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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

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- 12pm–9pm** Food Trucks Open
- 12pm** Mystic Caravan Dance Troupe
1pm Welcome & National Anthem
1:10pm Joey Tippett & the California Ramblers
2pm–4pm Live radio broadcast by STAR 98.3FM
2pm Blessing & Waterman of the Year Award
3pm Gracie's Guys and Gals Dancers
4pm Out of Order and Friends
6:15pm Meg Phillips
7pm Six Gun South
9pm Fireworks

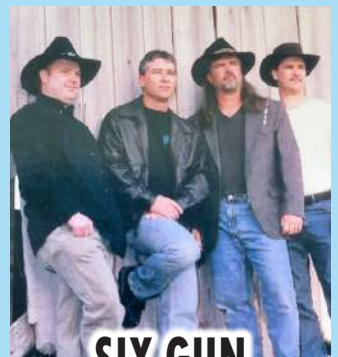
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LOCAL 9
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ON THE COVER
Leonardtown hosts mayors of Ukraine

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, SEP 26 Cloudy Hi: 79° Lo: 69°	FRI, SEP 27 Rain Hi: 75° Lo: 69°	SAT, SEP 28 Partly Cloudy Hi: 81° Lo: 66°	SUN, SEP 29 Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 63°
MON, SEP 30 Rain Hi: 71° Lo: 63°	TUE, OCT 1 Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 58°	WED, OCT 2 AM Showers Hi: 70° Lo: 51°	THU, OCT 3 Sunny Hi: 69° Lo: 53°

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Sheriff's Office Confirms Honoring of ICE Detainers

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As state lawmakers pressure Gov. Wes Moore to ensure counties work closely with the U.S. Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to honor detainer orders on illegal immigrants, leadership with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office said the agency cooperates with the federal government on the issue.

"We most certainly honor ICE detainers," said Maj. Clay Safford, assistant sheriff. "We have a very good working relationship with ICE."

"They know who we are and they communicate with us when they need to."

This week, during the meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, Commissioner Mike Hewitt said he was approached by a constituent who told him St. Mary's was a "sanctuary county" and that the sheriff's office did not honor ICE detainers.

"That caught me by surprise," Hewitt said. "I can't imagine that the St. Mary's County Sheriff's [Office] is not working with the agents of [ICE]."

Hewitt said the constituent showed him a website, which Hewitt did not name, claiming the detention center did not work with ICE.

Safford said if their agency receives a detainer from ICE with a judge's signature, the detainer is honored immediately.

If there is no judge's signature, Safford said, deputies call ICE to get more information to ascertain probable cause for honoring the detainer.

If there is sufficient probable cause, deputies will find the suspect and hold them for ICE to be picked up later, Safford said.

"These detainers are very rare here," Safford told The County Times. "They amount to a handful a year."

The sheriff's office, the assistant sheriff said, closely follows immigration law and the guidance of the state's attorney general.

In 2018, then-attorney general Brian Frosh issued guidance state-wide stating that compliance with ICE detainers was voluntary but local law enforcement agencies could be held liable if they honored the detainer without probable cause.

Frosh's guidance also stated that the federal government could not require states or localities to enforce federal immigration law under the auspices of the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. That guidance holds today, Safford said.

Del. Matt Morgan, (R-Dist. 29A) has joined a coalition of state lawmakers pressing for an executive order from the Moore administration on honoring ICE detainers of suspected illegal immigrants.

Morgan and others tout a recent poll that an overwhelming majority of Marylanders want local law enforcement agencies to cooperate with the federal government in enforcing immigration law.

Current state law, enacted in 2021 by

the General Assembly, prohibits the state or local jurisdictions from entering into immigration detention agreements with the federal government or police from inquiring about a person's immigration status.

The bill was vetoed by then Gov. Larry Hogan but that veto was later overridden.

Detainers are requests for agencies to hold suspected illegal immigrants 48 hours past their release date from local custody.

Morgan, a member of what has become known as the Freedom Caucus in the General Assembly — made up of Republicans — chided Democrats for not cooperating so far on the push for the executive order.

"Their solution is to let that person [the subject of the detainer] back out onto the streets," Morgan said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Delegate: State Agrees to Route 5, Route 6 Intersection Work



Del. Matt Morgan at the Route 5, Route 6 intersection.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Del. Matt Morgan, in a video message to constituents who commute on Route 5 and use the intersection with Route 6 near the Charlotte Hall Library, said SHA was making key changes to the intersection.

"Your commute will be getting much easier," Morgan (R-Dist. 29A) said. "After two-and-a-half years of disagreement, SHA has agreed to improve this intersection."

The improvements will center on the stop light near the section of Route 5 close to the Three Notch Trail, commonly used by pedestrians and bicyclists alike, he said.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Morgan said, the Three Notch Trail experienced heavy use, but "we had some near misses there" of cars nearly hitting trail users.

Restriping of the trail by SHA and flashing warning signs were good improvements just a few years ago, Morgan said, but the lane that connects Route 5's north and

south bound tracks — Route 6 with one lane going towards La Plata and the other restricted to a single left-hand turn back onto the southbound track of Route 5 — caused traffic jams going back down along Route 5's northbound track.

"What that did was create a lot of congestion in this area," Morgan said. "It dropped this intersection down to a level of service 'F,' it was functioning at a [level of service] 'C.'"

The changes will take both of the lanes on the connecting Route 6 spur to be routed back towards La Plata, Morgan said, and additional protections for the Amish communities living close to the trail entrance on Route 6 approaching the border with Charles County.

Morgan praised Gov. Wes Moore's administration with pushing the project forward, as well as District 29 Sen. Jack Bailey and senior leadership at SHA.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Four Juveniles Arrested for Attempted Armed Carjackings

Following an investigation into attempted carjackings over the past weekend, deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, with assistance from the Calvert and Charles County Sheriff's Office's Emergency Services Teams, executed simultaneous search and seizure warrants on multiple residences in St. Mary's County today. Four juvenile male suspects, ranging in age from 15 to 17, were taken into custody and charged with conspiracy to commit carjacking.

During the execution of a search warrant at one residence, deputies recovered two firearms: a Taurus G2c with obliterated serial numbers, chambered with a 9mm round and containing a magazine with two rounds, and a Glock Model 19 equipped with a conversion device, known as a "switch," which alters the firearm from semi-automatic to fully automatic. The Glock was loaded with an extended magazine containing 21 rounds. Additionally, deputies seized approximately 1,614 suspected fentanyl pills, six individually packaged bags of suspected cannabis, and a scale.

Sheriff Steve Hall praised the team of law officers who tracked down the suspects and made the arrests.

"If you make the decision to commit crime in our county, you'll be pursued by a team of committed professionals with unparalleled determination to bring you to justice," Hall told The County Times.

The juvenile, age 17, was charged as an adult with 11 criminal counts, including two counts of CDS: possession with intent to distribute, two counts of use of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime, CDS: possession of a large amount, CDS: possession — not cannabis, two counts of possession of a regulated firearm by a person under 21, illegal possession of ammunition, possession of a rapid-fire trigger activator, and possession of a machine gun.

Hall said, "The swift execution of these search warrants and the recovery of weapons and drugs highlights the critical work our deputies are doing to keep St. Mary's County safe. We are unwavering in our commitment to hold accountable those who threaten the safety of our community."

Law enforcement agencies are prohibited from publicly identifying a juvenile, even when charged as an adult, due to legal protections safeguarding the juvenile's identity throughout the judicial process.

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Heather Nichole Hare, 35, Mechanicsville, MD

Trisha Carol Kohansby, 32, Hughesville, MD
Daniel Robert Mulford, 30, Hughesville, MD

Christina Janet Thomas, 55, Hollywood, MD
Steven Allen Hammett, 52, Hollywood, MD

Lavonda Catherine Simmons, 49, Lexington Park, MD
Daryll Eugene Bowman, 43, Lexington Park, MD

Tiffany Celine Smith, 20, Lexington Park, MD
Quinton Clay Fleming, 23, Lexington Park, MD

Breanna Kaitlin Spangler, 29, La Plata, MD
Alberto Mariano Hamilton, 30, La Plata, MD

Jennifer Moira Chiavaroli, 23, Lexington Park, MD
Justin Matthew Kravats, 28, California, MD

Jonathan Robert Schweichler, 38, Lexington Park, MD
Van Thi Hong Tran, 36, Lexington Park, MD

Rebecca Jane Johnson, 27, Leonardtown, MD
Matthew Reid Waalkes, 33, Waynesboro, VA

Darwin Rene Contreras, 32, Lexington Park, MD
Ana Jessenia Barrera, 26, Lexington Park, MD

Margot Blair Mazariegos, 37, Lexington Park, MD
Anthony Marion Porter, Jr., 36, Lexington Park, MD

Micah Emmett Clinton, 21, Lexington Park, MD
Kalyn Traveonia Queen, 22, Lexington Park, MD

Kyhara Ixchell Cervantes, 22, Lexington Park, MD
Isaiah Marquice Coleman, 26, Lexington Park, MD

Corey Devonte Barnes, 29, Lexington Park, MD
Megan Fay Visele, 27, Lexington Park, MD

Dale Gerard Proctor, Jr., 37, Leonardtown, MD
Kristy Jo Emke, 36, Leonardtown, MD

Kelly Elizabeth O'Grady, 26, Mechanicsville, MD
Samuel Paul Schofield, 25, Mechanicsville, MD

Kaitlyn Marie Seekford, 31, Charlotte Hall, MD
Michael Lee Farrell, 33, Charlotte Hall, MD

Jeffrey Bilko, 40, Lexington Park, MD
Joanne Dela Cruz Paradina, 38, Lexington Park, MD

Brenna Elisabeth Kelly, 26, Hollywood, MD
Luke Nathaniel Russell, 24, Hollywood, MD

Amanda Mary Elizabeth Purdy, 43, Lexington Park, MD
Douglas Michael Harris, 46, Lexington Park, MD

Leticia Montilla, 29, California, MD
Leonardo Andres Rubio, 29, California, MD

Erika Margaret Leeder, 35, Lusby, MD
Harold Jerome Hoffman, III, 47, Lusby, MD

Tammy Sue Harris, 51, Mechanicsville, MD
James Joseph Bucci, Jr., 63, Mechanicsville, MD

Victoria Claudette McCrave, 32, California, MD
Michael Anthony Bedwell, II, 41, California, MD

Miguel Francisco Aguilar, 52, Great Mills, MD
Stacy Lynn Price, 40, Great Mills, MD

Elizabeth Jane Gray, 33, Lexington Park, MD
Christopher McCoy Higgins, 34, Lexington Park, MD

Cassidy Shea Shifflett, 36, California, MD
Danny Allen Dean, 40, California, MD

Sarah Lorraine Miller, 36, Lexington Park, MD
Ethan Jacob Martin, 53, Lexington Park, MD

Lauren Julia Boulay, 25, Solomons, MD
Angela Garcia-Clark, 27, Solomons, MD

Charles Christopher Cooksey, II, 24, Hollywood, MD
Alexis Marie Abell, 23, Hollywood, MD

Lionel Berthelot, 59, Sioux Falls, SD
Michelle Ann Watkins, 55, Sioux Falls, SD

Kyle Andrew Kidwell, 24, Valley Lee, MD
Valentina Arlen Petit, 25, Aldie, VA

Brent Marshall Vizbulis, 36, Glen Burnie, MD
Jessica Amber Ridgway, 35, Bridgeton, NJ

Hannah Marie Davis, 23, Dunkirk, MD
Eric Matthew Thomas, 24, Dunkirk, MD

Daniela Tremillo Castro, 27, Great Mills, MD
Joshua Allen Yohn, 30, Jacksonville, FL

Patrick Daniel Anderson, 23, Hollywood, MD
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Nicholas Edward Craley, 28, King George, VA
Grace Elizabeth Vedra, 23, King George, VA

Jaclyn Marie Thompson, 26, Mechanicsville, MD
Robert Joseph Kraft, 35, Mechanicsville, MD

Taylor Marie Rollins, 24, King George, VA
Korey Robert Edward Hamlet, 24, King George, VA

Alexis Taylor Slacum, 25, Camden Wyoming, DE
Tyler Allen Giddings, 26, Camden Wyoming, DE

Timothy Scott Eckrich, 24, Hollywood, MD
Brianna Kaitlin Puffenbarger, 26, Hollywood, MD

Corey Terrell Brown, 48, White Plains, MD
Tyesha Geneva Greenwood, 39, White Plains, MD

Kristy Elizabeth Harris, 31, Sandston, VA
Mellique Johnathan Shand Nicholas, 30, California, MD

Steven Alexander Green, 39, Great Mills, MD
Flor Maria Disla Santos, 37, Great Mills, MD

Haley Marie Morgan, 24, Lexington Park, MD
Clayton Timothy Norris, 24, Lexington Park, MD

Diego Alfonso Vasquez Diaz, 33, Lexington Park, MD
Guadalupe Selene Reyes Aoyama, 49, Lexington Park, MD

Jose Luis Contreras, 27, Lexington Park, MD
Erica Crisostomo, 27, Lexington Park, MD

Sarah Kathleen Nicholas, 36, Hollywood, MD
Matthew Joel Zbrudzewski, 39, Hollywood, MD

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Hunter Michael Levin, 26, Hollywood, MD

Hunter Alexander Lyon, 25, Sterling, VA
Ashleigh Elizabeth Jubinski, 26, Sterling, VA

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Leonardtown Hosts Ukrainian Municipal Leaders

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

About a dozen mayors and deputy mayors of cities and towns throughout Ukraine were eager to learn about Leonardtown and all the progress it has made in the past 30 years on their visit to the town Sept. 23.

They had made their trip, with the cooperation of the Washington, D.C.-based policy think tank Center for Strategic and International Studies, in hopes of seeing how towns and cities could revitalize in light of their own struggles with keeping their own towns and cities running while at war with Russia for nearly 1,000 days now.

Mykola Vavryshchuk, the deputy mayor of Khmelnytski, a city many times larger than Leonardtown, was impressed with what he saw when he visited the St. Mary's County seat.

"It's a really cool [town]," Vavryshchuk told The County Times. "It's very clean and the people are, even for such a small town, are very active."

"I love it."

During a briefing by town staff for the visiting dignitaries about all things Leonardtown, their plans to revitalize the downtown and the wharf property, their plans to expand the capacity at the town's wastewater treatment plant and their plans to get a developer to expand amenities at the waterfront all interested Ukrainian guests.

But Vavryshchuk was the first to "bring sad tales" to what was good in Leonardtown.



Leonardtown Mayor Dan Burris, center right, hosts Ukrainian municipal leaders

He praised the United States for supplying so much aid to his country in its fight against Russia, which invaded the mainland of Ukraine in 2022 but had annexed Crimea dating back to 2014 in offensive military operations after Ukraine had deposed a pro-Russian regime.

"We wanted to do the same things you are doing before 2022," Vavryshchuk. "But now we have to think about bomb shelters for our kindergartens and... where to bury our heroes who have been killed in the fighting."

"Thank you for helping us, we still need more help."

Laschelle McKay, town administrator, who gave the presentation and answered the many questions put to her by the Ukrainian officials, said it "was hard" to give the presentation on the improvements made in Leonardtown, while so much damage and hardship had been inflicted on Ukraine.

Back in the 1990s there was talk of Leonardtown being disincorporated after many businesses were abandoned on the town square and there were efforts to move the courthouse and post office out of the downtown area. But officials then worked hard to keep both government anchors in

the downtown and were able to push for a business revitalization program that continues to this day.

Vavryshchuk's city lies in the western portion of Ukraine, far from the frontlines of the war, but it's still in great danger.

"Russian rockets are flying everywhere," Vavryshchuk said. "We get hit at least once a month."

"The Russians are trying to ruin our energy system."

Iryna Karabut, mayor of Krasnokutsk, is much closer to the eastern border with Russia and her oblast — or state — of Kharkiv has seen much destruction.

Her city has taken in 24,000 internally displaced people (IDPs), roughly the same number of people living in her city but they have found work for them in difficult times, she said. They've found work in manufacturing drones for the war, she said, and in picking various berries grown for export sale grown in the region's rich agricultural lands.

She sees many similarities between Krasnokutsk and Leonardtown, she said, including its focus on proximity to the water for revitalization and business opportunity expansion.

