

CALVERT County Times

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2014

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Gazette



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Local Fire and Rescue Squads
Seek Members

STORY PAGE 12

Photo by Frank Marquart

Wednesday December 24, 2014

The Calvert County Times

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Second Looks Books is working hard to provide the community with a myriad of used books for affordable prices.



The man who led police on a car chase because they smelled marijuana emanating from his car during a traffic stop abandoned his two year old child in the vehicle after it crashed in a field and he fled from law officers on foot, police charging documents stated.



Fire Departments and rescue squads county wide are seeking volunteers to help keep the county safe and healthy. Pictured - Joey Ford, left, and Joe Adams check the equipment at the Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department.

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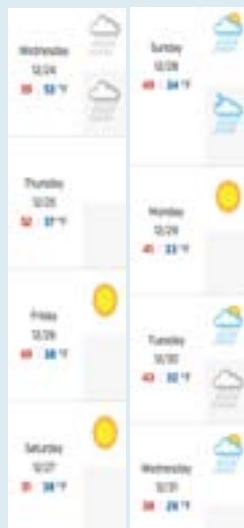
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For staff listing and emails, see page 10.

Health Proposals in Legislative Session to Target Tobacco

By Sarah Miller
Staff Writer

Health departments statewide are trying to stem the rising amount of underage purchase and use of tobacco in Maryland.

In Calvert County alone, Health Department Health Officer Laurence Polsky put a proposal in the county's legislative package to allow for civil citations to be issued to retailers caught selling tobacco to minors.

According to the Board of County Commissioners legislative package, "current law in Calvert County only permits criminal arrest for illegal tobacco sales to minors. Criminal prosecution is seen by some as too drastic a penalty and therefore discourages enforcement of the law."

The civil citations may encourage retailers to be more diligent about checking identifications, Polsky said. Most adult smokers, approximately 90 percent, start smoking before the age of 18, he said.

At the national and state level, there are two goals – to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products and to make it illegal to sell e-cigarette nicotine refills to minors.

When the U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) made it illegal for retailers to sell flavored cigarettes (other than menthol flavored) and re-

quired them to be sold only in packages of 20, they neglected to apply the law to cigars. The FDA is working to close that loophole, Polsky said.

Currently, cigars can be sold in packs of one and three, and in flavors ranging from grape and bubblegum and even pina colada. Flavored tobacco appeals almost exclusively to smokers under 25. Of the smoker demographic over 35, only 5 percent smoke flavored tobacco.

"Flavored products are a gateway to a lifetime of smoking," Polsky said.

In another effort to close a loophole, there are efforts to make it illegal to sell e-cigarette refills to minors. When e-cigarettes were first introduced, they were one-use, disposable items and it was illegal to sell them to minors. Now, the cigarette can be reused, but there is no law against selling the refill packages to minors.

Maryland is the only state in the country with a greater than 20 percent violation rate of selling tobacco to minors, Polsky said, and if that trend continues, the state will lose millions in funding from the federal government, normally used to help with public health initiatives.

For more information, visit www.calverthealth.org or www.co.cal.md.us.

sarahmiller@countytimes.net

Bomb Scare in Prince Frederick

By Lauren Procopio
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Dec. 18, at 6:40 p.m., authorities reported to the Green Turtle restaurant in Prince Frederick in response to a suspicious package underneath a vehicle in the restaurant's parking lot, according to officials from Maryland State Fire Marshal Bomb Squad.

State Fire Marshal Bomb Technicians Duane Svites, John Tennyson, Dale Ednock, Bill Potts and Deputy Fire Marshal Caryn McMahon responded to the scene, as well as, four firefighters and two emergency medical services (EMS) personnel from the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department and Volunteer Rescue Squad.

According to Deputy Chief Fire Marshal Svites, officials deployed "remote robot operations to examine the suspicious package that was under the vehicle."

The owner was identified as Kristen Garrett, who according to officials reported the suspicious item to the local Maryland State Police (MSP) barracks in Prince Frederick.

According to Svites, "troopers arrived to find the item had wires and lights on it and it was lodged under the vehicle. They requested the State Fire Marshal's Bomb Squad to respond; bomb technicians worked with MSP to secure the area while robot operations were deployed."

Officials determined the suspicious item to be non-threatening and it was removed from the property and taken into custody, according to officials.

No injuries or damages resulted from the incident.

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Making Christmas for Local Families



Every year, the Solomons Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad adopts two local families and gives them presents and a tree.

This year's families were in White Sands and the Chesapeake Ranch Estates.

"I'm in shock. Where we're from, we didn't have nothing like this," said Christopher Lawrence, Sr. Lawrence's family includes himself, his son, Christopher Lawrence, Jr., and his fiancée, Melissa Sigda.

Photos by Sarah Miller



You Better Watch Out, I'm Telling You Why: Stay Off The Naughty List – Designate A Driver

This time of year, with all the holiday parties and festive occasions, many partygoers will be drinking. If you're celebrating with alcohol this holiday season, local law enforcement agencies throughout southern Maryland share the same message: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

And local sales establishments agree it's time for all drivers to get the message that drunk driving isn't a victimless crime. You could kill yourself, someone else, or get a DUI and go to jail.

On Wednesday, Dec. 10 just a few of the 100's of licensees came together with traffic safety partners and advocates, brewers, and distributors throughout Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's County to promote and reinforce the use of designated drivers this holiday season. Everyone agreed the safest approach is to only drive sober. If you plan on drinking at a holiday party, bar, or restaurant, let someone else do the driving – a sober friend, a taxi or public transportation.

Representatives from the following sales establishments were in attendance: Mully's Brewery, ABD Liquors, Stoney's Prince Frederick, Boston's Pizza, The Liquor Store, Colonial Liquors, Big B

Liquors, Race-n-In, and ABC Liquors. Partners in traffic safety included College of Southern Maryland – Safe Communities, Liquor Control Board and Alcohol Beverage Board Representatives, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, County Health Departments, Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Community Alcohol Coalition, State Highway Administration, Maryland State Police, Calvert County Sheriff's Office, Charles County Sheriff's Office, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, Natural Resources Police, Maryland Transportation Authority Police, La Plata Police Department, Bob Hall Distributing, and Guy Distributing.

In a concerted effort to promote designated drivers, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office has partnered with sales establishments, wineries, brewers, and distributors to distribute wine/liquor bags with the message "Designate a Sober Driver".

In addition to reminding all drivers to drive sober, community partners are calling on everyone to be alert. If you see a drunk driver on the road, call the police right away—you could save a life. If someone you know is about to drive after



drinking, take their keys and help them get home safely. And if you are making arrangements to celebrate, include plans for a safe, sober ride before heading out.

Maryland's Motor Vehicle Administration's Highway Safety Office extends great appreciation to Bob Hall Distributing and Guy Distributing for taking on the task of delivering the Designated Driver bags to licensees in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's County.

Every year, more than 10,322 people

are killed by drunk drivers in America. In 2013, 152 people were killed and 2,351 were injured in impaired driving crashes in Maryland. One life lost is one too many. The designated driver program is part of Maryland's Toward Zero Deaths (www.towardzerodeathsmd.com) goal of zero lives lost in motor vehicle crashes.

Calvert County Sheriff's Office Press Release



Arc of Southern Maryland Says Goodbye to Longtime Employee

By Sarah Miller
Staff Writer

The Arc of Southern Maryland will be losing years of institutional experience with the retirement of Mary Gosnell, who has spent the past 22 years with the Arc.

Gosnell started working for the Arc when she was 42. She had never heard of the Arc of Southern Maryland before meeting one of the organization's clients while working at Comfort Inn. She enjoyed working with the client, and found a job with the Arc. She started working with the clients, taking on a caseload of 15. She helps them find job opportunities, coordinates with the employers and tracking clients progress. She guides them through the application and interview process, though they get the job on their own merits.

"You wear a lot of hats," she said.

Gosnell helps troubleshoot a jobsites and help find a different situation if a job isn't working out. When helping a client secure a position, Gosnell talks to them about their



Mary Gosnell

interests and goals. Sometimes the job they want isn't reachable, she said, but she tries to get them as close as possible.

"Sometimes I'm a psychologist or Dear Abby," Gosnell said.

Arc employees have to be compassionate, love what they do and have a heart for helping people.

"It can't just be a paycheck," Gosnell said.

Arc clients are adults, but because of their intellectual disabilities they may still be drawn to childish things. Arc employees have to be able to balance treating clients like adults, not in an authoritarian manner, but guide them away from things clearly only meant for kids.

The Arc strives to keep its clients connected to the community, be independent and advocate for their rights and Gosnell has felt blessed to have a job that she looks forward to going to every day. Deciding to retire was a difficult choice, she said.

"The last 22 years have been the best of my life," Gosnell said.

In addition to working with Arc clients, Gosnell has been an active member of the Arc community. This includes her earned reputation as an active prankster. Most of her pranks have included standards such as rubber snakes in a desk. One of her more elaborate pranks ended up with the building in lockdown due to a misunderstanding.

"We are certainly going to miss her," said Executive Director Terry Long. "She keeps things interesting around here."

Long intends to hold Gosnell to her promise to stop in at the Arc to visit, and possibly participate in more pranks.

For more information about the Arc of Southern Maryland, visit www.arcsomd.org.

sarahmiller@countytimes.net

House Fire in Chesapeake Beach

By Lauren Procopio
Staff Writer

On Sunday, Dec. 21, at 1:31 p.m., 35 volunteer firefighters from the North Beach, Dunkirk, Huntingtown and Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Departments responded to 4226 Christiana Parran Road in Chesapeake Beach in response to a house fire. Officials from the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office identified Rita Vermillion as the homeowner, who altered authorities to her residence.

The fire caused \$100,000 in damage to the two-story wood framed house, which had an operating smoke alarm, according to officials. According to Deputy Fire Marshal John Nelson, who responded to the scene, the blaze was extinguished within 15 minutes and originated on the second floor deck of the residence.

The house was inhabitable and the American Red Cross is currently assisting the family.

No injuries were reported and the preliminary cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

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Business Take a Look at These Books!

By Emily Charles
Contributing Writer

Buying books on Kindles and e-readers and is easy and affordable, but for many, the glare of a screen just isn't as pleasant as the feeling of a book in your hands. Second Looks Books is working hard to provide the community with a myriad of used books for affordable prices, oftentimes half the price of a book bought on an e-reader, according to Richard Due, who owns the shop with his wife, Elizabeth Prouty.

The store was established 23 years ago, when Due decided that a good bookstore was direly needed.

