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Calvert County Times

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

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**Democrat Files for
Senate Seat**

**SMADC Offers
Fund Matching**

**County Launches
Shop Small Campaign**



COUNTY GOVERNMENT MOVES TO NEW ADMIN BUILDING

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“THIS MOVE CONSOLIDATES MANY COUNTY SERVICES INTO A SINGLE... CONVENIENT LOCATION.”

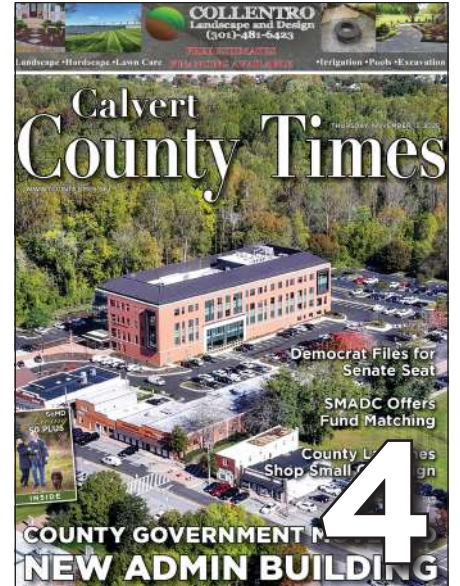
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR LINDA TURNER ON NEW COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



LOCAL 6
Navy vet, former civil servant files for Senate



COMMUNITY 8
Sheriff's Office kicks off Angel Tree program



ON THE COVER
County government begins move to new administration building

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, NOV 13	FRI, NOV 14	SAT, NOV 15	SUN, NOV 16
Sunny Hi: 59° Lo: 37°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 59° Lo: 39°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 62° Lo: 54°	AM Showers Hi: 65° Lo: 41°
MON, NOV 17	TUE, NOV 18	WED, NOV 19	THU, NOV 20
Sunny Hi: 54° Lo: 39°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 52° Lo: 40°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 54° Lo: 42°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 55° Lo: 46°



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Move to New Administration Building Begins

Commissioners Hold First Meeting There on Nov. 18

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

After years of discussion about what to do, and two years of banging nails and laying sheetrock and shingles, the new Calvert County Administration Building (CAB) is methodically opening for business. The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will be holding their first meeting in the building on Nov. 18 on the first floor, in a meeting room which seats 228 people, far larger than the current one in the courthouse.

The commissioners will be sharing the first floor of the new building with the Treasurer's Office, which will relocate from the courthouse in December or January.

The new building was accelerated at the request of the members of the county's judiciary, who were desperate for additional space in the courthouse. The commissioners' office was the first to move to turn over their space in the courthouse to the judges.

Two commissioner boards ago, the new building was targeted for the site of the old National Guard Armory. But a new board, led by Commissioner Buddy Hance, pivoted to using the site of the County Services Plaza, a smaller building that housed several agencies. That building was demolished in 2021 to make way for the new building. It was built in the 1970s.

The new County Administration Building is 103,000 square feet and four stories. According to information supplied by county government at the request of The County Times, "This new building consolidates county employees from multiple locations, including the County Services Plaza, Courthouse Annex, Albright Building, 131 Main Street, 30 Duke Street and the Circuit Courthouse."

The CAB's second floor houses Communications and Media Relations, Economic Development, Technology Services, the county administrator's office, and the county attorney's office. On the third floor reside Planning & Zoning, Inspections and Permits, Human Resources, and the Environmental Health division of the Calvert County Health Department. On the fourth floor are Public Works, Finance & Budget, and Soil Conservation.



"Following the demolition of the old County Services Plaza in 2021, construction on the CAB began in September 2023 and final closeout work is now being completed," the county says.

The project cost was \$40 million, paid with general obligation bonds. The main contractor on the project is Forrester Construction of Rockville.

When guests arrive at the main entrance, they will see a set of glass double doors. Entry is through the right-side set of doors, while exiting is through the left set of doors. Upon entering the building, visitors will pass through security by the Calvert County Sheriff's Office deputies into the lobby.

"We are delighted to welcome residents and the community to the new County Administration Building, a centralized location for county services. This move consolidates many county services into a single modern, centralized and convenient location in the county seat of Prince Frederick," said County Administrator Linda Turner.

The new County Administration Building is at 150 Main Street in Prince Frederick. The Nov. 18 meeting will be in the Chesapeake Hearing Room, Room 119. The Calvert County Commissioners held their last meeting at the Calvert County Courthouse on Oct. 28, where many boards have been meeting since the current building opened in 1916.

According to a press release, "The public is invited to attend the Nov. 18 meeting. Meetings will continue to be available at Calvert County Government's YouTube page. The public can also listen to commissioner meetings via telephone by calling 929-229-2458, meeting ID: 202-970-551, passcode #. Meetings can also be watched live on Channel 99 and 1070.

In conjunction with the move into the new building, the Calvert County Department of Public Works, General Services Division, announces that document drop boxes for

several county departments have been relocated from 205 Main St. (Courthouse Square) to the new CAB.

Drop boxes (blue boxes) for the following departments are now available in the CAB parking lot, near the building's loading dock on the northeast corner of the building:

- Public Works (Public Works agreements and other related documents)
- Environmental Health (permit applications and forms)
- Planning & Zoning (permit submissions and documents)

Residents who previously used these drop boxes should now begin using the new location. The former drop boxes at 205 Main St. have been permanently removed.

Drop boxes are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The drop boxes at the 175 Main St. will remain and should be used for the Treasurer's Office until further notice.

For questions, contact General Services at 410-535-1600, ext. 2327, or by email at GenSvcs@calvertcountymd.gov.

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

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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CALVERT COUNTY INFORMATION & EVENTS

Calvert County Government will be responsible and accountable to all citizens of Calvert County; provide high quality, effective and efficient services; preserve Calvert County's environment, heritage and rural character; foster opportunities for responsible and sustainable residential growth and economic development; and support Calvert County's essential institutions and keep them strong.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and subject to change. Watch here: [YouTube](#) | [Meetings on Demand](#) | Comcast channel 99 or 1070 HD

Board of County Commissioners Meeting

Next meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025, 10 a.m.
Commissioners' Hearing Room, 150 Main St., Prince Frederick

Boards and Commissions Meetings

Meetings are held via Teams unless otherwise noted.
Meeting IDs and passwords are available at [calvertcountymd.gov](#).

Animal Matters Hearing Board Regular (Open) Meeting

Nov. 12 2025, 5:30 p.m.
Calvert County Animal Shelter
5055 Hallowing Point Road, Prince Frederick

Historic District Commission Meeting

Nov. 12 2025, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Community Resources Building, 30 Duke St., Prince Frederick

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Meeting

Nov. 12 2025, 7-8:30 p.m.
St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 105 Vianney Lane, Prince Frederick

Calvert-St. Mary's Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting

Nov. 17 2025, 11 a.m.
Calvert Marine Museum's Waterfront Lounge
14200 Solomons Island Road S., Solomons



Free Paper Shredding Event

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Huntingtown High School
4125 Solomons Island Road, Huntingtown



Cove Point Park Playground



Calvert County Parks & Recreation is gathering feedback for the **new Cove Point Park Playground!**



Share your feedback by taking the survey, open now through Nov. 19.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Build your career close to home with Calvert County Government! We offer a wide range of career opportunities, competitive benefits and the chance to make a difference in your community.

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Thanks for Giving Me a Home!

Celebrate National Adopt a Senior Pet Month from Nov. 1-30

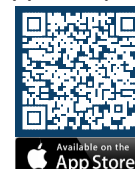
Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter

In honor of National Adopt a Senior Pet Month and Thanksgiving, all adoption fees will be waived from Nov. 1-30. Animals of all ages and personalities are available for adoption, but fees are waived for those 8 years and older.



Stay in the know with the Calvert County mobile app!

Get instant notifications about holiday closures and schedule changes at county facilities. Download the app today and never miss an update.



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Register by Dec. 1 for the CALVERT COUNTY HOLIDAY PARADE

The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation is now accepting entries for the 2025 Calvert County Christmas Parade held on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to noon in downtown Prince Frederick.



Calvert County Government has now settled into the new Calvert Administration Building (CAB) at 150 Main St., Prince Frederick.

The CAB is currently open to the public by appointment only.



Help Shape the Future of Parks & Recreation!

Take the survey now through Jan. 31, 2026 to share what matters most to you!

Want to learn more about what you see here? For details on everything featured this week, visit

calvertcountymd.gov/CountyTimes



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Matching Funds Available for New, Expanding Farms

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, is excited to announce the 13th Round of the Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program.

This program will award up to \$60,000 in matching funds to help both new and experienced farmers start, diversify, or expand their agricultural projects.

Applications are now open and will close on Wednesday, December 31st.

Applications for the mini-grants offer awards of up to \$3,000 per farmer and require a one-to-one dollar match. These grants are specifically designed to assist new and beginning farmers with small start-up projects, as well as to help experienced farmers (both urban and rural) diversify or expand their current agricultural businesses. All funded projects must be simple in scope and be completed within one year.

Grant funds can be used for a wide range of needs, including:

- Equipment and services to transition a farm's sales strategy (e.g., online

sales, home delivery, on-farm sales).

- Purchasing foundation livestock and plant stock.
- Marketing and promotion of current farm operations.
- New fencing for enhancement, expansion, or protection.
- Hoop houses and materials for value-added food production.
- On-farm upgrades to enhance food safety, packing, and production, including freezers and refrigeration.

Since its establishment in 2016, the Farmer Mini-Grant Program has funded 208 applications, awarding a total of \$361,763 to Southern Maryland farms.

Full details on the SMADC Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program, including Round 13 Criteria, Guidelines, Eligibility, and access to the online application, are available on the SMADC website at www.SMADC.com under the "Farmer Resources" section on the Mini-Grants information page.

Press Release from SMADC

County Seeks Volunteer Grant Reviewers

The Calvert County Department of Community Resources is seeking volunteers to serve as community reviewers for the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (CRRF) grant awards.

This short-term volunteer opportunity supports equitable investment in community programs and services in Prince Frederick and Lusby.

Reviewers will independently evaluate grant applications using a scoring rubric. Scores and feedback will help inform award recommendations. Financial and eligibility reviews will be completed separately by county staff.

This commitment requires approximately five hours total, completed at your own pace between Nov. 17 and Nov. 30. A brief training session and all necessary materials will be provided.

Community members who live or work

in Calvert County, especially in Prince Frederick or Lusby, and who are committed to fairness, equity and transparency, and interested in making a positive impact on their community, are encouraged to apply.

Applicants should include:

- Individuals who can review information objectively and consistently
- Outcome-focused and detail-oriented people
- Individuals with experience in one of the priority funding areas

To apply complete the reviewer sign-up form at www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/CRRF.

For questions, contact the Department of Community Resources at 410-535-1600, ext. 8803, or email community.grants@calvertcountymd.gov.

Press release from Calvert County Government

New Three-Way Stop in Prince Frederick

The Calvert County Department of Public Works advises motorists that a new three-way stop has been installed at the intersection of Armory Road and Armory Square near the new shopping center in Prince Frederick.