"The roads," Karabut said when asked what her favorite part of Leonardtown was, noting the Russians had destroyed many of them. "And the construction of the new water treatment plan."

"And I liked the people."

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Commissioners Briefed on State Transportation Plan



State Secretary of Transportation Paul Wiedefeld

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The state's Secretary of Transportation Paul Wiedefeld told county leaders this week that funding constraints and the continued slow pace of the state's economic growth meant that the Department of Transportation would be focusing on providing transportation essentials for the near future.

The current six-year program for state-wide transportation improvement projects faces a deficit of roughly \$350 million, Wiedefeld said, with a concurrent cost increase projected of about \$300 million.

"The department is making focused investments, with our limited resources, to safety and maintaining the current operation," Wiedefeld said at the Sept. 24 meeting in Leonardtown.

Overall, he said, the comprehensive transportation plan (CTP) has been reduced in funding by \$1.3 billion.

State Highway Administrator William Pines, announced though that the state has completed several pedestrian level safety projects.

The major project is sidewalk improvements from Route 235's intersection with Chancellors Run Road down to the intersection with Great Mills Road further south, Pines said.

New crosswalks at Chancellors Run Road and North Run Drive, Route 235 at Oak Crest Drive and Wildewood Boulevard had already been completed, Pines said.

One of the biggest accomplishments, he said, was the completed work on Route 5 through Leonardtown at Abell and Moakley streets.

"We are really happy to deliver this project," Pines said. "We know it's an important

project for the community."

The project to replace the Route 5 bridge over Hilton Run in Park Hall is currently underway also, he said, at a cost of \$6.8 million.

Officials signaled that they were continuing to seek 100 percent funding from the federal government for a replacement for the destroyed Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore but if that were not attained, they would have to finance it through toll roads and bridges.

Del. Todd Morgan (R-Dist.29C) asked Wiedefeld if there was a plan to replenish the transportation trust fund to repair roads, which historically has been filled by gasoline tax revenue, but has dwindled recently with the advent of electric vehicles and greater gas mileage in vehicles.

"We have no public transportation down here," Morgan said. "Is there any way to receive more money to take care of our highways and byways here in Southern Maryland?"

Wiedefeld said his department was keen on getting all the federal dollars it could to to help and that it had taken an 8 percent cut in funding to allow for more to be put towards roads.

Commissioner Scott Ostrow again asked about the status of the replacement for the Gov. Thomas Johnson Bridge.

"That bridge is extremely important," Ostrow said. "It's a vital corridor."

"It's a matter of national security." Pines said there was money for the state in 2025 to begin site surveys of the bridge replacement area and to examine the potential height of a new bridge, though main funding for any construction did not exist.

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Commissioners Approve Affordable Housing Support Deals



Joe Baker Village

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County this week approved two deals known as PILOTS (payments in lieu of taxes) that will help support the renovation of certain, already existing affordable housing stock and the construction of new affordable town homes.

The agreement allows Green Street Housing and TM Associates to avoid paying property taxes to the county in exchange for a lower amount to facilitate the building of much-needed affordable housing stock, according to the agreement unanimously consented to by the commissioners at their Sept. 24 business meeting.

The first project will be the rehabilitation of Joe Baker Village and Great Mills Court, county planning documents state, located on Lexwood Drive.

Joe Baker Village consists of 36 senior rental units while Great Mills Court consists of 44 family units.

Green Street Housing asked for a PILOT agreement for 20 years that would reduce the property taxes by \$300 per unit per year for a total reduction of \$10,800 for Joe Baker Village and \$16,800 for Great Mills Court.

The same developer partnership also received a PILOT deal to develop the Villas at Lexwood, a 40-townhome project, also to be built on Lexwood Drive in Lexington Park.

The St. Mary's Transit System Joe Baker Court bus stop is located within 1,000 ft of the development, county planning documents state and the project is also within a quarter mile of Great Mills High School, George Washington Carver Elementary, and the planned Lexington Park YMCA.

The developer asked for and received a PILOT agreement for 20 years that would reduce the property taxes by \$300 per unit per year for a total reduction of \$12,000. In addition, GSH is asking for a waiver of the excise tax of \$128,720.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

St. Mary's Share of Cannabis Revenue Will Be Small

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Comptroller Brooke Lierman announced this week that her office will be distributing \$22 million in revenue from the sale cannabis collected in Maryland between April and June but nearly half of that is already slated to go into the state's general fund, a release from her office states.

In fact, just 5 percent of the entire take will be redistributed directly to the counties.

"The market for cannabis continues to grow in Maryland and has shown capacity to create new jobs, new investment, and new opportunities, particularly for areas that are marginalized and left behind by a changing economy," Lierman said.

Adult-use cannabis and cannabis prod-

ucts are taxed at a rate of 9 percent. The revenue is distributed to several funds as required by the Cannabis Reform Act of 2023, which legalized the personal use of cannabis for adults over the age of 21.

Approximately 35 percent, or more than \$7 million, of the revenue take will go to the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund.

The southern region of the state, which includes St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles counties, accounted for just \$873,597 in cannabis tax revenue, state figures showed, while the central region accounted for \$11.3 million.

The eastern region accounted for \$3.1 million.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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CPL CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

ST. MARY'S COUNTY library
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Lexington Park, MD

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at Richard@SeekingShelter.com

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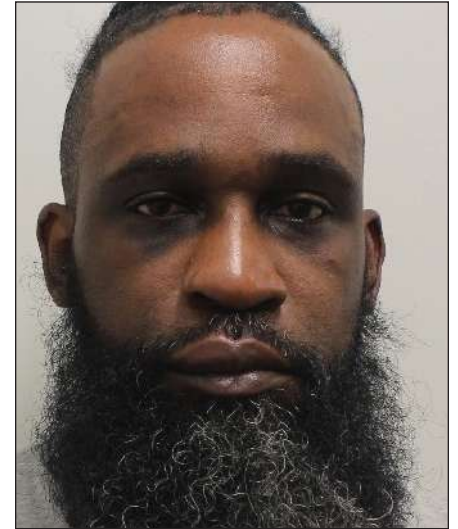
Lexington Park Man Convicted of Attempted Murder *Admits Stabbing Another Bar Patron Over a Spilled Drink*

State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling announced today that Winston Warren Smith, 39, of Lexington Park, Maryland, faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison after admitting guilt to the attempted second-degree murder of another bar patron.

In April 2024, Smith was involved in an incident at a bar located on Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, Maryland. After a verbal argument turned physical, both Smith and the victim were asked to leave the bar. Smith exited the establishment first. Once the victim made it outside, Smith and an accomplice attacked the victim, and Smith stabbed the victim multiple times with a knife.

Within minutes, law enforcement officers from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene and located the victim suffering from multiple stab wounds. First responders arrived and quickly rendered aid to the victim. Before the victim was transported to shock trauma, the victim told investigators that he was involved in an argument over a spilled drink. Smith was later identified as the individual who stabbed the victim and was subsequently arrested.

Smith will be held without bond pending a sentencing hearing where he faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison.



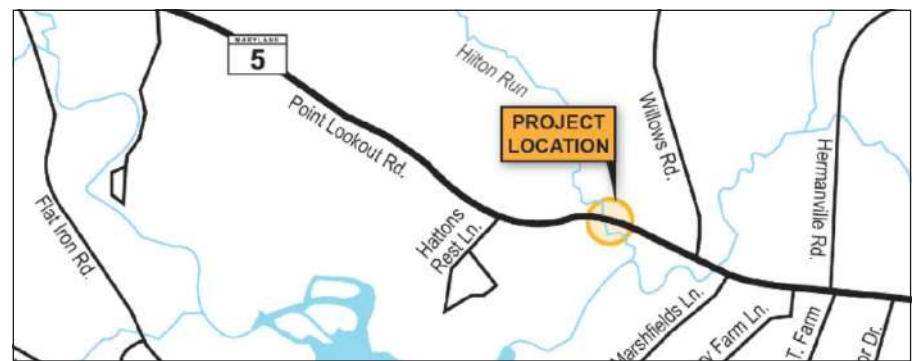
Winston Warren Smith

Assistant State's Attorneys Zachary Varda and Kirstin Riddle prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Detective Benjamin Raley of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office was the lead investigator.

The Honorable Michael J. Stamm presided over the case.

Route 5 Bridge Replacement Begins



SHA has begun its construction project to replace the MD 5 (Point Lookout Road) bridge at the crossing of Hilton Run. Originally constructed in 1936, the bridge is safe for the traveling public, but the bridge is nearing the end of its useful service life.

The bridge replacement will provide wider shoulders to enhance safety. To reduce the overall impacts of the project on adjacent properties, the new bridge will be constructed along the same roadway alignment. Traffic during construction will be reduced to one alternating lane controlled by temporary traffic signals placed on each side of the bridge.

If the bridge is not replaced, weight restrictions (reduced loads for trucks) would

need to be posted to ensure safety. This restriction would have a significant impact on the local economy since MD 5 functions as a primary travel route for traffic traveling in St. Mary's County.

The MD 5 project involved a design process that considers the needs of the traveling public to ensure their continued safety and mobility within the transportation network. Every effort will be made to minimize impacts on the traveling public while providing a quality transportation asset.

Replacing the bridge will save money on future maintenance spending and support safety and mobility as a part of SHA's goal of maintaining Maryland's transportation system.

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Chuck Roast**

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80% Lean, Family Pack
**Fresh
Ground Chuck**

3.98 Lb.
Ground Chuck Patties \$4.98-Lb.

Certified Angus Beef
**Boneless New York
Strip Steaks**

13.98 Lb.

Certified Angus Beef
**Boneless Chuck
Steaks**

6.98 Lb.

2-Lb.
**Snow Floss
Kraut**

2/\$5

Frozen
**Lobster
Tails**

6.99 Ea.

Springer Mountain Farms
**Whole
Fryer Chicken**

1.98 Lb.

16 To 20 Ct.
**Texas Gulf
Shrimp**

9.99 Lb.

Delicious!
**Catfish
Fillets**

4.99 Lb.

16-Oz., Selected
**Oscar Mayer
Meat Wieners**

2.48

**Ahi
Tuna**

9.99 Lb.

16-Oz. Bag, 20/40-Ct., P&D
**Argentine
Red Shrimp**

8.98

FARM to TABLE

5-Lb. Bag, Lite & Fluffy
**Premium Idaho
Russet Potatoes**

2/\$3.99

Fresh
**Zucchini Or
Yellow Squash**

1.78 Lb.

Imported
**Navel
Oranges**

5/\$5

California
**Red Or White
Seedless Grapes**

2.78 Lb.

7 To 11 Oz. Farmer's
Garden Or
**Fresh Express
Veggie Lover's Salad**

2/\$6

FAMILY FAVORITES



17.82 To 21.95-Oz., Selected
Red Baron Pizza

SALE PRICE **2/\$9**
DIGITAL COUPON **2.00**
OFF TWO

FINAL PRICE **2/\$7**



9 To 12-Oz., Selected
General Mills Cereal

SALE PRICE **2/\$6**
DIGITAL COUPON **2.00**
OFF TWO

FINAL PRICE **2/\$4**



15.5 To 24-Oz., Selected
Ragu Pasta Sauce

2/\$4



16-Oz., Selected
Food Club Pasta

5/\$5



10.7 To 12-Oz., Selected
Kraft Singles

3.48



40-Oz., Selected
Food Club Cooking Oil

2.48



16-Oz., Family Size
Nutter Butter Cookies

SALE PRICE **2/\$9**
DIGITAL COUPON **2.00**
OFF TWO

FINAL PRICE **2/\$7**



2.6-Oz., Selected
Starkist Tuna Pouches

4/\$5



15-Oz., Selected
Le Sueur Canned Vegetables

2/\$4



20.5 To 29-Oz. Selected
Tyson Boneless Chicken

5.98



128-Oz., Selected
Country Maid Ice Cream

5.98



10 To 16.5-Oz., Selected
Hostess Snacks

2/\$5



4.75 To 8-Oz., Selected
Lay's Chips Or Poppables

FREE



3.5-Oz. Badia Complete Seasoning

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WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
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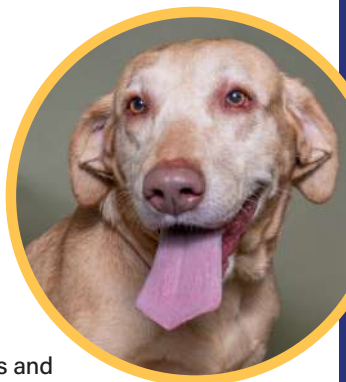
MEET DAISY

Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do
I'm half crazy, all for the love of you!

Empty nester alert! Hello, my name is Daisy. I'm an ADORABLE 4-year-old Lab, who is looking for a NEW HOME now that my sweet pups have flown the coop! I'm a VERY GOOD GIRL and I'm ready to soak up all the LOVE, TREATS, AND ATTENTION you can give – and I'd love a furry friend or two to join the party! I really enjoy walks and right now I'm a bit of a pull-happy walker, but I'll learn to heel for snacks (and YOUR SNUGGLES). I want to show you MY LOVE so come meet me during adoption hours, M-F 11am–4pm and Saturday 10am–3pm.

BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! ALWAYS OPT TO ADOPT, please don't shop!

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



Free Document Shredding Event Announced

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

The Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) will host their biannual Community Shredding Event on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 8 a.m. – noon at the St. Andrews Landfill, located at 44837 St. Andrews Church Road.

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

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

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

For more information, please call DPW&T at (301) 475-4200, ext. 3550, or visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov.

Mediators Offer New Peer Program for Great Mills Students

Community Mediation of St. Mary's continuing conflict-management programs throughout the county now have expanded into Great Mills High School, working directly with students in the school.

"They took the initiative to start student-to-student peer mediation," Mia Bowers, the mediation center's executive director, said of the school in central St. Mary's. "We're going to be in their school, one day a week."

The new on-campus offering at Great Mills expands the center's longstanding outreach to all St. Mary's students from kindergarten through their senior year, and to their parents, including facilitating meetings where team members create individual education plans (IEP).

Student-to-student peer mediation addresses the need for immediate conflict resolution resources in schools. Mediators work with students, teachers and parents to reduce violence and resolve conflict by providing a peaceful and collaborative problem-solving process.

The school-related mediation services have long been available through self-referrals from parents or teachers, but Great Mills' administration is the first to work directly with the mediation center, Bowers said at the center's recently expanded office on Courthouse Drive in Leonardtown.

"Great Mills is excited to identify students for peer-to-peer mediation," Bowers said. "We (also) will be training students to become mediators."

Another school-support service offered by the center, several of which were listed in a Commission on the School-to-Prison Pipeline report as restorative interventions, focuses on attendance mediation.

Responding to the challenges of truancy brings together parents and teachers to identify underlying issues, addresses the complex factors that cause truancy for a particular child, and develops a collaborative plan to address those issues. Good attendance is critical to academic success, and students who are truant are more likely to drop out, become involved with the juvenile justice system and become victims of crime. Patterns of truancy begin early and are highly predictive of future academic and social struggles. During attendance mediations, families often are made aware of resources available to support them within the school and community.

Bowers said the center's volunteer mediators also take part in facilitating after-school programs, in partnership with Pyramid Health Care's youth community center, The Cove, located in Lexington Park. Pyramid's PosiTeen program and Building Bridges, a separate nonprofit entity, both "provide enrichment to students," Bowers said, including skills building and support with homework.

The services also are available to assist home-schooled children and their families, Bowers said, all part of the mediation center's broader mission to empower people of all ages to talk with each other to find solutions.

"It's helping students learn how to deal with conflict, and avoid it in the future," she said.

For more information on the center, its free mediation services and outreach programs, and how to support this nonprofit organization, go online to <http://www.communitymediationSMC.org> or call 301-475-9118.