"There wasn't one in town, and I wanted a used bookstore where I lived. I saw the void and I filled it," Due said.

The shop is a general store, something Due cites as a key factor in the store's success.

"We don't try to carry everything popular. Popularity comes and goes, but if we have a little of everything, people can always find something they'll enjoy," Due said.

Due stated that he and his wife stock the store on instinct, choosing books they know their customers will enjoy.

"I don't know how we knew [what to stock] in the beginning, but we did.



You either get the hang of it or you don't. I've seen a lot of used book store go out of business because they didn't know how to stock their stores. You have to keep a balance of old and new and really listen to what a customer wants when they come in," he said.

Due's long-lasting love of books led him not only to open a store, but to begin a series of children's

books, the Moon Realm series, which he describes as "the Chronicles of Narnia meets Game of Thrones." The books tell the tale of a boy and a girl who believe the bedtime stories their uncle tells them are too fantastical to be true, but discover otherwise when their beloved storyteller goes missing. Due received a Moonbeam Children's Book Award for his brightly illustrated children's novels in 2012, he said.

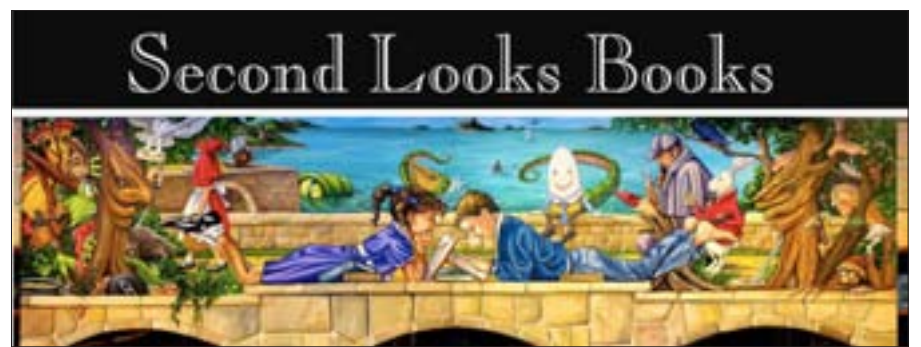
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For more information about Second Looks Books, call 410-535-6897, check out the store's Facebook page, or visit the store at 759 Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick.

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Photos Courtesy of the Second Looks Books' Facebook page



Comptroller Presents Proclamations in Prince Frederick, St. Leonard for Shop MD for the Holidays



Photo courtesy of the Office of the Comptroller of Maryland

Comptroller Peter Franchot presented proclamations to two Calvert County businesses during his Shop Maryland for the Holidays tour. The purpose of his annual statewide tour is to encourage Marylanders to shop locally and support their local shops, small businesses and restaurants.

The Comptroller first visited Jerry's Place in Prince Frederick, which is a family-run restaurant owned and operated by Jerry and Peggy Gainey. He then presented the Gainey's and their family with a proclamation recognizing their 35 years of service to Maryland's business community.

Comptroller Franchot then visited Wemyss Liquors in St. Leonard, which is the oldest family-owned liquor store in Calvert County. The Comptroller presented owner Steve Weems with a proclamation recognizing his 25-year career in Maryland's business sector.



E-CYCLING EVENTS

Saturday, Jan. 10
County Services Plaza, 150 Main St., Prince Frederick
and
Appeal Landfill, 401 Sweetwater Road, Lusby

Saturday, Jan. 17
Chesapeake Beach Town Hall
8200 Bayside Road, Chesapeake Beach

Saturday, Jan. 24
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2950 Chaneyville Road, Owings






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Education NEWS

CCPS To Host First English Language Arts Literacy Night

By Sarah Miller
Staff Writer

The Department of Instruction will host an informational English Language Arts (ELA) Literacy Night on Jan. 8, 2015.

This is the first time Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) has held an ELA Literacy night, according to Director of Instruction Scott McComb. The Department of Instruction has held a math night for the past three years, and is has been so popular that the department decided to add more to the lineup this year.

Teachers for grades pre-k through 12 are helping students meet the demands of the new Maryland College and Career Ready standards that are embedded in the curriculum.

According to the CCPS website, "highlights

of the ELA Literacy Night will include breakout sessions with tips and strategies to support literacy at home and an opportunity to meet local agencies that support literacy. Sessions include 'Hands-on Literacy Games,' 'Spelling—The Ins and Outs,' 'Accommodations for Handwriting,' and 'Digital Tools to Enhance Learning.'"

CCPS uses locally selected resources, McComb said, and this gives schools an opportunity to show off what they do during the year to keep students engaged. During the night, parents will be given strategies to help support their children at home during the year.

The ELA Literacy night will be at Calvert High School from 6 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.calvertnet.k12.md.us.

sarahmiller@countytimes.net

Calvert County Public Schools Population Continues to Decline

The official 2014 Sept. 30 count for Calvert County Public Schools is 15,633, which is 237 students fewer than last year. After more than a decade of rapid growth, the school system's population reached a high of 17,468 in 2005 before declining annually to the current enrollment.

School system funding is based in part on total population. According to Superintendent Daniel D. Curry, "This loss of enrollment will represent additional challenges as we prepare the budget for Fiscal Year 2016."

The Sept. 30 count, which is used by the Maryland State Department of Education for its funding formula, does not include students enrolled in prekindergarten and special prekindergarten because local school districts do not receive state funding for their preschool programs.

According to enrollment projections by the Maryland Department of Planning, the student population is expected to continue to decline through 2023, the last year for which projections have been calculated. Current capital planning includes the replacement of aging buildings and equipment but no additional buildings, a sharp contrast to the expansion that occurred during the past decade.

Calvert County Public Schools Press Release

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Cops & COURTS

Maryland State Police Blotter

The following information is compiled directly from publicly released police reports.

Theft: On Dec. 16 at 8:03 p.m., Trooper First Class Costello responded to the Walmart in Prince Frederick for a reported theft. Numerous items were reported stolen from the store. A surveillance camera recorded the suspects' vehicle and it was stopped by a fellow trooper near Parran Rd. in St. Leonard. Items from this Walmart theft along with numerous other items related to other Walmart Store thefts were recovered. Michael E. Richards, 24, and Michael P. Williams, 24, both of Lothian, were arrested. They were incarcerated at the Calvert County Detention Center.

Possession of Narcotics Drugs/Marijuana: On Dec. 17 at 5:01 p.m., Trooper Newcomer responded to the Peking Restaurant in Chesapeake Beach for a possible CDS complaint. Tpr. newcomer observed a possible exchange of CDS by two subjects. Erik R. Crouse, 35 of Chesapeake Beach, was found to be in possession of Subutex/Buprenorphine and Marijuana. He was arrested and incarcerated at the Calvert County Detention Center. The other subject was not charged.

Counterfeit Money: On Dec. 17 at 6:50 p.m., Trooper First Class Costello responded to the Food Lion Store in Prince Frederick for a fraud complaint. An unidentified suspect entered the store and attempted to exchange a counterfeit bill for a store gift card. When the cashier brought the bill to the store manager for conformation, the suspect fled.

Possession of Marijuana: On Dec. 21 at 11:10 a.m., Trooper First Class Barlow stopped a vehicle at Rt. 4 and German Chapel Rd. in Prince Frederick for traffic violations. A strong odor of burnt marijuana was emitting from the inside of the suspect's vehicle. A probable cause search was conducted and marijuana as located in the vehicle. The three occupants stated the marijuana was shared. Galand E. Wallace, 34 of Suitland, Melody K. Waul, 25 of Port Republic, and Janee M. White, 30 of Ft. Washington, were all issued Civil Citations and released.

SHERIFF'S BLOTTER

The following information is compiled directly from publicly released police reports.

During the week of December 15 through December 21 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,521 calls for service throughout the community.

Citizens with information on the following crimes or any criminal activity in Calvert County who wish to report it anonymously can now access the Calvert County Crime Solvers link through the Sheriff's Office website.

Go to <http://www.co.cal.md.us/residents/safety/law/sheriff/> and click on the Crime Solvers link to leave an anonymous tip on-line. Information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect could result in a \$1,000 reward.

Theft of Mail Case #14-70737:

Someone removed a package containing jewelry that was delivered to a mailbox in the 12000 block of Settlers Trail in Lusby. DFC J. Denton is investigating the theft which occurred between Dec. 10 and 17.

CDS Violation Case #14-70901:

On Dec. 17 at 11:44 p.m. Dep. T. Mohler conducted a traffic stop on Rt. 4 northbound at Auto Drive in Prince Frederick, on a vehicle suspected of being driven by an impaired operator. He made contact with the driver, Joshua Paul Porter, 39, of North Beach. Porter was found to possibly be under the influence of a narcotic. Porter was also found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia and was charged with the possession of a syringe. Porter was also cited with numerous traffic violations, including driving on a suspended license and driving while impaired by drugs.



Porter

Destruction of Property Case #14-71193:

Unknown suspect(s) caused \$800 in damage when they scratched the paint on a rental vehicle parked outside a home in the 6200 block of Solomons Island Road in Huntingtown. DFC A. Woodford is investigating the damage that occurred between Dec. 18 and 19.

Theft Case #14-71245:

On Dec. 19 at 7:52 p.m. DFC J. Hardesty responded to the Prince Frederick Walmart for the report of a theft in progress. Hardesty made contact with the loss prevention manager who advised he saw the suspect stealing items from the store. Hardesty contacted the suspect, Michael Joseph Bellini, 49, of Hughesville, who was outside the store at his vehicle being detained by Dep. C. Ward. Bellini was in possession of stolen clothing and suspected drugs, as well as a concealed weapon; a pool cue. He was arrested and charged with theft less than \$100, having a concealed dangerous weapon, and CDS possession; Alprazolam.



Bellini

Update on November Crash Involving a Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputy

On Nov. 11 at 5:52 p.m., Calvert County Sheriff's Office, Deputy First Class (Dfc.) R. Kreps was involved in a serious motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Prince Frederick Boulevard and Allnut Court in Prince Frederick while on duty. Dfc. Kreps collided with a 2013 Toyota Corolla operated by Viral Dharamshibhai Patel and occupied by front seat passenger Jitewdra Mehta. The occupants of both vehicles sustained injuries as a result of the crash and all three were transported to Calvert Memorial Hospital. Mehta was later transferred to Medstar Washington Hospital Center to be treated.