The change, implemented to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety in the area, introduces a new stop sign for drivers traveling along Armory Road.

Motorists are advised to use caution,

obey all posted signage and be alert to the updated traffic pattern.

To help alert drivers, "New Traffic Pattern Ahead" signs have been posted at the site and will remain in place while motorists adjust to the new stop.

Press Release from Calvert County Government

Democrat Files for District 29 Senate Seat

Chuck Borges has filed his candidacy as a Democrat for the District 29 (St. Mary's/Calvert) Maryland Senate seat currently held by Republican Jack Bailey, who has filed for re-election.

Borges issued the following statement: "I'm a retired Naval officer, decorated combat veteran, and former civil servant at agencies including the CDC and Social Security. I spent nearly 23 years in the Navy and much of the past five years in civil service in the technology sector.

"I have dedicated my life to either defending the public or finding solutions to its most pressing problems, and I'm writing to you to announce my candidacy for the Maryland District 29 State Senate seat.

"My father was an Air Force enlisted soldier turned FAA Air Traffic Controller, so I experienced first-hand how government decisions can impact a family's livelihood during the PATCO strike in 1981. We moved to rural upstate New York following the strike due to the lower cost of living, and we learned hard lessons about affordability and community.

"I went to MIT on a Navy ROTC scholarship, was on deployment during 9/11, and was awarded a 'Combat V' for individual action in Iraq.

"I moved to Southern Maryland in 2005 to attend Test Pilot's School and (apart from military contingencies) have made this area my home here ever since.

"Our region's rural entrepreneurship brings back fond memories of my roots, while our tech savvy shows an area poised to lead the nation in new technology areas.

"After Test Pilot's School, I served as NAVAIR's Chief Data Officer and worked to keep our sailors safe using data innovation. I started my civil service career as a Presidential Innovation Fellow at the CDC during COVID, working to help agencies respond faster to public health challenges. In my last civil service job, I stood up to DOGE to protect the public's most sensitive data. Protecting the public is our most sacred trust.

"Now I'm looking forward to drawing on my experiences in modern technology and innovation to accelerate solutions that provide affordable housing, reduce medical



Chuck Borges

costs, improve outcomes for our agricultural sector, protect our biodiversity, and improve food security.

"With the challenges our country faces today, we need strong, vibrant, and sustainable community growth to thrive. This means ensuring that we provide our agricultural community with the tools and resources they need to be successful, that our residents have training and job prospects to provide them security and safety, and that we understand how to attract new industry and jobs to the region.

"As the State Senator representing St. Mary's and southern Calvert County, I will champion state policies that incentivize local sustainability and growth while protecting our agricultural development and biodiversity.

"Service to my country, making an impact in the lives of others, and ensuring everyone has equitable opportunities to learn, live, and grow have been the guiding principles of my life. I am honored to have the opportunity to earn your vote, and I hope to be able to learn from each of you over the course of this campaign. Together we can build policies that strengthen and support us all."

"To learn more about Chuck's campaign, visit his website at www.chuck4md.com or find him across social media at Chuck4MD."

County Launches Shop Small Campaign

This holiday season, the Department of Economic Development is celebrating Calvert County's small businesses with its Shop Small Y'all campaign. Local businesses are invited to share their holiday deals and promotions on the Shop Small Y'all webpage which will be promoted through radio, social media and digital ads, giving participating businesses added visibility.

To be considered for inclusion, businesses are encouraged to complete the submission form and provide details such as

business hours, promotions and discounts offered through mid-January. There is no cost to participate.

Shoppers: Be sure to support local businesses during the holiday season and throughout the year. Visit ChooseCalvert.com/ShopSmallYall for exclusive promotions, festive event details and special discounts.

Shop Small, Y'all!

Press Release from Calvert County Government.

CALVERT COUNTY POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of October 20, 2025 – October 26, 2025, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 2,472 calls for service throughout the community, including, but not limited to:

- Check Welfare / Mental Health: 53
- Disorderly: 20
- Domestic: 15
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 55
- Patrol Checks / School Checks: 1060
- Suspicious Persons / Vehicles: 26
- Traffic Complaints: 70
- Traffic Stops: 599
- 911 Hang Ups: 57
- ARRESTS: 48



Jonathan Tyrone Howard

CDS Violation: 25-88096 On October 22, 2025, Deputy Grabill responded to the BP Gas Station located at 2975 W. Chesapeake Beach Road in Dunkirk for the report of an assault. Investigation

revealed that **Jonathan Tyrone Howard**, 41 of Ft. Washington, had assaulted a female inside a vehicle parked at the station. Howard was placed under arrest for Second-Degree Assault. Further investigation determined the vehicle had been reported stolen out of Washington, D.C., and it was subsequently

towed. A search of the vehicle revealed several small baggies containing suspected crack cocaine, a crack pipe, and other controlled dangerous paraphernalia. Howard was charged with Theft: \$1,500–\$25,000, Rogue and Vagabond, CDS: Possession – Not Cannabis, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, and Second-Degree Assault.



Jessica Lynn Tazelaar



Janae Kristi Gatchell

CDS Violation: 25-89049 On October 24, 2025, F/Sgt. Denton initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle observed driving erratically, nearly striking a guard-rail and another vehicle. Contact was made with the driver, **Jessica Lynn Tazelaar**, 38, of Indian Head, who appeared to be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance. Tazelaar submitted to a series of standardized field sobriety tests, which determined she was impaired and unable to safely operate a motor vehicle. She was placed under arrest for driving

while impaired. During the stop, Sgt. Durner identified the passenger as **Janae Kristi Gatchell**, 48, of Indian Head. While speaking with Gatchell, Sgt. Durner observed an unmarked pill bottle containing numerous pills in her purse. A subsequent search of the vehicle, incident to arrest, revealed a crack pipe with residue, over 60 assorted pills, several containers of suspected fentanyl, multiple cut straws and clear baggies with white residue (suspected fentanyl), a glass smoking device with white residue (suspected fentanyl), and a digital scale. Both individuals were transported to the Calvert County Detention Center. Gatchell was charged with CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute Narcotics, CDS: Possession – Not Cannabis, and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia. Tazelaar was charged with CDS: Possession – Not Cannabis, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, DWI, and other traffic-related offenses.

CDS Violation: 25-88066 On October 21, 2025, Deputy Morgall initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle with an inoperative tag light and expired registration in the area of Claggett Road and Dalrymple Road in Sunderland. Contact was made with the occupants, who consented to a search of the vehicle. During the encounter, the passenger, **Gerald Calvin Creek**, 63 of Sunderland, began removing items from his pocket, causing a silver wrapper containing a white, rock-like substance (suspected crack cocaine) to fall to the ground. He was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center and charged with CDS: Possession - Not Cannabis and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.



Gerald Calvin Creek

CDS Violation: 25-87850 On October 21, 2025, DFC McCourt responded to the 11700 block of Mill Bridge Road in Lusby for a report of trespassing. Upon arrival, contact was made with **Jeffrey Don Borgholthaus**, 43 of Lusby, who had been previously trespassed indefinitely from the property. Borgholthaus was placed under arrest for Trespassing. A search of his person incident to arrest revealed a glass smoking device containing burnt copper wire. He was transported to the Calvert County Detention



Jeffrey Don Borgholthaus

Center and charged with Trespassing: Private Property, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, and CDS: Possession - Not Cannabis.

Damaged Property: 25-87383 On October 20, 2025, DFC McCourt responded to the 1000 block of Cattle Drive Lane in Lusby for a report of property destruction. The complainant reported that an unknown suspect or suspects attempted to pry open his mailbox, causing approximately \$100 in damage.



Latisha Chevonne Creek

Telephone Misuse: 25-89356 On October 25, 2025, DFC Savick and Deputy Madura responded to the 3400 block of Silverton Lane in Chesapeake Beach for multiple false 911 calls. Investigation revealed **Latisha Chevonne Creek**, 53 of Chesapeake Beach, had made 11 false reports of someone being in her home. After deputies confirmed no one was inside, Creek was arrested and charged with Telephone Misuse: Repeat Calls.

Theft: 25-89237 On October 25, 2025, Deputy MacWilliams responded to the 3900 block of 2nd Street in North Beach for a reported theft. The victim advised that between 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., an unknown suspect stole a Samsung Galaxy A15 phone from his unlocked vehicle. The estimated value of the stolen property is \$240.

Theft: 25-89433 On October 26, 2025, DFC Mister responded to Wawa at 305 Market Square Drive for a reported theft. Surveillance showed an unknown suspect, described as black male with blonde dreads wearing a black jacket and hat, placing a Body Armor drink in his bag without paying and leaving the store. He was last seen entering a white Nissan. The estimated value of stolen property is \$3.70.

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

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Angel Trees Bring Holiday Cheer to County Seniors

'Tis the Season to Spread Joy. The Calvert County Sheriff's Office is excited to kick off their 5th Annual Angel Tree Program!

You'll find their Angel Trees in two locations:

- The Sheriff's Office Lobby, 30 Church Street in Prince Frederick
- Mike Paxson State Farm, 140 Main Street in Prince Frederick

Each angel on the tree represents a holiday wish from a Calvert County senior at Southern Pines, and these thoughtful gifts mean the world to them.

We invite you to stop by, pick an angel, and help make a senior's season merry and bright! Simply:

- Choose an angel (or two!)
- Purchase the gift listed on the tag
- Wrap it with care and return it with the angel attached by December 10

Your kindness and generosity help spread the true spirit of the holidays across our community. Thank you for joining us in bringing smiles, warmth, and holiday cheer to our Calvert County seniors.

Press release from CCSO



Parks and Recreation Winter Sports Registration Open

The Calvert County Department of Parks & Recreation (CCPR) announces winter sports registration is now open to Calvert County residents.

Adult basketball is open to players ages 18 and older, excluding high school students. Participants must be 18 by Dec. 31, 2025. Registration is team-based, with a fee of \$800 per team; registrants are responsible for forming their own teams of 10-15 players. Games are played at Northeast Community Center, located at 4075 Gordon Stinnett Ave. in Chesapeake Beach, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-10 p.m., beginning Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026. The registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 19. To register and obtain a roster form, email sports@calvertcountymd.gov.

Youth basketball registration is open to children ages 9-17 now through Friday, Nov. 14, 2025, or until divisions are full. The registration fee is \$100 for the first child, with a \$6 discount for each additional family member. A CCPR game jersey can be purchased for an additional \$20, payable the first week of practice. Early registration is encouraged as youth basketball divisions



fill up quickly. Volunteer coaches for youth basketball are also needed in all divisions. Interested applicants are invited to email sports@calvertcountymd.gov for a coaching application.

Rookie basketball registration is open to children in kindergarten through third grade to learn fundamental basketball skills. The program meets once weekly for eight weeks beginning Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026. The cost is \$66 for children ages 5-6 and \$76 for children ages 7-8. The deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 19, 2025, or until divisions are full.

Winter sports registration can be completed online or by calling 410-535-1600, ext. 2649. Email sports@CalvertCountymd.gov with questions about winter sports registration.

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FORTUNE 100 BEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR 2025

Icons: wheelchair, hearing aid, paw print

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.