Sell it - Buy it at Auction

Tri County Livestock Auction

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

Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad Community Auction

(Chicken Dinners Available)

Friday, October 11, 2024 – 6 pm (Doors Open at 4:30 pm)
27636 Mechanicsville Rd – Mechanicsville, MD (Moose Lodge)

Fall Harvest & Local Meats Auction

SAT, OCT 12, 2024 – 4 pm

USDA Meats (Beef, Pork and Lamb) – Pumpkins – Mums –
Fall Produce – Lawn/Garden Concrete Items – Handcrafted
Quilts – Crafts – Baked Goods – New, Locally-Made Outdoor
Poly Furniture – New Tools, Toys and Other Items

Offering locally-raised meats (Steaks, Hamburger, Roasts, Pork Chops, Sausage, Bacon, Ham Steaks, Lamb and More). We purchase animals from local County Fair 4-H Livestock auctions and have the meats processed at a USDA facility then, offer the quality, recently-frozen meats at this auction ready for your freezer. Also a large selection of locally-grown Mums, Pumpkins, Fall Produce, Handcrafted Quilts, and a

Selection of New Tools/Items!

Great opportunity to purchase quality meats to stock your freezer. Be sure to bring your friends and your coolers.

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**Kretschmar
Turkey Off The Bone**

7.98Lb.



49-Oz.
**German
Chocolate Cake**

11.98



10-In.
**Baked
Apple Pie**

8.98



7.85-Oz.
**Garlic
Knots**

3.98



19.5 Oz., Dutch Apron
**Pumpkin, Red Velvet
Or Carrot Cake Rolls**

6.58



4-In.
**Baked
Apple Pie**

5/\$5



White Or Yellow
**Kretschmar
American Cheese**

6.98 Lb.

Liquor, Beer & Wine

12-Oz. Cans
**24-Pack
Yuengling**



19.99

12-Pk., 12-Oz., Cans
**High Noon
Seltzers**



27.99

12-Oz., Bottles
**12-Pack
Modelo Especial**



19.99

10-Oz., Cans
**24-Pack
Budweiser**



21.49

12-Oz. Cans
**30-Pack
Coors Light**



25.49

12-Oz. Bottles
**18-Pack
Michelob Ultra**



17.99

1.75L
**Jameson Orange
Irish Whisky**



47.99

1.75L
**Bulleit Kentucky
Straight Bourbon**



49.99

1.75L
**Scotty's
Vodka**



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1.75L
**Ketel One
Vodka**



34.99

750mL
**Skrewball Peanut
Butter Whiskey**



25.99

750mL, Selected
**Cruzan
Rum**



9.49

1.75L
**Larceny Kentucky
St. Bourbon**



42.99

1.75L
**Jagermeister
Liquers**



40.99

1.75L
**Kahlua Rum &
Coffee Liqueur**



42.99

1.75L
**Jameson
Irish Whiskey**



47.99

1.75L
**McCormick
Gin**



7.99

750mL.
**Casa Noble
Reposado Tequila**



39.99

750mL
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Passito**



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750mL.
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Riesling Wines**



9.99

750mL
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Chardonnay**



12.99

750mL
**Jeio
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12.99

750mL
**Mark Cellars
Chardonnay**



7.98

750mL
**Fifvine Zero Sugar
Pinot Noir**



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750mL
**Port of Leonardtown
Bubbly Wines**



20.99

750mL.
**Ancient Peaks
Merlot**



17.99

750mL, Sauvignon Blanc
**Domaine
Bousquet Wine**



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750 ML
**Chateau D' Esclands
Whispering Angel Rose**



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750mL
**Pigtown Sweet
White Wine**



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750mL
**Highlands 41 Cabernet
Sauvignon**



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750mL
**Fraixenet
Ice Rose**



12.99

750mL
**Michael David
Petite**



13.99

Wine of the Month



FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Know the risks of investing — and not investing

As an investor, you'll always need to deal with risk of some kind. But how can you manage the risk that's been made clear by the recent volatility in the financial markets? The answer to this question may depend on where you are in life.

Let's start with the risks associated with investing. There's not a single investment risk because different types of investments carry different types of risk. Here's a look at three investment categories and some of the risks connected with them:

- **Stocks** — When you invest in stocks or stock-based mutual funds, you will incur the risk that the value of your investments may decline. Stock prices can fall for any number of reasons — lower-than-expected earnings, a change in management, change in consumer tastes, and so on. Although the historical trend for stocks has been positive, there will always be periods when prices are down. One way to help defend against this volatility is to hold stocks for the long term, rather than constantly buying and selling, and to own a mix of stocks from different industries and even different countries.
- **Bonds** — When market interest rates rise, the value of your bonds can decline because investors won't pay full price for them when they can get the newer ones that offer higher rates. Another type of risk associated with bonds is credit risk, which essentially describes the risk that the bond issuer may default, potentially disrupting your flow of interest payments. However, you can help mitigate this risk by purchasing investment-grade bonds that receive the highest credit ratings from independent rating agencies.
- **Certificates of deposit (CDs)** — Although CDs are generally considered safe because their principal is guaranteed, they do carry reinvestment risk — the risk that you won't be able to reinvest the proceeds of a maturing CD at the same interest rate. To help protect against this risk, you could own CDs of varying maturities. When market rates are low, you'll still have your longer-term CDs paying higher interest, and when market rates rise, you can reinvest the money from your maturing shorter-term CDs into the new, higher-paying ones.

Now, let's turn to a completely different type of risk — the risk of not investing. And this risk is easy to understand: If you don't invest, or if you consistently invest only in the most conservative vehicles, your money may not grow enough to allow you to reach your important long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement.

Of course, this doesn't mean you should never own conservative investments, including CDs and some types of bonds. When you're saving for a short-term goal, such as a down payment on a house, a wedding or a long vacation, you want the money to be there when you need it, so an investment that offers protection of principal may be appropriate, even if it doesn't provide much in the way of growth.

For those long-term goals, though, you may need to build an investment portfolio that contains growth potential and that reflects your personal risk tolerance and time horizon. Over time, your risk tolerance may change. As you get closer to retirement, you may want to take a somewhat more conservative approach — but you'll always need some elements of growth.

When you invest, risk can't be eliminated, but it can be managed. Keeping this in mind, consider a long-term investment strategy that allows for risk but also offers the possibility of reward.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Contributed by David McDonough

Financial Advisor at Edward Jones

Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr. Suite 302

Leonardtown, MD 20650

301 997 1707

Edward Jones®

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



I See You Talking, But I Can't Hear You

I know not everyone loves rainy, cool fall weather, especially my husband and others who are out working in it every day, but I love it. It feels cozy to me and (almost) makes me want to get under the steps to bring out the rest of the fall decorations. Mindy is enjoying extra snooze time, which really sounds good to me. You can



tell from the photo that rainy weather makes her sleepy. I have noticed that a lot of people in our neighborhood already have their Halloween decorations up in their yards. I imagine those are houses with young children. Although I am tempted to put a table full of seated skeletons in the front yard right now. I wonder if the early decorations are a result of all the Halloween décor that has been on display since Easter. "If you see it you want it" which is what retail is counting on. I understand that. I went to one store this week to get someone a fall themed gift and saw that there was one little table of fall items, and the rest was Halloween and Christmas. Fall just started!

On the same day I was out gift shopping I also had an audiology appointment in California. I had been referred from the Ear, Nose, and Throat doctor (I'm sure there is a technical name for that specialty, but it escapes me). My ears are perfectly clear both doctors have told me, but I have a fair amount of hearing loss in my right ear. If my left ear is down on the pillow, I have trouble hearing the bedroom TV or my husband, so I am constantly lifting my head to hear a show or hear him. If I lay on my right side all I see is the wall.

I spent quite awhile in the audiologists office doing lots of tests. As I mentioned she said my ears are clear with her first test. And then we went into the first beeps test which was okay too. All the time I was in her office I was shooting terrified glances at the big silver box in the corner with a window, praying I didn't need to go in there. The dreaded moment did in fact come when she said it was time for testing to be done in that small box, which in my mind had increasingly looked smaller and smaller every moment. I explained all about my claustrophobia while wondering if the door would jam and I would be trapped in there gasping for air, my face and hands plastered to the window like in a horror film all while slowly collapsing to the floor. I was envisioning Edward Munch's The Scream painting except with my face.

The kind, soft-spoken audiologist said that if I was really worried then the door could be left slightly ajar, which eased some of my fear. And she was just so nice. I said, "Well there is that window" which had suddenly appeared more like its normal size. I had sound booth testing many years ago, but that was all before one particular MRI was done where they put the Hannibal Lecter mask over my face which immediately triggered my unknown claustrophobia. That MRI was considered incomplete because I somehow slipped out of the machine and was down in the parking lot before my husband had even parked the car. Anyway, at the audiologists office, I tamped the fear down, walked into the soundproof booth, took a few deep breaths, and got so caught up in listening for beeps with the Pure-tone test that I did fine. She also did the gradually softer speech test and the bone conduction test. I'll admit I was glad when the door finally opened.

After that we discussed the results of the testing which had some rather surprising results. All the tests showed that my right ear, which seemed to have a large hearing loss actually was the better ear and both ears fell into pretty much the normal range with expected minimal loss on different sound ranges for my age. The audiologist told me that one cause might be an Auditory Processing Disorder where someone says something, and it takes my brain a second or so to figure out (process) what a person has said. Once in a while I try to read lips because things sound garbled to me. I told her I probably had ear damage from laying down on the floor with my head between the speakers as a teen, or from all the concerts I have attended in my life. The funny thing though is that most of my auditory processing issues seem to occur when listening to my husband...hmmm. I think they need a new term called Spousal Auditory Processing Disorder.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

A Special Pull Out Section

Southern Maryland

Fall Fun

2024



County Times

St. Mary's County • Calvert County

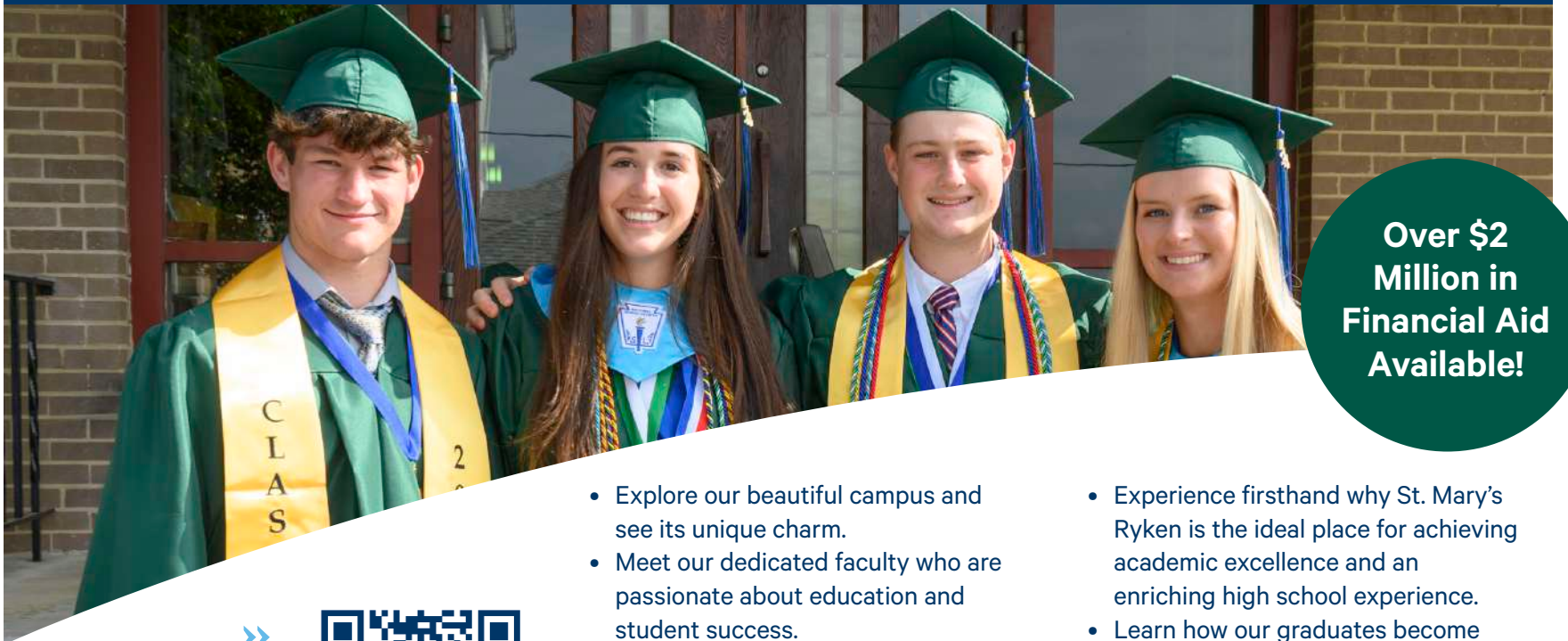


You are invited to the St. Mary's Ryken Open House!

Sunday, Oct. 13 at 1 p.m.

Join us at St. Mary's Ryken and discover how our serene, college-like campus provides the perfect environment for students to focus on what truly matters.

ACADEMICS • FAITH-LIFE • SERVICE • FRIENDSHIPS • ARTS • ATHLETICS



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Open House



- Explore our beautiful campus and see its unique charm.
- Meet our dedicated faculty who are passionate about education and student success.
- Discover the chapel, flight academy, visual and performing arts suites, theatre, college-level athletics facilities and computer and STEM labs.

- Experience firsthand why St. Mary's Ryken is the ideal place for achieving academic excellence and an enriching high school experience.
- Learn how our graduates become well-prepared critical thinkers rooted in the Xaverian values of compassion, trust, humility, zeal and simplicity.

www.smrhs.org/openhouse

Join us to discover how we create a nurturing environment that sets the foundation for your child's future success!

SoMD Fall Fun CALENDAR

Art Walk

Tuesday, Sept. 24 – Monday, Sept. 30
Town of Leonardtown
Admission: Free

Celebrate Leonardtown's Arts & Entertainment District designation by participating in this year's Art Walk! All September long, you can stroll through art galleries, shops, and restaurants displaying works from local artists and vote for your favorites. The winning artists are awarded generous prizes!

Pride of Baltimore Visits St. Mary's

Thursday, Sept. 26 – Sunday, Sept. 29
Historic St. Mary's City
47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City

St. Mary's County welcomes the Pride of Baltimore II, sailing and docking alongside the Maryland Dove from September 26-29, 2024. Visitors can enjoy a variety of events throughout the weekend including free deck tours, a welcome reception, Brew with the Crew, RiverFest, and more.

Militia Muster

Saturday, September 28
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City
47414 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City
Admission: Free

Join the St. Maries City Militia, a 17th-century living history group, for a day of camp activities including cooking, gossiping, trades, and games. The Militia will also recreate the drills and battles of colonial Maryland. Please note, muster drills can be loud.

Also happening the same day at Historic St. Mary's City is RiverFest, a celebration of the St. Mary's River.

RiverFest

Saturday, September 28
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City
47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City
Admission: Free

Hosted by the St. Mary's River Watershed Association. RiverFest, a celebration of the St. Mary's River and its watershed, is free and open to everyone! Discover 101 ways

to protect and enjoy our waterways, enjoy live music and enjoy tours of Historic St. Mary's City. Visit exhibits and vendors from Southern Maryland. Come face-to-face with birds of prey, snakes, terrapins, and other seldom-seen neighbors. Join the ceremonial Wade-In at 2 p.m.

Taste of St. Mary's

Saturday, September 28
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Leonardtown Square
22690 Washington St., Leonardtown
Admission: Free

Spend your afternoon in the heart of Leonardtown for a delightful journey through the vibrant flavors of our region at the annual Taste of St. Mary's. Local restaurants, food trucks, and specialty food and beverage businesses come together to showcase the delectable dishes that capture the essence of our diverse food scene.

Samples of local food and beverage specialties will be available for purchase. Free entertainment and activities for kids. Admission and parking are free. Chance to win gift certificates from area restaurants and caterers.

Art for All Seasons: Landscapes of the American Chestnut Land Trust

Saturday, Sept. 28 – Sunday, Oct. 13
Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13470 Dowell Road, Solomons

This special exhibit is the culmination of a year of local artists creating plein air works of art depicting the beautiful landscapes found throughout the American Chestnut Land Trust's preserved lands surrounding Parkers Creek in Calvert County, Maryland. Proceeds from the exhibition will allow ACLT to continue its mission for the benefit of this and future generations. 410-414-3400.

Scarecrow Stroll

Friday, Oct. 4 – Thursday, Oct. 31
Town of Leonardtown

Check out the unique and custom scarecrows all throughout Leonardtown and vote for your favorites! The contest runs from October 4th through October 31st.