Dfc. Kreps was attempting to locate a reported vehicle operated by a possibly impaired driver. Prior to the crash, the Calvert Control Center broadcast a lookout for the vehicle traveling northbound on Prince Frederick Boulevard approaching the intersection of West Dares Beach Road. Dfc. Kreps was attempting to get to the intersection of Prince Frederick Boulevard and West Dares Beach Road to locate the vehicle. As Dfc. Kreps approached the intersection of Allnut Court, the Toyota operated by Dharamshibhai was in the process of making a left turn and had entered the southbound lane of Prince Frederick Boulevard. Dfc.

Kreps applied his brakes but was unable to avoid striking the Toyota in a "T-Bone" type collision.

Due to the severity of this crash, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Crash Reconstruction Team responded to conduct the investigation. A draft of the reconstruction report was submitted on Dec. 17. Sergeant V. Bortchevsky and Corporal James Wahlgren worked together to examine the evidence that included the following: roadway evidence, photographs, vehicle damage profiles, a witness statement, vehicle evidence, Bosch Crash Data Retrieval reports from Dfc. Kreps' agency vehicle and the Toyota, and Kreps' in car video. In addition to reviewing the evidence, a night time visibility study was conducted in order to recreate the driver's view from the perspectives of both drivers. Calculations were also taken to determine the speeds of both vehicles, pre and post impact.

The reconstruction investigation determined there were two contributing factors, speed and line of site. Dfc. Kreps was traveling at a high rate of speed attempting to locate the impaired driver when he approached the intersection of Allnut Court. The driver of the Toyota's line of site to Dfc. Kreps' vehicle was approximately 320 feet to the north viewing the south-

bound lanes of Prince Frederick Boulevard. Thus it was impossible for the operator of the Toyota to see Dfc. Kreps' vehicle prior to making the left turn. As with every departmental crash, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office of Professional Standards is conducting an internal investigation of this incident.

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office places a heavy emphasis on the safe operation of agency vehicles. While Maryland Vehicle Law Section 21-106 exempts drivers of emergency vehicles from having to obey certain laws, emergency vehicles must be driven with the due regard for the safety of others at all times. We continue to conduct training on the operation of emergency vehicles and pursuit tactics. Deputies know they are held accountable for their driving and for the speeds at which they are traveling at all times, even more so during a pursuit and/or priority response to an emergency call for service. As an additional layer of risk management, supervisors are required to acknowledge and monitor all emergency response calls and adjust the deputy's response as circumstances dictate.

Calvert County Sheriff's Office Press Release

Cops &
COURTS

Delaware Man Charged with Aggravated Animal Cruelty

By Lauren Procopio
Staff Writer

Kesnel Dorce, of New Castle, Delaware, was charged with aggravated animal cruelty for allegedly breaking the two front-legs of his then-girlfriend's pit bull puppy, Roxie, on Oct. 19.

On Monday Nov. 24, Animal Control Officer Christie Montgomery responded to 3025 Karen Drive in Chesapeake Beach to check on the welfare of Jennifer Conroy's pit bull puppy, Roxie, whose two front-legs were allegedly broken by Dorce.

According to court documents, Montgomery made contact with Jennifer Conroy's mother, Kathy Ann Conroy, who allegedly became defensive with the officer and immediately handed the officer a paper and stated, "I know you are here about the puppy, we had her euthanized this morning."

The document was a receipt from the Dunkirk Animal Hospital dated Nov. 24, which was issued to Jennifer Conroy, indicating, an 18-week old, 13 pound, female pit-bull/pug mix puppy was euthanized.

According to court documents, Kathy Conroy informed Montgomery her daughter said Dorce admitted to breaking Roxie's two front legs on Oct. 19, changing his statement multiple times. Dorce originally claimed the injuries were accidental and said the puppy was underneath a vehicle, which Dorce had jacked up, and he accidentally lowered the vehicle's tire onto the puppy. Dorce later stated to Jennifer Conway the puppy had bit him and he hurt Roxie on purpose, according to court documents.

On Dec. 12, Montgomery made contact with Jennifer Conroy, who stated she took Roxie on a camping trip with Dorce on the weekend of Oct. 18 and said while on the trip, Dorce had "hit the puppy and was yelling at the puppy when she intervened and told Dorce not to put his hands on her dog anymore," according to court documents.

According to court documents, Conroy stated when they returned to her residence in Chesapeake Beach from the camping trip, she went inside and went to sleep, Dorce later came in and woke her claiming Roxie's legs were broken. Conroy stated Dorce said the puppy had bit him, although Conroy said she did not see any evidence of the injury and Dorce did not show her any wounds.

Court documents state Conroy and Dorce took Roxie to Allied Partners Veterinary Emergency Services (APEVS) in Huntingtown and according to veterinary records, the couple told Dr. Ania Langrall, of APEVS, Roxie was trapped underneath the car tire without being noticed. The couple then stated Dorce "noticed that Roxie was missing and found the pet trapped and the pet reacted painfully" and bit Dorce when released.

However, according to court documents, Conroy stated in early November, Dorce changed his story and told her he tried to pull Roxie out from the under the car and she bit him. Conroy stated Dorce, "lost his temper and hit the dog then tossed the dog and that was how Roxie's legs were broken." According to court documents, Conroy stated when Dorce admitted to intentionally harming the dog, she ended the relationship.

According to court documents, Conroy received opinions from Dr. Rodney Oakley, DMV of Mid Atlantic Specialty Hospital, and Dr. Carey Goehle, DMV of Dunkirk Animal Hospital, who both stated Roxie had "serious injuries to her forelimbs" and needed immediate surgery, but due to financial constraints, Conroy was unable to pay for the operation and had Roxie euthanized at the Dunkirk Animal Hospital Nov. 24.

Dorce has a court hearing scheduled for Feb. 4, 2015 at the Calvert County District Court, according to online records.

lauren@somdpublishing.net

Police Capture Man In Cross County Chase

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The man who led police on a car chase because they smelled marijuana emanating from his car during a traffic stop abandoned his two year old child in the vehicle after it crashed in a field and he fled from law officers on foot, police charging documents stated.

Frank Richard Taitano, Jr. has since been released on bond with charges of possession of marijuana with more charges pending, according to police reports.

The incident began Dec. 19 in Calvert County when a sheriff's deputy noticed Taitano's vehicle on southbound Route 4 without a front registration plate.

The deputy followed Taitano over the Thomas Johnson Bridge into St. Mary's and conducted a traffic stop; it was at this time that the deputy noticed the smell of burnt marijuana and a small child in the back seat of the car.

The deputy ordered Taitano to exit the vehicle repeatedly but he refused and when the deputy tried to stop Taitano from rolling up his driver side window Taitano began striking the deputy's arm.

Taitano then sped away, according to charging documents and the deputy pursued as he fled down Patuxent Boulevard and then on to Clearbrook Lane. Police said Taitano left the road and sped across a hilly field for almost half a mile where the vehicle went airborne and the hood of the car flew back and smashed the front windshield.

The vehicle finally came to a stop about 15 feet from the edge of cliff that bordered the Patuxent River.



Taitano exited the vehicle, retrieved a four-foot long object from the trunk and fled on foot and into a residence. Law officers were able to get Taitano's female child out of the vehicle.

While deputies from Calvert and St. Mary's put up a perimeter around the house they got calls from neighbors across a nearby creek that someone matching Taitano's description was walking in the woods near their backyards.

Police moved to cut Taitano off as he moved to Deer Crossing Lane on foot where he was eventually apprehended, according to charging documents.

Taitano told police that he ran because he had marijuana in the car — he said that was a bag filled with marijuana — put police were unable to find it.

Police said the object appeared to be a long gun.

When they searched Taitano's car they found marijuana residue and bags containing one ounce of marijuana each; they also found a .40-caliber cartridge.

Charges Taitano could be facing in St. Mary's include fleeing and alluding police as well as child abuse, child neglect, child abandonment and assaulting a police officer.

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Letters to the EDITOR

Common Core

Perry Miller's December 12 letter ("Letter writer should do more research") is, to use an F. Lee Bailey analogy, "Ten pounds of bologna in a five pound bag."

What Mr. Miller calls "inaccuracies" in my letter are, I submit, truths the liberals don't like to hear.

When the forerunner of the Department of Education was created in the 1800's, it occupied an aperture of the Interior Department smaller than the one-room school-house on Brooms Island road. Today's Education Department operates on an annual budget of 14 billion and has 5,000 salaried employees.

Mr. Miller states that schools are "free to decline" the federal funds. I have a question for Mr. Miller. Have you ever known a hog to decline slop?

Earlier this month in a letter to the Calvert Recorder newspaper, I accused Calvert County Public Schools of stifling their teachers. The silence from Superintendent Daniel Curry has been deafening.

Like the Corelone family in The Godfather, the Education Department extends desperately-needed funds to cash-strapped schools—in effect, makes them an "offer."

Teachers in New York, Missouri, Texas, Utah, Arizona and Michigan have been intimidated and harassed for speaking out against Common Core.

- <http://stopcommoncoreinmichigan.com/2014/03/teachers-silenced/>
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/09/michael-watson-common-core_n_4570645.html
- <http://freepatriot.org/2014/01/06/teachers-threatened-speaking-common-core/>
- <http://www.txscopereview.com/2012/cscope-texas-teachers-given-gag-order/>

There is a word for federal funding. It's called lucre – sometimes known as "filthy lucre."

When only one side of a divisive issue is heard – the side signing the paychecks – it generally means the other side has been silenced.

The Common Core cheerleader at the PTA gathering here in Calvert, Robin Welsch, is a former special education teacher. Even as she was extolling Common Core as the greatest breakthrough since the invention of the wheel, Ms. Welsch certainly knew students with intellectual disabilities were almost guaranteed to be left behind by the new standards. I have to conclude that their futures mean less to her than federal lucre.

I have a question for Ms. Welsch. What is the going price, in federal funds, for a former special education teacher's soul?

Edward C. Davenport,
Drum Point, Md

New Year's Resolution from The Skin Cancer Foundation: DON'T TAN

The new year is around the corner, and with it comes the opportunity to start fresh and ditch unhealthy habits. The Skin Cancer Foundation encourages everyone to resolve to stop tanning in the New Year. Avoiding tanning is more important than ever since tanning bed use, particularly among young people, is an alarmingly widespread behavior in the U.S., over 35 percent of adults and 55 percent of college students have tanned indoors.

This anti-tanning message is particularly relevant for college students. Millions of college students nationwide have immediate access to indoor tanning salons. According to a recent study, nearly half of the nation's top colleges offer indoor tanning facilities on or near campus despite the definitive link between indoor tanning and the development of skin cancer.

"While indoor tanning may seem like an easy way to achieve glowing skin, it comes with consequences," said Perry Robins, MD, President of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "It causes permanent damage and plays a significant role in the development of skin cancer, so getting in a tanning bed can put your life in danger."