Sat, Nov 15

Freedom Fund Luncheon

Vianney Room
Prince Frederick
10:30 a.m.

The NAACP Calvert is celebrating Historic W.S. Brooks High School and the 160th Anniversary of Bowie State University. W.S. Brooks High School was the segregated high school where African American students attended from 1938-1966. Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Aminta Breaux, president of Bowie State University. We will start off with a silent auction at 10:30 a.m. and then go into the luncheon and program at 11 a.m. Price is \$70 per person. Pay by check. Mail to: NAACP Calvert, P. O. Box 1865, Prince Frederick, MD 20678 or pay via Zelle at naacpcalvert@gmail.com

Two Dog Night—A Dancing Dog Troupe: Poodles in Oz

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch
4100 5th St., North Beach
1-2 p.m.

Two-Dog Night will delight audiences with music, song and dance starring dogs who perform alongside their human partners! This joyful show features Poodles in Oz, a light-hearted reimagining of L. Frank Baum's classic tales. 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Sun, Nov 16

Fossil Club Meeting and Public Lecture

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

Meeting is at 1:30 p.m., followed by a free public lecture at 2:30 p.m., both in the Harms Gallery. Stephen Groff, CMM Research Associate, will present on the discovery of tiny but incredibly well-preserved Miocene fossil pea crabs from along Calvert Cliffs.

Mon, Nov 17

Proven Program to Prevent or Delay Diabetes

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

Take charge of your health! Join our free, fun and supportive year-long diabetes prevention program for those at risk of diabetes or looking to lose weight. Learn how small changes in eating, activity, and mindset can lead to big results. Connect with others, build healthy habits, and reduce your risk together. Presented in partnership with the Calvert County Health Department. To register or learn more information, call 410-535-5400 x514.

Tue, Nov 18

Tech Help Drop-in Hour

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons
2-3 p.m.

Learn how to troubleshoot and fix your tech problems! Need help with your devices? Drop-in to Calvert Library's open tech hours! We are pleased to offer personalized assistance with basic tech requests, computer and internet basics, e-Readers, Libby, Microsoft Office or Google apps, personal devices and more! 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Dine Out Book Discussion

Panera Bread
Prince Frederick
6-8 p.m.

Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan. "It is 1985, in an Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal and timber merchant, faces his busiest season. As he does the rounds, he feels the past rising up to meet him - and encounters the complicit silences of a small community controlled by the Church." (from The Booker Prize reading guide) We'll have dinner at 6:00 pm, and the book discussion will

begin at 7:00 pm. Join us for dinner, the discussion, or both! <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Social on the Spectrum: Neurodivergent Peer Support Group

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us for a neurodivergent peer support conversation. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with peers about the joys and struggles of being a neurodivergent or autistic adult, or those exploring their identities on the spectrum. We welcome everyone 18+ regardless of ability or diagnostic status. This is a peer-led group, not therapy, and is not intended to diagnose or as medical advice. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Astronomy Night

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
7-8 p.m.

Come see what the night sky has to offer in the field behind Fairview. Learn about the equipment used to view the sky from the Astronomy Club of Southern Maryland. All ages welcome. Outdoor only event, weather permitting. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Wed, Nov 19

Fairview Book Discussion

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

Join us online or in person to discuss "James" by Percival Everett. Pulitzer Prize Winner and National Book Award Winner, "James" is a brilliant reimagining of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" as told by enslaved Jim. Register in advance to receive the Zoom link via email if you wish to attend virtually. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Bilingual Conversation Hour: Spanish-English

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

We will get to practice our English and Spanish Conversation Skills! It will be a time for community members to help each other out with their language needs! Did you take Spanish in HS or College and are a little rusty? 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Thu, Nov 20

Calvert Toastmasters Open House

30 Duke St, Prince Frederick
Extension Office meeting room
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Join us for an open house to learn how Toastmasters can make you a more confident speaker. Lunch will be provided. Can't visit in person? email us at contact-1071664@toastmastersclubs.org for zoom codes.

Upcoming

Pink Friday: A Celebration of Small Businesses!

Calvert Museum Store
Friday, Nov. 21, Noon-7 p.m.

Join the Museum Store for Pink Friday, a nationwide event dedicated to celebrating and supporting small and local businesses! Launched in 2020, this special day takes place annually on the Friday before Black Friday, encouraging everyone to shop small FIRST during the holiday season.

Pink is the new Black – so let's kick off the festivities! Explore Solomons with our event map, guiding you through all the participating Pink Friday shops. Enjoy exclusive deals, support your favorite local businesses, and collect fun pink swag as you shop from spot to spot! Additional details will be announced closer to the date.

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

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

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



County Times

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St. Mary's Community Calendar

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


Sat, Nov 15	Sun, Nov 16	Upcoming
Band of Brothers Flashback Restaurant 21797 Coral Dr. N., Lexington Park 9 a.m. The Band of Brothers Inc. PTSD/Suicide Prevention Group of So. Maryland, offers support for all Veterans in need of our services, as well as support for the local community. We provide help with VA Military Compensation Claims by appointment. Our members are supported by text, phone or personal interaction and are available at a moment's notice. (301) 481-6752. Indoor Yard Sale Mechanicsville Rescue Squad 28120 Old Flora Corner Road 7-11 a.m. Tables available for rent \$15.00 contact Linda Talton 240-298-8801 Poker @ HVRs Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad 43256 Rescue Lane, Hollywood 6 p.m. Texas Hold'em. \$85 buy-in for \$20k in chips. Rounds are 20 minutes each. Doors open at 5 pm, tournament starts at 6pm. BYOB, food and sodas will be available for purchase. Chance at 50/50 included in your buy-in. Tables deal their own cards, dealers are not provided. Late Entries permitted until 1st break, approx. 7 pm cut off. No rebuys allowed.	Fossil Club Meeting and Public Lecture Calvert Marine Museum 1:30-4 p.m. Meeting is at 1:30 p.m., followed by a free public lecture at 2:30 p.m., both in the Harms Gallery. Stephen Groff, CMM Research Associate, will present on the discovery of tiny but incredibly well-preserved Miocene fossil pea crabs from along Calvert Cliffs. Holiday Vendor Fair Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad 9 a.m.-2 p.m. MVRS vendor fair & food trucks. Raffles, 50/50, and baked goods for sale will also be available! Check out our Facebook page for more information: www.facebook.com/MVRS29 Mon, Nov 17 Elk's Monday Night Poker St. Mary's County Elks Lodge 45779 Fire Department Ln., California 7 p.m. Buy-in: \$35. Blinds will start at 25-50 and progress every 20 minutes. Please enter through the side of the building For any question or additional details contact Linda Hill, 240-925-5697 or doxiemama1014@gmail.com Please enter from the side of the building.	Scuba with Santa College of Southern Maryland Wellness & Aquatics Center (WAC) 22950 Hollywood Rd., Leonardtown Saturday, Dec. 6; 12 - 4 p.m. St. Mary's County Government's Department of Recreation & Parks (R&P) is hosting Santa Claus for an unforgettable holiday experience. Join the professionals of Southern Maryland Divers for a short Discover Scuba course to learn the basics of scuba diving, then have your photo taken with Santa—underwater! Registration is required, and participants must be age 8 or above. Anyone under 18 will need to have a parent on site to sign waivers. To register: Club Christmas Party The Rex Leonardtown Dec. 11, 7-10 p.m. Join the Republican Central Committee as we celebrate Christmas and the holiday season at The the Christmas season. Club Christmas Party. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Club President Deb Rey at 301-997-4183 or smrcrclub@gmail.com Hearth & Home Historic St. Mary's City Nov. 28 & 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Celebrate the close of the museum season with historic food demonstrations. Bring a canned good for \$1 off admission. Pink Friday: A Celebration of Small Businesses! Calvert Museum Store, Friday, Nov. 21, Noon-7 p.m. Join the Museum Store for Pink Friday, a nationwide event dedicated to celebrating and supporting small and local businesses! Launched in 2020, this special day takes place annually on the Friday before Black Friday, encouraging everyone to shop small FIRST during the holiday season. Pink is the new Black – so let's kick off the festivities! Explore Solomons with our event map, guiding you through all the participating Pink Friday shops. Enjoy exclusive deals, support your favorite local businesses, and collect fun pink swag as you shop from spot to spot! Community Christmas Tree Lighting Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall Saturday, Nov. 29, doors open at 5 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire truck rides 5-5:45• Make reindeer dust• Write letter to Santa• Goodie bag• Light refreshments available• Pictures with Santa

★

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Library

UPCOMING EVENTS



Wicked: For Good Release Party
Choose Team Green or Team Pink and celebrate the theatrical release of Wicked: For Good! Charlotte Hall Library on Saturday, November 15, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Enjoy an immersive, Oz-erific afternoon with a witchy craft, thematic trivia questions, and celebration with fellow fans. Costumes welcome! This event is for adults and older teens. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Author Fair
Learn from local writers and meet new ones! Learn about getting started writing, publishing, and more. No registration required for attendees. Charlotte Hall Library on Saturday, November 22, 1 - 4 p.m. The St. Mary's County Library Author Fair provides an opportunity to meet local authors and browse their works. Authors will give a quick presentation on their writing experiences, and have an opportunity to promote and sell their work.

Resume Workshop
Are you looking for a new job, or need some help marketing yourself? Leonardtown Library on Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. For this class we will look at common resume trends, as well as learn about resources the Library offers on creating and updating your resume. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Thankful Crafternoon
Join us in a Thanksgiving Crafternoon Celebration! Leonardtown Library, Wednesday, November 19, 2 - 4 p.m. We will have Thanksgiving-themed activities, including hand print turkeys and gratefulness crafts! No registration.

Adaptive Art Studio for Adults with Cognitive Disabilities
Learn about Fauvism, created by Henri Matisse. We'll have an example art piece to talk about and then we'll each create our own version of the piece! Leonardtown Library on Friday, November 21, 10 - 11:30 a.m. No experience needed and all materials will be provided. This program is intended for adults with cognitive disabilities and their caregivers. You will only need to register the adult participant not the accompanying caregiver on www.stmalib.org.

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Memory Kits Now Available

Supports Cognitive Wellness in St. Mary's

St. Mary's County Government's Department of Aging & Human Services (DAHS), in proud collaboration with St. Mary's County Library, is excited to announce the launch of Memory Kits, a new resource designed to support cognitive health among older adults and individuals experiencing cognitive decline.

These specially curated Memory Kits are now available for borrowing at no cost from the three local Senior Activity Centers (Garvey, Loffler, and Northern), and all four branches of St. Mary's County Library (Charlotte Hall, Leonardtown, Lexington Park, and the Mobile Library).

Each Memory Kit contains a variety of engaging materials, including books, games, puzzles, and hands-on activities designed to stimulate memory, mental agility, and overall cognitive function. The kits are organized by themes, allowing participants to choose topics that best match their interests or cognitive needs. Each kit also includes a copy of the Resource Guide for Older Adults, which offers valuable information on local services and support networks.

"With adults aged 65 and older representing the fastest-growing population in St. Mary's County, the need for memory support and cognitive wellness resources continues to expand," said Lori Jennings-Harris, DAHS Director. "The Memory Kits offer meaningful ways for individuals and families to support brain health at every



stage of aging. We are deeply grateful to St. Mary's County Library for their ongoing and outstanding partnership in supporting the needs of older adults and enhancing quality of life throughout our community."

