryland's home for the performing arts: the Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center.

Led by conductor Nicholas Herish and featuring harpist Bridget Kibbey, the program includes Shostakovich's playful Ballet Suite No. 1, Tailleferre's sparkling Concertino for Harp, and Dvořák's folk-infused Czech Suite. Strauss's sweeping Emperor Waltz brings the concert to a graceful close.

For over a century, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) has been recognized as one of America's leading orchestras and one of Maryland's most significant cultural institutions. The orchestra is internationally renowned and locally admired for its performances, recordings, community and educational initiatives including OrchKids.

Ticket registration is now open. Donations

are welcomed when reserving tickets. "Pay what you wish."

General Admission. Seating will be first come, first serve.

An Evening with the Clydesdales

August 1, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Suttler Post Farm
38750 Chaptico Rd., Mechanicsville
Admission: Donations accepted

Meet the majestic Clydesdales up close (including the newest horse Aries), stroll through local craft vendors, grab dinner from amazing food trucks, and try some delicious ice cream from the farm store. It's a perfect evening for all ages!

Bring the kids, bring your friends, bring your neighbors—and enjoy good food, great company, and the charm of country life.

National Lawn Mower Racing Championships

August 1 & 2
Bowles Farms
22880 Budds Creek Rd., Clements
Admission: \$10/person; ages 8 & under free

Let's all get ready to MOW to Maryland on August 1 & 2 for the 19th Annual National

Mower Race in St. Mary's County! Friday, gates open at 4 p.m. and races start at 7 p.m. Saturday, gates open at 3:30 p.m. and races start at 6 p.m. with an after party on the track to follow.

Governor's Cup Yacht Race Shoreside Activities

August 2
St. Mary's College of Maryland
47855 College Dr., St. Mary's City

The Governor's Cup Yacht Race is back in 2025 for the 52nd running of the Chesapeake Bay's oldest and most storied overnight race. Sailors can join on one of four legs (Annapolis, Solomons, Potomac and Southern).

Racers and non-racers alike are welcome to join in the Shoreside Activities at the finish at the St. Mary's College of Maryland waterfront on Saturday, August 2nd. As the boats arrive throughout Saturday, enjoy free live music, fun and games along the waterfront plus some of Southern Maryland's favorite food trucks and vendors, as well as a cash bar.

National Lighthouse Weekend

August 2 & 3, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum
20254 Colton Point Rd., Coltons Point
Admission: Free

Head to Piney Point for a fun open house weekend in recognition of National Lighthouse Day, which is celebrated at the museum each year on or near August 7th. Enjoy tours of the museum, Potomac River Maritime Exhibit, lighthouse tower, the Keeper's Quarters, and grounds.

Thirsty Thursday

August 7, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Aeropark
44200 Airport Rd., California
Admission: Free

St. Mary's Liquid Assets presents Thirsty Thursday at Aeropark. Join us for an open-air block party right outside the terminal! Thirsty Thursday at AeroPark is a celebration of community, local craft beverages, and summertime vibes-perfect for kicking back after work with friends, coworkers, and neighbors. This month, we're also supporting STEM education through a fundraiser and 50/50 raffle benefiting Ready 9 Aviation Academy, helping inspire the next genera-

Continued on page 20

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- » Petting Zoo & Family Activities

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Continued from page 19

tion of innovators and aviators. Come sip, socialize, and support a great cause!

Animal Rescue & Outreach Organization (AROO) will have adoptable St. Mary's County Shelter dogs waiting and wagging to meet you! Just formed this Spring, AROO has already raised funds to save the lives of four very lovable dogs whose treatment requirements were beyond the Shelter's budget.

Live music by Funkzilla. Food by Bird Dog Bistro.

The Taming of the Shrew

August 7–9 & 14–16, 7:30 p.m.

Historic St. Mary's City

47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City

Admission: Adults \$20; seniors/students/military \$17; children 6–11 \$15; under 5 free

Set against the playful backdrop of a 1950s sitcom, this lively take on Shakespeare's classic comedy brings a fresh twist to a timeless tale. The Taming of the Shrew is a fast-paced "battle of the sexes" packed with wit, mistaken identities, and larger-than-life characters.

Can Petruchio win the heart of the fiercely independent Kate? Will Lucentio's schemes to woo the lovely Bianca succeed—or backfire spectacularly? Join us for a fun-filled evening of laughter, love, and live theatre under the stars!

This open-air production is a collaboration between The Newtowne Players and Historic St. Mary's City. Visit NewtownePlayers.org for tickets.

The Great American Yard Sale

August 9, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13470 Dowell Rd., Solomons*

Admission: Entry to the market area is free

If you love garage sales and thrift stores, this is the market for you! Clothes, furniture, knick-knacks, kitchenware, bikes, books, sports equipment, boats & cars, old fishing stuff, arts and craft supplies, whatnots, gizmos, antiques, collectibles, salvage stuff, junk and more. Browse more than 50 booths offering everything under the sun!

There will also be live music and food trucks including Buds & Beans, Softy Sweets, Just Chillin' Pops LLC, and Judy's Food Express. Market is rain or shine. Well-behaved pets on a 6 ft or shorter leash are welcome!

Happy Hour at the Farm

August 15, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Barefoot Farms

21851 Oakley Rd., Avenue

Admission: \$10/person

Our next Happy Hour of the season is happening August 15th! Bring the whole family out to the farm for a relaxing evening under the summer sky.