UV radiation, both from the sun and through using a tanning bed, is directly linked to skin cancer—just one indoor tanning session before the age of 35 increases melanoma risk by 75 percent. One session also increases the risk of the basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma by 29 percent and 67 percent, respectively. Basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma are the two most common forms of skin cancer.

Whether "laying out" or visiting a tanning salon, there is no such thing as safe tan. In addition to increasing skin cancer risk, tanning leads to premature skin aging, including wrinkles, leathery skin and age spots.

The Skin Cancer Foundation advocates embracing one's natural skin tone and its Go With Your Own Glow™ campaign encourages women to love and protect their skin, whatever its natural hue. However, those who can't resist the bronzed look but won't sacrifice their health to achieve it should consider sunless UV-free tanners. They are available in many different formulations, including creams, lotions, gels, pump sprays, aerosols and wipes.

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Submitted by The Skin Cancer Foundation.


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Associate Publisher	Eric McKay
Editorial Production Manager	Angie Kalnasy
Junior Designer	Kasey Russell
Office Manager	Tobie Pulliam
Advertising	sales@somdpublishing.net
Email	info@somdpublishing.net
Phone	301-373-4125





P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636

Staff Writers
Lauren Procopio
Sarah Miller

Contributing Writers
Laura Joyce
Susan Shaw

Law Enforcement
Government, Community

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Showing Christmas Spirit

By Emily Charles
Contributing Writer

Christmas trees are one of the most significant symbols of the holiday season, and what's a Christmas tree without a little decoration? If you're still looking for that perfect gift or for just the right ornament to complete your tree's Christmas glow, check out the 7th Annual Ornament Show and Sale at Annmarie Garden!

The show includes a host of decorated Christmas trees to be admired, examined, and shopped from, according to gift shop manager and event coordinator K Glascock. The ornaments hanging from these trees were created by 22 local artists, and are made from materials such as cloth, wood, crab and oyster shells, mixed metals and recycled glass, Glascock said.

The event will run through Jan. 2, 2015, so there's still plenty of time to swing by and admire the work of these local community artists. So far, the event has been a success, Glascock said.

"This year's turn out has been very good. It's a very popular event. We have people who come in every year, who come back because there are orna-

ments from a lot of the same artists, but they change up their style a bit every year so no one's seeing the same thing. There are new artists every year, so there's always a good variety to look at," Glascock said.

Glascock said that it has been a delight to witness the talent of the participating artists.

"When the trees are all set up, seeing the amount of creativity the artists have, to see them turn something recyclable into something beautiful, it's really great," she said.

The Ornament Show and Sale is free of admission charge, and is a wonderful place to find "great handmade gifts at an affordable price," Glascock said.

Whether you're looking for a gift or simply looking, the Ornament Show and Sale is something you don't want to miss.

For more information about the 7th Annual Ornament Show & Sale at Annmarie Garden, call 410-326-4640, visit www.annmariegarden.org, or stop by Annmarie Garden at 13480 Dowell Road in Lusby. The show is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

contributing@countytimes.net

Arc of Southern Maryland Seeking Care Providers

For many, the holiday season can be expensive and jobs are hard to come by. The Arc of Southern Maryland is looking for part time care providers to work at the 29 group homes in the area.

These are not temporary jobs, according to Arc of Southern Maryland Human Resources Director Angel Wright. Applicants can expect to cook, clean and help with bathing and transportation. The Arc is

looking for people who are compassionate and have a heart for working with individuals with developmental disabilities.

The pay will start at \$9.85 per hour and go up to \$10.10 when an individual is certified to pass out medications. The Arc will pay for training and all part-time employees are eligible to join the credit union and the 403 B retirement plan.

Shop With a Cop Assists 75 Calvert Children

On Dec. 13 law enforcement officers from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police, Maryland Natural Resources Police, and the Prince George's County Police Department volunteered their services and free time to assist 75 Calvert County children with the annual Shop with a Cop event. Children from all over the county ranging in ages from 6 to 12 were picked up and escorted to the Mama Lucia's Restaurant in Prince Frederick where they were treated to donuts, milk, juice and breakfast pizza. The children had a special surprise visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus who handed out candy canes to every child who came and visited with them. Each child that visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus was also photographed courtesy of Christi Wilson and provided with a copy of the picture to give to their family members. After their scrumptious breakfast, they were given a full police escort with lights and sirens to the K-Mart in Prince Frederick where each child was given \$150 to purchase a gift for themselves as well as their family members. Several of the children had to be reminded to get something for themselves as it is part of the program. Once they finished shopping they were escorted to the Prince Frederick VFD where the members generously opened their doors to the



children and provided tables where they could wrap the purchased gifts. The children were treated to lunch provided by the Chic-Fil-A in California. Toys for Tots also set up several tables with one toy for every child in attendance. Calvert County is a wonderful place to live and raise children. Many people donated funds to the program all year long which has enabled us to be able to conduct a Christmas and Back to School campaign. Thank you to all involved.

Calvert County Sheriff's Office Press Release.

Senior Citizen News

Young at Heart
SENIOR LIVING

Holiday Closing

The centers will be closed for the Christmas holiday, Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. There will be no Meals on Wheels delivery Thursday. Meals on Wheels will be delivered Friday. The senior centers will also be closed Thursday, January 1. No Meals on Wheels will be delivered.

Bowl with a "Friend"

Friends of Calvert County Seniors, Inc. is hosting Bowl with a "Friend", Sunday, February 22, 2015, 2 - 4 p.m. at Lord Calvert Bowl. There will be door prizes, 50/50 and a wheel of prizes. The fee of \$25 / person includes two hours of bowling and shoes. Register at Calvert Pines Senior Center. For more information, call 410-535-4606 or 301-855-1170. The proceeds from this event will be used to improve the quality of life for qualified local seniors by providing funds which assist them to remain independent when government or grant funds are insufficient. Visit their website at <http://friendsofcccse-niors.googlepages.com>.

Office on Aging Snow Policy

If the Calvert County Courthouse is open, the Office on Aging (OOA) will be open. You will need to listen to the local radio stations to hear whether County services such as Public Transportation will be available. Check with your class instructors to find out about their snow policy. If schools are delayed or closed, the Office on Aging will make every effort to have meals available for the Eating Together program at all three senior centers.

Calvert Pines Senior Center (CPSC)

Come for the New Year's Toast, Wednesday, December 31, 11:45 a.m., then enjoy a festive lunch with friends.

Calvert Pines Senior Council is accepting charitable donations of new and gently used items for the yard sale and silent auction. No books or clothing. Drop donations off at Calvert Pines Senior Center, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

North Beach Senior Center (NBSC)

Enjoy a special New Year's Eve Luncheon and Toast, Wednesday, December 31, 11:30 a.m. while listening to the tunes of Frank Sinatra.

Have a cup of coffee with staff and get any questions answered you may have about the center at the Center Happenings Coffee Time, Friday, January 2, 9:30 a.m.

Southern Pines Senior Center (SPSC)

Join in the New Year's Eve Sing-Along, Wednesday, December 31, 11:30 a.m. After lunch, enjoy bingo with prizes.

Learn how to make beautiful quilts at the Beginning Quilting classes, Fridays, January 2, 9, 23 and 30, 9 a.m.

EATING TOGETHER MENU

Lunches are served to seniors, aged 60-plus, and their spouses through Title IIIC of the Older Americans Act. Suggested donation is \$3. To make or cancel a reservation call: Calvert Pines Senior Center at 410-535-4606 or 301-855-1170, North Beach Senior Center at 410-257-2549, or Southern Pines Senior Center at 410-586-2748.

Monday, December 29

Baked Chicken, Macaroni and Cheese, Spinach, Corn Bread, Banana

Tuesday, December 30

Stuffed Shells, Broccoli, Bread Sticks, Clementine

Wednesday, December 31

Pork Chop with Sauer Kraut, Kale, Baked Sweet Potato, Black Eyed Peas, Eclair

Thursday, January 1

CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 2

Staff-Prepared Meal (Menu will be posted at the centers)

Volunteers Needed

Local Fire and Rescue Squads Seek Members

By Sarah Miller
Staff Writer

Have you been looking for a way to give back to your community? Do you want to do something that involves some excitement? Try helping out at your local volunteer rescue squad or fire department.

There are several roles people can play in fire and rescue squads, said Calvert County Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Specialist Ginger Manifold. There is a lot of paperwork and deadlines to meet. People can join auxiliary groups and help with fundraisers, or take classes through the University of Maryland to work as an emergency driver.

"You don't necessarily have to be on the truck," said Calvert County Public Safety Assistant Coordinator Wayne Hardesty. "Everything people do helps support the cause."

Fire and rescue stations in Calvert are 100 percent volunteer, meaning many of the people working at them are doing so in addition to a full time job.

On an average month, the 96 volunteers at Solomons Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad devote at least 2,300 hours per month to SVFDRS Chief Joe Ford, and those hours don't include time spent in training, classes and fundraising efforts.

Ford joined SVFDRS in 1993, in addition to his full time job as a career firefighter in Prince George's county. Since 1993, the volume of calls received has been on the rise. SVFDRS answers approximately 3,000 calls per year.

Getting people to volunteer has been more of a struggle in recent years, especially since the economy's downturn. People are working two jobs and more hours just to keep themselves afloat, leaving them less time than ever to volunteer.

The county has been very supportive of local fire and rescue squads, Ford said.

Recruitment is an ongoing effort, Hardesty said. They have representatives at all the county fairs and any other forum where they can meet people, including middle school and high school job fairs. One of the biggest recruiting tools Fire and Rescue employs is a cadet program offered for high school sophomore and juniors 16 and older. Students involved can earn 21 college credits toward a fire management degree and they get Fire 1, EMT, National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and rescue tech training.

The student recruitment program is offered through a partnership between the Calvert Board of Education, the University of Maryland and Fire, Rescue and EMS Services. It is free for students. The classes are managed by fire, rescue and EMS professionals and hosted by the Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department. The students are required to join a local fire or rescue squad.

"If they have the want to do this, we have everything else," Hardesty said.

There are 18 students who have gone from the recruitment program directly into career positions with fire and rescue squads in other counties, Hardesty said.



Joey Ford, left, Joe Adams, Katy Hassler and Celeste Church

Photos by Frank Marquart

Even if a student decides working in fire and rescue isn't the career path for them, the program can open a lot of doors, Manifold said. Some students have gone on to become paramedics, nurses or doctors.