For more information, please contact DAHS Community Programs & Outreach Manager, Nicoletta Pollice at (301) 475-4200, ext. 1074 or Nicoletta.Pollice@stmaryscountymd.gov.

To learn more about the DAHS programs and services, visit: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/Aging or follow them on social media for regular updates at: www.facebook.com/SMCDAHS.

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What Dating Looks Like Later in Life

People are living longer, a reality that can be traced to a number of factors, including advancements in medicine and greater dissemination of information regarding preventive health care. According to data from the United Nations Population Division, the average life expectancy in the United States is 81.65 for women and 76.61 for men. Canada has even higher life expectancies, at 84.74 for women and 81.15 for men.

As people live longer, some may outlive their significant others and ultimately find themselves once again interested in sharing experiences with a special someone. Seniors ready to re-enter the dating pool may find that things are quite different from what they experienced as naïve teenagers or young adults. Dating used to be about hanging out with friends and meeting people at shared events, such as school dances or work parties or even while enjoying a night out with friends. Nowadays, dating often begins in cyberspace. This can be confusing and anxiety-inducing for adults who didn't grow up with technology guiding their every move.

According to a report in The Atlantic, more than one-third of baby boomers are not currently married, and this generation has had higher rates of separation and divorce and lower rates of marriage than the generations that preceded them. Many boomers have years ahead of them to devote to new relationships. Here's what they may want to know before navigating twenty-first century dating waters.

- You're not in this alone. While online dating may be portrayed as a young person's game, plenty of older adults are now finding connections online. In fact, many different dating apps are geared toward the senior set, including SeniorMatch, eHarmony, Singles50, OKCupid, and Silver Singles, among others.
- You have more time for fun. As a senior, you may have more time to devote to recreation and leisure. This can be a great opportunity to get out and meet someone who shares your passions and interests.
- Online dating has its advantages. While online dating apps and websites may have certain things working against them, particularly if their algorithms for pairing people are not fine-tuned, they also can be helpful. Online dating can expand social circles beyond local neighborhoods or even states, provinces or countries. You're casting your net over a much larger body of water. Furthermore, dating app profiles typically spell out exactly what another person is seeking, which can save seniors from having to revisit awkward dating moments from years past.

Seniors may have to navigate new waters in modern dating. But with a good mindset and a little persistence, it is possible for seniors to find a special someone in cyberspace.

How to Make Your Bucket List a Reality

The idiom "kick the bucket" is a euphemism for passing away that does not paint such a rosy picture if you consider its origins. However, the phrase "bucket list," though undeniably related to "kick the bucket," definitely sheds a brighter light on the topic of mortality.

A bucket list is a plan for living life to its fullest and prioritizing opportunities to engage in all sorts of activities. A bucket list can be made at any point in life and is not exclusive to individuals facing their own mortality. Here are some tips for putting bucket list plans into action.

- Stop and think about what you really want to experience in your lifetime. Leave factors like money or proximity out of it. No ideas are off-limits. This is your opportunity to brainstorm, and nothing is too crazy or silly.
- Write the bucket list in a comfortable or inspiring place, which may help ideas flow more freely. The place might be a cozy nook at a bookstore or a quiet spot on the beach.
- Choose things that are meaningful to you as well as ideas that are frivolous and fun. Make your list a mix of each,

and don't take yourself too seriously.

- Divide the bucket list by time. Are there items you can check off in a particular season, such as skiing the Alps? If your bucket list involves moving to a bustling city, determine if you'd like to do that after your children have reached adulthood or if you want to expose them to city life as youngsters. Categorizing the list by periods of your life can make it easier to prioritize certain activities over others.
- Determine if each bucket list activity will be a solitary or joint pursuit. Various activities are more enjoyable when shared with others, but some you might be more inclined to do alone.
- Set aside a budget for funding bucket list activities. Bucket lists may include some costly activities, so start saving now so money does not stand in your way. Open a savings account specifically for funding bucket list excursions and set up automatic deposits.

Bucket lists can encourage people to live life to the fullest and it's never too early to get started on a list of your own.



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Signs It Could Be Time to Consider an Assisted Living Facility

Assisted living facilities provide a vital service to families across the globe. In fact, more than 800,000 people in the United States are currently living in assisted living facilities, according to a 2023 report from Zippia, an online recruitment service that gathers information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its own internal data.

The decision to move oneself or an aging relative into an assisted living facility is complicated. Though such facilities typically offer an excellent standard of care, it can still be bittersweet for an individual to leave his or her home. It also can be difficult to identify when is the best time to make such a transition. Though each individual case is unique, the following are some indicators that the time might be right to move oneself or an aging loved one into an assisted living facility.

- **Emotional challenges:** The National Council on Aging notes that certain emotional challenges may indicate the time is right for an individual to move into an assisted living facility. The NCOA encourages individuals making such a decision independent of others to ask themselves if they are experiencing feelings of loneliness or depression. Assisted living facilities can provide much-needed social interaction that seniors may not be getting



at home. If feelings of loneliness or depression are present, then the time might be right to make the move to an assisted living facility.

- **Physical challenges:** Many individuals move into assisted living facilities because the physical challenges of daily life have become too significant to handle alone. The NCOA notes that individuals who are feeling overwhelmed by tasks such as buying groceries, cooking and cleaning may benefit from moving

into assisted living facilities that handle such tasks for them.

- **Issues with hygiene:** The presence of additional challenges related to hygiene also may suggest a move to an assisted living facility may be beneficial. Staff at assisted living facilities can help adults who are struggling to bathe, dress themselves or use a restroom on their own. Family members can look for signs that a loved one's personal hygiene has taken a turn for the worse.

Issues with hygiene can be a byproduct of depression, and poor hygiene also can increase risk for infection and illness.

- **Injuries:** The NCOA notes that falls or near-falls are another potential sign that a person can benefit from moving to an assisted living facility. Falls can hurt anyone, but they can be especially damaging to aging adults. For example, the National Institutes of Health report that falls may result in loss of independence, chronic pain and reduced quality of life. Assisted living facilities are often equipped with features to reduce risk of falls, such as grab bars in showers and bathrooms and even along corridor walls. In addition, assisted living facilities may be housed in single-story buildings or equipped with elevators, which means residents won't be forced to navigate potentially dangerous staircases at any point during the day. Staff also can respond quickly if residents experience a fall, providing much-needed assistance that seniors living alone or with an aging spouse may not get at home.

Various signs may indicate that the time is right for individuals to move into an assisted living facility so they can more safely navigate daily life.

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Literacy Council of St. Mary's County
Loffler Senior Activity Center
Medstar Hospice of St. Mary's

National Active and Retired Federal
-Employees Association
Northern Senior Activity Center
Patuxent Habitat for Humanity
Patuxent River Naval Air Museum
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Senior Connections
Senior Information and Assistance
Senior Rides Program
St. Clement's Island Museum
St. Mary's County Crime Solvers, Inc.
St. Mary's Helping Hands, Inc.



Pictured: RSVP volunteers who served 400+ hours within 2024
From left **bottom row**: Anna Girard, Susan Leibe, and Samuel Brown

2nd row: Christina Nelson-Sisk, Donna Sigler, Martha Baker, Francis Russell

3rd row: Deloris Poole

St. Mary's County Department of
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Tips to Help Seniors Travel Safely

Travel was once a key component of the picture working professionals created of their ideal retirements. While the COVID-19 pandemic put many retirement travel plans on hold in recent years, jetting off to distant locales is once again on retirees' radars.

A 2022 survey from AARP found that individuals 50 and over were poised to not only get back on the road, but also spend significantly more money on travel. Prior to the pandemic, Americans 50 and over spent \$7,314 annually on travel, according to data from AARP. By spring 2022, individuals in that same age bracket indicated a readiness to spend \$8,369 on travel.

Eagerness to get back on the road, in the air or on the high seas could make it easy to overlook some principles of safe travel. However, such an oversight could lead to complications that could make it hard to enjoy time away from home. The following tips can reduce the likelihood that seniors encounter trouble while traveling.

- Determine if any health issues are affecting your desired destinations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a website devoted to travel vaccines ([cdc.gov/travel/page/travel-vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/travel/page/travel-vaccines)), and that page can be an invaluable resource for individuals planning a vacation. What's more, the CDC even provides a specific list of destinations and the latest travel health notices for each of those nations. That list, accessible at [cdc.gov/travel/desti-](https://www.cdc.gov/travel/desti-)



nations/list can help seniors determine if there are any health-related safety issues in countries they hope to visit.

- Speak to your physician. A pre-trip consultation with a physician can uncover any issues that might arise while you're away. Such issues may be easily managed for domestic travelers who are not planning to visit any especially remote

locations, but they will not necessarily be as easily navigated when traveling overseas. Physicians can recommend certain vaccinations or measures to ensure your health while away. In addition, a pre-trip doctor visit is a great time to refill prescriptions that you will need while you're away.

- Take financial precautions as well. Of

course, not all travel-related concerns are medical. Finances also require some pre-trip attention. Inflation has caused a sharp spike in the price of various commodities since the start of 2022, so travelers should study up on the cost of food and attractions at their destination to ensure they have enough money to enjoy themselves. Baggage costs have risen significantly in recent years, so seniors traveling on a budget may want to pack less and do laundry while traveling in an effort to save money. In addition, the unpredictable nature of travel since the onset of the pandemic has underscored the utility of travel insurance. Seniors can look into travel insurance that could reimburse them in the case of delays or cancellations.

- Privately share your itinerary. Prior to departing, share your itinerary with friends and family. Avoid sharing the itinerary on social media platforms, which can make you a target for criminals at home and at your destination. The itinerary should include where you're staying, the dates you're visiting certain locations and the dates of activities you'll be engaging in on your trip.

Seniors rediscovering the joy of traveling can take various measures to make their trips more safe.

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In Remembrance

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

Darlene McAllister, 66



On November 6, 2025, Darlene Ann McAllister, 66, of Hughesville, MD, passed away following a lengthy health battle.

Born on November 17th, 1958, in Washington, DC, Darlene was known throughout her life for her compassion and unwavering devotion to her family and friends. Darlene faced her illness with the same courage and quiet determination that defined her life. Though the years were difficult, she never allowed hardship to dim her spirit or her kindness toward others.

Darlene built a distinguished career in banking, serving in various leadership roles, including bank manager. Known for her steady guidance, sharp financial insight, and commitment to clients and colleagues, Darlene was a trusted advisor and mentor to many in the industry.

Darlene found the great love of her life when she married Gerald "Ricky" McAllister. Together they shared a devoted and loving marriage for over 20 years, built on mutual respect, laughter, and commitment. Their bond was a shining example of love's strength and endurance—a partnership that brought comfort and joy to both their lives and to those who witnessed it.

Darlene was blessed with a loving blended family, which she cherished deeply. She is survived by her three stepchildren: Michael McAllister and his wife Traci, Amanda Earley and her husband Sean, and Megan Bell. Darlene adored their seven wonderful grandchildren—Kyle, Nathan, Alexis, Emma, Liam, Peyton, and Bayleigh.