We're excited to welcome K's Lunchbox as our food truck for the night and stay tuned because we've got live music lined up with a performer announcement coming soon!

This event is BYOB so bring your favorite drinks and come enjoy the fun with us!

Solomons Dragon Boat Festival

August 16, 9 a.m.

Solomons Island

90 Alexander Ln., Solomons

Admission: Free

The annual Solomons Dragon Boat Festival is a fun, family-oriented event featuring up to 30 teams of paddlers competing for glory on the Patuxent River! It's a full day of dragon boat races, complete with a parade of teams, entertainment, children's activities, a vendor village, and an awards ceremony. Events throughout the week include a traditional Dotting of the Eye Ceremony, practice sessions and a Flash Mob.

The Dragon Boat Festival benefits Southern Maryland Community Resources, Inc. (SMCR), a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that helps to bridge the gap for individuals with developmental differences in our community.

Bad Art Night

August 22, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

*Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13470 Dowell Rd., Solomons*

Admission: \$7/person (must be 21+); members FREE

It's an outrageous night of BAD ART MAKING for adults at Annmarie Garden. Guests 21 and up are invited to be inspired by the works in our galleries, then undertake some unconventional and unorthodox art-making. We'll have all the supplies you'll need to have at it. Finished artwork will be displayed for all and then cast your vote for "The Best of the Worst." Prizes will be awarded! It's a great night to let loose, get "creative", and have some fun!

A cash bar, food trucks, and lively music will add to the fun!

Grab a friend, come with a group, or just come alone and meet new people and join the fun. No reservations required; just come!

Day of Unity and Healing

August 23

Historic Sotterley

44300 Sotterley Ln., Hollywood

Join us for our annual Day of Unity and Healing. This descendant-led event centers on shared history, healing, and education by bringing together descendants and interfaith and community leaders to recognize the interconnectedness of our lives and to honestly confront Sotterley's past and build unity. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 am and will include a bell ringing ceremony to honor the lives and sacrifices of those who came before us.

After the ceremony, there will be wagon tours, open house tours, music by Casual Groove Band, a documentary quilt exhibit, archaeology updates from our community partners, and holistic health screenings. More information and an exact schedule are coming soon.

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St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Sat, Aug 2

Safety & Self Defense Workshop

Faith Bible Church
26325 Three Notch Rd., Mechanicsville
10 a.m.

\$5/person. Workshop includes Unstoppable You Ministries; domestic violence and human trafficking awareness; Glenn Miller, martial arts instructor and self-survival trainer; self-survival principles, safety, and situational awareness techniques. Register at somsafetyandselfdefense2025.eventbrite.com. Light refreshments will be provided.

Open House

Drayden African American Schoolhouse
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Visit one of the nation's best-preserved, one-room African American schoolhouses the first and third Saturday of each month from April to October and on Juneteenth. Check out the restored schoolhouse and learn about its rich history and importance to education in St. Mary's County. Staff will be available at the school during this time to answer any questions and provide information.

This is a FREE EVENT co-hosted by Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC) and the St. Mary's County Museum Division.

INFO: www.facebook.com/events/1304609537658205

Sun, Aug 3

Dinner & A Cruise Series

St. Clement's Island Museum

3-7 p.m.

These will sell out! Only 20 seats are available per cruise for these exclusive events. These are for ages 21+ only. Tickets are \$85 per person (\$160 per couple) and include the boat ride, dinner & drinks at Morris Point Restaurant and dessert at the end of the evening. For more information call 301-475-4200 Ext 1832 or email janet.cooper@stmaryscountymd.gov.

Mon, Aug 4

Elk's Monday Night Poker

St. Mary's County Elks Lodge
45779 Fire Department Ln., California
7 p.m.

Buy-in: \$35. Blinds will start at 25-50 and progress every 20 minutes. Please enter through the side of the building.

Thu, Aug 7

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

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

American Legion Post 221 invites all active duty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. E-mail us at alpost221@aol.com or call 301-481-6625 for more information.

Ongoing

North End Gallery Show

North End Gallery
41652 Fenwick Street, Leonardtown
July 29-August 31

"Inside Out: The paintings of Freeman Dodsworth." Opening reception FIRST FRIDAY August 1, 5-8 p.m. 301-475-3130

Disney's Freaky Friday: The Musical

Three Notch Theatre
21744 S. Coral Drive, Lexington Park
Through August 3

The Newtowne Players present Disney's *Freaky Friday: The Musical*. Based on the novel *Freaky Friday* by Mary Rodgers and the Disney films.

Show times: Thursdays-Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays 3 p.m., through August 3. Visit NewtownePlayers.org for tickets and more information. Adults \$20; seniors/students/military \$17; children 6-11 \$15; under 5 free (not recommended for young children)

Upcoming

Kayak Trip on Hellen Creek

Private boat ramp
Located off Turner Road, Lusby
August 16, 9:30 a.m.

Th Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust and Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust are co-sponsoring the kayak trip. We require pre-registration as a courtesy to the owner and to coordinate parking. Please contact RobertBoxwell1@outlook.com for more

information and to register. Hellen Creek is off Patuxent River and has plenty of water, so tides aren't a factor. Enjoy the sights and sounds of a creek with some houses, but mostly untouched shorelines.