In addition to the student recruitment program, each station does independent recruitment and fundraiser drives.

There are a few incentive programs for fire and rescue volunteers — there is a daycare assistance program, a tuition assistance program, local business incentive programs, a length of service award (LOSAT) and a house keys for employees program.

The Board of County Commissioners puts \$50,000 per year into the tuition assistance program. Qualifying volunteers can use the program for any college course.

The LOSAT program is one of the biggest incentives, Hardesty said. Any volunteers who put in 25 years of service are eligible, at age 55, to receive up to \$400 per month. If a volunteer hasn't put in 25 years of service when they reach age 55, they will receive LOSAT funding when they reach 25 years of service.

"There's a lot of family tradition at the fire stations in the county," Ford said. Most of his children are members at SVFDRS, and Ford was inspired to join because of other

members in his family. For a lot of people, the fire and rescue squads become part of their extended family, he said.

When Hardesty joined the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Squad, the fire and rescue squads were the place to hang out. Now, there are other places for students and young adults to spend their free time. Kids don't understand the benefit in volunteering because there's not an immediate payoff.

"People do it for love and excitement," Ford said.

Volunteers are something special, Hardesty said. For little to no compensation, they will get out of bed in the middle of the night to help a stranger during their darkest hour.

"Some people aren't cut from that cloth, but a lot of people are," he said.

As a thank you for the volunteers, there is a Volunteer Appreciation Day held in May, open to volunteers and their immediate families only. Additionally, each fire and rescue squad has an awards banquet.

For more information, visit www.calvertfirerescueems.com.

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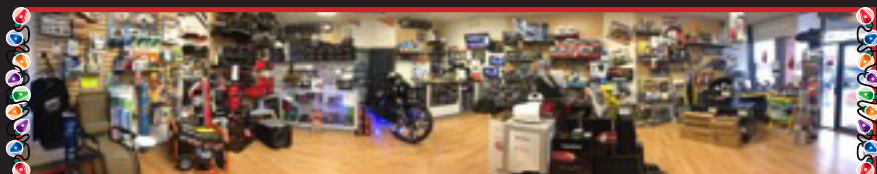
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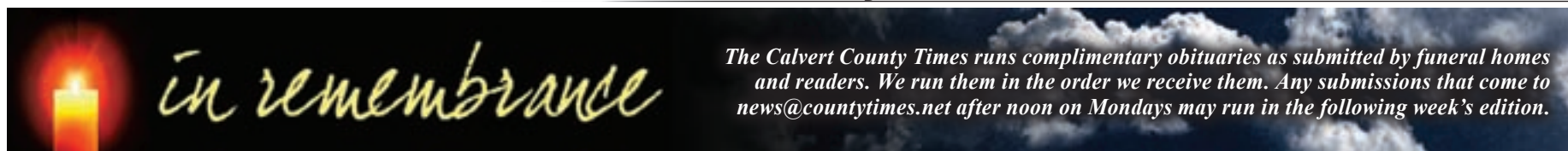
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Susan Ellen Holzer, 63

Susan Ellen Holzer, 63, of St. Leonard, Md. passed away Dec. 18, at her home. She was born March 3, 1951, in Washington D.C. to the late Bruce Edward and Lena Ellen Mumaw Holzer. Susan loved the beach and to travel, and has been known to go on five to six cruises a year. She also was a very devoted grandmother and great grandmother, and loved spending time with her family.

Susan is survived by daughters, Lisa Carrigan and her husband Scott, and Lori Pixton and her husband Jim, Jr. Grandmother of Joel, Jenna, and Levi Pixton, Scotty, Steven, Sarah, Shianne and Seth Carrigan. Great Grandmother of MJ, Mason and Mackaya Huskey, she is also survived by her sister, Carol Holzer.

The family received friends on Saturday, Dec. 20, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Rausch Funeral Home, 4405 Broomes Island Rd., Port Republic, where services followed at 11 a.m. Interment was in Chesapeake Highlands Memorial Gardens, Port Republic. Memorial contributions may be made to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas Texas 75265-0309.

Marjorie Jane "Mimi" Scheel, 92

Marjorie Jane "Mimi" Scheel, 92, of Solomons, Md., formerly of Royal Palm Beach, Fla. passed away on Dec. 1, at her residence.

Born July 6, 1922 in St. Georges Island, Md., she was the daughter of the late Charles and Mavis M. (Twilly) Milburn.

Marge married Frederick Grant Scheel in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 13, 1942. She was preceded in death by her husband in December of 2005. Marge relocated from Royal Palm Beach, Fla. to Solomons, Md. in April of 2006.

Marge is survived by her children, Priscilla J. Rollins of Bivalve, Md., Donna J. Lauritson (Levin) of Solomons, Md., and Marjorie J. Moore (Woodrow) of Kenneth City, Fla.; five grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and her sister, Gloria Schuh of Solomons, Md.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015 from 11 a.m. until noon at the Rausch Funeral Home, 20 American Lane, Lusby. A memorial service will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Eugenia Evans at noon. Inurnment will be in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. at a date to be determined.

Memorial contributions may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, Md. 20678. If possible, contributions are encouraged to be made at calverthospice.org. Condolences to the family may be made at rauschfuneralhomes.com.



C. Insley Owings II, 66

C. Insley Owings II, 66, of Dayton Beach Fla. and formerly of Calvert County passed away Dec. 12, in Port Orange, Fla. with his brother by his side. He was born Aug. 3, 1948 in Prince Frederick to George Jr. and "Mary Mac" Owings. Insley was raised in North Beach and attended Beach Elementary, Beach Junior High and Calvert Senior High Schools before transferring to Kentucky Military Institute. After graduating in 1966 from KMI, he attended Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., earning a Bachelor of Arts. He joined the United States Army in 1970, and became a pilot on rotary and fixed wing aircraft. Upon his discharge from the Army, Insley returned to school and worked at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, N.C. Insley then worked for Eastern Airlines as a flight attendant from 1978-82. He moved to Daytona Beach, Fla. in 1984 and was employed at the Daytona Raceway until suffering an injury in 1986 when he retired. Insley enjoyed coin collecting, reading, water skiing, and he loved playing baseball.

He was preceded in death by his parents George, Jr. and "Mary Mac" Owings. Insley is survived by brother George Owings III, nephew George Owings IV and wife Lara, great-nephews Jackson and Emerson Owings, aunt and uncle Max and Connie Lyons of Virginia Beach, Va., special cousin Kitty Beck Wilson, and numerous other cousins.

A memorial service and celebration of Insley's life will be held Sunday, Dec. 28, at 2 p.m. at North Beach Union Church. To leave condolences visit rauschfuneralhomes.com.



Kenneth Russell Ladd, 44

Kenneth Russell Ladd, 44, of Shady Side passed away Dec. 18, in Baltimore, Md. He was born June 30, 1970 in Portsmouth, Va. to Thomas William and Patricia Anne (Bratt) Ladd.



Ken was raised in Shady Side and attended Shady Side Elementary, and Southern Middle and High Schools, graduating in 1988. As a teenager, Ken was a volunteer firefighter at Station 41 in Avalon Shores. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy on July 25, 1988, earning the National Defense Service Medal. Ken completed his reserve obligation and was honorably discharged on July 13, 1996. Ken married Georgia Kay Chaney on July 22, 1995 and they briefly lived in North Beach before building a home in Shady Side. Ken worked as a firefighter at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis and on Aug. 26, 1993, he began his career with the Anne Arundel County Fire Department. He rose to Lieutenant and worked at many stations including West Annapolis, Deale, Glen Burnie and Riva. Ken was a member of Friendship United Methodist Church and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1563. He enjoyed watching sports, especially the Baltimore Ravens and also enjoyed fishing, golf, boating, traveling and was an accomplished woodworker. Above all, Ken loved spending time with his family and friends, especially his children.

Ken is surviving by his devoted wife Georgia K. Ladd, son Andrew W. Ladd and daughter Sara A. Ladd. Also surviving are his parents Patricia A. and Thomas W. Ladd of Shady Side, sister Stephanie S. Younker of Shady Side, brothers Michael B. Ladd of Glen Burnie and Thomas Wayne Ladd of Shady Side and numerous cousins and other family members.

Family and friends were received Sunday, Dec. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 22 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Rausch Funeral Home, P.A., Owings. A funeral service and celebration of Ken's life was Tuesday, 11 a.m. at Friendship U.M. Church. Interment followed in Mt. Harmony U.M. Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Kenny Ladd Memorial Fund, Navy Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 3100, Merrifield Va. 22119. To leave condolences visit rauschfuneralhomes.com.

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AT HOME

Until Next Time: How to Pack Your Holiday Decorations

Soon it will be time to bid farewell to another holiday season. By now the gifts have been unwrapped and the last of the turkey leftovers are long gone. The only task that remains is to put away all of those holiday decorations that have been decking the halls since Thanksgiving.

Although packing holiday decorations may not be a favorite task, the following strategies can save both time and effort.

- Get motivated. The first supply you need when putting holiday decorations away is a healthy dose of motivation. It's easy to put off the taking down of lights or rolling up of holiday garlands, but the earlier you start the more quickly you can move on from the holiday season. Plan a day when you can pack away decorations, and do not schedule anything else for that day.

- Purchase storage bins. Stock up on storage bins as they go on sale. Even if you end up with extra bins you ultimately don't need to store holiday decorations, you will no doubt find another use for them. Choose bins of various sizes and don't be afraid to use takeout containers, which can hold smaller items and be stacked inside of larger bins to keep everything neat and organized. Zip-top storage bags are also handy for ornament hooks and other small trinkets.

- Find cushioning material. Fragile ornaments will need to be packed in some sort of soft wrapping to prevent breakage. Tissue paper, newspaper, old dish towels, and even faux polyester "snow" can be used to line bins and boxes. Label accordingly so you can isolate the breakable items.

- Start with the tree. If you have a live tree, this should be the first item you remove. The longer the tree dries out, the bigger the mess it creates. Take down the lights and spool onto an empty paper towel tube or package into individual plastic bags to avoid knots and kinks. Thread a tree bag over the top of the empty tree and scoop around the bottom to contain as many pine needles as possible. Drag the tree outdoors and dispose or recycle according to neighborhood collection guidelines. Vacuum up any fallen needles.



dles. If you have an artificial tree, take the same steps, but store the tree away for next year.

- Divide your home up into quadrants. You likely use the same decorations in the same places each year. To make decorating easier next year, dismantle holiday displays and pack them up according to specific areas of the home. For example, store all picture window decorations in one bin and label thusly. Continue to store decorations according to the room where they are hung. Items that are used strictly for outdoors can be grouped together and stored in the garage.