Darlene always enjoyed going to craft shows, watching sports and movies, cooking for her family, and the joys of the holiday seasons.

Darlene was predeceased by her parents Charles Hohenstein, Nellie Hayes, and stepfather Phillip Stein. She is survived by her sister Linda Phillips (Oscar) of Cape Coral, FL, brother David Stein (Shirley) of Gainesville, VA, nephew Matthew (Jade), nieces Susan (Matt), Sherri (David), great nephew Ryan, extended family including sister-in-law Donna Herbert (Dale), and Stepmother Ann Buckler (Paul), Paul Buckler (Gail), Alice Gilbert (Mike), Dora Hill (Timmy), Karen Buck (Daniel), Dennis Buckler (Denise), Justin Buckler (Leah), predeceased Travis Buckler, numerous cousins, and great friends Billy Morgan and Linda Nannarrow.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2025, the family will receive friends for the visitation from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm with the service beginning at 4:00 pm at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will be private.

Condolences may be made to the family

at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

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

Wayne Lacey, 64



Donald Wayne Lacey, 64, of Avenue, MD, passed away on November 3, 2025, in Washington, D.C. Born on July 19, 1961, he was the son of the late

John Stephen Lacey and the late Estelle Louise Farrell. Wayne was the loving husband of 42 years to Jacqueline Lacey, whom he married on May 28, 1983, in Holy Angels Catholic Church. He is survived by his son, Jonathan Lacey (Casey), and his daughter, Shannon Lacey (Justin), both of Mechanicsville, MD, and nine grandchildren, Kyle Bidwell, Owen Lacey, Hailey Bean, Douglas Harbold, Jr., Louise Lacey, Beau Bullis, Bodee Lacey, Stevie Lacey, and Atlas Bullis. Wayne was preceded in death by his grandson, Jonathan Lacey, Jr., and his sister, Patricia Vallandingham.

Wayne was born and raised in St. Mary's County, MD and graduated from Chopticon High School in 1980. He was known as "Wayne Lacey" in all of 7th District.

He was the proud owner of Wayne's Drains and Septic Service for 27 years. He was known and loved by all he came to meet. Any day of the week you could find Wayne working on a truck, job site, cutting grass, or shining his company equipment. He had a love for everything water; boating, skiing, tubing, and crabbing. If he wasn't home on the weekends, you could find him camping with his friends and family at Bethpage or

other various campgrounds. You could also always find him volunteering at the Holy Angels, Sacred Heart, and other community dinners and events.

For many years, Wayne was a top sponsor for the David Williams Racing Team, bringing a love for racing to his grandson, Owen, and granddaughter, Louise, who both also began racing at young ages. If there was a sound to describe Wayne, it would be old country; George Jones, Conway Twitty, George Strait, Alan Jackson, and many others. His love for country music brought him to his feet and onstage singing karaoke, sounding just like George Jones himself.

To say Wayne will be missed is an understatement. He left an impact on this community that brings a smile to anyone's face. A man with a great smile, a great heart, and always a great time.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, with prayers recited at 7:00 PM, in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10:00 AM, with Fr. James Oberle officiating. Interment will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery, Bushwood, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Jonathan Lacey, Owen Lacey, Kyle Bidwell, RJ Harbold, Justin Bullis, and Steve Windsor.

Contributions may be made in Wayne's memory to Holy Angels Catholic Church, 21340 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609, or online at angelsinavenue.org (online giving).

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

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



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HARDIN HARRISON BROOKS

March 11, 1950–September 19, 2025



The family of the late Hardin Harrison Brooks is grateful and appreciative for your prayers, kind words, expressions of sympathy and love extended to us during our time of grieving. Special thanks to the Dyson Family of 489, Park Hall, MD; Pastor Roderick W. McClanahan and the Members of First Missionary Baptist Church; the Briscoe Family; and Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home in Mechanicsville, MD.

May God continue to bless you one and all.

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

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For details and to place your notice of remembrance, call the County Times at 301-373-4125.



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A View From The BLEACHERS



Unloading on Load Management

By Ronald N. Guy
Contributing Writer

The NBA's regular season is the greatest insult to the sanctity of sports competition. I'm throwing haymakers right out of the gate. Questionable effort, non-existent defense and an inconsistent commitment to winning are hallmarks of the Association's 82-game sleepwalk starting in late October and ending, mercifully, with the NBA Playoffs in April (when the game transforms into a fantastic product).

There are, of course, some games worth the time, perhaps even the cost of a ticket. But good luck finding them. More often than not, a close watch of an NBA regular season game will reveal players with Tigger's attention span and Eeyore's energy, and coaches expressing Rabbit's befuddled frustration with the nonsense before their eyes. At which point Pooh might giggle and offer the wise observation that the most troubling thing isn't the folly happening on the court, but rather those who couldn't be bothered with the circus at all.

Our honey-obsessed sage, and his indirect reference to "load management", is spot on: Healthy players intentionally missing games in some theoretical attempt to ease the strain on their bodies, limit injury and increase availability in the playoffs (when games really matter), is a tolerated and controllable threat to the legitimacy of NBA competition. (Gasp) That was a breath-sapping condemnation of the now common practice of NBA stars tapping out of games to nurse a boo-boo or just because they need a day. Removing all emotion and dismissing every shred of obligation to the product, the concept of pulling off at a rest stop during the long regular season journey isn't nuts. Here's the problem: There's no evidence that it works. About two years ago, the NBA issued a report on regular season player participation. In the 1990s, a prideful era where practicing load management would have ruined one's reputation, players identified as "stars" missed an average of just 10.6 games per year. In the 2020s, the average games missed has risen to 23.9 games per season, this despite incredible advances in sports medicine and a game that is far less physical.

During a recent interview with Mike Tirico, Michael Jordan offered his thoughts on load management. You can guess where this is going. Jordan, one of sports' all-time greatest competitors, is not a fan, not at all Sam I am. He started with this: "Well, it shouldn't be needed, first and foremost," Jordan added, "You know, I never wanted to miss a game because it was an opportunity to prove. It was something that I felt like the fans are there that watch me play. I want to impress that guy way up on top who probably worked his a— off to get a ticket or to get money to buy the ticket." And finally, he put this bow on it: "You have a duty that if they're wanting to see you, and as an entertainer, I want to show. Right?"

Right! Every day is an opportunity to prove yourself, to impress your teammates, your adversaries and your customers. It's not just a job, it's a duty. It reminds me of Cal Ripken's simple comment on his record 2,632 consecutive games play: "I never really thought about the streak. It was very simple. I wanted to come to the ballpark, I wanted to play, I wanted to help the team win." Mindsets from a bygone era in sports.

It is foolhardy to compare the professional experience of an athlete in a major pro sport to virtually any other walk of life. The gap is too wide. I wouldn't want the fame or social media scrutiny and the travel would get old...but the money wouldn't and I could sure use an offseason (something most people don't experience in the 50 years between high school and retirement). Nevertheless, the importance of professional respect is universal, and is earned through earnestness and consistency — giving your best, even when you are not at your best. Load management isn't part of that formula and its practice in the NBA makes it hard to respect the product. That should matter more than it apparently does. Why? Because Michael Jordan said so.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

A financial roadmap for veterans entering civilian life

The transition from military to civilian life brings countless adjustments. It also marks a good time to review how you're taking charge of your financial future. Veteran Saves Week is Nov. 4–7 and an opportunity to focus on building financial confidence and creating a solid foundation for your new chapter.

Now in its second year, Veteran Saves Week centers around one core message: No matter where you are on your financial journey, small steps can lead to lasting change. Here are a few tips to help:

Understand the financial shift.

If you've recently re-entered civilian life, it's important to identify any gaps between your income and expenses. A key part of this gap often comes from the loss of military allowances, such as the Basic Allowance for Housing and Basic Allowance for Subsistence. You may also lose commissary and exchange privileges where groceries and goods were purchased tax-free.

Health benefits represent another shift. While you received health care through TRICARE on active duty, you might be eligible for TRICARE for Life and Veterans Administration benefits, but you may still need to supplement this coverage with a group health care plan from your employer or purchase it independently.

Build a budget.

Getting a clear picture of your finances helps you make informed decisions. Look at your monthly income, expenses and savings to understand your starting point.

One strategy you may find useful is the 50/30/20 rule. With this, you divide your monthly take-home pay into three parts: 50% for needs like housing, utilities, food and insurance, 30% for wants and 20% for savings and debt repayment.

Take essential financial steps.

Your monthly budget should include building an emergency fund, paying down high-rate debt and saving for retirement. It may help to use budgeting apps that categorize expenses and identify areas where you can cut back when necessary.

Building an emergency fund becomes even more critical during transition. Aim for three to six months of cash savings to provide a safety net for living expenses while you establish your civilian career.

Don't overlook the available retirement planning tools. Even if you will have a pension, you might consider putting money into an IRA, or a 401k if one is available to you through a new employer, or into stocks and bonds to keep building toward your long-term goals. It's also important to obtain a current Social Security statement since active-duty military pay FICA taxes.

Leverage available resources.

There are transition support programs through the military and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which also offer debt relief programs and financial counseling services.

Consider connecting with a financial advisor who understands the unique challenges veterans face during and after transition. They can help you create a strategy that maximizes your benefits and helps position you for long-term success.

Move forward with confidence.

As Veteran Saves Week reminds us, small steps lead to lasting change. Your service has prepared you to overcome challenges — financial planning is just another mission you're equipped to complete successfully.

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

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MEET SALLY

Hi, I'm Sally, Queen of the Windowsill & Long-Term Lounge Champion! I'm a 1.5-year-old kitty who has spent over 160 days at the care center perfecting her craft of sunbathing and bird-watching from the windowsill. I'm a soft-as-a-cloud sweetheart who loves other cats, cozy naps, and gazing dramatically out the window like I'm in a music video. My fur? Softer than your favorite blanket! My vibe? Chill, elegant, slightly independent house princess. After 160+ days of waiting, I'm more than ready to trade my shelter window for a furever home view! Adoption hours are Mon-Fri 11am-4pm and Sat 10am-3pm.

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



MEET AVA

This gorgeous 5-year-old Lab mix is as sweet as she is chatty — she loves to "talk" and share her opinions. Ava is a total people-lover, but she has a special soft spot for the fellas! She does well with most dogs and enjoys playtime, though her confident personality can come off a little bossy. Ava is also okay with cats and is learning great manners in her foster home. She's working on sharing food and treats with other animals — she's a little protective of her goodies sometimes, but she's improving every day. If you're looking for a loyal companion with lots of love (and personality!) to give, Ava might just be your perfect match.

If you are interested in meeting with Ava or learning more about her please contact Animal Relief Fund (ARF) at 301-866-0303 or visit www.animalreliefund.org



Giving Tuesday, SoMd Style

Southern Maryland Day of Giving is a 24-hour online event that provides a simple way to connect donors to the charitable causes they care about most and encourages them to take action.

Join the Chambers of Commerce from Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties to celebrate Giving Tuesday, Southern Maryland style!

Businesses in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties are encouraged to join in by choosing a nonprofit to champion!