10th Annual Patriot Day 5K

Little Flower School
Great Mills
September 6

A special community celebration honoring our heroes and supporting our school! This family-friendly event includes a 5K race, kid's fun run and community gathering filled with school spirit, remembrance and gratitude. If you would like to sponsor or register for the event, please visit LFS website for event details: <https://www.littleflowercatholic.org/patriot-day-5k>

COSMIC Symphony's 30th Birthday Bash

Elks Lodge of St. Mary's County
22649 FDR Blvd., California
September 13, 6-10 p.m.

COSMIC Symphony is kicking off its 30th season with a birthday party for the ages! This gala marks the start of our 2025-2026 season, and will feature music director Will Esterling sharing the inside scoop of what COSMIC fans can expect to see at upcoming concerts. Additionally, the event will include a silent auction, cash bar, appetizers, catered dinner, dessert, and music performances. Tickets on sale Now! August 1st through the end of ticket sales, tickets will be priced at \$65. This event is not to be missed, and tickets are limited. Go to givebutter.com/cosmicbday to purchase your tickets before they sell out!

ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rain Barrel Workshop

Learn how collecting rooftop rainwater can help keep your garden beautiful! University of Maryland Extension's Caroline DiGiovanni will teach you all you need to know to set up your own rainwater collection system at home! Rain barrels have numerous environmental benefits, including reducing flooding, erosion, and peak stream flow. After the presentation, we will head to the Lexington Manor Passive Park Community Garden for a demonstration of how their rain barrels are put to use. Lexington Park Library on

Sunday, August 3 from 2 - 4 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

The Navy Moves to St. Mary's: A History of NAS Patuxent River

Join us for a history of Patuxent River Naval Air Station! Chris Bryan, NAS Patuxent River Cultural Resource Program Manager, will discuss the history of Pax River and the influx of Navy personnel that came to St. Mary's County in the early 1940s to support military aircraft research and development during World War II. Lexington Park Library on Monday, August 4 from 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Register on www.stmalib.org.

The Foundings of St. Mary's: Migration Journeys with SMCM

Journey through the deep prehistory of St. Mary's County. Register to receive a reminder email or text message. Walk-ins welcome! We will uncover the layers of migration and settlement that have shaped this region and come to understand the lasting impacts of these movements on the area's culture and society. Speaker - Julia A. King, Department Chair of Sociology and Anthropology. Lexington Park Library on Tuesday, August 5 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Hear Me Out...: Book Show & Tell

Do you have a great book that you cannot stop recommending to everyone? Are you looking for new books to read? This is the place for you! We listen and we don't judge. This program is perfect for extroverted and introverted adult readers

of any genre looking to find new books to enjoy and talk about ones they already love. Anyone who would like to share is invited to speak for up to 5 minutes on any book of their choosing to persuade others to give their favorite book a shot. Participants are also free to just listen and jot down new titles for their To-Be-Read list. No one is required to share if they do not want to. Leonardtown Library on Thursday, August 7 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Friends of St. Mary's County Library Children's Book Sale

Find great reads at great prices! Lexington Park Library on Sunday, August 10 from 1 - 4 p.m. The Friends of the St. Mary's County Library's Children's Book Sale offers gently used children's books at amazing prices! Cash, check, credit cards accepted.

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- CLUES ACROSS
- CLUES DOWN
1. Popular potato snack

5. Guards the Pyramids

11. Furnish anew

14. Herb

15. Preoccupy the mind continually

18. The lowest adult male singing voice

19. NATO commander (abbr.)

21. A major division of geological time

23. New Zealand parrot

24. Notions

28. Lump in yarn

29. Indicates position

30. Lose hold of

32. Hindu honorific

33. Former OSS

35. Electronic data processing

36. Cost per mile

39. Snake-like fish

41. They start the alphabet

42. Taylor Swift's tour

44. Intermediate ecological stage

46. Scarlett's home

47. Of he

49. Ohio city

52. Breakfast item

56. An evening party

58. ___ Falls

60. Linked together

62. Mythological spirits

63. Small Eurasian deer
1. Earliest human form: ___-Magnon man

2. Flavoring

3. Notion

4. Bundy and Fenwick are two

5. Qualities of sound

6. One who gets paid

7. Expresses surprise

8. O.J. trial judge

9. Pointed ends of pens

10. Shield bugs genus

12. Container for shipping

13. Upper body parts

16. Closes tightly

17. Nigerian World Heritage Site

20. Volcanic island in Fiji

22. Commercial

25. -___: denotes past

26. They ___

27. Confraternities

29. A way to gain a point

31. Parts per billion (abbr.)

34. Brew

36. Badgers group

37. Sailing boat

38. ___ Polo, explorer

40. Elder citizen (abbr.)

43. Frankish law code

45. Exclamation of surprise

48. Groan

50. It presses clothing

51. Do not allow

53. Gelatinous substance

54. Common Japanese surname

55. Present in nature

57. Electronic countermeasures

58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series

59. Commercials

61. News agency

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JULY 17 SOLUTIONS															
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9	5	1	8	2	6	3	4	7
7	2	6	4	1	3	9	8	5
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Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thu, Jul 31

Song Circle

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

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 to come enjoy the music, energy, and community spirit! 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Fri, Aug 1

First Fossil Friday!

Calvert Marine Museum
1–4:30 p.m.