- Use a giftwrap organizer. Under-the-bed storage containers are ideal for storing gift wrap and assorted accessories. You also can use a hanging shoe organizer to store bows, tape and name tags. Wrapping paper rolls also can be stored horizontally over rafters in the attic or garage.

- Be especially careful with candles. Pack candles separately from other items, as candles must be kept in a relatively cool area so they do not melt when temperatures rise.

- Keep an empty bin handy. Use this bin to store any gifts or decorations you buy throughout the year. This way you won't forget where you stashed them.

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Library Events

December – All Month

• December Art in the Stacks-Sue Belmore

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way

Watercolor, scenes of southern MD, such as blue crabs, Allen's Fresh, Charles County, old local tobacco barns, blue herons, and wild flowers. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

• December Artist of the Month: JAX, Medium: Photography

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach

Jax Photography is based in Chesapeake Beach, Maryland. They are a husband and wife team that has been photographing weddings together for many years. They are award winning and published worldwide. They pride themselves in the ability to creatively document one of the greatest moments in your life. Their background in photo-journalism gives them a unique and very natural approach to the art of wedding photography. 410-257-2411

Thursday, Dec. 18

• Resume and Cover Letter Workshop

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way – 1 to 3 p.m.

Need help with your resume? Join job counselor Sandra Holler in a small group to learn what makes a strong resume and cover letter. If you have one

started, bring it with you so editing can happen on the spot. Please register. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

• Holiday Evening Storytime

Abigail Francisco School of Classical Ballet, 4110 3rd Street, North Beach – 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Please join us for a special Holiday Evening Storytime featuring favorite stories and holiday dancers. 410-257-2411

• Holiday Concert and Singalong

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way – 7 to 8 p.m.

Bring the family for hot cocoa and glorious holiday music. Very popular vocalists Emily Bowen Mudd, Nate Bowen and others will share some of their favorite tunes and get you in the holiday frame of mind. Make it a holiday tradition to visit the library for cocoa and a song! 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

Friday, Dec. 19

• On Pins & Needles

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

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

• Southern Matinee

Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons – 1 to

4 p.m.

Join us for an award-winning 2013 film featuring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney on a catastrophic space journey. 410-326-5289

Saturday, Dec. 20

• Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & more

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way – noon to 3 p.m.

Want to learn Mahjongg? Hope to make your Scrabble skills killer? Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us! Please register. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

Monday, Dec. 22

• On Pins & Needles

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach – 1 to 4 p.m.

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-257-2411

Tuesday, Dec. 23

• Flying Needles

Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons – 7 to 8:45 p.m.

Knitting, crocheting and portable crafting group open to anyone wanting to join in and share talents, crafting time or learn a new skill. 410-326-5289

Wednesday, Dec. 24

• Library closed for Christmas Eve

Thursday, Dec. 25

• Library closed for Christmas Day

Friday, Dec. 26

• On Pins & Needles

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

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

Monday, Dec. 29

• On Pins & Needles

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach – 1 to 4 p.m.

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-257-2411

Tuesday, Dec. 30

• Flying Needles

Calvert Library Southern Branch, 13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons – 7 to 8:45 p.m.

Knitting, crocheting and portable crafting group open to anyone wanting to join in and share talents, crafting time or learn a new skill. 410-326-5289

Wednesday, Dec. 31

• Library closes at 5 p.m. for New Year's Eve

January – All Month

• Art in the Stacks-Sue Belmore Watercolor

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way

Scenes of Southern Maryland, such as blue crabs, Allen's Fresh, Charles County, old local tobacco barns, blue herons, and wild flowers. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

Thursday, Jan. 1

• Closed for New Year's Day

Friday, Jan. 2

• On Pins & Needles

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

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

• JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach – 1 to 4 p.m.

Stop by to get job counseling, resume help, search for jobs and get connected with Southern Maryland JobSource. This 38' mobile center features 11 computer workstations, smart board instructional technology, satellite internet access, exterior audio visual and broadcasting capabilities; state of the art workforce applications and connectivity for wireless mobile device access. 410-257-2411

Saturday, Jan. 3

• Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & more

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way – noon to 3 p.m.

Want to learn Mahjongg? Hope to make your Scrabble skills killer? Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us. Please register. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

Monday, Jan. 5

• Monday Morning Movies & More

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way – 10 to 11 a.m.

Bring the little ones for a movie and a story!, 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862

• On Pins & Needles

Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch, 3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach – 1 to 4 p.m.

Bring your quilting, needlework, knitting, crocheting, or other project for an afternoon of conversation and shared creativity. 410-257-2411

For more information, visit calvert.lib.md.us

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Going On

In Entertainment

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Open Mic Night

Ruddy Duck (13200 Dowell Rd, Dowell) – 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 26

Karaoke

DB McMillan's Irish Pub and Grill (23415 Three Notch Road, California) – 8 p.m.

FUBAR

Toot's Bar (23971 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood) – 8:30 p.m.

Scarlet Plus Karaoke

Brass Rail Sports Bar (20331 Point Lookout Road, Great Mills) – 9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 27

Karaoke

Applebee's (45480 Miramar Way, California) – 9 p.m.

Lounge Hound

Ruddy Duck (16800 Piney Point Rd, Piney Point) – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 28

Higher Standards

Ruddy Duck (16800 Piney Point Rd, Piney Point) – 11 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 29

Team Trivia

Ruddy Duck (13200 Dowell Rd, Dowell) – 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30

Open Mic

Toot's Bar (23971 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood) – 11 a.m.

DJ Spitfire

Memories Bar (2360 Old Washington Road, Waldorf) – 9 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 31

Open Mic Night

Ruddy Duck (13200 Dowell Rd, Dowell) – 7 p.m.

New Year's Eve Party

Toot's Bar (23971 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood) – 9 a.m.

New Year's Eve Party

Brass Rail Sports Bar (20331 Point Lookout Road, Great Mills) – 9 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 3

Hydra FX

Toot's Bar (23971 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood) – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 4

John Shaw

Ruddy Duck (16800 Piney Point Rd, Piney Point) – 11 a.m.

Monday, Jan 5

Team Trivia

Ruddy Duck (13200 Dowell Rd, Dowell) – 7 p.m.

The Calvert County Times is always looking for more local talent to feature! To submit art or band information for our entertainment section, e-mail info@somdpublishing.net. Please submit calendar listings by 12 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to our Thursday publication.



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Community Events

December Month Long

Feast Your Eyes: The Art of Food

Annmarie Sculpture Garden Arts Center, 13480 Dowell Rd., Dowell - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 28 to Sunday, Dec. 28

For more information on this event, please call 410-326-4640.

"Small Works" Fine Art Unique Gifts Holiday Show

Artworks@7th Fine Art Unique Gifts, 9100 Bay Ave., North Beach - 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays, Dec. 22, 29

For more information please call 410-286-5278.

Monday Memories House Tours

Jefferson Patterson Park Museum 10515 Mackall Rd., St. Leonard - 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Dec. 1 to Dec. 31

For more information please call 410-586-8501.

Ornament Show Sale

Annmarie Sculpture Garden Arts Center, 13480 Dowell Rd., Dowell - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 1 to Dec. 31

For more information please call 410-326-4640 Monday, Dec. 1 - Wednesday, Dec. 31

Artworks@7th "Small Works" Holiday Show

Artworks@7th, 9100 Bay Avenue, North Beach - Nov. 28 to Dec. 28

As the Holiday season approaches, the artists of Artworks@7th have been busily preparing one-of-a-kind "Small Works" trinkets, stocking stuffers, and other unique works of art to help customers new and old celebrate the season and be a gift giving superstar. The results of these efforts will be on display as the Gallery's December "Small Works" Holiday Show. This special show will run from Nov. 28 thru Dec. 28 with an opening reception and complimentary refreshments on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 1 to 5 p.m. So come on out and peruse the distinctive works of the Gallery's creative and talented local artists - you might just find that something special for friends, family, or even for yourself!

While you're at it you can also get a look at works of photography and handmade jewelry by our newest member artists, see the works our other artists have been producing or just get out of the house and do something that's free, visually appealing, and fun. Beautiful silk dyed scarves; jewelry for the young and the not so young; still life, landscape, and abstract paintings of various styles and techniques; photographs of the familiar and not so familiar; and ceramics with some new glaze explorations, are just a few of the artworks available for you to peruse and enjoy.

The gallery will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, except Mondays, between Nov. 28 and Dec. 24. Our telephone number is 410-286-5278 or you can visit our website at artworksat7th.com.

Transient Epiphanies Art Gallery

College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Theatre, 8730 Mitchell Rd., La Plata - 6 p.m., Jan. 26 to 27

- Nov. 17 to Dec. 20

CSM Tony Hungerford Memorial Art Gallery: Kathryn Myers, Transient Epiphanies. Nov. 17 to Dec. 20. Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Tony Hungerford Memorial Art Gallery, 8730 Mitchell Rd., La Plata. Painter Kathryn Myers focuses on the art, culture and religious traditions of India in her work. She has recently integrated video in her work to explore and convey audio and visual responses to India, particularly the architecture and activities found in sacred spaces. The gallery is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Myers will discuss her work at a Gallery Talk at noon on Nov. 18. This event is free. For more information please email bxffc@csmd.edu, call (301) 934 7828, or visit csmd.edu/Arts/HungerfordGallery.html.

"Look Through Any Window" Photography Gallery

calvART Gallery, 110 Solomons Island Rd S, Prince Frederick - 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 5 to Dec. 25

"Look Through Any Window", November's group show at the CalvART Gallery, features three photographers: Lonnie Harkins, Kevin Higgins, and Alyson Schwartz. This photographers' group show at the gallery in Prince Frederick will be on display from Nov. 5 to Nov. 30.

The CalvART Gallery is located in the Prince Frederick Shopping Center at the intersection of routes 4 and 231 nestled between the Sakura Restaurant and Dreamweaver Cafe. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Starting Nov. 28th, the gallery will be open every day until Christmas. For more information, go to calvartgallery.org, or call 410-535-9252.

January Month Long

CSM Tony Hungerford Memorial Art Gallery: Erin Wiersma, Liminal Territories

College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Tony Hungerford Memorial Art Gallery, 8730 Mitchell Rd., La Plata - Jan. 26 to March 20

Erin Wiersma's current work explores what exists beyond the edges of the surface, beyond the image itself. In these new drawings she seeks to address the liminal within her work to reconnect with the performance of making, seeking a confluence between the spiritual and material aspects of being. The gallery is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wiersma will discuss her work at a Gallery Talk on Feb. 10. Admission is free. For more information please email bxffc@csmd.edu, call 301-934-7828, or visit csmd.edu/Arts/HungerfordGallery.html.