Through the inaugural Southern Maryland Day of Giving, the aim is to build and support the community by:

- Creating an engaging way to learn about the critical issues impacting the Southern Maryland community and inspire people to give
- Bringing new awareness to local nonprofits and donors to help the organizations that make our community strong
- Educating the community on the positive impact Southern Maryland non-

profit organizations have on their lives.

Here's where your business can get creative! The possibilities are endless on how to help promote a participating nonprofit for the Southern Maryland Day of Giving.

Step 1: After November 15, the participating nonprofits in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties will be listed on the Day of Giving website. Visit the site and choose which nonprofit you will champion!

Step 2: Get creative on how you will promote your chosen nonprofit. Some ideas include:

- Donate a percentage of sales for December 2 to the nonprofit
- Do an e-blast to your mailing list with information about your chosen nonprofit and why their work is important to you
- Offer a match donation incentive to your customers

Step 3: On December 2, help empower Southern Maryland nonprofits through your participation!

Lions Club Continues Christmas Caring Tradition



Leonardtown Lion Hilda Mae Gatton joins store manager Scott Neitz to hang tags on the Lions Christmas Caring Tree in the lobby of the Leonardtown Snead's ACE Home Center. The tags contain Christmas wishes and clothing sizes for unnamed children provided by the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services. The members of the Leonardtown Lions Club along with patrons of the ACE Home Center select tags from the Christmas Caring Tree and purchase gifts for the children. All presents are then delivered by the Lions before Christmas to the children's homes.

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★ **A SALUTE TO** ★

LOCAL HEROES

The County Times invited our readers to share the names of their loved ones who have served in the United States Armed Forces. We thank each and every one for their service.

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Ted Barber
Steve Barber
Thomas R. Bateman, Jr.
Charles R. Busey, Sr.
Ezra Chase
Linda A. Epp
George F. Gass
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Joseph Kriemelmeyer
Shane J. Mathe
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James J. Mathe
Horace McClane, Sr.
William B. Morgan

Robert L. Morgan
George A. Morgan
Richard Pickeral
Paul F. Rose
Preston L. Rose, Sr.
Kaylah R. Samuels
Richard Tyson
Darryl White
Kevin White

USMSM Hosts Engineering Night

Students across Southern Maryland participated in Night of Engineering to learn about educational pathways and tour the USMSM SMART Building.

More than 130 Southern Maryland students with sights on an engineering career learned about pathways and partnerships to reach their goals during Night of Engineering on Oct. 29.

Night of Engineering introduces middle school, high school, and college students to the associate of science degree programs at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM), transfer pathways to four-year bachelor's degrees with the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM), and engineering career opportunities in the region.

Valeria Corona is a second-year electrical engineering student at CSM. Corona is one of several students who took the podium to share their experience in the Engineering Transfer Recruitment Opportunity (ENTRY) program which allows students who graduate from CSM associate of science programs to transfer with junior status to a mechanical or electrical engineering bachelor's program at USMSM.

"College is an investment. You want to minimize the input and maximize what you get out of it," said Corona. "As a real engineer you should recognize what you can do to set yourself up for future success and maximize the opportunities around you."

This event, held at the USMSM Southern Maryland Autonomous Research and Technology (SMART) Building in St.



Mary's County, was hosted by the Southern Maryland Engineering Partnership, a program which allows mechanical and electrical engineering CSM graduates to transfer to the University of Maryland's A. James Clark School of Engineering at the USMSM in California. Through this partnership, students can intern with the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), often leading to full-time employment.

CSM faculty and staff worked closely with USMSM to ensure courses allow a seamless transition to the four-year program. CSM President Dr. Yolanda Wilson shared how students who begin their higher education journey at CSM are set up to succeed in their next steps.

"When students start at CSM, they benefit from smaller class sizes, saving money and resources and funds, and staying close to home where support is within reach," Dr. Wilson said. "We are designed to help you reach your goals. Our purpose, our intent, and our mission, is to make sure every student walks across that stage."

USMSM Executive Director Dr. Dale Nesbary spoke to students about the need for skilled engineers in Southern Maryland. He said the faculty at these institutions recognize this need and are equipped with the skills and knowledge to prepare students to fill high-demand positions.

"You're next to the one of the largest naval air stations in the country, and that

requires extreme talent to help them do what they need to do, and that's you," Nesbary said. "So listen, learn, and then contribute."

Night of Engineering participants heard inspiring testimony from Grady Klaas, 2025 USMSM graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a product of the transfer program. Klaas earned his Associate of Engineering Science degree from CSM.

Klaas encouraged the next generation of engineers to join this program, which he said was less of a financial burden than other degree programs, allowed him to stay local, and take advantage of the close ties with Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) and fulfill a lifelong dream of becoming a civil engineer.

"During lessons we were exposed to the challenges that civilian engineers face every day. This didn't just sharpen my academic skills, it prepped me for my career in ways that other programs couldn't," Klaas said. "If you're passionate about engineering and want an affordable, practical path that keeps you connected to industry leaders, USMSM is the place."

Attendees toured the state-of-the-art SMART Building and viewed demonstrations of the research and technology labs.

Night of Engineering is hosted each spring and fall. Visit the CSM Engineering webpage for more information on the partnership and degree programs.

Press release from CSM

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MedStar St. Mary's Announces New Nursing Officer

MedStar Health is pleased to announce the appointment of Captain (Ret.) Jeremy J. Hawker, MSN, RN, NC, USN, as vice president of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital. Hawker officially joined the hospital on Nov. 3, bringing more than 30 years of leadership and clinical experience from his distinguished career in the United States Navy Nurse Corps.

Most recently, Hawker served as commanding officer and director of the Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command and Naval Health Clinic Patuxent River, where he oversaw healthcare delivery for approximately 12,000 beneficiaries and 90 tenant commands across Southern Maryland.

During his military service, Hawker held several key leadership roles, including chief nursing officer at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton, executive officer at the Naval Medical Readiness and Training Command Great Lakes/Lovell Federal Health Care Center, and associate director for Surgical Services at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth. Hawker's work to improve patient safety, support the nursing team, and streamline operations has been recognized at the national level. Among his honors are the Senior Military Nursing Leadership Excellence Award from the Military Health System and the Outstanding Student Award from the Military Officers Association of America.

"It's a privilege to welcome Captain Hawker to our team," said Mimi Novello, MD, MBA, FACEP, president of MedStar St. Mary's Hospital and senior vice president of MedStar Health. "He brings in-depth leadership experience and a genuine commitment to service that will strengthen our



Captain (Ret.) Jeremy J. Hawker, MSN, RN, NC, USN

nursing programs and the care we provide every day."

A Minnesota native, Hawker earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Minnesota State University and his Master of Science in Nursing (Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist) from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda. After retiring from the Navy, he and his family chose to make St. Mary's County their home, increasing his connection to the community he now serves as part of the MedStar St. Mary's leadership team.

"Service has always been at the heart of my career," Hawker said. "I'm honored to join MedStar St. Mary's Hospital and to support a team so dedicated to caring for this community."

Press Release from MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Fall Craft Show Returns to Hollywood

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department is excited to once again sponsor the Annual Fall Craft Show at the Hollywood Firehouse. There are over 100 Craft Vendors registered to participate, many are local Vendors, some are from nearby areas and some are from several miles away. Several are returning Vendors and a few are new Vendors to this Show. There will be a variety of hand-crafted items for your browsing and shopping pleasure. Come out and support these Small Business Vendors. We are certain you will find something you have been looking for, whether it be for you or someone else.

The Fall Craft Show will be held on Sunday, November 23, 2025. The doors will be open for browsing and shopping from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. There is no charge for vehicle parking and no admission fee.

The members of the Ladies Auxiliary will

be preparing and selling food and beverage items in the kitchen. Our famous Stuffed Ham sandwiches and other food items will be available for purchase during the Show. A small dining area is available where attendees can sit to eat or just take a break.

The Ladies Auxiliary will also sponsor a bake sale consisting of homemade treats and a 50/50 money raffle for a fee. Our Ladies Auxiliary Cookbook of treasured recipes will also be available for purchase. If you would like to donate something for the Bake Table, we welcome your contribution. We will be accepting donations of non-perishable items for the local Helping Hands Food Pantry.

If you have any questions, please contact the Craft Show Chairman at: Craftshow@hvfd7.com

Press release from HVFD

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1.75L
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1.75L
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Bailey's Irish Cream

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1.75L
Svedka Vodka

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
CASE NO: C-18-FM-25-000650

TO: JEFFREY BAIER, UNKNOWN ADDRESS
IN THE MATTER OF BAILEY IRELAND BAIER

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF A MINOR (Md. Rule 15-901(d))

FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO: Bailey Ireland Hudgins

A petition to change the name of Bailey Ireland Baier to Bailey Ireland Hudgins has been filed with this court.

You must consent to (agree) or object to (oppose) the petition in writing no later than 30 days after being served (receiving) this notice and the documents filed in this case. **If you do not file a written consent or objection within 30 days of being served with this notice, the court will consider your silence to be consent and may grant the name change.**

You can use form CC-DR-063 (Parent's/Guardian's/Custodian's Consent/Objection to Change of Name of a Minor).

Any objection must be supported by an affidavit (a written statement signed by oath or affirmation) and served on all parties. (Md. Rule 1-321.)

Changing the name of the minor will not change any existing child support obligation or paternity.

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

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Leonardtown Mayor and Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 4:15 pm at the Town Hall, 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD to hear comments on Resolution No. 2-25 request for Annexation of a parcel of real property consisting of 16.35± acres of land shown on Tax Map 32, Parcel 96, which property is contiguous and adjacent to the corporate boundaries of the Town

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 3:00 p.m. on December 8, 2025, to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodation will be provided for people with disabilities upon request.

By Authority: Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Leonardtown Mayor and Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 4:30 pm at the Town Hall, 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD to hear comments on Resolution No. 3-25 request for Annexation of a parcel of real property consisting of 52.18± acres of land shown on Tax Map 41, Parcel(s) 235, and a parcel of real property consisting of 3.21 acres of land shown on Tax Map 41, Parcel(s) 266, which properties are contiguous and adjacent to the corporate boundaries of the Town.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 3:00 p.m. on December 8, 2025, to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodation will be provided for people with disabilities upon request.

By Authority: Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

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

All 11 Businesses Pass Compliance Checks

On October 22, 2025, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Alcohol Enforcement Unit conducted a series of alcohol compliance checks at licensed establishments throughout the county.

The operation involved the use of a 20-year-old Confidential Informant (CI) from the Sheriff's Office. The CI, dressed in jeans and a sweatshirt, was instructed to enter restaurants and stores and attempt to purchase an alcoholic beverage to test compliance with state alcohol laws.

The CI was accompanied by Corporal Kristi Nelson of the Sheriff's Office Special Operations Division. Cpl. Nelson, also dressed in civilian attire, observed all transactions.

A total of 11 businesses were visited during the operation, and all 11 successfully passed by requesting identification and refusing the sale of alcohol to the underage CI.