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

Pins and Needles

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

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

JobSource Mobile Career Center

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

Stop by for your job search needs! Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sat, Aug 2

How to Start and Grow a Recession Garden

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
4100 5th St., North Beach
10–11 a.m.

Calvert Library strives to make our events accessible to all. For access questions or requests, call 410-535-0291. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Dungeons & Dragons – TWEENS

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 85
Costley Way
11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 1–4 p.m.

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

Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & More

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
12–3 p.m.

Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us! Please register 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Mon, Aug 4

Book Discussion

Calvert Pines Senior Center
1–2 p.m.

Full steam ahead as we discuss Amor Towles's multi-layered novel "The Lincoln Highway," a meandering story that spans just ten days but makes stops for friendship, lost childhoods, and to examine human experience along the way. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tue, Aug 5

Intro to Laser Etching—Bay Inspired Décor

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

Come and learn how to design and etch on the Makerspace Laser Etcher. Each participant will be certified to use the laser etcher at the completion of the program and will take home a Bay-inspired design as a keepsake. All registrants must complete the online training for the laser etcher on the library's webpage before the program. Visit the library's website to complete the online training for the laser etcher prior to the program. Be sure to set up an account with a user name and password at the beginning of the training! 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Wed, Aug 6

Morning Book Discussion

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

Join us this month to discuss our current book selection, "We Solve Murders" by Richard Osman. A brand new mystery. An iconic new detective duo. And a thrilling new murder to solve. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Chess Club

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
1–2 p.m. and 2–3 p.m.

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

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support

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

Get tips and support from other caregiv-

ers. Facilitated by Susan Brayford and Sandra Raviv. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Dungeons & Dragons – ADULT

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

Come have fun with D&D, a role playing game for adults of all experience levels. Please register for this event. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Twelve Summer Book Fest

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

Each month we will read a new book and come together to discuss, play games and do activities. Did we mention there will be snacks?! The first ten (10) registrants get a copy of the book to keep! 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>

Humane Society Event

Plaza Mexic
9200 Bay Ave North Beach
4:30–8 p.m.

Come support the Humane Society of Calvert County by letting Plaza Mexico cook tonight a portion of proceeds will be donated to the Humane Society

Upcoming

Kayak Trip on Hellen Creek

Private boat ramp
Located off Turner Road, Lusby
August 16, 9:30 a.m.

Th Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust and Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust are co-sponsoring the kayak trip. We require pre-registration as a courtesy to the owner and to coordinate parking. Please contact RobertBoxwell1@outlook.com for more information and to register. Hellen Creek is off Patuxent River and has plenty of water, so tides aren't a factor. Enjoy the sights and sounds of a creek with some houses, but mostly untouched shorelines.

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

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



County Times

P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636

158th Annual Jousting Tournament Scheduled

2025 marks the 158th annual Calvert County Jousting Tournament, a much-anticipated Calvert County tradition.

It's Saturday, August 30, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Christ Church, 3100 Broomes Island Rd. in St. Leonard. Admission is free (except for supper).

The event celebrates the simple family-friendly pleasures of yesteryear: In the morning, enjoy the delights of the church bazaar. Browse the attic treasures, peruse gently used books, visit the children's corner for face painting, savor a hot dog, fresh lemonade, and a snow cone, and take home homemade baked goods and preserves.

At noon head to the jousting field to cheer on Sir Knight and Fair Lady as they spear rings as small as 1/4" on running horses. In the afternoon, cool off in the historic Christ Church for soothing organ recitals.

Top off your day with a traditional church supper in our air-conditioned parish hall, or take it boxed and ready to go, featuring homemade fare of deviled crab, fried chicken, ham (choice of two), potato salad, apple sauce, and more.

Details: Bazaar (including a Children's Corner) 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Jousting begins at noon, organ concerts in historic Christ Church from 1 to 4 p.m., country sup-



per in the air-conditioned hall 2-6 p.m., boxed suppers available from noon to 6 p.m. The historic Port Republic One-Room Schoolhouse open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information call (410) 586-0565.

Press release from Christ Church.

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.

Fenner Gambrill, 72



On an early spring evening at her home in Solomons, Maryland, Sarah Fenner Gambrill moved on in her words "to the next dimension."

The youngest child of the late Margaret Chew Lee and Robert Lee Miles, Fenner was born in Leonardtown Maryland on November 20, 1952. Whether you knew her as Sally, Sarah, or Fenner with the last name of Miles, Boyd, Borkowski or Gambrill—you knew you were in the presence of a uniquely animated soul.

Easily capturing a crowd's attention, Fenner would entertain us as a teenage drummer in an all-girl band, "The 19th Amendment" even performing a drum solo at her wedding reception in 1972, astonish us well into her 50s with her moves on the dance floor or encourage us to be her back-up singers as she sang karaoke mimicking the moves of the original artists.

With her striking good looks, it was no surprise that Fenner enjoyed a career as a licensed aesthetician in Dillon Colorado, helping others to maintain a healthy glow in the punishing mountain air.

Fenner was a past member of the National

Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Maryland re-discovering family genealogy. Fenner was proud of being a direct descendant of the Rhode Island Fenner governors as well as the Howard governors in Maryland.