CSM Open Auditions for Spring Productions

College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Theatre, 8730 Mitchell Rd., La Plata - 6 p.m., Jan. 26 to 27

The College of Southern Maryland

will hold auditions for *All Out* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Prepare a one-minute monologue. Performances will take place between March 15 and April 26. Please email HHight@csmd.edu, call (301) 934-7828, or visit csmd.edu/Arts for more information.

CSM Children's Theatre: Treasure Island

College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus, Fine Arts (FA) Building, Theatre, 8730 Mitchell Rd., La Plata 7 p.m., Jan. 30. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Jan. 31.

Treasure Island is the story of a stunning yarn of piracy on the tropical seas. At the center of it all are young Jim Hawkins, a 14-year-old boy who longs for adventure, and the infamous Long John Silver, who is a complex study of good and evil, perhaps the most famous hero-villain of all time. Cost is \$7 for adults and seniors, and \$5 for youth. For more information please email bxffc@csmd.edu, call (301) 934-7828, or visit csmd.edu/Arts.

Thursday, Dec. 25

Annual Christmas Dinner

American Legion, 3330 Chesapeake Beach Rd., Chesapeake Beach 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SMILE Ecumenical Ministries, Inc. will be hosting its annual Christmas dinner on Christmas day, Dec. 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be held at the American Legion in Lusby. Santa will be there, too. Everyone is welcome! For information on SMILE, please check the web page at smileinc.org.

Friday, Dec. 26

Chesapeake Critters

Calvert Marine Museum, 14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons

Learn about the amazing animals in the Calvert Marine Museum aquarium. Free with museum admission. Check daily events schedule at the admissions desk.

Saturday, Dec. 27

Toy Boat Building

Calvert Marine Museum, 14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons - 2 to 4 p.m. Join us at the Calvert Marine Museum from 2 to 4 p.m. to build a toy boat and take home! \$2 donation requested with museum admission.

Sunday, Dec. 28

Calvert Library Bus Ride to Washington D.C.

Sunderland Park N Ride - 3 to 8 p.m.

Have you always wanted to visit the National Christmas Tree in Washington D.C. but worried about where to park? Worry no more! Calvert Library On the Go is sponsoring a bus trip to experience Christmas in Washington on Sunday, Dec. 28, from 3 to 8 p.m. The cost per person is \$15. Pick up will be at the Sunderland Park N Ride at 3 p.m. The first stop will be at Union Station to see the Norwegian Christmas Tree and the Train Display.

Then on to the National Christmas on the Ellipse and the Pathway of Peace, which consists of 56 smaller, decorated trees representing all 50 states, five territories, and the District of Columbia. While there, you can also enjoy a Yule log, a large-scale model train and a Christmas manger. The library must register 34 people by Dec. 20 for the trip to happen. Please register in person at any Calvert Library.

Monday, Dec. 29

Winter Wanders

Flag Ponds Nature Park, 1525 Flag Ponds Pwy., Lusby - 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Please call (410) 586-1477 for more information.

Snow Globe Workshop

Calvert Marine Museum, 14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons - 1 to 4 p.m.

Join the Calvert Marine Museum from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Harms Gallery. Make snow globes out of recycled materials. Free with museum admission.

Tuesday, Dec. 30

Chesapeake Critters

Calvert Marine Museum, 14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons

Learn about the amazing animals in the Calvert Marine Museum aquarium. Free with museum admission. Check daily events schedule at the admissions desk.

Wednesday, Dec. 31

NOON Year's Eve Party

Calvert Marine Museum, 14200 Solomons Island Rd., Solomons - 10 a.m. to noon

Make a party hat, New Year's Wish Ornament, hear a special story, and join the dance party with Squeak. Toast in the NOON Year with sparkling ginger ale and fishy snacks when the ball drops at high noon. Fee is \$2 per child with museum admission. This event is for all ages.

Friday, Jan. 2

Lions Club Morning Bingo

Lions Club, 9370 Crain Highway, Bel Air - 10:30 a.m.

We play on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Our early birds begin at 10. This non-profit event supports the local Lions Club. Regular games pay \$50, specials \$100. For more information please visit lionsclubbingo.net/wp/.

Saturday, Jan. 3

Brain Games: Mahjongg, Scrabble & more.

Calvert Library Prince Frederick, 850 Costley Way - noon to 3 p.m.

Want to learn Mahjongg? Hope to make your Scrabble skills killer? Games are a great way to keep your brain sharp while having fun! Join us. Please register. For more information please call 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862 or visit calvertlibrary.info.

Community Events

Sunday, Jan. 4

Last Day! 29th Annual Christmas Doll & Train Exhibit

St. Clement's Island Museum, 38370 Point Breeze Rd., Colton's Point – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The St. Clement's Island Museum in Colton's Point presents a holiday exhibit themed "Christmas by the Bay." Exhibits will feature special doll collections from the Black-eyed Susan and Southern Maryland Doll Clubs. Dolls will be arranged to depict Christmas scenes and vignettes of Chesapeake coastal living in the early 20th century. Other highlights include working miniature trains and a hands-on train set that children can operate.

The Crab Claw Museum Store will be brimming with holiday gifts and for the one who has everything, consider a Museum Gift Membership! Museum members enjoy a 10% discount! Don't miss the Crab Pot Christmas Trees! This is one-stop-shopping at its best! Proceeds benefit museum programs, projects, and exhibits! Shop where your dollars make a difference!

Admission: \$3 adults, \$2 senior citizens (62 and older) and military personnel with ID, \$1.50 students 6 to 18, FREE for children 5 and under. The museum building and grounds are handicap accessible. Take Route 242 south 9 miles to the end from Clements intersection on Route 234. For more information, go online to stmarysmd.com/recreate/museums or call 301-769-2222.

Monday, Jan. 5

Pickleball

Leonard Hall Recreation Center, 23145 Leonard Hall Dr., Leonardtown – 8 to 10 a.m.

Pickleball is the up and coming sport in the United States for older adults. The game has grown in popularity in St. Mary's County over the past couple of years and offers a great way to exercise while having fun. Equipment is available for use. Fees should be paid in advance at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Players may register for Mondays, Wednesdays, or both days. Cost: \$24. Register early because space is limited. For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1050.

Tuesday, Jan. 6

Senior Matters

Northern Senior Activity Center, 29655 Charlotte Hall Rd., Charlotte Hall – 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

On the first and third Tuesday of the month come share what's on your mind. This casual, informal gathering is a welcomed discussion group. Topics are open from anything that interests you like current events or something in the community that affects you personally. Feel free to bring topics to the group or come and talk things out for a listening ear. Walk-ins are welcome.

Email: Cash_nsbejr@yahoo.com Facebook: NSBE Jr CASH



Calvert County Now Has A National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Jr. Chapter- Creative and Striving Hard (CASH) to Succeed!!

JOIN US For Our

Monthly Meetings in 2014-2015!

Sundays: Sept 7th, Sept 21st, Oct 19th, Nov 9th, Dec 21st, Jan 18th, Feb 15th, March 15th, March 22nd, April 19th, May 17th and June 14th at 3:30 p.m.

Calvert County Baptist Church

2190 Solomons Island Road Prince Frederick, MD 20678

(Located next to Adams Ribs Restaurant)

Parents are required to attend Sept 7th meeting

October 18th Local Conference U.S. Naval Academy Annapolis, MD

November 14th -16th Regional Conference in Pittsburgh, PA

March 25th-29th NSBE National Conference in Anaheim, CA

Why should YOU join?

Industry Tours and Trips

Math Competitions

Conference Attendance

Tutoring and Mentoring

Hands-On Experiments

Leadership Positions

NSBE Bridge Magazine

African American History

Meet Professional Engineers and Scientists

Community and Social Events

Scholarships and More

We Need YOU! Grades 6th to 12th!



NSBE Mission: Our mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community. www.nsbe.org (Refreshments Served at all meetings)

FROM MY BACKYARD TO OUR BAY

A Calvert County Resident's Guide to Improving Our Environment and Drinking Water

Environmental Issues in Your Backyard

Keeping Water Away From Your House and Basement



Drainage of surface and subsurface water is an important concern for every homeowner. Rain gardens and rain barrels are two effective ways to keep your house and basement protected from water damage.

Another factor in good drainage is proper grading, so that gentle slopes convey runoff away from the house and basement, and water is not left standing against walls or causing water pressure to build up under the basement floor.

Wet basements can result from water passing through cracks in the basement walls, through the joint between the

basement wall and the floor, or through the basement window well.

If you have problems, check the exterior grading to ensure that rainwater will flow away from the house. Flower beds and foundation plantings may hold water against the walls. When regrading, avoid placing soil against wood or siding. **Grading requires a county permit. For more information, call the Calvert County Dept. of Planning and Zoning at 410-535-1600 ext. 2356.**

Inspect all areas where downspouts from the gutters around the house discharge onto the ground. Twice a year, clean out all gutters and downspouts



Proper gutter installation keeps water away from the foundation.

to prevent overflows that will drip water too close to the foundation.

Because the flow from a downspout will be forceful in a storm, make sure that the area where it drains across the ground is adequately protected with either sturdy vegetation, stone, or gravel. Usually a splash block of concrete or plastic placed directly under the downspout outfall will absorb the initial force of water gushing from the downspout. This will help disperse the water's erosive energy and move it away from the foundation.

A rain barrel may be an excellent option for managing water from your gutters. Rain barrels only hold 55 gallons, and need to be emptied before the next rain event.

Continued... next week's article will explore some more options to solve surface drainage issues.

Where to get help with... DRAINAGE PROBLEMS

• Calvert Soil Conservation District – 410-535-1521 ext. 3 or calvertsoil.org

Rain Tax

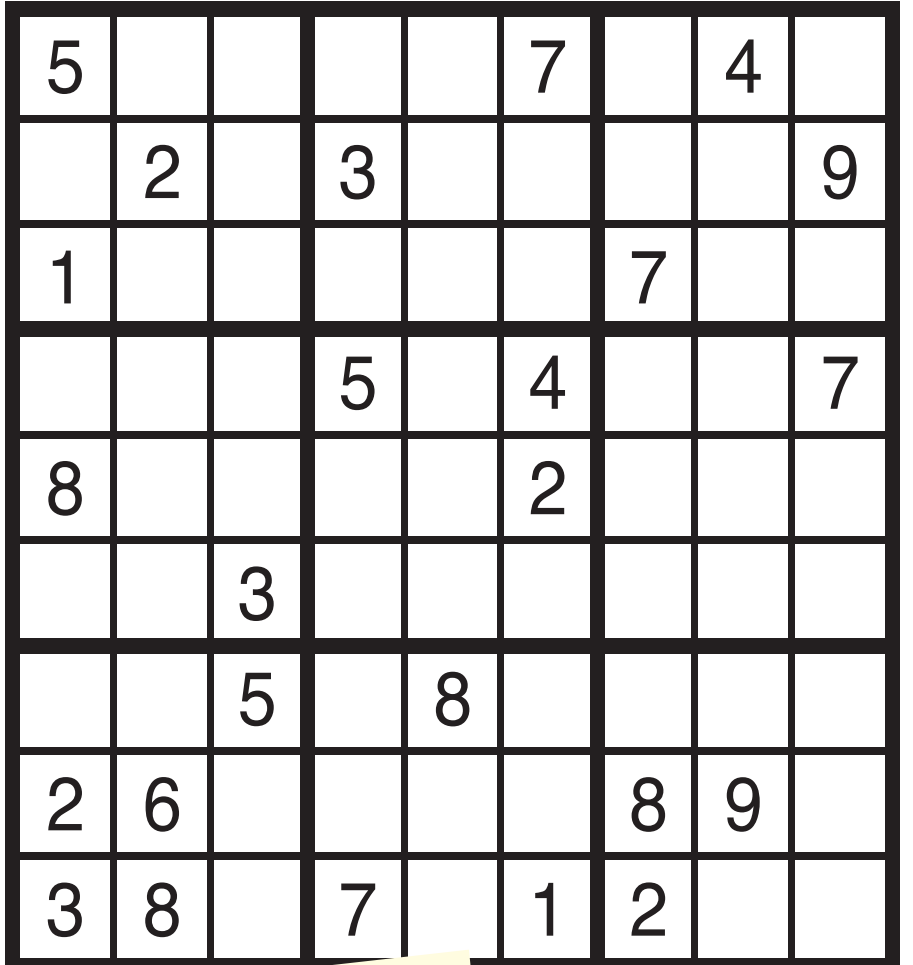
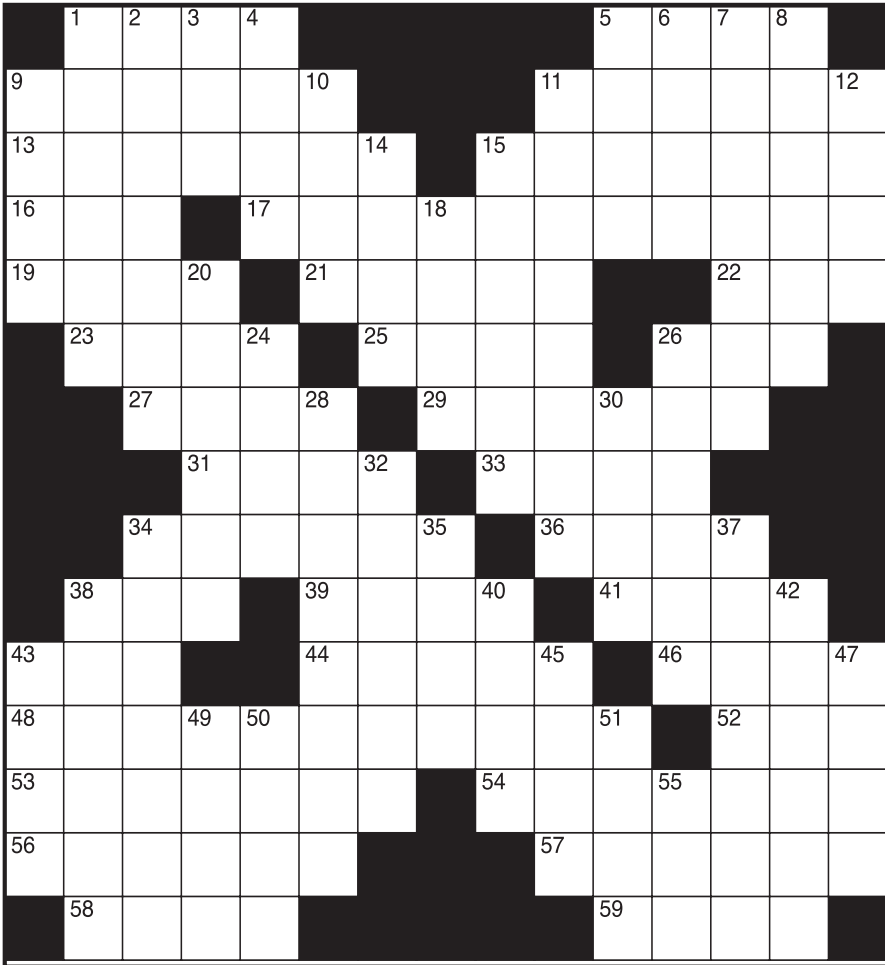
A rain tax is a tax imposed on real estate owners, for stormwater assembled by municipal drainage.

The state's 10 most populated counties are required by law to implement a stormwater utility fee by July 1, 2013. Calvert County is not among them. The revenue will be used to fund their respective watershed protection and restoration programs, designed to prevent pollutants from entering the Chesapeake Bay. Seven jurisdictions (Baltimore City, Harford County, Montgomery County, Anne Arundel County, Howard County, Frederick County) have set a fee, but three others are still in the process of setting fees or getting local approval.



From My Backyard to Our Bay is a small but powerful booklet that was first developed by the Baltimore Soil Conservation District. From there, several counties republished a version tailored to their county resources. Calvert County's booklet was developed by the Citizens Green Team. **FREE COPIES** can be obtained at Annmarie Gardens, at local libraries, or downloaded at calvertgreenexpo.org. If the 17.5 million residents who live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed area read this booklet, and took to heart its suggestions and best practices, the Chesapeake Bay would see a dramatic increase in health.

This is the eighteenth in a series of articles that Mary Ann Scott (scottmaryann9@gmail.com) has adapted from *From My Backyard to Our Bay* in the hopes of increasing awareness of this powerful booklet that could do so much to help the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Be sure to look for the next article in next week's Calvert Gazette!



CLUES ACROSS

1. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Mama ___, rock singer
9. Takes off
11. Make an arrest
13. Ear tube
15. Limit
16. Small shelter
17. Cavaliers' #23
19. Digits
21. French kings' name
22. Winter time in Colorado
23. Platform
25. Gambling town
26. Vietnamese offensive
27. Fermentation sediment
29. Load anew
31. Bile
33. A wooded valley
34. Soap opera
36. Cervus nippon
38. Belong to he
39. Women (French)
41. Olive, motor and mineral

43. Norse goddess of death
44. Military award
46. Annexes
48. One who adorns book pages
52. Affirmative
53. Fricative
54. Coal blacks
56. Faculty of sight
57. Leans
58. Low, sideless cart
59. Locomotion limbs

CLUES DOWN

1. Close to
2. Lactic
3. Burn residue
4. Offer for sale
5. Verb formation (abbr.)
6. ___ Romeo
7. Lost weight
8. Soundest mind
9. Sound repetition
10. Sew up the eyelids of falcons
11. Allays sorrow
12. Repose
14. Mirish
15. Devised a new phrase
18. One who feels regret
20. War encirclements
24. Burn the surface
26. "The Jazz Singer"
28. Process of achieving #7 down
30. Miscellaneous collection
32. Express sorrow
34. More foolish
35. Queen of Sparta
37. Associating by treaty
38. Served
40. Satisfy
42. Frozen rains
43. Snake sound
45. High arc tennis shots
47. Cheek
49. Murre genus
50. Multiple
51. List of names called
55. No (Scot.)

Kiddie Korner

Did You Know?

CHRISTMAS TREES DATE

BACK TO CELEBRATIONS

OF THE WINTER

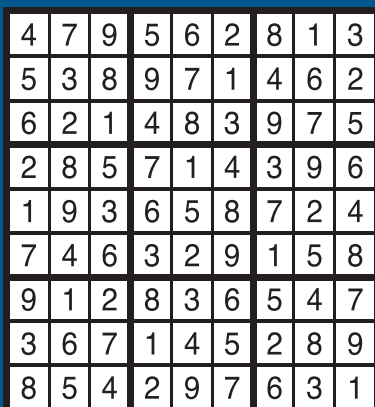
SOLSTICE. THE TREES

MADE THEM

THINK OF THE SPRING TO COME.



Last Week's Puzzle Solutions



CLASSIFIEDS

Placing An Ad

Email your ad to: sales@countytimes.net or Call: 301-373-4125 or Fax: 301-373-4128. Liner Ads (No artwork or special type) Charged by the line with the 4 line minimum. Display Ads (Ads with artwork, logos, or special type) Charged by the inch with the 2 inch minimum. All private party ads must be paid before ad is run.

Publication Days

The Calvert County Times is published each Thursday. Deadlines are Tuesday at 12 noon
Office hours are: Monday thru Friday 8am - 4pm

Important Information

The Calvert County Times will not be held responsible for any ads omitted for any reason. The Calvert County Times reserves the right to edit or reject any classified ad not meeting the standards of The Calvert County Times. It is your responsibility to check the ad on its first publication and call us if a mistake is found. We will correct your ad only if notified after the first day of the first publication ran.

Real Estate

Great home for a 1st time buyer or retirement home in Chesapeake Beach. Qualifies for USDA, 100% financing. The rooms in the home are all good sized, big kitchen, orig hardwood flooring and newer bathroom. All on one level. Awesome rear deck with steps that lead to the big back yard, play house and storage shed/workshop. Awesome potential to build up or out. Price: \$214,000. Call 301-832-1165.

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3 BR, 2 BA
in Lexington Park

Open Houses Every
Wednesday 4:30 to 7:30
Saturday 10:00 to 3:00

Action1000homesforsale.com

240-317-5088

Employment

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working with school age
children ages 5 & up.
Day Care located
in Huntingtown.
Please call 410-535-5232.**

**Spring Village at Wildewood
(formerly Autumn Assisted Living
at Wildewood), will be holding
group interviews every Thursday
at 1:30 pm for ALL positions.
Please arrive 15 minutes early
to complete the employment
application. For more information
call Tracy at 301-863-7110.**

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w/ CDL:
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Located at 2971 Plaza Dr., Dunkirk, MD
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Calvert Dental Clinic: Part-time Office Assistant.
Email resume to mjohnson2@cmhlink.org

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