Continued on page 5

HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY

Vampire Manor

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 7 - 10 PM

Featuring BLACK MAGIC CIRCUS

Hicks Family Creations charcuterie

Costume contest 🦋 Tarot reading 🦋 Outdoor movie screening

Complimentary tastings from

Xella Winery 🦋 Port of Leonardtown Winery

Everyday Saint Brewery 🦋 Jubilee Farm Fermentations

Free State Ciders

TICKETS



AGE
21+

HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY
FOUNDATION, INC.



LOST CITY

TRICK-OR-TREAT!

FREE!

OCTOBER 19 | 5 PM

FAMILY FUN!

HISTORIC
ST. MARY'S CITY

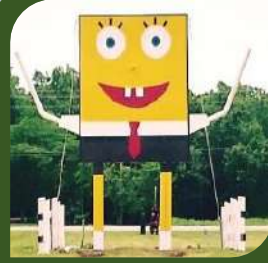
St. Mary's City, Md
www.DigsHistory.org
301-994-4370

2024 Bowles Farms Corn Maze



"Celebrating 24 Years
Of Getting Lost In The Corn"

Maze Theme: "Thank A Farmer"



Location

Rt.234 and Pincushion Rd
22880 Budds Creek Road
Clements, MD 20624
301-475-2139

Clean – Safe – Out Door Fall Fun



- Enjoy....2 Phase Maze
- Kiddy Maze
- Giant Slides
- Kids Play Area
- Barn Yard Animals
- Wagon Ride
- Barrel Train
- Food & Refreshments
- Large Covered Pavilion
- Inside Restrooms
- Pumpkins For Sale
- Group Rates Available
- **New!** Corporate Event Packages

Farmer's Daughter
Cupcake Shop

www.BowlesFarms.com

Fall Season

September 28 – October 27th



Weekend Fall Fun

Hours of Operation

Week Days - School & Daycares: By Appointment Only

Saturday's: 10:00AM to 6:00PM

Sunday's: 10:00AM to 5:00PM

Admission

\$15.00 Per Person (3 and Under Free)



Continued from page 3

Wheels and Wings Car Show

Saturday, October 5
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Patuxent River Naval Air Museum
22156 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park

An ideal event for both automotive and aircraft enthusiasts. At the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum, see foreign, domestic, old school, and new school vehicles, as well as amazing airplanes on the flight line. Spectator tickets can be purchased at the museum on the day of the event.

Fall Market

Saturday, October 5
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Southern Trail Distillery
27227 Morganza Turner Rd., Mechanicsville

Sip on a specialty cocktail, peruse the stalls of local vendors, and listen to live music performed by HydraFX. The 5th Annual Fall Market at Southern Trail Distillery is shaping up to be the best one yet!

Brüderfest

Saturday, October 5
Brüdergarten Beer Garden
22725 Duke St., Leonardtown

Take in the fun and excitement of German tradition with German beer, local craft beers + spirits, delicious light fare foods, live entertainment, contests (including the beloved wiener dog races), and more at Brüderfest 2024!

Antique Tractor & Truck Parade

Sunday, October 6
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Leonardtown Square
22670 Washington St., Leonardtown

Come out to Downtown Leonardtown to see antique power of yesteryear, including tractors and trucks, in parade and on display. Kids of all ages will be returned to a time when these fine machines worked the fields and hauled freight on the roads creating our beautiful Southern Maryland landscape. The parade will course through Leonardtown ending with a display of antique power in Town Square. All proceeds benefit Christmas in April St. Mary's County.

Chesapeake Orchestra: The IN(Door) Series

Friday, October 11
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Nancy R. and Norton T. Dodge
Performing Arts Center
47855 College Dr., St. Mary's City

The Chesapeake Orchestra under the direction of Jeffrey Silberschlag has a special series filled with prominent artists. October's show will feature Schiavo & Marchegiani Piano Duo, and November 8 will feature The Warp Trio.

Monster Market

Saturday, October 12
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13480 Dowell Road, Solomons
Admission to the market area is free

If you love fall and all things Halloween-related, then this market is for you! Let's indulge our love of autumn with this over-the-top Monster Market featuring lots of great shopping inspired by the season! You'll find more than 50 booths featuring a colossal assortment of handmade, homemade, and homegrown products. It's monstrous! Food trucks from Nicollettis, Scratch Mobile Kitchen, and SOCO Retro Ice Cream. Live music by Brandy D. Rain or shine; well-behaved pets on a short leash are welcome.

Patuxent River Appreciation Day (PRAD)

Saturday, October 12
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Calvert Marine Museum
14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons
Admission: Free

Enjoy free boat rides, music, a petting zoo, children's activities, educational displays and more at this annual festival celebrating the Patuxent River. 410-326-2042

Fall Bar Crawl

Saturday, October 12
12 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.
Leonardtown Square

Join in the fun at the Annual 2024 Leonardtown Square Fall Bar Crawl, with six participating local hangs! Pick up a passport at Social, The Rex, or The Olde Town Pub to collect a stamp when you purchase a drink at each location. Drop off your completed passport at Social, The Rex, or The Olde Town Pub and be entered to win free merchandise! Remember to drink responsibly and treat your DD to some delicious food at any participating location.

Calvert Artists' Guild Fall Art Show

Saturday, Oct. 12 – Sunday, Oct. 13
Southern Maryland Sailing Association
14490 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons
Admission: Free

Fabric, jewelry, paintings, photographs and sculpture. Open and free to the public!

Pride SoMD

Sunday, October 13
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Lexington Manor Passive Park
21675 Coral Dr. South, Lexington Park
Admission: Free

All are welcome at this annual celebration of Pride and the LGBTQIA+ Community in Southern Maryland! The event will feature live music, entertainment, speakers, and more.

Fall Friday Night on the Farm & Tractor Treat

Friday, October 18
3:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Lyon Family Farms
39010 Lyon Ln., Mechanicsville

Join Lyon Family Farms for their 2nd annual Fall Friday Night on the Farm where you can check out the farm equipment up close, visit with mini farm animals, truck or treat from various local businesses and shop their fall market! Fall veggies, honey, jam, pumpkins, apple cider and MORE!

Vampire Manor

Friday, October 18
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City
47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City
Admission: 1 ticket \$90; 2 tickets \$160

Vampire Manor beckons you to an evening shrouded in immortal allure. Dress in your most resplendent vampire garb to attend this frightful event. Feast your eyes and palate on a charcuterie spectacle so tempting it could resurrect your most dormant cravings. Sate your thirst with an array of concoctions from Liquid Assets, each crimson creation designed to awaken your senses.

Village Days

Saturday, October 19
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
10515 Mackall Rd., St. Leonard
Admission: Free

This free drop-in event inside our Woodland Indian Village provides hands-on instruction on various topics including pottery, baskets, stone tools, fire, and hunting. This program is generously supported by the Friends of JPPM.

Halloween in the Garden

Saturday, October 19
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center
13480 Dowell Road, Solomons
Admission: Free for members; \$5/person for non-members; age 2 & under free. \$8 at the gate if not sold out

Dress up the whole family for a fun Halloween festival! More than 60 local businesses and organizations will be here handing out treats for the kids, plus there will be fun and games, a DJ dance party, food trucks, and more! With timed-entry tickets and activities spread out across the park, there will be lots of room for everyone. Event is rain or shine, no pets and no smoking allowed. 410-326-4640

Continued on page 7



12th Annual Camp Maria OYSTER SCALD

Sponsored By:



October 13th, 2024
12:00pm - 4:00pm

Free To Attend
Bring yourself, friends, and family for a fun afternoon at beautiful Camp Maria featuring live music, raffles, delicious food and drink, and plenty of activities for kids.

41290 Camp Maria Rd
Leonardtown, MD
campmaria.org

FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

- Oysters (Fried and Scalded)
- Stuffed Ham
- Fried Chicken
- Beverages
- Pulled Pork
- French Fries
- Baked Goods

(Including Beer and Wine)

FALL FUN IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

THERE IS LOTS OF HISTORY AND HERITAGE TO EXPLORE IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY THIS FALL!

56TH ANNUAL

Blessing of the Fleet

ADMISSION
ADULTS \$15
AGES 10 &
UNDER FREE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

38370 POINT BREEZE RD • COLTONS POINT, MD 20626

Celebrating Local Watermen & the Heritage of St. Mary's County

Featuring family entertainment, local food, art and craft vendors, waterman of the year award, blessing ceremony, concerts and fireworks

[Facebook.com/BlessingofTheFleetSOMD](https://www.facebook.com/BlessingofTheFleetSOMD)

Maryland Begins Here!

AT THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUMS



St. Clement's Island Museum
[Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum)



The Old Jail Museum
[Facebook.com/TheOldJailMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TheOldJailMuseum)



Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park
[Facebook.com/1836Light](https://www.facebook.com/1836Light)



Drayden African American Schoolhouse
[Facebook.com/DraydenSchool](https://www.facebook.com/DraydenSchool)

Discover fascinating stories, beautiful water views and a full year of lively festivals and fun events at the St. Mary's County Museums. Climb the oldest lighthouse on the Potomac, take a boat ride out to St. Clement's Island or learn the tales of the Old Jail in Leonardtown.

St. Clement's Island Museum: 301-769-2222 | Piney Point Lighthouse Museum: 301-994-1471 | Old Jail Museum: 240-925-3427



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MUSEUMS
VISIT [MUSEUMS.STMARYSMD.COM](https://www.museums.stmarysmd.com)



Continued from page 5

Lower Marlboro Freedom Day

Saturday, October 19
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church
6519 Lower Marlboro Ln, Owings
Lower Marlboro Hall
3911 Lower Marlboro Rd., Owings

As the War of 1812 raged into the summer of 1814, British troops sailed up the Patuxent River in a bid to take Washington, D.C. On their way, they stopped at the port of Lower Marlboro in what is now Owings to commandeered supplies and offered freedom to local enslaved men and women in exchange for their service to the British war effort. Fourteen people won their freedom that day, on what we now commemorate as Lower Marlboro Freedom Day.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to enjoy the fall weather while celebrating our local history and heritage. Festivities include walking tours, speakers, entertainment, food and exhibits at the historic Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church and Lower Marlboro Hall in Owings. Download the Walking Tour Brochure. 410-535-5327

The Lights Festival

Saturday, October 19
Potomac Speedway

27963 Budds Creek Rd., Mechanicsville
Admission: \$68

The Lights Fest is an experience where thousands of friends and families gather to listen to live music, fill up on yummy food, and light up life by sharing personal wishes, dreams and goals. At the perfect moment everyone ignites their personalized sky lanterns with tiki torches and lets them take flight. It creates a surreal ambiance, where time slows down and your single flame rises and joins with thousands of others to light up your life.

58th Annual U.S. Oyster Festival

Saturday, Oct. 19 – Sunday, Oct. 20
St. Mary's County Fairgrounds
42455 Fairgrounds Rd., Leonardtown

With over 500 miles of shoreline and an abundance of fresh seafood, it's fitting that St. Mary's County, Maryland is home to the Annual U.S. Oyster Festival, hosted each year by the Rotary Club of Lexington Park. Proceeds from the event are used to support local community projects.

This weekend-long event brings fresh and local oysters by the bucket load. You can enjoy them raw, grilled, fried, steamed, and everything in between!

Watch as contestants go head-to-head in the weekend's main event, the shucking competition. Plus, enjoy live music, artisan vendors, and loads of family-friendly fun all weekend long!

Lost City Trick-or-Treat

Saturday, October 19

5 p.m. – 8 p.m., last entry at 7:30 p.m.

Historic St. Mary's City

47414 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City
Admission: Donations

Historic St. Mary's City will host its popular free trick-or-treating event, Lost City on October 19, 2024. Spreading out over the museum grounds, the event will be spooktacular! Families are invited to meet "lost" sailors, go trick-or-treating, play games, or enjoy stories. Maryland Dove will be open and dressed for the occasion as a haunted ship!

Families are invited to walk the grounds after hours to see the museum decorated with period-appropriate fall décor and more present-day "Halloween" items. The evening includes stepping aboard the "haunted ship" Maryland Dove, dancing to music with the "Monster Mash Disco Ball" at the Margaret Brent gazebo, fortune telling and broomstick lessons in the Town Center area, Halloween-themed crafts, and family-friendly fall games, giving guests a full evening of enjoyment and...candy!

Legends, Lore, and More

Friday, October 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 26 at 5 pm

Just in time for Halloween. Pirates, unmarked graves, and ghosts — oh my! Join us for an evening tour with local historian Sam Baldwin exploring the grounds and learning more about the myths, legends, and lore

of Sotterley! Don't be surprised if along the way you discover that truth can be stranger than fiction. The tour will be followed by a reception with wine, nibbles, and a Q&A.

Recommended for ages 16 & older. Walking and standing required. The historic house is not ADA compliant. Advance reservations required — please no walk-ins. Tour is limited to 18 people.

Bad Art Night: The Great Pumpkin Challenge

Friday, October 25

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Annmie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center

13480 Dowell Road, Solomons

Admission: \$7/person; members free

The Great Pumpkin Challenge is back for Bad Art Night! A Fall favorite, the pumpkin, is the inspiration for this adult-only art-making event. Join us in creating outrageous Jack-O-lanterns or pumpkin-inspired artwork. Pumpkins are limited, so come early. The first 50 people will get a pumpkin. The final artwork will be displayed for everyone to enjoy and vote for the top three, "The Best of the Worst." Vote for your favorite or the artwork that makes you smile. We will have all the supplies you will need. So please bring your friends or make new ones during our creative night for adults!

Food trucks from K's Lunchbox and Mully's Brewery. Cash bar and lively music add to the creative fun. Must be 21. Reservations not required, just come

Continued on page 9

BRÜDERFEST 2024!

Saturday, October 5th
Brüdergarten Beer Garden
22725 Duke Street, Leonardtown

Watch the
Brüderfest Parade 11 AM
in Leonardtown Square
w/ Dog Costume Contest!



Then join us at the bRü
beginning at 12 PM
(\$5 entry fee) for:

Beer Tasting
Visiting Brewers
Weiner Dog Races
German Entertainment
Human Games & Prizes
HydraFX Band, 6 PM
Epic Eats
Frosty Beverages
Must be 21 or older after 7 PM

DOG COSTUME CONTEST & WEINER DOG RACES
REGISTRATION (benefits local dog non-profit org):

Email: MarketingSOFMarket@gmail.com
or register at the Brudergarten no later than October 4th!

HARVEST MEMORIES AT
GREENSTREET FALL FESTIVAL

JOIN US FOR A SEASON OF ADVENTURES AND CELEBRATIONS AT GREENSTREET FALL FEST!

CORN MAZE • HAYRIDES • PUMPKIN PATCH • CORN BOX • WOODLANDS
JUMPING PILLOW • COW TRAIN • UNDERGROUND SLIDE • TRIKE TRACK
FARM ANIMALS • FOOD & DRINKS • PLUS SO MUCH MORE!

JOIN US ON
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS
UNTIL 11/03 • 10:30am – 5pm

SCAN ME

GREENSTREET FALL FESTIVAL

391 West Bay Front Road, Lothian, MD 20711 • 410-867-9500 • www.GreenstreetGardens.com



Leonardtwn
A most exceptional place!

6th Annual

SCARECROW STROLL



**SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE BY
9/27/24**

**COME TO TOWN FROM
10/4/24 TO 10/27/24 TO VOTE
ON YOUR FAVORITE
SCARECROW**

**Leonardtwn invites you to participate
in their annual Scarecrow Stroll event.
Scarecrows will be on display the month of
October throughout Leonardtown.**

**Join us in this fun event!
Prizes will be awarded!**



SIGNUP & VOTE

Visit LeonardtwnMd.com/scarecrowstroll

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County



Leonardtwn
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Visit LeonardtwnMd.com

Continued from page 7

Fun on the Farm

Saturday, October 26
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Summerseat Farm
26655 Three Notch Rd., Mechanicsville

Head to Summerseat Farm for a fun family day filled with games and activities for the kids. Visit the barn animals, and don't forget to take a hayride.