In recent years, Fenner favored a more solitary life, preferring the company of her beloved lab, Sophie Chew. Always a dog lover—even serving as a dog walker and sitter—Fenner was devoted throughout her life to her four-legged companions: Stewart Angus, St. John, Heidi and Maggie. Losing Sophie in early March proved heartbreaking for Fenner. No doubt there was a joyous reunion with all her doggies at the Rainbow Bridge on March 31, 2025.

Survivors include her sisters Cornelia Miles Mattingly of California, Mary Lee Miles Swartz Warner of Massachusetts and Roberta Miles Loker of Maryland, nephews Matthew Mattingly, Sager Swartz, nieces Melissa Mattingly, Sarah Swartz and Elizabeth Swartz and a great niece. A brother, James Fenner Lee Miles passed away in 2016.

In the end, we all become stories. Fenner will live on in the stories that are told and the memories held. Private services will be arranged later. Donations in remembrance of Fenner's devotion to dogs may be made to: The Angel Fund c/o Solomons Veterinary Medical Center, PO Box 887, Solomons, Maryland 20688.

An advertisement for garage door services. It features three images: a white garage door, a blue garage door with 'AUTO' written on it, and a fire station. The text includes: 'Repairs & Installation', 'Garage Doors • Broken Springs • Panel Replacement', 'Garage Door Openers • Annual Maintenance Agreements', 'Service on All Makes & Models', 'GARAGE DOORS & More LLC', '410-257-5808', 'www.garagedoorsandmore-md.com', 'Commercial & Residential', '101 Skipjack Road • Suite 2', 'Prince Frederick, MD', and logos for Amarr, LiftMaster, Clopay, and Wayne Dalton.

An advertisement for Hollywood Grafx embroidery services. It features a close-up image of a sewing machine needle stitching a design. The text includes: 'EMBROIDERY SERVICES', 'Hollywood GRAFX', a list of services: '• Hats', '• Polos', '• Bags', '• Hoodies', '• Jackets', 'We Do It All!', and contact information: '301-769-1177 • www.hollywoodgrafx.com'. There are also social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat.

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Purple Pillar

BUTTERFLY BUSH



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Blacknight



Lo & Behold Blue Chip

LONG-LASTING PERENNIALS



Nepeta



Lavendar



Blue Salvia

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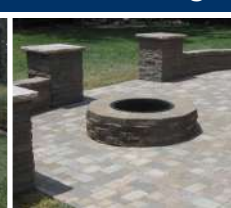
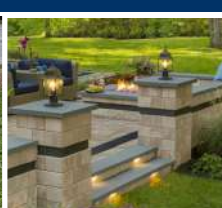
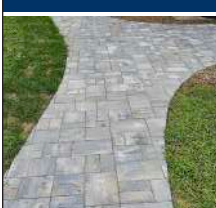
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CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of July 14, 2025 – July 20, 2025, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 2,051 calls for service throughout the community including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 69
- Disorderly: 26
- Domestic: 19
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 44
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 741
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 27
- Traffic Complaints: 91
- Traffic Stops: 436
- 911 Hang-Ups: 84
- ARRESTS: 38

Damaged Property: 25-58260 On July 16, 2025, Deputy Blackstone responded to the 500 block of Beech Drive in Lusby, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised her mailbox, and wooded post had been destroyed and were lying in her driveway. The estimated value of damaged property is \$100.00.

Property Destruction: 25-59378 On July 20, 2025, DFC R. Jones responded to the 11300 block of Cove Lake Drive in Lusby, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised that the driver's side window to his cargo van had been shattered and had a hole in it. Glass was observed on the ground next to the van. The estimated value of damaged property is \$1,000.00.

Theft: 25-57909 On July 15, 2025, Deputy Robey responded to the Spring Cove Marina located at 455 Lore Road in Solomons, for the report of a theft. The complainant reported his 2018 Venture boat trailer had been stolen from the boat yard at the marina. The estimated value of stolen property is \$5,000.00.

Theft: 25-57942 On July 15, 2025, F/Sgt. McCarroll responded to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office District 1 Station in Dunkirk for a reported theft. The complainant advised that an unknown suspect had stolen the registration sticker from the rear license plate of their vehicle. The estimated value of the stolen property is \$25.00.

Theft: 25-58235 On July 16, 2025, DFC Morrison responded to the 3500 block of



Moses Francos Fuentes

Yellow Bank Road in Dunkirk for the report of a suspicious person. The complainant advised that an unknown male had entered her property and was observed looking into her vehicles. An investigation led to

the identification of the suspect as **Moses Francos Fuentes**, 23, of Glen Burnie. Fuentes was found in possession of a packet of watermelon seeds stolen from a nearby residence. He was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Theft Less Than \$100 and Opening a Letter Without Permission.

Theft: 25-58530 On July 17, 2025, Deputy Baxter responded to the Harbor House Apartments at 3725 Harbor Road in Chesapeake Beach for a reported theft. The victim advised that an unknown suspect stole an iPhone 16 (128GB, Ultramarine) from a delivered package at their residence. The estimated value of the stolen property is \$829.99.

Theft: 25-59146 On July 19, 2025, Deputy Morgal responded to the 7-Eleven located at 35 Dalrymple Road in Sunderland for a reported theft. The complainant advised that a male suspect entered the store, stole beef jerky, chicken wings, and other miscellaneous items, and then fled the scene. The suspect is described as a white male wearing a blue shirt, khaki pants, a gray hat, and carrying a black bag across his body. The estimated value of stolen property is \$50.00.