The following establishments were visited:

- 2000 Liquors 21800 N. Shangri-La, #19, Lexington Park
- Action Lounge and Billiards 25470

- Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown
- Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar 45480 Miramar Way, California
- Blue Wind Gourmet 22803 Gunston Drive, Lexington Park
- International Beverages 21367 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park
- La Vida Mexican Bar & Grill 22767 Three Notch Road, California
- Pax River Ale House 46590 Corporate Drive, Lexington Park
- Pier450 48342 Wynne Road, Ridge
- Ruddy Duck Seafood & Alehouse 16800 Piney Point Road, Piney Point
- Tacos Hacienda Mexican Grill 20975 Point Lookout Road, Callaway
- Gridiron Grill 20855 Callaway Village Way, Unit 2, Callaway

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office commends the businesses that continue to follow Maryland's alcohol laws and thanks them for their commitment to keeping our community safe.

Press release from SMCSO

Natural Resources Police Report Activity



Officers retrieved an illegal monofilament gillnet and over 50 fish taken from the waters of the Potomac in St. Mary's County. Photo acquired via NRP investigation.

Reports just released by the Maryland Natural Resources Police report activity in St. Mary's River and Piney Point.

On May 26, Maryland Natural Resources Police officers conducting fisheries checks identified two men fishing on the St. Mary's River, when one of the men threw an object in the water.

Officers observed several dead croaker floating in the water, and found 18 more in the boat's cooler.

Between the fish thrown overboard and stored inside the cooler, 28 fish were recovered, all of which were under the legal size of 9 inches.

Both men – a 41-year-old Mount Rainier man and a 29-year-old Annandale, Va., man – were charged with possession of undersized croaker measuring less than 9 inches (11 or more fish), which carries a maximum offense of \$1,000, and \$2,000 and/or one-year imprisonment for a second offense.

On May 17, Maryland Natural Resources Police officers responded to a call for a boater who had snagged an illegal gill net

with the boat's motor in the area of the Piney Point petroleum station on the Potomac River in St. Mary's County.

Officers determined the gill net belonged to two men on a jon boat in Piney Point Creek who were seen with additional gill nets on board. Later officers found 41 striped bass (11 of which were outside the legal size limit of 19-24 inches), eight undersized croaker, and several spot on board with cuts and marks consistent with being caught in a gill net.

The men – an 18-year-old and a 26-year-old, both of Riverdale Park – were issued a bevy of charges including fishing without a license, use of a monofilament gill net, possession of illegal sized striped bass, possession of over the limit striped bass, possession of undersized croaker, and several additional boating safety violations.

Officers found that one of the men was wanted for another crime, and he was arrested and transported. Both men face maximum fines of \$5,000.

Press releases from MD DNR Police

Sheriff's Office Transitioning to New Alert and Tip System

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is transitioning to a new alert and tip submission platform: tip411, which will replace the Nixle system currently in use.

Nixle alerts will end on Nov. 12 and current subscribers will not automatically transfer to the new system. To continue receiving verified alerts directly from the Sheriff's Office, residents must sign up for tip411.

With the new system, the Sheriff's Office will be able to send real-time, verified alerts about critical incidents, missing people, road closures, traffic hazards, and community safety information directly to the public.

Residents can receive these alerts by:

Email or text by creating an account at www.FirstSheriff.com/tips or by

Smartphone app by downloading the free "SMCSO" app from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store

In addition to receiving alerts, tip411 gives the public several convenient and anonymous ways to share information with the Sheriff's Office:

- Send a text to 847411 starting with "SMCSO," add a space, and then your message
- Online: Submit a tip through the Sheriff's Office website at www.FirstSheriff.com/tips

FirstSheriff.com/tips

- App: Send a tip directly through the SMCSO app

For those who prefer to make a phone call, tips can also be shared through the Crime Solvers line at 301-475-3333.

When a tip is sent through text or the app, deputies can respond to ask follow-up questions while maintaining the complete anonymity of the conversation. The system automatically removes all identifying information before messages are received, ensuring no one can see who sent the tip.

"We know the public is one of our greatest law enforcement resources. Together, we can make St. Mary's County an even safer place to live, work, and visit," said Sheriff Steve Hall. "tip411 allows us to share verified, timely alerts while giving residents a safe and secure way to help prevent and solve crime."

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office remains committed to transparency, collaboration, and innovation. The launch of tip411 represents the next step in providing trusted, direct communication between the Sheriff's Office and the community.

Press release from SMCSO

Identity Needed for Theft Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity and location of the suspect pictured in connection with a theft investigation.

On Friday, October 17, 2025, at approximately 9:00 p.m., video surveillance footage showed the suspect entering the Family Dollar store on Great Mills Road, selecting items, concealing them under his shirt, and exiting the store without paying for the items.

Anyone with information regarding the identity of this subject or information about his whereabouts is asked to contact Deputy Santiago Estrada-Lora, #415, at Santiago.Estrada_Lora@stmaryscountymd.gov or by phone at 301-475-4200, ext. 8070, referencing case number 2025-63631.

- Tipsters can also submit tips anonymously:
- Text 847411, starting your message with "SMCSO", add a space, and then your tip.
 - Online: Submit a tip through the Sheriff's Office website at www.FirstSheriff.com/tips.



- App: Send a tip directly through the SMCSO app. Download the free app from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store.

For those who prefer to make a phone call, tips can also be shared through the Crime Solvers line at 301-475-3333. With Crime Solvers, you never have to give your name. You may be eligible for a cash reward if your information leads to an arrest.

Press release from SMCSO

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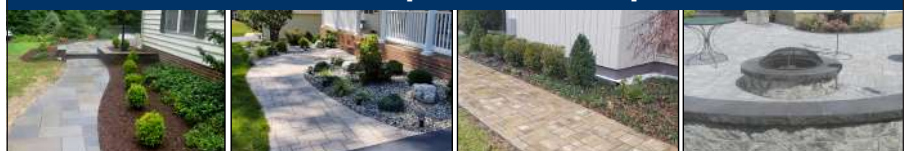
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They Said Yes!

Congratulations to the happy couples who applied for marriage licenses
in St. Mary's County during the month of October. Best wishes to all!

Claire Marie Scemama, 25, Lexington Park, MD
Robert Edward Kirk, 30, Lexington Park, MD

Laurie Frances Holcombe, 64, Conway, SC
Wayne Harold Golwitzer, Jr., 62, Conway, SC

Bethany Lynn Kreps, 37, Gulfport, MI
James Francis Deans, 40, Gulfport, MI

Thu Anh Nguyen Ta, 24, Hollywood, MD
Khang Ngoc Huynh, 25, Hollywood, MD

Katlyn Marie Lake, 24, Mechanicsville, MD
Darren Michael Reeder 24, Mechanicsville, MD

Kristie Nicole Ridgell, 28, Ridge, MD
Jeffrey Scott Townsend, Jr., 27, White Plains, MD

Danielle Elizabeth Bedard, 32, Hollywood, MD
Evan Joseph Metz, 29, Leonardtown, MD

Courtney Nicole Thomas, 25, Mechanicsville, MD
Tyler John Fluhart, 28, Mechanicsville, MD

Clarence Dewayne Gray, 65, Indian Head, MD
Lori Ann Harvey, 51, Indian Head, MD

Madelyn Rebecca Alexander, 26, Parkville, MD
Eric Christopher Lombardi, 26, Parkville, MD

Taylor Nicole Dillon, 30, Mechanicsville, MD
Zachary Keith Aschenbrenner, 29, Mechanicsville, MD

Charles William Appelle, 58, Mechanicsville, MD
Stephanie Adela Lamb, 56, Mechanicsville, MD

Aspen Kayt Dean, 25, Drayden, MD
Jacob Nathaniel Grant, 26, Lexington Park, MD

Lori Lee Irvin 49, Leonardtown, MD
Thomas Eugene Joy, II, 48, Leonardtown, MD

Ina Marissa Knell, 31, Mechanicsville, MD
Nicholas Adam Thompson, 37, Mechanicsville, MD

Mitchell Jeffrey Mills, 31, Oakboro, NC
Haley Marie Roddy, 28, Oakboro, NC

Carlie Annette Ward, 23, Mechanicsville, MD
Justin Arthur Mccollum, 22, Mechanicsville, MD

Courtney Elizabeth Scholz, 23, Leonardtown, MD
Evan Christopher Tack, 27, Leonardtown, MD

Megan Marie Springer, 34, Leonardtown, MD
David Leroy Mcallister, 35, Leonardtown, MD

Gabriel Joseph Beavan, 27, Mechanicsville, MD
Kirsten Renee Butchko, 28, Mechanicsville, MD

Briana Lissette Carter, 29, Lexington Park, MD
Gregory Ignatius Cullison, 34, Lexington Park, MD

Sabrina Irine Hartwell, 31, Leonardtown, MD
Jessica Lyn Guzinski, 33, Leonardtown, MD

Kaitlyn Marie Fox, 30, Hollywood, MD
Joseph Ryan Bowles, 40, Hollywood, MD

Joseph Edward Christopher, 27, Franklinville, NJ
Elizabeth Maria Pitera, 24, Northfield, NJ

Beatriz Adriana Mosqueda, 36, Lexington Park, MD
Jorge Adali Duque Perez, 27, Lexington Park, MD

Mikell Harley Bradford Blackwell, 20, Mechanicsville, MD
Marissa Jolie Bolden, 18, California, MD

Shukriyyah Elicia Greaves, 34, Lusby, MD
Elias Aristotle Labrador, 34, Lusby, MD

Michael Christian Abresch, 31, Newburg, MD
Summer Deane Rickett, 27, Newburg, MD

Nicole Emma Hamilton, 33, Hollywood, MD
Donald Joseph Murphy, II, 28, Hollywood, MD

Kevin Joel Martinez Sanchez, 26, Hollywood, MD
Merlin Yamileth De Paz Lara, 24, Hollywood, MD

Bryan Anthony Weeks, 22, La Plata, MD
Haley Rose Lindsay, 22, La Plata, MD

Mckenzie Carol Taylor, 27, Lexington Park, MD
Jonathan David Littlefield, 38, Lexington Park, MD

Lisa Ruth Agee, 58, Lexington Park, MD
James Allen Young, Jr., 58, Lexington Park, MD

James Carlyle Browne, III, 29, Valley Lee, MD
Amy Faith Delahay, 27, Avenue, MD

Jennica Marie Phillips, 33, Lexington Park, MD
Joseph Thomas Cliffs Walton, 3rd, 35, Huntingtown, MD

Emily Caroline Torres Guevara, 24, Hyattsville, MD
Alexis Navarrete, 27, Lexington Park, MD

Charles Tyler Gragg, 29, Faulkner, MD
Abigail Marie Tarburton, 26, Faulkner, MD

Jessica Paige Whitlock, 29, Clements, MD
Brody Lee Buckler, 27, Bushwood, MD

Brandon Lee Lawrence, 33, Mechanicsville, MD
Nicole Marie Jean Dyer, 32, Mechanicsville, MD

Destiny Raine Goldsmith, 26, Clarksburg, MD
Logan Taylor Rist, 26, Clarksburg, MD

Kori Jean Inson, 25, Aquasco, MD
Devin Michael Strine, 25, Aquasco, MD

Kesley Paige Layman, 32, California, MD
Lauron Herbert Schirmacher, 46, Great Mills, MD

Ryan Matthew Davis, 31, Shady Side, MD
Emily Rose Dalrymple, 30, Shady Side, MD

Kaitlyn Nicole Kuno, 24, Hollywood, MD
Graziano Potere, 29, Procida, Italy

Teresa Dale Thomas-Beckwith, 59, Bushwood, MD
Derrick Anthony Gilchrist, 58, Bushwood, MD

Skylar Noel Morgan, 25, California, MD
Mitchell Steven Boswell, 22, California, MD

Nicholas James Nason, 28, Leonardtown, MD
Kara Michelle Sorrells, 30, Avenue, MD

Stephanie Ann Wilkins, 35, Callaway, MD
Mark Thomas Lindgren, 33, Lexington Park, MD



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G&H Jewelers Marks 60th Anniversary as a Family Institution

By Tim Flaherty
Contributing Writer

In 1965, James Franklin “Frankie” Harris Sr., along with his wife, Bettie Lou, opened a small jewelry shop they called Harris Jewelers in downtown Leonardtown. This year, that same business, now known as G&H Jewelers & Gemologists, turned 60 years old.

A few years after starting Harris Jewelers, Frankie asked his good friend, Dickie Gatton, to join the business, which was renamed G&H Jewelers. The two men, along with Betty Lou and Dickie’s wife, Hilda Mae, operated their store at several different locations in St. Mary’s County.

“Sixty years later,” mused current owner, Joan Harris, “I’m still amazed at how this little hometown store became part of so many love stories.”

What seems to be even more amazing than all the engagement and wedding rings that have come from G&H, is that ownership has remained within the same family. Joan Harris is the daughter-in-law of the founders.

“Incredibly,” Joan said, “Frankie Sr. and Dickie ran it for 28 years. I’ve been running it now for 32 and counting.

“I guess that makes me officially the veteran of the family jewelry trade,” she added with a laugh.

Joan’s late husband, Frank Jr., began working at G&H as a teenager. In 1989, Joan began there, and the couple bought out Frank’s parents and the Gattons in 1993. It was Joan and Frank who ran the show from then on.

“He (Frank Jr.) was the front of the house, I was behind the scenes,” she said. “We were together 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It’s a miracle we didn’t drive each other crazy, but we made a great team.”

“After Frank passed away in 2014,” Joan said, “I made it my mission to honor both his and his father’s legacy by keeping G&H thriving.”

Joan and Frank’s sons, David and Mathew, along with longtime employee Callie Wobbleton, who Joan calls their “adopted daughter,” are carrying the torch as the third generation operating G&H.

“My succession plan is in its beginning stages,” Joan said, “so I am confident that this little family business has a bright future.”

Over the years, G&H sometimes operated with multiple locations before the family realized something important: “It just made sense to bring all of us together in one place,” Joan said. “Each of us specializes in something different, and customers love having all that expertise under one roof.”

That all-in-one approach found its permanent home in 1995, after Joan attended a base realignment meeting in Solomons. “They were talking about all the growth coming to Pax River,” she recalled. “I called Frank and said, ‘Buy some property as soon as you can between Route 4 and the Navy base!’ He didn’t hesitate and jumped right on it. It was our best decision yet, and we’ve been right here on Route 235 in California ever since.”



Frank Harris, Jr. and his wife, Joan, acquired the property where G&H Jewelers now stands on Route 235 in California in 1995. Frank Harris’ parents started the business in 1965 in Leonardtown.



“Pop used to say, ‘It’s harder to make a business fail than it is to succeed, if you just do the right things and treat the customers like family,’” Joan Harris (second from right) remembers advice she received from her late father-in-law, Frankie Harris, the founder of G&H Jewelers. “I can still hear him saying it when I’m trying to teach the boys now.” With Joan are her sons David (left) and Mathew (right), and store manager and longtime employee Callie Wobbleton.

These days, a typical afternoon at G&H might find a customer buying a diamond tennis bracelet and getting an appraisal from Callie, with another designing a new ring with Mat, and still another discussing some investment coins with David. “It just works,” Joan said earnestly.

“We’ve always believed jewelry is personal,” Joan said. “It marks milestones: engagements, anniversaries, memories, so we take the time to listen. We treat people like friends, not transactions.”

Just how long have Joan’s sons been involved with G&H Jewelers?

“Well, it depends on your definition of involved,” Joan said with a laugh. “David’s been involved since he was three, and Mathew since birth. Back when Frank and I had no employees, they’d nap in the back

or ‘help’ by wiping their fingerprints off the glass.”

“Eventually,” she said, “they figured out there was supposed to be pay involved in all that ‘helping out.’ Officially, David’s been on the payroll for 22 years and Mat for 19, but they’ve really been part of G&H their whole lives.”

Joan’s son, Mathew leads the CAD (computer-aided design) team at G&H and creates custom work. “I love the creativity,” he said. “Christmas shopping for my wife is basically just a lunch break.”

Mathew’s brother, David, runs the gold and silver bullion side of the business. “Working in a family business means a few good-natured debates about who does the most,” said David, “but that’s part of the fun!”

Callie, the aforementioned “adopted

daughter,” serves as the store’s lead appraiser and is also the store manager. “She keeps everything organized and on track, Joan said. “She’s the calm in our beautiful chaos.”

Mat, David, Callie, and Joan, are all certified gemologists

Joan’s leadership rules for the next generation feature a mix of humor and seriousness.

“Rule number one: Don’t kill each other,” she said. “Family businesses mean long hours and strong opinions, so patience and a good sense of humor is key.

“I’ve always told them, ‘Your actions are your reputation.’ Lead by example, treat people right, keep learning, seek new innovations, and take pride in your work. That’s what built this place and what keeps it going.



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Government Shutdown Delays Planning Commission Hearing



Artist's renderings of Bradleybrooke

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

The planning commission public hearing for a major subdivision on Willows Road has been delayed due to the government shutdown, to give the Navy time to assemble a response.

The proposal called Bradleybrooke consists of 150 townhouse units and 73 detached single-family dwelling lots.

At the Nov. 10 planning commission meeting, developer's Attorney Chris Longmore asked for a one-week delay to allow for all agency comments to be received.

But NAS Patuxent River Commanding Officer Capt. Maek Zenatis didn't think that would give the Navy enough time considering the government shutdown.

"We would like to have a full team present to provide thorough input," he wrote.

Over Longmore's objections, the commission unanimously agreed to delay the hearing until Dec. 8. But Planning Commission Chairman Howard Thompson said, "If we got into a situation where this were months and months and months and months, we'd probably have some due process concerns. I don't believe we're there yet."

Thompson told Longmore, "If the Navy isn't ready at that point, we'll do whatever we can to make it easier on you."

Thompson did note, "They've had

furloughs and people out, and it is a few weeks. I don't think it's outlandish. It's not like it's months and months and months. That's my opinion."

Longmore argued, "They (the developer) have contractual obligations and other obligations to go forward. A month's delay, which is what this would amount to, is significant to them. I don't recall any continuance requests like this ever coming in before on an application from the Navy or really any other agency."

But the commission unanimously went along with the delay.

Longmore insisted, "This project is not in the AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone) ...and it's not within the noise contour shown on the county noise contour map. So, this project is completely outside of both of everything the county has adopted to address the AICUZ."

According to the staff report, "This project consists of 76.26 acres, located in Lexington Park Development District... The site is located on property that is included within the Residential Low Density Land Use and Residential Low Density (RL) zoning district. A portion of the property (11.85 acres more or less) is located in the Accident Potential Zone-II (APZ-II) zoning overlay."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Democrat Files for District 29 Senate Seat

Chuck Borges has filed his candidacy as a Democrat for the District 29 (St. Mary's/Calvert) Maryland Senate seat currently held by Republican Jack Bailey, who has filed for re-election.

Borges issued the following statement: "I'm a retired Naval officer, decorated combat veteran, and former civil servant at agencies including the CDC and Social Security. I spent nearly 23 years in the Navy and much of the past five years in civil service in the technology sector.

"I have dedicated my life to either defending the public or finding solutions to its most pressing problems, and I'm writing to you to announce my candidacy for the Maryland District 29 State Senate seat.

"My father was an Air Force enlisted soldier turned FAA Air Traffic Controller, so I experienced first-hand how government decisions can impact a family's livelihood during the PATCO strike in 1981. We moved to rural upstate New York following the strike due to the lower cost of living, and we learned hard lessons about affordability and community.

"I went to MIT on a Navy ROTC scholarship, was on deployment during 9/11, and was awarded a 'Combat V' for individual action in Iraq.

"I moved to Southern Maryland in 2005 to attend Test Pilot's School and (apart from military contingencies) have made this area my home here ever since.

"Our region's rural entrepreneurship brings back fond memories of my roots, while our tech savvy shows an area poised to lead the nation in new technology areas.

"After Test Pilot's School, I served as NAVAIR's Chief Data Officer and worked to keep our sailors safe using data innovation. I started my civil service career as a Presidential Innovation Fellow at the CDC during COVID, working to help agencies respond faster to public health challenges. In my last civil service job, I stood up to DOGE to protect the public's most sensitive data. Protecting the public is our most sacred trust.

"Now I'm looking forward to drawing on my experiences in modern technology and innovation to accelerate solutions that provide affordable housing, reduce medical



Chuck Borges

costs, improve outcomes for our agricultural sector, protect our biodiversity, and improve food security.

"With the challenges our country faces today, we need strong, vibrant, and sustainable community growth to thrive. This means ensuring that we provide our agricultural community with the tools and resources they need to be successful, that our residents have training and job prospects to provide them security and safety, and that we understand how to attract new industry and jobs to the region.

"As the State Senator representing St. Mary's and southern Calvert County, I will champion state policies that incentivize local sustainability and growth while protecting our agricultural development and biodiversity.

"Service to my country, making an impact in the lives of others, and ensuring everyone has equitable opportunities to learn, live, and grow have been the guiding principles of my life. I am honored to have the opportunity to earn your vote, and I hope to be able to learn from each of you over the course of this campaign. Together we can build policies that strengthen and support us all."

"To learn more about Chuck's campaign, visit his website at www.chuck4md.com or find him across social media at Chuck4MD."

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THANK YOU.

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“WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A FULL TEAM PRESENT TO PROVIDE THOROUGH INPUT.”

NAS PATUXENT RIVER COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT. MARK ZEMATIS ON REQUESTED PROJECT DELAY DUE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN.



LOCAL 3
Housing project hearing delayed by Navy



COMMUNITY 11
USMSM hosts Engineering Night



ON THE COVER
G&H Jewelers celebrates 60 years

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, NOV 13	FRI, NOV 14	SAT, NOV 15	SUN, NOV 16
Sunny Hi: 60° Lo: 37°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 59° Lo: 38°	Mostly Cloudy Hi: 64° Lo: 54°	Mostly Sunny Hi: 66° Lo: 40°
MON, NOV 17	TUE, NOV 18	WED, NOV 19	THU, NOV 20
Sunny Hi: 55° Lo: 39°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 54° Lo: 40°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 56° Lo: 42°	Partly Cloudy Hi: 56° Lo: 46°



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FAMILY MATTERS: G&H JEWELERS MARKS 60 YEARS