Hound of the Town

Saturday, October 26
12 p.m.
North Beach Boardwalk
9023 Bay Ave., North Beach

A costume parade just for dogs and dog lovers! This dog costume parade takes place on the boardwalk along the Chesapeake Bay on Halloween day. Owners walk their furry friends along the parade route where they are introduced and judged by the panel of judges. Prizes are awarded at the conclusion of the parade. **ONLY DOGS CAN BE ENTERED IN THE DOG PARADE.** All proceeds benefit Calvert Animal Welfare League.

Boo Bash

Saturday, Oct. 26
Registration 2:15 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Panel and judging begins at 3 p.m.
North Beach Pavilion
9023 Bay Ave., North Beach

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

Haltech World Cup Finals

Wednesday, Oct. 30 – Sunday, Nov. 3
Maryland International Raceway
27861 Budds Creek Rd., Mechanicsville
Admission: \$40-\$100

The 28th annual Haltech World Cup Finals Import vs. Domestic presented by Wiseco will take place at Maryland International Raceway on October 30 - November 3, 2024. The event features Import vs. Domestic Drag Racing, IBT Bikini Contest, a Huge Vendor Midway, and a Live DJ! The event is busting at the seams with over 50,000 fans in attendance, and there is no other event like it on the planet!

The WCF event breaks more class records than any event on Earth due to Jason Miller's legendary track prep team and unparalleled cool and dry atmospheric conditions that only exist this time of year! Racers come to this event to obliterate records and make history!

The event draws 300+ Heads-Up racers from over 10 different countries competing for over \$240,000 in cash purse & awards in eleven different classes of competition. The event brings you side-by-side racing action from just about every type of genre in drag racing featuring the top cars from just about every sanctioning body in the country!

Artisan & Vendor Market

Saturday, November 2
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Summerseat Farm
26655 Three Notch Rd., Mechanicsville

Enjoy the beautiful surroundings of this working farm as you browse handcrafted and vintage decor, gifts, and clothes, and more from local artisans and vendors. It's the perfect spot to get a jump start on your holiday shopping!

Veteran's Day Parade

Friday, November 11
Town of Leonardtown
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Admission: Free

The Commissioners of Leonardtown and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County invite the public to salute America's Veterans at the Annual Veterans Day Parade in Leonardtown! The parade steps off from St. Mary's Ryken High School, proceeds through Town Square, and is immediately followed by a Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony. Spectators are encouraged to park at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds, or the St. Mary's County Governmental Center and take the free round-trip shuttle into Town.

Christmas on the Square

Friday, November 29
4:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Leonardtown Square
Admission: Free

The holiday season begins in Leonardtown when Santa arrives for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting in the Town Square. The festivities begin at 4:30pm with holiday music, entertainment, horse and carriage rides, sleigh rides, train rides, hayrides, live nativity, petting zoo, face painting, children's crafts, hot drinks, fresh kettle corn, and other fun activities! Many downtown restaurants and shops around the Town Square will be open and decorated for your holiday pleasure.

Hearth & Home

Friday, November 29
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City
18751 Hogaboom Ln., St. Mary's City

Join Historic St. Mary's City for one last open weekend of the year in 2024 and take a leisurely walk through the beautiful museum grounds. Breathe in the crisp fall air and enjoy the comforting smells of home, as Historic St. Mary's City interpreters prepare historical meals inspired by the life-ways of English colonists and Indigenous people from the 1600s. Don't forget to take a recipe booklet home to recreate these delicious meals with your family.

Bring a canned good for Chapline House and save \$1 on admission!

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

SEMI-ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

TAKING CONSIGNMENTS NOW
CALL (301) 861-7738
October 11-12 • 8am

CHRISTMAS AUCTION

November 2 • 8am



HAYESAUCTIONSERVICES.NET
38250 NEW MARKET TURNER RD
(301) 861-7738

LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED



Save the Date



Tree Lighting



Saturday
December 7
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Holly Days Extravaganza



Sunday
December 8
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Join us in the spirit of the holidays for a tree lighting, pictures with Santa, a vendor shopping experience, carolers, arts & crafts and a festive atmosphere!



Free & Open to the Public!
Scan the QR Code for info.



Lexington Park Library: 21677 FDR Blvd, Lexington Park, MD

Come to our Fall OPEN HOUSES

OCT 26

NOV 16

REGISTER HERE:



WWW.SMCM.EDU/OPHNP



#4 in U.S.
(Public Colleges)



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE of MARYLAND

The National Public Honors College

UPCOMING EVENTS

AT THE NANCY R. & NORTON T. DODGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



FRIDAY, SEP. 27 | 7:00 P.M.

MARK TWAIN LECTURE SERIES

Tickets are still available for Laughing to the Polls with Matt Friend



FRIDAY, OCT. 4 | 7:00 P.M.

NOBUNTU

Internationally celebrated female a cappella quartet from Zimbabwe



ALSO HAPPENING...

TUESDAY, OCT. 1 | 7:00 P.M.

CIVIL RIGHTS ACT IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND

Panel Discussion



LEARN MORE:

WWW.SMCM.EDU/F24

Fall Harvest and Local Meats

Live, In-Person and
Seated Style Auction!

Auction

Locally-Raised USDA Meats (Beef, Pork and Lamb)
Pumpkins – Mums – Produce – Apples – Lawn/Garden
Concrete Items – Handcrafted Quilts – Crafts – Outdoor
Poly Furniture – Baked Goods – New Tools, Toys & More

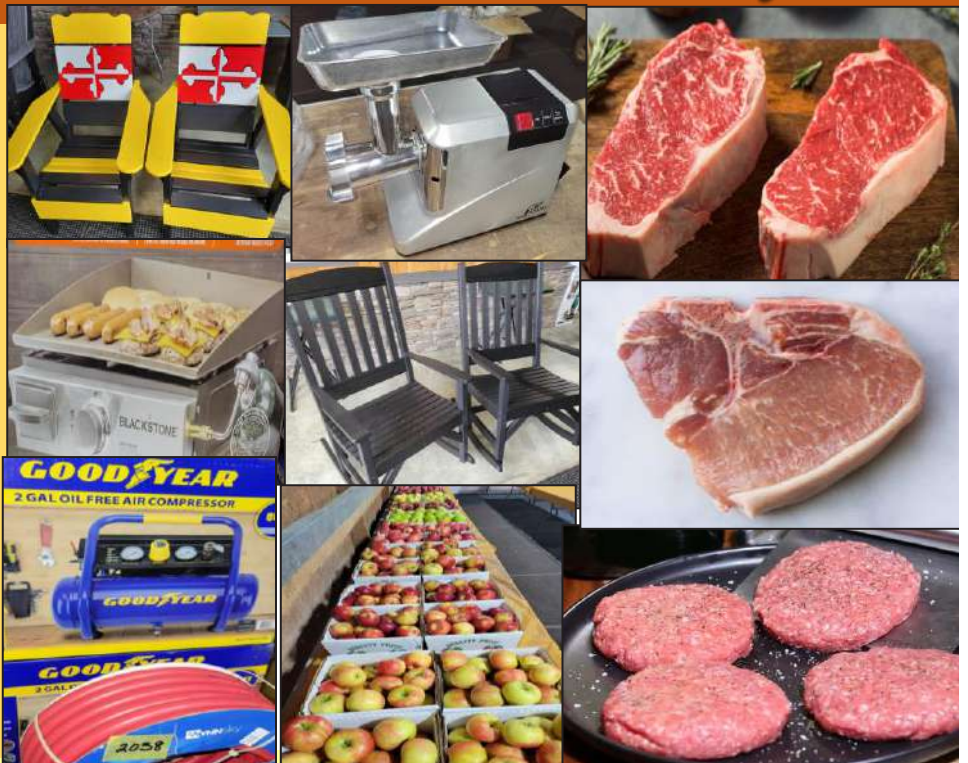


SATURDAY - OCTOBER 12, 2024 - 4 pm

(Auction Preview and Registration begins at 2 pm)

Westfield Farm Arena & Auction Barn
26689 Laurel Grove Rd - Mechanicsville, MD

Mums, Pumpkins, Apples, Fall Produce, Handcrafted Quilts, Meats, Outdoor Furniture, Baked Goods, Meat Grinders, Vacuum Sealer & Bags, Gas Grills, Air Compressors, Tool Boxes, Concrete Items, Perennials, Air Hoses, Selection of New Toys, Lawn Chairs, Iron Flag Holders, Pop Up Tents, Buckets, Stainless Steel Pails, Gun Cases, Thermos', Travel Bag, Wind Chimes, Ratchet Straps, Battery Power Station, Knife Sets, Mini Lanterns, Baking Pans, Tool Bags/Holsters, Pry Bars, Heaters, Brooms, Shovels, Cleaner, Honey, Snacks, Water Nozzles, Hitch Pins, Patio Furniture Set, More



Special Mention: Locally-raised meats (Steaks, Hamburger, Roasts, Pork Chops, Sausage, Bacon, Scrapple, Ham Steaks, Lamb and More). We purchase animals from local County Fair 4-H Livestock Auctions and have the meats processed at a USDA facility. We then offer these quality meats – vacuumed-sealed and recently-frozen – ready for your freezer. Bring you family, friends, neighbors and coolers! A great opportunity to purchase quality meats!

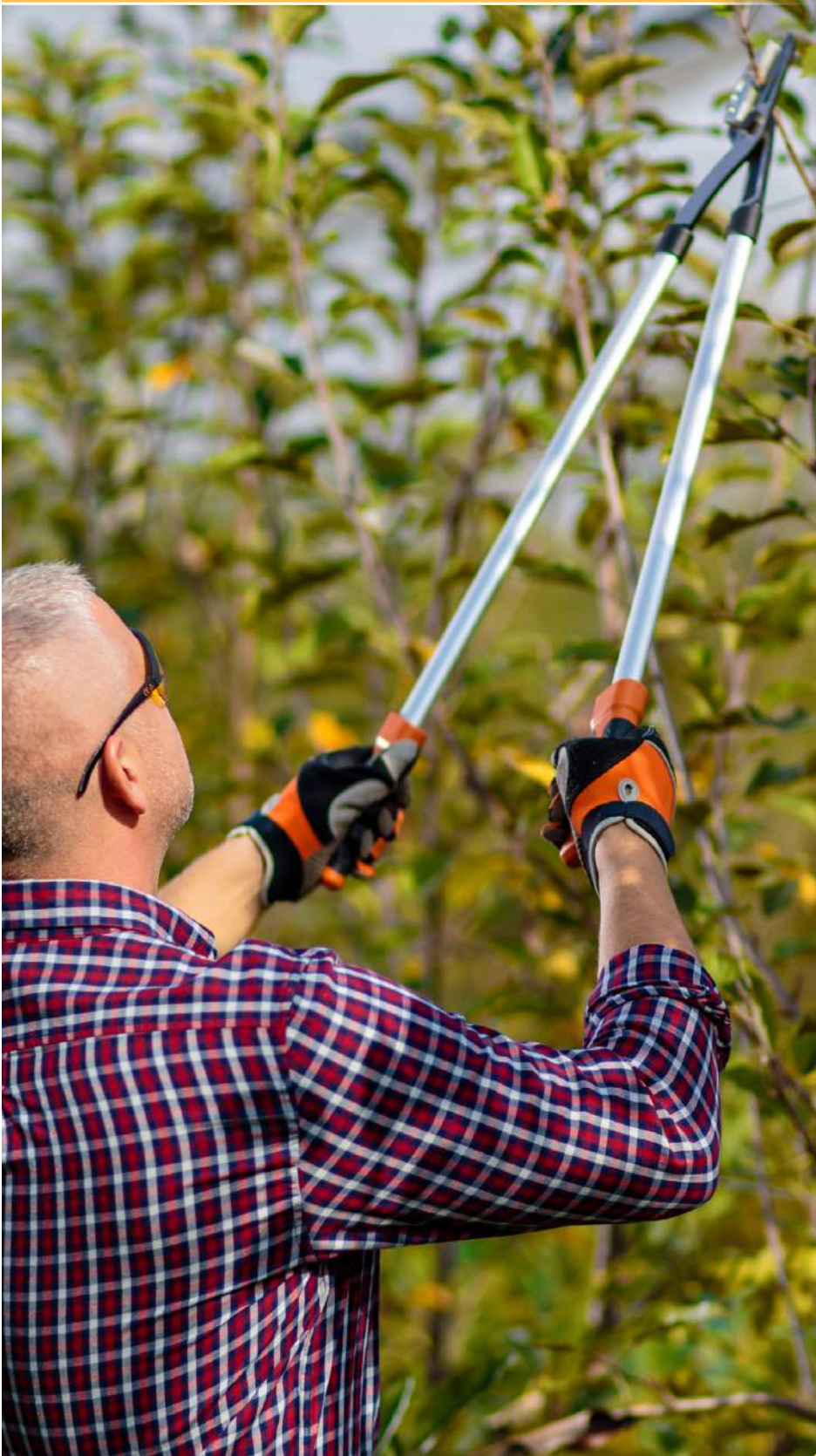
Farrell Auction Service, LLC
301-904-3402
www.FarrellAuctionService.com

*A Southern Maryland Auction
Event supporting our local
growers & producers*

Payment Terms: 10% buyer's premium. Cash, Checks Accepted. Credit Cards accepted with additional fee.
May be selling with more than one auctioneer at a time!



In addition to overhead lines, SMECO has many underground electric lines. Call **Miss Utility** at **811** before you dig.



Stay safe around power lines



As we slide into fall, many people are finishing projects around the house and yard in preparation for the coming winter months. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

- Never climb power poles or transmission towers.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- Keep equipment away from overhead lines when carrying ladders, pool skimmers, and pruning tools.
- If you are doing work close to power lines—such as trimming trees, working on your roof, or doing exterior renovations—keep yourself, your ladder, and anything you are handling a safe distance from the power line.
- Contact SMECO to disconnect power if you are doing work that requires close contact with overhead lines attached to your home.
- Use a licensed electrician for all electrical work.
- Plant trees away from power lines.



Download our free mobile app or use our texting service to report an outage or pay your bill.
smeco.coop/services



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.

Dana Wood, 57



Dana Michele Wood, 57, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away unexpectedly on September 20, 2024, in Mechanicsville, Md. She was born on December 27,

1966, in Leonardtown, MD to Clifford Carlton Wood and Marsha Ann Wood Hast.

She is survived by her loving parents Carlton (Lydia) Wood of Mechanicsville, MD, and Marsha Wood Hast of Benedict, MD; sister, Gina Wood of Frederick, MD, stepbrother, Robert "Al" Graves of Leonardtown, MD, and stepsister, Heather (David) Mullins of Cottage Cove, OR; nieces: Ashley and Ariel Rodkey, Robin Gates, Jessica Allen, Savanna Fox, and Alexis Gibson; nephews: Corey Graves, Keegan and Brendan Schmitz, David and Bentley Mullins; and her beloved dog Piper. She is preceded in death by her sister Lori Wood Rodkey.

Recently retired, she worked as a Systems Engineer for The Department of Homeland Security.

She enjoyed shopping, reading, learning, crabbing, and spoiling her dog. She was an avid collector of the finer things in life. Her family and friends meant everything to her.

The family will receive friends for visitation on Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 5:00-8:00 pm at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A funeral service will follow at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 27108 Mt Zion Church Road Mechanicsville, MD 20659 on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Pallbearers will be Robert "Al" Graves, Craig Wood, John Jarboe, Brendan Schmitz, Billy Wood, Todd Wood, Jr, Corey Graves.

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

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

Elnora Branson, 96



Elnora Virginia Roberts Branson, daughter of the late Junius Roberts and Mabel Chandler Roberts was born September 8, 1928 in Buffalo Junction in Mecklenburg

County Virginia. God called her home to Glory on September 13, 2024.

In January 1936, Elnora and family moved to St. Mary's County, Maryland, where she attended Bancker Elementary School and graduated from Bancker High School in June 1946.

On January 5, 1947, she married the late Irvin Joseph Branson, where they resided and raised their family in Abell, Maryland.

Elnora had a sweet spirit. Her gentleness, smile and beauty were infectious. She once stated that most of her life she was wife, mother, caregiver, and domestic worker. She along with her good friends, Louise Dickerson, the late Grace Hopps and Ann Jones were known as the "Station Wagon Gang" where she drove all of them in a Chevrolet station wagon and they worked at the Patuxent River Naval Base and the surrounding area.

Her love of gardening, houseplants, and flowers were her passion. She was known for making the best yeast rolls ever and loved playing Bingo and taking long walks. She was a member of Holy Angels Catholic Church and since 1953, a member of the Knights of St. John International Ladies Auxiliary No. 305, where she held the position of Financial Secretary.

Elnora is survived by her four sons, John H. Branson, Irvin J. Branson, Jr. (Constance), Vernon T. Branson (Yvette), Otho M. Branson (Arthur), two daughters, Joyce Branson Smith (Odell) and Stacey L. Branson; two sisters, Carolyn E. Roberts Goode, Patricia A. Roberts Rogers; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren, one great-grandchild; and a host of nieces, neph-

ews, cousins, extended family members and friends. She was predeceased by her daughter, Margaret E. Hall; son-in-law, Leroy Hall; and great grandchild, Ray Biscoe, Jr.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Hospice of St. Mary's.

Visitation will be Friday, September 27, 2024 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM at Holy Angels Catholic Church, Avenue, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM. Interment Sacred Heart Cemetery, Bushwood, Maryland

The family wishes to sincerely express our love, thanks and appreciation for your presence, prayers, love, sympathy and kind deeds. We extend a special thank you to Dr. Gyan Surana and Hospice of St. Mary's.

Arrangements Entrusted to Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home, Waldorf, MD.

Kathy Hutmaker, 76



Kathryn Hutmaker, "Kathy", 76, of Great Mills, MD, passed away on September 17, 2024 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on September 23, 1947, in Great Barrington, MA, she was the daughter of the late Kathryn King and the late Gordon Gibbs. Kathy is

survived by her children, Sean Hutmaker of Joliet, IL and Paul Hutmaker (Kristin) of Mechanicsville, MD, her granddaughters, Hailey Hutmaker and Peyton Hutmaker, her sisters, Betty Petersen of Sheffield, MA and Linda Chase of Sheffield, MA, and her brother, Tom Gibbs of Sheffield, MA. Kathy was preceded in death by her siblings Correll Pezee, Leslie Conklin, Gordon Gibbs, Richard Gibbs, Donald Gibbs, and James Gibbs.

Kathy graduated from Mt. Everett High School in 1965. She left Massachusetts traveling as a military spouse and settled in St. Mary's County, MD in 1980 where she raised her two sons. Kathy was employed by the United States government and retired working as a Budget Analyst at the NAVAIR Comptroller on the Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, October 3, 2024 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 3:00 PM in the funeral home chapel with Fr. Joseph Cwik officiating. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

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On Forever in Your Heart*

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

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



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St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Thu, Sep 26

Table Talk: A Group for Women!

Patuxent Presbyterian Church
23421 Kingston Creek Rd., California
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Table Talk: A Group for Women! Ladies, join us on Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the the Fellowship Hall for soup & conversation! Walk-ins welcome, but RSVPs preferred to Laura Rhodes, Small Groups Director at: paxpressg@paxpres.org.

Fri, Sep 27

Home School, Fire Prevention Event

Mechanicsville Vol. Fire Department
28165 Hills Club Rd., Mechanicsville
9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Free event for the Home School Community. The event includes a Fire Prevention presentation with lots of audience participation. Tour of the firehouse, hands on stops such as trying on gear, photographs opportunities and other fire exhibits and participation. A goodie bag will be provided and light refreshments. Please RSVP by email @ fire-preventionofficer@mvfd.com. Thank you.

SMTMD HomeSpun CoffeeHouse—Open Mic

Christ Episcopal Church—Parish Hall
37497 Zach Fowler Rd., Chaptico
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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

charge. Contact Chris Dudley in advance (ccdudley@rocketmail.com) to sign up as a performer. Info: smtmd2@gmail.com, www.smtmd.org/#/open-mic-night/

Music from Poplar Hill—The James Fernando Trio

St. George's Episcopal Church
19167 Poplar Hill Ln., Valley Lee
7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

By popular demand, the brilliant young American jazz pianist James Fernando returns to Music from Poplar Hill on September 27. James' concert in 2022 was a hit with our audience and with the young music students he worked with. This time he will be joined by Kyon Williams on drums and Sam Harris on bass.

James Fernando has been hailed by World Music Report as a "prodigiously gifted composer and virtuoso pianist," by Jazz Sensibilities as "limitless in his ability to articulate his ideas," and by Contemporary Fusion Reviews as "creating one of the most amazing musical experiences you've ever had."

Sat, Sep 28

Band of Brothers PTSD / Suicide Prevention Support Group

The Flashback Restaurant
21797 Coral Dr N, Lexington Park
9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

For more information call 240-476-2721

Cruisin Southern Maryland 100 Mile Car Cruise & Car Show

Golden Beach Park & Ride
37750 Golden Beach Rd., Charlotte Hall
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cruisin' Southern Maryland 100 Mile Car Cruise & Car Show. September 28, 2024 All Vehicles invited, cruise through three Southern Maryland Counties. Begins at 9:00 am at the Golden Beach Park & Ride (37750 Golden Beach Rd. Charlotte Hall, MD 20622, two blocks from Maryland Route 5) and arrival at the last stop is estimated to be 2:30 pm at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home with a car show. Registration begins at 7:30 am. Maps and route info will be provided upon arrival. Optional Poker Run available for additional \$10.00 per entry. Registration Fee is \$30.00 per Vehicle, includes free Cruisin' Southern Maryland Event T-Shirt for the first 150 vehicles.

LPVRS Fall Craft & Vendor Fair

Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad
21685 FDR Blvd., Lexington Park
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

All are invited to celebrate talented local artisans and small businesses at the 2024 Fall Craft & Vendor Fair hosted by the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Associates! It's the perfect opportunity to snag some unique finds for the fall season and maybe some early holiday gifts and treats!

Entry is completely FREE, and there's plenty of parking right behind the building. The best part? All the proceeds will support the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad. It's a fun day out and a chance to give back to the community!

****Limited vendor openings are available.** Your \$30 vendor registration fee supplies you with a 6ft table and chairs. Vendors are accepted on a first-come basis; no duplicate vendors are allowed. Please ensure that all media is hand-crafted and that all food items are professionally packaged or preserved.

For more information on the Craft & Vendor Fair or Vendor opportunities, please email associateevent@lpvrs.org.

Taste of St. Mary's

Historic Leonardtown Square
Leonardtown
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Vendors, food and beverage businesses, will offer sample-sized tastes of their products for our community to try and purchase. This is a great opportunity to see what St. Mary's County has to offer.

Sun, Sep 29

All You Can Eat Breakfast

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department
24801 Three Notch Rd., Hollywood
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

All you can eat breakfast for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood VFD; \$15, Age 13 & over, \$8, ages 4-12, and Free, ages 3 & under. Enjoy bacon, sausages, scrapple, scrambled eggs, creamed chipped beef, biscuits, roasted potatoes, omelettes to order, and assorted beverages.

Thu, Oct 2

Leonardtown Lions Club Meeting

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

Nicoletta Pollice, Outreach Specialist for the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services will be the Guest Speaker at the Leonardtown Lions Club Ms. Pollice will share her views as a dedicated advocate for our older adults, and our youth and families in need. This presentation is open to the public. All are welcome.



Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden: Citizen Science

Would you like to create a habitat for hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and other pollinators? Turn your lawn and garden into a place pollinators will return to again and again. Saturday, September 28 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at the Lexington Park Library, Susan Polsky, of The Association of Southern Maryland Beekeepers (ASMB),

will share tips on designing a space outside your home that is inviting to pollinators. From growing native plants, water sources, insecticides, plants to avoid, and more! When you join us, don't be shy about asking questions specific to your garden. Embrace the journey of creating a garden paradise for pollinators, and witness the vibrant, dynamic beauty it brings to your outdoor space. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Community Chess Day

Chess at the Charlotte Hall Library on Saturday, October 5 from 2 - 4 p.m. An all-ages chess social hang-out! Drop in and out to play as needed, no experience required. Small chess guides will be available for each player for reference. Chess boards will be provided by the library, but feel free to bring your favorite set. No registration.

What Storm, What Thunder Discussion & Journaling

Join us to discuss this year's One Maryland One Book selection, What Storm, What Thunder. We'll explore the book's themes and enjoy journaling together, creating fun prompts to inspire creativity at Charlotte Hall Library on Wednesday, October 9 from 5 - 7 p.m. This year's One Maryland One Book selection, chosen by Maryland Humanities for the theme of

"restorative futures," is What Storm, What Thunder by Myriam J. A. Chancy. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Cover Art Redux

Have you ever wanted to put your own spin on your favorite book's cover art? Leonardtown Library on Wednesday, October 9 from 6 - 7 p.m. Teens are welcome into the Makerspace for this three part program! We'll be meeting every second Wednesday evening of September, October, and November to create brand new faces for our favorite books. We will plan, paint, and put text on your brand new cover art! There will be messes, music, and good vibes. Materials will be provided, including paint. Please wear clothes you are willing to sacrifice to your creative cause! Register on www.stmalib.org.



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- CLUES ACROSS
- CLUES DOWN
1. Unequaled

5. __-fi (slang)

8. Synthetic resin

11. Chadic language Bura-__

13. Influential come Election Day

14. Bucket

15. European river

16. Earn a perfect score

17. Horizontal passage

18. Barely sufficient

20. Dekaliter

21. Goo Goo Dolls hit

22. Australian city

25. Female servants

30. Plumbing fixtures

31. Tooth caregiver

32. Book of Esther antagonist

33. Say aloud

38. Thyrotrophic hormone

41. Absolute

43. Untimely

45. Area or neighborhood

47. Juicy fruit

49. Expresses distaste, disapproval

50. S. American rodents

55. Swedish rock group

56. Influential American president

57. Volume

59. Begged

60. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

62. Good friend

63. Body part

64. Tableland
1. Barrels per day (abbr.)

2. Body parts

3. Invests in little enterprises

4. Rock legend Turner

5. Dug into

6. Laughed

7. Northern European nation

8. San Diego ballplayer

9. Eight

10. Substitutes (abbr.)

12. Moved swiftly on foot

14. Compensated

19. Volcano in the Philippines

23. Speak ill of

24. One who publishes

25. Expression of bafflement

26. Macaws

27. Matchstick game

28. We all have our own

29. Divinatory

34. Explosive

35. Follows sigma

36. Sea eagle

37. Type of bread

39. Bit used with a set of reins

40. Time away from work

41. Parts per thousand (abbr.)

42. Lots on your plate (abbr.)

44. Actor Brosnan

45. It's part of packaging

46. Towards the oral region

47. Public Theater creator Joseph

48. Ancient Syrian city

51. Swiss river

52. Mollusk

53. A French abbot

54. Hoagies

58. Not present (slang)

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SEPTEMBER 19 SOLUTIONS												
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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, Sep 26

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Anime Night

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

Tweens/Teens in grades 6-12 invited. Come hang out with friends and other fans of anime. We will watch anime, talk about our favorite manga and sample some books, use art supplies for anime creations, and try some Japanese snacks! 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Reading Buddies

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

At this event, elementary aged children will do fun activities and read out loud to teen volunteers. Teen volunteers can earn one service learning hour for participating. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Fri, Sep 27

On Pins & Needles

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
and Calvert Library Twin Beaches
4100 5th St., North Beach
1 – 4 p.m.

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting,

crocheting or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Veteran Services Program

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

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

Roaring 20's Cruise aboard the Witchcraft

Calvert Marine Museum
4 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Step back in time to the roaring twenties on the *Witchcraft's* Prohibition Day Cruises, where flappers and dapper gents alike will revel in the glitz and glamour of an era shrouded in secrecy and extravagance. Guests are invited bring their favorite speak-easy provisions and bootlegged spirits. Cost is \$60/person; max 6 people per charter. Must be 18 or older to cruise.

Sat, Sep 28

Warhammer 40K

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

Play the popular miniature strategy tabletop game. Come in for casual play. Don't know how? This is the perfect place to learn. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Garden Smarter: Introduction to HugelKultur

Community Resources Building
30 Duke Street, Prince Frederick
10 – 11 a.m.

Learn the basic of Hugelkultur for: Carbon sequestration (and recycling), water management, soil improvement, and space maximization. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sun, Sep 29

Pirate Cruise aboard the Witchcraft

Calvert Marine Museum
4 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Don your finest pirate attire and set sail for a swashbuckling adventure ye won't soon forget! Mates are invited to haul along yer favorite grub and grog. Cost is \$60/person; max 6 people per charter. Must be 18 or older to cruise.

Fossil Club Meeting & Free Public Lecture

Calvert Marine Museum
1:30 – 4 p.m.

The meeting is at 1:30 p.m., followed by a free public lecture at 2:30 p.m., both in the museum's Harms Gallery. CMM's Curator of Paleontology Dr. Stephen Godfrey will present a free lecture, open to all, on some of the amazing examples of fossilized poop (aka coprolites) in the museum's collection. You will be amazed at the stories that fossilized poop can tell.

Thu, Oct 3

Sea Squirts

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

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

Upcoming

Board of Education Candidate Forum

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
Wednesday, October 16
6 – 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee. All voters in Calvert vote for all three districts no matter what district you live in. This is not a library sponsored program. For more information please contact: Calvert SECAC, Joseph Cormier, Chair, Joseph.somd.leaders@gmail.com

Lower Marlboro Freedom Day

Lower Marlboro United Methodist Church
6519 Lower Marlboro Lane, Owings
and Lower Marlboro Hall
3911 Lower Marlboro Road, Owings
Saturday, October 19
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Citizens are invited to celebrate and revel in Calvert County history at a celebration to commemorate freedom of those who escaped slavery with the help of the British during the War of 1812. For more information visit calvertcounty.gov/Lower-Marlboro-Freedom-Day or contact Natural Resources Division Chief Karyn Molines at 410-535-5327 or by email at Karyn.Molines@calvertcountymd.gov.

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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

Hello again, INDEPENDENT VOTERS of Calvert County!

We trust that you know how crucial this election is for our nation, state, and county.

As of August 2024, we have **16,496 Independent voters** in Calvert County! We need each of you to vote on or before Tuesday, November 5.



Vote for the sensible and student-focused BOE team — the **JAM** team of Jeanette Flaim, Antoine White, and Mike Shisler!

Enjoy the fair!
Stay healthy!

By Authority of Citizens for Mike Shisler
Joan Shisler, Treasurer

CALVERT

COUNTY FAIR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Senior Citizen & Special Needs Day: 9 am – 4 pm free admission and free bagged lunch (for Calvert Co. citizens) for seniors and special needs persons

Entertainment at various times throughout the day: Wheels of AG & Trivia Tractor • Odessey Mobile Axe Throwing & Archery • Chesapeake Blade and Tool • Rock'N Roll Pet Store • MD Agricultural Showcase Trailer • Big T (Open Mic)

- 5:00 pm Carnival Opens for Everyone (Wristband Night)
- 6:30 pm 4-H and Open Swine Show (Show Ring)
- 7:00 pm Calvert County Idol (Pavilion)
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Youth Day: Calvert County Public Schools closed - youth under 18 free until 4 pm "Canned Food to Feed the Hungry" Accepted at Gate from Youth

Entertainment at various times throughout the day: Wheels of AG & Trivia Tractor • Odessey Mobile Axe Throwing & Archery • Chesapeake Blade and Tool • Rock'N Roll Pet Store • MD Agricultural Showcase Trailer • Big T (Open Mic)

- 9:00 am 4-H and Open Goat Show (Show Ring)
- 4-H and Open Sheep Show (Show Ring)
- 6:00 pm Horse Pull
- 6:00 pm Southern Maryland Boot Scooters (Pavilion)
- 7:30 pm Frank Vieira Band and Show (2 shows)
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Entertainment at various times throughout the day: Wheels of AG & Trivia Tractor • Odessey Mobile Axe Throwing & Archery • Chesapeake Blade and Tool • Rock'N Roll Pet Store • MD Agricultural Showcase Trailer

- 9:00 am 4-H and Open Cattle Show
- 10:00 am Carnival Opens
- 1:00 pm Corn Hole Tournament
- 5:00 pm 4-H Livestock Auction Registration
- 6:00 pm 4-H Livestock Auction (Show Ring)
- 6:00 pm Southern MD Mini Pullers (Track)
- 8:00 pm Sea Deph Band and Show
- 9:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 10:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Closes for the night

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Entertainment at various times throughout the day: Wheels of AG & Trivia Tractor • Odessey Mobile Axe Throwing & Archery • Chesapeake Blade and Tool • Rock'N Roll Pet Store • MD Agricultural Showcase Trailer

- 10:00 am Fair Main Gates Open
- 10:00 am Antique Tractor Pull
- 10:30 am Calvert County Fair Children's Contest (Main Hall)
- 1:00 pm Horseshoe Pitching Contest
- 1:00 pm Chesapeake Country Cruizers (Pavilion)
- 3:00 pm 4-H and Livestock Awards Program
- 3:00 pm Music Fest Country Gentlemen Tribute Band (Pavilion)
- 5:00 pm Exhibit Buildings Close
- 6:00 pm Calvert County Fair and Carnival Officially Close for 2024

CalvertHealth to Host 15th Annual Breast Cancer 5K

CalvertHealth will hold its 15th Annual Breast Cancer 5K on Saturday, October 19 in beautiful Solomons Island. New this year, there will be a fun one-and-a-half-mile walk, which will follow along scenic Solomons Island. Proceeds from the event will benefit the CalvertHealth Cancer Center's Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care and its continued affiliation with Duke Health. Duke Health is a national leader in cancer care, opening doors to clinical trials and research for local patients close to home. The Breast Care Center was the first multidisciplinary breast center in Southern Maryland and gives local women and men access to an experienced team of breast health experts and the most sophisticated technology available today.

With higher mortality rates for breast cancer in Calvert County versus the state of Maryland and the United States, the 5K helps raise critical funds to support keeping breast care services close to home. Since the inception of the event in 2010, the 5K has raised more than \$500,000 to support the critical work of the Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care.

Foundation Board Vice Chair and 5K Committee Chair Barry Friedman said, "Last year, this 5K almost doubled what we previously raised, bringing in more than \$102,000. Together, we have an opportunity to continue to make this 5K better than the previous year! Register to walk or run with your friends, family, co-workers, classmates or neighbors and show your support. We all know someone who has been touched by breast cancer and this is our opportu-

nity to show our support for the Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care."

Race check-in begins at 7 a.m. and the program begins at 8 a.m. at the Solomons Medical Office Building located at 14090 Solomons Island Road. To take advantage of the \$40 early bird rate and a guaranteed t-shirt, participants should register by September 27. Race registration will be available for \$50 per registrant leading up to the event. All proceeds benefit the Sheldon E. Goldberg Center for Breast Care. For more information or to register, go to CalvertHealthFoundation.org/CH-5K or contact the Foundation Office at 410.414.4570.

A special thank you to this year's early sponsors: Associates in Radiation Medicine, Silva Contracting, American Radiology Services, AVIAN, Buckler Electric, Constellation/Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Asbury Solomons, Calvert Internal Medicine Group, City National Bank, Sneade's Ace Home Center, Bob Carpenter & Dr. Steve Peters, Seven Lands and Seas Travel, COA Barrett, LLC, College of Southern Maryland Alumni Association, Dickinson Jewelers, McKinstry Consulting, Sandgates Inn, Schaefer Homes, Toyota of Southern Maryland, A&W Insurance, Baxter Baker, Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, Dixie Miller and Jim Ritter in memory of Jay Sorkin and Betty Ritter, Dr. Ramona E. Crowley Goldberg in memory of Dr. Sheldon E. Goldberg, Idea Solutions, M&T Bank, SMECO, Imagine One Technology & Management and Calvert Marine Museum. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Calvert County Fair Traffic Plan



For safety purposes, a special traffic plan will be in effect throughout fair week.

No vehicles will be allowed to turn left off of Rt. 231 into the fairgrounds during operating fair hours. An alternate route would be to use Rt. 506 (Sixes Rd.) to Rt. 508 (Adelina Rd) to Rt. 231, which would allow a right turn into the fairgrounds.

Once the fairground parking lots are

full, satellite parking with a free shuttle bus service will be available at College of Southern Maryland (CSM) located at 115 J W Williams Road in Prince Frederick, from Friday thru Sunday as needed.

During rush hour traffic, limited access to the lots at the fairgrounds will be granted for a period of time to ease the flow of traffic on Rt. 231.

What's Coming to Calvert

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

1. CSPR-142881, **Prince Frederick Town Center South, Shopping Plaza**, located on South Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, on 115-acre parcel, zoned Town Center/Forest District. This project will have private water but will utilize public sewer. Proposed about 75,000 sf of commercial retail & office space with parking and site improvements. The concept submittal was accepted September 28, 2022. Agent: COA Barrett
2. CSPR-143116, **145 Adelina Business Office**, located at 145 Adelina Road, Prince Frederick, combining Parcel 120 and Parcel 250, Lot 2 for a total of 2.44 acres zoned Rural Commercial. Proposed remodeling of existing structure for use as an office and construction of a new 7,400-sf, two-story building for business-related storage with associated parking area required for the two buildings. This project will utilize private well and septic. The concept submittal was accepted December 20, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett
3. CSPR-143112, **CCIP Lot 3R**, located at 171 Skipjack Road, Prince Frederick, Lot 3R in the Calvert County Industrial Park, zoned Light Industrial. Proposed redevelopment of a portion of the 4.5-acre lot by demolishing the existing office and constructing a new two-story office building in its place. It is further proposed to repave the southern portion of the site and to construct a storage warehouse and wall to segregate parking between the storage building yard

& adjacent flex space tenants. A total of 6,524 sf of new construction with a total disturbance of 1.2-acres is proposed and the amenities will utilize public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted December 20, 2023. Agent: COA Barrett

4. CSPR-143181, **Weis Markets Store #284 Gas-N-Go**, located at 210 Village Center Drive in Lusby, MD and is zoned Lusby Town Center/Village Center District. This proposed project consists of a 6-pump fuel station associated with the existing Weis Market and a separate 3,000 gross sf retail building. Forest conservation requirements for the project parcel were satisfied at the time of subdivision via recordation of forest retention area. Domestic water, fire protection service and sewerage will tie to the existing public systems. Parking requirements are proposed to be satisfied utilizing 272 existing spaces to remain, 6 proposed spaces and a shared parking reduction factor of 1.2. The concept submittal was accepted June 26, 2024. Agent: COA Barrett
5. CSPR-143186, **CCIP Lot 37 – Flex Space**, located at 5241 Cutter Court, Prince Frederick, Lot 37 in the Calvert County Industrial Park, zoned Light Industrial. Proposed development of 34,000 sf flex space comprised of fourteen tenant spaces with disturbed acreage of 2.75 acres. The amenities will utilize public water and sewer. The concept submittal was accepted August 28, 2024. Agent: COA Barrett.

No major subdivisions are currently under review for Planning Commission consideration. Please check next month's agenda for any new additions to this list.

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

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CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of September 9, 2024 – September 15, 2024, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,974 calls for service throughout the community including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 92
- Disorderly: 25
- Domestic: 21
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 41
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 873
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 35
- Traffic Complaints: 74
- 911 Hang-Ups: 55
- ARRESTS: 41

Damaged Property: 24-69870 On September 9, 2024, Deputy Baxter responded to the 500 block of Durango Road in Lusby, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised that sometime during the early morning an unknown suspect(s) shattered the victim's vehicle window. The estimated value of damaged property is \$300.



Mark Johan Bysheim

Indecent Exposure: 24-69810 On September 9, 2024, DFC R. Jones responded to the Exxon located at 11805 HG Trueman Rd in Lusby, for the report of an indecent exposure.

The complainant advised a white male was seen touching and exposing himself behind a dumpster. Upon arrival, contact was made with **Mark Johan Bysheim**, 65 of no fixed address, who admitted to the act. Bysheim was transported to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and charged with Indecent Exposure.



Frederick Alric Echols

sweatshirt, black pants, and a beanie walked out of the store passing all points of sale with multiple items. The suspect was later identified as **Frederick Alric Echols**, 54 of La Plata. Echols was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Theft less than \$100 Shoplifting. The estimated value of stolen property is \$28.55.



Mike Jerome Mobley

Trespassing: 24-69972 On September 10, 2024, DFC Idol responded to Calvert Health Medical Center located at 100 Hospital Rd in Prince Frederick, for the report of trespassing. Investigation revealed **Mike Jerome Mobley**, 58 of Laurel, was advised by hospital security to leave the property after attempting to assault the staff and his disorderly conduct. Mobley refused to comply and was found sleeping on a curb in the parking lot. Mobley was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Failure to Obey a Reasonable/ Lawful Order and Trespassing at a Public Agency During Hours.

Theft: 24-69916 On August 9, 2024, DFC Huy responded to the Dunkirk Walmart located at 10600 Town Center Blvd in Dunkirk, for the report of a theft.

The complainant advised a black male wearing a gray

Trespassing: 24-70356 On September 11, 2024, Cpl. Durner responded to the parking lot of Patuxent Plaza in Solomons, for the report of trespassing. Upon arrival, contact was made with a **Mark Johan Bysheim**, 65 of no fixed address. Bysheim had thrown trash all over the parking lot and was harassing customers outside the 7-11. Bysheim had been previously trespassed from the property. Bysheim was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Trespassing: Private Property.



Deborah Thelma Covert

Disorderly Conduct: 24-70543 On September 11, 2024, DFC Ostazeski responded to the area of Chesapeake Avenue and Highland Terrace in St. Leonard, for the report of a disorderly subject. Upon arrival, contact was made with **Deborah Thelma Covert**, 71 of St. Leonard. Covert made multiple loud statements to dismiss deputy's orders while neighbors looked on. Covert was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Failure to Obey a Reasonable/ Lawful order of a Law Enforcement Officer and Disorderly Conduct.

Theft: 24-70734 On September 12, 2024, Deputy Morrison responded to the 2800 block of McDuff Drive in Chesapeake Beach, for report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime between 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. an unknown suspect(s) stole the front and rear license plates off a vehicle while parked in the Sunderland Park and Ride located at 6400 Solomons Island Road in Sunderland. The estimated value of stolen property is \$40.

Indecent Exposure: 24-71003 On September 13, 2024, Deputy Parrott responded to the roundabout located off Southern Connector Blvd in Lusby, for the report of an indecent exposure. Investigation revealed multiple calls were received regarding a male exposing himself. Contact was made with **Mark Johan Bysheim**, 65 of no fixed address, who admitted to the act. Bysheim was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with Indecent Exposure.

Theft: 24-71310 On September 14, 2024, Deputy Campbell responded to 200 block of Stafford Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised sometime around 10:30 p.m. on September 12, an unknown subject(s) damaged the victim's mailbox beyond repair and damaged two vehicles on the property as well as the screen door to the residence. A Strong Way fan was stolen from the porch. The estimated value of damaged property is \$595. The estimated value of stolen property is \$549.

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

Calvert K9s Receive Armored Vests



K9 officers Zeus (L) and Rex (R) in their new tactical armored vests



Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit has received two Tactical Armored K9 Vests designed to enhance the safety and protection of our dedicated working dogs, Rex and Zeus. These vests will provide our K9 officers with crucial defense as they serve alongside our deputies in high-risk situations, ensuring they remain safe

while protecting our community.

Our K9 teams play a vital role in keeping Calvert County safe, and this generous donation will further their ability to perform their duties with confidence and security.

From all of us at the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, we extend a heartfelt thank you to the donor for this incredible act of kindness and support.

Deputies Recognized During Respect for Law Ceremony



The Optimist Clubs of Calvert held their 56th Annual Respect for Law Awards Banquet on September 16, 2024, honoring seven members of law enforcement. Congratulations to this year's honorees (pictured l-r): Animal Control Officer Hannah Neel, Public Safety Dispatcher II Christina Havey-Santivasci with Calvert Emergency Communications, Trooper First Class Robert "Bob" Kreczmer with the Maryland State Police - Prince Frederick Barrack "U", Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputy First Class Kamrhen Parks, Master Deputy Ronald Richardson with the Calvert County Detention Center, Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police Corporal Jason Kreider, and Assistant State's Attorney Anthony R. Navalaney

Local Bidding Preference Approved

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on Sept. 24 formally adopted an ordinance that gives a five percent bid preference to local businesses. The ordinance becomes effective on Oct. 1.

The approval came two weeks after a public hearing and follows authority for the local preference having been granted by the Maryland General Assembly during their 2024 session.

Director of Finance and Budget Bruce Miller explained, "In 2018, the BOCC requested and was given authority to apply a reciprocal preference when awarding contracts. The reciprocal preference requires that the county 'give a preference to a resident bidder over a nonresident bidder that is equal to the preference given by the county or state in which the nonresident bidder has its principal office to bidders that have a principal office in that county or state.' The reciprocal preference is intended to help a Calvert County business that is being penalized for being a Calvert County business where the lowest bidder on a Calvert County job enjoys a local preference in its home jurisdiction.

"An analysis of Calvert County's procurement activities from 2022 to 2024 shows that, despite the reciprocal preference, nonresident businesses prevail over local in both participation and amount awarded. Combining local preference policies with reciprocal preference considerations could help to level the field for local businesses, ensuring they have a fair chance in the competitive bidding process. Therefore, the BOCC undertook a multi-year campaign, and, with the support of our community and the county's senators and

delegation, will have on October 1, 2024, authority to implement a local preference in procurement bidding.

"The adopted public local law defines a local business as one with its 'Principal Office' in Calvert County. The 'Principal Office' is where the '...principal executive office of a domestic or foreign corporation is located and that is designated in the annual report or application for authority to transact business in the state'."

Deputy County Administrator Linda Turner, Economic Development Director, Julie Oberg, and Miller gathered subject matter experts from the community to develop a draft ordinance to implement the county's new authority. Miller said, "These community leaders and experts in their fields considered many factors, including balancing taxpayer burden with higher pricing, and taxpayer benefit of money originating in the county staying in Calvert County. They also had to consider the potential that other jurisdictions have their own reciprocal preference, which means that a Calvert County business would be penalized when applying to do work in a different county because Calvert has a local preference."

Regarding the fiscal impact of a local preference policy, Miller said, "Any higher cost should be returned in personal property and income taxes from enhanced revenues for local businesses."

Miller said the new policy has some exclusions. They are:

- Federal or state law, grant agreements, sub-recipient agreements, or other funding mechanism supporting the solicitation that precludes the offer of a local bid preference;
- When piggybacking other jurisdiction's competitively bid contracts;

- Purchases under cooperative agreements;
- Procurement has exercised any discretion afforded by Title 6 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Calvert County, Maryland to waive competitive bidding requirements in the following situations:
 - » Where it can be demonstrated that the requiring department could not have foreseen the required purchase in sufficient time for normal purchasing procedures to be used;
 - » Emergency Purchases, where life is in imminent peril and likely will be endangered, or property will be destroyed, or considerable costs will be incurred because of events beyond the control of the department if the procurement is not completed without delay; and
 - » At the direction of the County Administrator when other overriding factors warrant an exception.

Commissioner Mike Hart said, "The intent is to help local business because we understand the value of what it brings to lose contracts."

Hart added, "I truly believe we're rowing the right way this time. I really think we got everybody on board. And like I say, it might not be perfect, we might have to tweak it along the way, but I think we're finally, finally going the right way."

Commissioner President Buddy Hance added, "Studies have shown that 80 cents out of every dollar that's spent in a local business stays in that local community. So, we have had comments and emails come in opposing this. How can you spend more than you need to? You should never accept anything other than the lowest bidder. But we're talking about very small amounts of money.

And to see that little bit of money spent to support our local community and our local businesses, to us is well worth any pennies."

Miller noted, "Not only does the money stay, but there's what's called the multiplier effect that actually multiplies in value. So, by the time it goes through all the different vendors, that purchasing power just continues to grow and grow."

Miller said the next steps were:

"Support for resident bidders:

- Offer workshops and resources to help local businesses improve their bid proposals and better understand the competitive landscape could help increase their success rates.

- Set annual outreach goals with various training and workshop methods.

He also said to set stretch goals for resident bidders to include:

- Increase the number of bids received from resident bidders.
- Encourage repeat participation from resident bidders—historical data shows a low percentage of resident bidders that continue to participate.
- Aim to reduce non-resident bid amounts by 10 percent through local preference and reciprocal bidding opportunities."

Miller noted, "Recognizing that this is our first attempt at using this new tool to put the public money to work locally, staff should be prepared to report outcomes and experiences shared with them from the community, and take a directive to return to the Board of County Commissioners periodically for the Board to determine if adjustments are necessary to attain the goals of the local preference program."

dickmyers@countytimes.net



Letters to the Editor

'We stand united'

Dear Residents of Lusby,

We are Save Lusby, Inc, a volunteer, non-profit advocacy group for Lusby Maryland. We stand united in our efforts to prevent the construction of large-scale apartment developments that threatens our environment, infrastructure and quality of life.

At a Town Hall held on July 9th, the citizens of Lusby came out in droves to express their deep concerns about the impact of the then proposed Lusby Villas project would have on our infrastructure, schools, traffic, and essential services like our volunteer fire-fighters and local law enforcement. Despite our public outcry, we were IGNORED by 4 members of the Calvert County Planning Commission who, on August 21st, voted to approve and proceed with this questionably orchestrated project.

We, citizens, are not going to take this flagrant abuse of power lying down! To help protect you, your family, your children and your community, legal counsel has been retained and a petition for judicial review of the Calvert County Planning Commission's

final decision to approve the Lusby Villas project has been filed in the Circuit Court for Calvert County, Maryland.

The fight is just getting started folks. If we're going to stop this, we are going to have to band together as a community and show the Calvert County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners that WE ARE TO BE HEARD!

To support our efforts, a Facebook page, *Save Lusby, Inc. has been created to keep our community informed of all developments as this fight progresses. Additionally, we have launched a GoFundMe page to raise funds for legal fees needed to challenge this development and ensure proper accountability. I urge you to support Save Lusby, Inc. in taking legal action to demand accountability and stop the overdevelopment of our cherished community. Together, we can make a difference and preserve the integrity of Lusby for future generations.

Sean McGuire, President
Save Lusby, Inc.

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Mahoney Blasts School Board for Tennis Courts Closure

By Dick Mers
Staff Writer

Chesapeake Beach Mayor Pat Mahoney has chided the Calvert County Board of Education for shuttering the tennis courts at the new Beach Elementary School. And school system staff have pointed the blame at the county.

Mahoney, at the Sept. 19 school board meeting, said, "I'm here today because I am mad as hell over how the Board of Education is treating the good citizens of Chesapeake Beach, the grandmoms, moms, and children who enjoy tennis. In 2017, I was invited by the Board of Education and joined the Beach Elementary Education Specs Committee. My role was to ensure local community buy-in. During the stressful, noisy construction stage, I delivered as mayor. I was ensured that the construction of the tennis court would remain available to our citizenry."

"The tennis courts are a condition of the approval of the site plan and variance requests granted by the town of Chesapeake Beach to the board, an approval needed to construct the new Beach Elementary School. The BOE agreed to this."

"We have been wonderful, obliging partners. Well, guess what? In the dark of night, the BOE boarded up the tennis courts without informing the town and without even owning up to it until we spent weeks of

probing. The board has not been good partners. You got what you wanted, and it's high time for this board to step up and deliver on your promises."

Mahoney added, "As the mayor of close to 7,000 residents in Chesapeake Beach, I insist that the Board of Education return the Beach Elementary School tennis courts back to the public. I insist that the board take action to prepare the courts and remove the boards blocking the entrance to a taxpayer funded recreational asset to our community. If the board is not positioned to do this, then I insist that the board deed the land to the county or the town, so the repairs can be made and the tennis courts can be returned to the public. As you're aware, the courts are owned by and are the responsibility of the Board of Education. The courts cannot be disregarded, boarded up in a visible sign of neglect by the board."

"President (Antoine) White, your campaign signs are right across the street from the tennis courts that you boarded up."

Director of Planning and Construction Shuchita Warner said, "They were shown as existing tennis courts at the time that we were going before the town to get approvals of the site plan. Our intention was, as in years past, to secure funds through the county government to get repairs done to the tennis courts because it had been paid for that way at least two other times before. However, the

county government was not really interested in paying for repairs because they have other facilities in the area at this point."

She said the courts are now unsafe to play on.

Warner said she reached out to the town to see if they would be interested in an agreement, but the town balked at the condition the courts could only be used when school was out.

She said, "It would have to be a board decision if we were to change the parameters...and allow outsiders to come on our property during school hours."

Warner said one option would be to turn the courts over to the county, and they could give them to the town. She added, "But we would also have to take a look at all of the improvements that we made around the tennis court, as in sidewalks. We did a lot of work that the town had requested. We put in sidewalks, we put in a water line in the street where it was originally shown on our property. We included an asphalt walkway to Fishing Creek. These were improvements of about \$200,000 that we made as part of this project at the towns request. So, certainly in terms of money to be able to repair these courts, obviously we're in a fiscal crunch. The courts don't have any kind of benefit directly to our elementary school students. So perhaps the best option is for us to consider, carving out that land, but we



Chesapeake Beach Mayor Pat Mahoney

would have to look to see if potentially the state government might want to get some of the funds back that they have put towards the project."

Nothing was decided at the meeting other than to set up a meeting to try to resolve the issue. Board Vice Chair Inez Claggett said it should be explained to the town that the shuttering of the courts was not necessarily done with the knowledge of the board.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

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Commissioners Send Missive to Governor

The following is a copy of a letter sent to Gov. Wes Moore by the county commissioners regarding local school funding.

Dear Governor Moore,

The State of Maryland reduced funding to Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) in the amount of \$22,457,474 due to the end of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements with both Constellation Energy Generation's Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant and BHE GT&S's Cove Point LNG.

The end of these agreements caused an unrealistic wealth assessment for Calvert County which skewed the results of the State of Maryland's funding formula for CCPS. Going into FY25, the Board of County Commissioners was facing a difficult budget year which forced us to reduce spending across all program areas and hold the local contribution to CCPS at Maintenance of Effort (MOE).

We received the final State Aid calculations from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in May 2024. We began discussions with CCPS and the Calvert County Board of Education immediately to strategize on how CCPS could absorb the State's reduction in funding with the least impact to the staff and students and allow CCPS to fund the state-mandates

for the Blueprint for Maryland's future. We delayed almost all County Capital Improvement Projects for several years and looked at local tax increases to bridge the funding gap. When we were notified of pending staff layoffs by CCPS, we scheduled an emergency meeting where we provided additional funding to CCPS for a total of \$164.7 million for FY25 from Calvert County's fund balance and directed CCPS to use their fund balance to cover the remaining deficit. To balance our local budget, we were forced to increase local real property and income taxes.

We are pleased to report that negotiations are now complete and new PILOT agreements are in place for both facilities effective July 1, 2023. Cove Point LNG's new agreement is in effect through June 30, 2039, and Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant's new agreement is in effect through June 30, 2027. We were also pleased to see that the State of Maryland realized a surplus from last fiscal year with approximately \$479 million in uncommitted surplus. We formally request the State use part of the uncommitted surplus to return the \$22.5 million in funding to Calvert County Public Schools for FY25 now that the PILOT agreements have been restored.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

School Cell Phone Policy Lauded

Concerns Raised About Vaping

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The policy banning cell phone use in classrooms is receiving high marks, based on comments at the Sept. 19 Calvert County Board of Education meeting.

Student Member of the Board Grace Minakowski said, in feedback she received from her recent student advisory council meetings, “Many students share their feelings of increased social interaction and focus, both inside and outside the classroom, with our new cell phone policy. This policy has exponentially improved relationships between students and reduced feelings of pressure to pull the phones out. And on a personal level, I can say that it has been amazing for my learning and for my friends.”

Minakowski also reported her peers’ concerns about school vandalism and vaping, which she said “has been a growing distraction to the school environment, especially among high schoolers. They shared that bathrooms were basically flooded with people to where no one could really use the bathroom. And the challenge was compounded as students had to use the bathroom during class time, but these bathrooms ended up being closed.”

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Andraé

Townsel talked about his beginning of school year “code of conduct tour.” He said, “We held assemblies at every school to talk about the new policies we have in place, specifically dress code policy, electronics policy, cell phone policy, and I personally, presented at every high school, every grade level at many of our middle schools. And I’m very excited to hear about the changes to the climate and culture.”

Regarding the students’ concerns, he said, “We will get on top of that and ensure that we are going to address that.”

Townsel added, “Sheriff Cox and I are continuing our safety walks. Today, we had the opportunity to walk across Northern High School, and we will hit every school, each month, every high school randomly. He and I will appear at any school and just do our walkthroughs to ensure safety and security, just to be proactive and to add value to what we already do, for example, when we have our K-9 searches. So, we’re just being visible, vocal, and vigilant about the safety of our young students.”

Board member Lisa Grenis said, “I would like to thank the parents and teachers who have reached out to me regarding the new cell phone policy. I have received several positive comments. This teacher summed it up best: ‘My students are listening, engag-

ing with their peers and teachers, talking to each other, looking at each other when communicating and learning.’ I’d like to thank Dr. Townsel and his team for the awesome job they did, launching this new policy.”

Board member Jana Post quipped about cell phones, “I purposely did not tell my kids about that policy, because I just knew what was going to happen. And they came home after the first day of school and they blamed it all on Mrs. Grenis, (who spearheaded the anti-cell phone initiative). So, I did tell them that it was her fault, and I’m sticking with that.”

She added, “In all seriousness, they’re surviving and I have four, just like all the rest of them. And I think that it is better. I think our entire student body is better off without those devices. They are a huge distraction.”

Board member Dawn Balinski said, “When our own student member of the board says that it has exponentially improved the learning environment, oh my gosh, it’s wonderful. I know it’s not an end all, but at least there’s so much less distraction.”

Board Vice President Inez Claggett said about vaping, “We did change the code of conduct, and removed cell phones from school. Vape devices are also not allowed in school. But I would ask that our parents and our community work with us just as



Student Member of the Board Grace Minakowski

they have done with the cell phone policy to assure that their child is not bringing those devices into the school building. They do hinder the learning environment for other students who are in the building who may not use those devices.”

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Planner Criticizes South County Industrial Zoning

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

A member of the Calvert County Planning Commission has criticized a proposal to rezone eight parcels of land in south county to heavy industrial. Most of the parcels are near the county landfill, although one is owned by the operator of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant.

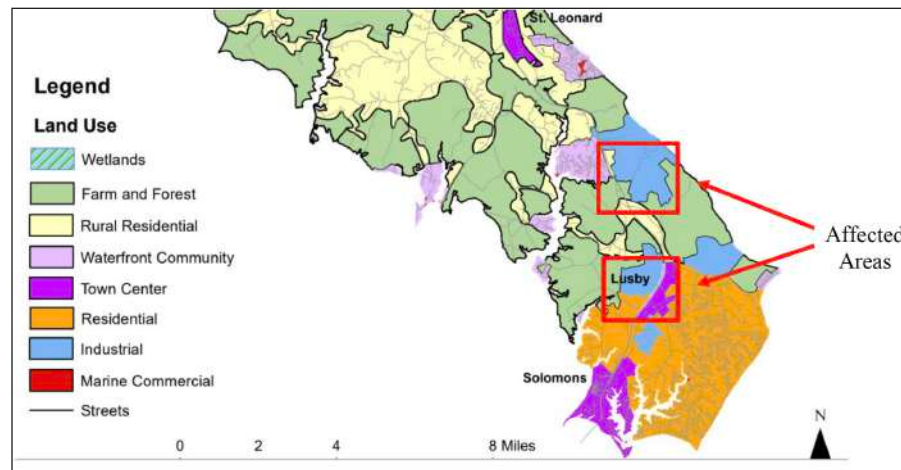
Commission member James McQueen made the comments at the Sept. 17 commission meeting. He said, “Everything gets stuck in the south and now you’re adding heavy industrial in the south. There’s so much more room in this Calvert County. Why don’t you just move it up a little bit further north and take that farmland and take that out land?”

He added, “All we’re doing is putting everything heavy and industrial in the south, which also happens to be one of the most widely used waterway areas. We’re just talking about more pollution.”

It was suggested that the largely vacant Patuxent Business Park be used for heavy industrial, but the commission was told that wasn’t possible because of the state’s involvement in funding that.

Long Range Planner Tay Harris explained the reasoning by the commissioners for the industrial zoning was “to potentially increase the tax base by encouraging businesses that bring little traffic and bring jobs to the county.”

As to what the new zoning will allow, she



Map showing location of the proposed heavy industrial zoning

said, “So that’ll be coming forth in the zoning ordinance, many different uses. We had received some comments during the zoning ordinance update that people weren’t happy about allowing asphalt plants, things like that. And so that’s going to be a topic of discussion of whether or not we’re going to keep that. But right now, today, we only have light industrial.”

The proposal is part of a package of three changes as part of the zoning ordinance update. The others would eliminate the town center architectural review boards and cap zoning in town centers to four units per acre.

She explained, “On May 21, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) directed the Department of Planning and Zoning (P&Z) to eliminate the Architectural

Review Committees (ARCs) for the county’s seven Town Centers. The intent of the BOCC is to streamline the development review process by allowing staff to perform administrative review in accordance with each Town Center’s Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.”

She further noted, “On August 20, 2024, as part of the Calvert County Zoning Ordinance Update, the BOCC directed P&Z staff to allow a maximum of no more than four units per acre in Town Centers, unless the current allowable density is less than four units per acre.”

Regarding the eight parcels subject to change, she said, “These parcels are currently zoned Industrial-1 District (I-1), Rural Community District (RCD), or Farm and

Forest District (FFD). The change would rezone these parcels as Heavy Industrial District (I-2).”

One of the parcels is the land owned by the county that was donated by Dominion for a new park. Director of Planning and Zoning Mary Beth Cook said the regulations would be changed to allow parks in heavy industrial zones.

The eight parcels proposed for change are at:

- 10475 Solomons Island Road
- Camp Convoy Road
- 401 Sweetwater Road
- 750 Sweetwater Road
- 700 Sweetwater Road
- 600 Sweetwater Road
- 10485 S Solomons Island Road
- 10495 Solomons Island Road

Planning & Zoning is distributing the proposed amendments to relevant agencies and neighboring jurisdictions for review for a 60-day comment period. This action complies with the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires notification at least 60 days before the public hearing. Public hearings are scheduled for the following dates:

- Nov. 20, 2024: Planning Commission public hearing
 - Dec. 10, 2024: Board of County Commissioners public hearing
- These dates are subject to change.

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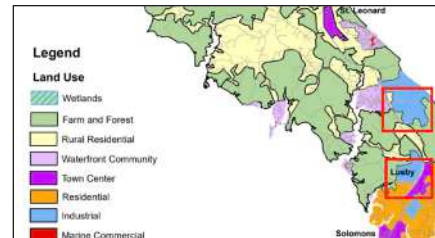
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“EVERYTHING GETS STUCK IN THE SOUTH.”

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER JAMES MCQUEEN ON PROPOSED HEAVY INDUSTRIAL ZONING.



LOCAL
South county zoning criticized



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Calvert prepares to celebrate the fall



LOCAL
Chesapeake Beach tennis courts shuttered

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, SEP 26	FRI, SEP 27	SAT, SEP 28	SUN, SEP 29
 Cloudy Hi: 79° Lo: 70°	 Showers Hi: 76° Lo: 70°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 80° Lo: 67°	 Showers Hi: 73° Lo: 64°
MON, SEP 30	TUE, OCT 1	WED, OCT 2	THU, OCT 3
 Rain Hi: 70° Lo: 64°	 Showers Hi: 74° Lo: 60°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 71° Lo: 54°	 Sunny Hi: 70° Lo: 56°



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Support this year's 5K alongside friends, family and community members.

We are striving to make this year's event our most successful 5K yet, so don't miss out on the inspiration and fun.

5K Run/Walk: \$40 (before Oct. 13)

NEW! Fun Walk (about 1.5 mile loop!): \$40 (before Oct. 13)

Day of Race Registration: \$50

Tribute Signs: \$50- Make your race more personal! With your tribute gift, we will place a memorial or honorary tribute along the race path for others to see along the way. Celebrate a loved one's survivorship or recognize someone currently undergoing treatment.



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