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

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

Adult Treatment Court Marks Anniversary

The Calvert County Adult Treatment Court (Drug Court) on Thursday, July 24 celebrated its 10th anniversary and graduated six individuals from the program.

The six graduates spent a minimum of 18 months in the program, underwent weekly drug testing and substance abuse counseling, and left the program with at least 6 months of sobriety.

Since its inception in 2015, 230 individuals have graduated from the Treatment Court

program. Participants have performed over 6,200 hours of community service, primarily through Farming 4 Hunger at Serenity Farm in Benedict, MD.

The Treatment Court is administered by Circuit Court Judge Mark S. Chandlee and is supported by State's Attorney Robert Harvey and Sheriff Ricky Cox.

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney

Bay Hypoxia Increased After Rainy May

Dissolved Oxygen Conditions Show Mixed Results

Data collected by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Old Dominion University show an increasing volume of hypoxia—waters with less than 2 mg/l of oxygen—in the Chesapeake Bay mainstem of Maryland and Virginia from early to late June.

No hypoxia was observed in May, marking a later start to low dissolved oxygen conditions than in recent years. This year was one of nine years with no monitored hypoxia in May during the past 41 years.

Hypoxia increased from below average levels in early June to above average in late June following heavy rains in May and hot temperatures during June. Historically, heavy rainfall early in the year can precede greater levels of hypoxia—areas of water with low dissolved oxygen levels—due to rain runoff carrying excess nutrients into the Bay, which can contribute to algal blooms and reduce water clarity.

Late June had the largest historical volume of hypoxia seen within Maryland for the time period of the monitoring program. Both June monitoring cruises showed a greater than average volume of anoxia—waters with less than 0.2 mg/l oxygen—with late June reaching triple the normal average.

Qualitatively, freshwater flows into the Chesapeake Bay leading up to summer were approximately 20 percent above average, indicating a greater than average hypoxic volume may be observed over this season due to more nutrients entering the bay. Above average volumes in late June could be the result of significant rainfall in Maryland and Pennsylvania during May, and high average temperatures in the region during June fueling algal blooms, their decomposition, and resultant oxygen consumption. Warmer waters also hold less oxygen.

According to NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information, Maryland received 7.81 inches of rainfall in May, the highest in the past 131 years. Pennsylvania's precipitation was 7.72 inches, the second highest in that same time frame. This year's rainy May was followed by a hot June—Maryland's average temperature was 74.8 degrees, fourth-highest in 131 years, with more than 10 days in June reaching above 90 degrees.

Crabs, fish, oysters, and other creatures in the Chesapeake Bay require dissolved oxygen to survive. Scientists and natural resource managers study the volume and duration of Bay hypoxia to determine possible impacts to Bay life.

On or around July 6, lower Potomac watermen were reporting dead crabs in their pots in waters as shallow as 7 feet. An analysis by DNR in consultation with a Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) consultant found that sustained west/southwest winds around July 1 to July 4 likely pushed surface waters eastward, allowing low dissolved oxygen bottom water to come closer to the surface on the western shore. Southeasterly winds around July 6th could have helped to further push the low dissolved oxygen water towards Maryland's lower Potomac shoreline. VIMS daily forecast models of dissolved oxygen and salinity also support this theory.

Ongoing efforts to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution from industrial and wastewater sources, agricultural land, and cities and towns are aimed at reducing hypoxic conditions in the Bay. In the water, nitrogen and phosphorus fuel algal blooms that remove oxygen from the water when they die off and decompose.

Due to logistical constraints, the yearly Chesapeake Bay Program partners' seasonal hypoxia forecast was not calculated for 2025. A hindcast is anticipated to be available at the end of the 2025 hypoxia season to validate and improve the forecasting model.

Each year from May through October, the Department of Natural Resources computes hypoxia volumes from the water quality data managed by department staff and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. Data collection is funded by these states and the Chesapeake Bay Program. Bay hypoxia monitoring and reporting will continue through the summer. Additional Maryland water quality data and information, including the Department of Natural Resources hypoxic volume calculation methods, can be found on the Eyes on the Bay website.

Press Release from MD DNR

Maryland Heritage Grants Awarded

Governor Wes Moore has announced 91 matching grant awards totaling more than \$4.6 million for Maryland nonprofits, local jurisdictions, and heritage tourism organizations by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. Grant funding will support the development of heritage-related, place-based projects across Maryland that promote economic growth through tourism and community enhancement.

Seven grants totaling \$368,675 were awarded in Southern Maryland. They are:

- Calvert Marine Museum Society, Inc. — Patuxent: A Pictorial Encyclopedic History of Maryland's Forgotten River Phase II, \$50,000
- Historic Sotterley, Inc. — New Visitor Center Phase II, \$76,845
- Preservation Maryland — Historic Trades Workshops in Southern Maryland, \$16,830
- Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco, Inc. — Historic Port Tobacco Village Restoration, \$50,000
- The Official Piscataway Conoy Tribe of Maryland, Inc. — Piscataway Conoy Indigenous Peoples Festival, \$50,000
- Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland — FY 2026 Management Grant, \$100,000
- Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland — FY 2026 Block Grant, \$25,000

"History is an active force for promoting economic development and building strength in our communities," said Gov. Moore. "Projects funded through our Heritage Grant Awards will make Maryland more competitive, support a diverse array of new partnerships, and enrich the lives of thousands of people."

The Heritage Areas Program provides \$2.4 billion in annual economic benefit to the state. Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grants generate \$319.8 million

in state and local taxes while supporting 33,815 full- and part-time jobs annually. Organizations receiving awards include museums, parks, arts organizations, historic sites, schools and other educational institutions, as well as other entities that steward and celebrate the unique cultural and natural resources located within Maryland's 13 state-certified heritage areas. All of Maryland's 23 counties and the City of Baltimore will receive grants.

"The Maryland Heritage Areas Program demonstrates how history, culture, recreation and planning can work together to protect and share state assets and regional identities," said Maryland Department of Planning Secretary and Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Chair Rebecca L. Flora. "I am particularly excited to see that several projects being awarded this year are connected to honoring Maryland's role in the nation's upcoming semiquincentennial. I continue to be in awe of the grantee organizations that dedicate so much time and passion to make sure the full range of our state's diverse stories are being told in authentic and engaging ways. Their efforts create experiences that enhance quality of life, make our towns more livable, and contribute to local economies."

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority is an independent unit of government chaired by Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Rebecca Flora and is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust. Since 1997, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority has awarded more than \$74 million dollars in grants to hundreds of organizations. These grants have generated over \$175 million in non-state matching funds for heritage tourism projects and activities in the state's 13 heritage areas.

Press Release from MD Governor's office

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410-865-1100

commuterchoicemaryland.com

commuterchoice@mdot.maryland.gov



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School Board to Address Anti-Racism Policy

Proposal Would Remove from Student Code of Conduct

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

When the Calvert County Board of Education meets on August 7, they will be convening for the first time in more than a month. When last they met, Dr. Townsell was still their superintendent. Now he has left to lead the Hartford, Ct. school system.

On the agenda is a proposal presented by Board President Jana Post to remove the system's anti-racism policy from the Code of Conduct that is distributed to students at the beginning of the school year.

Post said the policy was incorporated into the code of conduct when the board was meeting virtually during the pandemic and was adopted without public input. The idea presented by Post was advanced by the board without any further comment.

It is, however, expected to receive significant public comment at the Aug 7 meeting.

In an email to The County Times and to school board members, Cheryl Fellenz wrote: "I am a retired Montgomery County teacher living in the area. I became aware of the action, removing anti-racism from the student code of conduct, taken by the BOE under your leadership at the July BOE meeting.

"I have three questions:

"1. Why did you take that action? Especially given that student conflict in general has been on the rise in many school systems in the area.

"2. Why did you not have citizen input? No discussion on something this important?

"3. Are you aware of the possible repercussions that could arise?

"We are in perilous times in our country. Under what I call 'the Charlottesville mentality,' a teacher went on social media in my area to give the Nazi salute and was subsequently fired after calling some of her students the 'N' word.

"Could you explain what was your thinking?"

Fellenz said a group called "Good Trouble" would protest at the meeting. She said complaints about the proposed action had been sent to the governor and state and federal legislators.

Also at the Aug. 7 school board meeting, a decision is expected on the selection of an interim superintendent. Dr. Susan Johnson has been serving as acting superintendent since Dr. Townsell's departure.

The meeting begins at 6:30 in the school system's office on Dares Beach Road.

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Prince Frederick Carnival in Full Swing



By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

It's fun for everyone from an organization that is poised to serve everyone, day or night.

The annual Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department Carnival is in full swing through Saturday Aug. 2 at the Calvert County Fairgrounds on Route 231 in Barstow.

Every night is Wrist Band Night, where one price allows you to ride all night.

The carnival features over 40 attractions with rides, games, and food.

Coupons will be out in the community at various business.

The carnival is 6-11 p.m. each evening through Aug. 2.

On Thursday Wrist bands are \$30 for ride all night. Coupons (\$2.00) are out at a number of locations in the Prince Frederick area.

Friday and Saturday, the cost for the wrist band is \$30. No Coupons apply.

Gates open from 6pm -11pm. No dogs are allowed at the Fair Grounds unless they are a service dog.

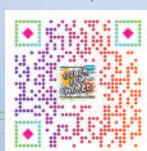
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Step Out with the Community at National Night Out

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

For more than three decades the Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse (CAASA) has been sponsoring the county's National Night Out events, which have yearly grown exponentially. This year's event is Tuesday, Aug.

During the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners' July 22 meeting, a proclamation in honor of the event was presented. During the presentation, CAASA Coordinator Candice D'Agostino said, "I did want to let the community know that National Night Out does help strengthen community and police partnerships, and that is the basis of National Night Out. But to do that, it's a partnership and it's a team effort. Not only do we coordinate it, but we couldn't do it without our sheriff's office or state police, public safety, fire, EMS, and a multitude of community agencies that go out to the communities to share info."

So, I want to thank everybody for supporting the event," she said.

Representatives from several communities who participate and agencies who send representatives spoke during the meeting.

J.D. Denton, representing the Broomes Island community, observed the place that local food has in the event. He said, "It's very important to us. Not only do we have that bond with the sheriff's office and local fire, EMS, and state police, but it allows us to get the community you just talked about purchasing local and stuff like that. So, we bring in local food vendors at our event and we bring Pathfinders, Calvert Library and Parks and Rec."

Parks and Recreation Division Chief Nate Smith, said, "We're excited to be a part of this at many locations again this year. So, thank you all for participating."

Public Safety Director Dave McDowell



said, "I'd like to thank you all for acknowledging the hard work and efforts and commitments and sacrifices that our volunteers and our paid people and our law enforcement put forth every day to keep our county safe."

Sheriff Ricky Cox noted that a football game broke out at Calvert Towne's event last year. "We ruined some uniforms, but that's what it's all about."

Commissioner Mark Cox, who read the proclamation, said, "What a good partnership we have with the sheriff's office, the state police, and even the EMS. public safety and the communities that come out. It's just a great partnership that gets larger each year."

Sgt. Roscoe Kreps, with the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Support Services Unit, is coordinating the sheriff's office National Night Out participation for the second year.

He said, "Part of the responsibility of the unit that I'm part of is we do community events and community outreach. So, it was a responsibility that I was given when I moved to this position from patrol."

Kreps said participation is by and large voluntary. "Usually, we look for volunteers first. So, we try and fill as many spots as we

can with the resources and personnel that are requested. Sometimes we make some phone calls to some people, and then sometimes it's like, hey, you're off. I need you to come do this assignment."

He hears from the deputies about why they volunteer. "Some of them are part of the communities, they're part of the districts that they work in, so they see some of the kids or people on a regular basis, in a non-law enforcement capacity. So, it's nice to get out there and be out there with the community and doing things with them. Usually it's all been very, very well volunteered."

He did several of the communities last year. "I know from personal experience I had a really good experience because, everybody was kind of just standing around doing their own thing." And he mentioned that football game, which is taking on legendary proportions.

"There were deputies and community members there, and we were having a good time."

What should people who go to one of the community events expect? He said, "I think it's a place to see the law enforcement

officers as more than just law enforcement, that we're people too. And we care about the communities and the people that live in them and that we're just trying to reach out and have a good time."

And it fits in with Sheriff Cox's community policing philosophy. "We actually have deputies that are assigned to various communities in the county on a regular basis. So, it's a liaison deputy or a representative of the sheriff's office that the communities can reach out to directly."

A 19-year veteran, Krebs said the sheriff's office gets good citizen cooperation. "There's a hotline number that people can call in on. We get lots of tips and information from civilians on a regular basis. So, for instance, like drunk driving on the roadways, we get lots of calls about what we're investigating and sometimes those people are impaired, sometimes they're not. A lot of times different organizations will bring things into the office, like food, just to say that they appreciate what we do."

The following is a list of communities participating in this year's National Night Out.

- Bayside Forest – Chesapeake Heights on the Bay
- Broomes Island Civic League
- Calvert Beach and Long Beach
- Calvert Pines Senior Center
- Calvert Towne
- Courtyards at Fishing Creek
- Dares Beach
- Gray-Ray American Legion Post 220
- Northeast Community Center
- Oakland Hall
- Patuxent View
- Prince Frederick Village & Prince Frederick Seniors
- Shores of Calvert
- White Sands
- Yardley Hills

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Dolina Sworn in as County Treasurer

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

Calvert County Clerk of the Circuit Court Kathy Smith on July 22 officially swore in the county's new treasurer, Amanda Dolina. She was appointed by Gov. Wes Moore to fill the vacancy left with the resignation of Nova Tracy-Soper in May.

Dolina was recommended for the appointment by the Republican Central Committee. She will serve until the 2026 general election. Based on her comments at the swearing in, she intends to seek election to the position.

According to information presented during the event at the county commissioners meeting: "Amanda Dolina brings more than 15 years of experience in public finance and community service. She is the founder of West Bridge Finance Solutions in Chesapeake Beach and holds credentials as a certified public accountant (CPA) and certified associate in project management (CAPM). She earned a Bachelor of Science

in accounting with a minor in finance from Salisbury University. As county treasurer, she is responsible for managing the collection and disbursement of county funds and maintaining financial accountability on behalf of Calvert County residents."

Dolina said after the swearing in, "I didn't really have anything planned, so forgive me if it's short, but I'm so excited to be here and to use this time in my life to work with the people in Calvert County and truly serve them. When this opportunity came up for me, I was just so excited. You know, I'm an accountant, I'm a CPA and not all of us are meant to do everything. And so for me to be able to use the skillset that I've developed in my career to give back to the public is just really, really exciting. And I cannot wait to see what happens in the Treasurer's Office over the next year and a half that I'm here. And I look forward to seeing you all on the campaign trail next year."

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Clerk of the Circuit Court Kathy Smith swears in Amanda Dolina as county treasurer.

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“I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL NEXT YEAR.”

NEW COUNTY TREASURER AMANDA DOLINA



LOCAL 4
Dolina sworn in as County Treasurer



LOCAL 5
Prince Frederick Carnival in full swing



ON THE COVER 4
Calvert communities gear up for National Night Out

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 31	FRI, AUG 1	SAT, AUG 2	SUN, AUG 3
Mostly Cloudy Hi: 90° Lo: 69°	Cloudy Hi: 72° Lo: 65°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 79° Lo: 63°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 81° Lo: 63°
MON, AUG 4	TUE, AUG 5	WED, AUG 6	THU, AUG 7
Partly Cloudy Hi: 83° Lo: 65°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 82° Lo: 68°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 69°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 81° Lo: 69°

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CALVERT GETS READY FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT