

April, 2011
Priceless

Southern Calvert *Gazette*

*Everything Solomons, Lusby,
Dowell, and St. Leonard*



HAVE You HUGGED A TREE Today?

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE THIS WEEKEND

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**Pax High Student
Dies After Collapse**

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**Tiki Bar Opening Kicks
Off Solomons Season**

Story Page 6

**Students Start New
Glee Club at Patuxent**

Story Page 14

on the cover

Kids and families should bring a white t-shirt or pillowcase in order to make their own unique piece of tree-bark print during this weekend's Anmarie Garden Earth Day celebration. In this 2010 photo, Caraline Jeffery works on her print.

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local news

Is this the same man? Police are investigating two bank robberies that occurred at M&T Bank in Prince Frederick within two weeks of each other. The suspect caught on film in both robberies has a similar build and appearance.



education

Students and staff at Patuxent High School in Lusby are mourning the death of freshman student Trevasé Chew, who died Friday after he collapsed on a basketball court while playing.



Celebrities from Team Anything is Possible (A.I.P.) played basketball with local all stars from Patuxent High School this weekend during a fundraising event for the Autism-Asperger Association of Calvert County.

out & about

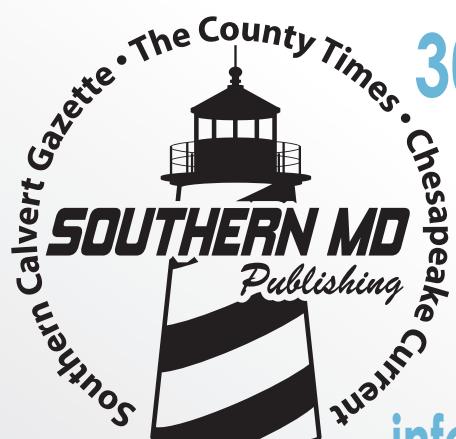
FOR EVENTS HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA, CHECK PAGE 17 IN OUT AND ABOUT

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April 15-17 2011

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise	Moon Sunset	Time	% Moon Visibl
F 15	High 12:01 AM	1.6	6:30 AM	Set 4:36 AM	85		
	Low 6:43 AM	0.1	7:42 PM	Rise 5:09 PM			
	High 12:27 PM	1.3					
	Low 6:40 PM	0.1					
Sa16	High 12:56 AM	1.7	6:29 AM	Set 5:09 AM	92		
	Low 7:46 AM	0.1	7:43 PM	Rise 6:23 PM			
	High 1:20 PM	1.3					
	Low 7:23 PM	0.1					
Su17	High 1:50 AM	1.9	6:27 AM	Set 5:44 AM	97		
	Low 8:47 AM	0.1	7:44 PM	Rise 7:38 PM			
	High 2:11 PM	1.3					
	Low 8:06 PM	0.1					

April 22-24 2011

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise	Moon Sunset	Time	% Moon Visibl
F 22	High 6:10 AM	1.8	6:21 AM	Rise 12:11 AM	81		
	Low 1:24 PM	0.2	7:48 PM	Set 9:54 AM			
	High 6:35 PM	1.2					
Sa23	Low 12:24 AM	0.2	6:19 AM	Rise 1:00 AM	72		
	High 7:06 AM	1.6	7:49 PM	Set 10:57 AM			
	Low 2:18 PM	0.3					
	High 7:33 PM	1.2					
Su24	Low 1:32 AM	0.3	6:18 AM	Rise 1:42 AM	62		
	High 8:06 AM	1.5	7:50 PM	Set 11:59 AM			
	Low 3:10 PM	0.3					
	High 8:32 PM	1.3					

Lawyers Give Cliff Homeowners Options

LOCAL NEWS

A Washington, D.C. based law firm, specializing in disputes with government agencies, thinks it has the best solution for the 234 Calvert County homes in danger of falling into the Chesapeake Bay.

Local residents effected by the Puritan Beetle and other federal laws pertaining to the cliffs along the bay invited representatives from Saltman and Stevens, P.C. to present their proposed solution to help homeowners preserve and protect their homes and property.

In a meeting held Saturday, April 2 at Crossroad Christian Church in St. Leonard, attorneys Alan Saltman and Richard Goekin presented what they called a "three pronged approach" to address the homeowner's needs.

The three prongs include 1) submitting a master shoreline permit application to obtain effective erosion controls along the entire Calvert County cliffs, 2) file "takings lawsuits" to establish precedent and 3) spearhead a grassroots lobbying campaign to gain the sympathy of elected officials.

The first prong depends upon the firm's ability to help affected homeowners and governmental agencies to develop a permitting process with the "widest possible number of solutions," according to Goekin.

One example of a compromise would be to develop a Habitat Conservation Plan which would designate some areas for the Puritan Tiger Beetle.

A member of the audience objected, stating a recent lecture given at the Calvert Marine Museum, Dr. C. Barry Knisley, professor of biology at Randolph-Macon College said that the beetles could not be successfully transplanted.

Goekin said he's heard this argument before, but still successfully negotiated a compromise with federal agencies.

The second prong of their approach would file lawsuits on "test cases" which support the principles of "taking." They believe they already have some good cases where homeowners were denied permits for erosion control.

"It is comparable to eminent domain, where the government as effectively using your land without paying for it" said Goekin.

In the case of the Puritan Tiger Beetle, the government, through the Endangered Species Act has prevented homeowners from doing anything to the cliff which might wipe out the beetle's habitat. In theory, it is for the public good that the beetles are protected, but the government is making the individual homeowner pay for the public benefit, according to Goekin.

The third prong of their approach is to coordinate lobbying efforts by local citizens to key legislative actions which affect the use of their property. According to Saltman, there are currently no groups or organizations which know where the meetings are being held, which legislation affects them and therefore they are not showing up in numbers to provide their feedback.

In order for Saltman and Stevens to take on this effort on behalf of the homeowners, they are asking for approximately 100 home or property owners to pay \$2,500 for three years. They are confident from 30 years experience that this fee will accomplish all three prongs in order to provide the homeowners a quick, efficient and effective solution to protecting "one of their biggest financial investments."

According to Scientist Cliffs resident and litigator Paul Wilson, the fee the firm is asking is very reasonable for the firm's commitment to work fulltime and finish within the next three years. "If you hired me, you'd pay \$30,000 for a

week of my time."

Goekin said he is willing to come and talk to any community or organization that wants to hear more about their proposal. For more information, call 202-452-2140, Or contact the local ad hoc citizen's group at protectourcliffproperty@gmail.com. By Corrin M. Howe (SCG) info@somdpublishing.net



Donna Wilson, Scientist Cliff resident, left, talks with Alan Saltman and Richard Goekin after the meeting about their "three-pronged approach."

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LOCAL NEWS

Commissioners Pass Residential Sprinkler Law

Calvert County commissioners broadly supported a new zoning ordinance to the county's building code that requires fire suppression sprinklers in new single family homes starting in 2013 – but some in the building industry say that the added costs for putting in the system will harm their fragile businesses.

County Commissioner Gerald Clark (R-Lusby) told The Southern Calvert Gazette that statistics they have seen on the life and property saving value of the sprinklers plus demonstrations of their effectiveness, shaped the board's willingness to vote for the measure.

But, Clark also said that a recent fire in Huntingtown that engulfed a large home and caused a structural collapse that seriously injured firefighters had a small amount of influence on their decision.

"We already require sprinklers in some commercial buildings and in multifamily dwellings," Clark said. "So requiring sprinklers in single family homes was not unforeseen."

"If it saves one life the requirement was a good requirement," said Clark.

The new building code change requires that new single-family homes throughout the county be fitted with sprinklers starting in the summer of 2013.

Rodney Gertz, Vice President of Prince Frederick-based Quality Built Homes, said that the latest vote represented another step in regulations that stifled economic growth in a time of fragile economic recovery.

"The whole sprinkler system discussion is a slippery slope," Gertz said. "In essence it's an additional \$5,000 to \$6,000 tax on a house ... It's a pretty strong tax."

Profit margins for homebuilders were razor thin in a tough economy Gertz said, and the costs of putting in a sprinkler system could make new home construction unprofitable.

"You have some people who say that the cost of sprinklers is only about 1 percent of the building price but a lot of the time you're only making 1 percent," Gertz said. "You're making housing unaffordable [by adding extra costs]... there's no margin in housing right now."

Clark said the two-year grace period was passed to help give homebuilders a chance to factor in the new cost requirements.

"Obviously the cost is going to be pushed down to the one buying the home," Clark said. *By Guy Leonard (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

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Patuxent High Student Dies After Collapsing on Court

On Friday afternoon, during a lunchtime game of basketball, Patuxent High School freshman Trevasé Chew collapsed on the court.

School staff administered life-saving measures and called for emergency medical personnel. The Emergency Response Team arrived within minutes and continued to provide treatment and transported the student to Calvert Memorial Hospital, a release from the school on Friday afternoon stated.

Calvert County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Smith confirmed Monday that Chew passed away.

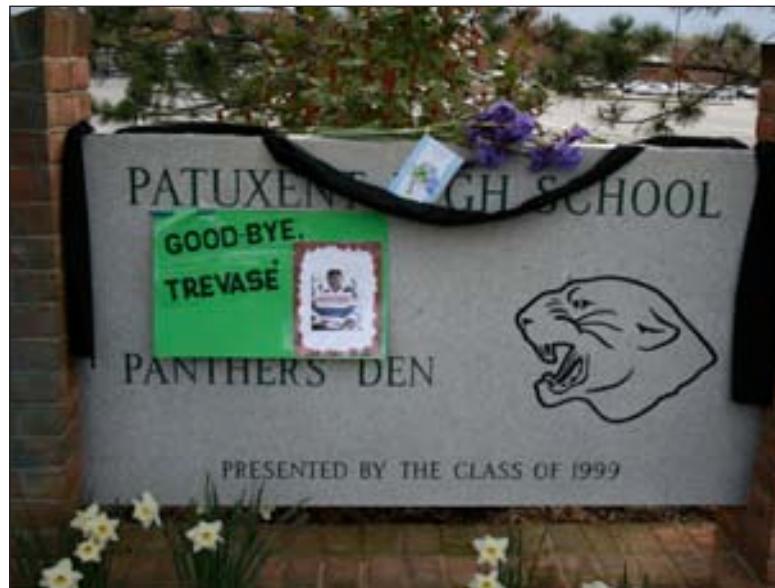
"Very early this morning [Monday], there were people from the central office dispatched to the school to be available to students and or adults who might be really personally deeply affected," said Calvert County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Smith.

He said a crisis team and additional councilors have been dispatched to the school to help grieving students and faculty.

The actions are part of a school wide crisis plan to deal with several types of crises. One plan is to help students deal with peers illness, injuries or deaths, Smith said.

"It reminds us that life is so uncertain and we should not take anything for granted," Smith said.

He said this sort of situation is difficult for the family



and friends of the student they and their fellow students will live long, healthy lives and it's a "terrible situation" when they don't.

"We have 16,800 students and we want what's best for every single one of them and this is not how you want things to turn out," Smith said.

As of press time, Nancy Highsmith, principal of Patuxent High School, declined to comment on the incident. *By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

NRC Denies License for Calvert Cliffs 3

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has ruled that the planned third reactor at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant cannot go forward because the company that is the lead of the project is completely owned by the French energy magnate Electricite de France (EDF), which violates U.S. law that a nuclear power plant cannot be controlled by a foreign company.

The NRC informed UniStar Nuclear Energy of its decision April 8, casting even more doubt on whether the highly anticipated project will actually come to pass.

"UniStar is 100 percent owned by a foreign corporation, which is 85 percent owned by the French government ... EDF has the power to exercise foreign ownership, control or domination over UniStar, and the negotiation action plan submitted by UniStar does not negate the foreign ownership, control or domination issues," the letter to UniStar read.

The future of the

project came into serious question last year when the U.S. partner in the deal, Constellation Energy, backed out of its partnership with EDF citing the prohibitive costs of seeking federal loan guarantees needed to finance the project.

UniStar ownership completely converted back to EDF and it subsequently tried to offer a plan to the NRC that argued that oversight would still be in the hands of U.S. citizens while the third reactor was in operation, but the latest ruling rejected that argument.

The only way the license to build and operate the reactor can move forward, the letter stated, was for EDF to find a U.S. partner.

A group opposed to the proliferation of nuclear reactors hailed the NRC's decision.

"Calvert Cliffs-3 will become known as the first nuclear casualty of the post-Fukushima era," said Michael Marriotte, executive director of the Nuclear Information and Resources Service, referring to the nuclear disaster following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. "The project was already on shaky ground with the withdrawal of Constellation Energy."

Despite the license denial, the NRC has said it will continue to review UniStar's application for the \$9.6 billion reactor project.

UniStar has made no announcement about finding a U.S. partner to move ahead with the project. *By Guy Leonard (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

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Tiki Bar Opening To Kick Off Tourism Season



As many as 30,000 people are expected to descend on Solomons Island this weekend, as the Tiki Bar prepares to throw its 31st annual opening weekend celebration beginning Friday, April 15. While most of the visitors on opening day come to party, many also eat, sleep and buy supplies nearby, which means a rush for local businesses. With each year the Tiki Bar opening phenomenon gets more popular, and supporters say it's a nationally known event, and possibly even beyond. In the accompanying photo from 2010, the "Tiki King" floats ashore to "bless" the celebration.

Dual Bank Robberies Have Detectives on The Hunt

The commander of Calvert County's criminal investigations team said that his department is putting in plenty of hours to track down the perpetrator — or perpetrators — of two separate bank heists at the same Prince Frederick branch in two weeks.

Lt. Steven Jones, head of the Calvert Investigative Team, said that law officers have been working with local banks, like the M&T Bank branch that was hit last week, in bolstering their security measures and most of the detectives in the bureau are working on these two cases.

"We're going to have increased measures to keep that from happening again," Jones told The Southern Calvert Gazette. "It's unusual for a bank to be robbed twice — but for Calvert County this is a lot."

Detectives have people of interest they are looking into as part of the investigation, Jones said, but they are still looking for a firm suspect in the two cases, and are not sure yet if the second robber is the same as the first.

"We can't say for sure it's the same guy, but it [the description] matches the appearance of the first suspect," Jones said. "We don't know the motive [why the same bank was hit]... we won't have all the answers until we make an arrest in the case."

The latest robbery took place April 5 just after 1 p.m. with the suspect described as a white male standing about 6-feet tall and weighing between 225 and 275 pounds.

He was wearing a bright yellow hooded jacket as well as a hat and a mask covering most of his face, according to police information.

The first robbery occurred March 23 around 2 p.m., also committed by a white man standing between 6-feet to 6-feet, 5-inches tall and weighing between 230 to 250 pounds. *By Guy Leonard (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

Police Say Teen Confessed to Burglaries

A burglary suspect has been arrested and charged with first-degree burglary after a two-week investigation by the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, police reported.

The burglary suspect was identified as Matthew Donald Hooper, 19, of Prince Frederick.

During the month of March, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and the Maryland State Police investigated several burglaries on Sixes Road, Adelina Road, and Old Adelina Road in Prince Frederick and Thompson Court and Sedwick Court in Saint Leonard. All these burglaries appeared to be linked to each other.

Items stolen from these residences included electronics and firearms. Due to the amount of burglaries reported, the Calvert Investigative Team (CIT) was requested to take over the investigations.

Detectives from the Calvert Investigative Team located and arrested Matthew Hooper and conducted a thorough interview with him. During the interview, Hooper admitted

committing all the burglaries in the above listed neighborhoods, police report. Some of the property has been recovered to include some of the firearms and some of the electronics.

Further charges are pending against Hooper. These burglaries are being investigated by TFC Roy of the Maryland State Police, Calvert Investigative Team.

Anyone with information or missing property to report, is urged to contact TFC Roy at 410-535-1600 x2587. The investigation is ongoing.



Matthew Donald Hooper

New Well Pet Clinic Now Open

The long awaited Calvert Well Pet Clinic is now open for business in Huntingtown. To celebrate, Patuxent Animal Welfare Society Inc. (PAWS) will be hosting an open house.

Jean Radeackar, the director of the Well Pet Clinic, said this is a project that has been in the works for eight years. The Calvert Well Pet clinic offers low cost spay and neuters, well pet visits, microchipping and vaccinations. Radeackar said the clinic is not equipped to handle large injuries or health concerns, but they will do what they can or refer people to veterinarians.

She said it all began when a person left a house to PAWS in their will. The organi-

She said with that in mind, PAWS found a "wonderful" location in Huntingtown. The building has the clinic on the first floor and two apartments on the second floor where the caretaker lives. Radeackar said there is a lot of extra security in having a person live in the location.

The location took a year and a half to be renovated. Radeackar said all the work was done by volunteers, and included a new electrical system, fire prevention, and handicap parking and a wheelchair ramp. There is also a garden at the clinic, which is volunteer planted and run, Radeackar said.

The Well Pet Clinic also has highway access to make it easier to find the clinic. Radeackar said the clinic will be



From left is Lori Jimney - Solomons Vet Animal Clinic, Christy Montgomery- Calvert County Animal Control officer, Earlene Hile - Calvert Well Pet Clinic (CWPC) head surgery tech, assistant director, Linda Kelley- friend of CWPC, Mary Baldwin - PAWS Cat Manager, Herb Yee - DVM, Raeleen Dera - CWPC assistant vet tech, Jean Radeackar - CWPC director with Hope the Chihuahua mix PAWS foster dog for adoption, and Cathy Coren - Solomons Vet Animal Clinic.

zation renovated it and sold it for a \$40,000 profit, which went toward starting the Well Pet Clinic, Radeackar said.

She said finding a location for the Well Pet Clinic was a challenge due to zoning laws in Calvert County, but Linda Kelley, a Calvert County commissioner, suggested they find a historic location that could be zoned as an "adaptive use of a historic place."

self supporting, though they are always willing to accept donations. Radeackar also said the clinic has received a \$3,000 grant to spay cats and dogs belonging to low-income families.

Radeackar said anybody wishing to volunteer with the Well Pet Clinic can call 410-326-1616. She said there will always be something for people to do.

"We have all kinds of jobs," Radeackar said.

There will be an open house and grand opening at the clinic on Sunday May 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. The grand opening celebration will include educational displays, adoptions, vendors, and a chance to meet the Veterinarians.

The clinic is located in Huntingtown at 2240 Solomons Island Road. For more information, call 443-295-7873 or 410-326-1616. *By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

County To Get New Substance Abuse Treatment Facility

Calvert County will be getting a new substance abuse treatment facility following action by the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

The BOCC approved a contract for construction of the new \$3.7 million, 12,000-square-foot facility to be located on Stafford Road in Prince Frederick.

Construction is expected to begin in late April with completion no later than January 2012. The facility will provide addiction services to approximately 1,100 outpatient clients each year.

The \$2.17 million construction contract was awarded to Rainbow Construction of Waldorf. Additional funding for the facility will come through the state Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, which will provide 31 percent of the total project cost, or up to \$1.15 million.

The unanimous approval of the construction contract during the March 22 BOCC meeting capped an effort begun in 1996 to consolidate county substance abuse services. A community advisory board at the time recommended that the county streamline services by combining separate treatment programs for alcohol and drug abuse. Treatment services have since been available at four sites across the county: at the Calvert County Health Department in Prince Frederick, and at

sites in Barstow, Chesapeake Beach and Lusby. Up to 18 staff members at the health department and Barstow locations will move to the new facility when it is completed.

"This is a long time coming," said BOCC President Susan Shaw. "A lot of pieces had to fall into place to make this happen. It also comes at a time when we've seen an alarming increase in the abuse of prescription drugs. The new facility will allow a much smoother delivery of services and will help make services available to more citizens. It will enable us provide a continuum of care that is vital in combating the problem of drug and alcohol abuse."

Calvert Substance Abuse Services, founded in 1996, runs the county outpatient treatment program through the Calvert County Health Department with staff made up of both county and state employees. Its target population for services is anyone over the age of 12 who is experiencing problems related to substance abuse or substance dependence. The agency offers outpatient substance abuse treatment to the general public and to residents of the Calvert County Detention Center.

To learn more about Calvert County substance abuse programs, visit www.calverthealth.org/personalhealth/substanceabuse/services.htm. *By Diane Burr (CC) editor@chesapeakecurrent.com*

**By Susan Shaw,
County Commissioner**



On Monday, March 28, Commissioner Gerald Clark and I attended Governor O'Malley's Veteran's Transition Meeting at the Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home in St. Mary's County. Over 150 veterans and their advocates, including Representative Steny Hoyer, came to focus on how we can do more. I am privileged to serve as the Chair

of the Tri-County Council Veteran's Committee following in the footsteps of former St. Mary's County Commissioner Tom Mattingly.

Veteran's issues are the responsibility of the federal government through the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), headed by Secretary Shinseki. Additionally, the State has the Maryland National Guard and the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, led by Secretary Ed Chow. Because Maryland Lt. Governor Anthony Brown is the highest-serving elected veteran in the US, he has assumed a leadership role. Congressman Steny Hoyer has championed efforts for veterans in the US Congress as well.

Our role on the tri-county level is one of advocacy and coordination. Our veterans were not always getting the help that they had earned through their service to our country. All of the elected officials in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties want to be sure that our veterans are being provided a continuum of care.

It is exciting to see our progress in the little over two years that the Tri-County Council Veteran's Committee has existed. Congressman Hoyer has brought Secretary Shinseki here to meet with veterans. All of our federal, state, regional, and local partners, including governmental representatives, veterans' organizations, and veterans

COMMISSIONERS CORNER

Giving More For Veterans

themselves are working harmoniously together to expand the services available locally in the tri-county area and to fill in the gaps in the continuum of care.

Successes include the expanded and improved Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Charlotte Hall that we are working in partnership with the VA to replace with a new and modern clinic; linkages with Maryland's Commitment to Veterans; expanded outreach; additional resources for homeless and incarcerated veterans; more awareness and treatment for Post Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury, signature wounds of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars; closer working relationships with the VA and with Vet Centers including a Mobile Vet Center coming to Charlotte Hall at the end of each month, with expanded service times soon.

Are we there yet? No. Due to the unwavering commitment of our wonderful partners, we are well on the way. Sharon Mattia, the Director of the CHVH said of the Transition Meeting, "The Governor's visit was such a highlight for CHVH and to have his focus on veterans with the Lt. Gov for a few hours was monumental. You could feel the energy in the whole building."

You, the public, can be proud that in our rural area, we are joining forces to honor our veterans by advocating and coordinating on their behalves.

Go to the Calvert County website at: www.co.cal-md.us for links to Veteran's Resources under the Resources section of the Home Page or call the Maryland Commitment to Veterans at (877) 770-4801.

LOCAL NEWS

Bike Ride Will Benefit End Hunger

First time bike riders or experienced cyclists have an opportunity to tour the sites of Huntingtown on April 30 while raising money to feed nearly 10,000 Calvert County Residents.

All the money raised from the ride goes into the End Hunger in Calvert County fund. The goal this year is to have over 500 riders and raise over \$20,000. The program provides food to the 10 food banks within the county.

The sponsors of the Third Annual Bike Ride paid for all the necessary supplies and materials while volunteers provide the labor.

"Because of the generosity of the sponsors all the money we raise goes directly to families," according to Robin Brungard, Program Director for EHCC.

"We wanted to keep the price (entry fee) at a place where they can afford to do it," said Brungard.

For those new to biking, the event will have an orientation on road rules and safety. Then the bikes will be checked for safe road use before a guide accompanies a group through the 15 mile ride.

"I don't know of any ride that does this. It will be a great first time experience," said Brungard.

More experienced riders have a choice of 15, 35, or 48 mile routes or a 63 Metric Century trial. The routes are available for viewing at <http://ridewithgps.com/users/4269/routes>.

Early registration fee is \$39 before April 21. After the fee goes up to \$59. In return for the fee, the riders receive T-shirt, SAG support, well stocked rest stops, water bottle, map and clue sheet, post event activities and more.

The ride will take place rain or shine and there will be no refunds after April 21. They do not recommend children under 14 attempt to ride since most of the trial is on open roads. However, there is a waiver parents can sign if they are comfortable with the experience of their children.

The End Hunger Bike Ride is a premier event having been listed in the 365 things to do in Southern Maryland and registered riders coming from New York, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

"We have some awesome rest stops this year. Depending on the trial you can end up at Herrington Harbor on the water, Lothian Elementary School or Friday's Creek Winery," said Brungard.

The ride starts and finishes at Chesapeake Church Church at 6201 Solomons Island Road in Huntingtown. The coordinators hope everyone starts their rides between 7 and 10 am and are finished by 4 pm when there will no longer be road service. Those signed up for the New Rider 15 mile route will have orientation at 9 and leave at 9:30.

The Post Event runs 11 am to 3 pm with food and music available.

To register online go to <http://endhungercalvert.org/bike/waivers.html>. For other forms of registration or for more information call 410-257-2442 or email ehccbikeweek@gmail.com.

In addition to helping to stock county food pantries, EHCC has 50 partners who work with individual families "making the willing able." According to Brungard sometimes families need a helping hand in one area of their lives to become self supporting. EHCC and their partners provide that affordable childcare, repair to vehicles, one additional marketable skill or a winning resume for these families. *By Corrin M. Howe (SCG) info@somdpublishing.net*



Colon Rollin' 5K Was a Success

The Calvert County Health Department hosted its sixth annual "Keep Your Colon Rollin'" 5k Walk/ Run on Saturday, March 26th at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum. The overall male and female winners were Luis Navarro and Jessica Schwab with times of 18:14 and 20:34 respectively.

Race results were provided by Chesapeake Bay Running Club. 248 people participated in the event benefiting Calvert Healthcare Solutions, a non-profit organization providing primary health care services to low income uninsured Calvert residents. (www.calverthealthcare.org) Patricia Eddleman, a four time cancer survivor encouraged people to listen to their bodies and get screened for colorectal cancer especially if there is a family history.

A person with early stages of colorectal cancer may not have signs or symptoms. A person can look healthy, feel fine, and not know there may be a problem. When colorectal cancer is caught early, 90% of people can be cured. Yet, many people are not tested for colorectal cancer, a disease that continues to be the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women in Maryland and the nation.

Take the time to get screened. For more information on colorectal cancer, contact the Calvert County Health Department's Colorectal Cancer Screening Program at 410-535-5400, ext. 348 or visit www.calverthealth.org.

Special thanks goes to St. Leonard Fire and Rescue, Calvert High School NJROTC, Rockin Roger's DJ service, Jim's Air Tool & Equipment Rental, J & J Portables, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, SMECO, Calvert Memorial Hospital, Calvert Arundel Family Medicine, Calvert Gastroenterology, Calvert Internal Medicine, Shah Associates, Jon S. Frank & Associates, Royalle Dining Services, Dunkin Donuts in Lusby, Ledo's Pizza, Safeway, Giant, Best Buy, Red Robin, IHOP, Nature's Way to Health, Aerobics & More, World Gym, Starbucks, Gateway Restaurant, Snyders of Lusby, Entenmanns, Sweet Dreams Candy Shoppe, Janet Moody and our many participants and volunteers for making this event successful!

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Southern Calvert Gazette
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Our Country Has Issues, No Doubt

I'm writing in response to the letter by Mr. Robert McDaniel, published by Calvert Independent "letter to the editor", about his views on what is wrong with America and how veterans are treated. He states that the servicemen put their life on the line every day for this great country and that they are just thrown back in our world with no help to deal with a life of hell and have to face people who don't understand. He also states that greed drives banks to steal homes from our servicemen while they are away fighting for our country. He talked about his uncle from WWII who was a prisoner of war who lost everything after he returned from Germany, and finally he makes his point that we have failed today's war veterans by allowing "suicide by cop" to occur and that we need to learn from past history.

He lays the blame on Democrats, specifically Congressman Hoyer (D-Md., 5th) and Senator Roy Dyson (D – Calvert, St Mary's, Charles) for having knowledge of lack of adequate care for returning war vets and for not taking any action to rectify the situation, while backing tax-funded welfare programs to get re-elected. He also states that Mr. Dyson and all the others (I assume he means Democrats) are killing the country from the inside out and that this situation exists because of corruption and inefficiency on the parts of Hoyer and Dyson.

Firstly, I say BRAVO to Mr. McDaniel. His assessment of the returning vets and lack of adequate care is spot-on.

Over 1.6 million U.S. Forces have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. These Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans exhibit a number of difficulties (more than in any other recent conflict), including posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, alcohol abuse, physical health problems, and difficulties managing anger, and OIF and OEF veterans are at heightened risk for suicide.

Some statistics. Mental Health is the 2nd largest illness treated at the VA for OEF/OIF Veterans (#1 is Orthopedic injuries). More than 100,000 combat veterans have been treated for mental health related conditions since 2001. Over half were for PTSD. There have been an even greater number of veterans treated at Vet Centers and in private mental health agencies. Additionally, more than one in four U.S. Troops have come home from the Iraq War with health problems that require medical or mental health treatment. This puts great pressure on the VA health care system and is an unintended consequence of the last 10 years of America being at war. There is a severe shortage of qualified mental health providers in the VA and the community and especially in the rural areas such as southern Maryland. As soldiers come home from war and are now veterans, the need for more mental health care workers is increasing both in the VA Health Care System and within the Community.

There are many faults with the veteran mental health care system, it has not been designed to handle the additional case-load. Additionally, southern Maryland is a critical Health Professional Shortage Area. Mental health professionals are generally booked for weeks if not months in advance. There is also reluctance by the vets to use the mental health care system. There is a stigma associated with "mental health" treatment, and the very system designed to help the veterans get care (and potentially disability and the associated payments) can actually slow their healing process. This is a two way street.

What is being done to fix the system you might ask? There is a hot-line available to all veterans when they need to reach out and ask for help (Wounded Warrior Call Center; 877-487-6299). The Call center will help anyone who calls and they'll be able to point the veteran in the right direction.

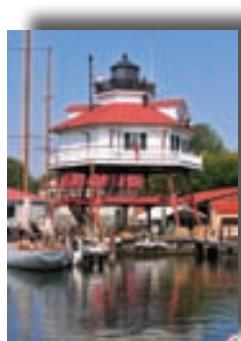
Veterans can access a wide range of mental health services through residential treatment programs, integrated primary care clinics, community-based outpatient clinics, and Vet Centers. Vets can also find the closest VA services by going to this site <http://www.va.gov/> and click on locations, then typing in the area code where they are located. The site lists NAS Patuxent River, as an intake site, as well as Charlotte Hall, MD and Dahlgren, VA, however, until just recently the VA mental health services require the vet to travel to Baltimore to get treatment (2+ hours each way).

This issue was brought up to Senator Dyson last month, prior to the incident in Calvert County. Senator Dyson immediately engaged the system, and as a result, the short term solution was found where the VA brings a Mobile Vet Center down to Charlotte Hall twice a week. The Mobile Vet Center is located at the St. Mary's County Welcome Center (37575 Charlotte Hall School Road) in Charlotte Hall near the Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home. Staff is available on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It should be noted that Sen Dyson is one of 47 Maryland state senators and is in one of only a few districts in Maryland considered as nonmetropolitan (i.e., rural). The population of his district is approximately 1.5% of the total population of Maryland, while the landmass percentage is almost 18% of Maryland. Given these statistics, I say a call from Senator Dyson that results in immediate action means we have a voice heard "loud and clear" in Annapolis.

Another thing Senator Dyson does is that he personally puts his money where his mouth is when it comes to veterans. He and his legislative aid accompanied my wife and me to the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) at Bethesda, MD on Christmas Day to serve the wounded veterans and their families home cooked lunch. We served over 150 veterans and their families that are in the ward. We also do a golf tournament every year and all proceeds go to the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund (Semper Fi Fund). They provide financial assistance to wounded Marines and their families while they recover. Senator Dyson has also emceed our golf event every year since inception (4 years this May). His attendance is not unnoticed by the major companies in southern Maryland who play in the tournament and undoubtedly has resulted in higher participation by those companies (we have raised over \$50,000, and all of it has gone to injured vet programs).

Mr McDaniel was spot-on with his first issue, but, from my perspective, is dead-wrong about Senator Roy Dyson.

Nancy and Ted Harwood, CAPT (USNR-Ret)
Hollywood, MD



Patuxent Voices Will Perform Spring Concerts at Historic Churches

Patuxent Voices, Southern Maryland's premiere women's a cappella group, has been entertaining local audiences since 2004.



The group will perform Singing in the Spring on Saturday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church at the corner of Routes 2 and 4, Sunderland, Maryland; and on Sunday, May 8, 3:00 p.m. at Trinity Church, St. Mary's City.

No tickets are required; a donation will be taken at the door.

Patuxent Voices, founded by Cynthia Gonzalez, evolved around women who loved to sing a cappella music. The twelve group members come from Calvert and St. Mary's Counties, and sing under the direction of Linda Moritz-Aughe.

Annually the group performs a holiday concert and

a spring concert, as well as appearing at local festivals and events. These talented singers offer an eclectic mix of song - from ancient music to current hits, from sacred to silly - always sung a cappella.

"A cappella" is Italian for "in the manner of the church" and refers to vocal singing without instrumentation, according to wikipedia.com. Although originally applied only to religious music, today it includes any style of singing that is unaccompanied.

Patuxent Voices covers a range of periods and styles in this concert, including Gabi, Gabi, a South African Praise Song; Fair is the Heaven with text by Edmund Spenser written in the 1500s; Maidens Fair of Mantua's City, an Italian madrigal from 17th century; Wondrous Love, a traditional shape-note hymn from the Appalachian mountains; Lullabye by Billy Joel, and pop favorites like Natural Woman by Carole King and the pulsing Turn the Beat Around popularized by Gloria Estefan.

The performances will take place in two remarkable historic churches. All Saints Episcopal was one of the original 10-mile churches established between Annapolis and Solomons in the late 1600s. The current building was completed in 1777 and is thought to have near perfect acoustics.

The first Trinity Church was built in 1642 by colonists who arrived on the Ark and the Dove; the current church was completed in 1831 using salvageable bricks from the old State House Church.

Hearing beautiful music in historic settings is the perfect way to sing in the spring! Find us on Facebook or check the web site: www.patuxentvoices.org

Ryken Junior Heading to Journalism Conference

Taylor King, a junior at St. Mary's Ryken High School from Lusby, has been selected to represent Maryland as a National Youth Correspondent to the 2011 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University.

King joins a select group of students from all over the country for an intensive study of journalism and media, a press release states. She was chosen based on academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in journalism and media studies.

The Washington Journalism and Media Conference, held July 10-15, 2011, is designed to develop and encourage future leaders in the changing face of media in the 21st century.

St. Mary's Ryken is a college preparatory high school sponsored by the Xaverian Brothers and works to inspire lives of learning, faith and service in each student. Students come from many different counties across the region including Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, King George, Prince George's and St. Mary's counties.



King

Students Heading to Southern Maryland Piano Competition



The Southern Maryland Regional Piano Competition is made possible through the generosity of various partners, including Nick Garrett of the Garrett Music Academy who has provided \$1,000 at the Benefactor level. From left are SMPRC committee members Maricarol Cloak, Karen Zuza, CSM Vice President and Dean of the Prince Frederick Campus Dr. Richard Fleming, SMPRC Chair and CSM Professor Dr. Stephen Johnson, Nick Garrett, JoAnn Kushner, Susan Kuhaneck and CSM Executive Director of Community Relations Karen Smith Hupp. Cloak, Kushner and Kuhaneck also represent Artlinks, which has partnered with the college to present this annual competition.

Eleven high school pianists will be competing in the third annual Southern Maryland Regional Piano Competition at the College of Southern Maryland's Prince Frederick Campus on April 16.

The juried competition is open to any high school student within the region as an opportunity to promote piano performance and reward and encourage young pianists within Southern Maryland.

The competition is made possible through the generous support of individuals, organizations and businesses, including Nick Garrett of the Garrett Music Academy, the CSM Foundation, JoAnn and Mark Kushner, Maryland Bank and Trust, Taylor Oil Company, Nancy and Henry "Bud" Virts, and Donna Wayson.

Students will compete on April 16, with the finalists performing at 3 p.m., April 17 with guest artist Dr. Sheldon Goldberg at CSM's Prince Frederick Campus. The concert is free. For information, visit www.csmd.edu/SoMdPianoCompetition.

Community Focus

Home Town Real Estate Relocates

The Calvert County Branch of Home Towne Real Estate has moved its Solomons Island location to the Woodburn's Center.

The move was made because of a need for a bigger space and to get the office more centralized in a location where there was a larger traffic volume, said Kevin Turner, co-owner of Home Towne Real Estate, said.

He said he worked with RE/MAX until 2003, when he and some other real estate agents decided to start their own agency. In 2004, they opened their first location in Owings. In 2006 they added location in Prince Frederick and Solomons Island, and in 2008 a branch in Waldorf and a branch in Mechanicsville were opened, making for locations throughout the tri-county area.

Turner said there are also plans to expand into Prince Georges and Anne Arundel Counties, Annapolis and Baltimore.

"It has grown tremendously since we started," said Karen Townes, a co-owner with Home Towne Real Estate.

Currently, Turner said there are 147 agents working with Home Towne Real Estate.

"Agents can choose what their business looks like," Turner said.

The agents can be as tech savvy or old school as they want to be in their approach to selling homes and real estate and there will be a place for them in the company, Turner said.

He said when the economy took a downturn, they worked to streamline the home buying and selling process and worked into a position where they could take advantage of the state of the economy.

"You have to adapt," Turner said.

The new location in Solomons is at 13940 H.G. Trueman Road. For more information, visit www.hometownrealestate.net. By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net

O'Brien Wins Rotary Speech Contest

Bryant O'Brien, a student at Huntingtown High School, recently won the Four-Way Speech contest sponsored by the Rotary Club of Prince Frederick. Held annually this contest requires high school students to organize and present a speech based on Rotary's Four-Way Test, a set of ethical standards Rotarians apply to their daily lives.

O'Brien received a \$200 prize and now advances to the regional level. Four regional winners will present their speeches at the Rotary District Conference in late April.

O'Brien is no stranger to Rotary. In his presentation he included his attendance at Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), a weekend of leadership training for high school leaders from throughout Maryland. His mother, Renée O'Brien, is a member of the Rotary Club of Northern Calvert County.

Amy Gibson, who teaches Advanced Placement English at Huntingtown, served as O'Brien's coach.

The Rotary Club of Prince Frederick meets every Monday at Stoney's in Prince Frederick. For further information, contact club member Dave Elkinton at 410-535-6139.

Community Focus

Local Tennis Season Starts

The first local tennis tournament of the year, the Cove Point Spring Fling, is coming up very quickly on April 16 and 17! We would like to encourage you to come out and have some fun competing in the Open or 3.5 level brackets in one or more of the following divisions: Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Singles, Women's Doubles, and Mixed doubles.

The Spring Fling is the first of 3 tournaments that are a part of the Southern Maryland Tennis Cup series. In addition to the tournament awards available for the winners and runners-up in each division, Spring Fling participants earn Series points toward the end-of-year Cup Awards in all divisions they play.

The Tennis Cup series has been revamped for 2011 based on feedback from last year. The new rules and point system, as well as other info, can be found on the SMTA website: www.southernmarylandtenniscup.org.

To enter the 2011 Spring Fling, please download the registration form from the SMTA site and fill it out as instructed on the form.

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"Abraham Lincoln and the Navy" Speaker Series: Craig Symonds

Sotterley Plantation is partnering with The Boeing Company in presenting Dr. Craig L. Symonds, Distinguished Professor of American Naval Heritage at the U.S. Naval Academy, as part of the 2011 Speaker Series.

Widely published, author or editor of twenty-five books including prize-winning biographies, his lecture "Abraham Lincoln and the Navy" will illuminate the crucial role the president played in managing the naval aspects of America's greatest conflict.

Symonds' talk will be at 7 p.m. in the "Barn" on May 6.

Lincoln's entire presidency was dominated by America's greatest war, which made his role as commander in chief central to his administration. Though a number of historians have studied Lincoln's relationship with his generals, no one has previously examined his relationship with the Navy

and in particular with the men who led it—the admirals.

Because of the generous grant and continued support from The Boeing Company, Sotterley Plantation is able to offer this important community outreach, fulfilling its mission of serving as an educational resource and cultural venue while it seeks to preserve, interpret and research the plantation's diverse cultures and environments through its history.

The event is free and open to the public. Please call for reservations, as seating is limited: 301-373-2280.



Dr. Craig L. Symonds

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Earth Day Celebrations Abound this Month



Dru Daubon, 15, and Pierce Hall, 15, Huntingtown High School, are assisting children at the Chespax table. The organization had left over reusable bags from another project which they brought for children to decorate and take home.

Seventy-five percent of materials in landfills can be composted. Calvert County requires a licensed plumber and permits for homeowners wanting to install a solar water heating system. Calvert County Public Schools is the only school system in Maryland where 100 percent of the schools are Green School Certified. Gourds make wonderful music.

The county is celebrating National Earth Day early this year with eco-friendly facts, give-a-ways, art and music with two weekends of back to back events.

This past weekend the Calvert County Citizen's Green Team organized the Third Annual Green Expo held on the grounds of the Prince Frederick campus of the College of Southern Maryland.

"Our focus is mainly public education. Every vendor here came to help solve problems," said Dennis DiBello, member of the Green Team.

Four tents housed 72 vendors organized into "government," "commercial," "kid zone" and "local schools," according to DiBello.

"We have a very diverse crowd ranging from government agencies here to talk about the inspection and permitting process, to commercial vendors, a kid zone and a science fair," said DiBello.

Girl Scout Troop 4948 from Lusby sponsored the kid zone tent.

"The girls made games out of materials of things thrown away hoping to give kids ideas of what they can make for themselves," said Mary Beth Backus. In addition to making a bowling game out of plastic detergent bottles and a tossing game out of used cans, the girls also earned an Eco Action Badge.

Michelle Daubon, Environmental Educator and Green School Coordinator from Chespax, set up a table informing the public what each grade level learns during the school year about the environment. For example, first grader learns about animal habitats while seventh graders learn about submerged aquatic vegetation. All the curriculum and activities count toward their 70 service learning hours.

"It's really about what the kids are doing. We have 10 schools here today highlighting what their school's actions are," said Daubon.

Huntingtown High School Science teacher Jamie Rowder brought some of her Environmental Club members and their displays about raising a terrapin they received on Oct. 4, 2010 and will release back into the wild on June 9. When they release the turtle, they will also plant bay grass on a restored island.

Sneade's Ace Home Center provided a display in the commercial tent showcasing all the green products they sell.

"We here to promote green and what we have in the store from bird seed, to energy efficient light bulbs to construction materials and cleaning products," said Hayes Calvin.

Sneade's also convinced Michael Murphy, a Benjamin Moore paint representative from Richmond, Virginia, to set up a display to talk about their green paint line called Aura.

"We are the only paint manufacturer who doesn't have VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in our colorant process. Most other hardware stores will claim their paint doesn't have VOCs, which is true until they start mixing the colors in," said Murphy.

Bayside Toyota representative brought in a couple of their green vehicles. Alongside the dealership, Brian Murtha, a private individual from Owings, brought his two electric vehicles and his electric riding lawn mower.

He started driving electric vehicles in 2001 and hasn't stopped since.

"In 10 years I've never been stuck. I've seen a lot of gas and diesel vehicles stuck along the road."

He drives 70 miles round trip to downtown Washington, D.C. to work and wants to make a bumper sticker for the back of his vehicles to say either "The only time I stop at the gas station is for Mt. Dew and lottery tickets" or "Yes, I'm laughing all the way to the bank."

Murtha said he likes to come out to these events to educate the public and answer questions about owning electric vehicles.

Stacey Gleason and her two children Connor and Cameron came to the green event this year with one thing on their minds.

"Last year we saw that the Lions Club had rain barrels. We came specifically hoping they would be here again this year," said Gleason.

While they were walking around, they received tree saplings from Dominion, one of the event's major sponsors.

"We learned about insulation and home energy audits, which sounds like a great idea," said Gleason.

Jim Daniels, from Northern Calvert Lions Club, said the profit from the \$80 they raise from selling each rain barrel goes right back into the community. Last year they sold 60 rain barrels during the Green Expo.

Calvert County Board of Commissioner President Susan Shaw kicked off the morning with a welcome speech. According to Dawn Balinski, another Green Team member, the county government and public schools were very supportive of the event. The government raised the tents, put out signs and directed traffic. The schools provided the tables and chairs for all the vendors.

"SMECO, Dominion and Constellation Energy and our other sponsors were very generous," said Balinski.

According to DiBello, the previous two expos brought around 500 citizens. With two hours still left on a cold and overcast day, Balinski said they already registered 430 attendees.

For those people who missed the Green Expo there is still a chance to participate in crafts, listen to live music and learn about how to protect the environment this weekend at the Earth Day Celebration at Annmarie Garden on April 16 from 11 am to 4 pm. The activities are free after paying the site admission of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. Discounts

FEATURE STORY

are available for younger children and senior citizens.

Calvert County Master Gardeners will have a Paint-n-Pot activity while teaching how to plant and take care of a house plant.

Annmarie Garden combined Earth Day and Arbor Day together. So the first 50 family paid admissions receive an Eastern White Pine seedling to plant. Another activity scheduled is exploring the garden to find specific specimens during the Tree-mendous Scavenger Hunt. Kids and families should bring a white t-shirt or pillow case in order to make their own unique piece of tree-bark print as everyone is encouraged to "hug a



Kids and families should bring a white t-shirt or pillowcase in order to make their own unique piece of tree-bark print during this weekend's Annmarie Garden Earth Day celebration. In this 2010 photo, Marlee Jeffery works on her print.

tree."

The premier event starts at 1 pm, the Richmond Indigenous Gourd Orchestra and Gourd Petting Zoo.

"The Richmond Indigenous Gourd Orchestra resides in Richmond, Virginia, where members grow gourds, make instruments, and create music. A band of musicians with dirt under their fingernails! In an age prone to technological idolatry and cultural narcissism, where electronic media seems endlessly fascinated with itself, the Gourd Orchestra directly reaffirms their relationship with nature," according to their website.

Go to their website to sample their music before this weekend. <http://www.gourdorchestra.com>. To learn more about Annmarie Garden's event, see www.annmariegarden.org. By Corrin M. Howe (SCG) info@somdpublishing.net

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in remembrance

Clyde Beebe, 79

Clyde Spencer Beebe, 79, of Charlotte Hall, MD, passed away April 1, 2011 at St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD. Born December 2, 1931 in Warren, PA, he was the son of the late Susie and Orrie Beebe.

Clyde was an accomplished chef having worked in Massachusetts, Maryland and the D.C. area. In recent years, he lived at Broomes Island, MD. He enjoyed being near the water where he could enjoy his first love - fishing.

Since May, 2008, he had been living at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Clyde is survived by his sister, Joyce E. Parreco of Silver Spring, MD and Maxine B. Hufnagel of Lancaster, PA; also five children by his former marriages.

Private services are being handled by Brinsfield-Echols Funeral Home, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Rd., Charlotte Hall, MD.

Becky Deskins, 37



Rebecca Lynn "Becky" Deskins, 37 of Lusby, MD formerly of San Marcos, CA passed away on

March 24, 2011 at her residence.

She was born on January 12, 1974 in Vista, CA to Joseph Benton and Terry Clouston Ramos.

She was the loving wife to David Daniel Deskins whom she married in Oceanside, CA on December 30, 1997.

Becky graduated from high school in San Marcos, CA in 1988 and went on to attend Palomar Community College. She was a Meter Reader for the San Diego Gas & Electric Co. and eventually a homemaker.

She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post 274, enjoyed stitching, and performing computer repairs.

Becky is survived by her parents Joseph and Terry Ramos of San Marcos, CA; husband, David D. Deskins of Lusby, MD; children, Latasha L. Lamendola, Casey P. Deskins, Katherine L. Deskins all of Lusby, MD, and Thomas Wright of Escondido, CA; brother, Matthew Lee Ramos of Rayne, LA.

All services were private. Arrangements provided by Rausch Funeral Home, P.A., Lusby, MD.

Kathy Duley, 57



Katherine I. "Kathy" Duley, age 57, of Huntingtown died March 25, 2011 at Georgetown University Hospital.

Kathy was born in Olney, MD on July 16, 1953. She was raised in Rockville and graduated from Rockville High School in 1971. Kathy, or Poottie, as she was called by her husband, was married to Lawrence M. Duley in Upper Marlboro, MD on October 18, 1975. She was a human resources specialist with the United States Air Force for 28 years.

Kathy enjoyed working in her flower garden, ceramics, and reading; especially Danielle Steele novels; and all animals, but especially her pet rabbit, Chilly. Poottie (Kathy) would often accompany Larry to hot rod shows and enjoyed riding in his 1969 Chevy Camaro.

Surviving are her husband Larry M. Duley, Jr., a son Todd James Duley and his wife Cassandra Foshee Duley of Prince Frederick, her parents William and Lucille Hartley of Rockville, MD, two brothers James Mahoney and his wife Frances of Vanceboro, NC and William Hartley and his wife Kathy of Gaithersburg, MD, a sister Patricia Walters and her husband James of Rockville, MD and her parents in law Donald Smith, Sr. and Elizabeth Duley-Smith of Hughesville, MD.

Arrangements were handled by Rausch Funeral Home in Owings.

Memorial contributions in her remembrance may be made to The American Heart Association, 4301 Fairfax Dr., #530 Arlington, VA 22203, or National Humane Society, 40 E Main St., #3641, Newark, DE 19711.

Patricia Erickson, 84

Patricia Gordon Erickson, 84, of Solomons, MD died March 29, 2011, at Washington Adventist Hospital, Takoma Park, MD. She



was born September 7, 1926 in Vallejo, California to her mother Jeanne Gordon.

She is survived by her son Mark Erickson. Patricia grew up in

California and later in France, where she was sent to live with her grandmother, and fell in love with all things French. She studied political science and graduated from Berkley, and during WWII she was in Honolulu, Hawaii serving the war effort with security clearance that would protect her underground in the event of a nuclear event.

She entered the Foreign Service, and while on assignment in Tokyo as a secretary, met Elden Erickson in 1956, long distance by telling him he would not be able to get out of his assignment in Laos. Of course that was the beginning of a wonderful courtship that too many would best describe as intriguing. It was the beginning of a 50-year anniversary career in the Foreign Service together.

In 1961, before being assigned to Japan, they decided to bring in a new member to the family, their son Mark, whom they adopted and whisked off across the country to Kansas to meet more of his family before their new assignment. After braving a huge blizzard in Kansas and arriving in California, they set off to Japan by boat, stopping off in Hawaii on the way.

Patricia took on their new assignments in stride, always studying the ways and languages of each country, as much the diplomat as Elden, never moving an inch when it came to making sure that all protocols were met and at the same time making sure that all three of them took in as much of the local environments as possible, especially in regards to art and culture.

It became evident to Patricia that families abroad needed to have information available to them while traveling and took on a passion for writing travel guide books, specifically for Holland and later Frankfurt, Germany. It was a passion she never gave up, and continued her writing even here in Calvert County, writing articles about local issues.

For those that new Patricia at Asbury, in Solomons MD, it might be said that though it was very difficult for her after the loss of Elden, she bravely continued on, always learning, always studying, working to develop and maintain an open mind, spiritually and emotionally. Though many will miss her presence, they will certainly have to admit that their lives have been enriched due to their relationship with her.

A celebration of Patricia's life was held on Friday, April 8, 2011, at Asbury-Solomons Auditorium, Solomons, MD. Interment followed at Middleham Chapel Episcopal Church Cemetery, Lusby.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to Asbury-Solomons Benevolent Care Fund, c/o Melissa Carnes, 11100 Asbury Circle, Solomons, MD, 20688 or to Stichting William R. Gordon Scholarship Fund, American International School of Rotterdam, Hillelondastraat, 21 Rotterdam, Netherlands, 3012.

vert, P.A.

Jimmy Gott, Sr., 89



James Boyd Gott, Sr., better known as Jimmy, died, Saturday, March 26, 2011 at Calvert Memorial Hospital just shy of his 90th birthday on April 19th.

Born to Milton B. Gott and Sadie V. Rawlings on April 19, 1921, he was a lifelong resident of Calvert County, Maryland.

Jimmy, a veteran of World War II, retired from Calvert County Public Schools as the Director of Maintenance after 29 years of service. Upon retirement he enjoyed trips to Florida, visiting with family, and sharing his knowledge of Calvert County history.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his grandson, Warren David Gott. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Evelyn LeJune Haight; his son, Warren Douglas Gott and his wife, Linda Hyde Gott; his son, James Boyd Gott, Jr.; four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

Family and friends were received at Rausch Funeral Home, 4405 Broomes Island Rd., Port Republic, MD on Thursday, March 31. A funeral service was held on Friday, April 1 at the same location; interment followed at Wesley Cemetery in Prince Frederick, MD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 346, Prince Frederick, MD, 20678.

Lindy Foster, 82



Lindy V. Foster, 82 of Huntingtown, MD died on March 29, 2011 peacefully at home. He was born November

16, 1928 in Landover, MD to the late Charles and Lillian Foster.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Mary E. Foster, his brother Nathan S. (Patches and or Buster) Foster and sister Ruby B. Foster.

He is survived by his sister Jewell J. Fletcher of Prescott, AZ. Daughters; Brenda and her husband Robert Rountree of Huntingtown, MD, Terry and her husband Gregory Horning of Dunkirk, MD and Jeannie and her husband Harry Powers of Myrtle Beach, SC. Sons; Norman and his wife Jackie Walker of Chesapeake Beach, MD and Everett and his wife Stephanie Walker of Chesapeake Beach, MD. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association at www.heart.org.

Funeral services were handled by Lee Funeral Home Cal-

Shirley Rynarzewski, 72



Shirley Jean Rynarzewski was born in Arlington, Va., on May 12, 1938, to the late Charles and Dorothy Hughes. She was the only girl surrounded by four brothers. Shirley lived with her four brothers in a

in remembrance



tiny two-bedroom home in Vienna, Virginia before meeting her husband, John at the Branchville firehouse dance.

Shirley and John were married in 1970 at College Park United Methodist Church. They moved to Bowie, Maryland where they resided until they moved to Calvert County in 1976. Shirley and John made their home in Owings for 20 years before heading south to escape the cold winter months. Shirley and John moved to Melbourne Beach, Florida in 1996 where they resided until Shirley's health deteriorated. In February, Shirley moved in with her son, Randy, and his family until she passed away on Sunday, April 3, 2011.

Shirley was known as Nana by her grandchildren, with whom she had a very special connection. She helped raise the oldest grandchild, Danielle, she called Brittany "Little Shirley Jean" and of course, Baby Hannah who was a lot like her nana, being the mother hen. She taught them to swim and even to wait patiently while fishing. She really enjoyed the time spent with April and Adam when they visited her in Florida. Being surrounded by her grandchildren was her joy in life.

Shirley was very involved in her children's lives; she loved to keep in touch, especially by the phone. She also loved keeping in touch with her dearest friends Joyce Wood and Rose Cooper. Joyce was there by Shirley's side after coming back to Maryland and kept a loving and watchful eye on her. Spending time with Rose was also something she loved to do, whether it was shopping or going out to lunch. She loved to garden, shop and go on trips on the Casino Boat. Shirley was the "mother hen" and everything had its place. In the evenings Shirley could be found eating a Klondike Bar and playing with her beloved Siamese cat Sissy.

Shirley is survived by her husband, John Rynarzewski; loving children, Randy Dillon (Beverly), Gary Stewart and step-daughter, Linda Weimer (Jeff); beloved grandmother to, Danielle Dillon, Brittany Dillon, Hannah Dillon, April Weimer and Adam Weimer. Sister to, Charles Hughes (Wanda), Ralph Hughes (Lee), Bill Hughes and the late John Hughes. She is survived by her Siamese cat, Sissy.

Memorial contributions in Shirley's memory may be made to Calvert Hospice, PO Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678, <http://www.calverthospice.org/>

or to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Attn: Donor Services, PO Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265-0309 www.komen.org.

Funeral services were handled by Lee Funeral Home Calvert, P.A.

Cindy Stiles, 56

Cynthia Ann Stiles, "Cindy", age 56, of Huntingtown died March 20, 2011 at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC.

She was born June 23, 1954 in Washington, DC. She was raised by her parents, Charles and Frieda Conner in Camp Springs, Maryland where she enjoyed her childhood with big brother Charlie and big sister Liane.

Cindy and the love of her life, Joe Stiles, were married for more than 30 years and lived most of their married years in Calvert County. They had three children, Jody, Nora, and Mike. While raising their children, Cindy worked first with Sheehy Ford in Marlow Heights, MD and for the past 30 years enjoyed a most successful career with the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. where she rose to the position of a Senior Human Resources Specialist.

In recent years, Cindy embraced her time with the grandchildren that she and Joe were blessed with. Cindy got tremendous enjoyment from boating, water skiing, walking on the beach and tending to her yard and gardens.

Cindy leaves behind her husband, Joseph E. Stiles; her mother, Frieda Conner of Stafford, VA; a son, Michael Stiles of Prince Frederick; step-son Jody Stiles and wife Cathy of Huntsville, Alabama and step-daughter Nora Edwards of New Market, Alabama; six grandchildren; a brother Charles Conner, Jr. and wife Debi of San Diego, CA and sister Liane Young and husband Tom of Rhoadesville, VA, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, and a host of friends who feel honored to have been a part of her life.

A celebration of Cindy's life was held at the Grace Brethren Church of Calvert County in Owings.

Expressions of sympathy and memorial contributions in Cindy's name may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Baltimore,

635 West Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Leslie Twohig, 49

Leslie Marie McMahon Twohig, 49, of Lothian passed on April 2, 2011, beloved wife of John Francis Twohig, devoted mother to Brian F. Twohig and Sean M. Twohig, of Lothian, Maryland.

Leslie is also survived by her parents, Robert and Patricia McMahon of North Beach, Maryland, Daughter-In-Law Amanda N. Twohig and Grand Daughters Cailyn Marie Twohig and Leona P. Hart. Leslie is also survived by Steven and Linda McMahon, Brother and Sister-In-Law, and a host of other sisters and brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews and devoted friends.

Born in Prince George's County, MD., on September 8, 1961, Leslie was a graduate of the University of Maryland. She thoroughly enjoyed her work most recently with O'Brien and Gere Engineering Firm. She was an avid gardener and professional artist.

Leslie's humility, dignity, love, kindness, and considerate ways endeared her to family, friends, and business associates. She was a courageous vibrant person and truly lived each day as if it was a gift. Leslie believed strongly in giving to the community and was a quiet champion for the nameless and needy.

All services are private, arrangements provided by the Rausch Funeral Home, PA., 4405 Broomes Island Rd., Port Republic, MD 20676.

Contributions may be made in memory of Leslie Marie Twohig to The Susan G. Komen 3-Day Race for the Cure™, the proceeds of which are invested in

breast cancer

research and

community

programs.

Donations may be

mailed to The

Susan G. Ko-

men 3-Day for

the Cure, P.O.

Box 660843

Dallas, TX

75266-0843, or

online at [http://the3day.org/](http://the3day.org/goto/girlsgo-nemiles2011)

goto/girlsgo-

nemiles2011,

Team Name/

Cap t a i n :

Girls Gone

Miles 2011,

Amanda Twohig, or by contacting the Komen Organization at 1-800-996-3329.

Kermit Zerby, 65

Kermit Richard Zerby, 65, of Melbourne, FL, formerly of Lexington Park, MD died March 31, 2011 in Wuesthoff Hospice Care Center, Rockledge, FL.

Born February 21, 1946 in Bellefonte, PA, he was the son of the late Henry W. and Margaret Delaney Zerby.

Mr. Zerby was the loving husband of the late Mary Agnes Root Zerby whom preceded him in death on February 8, 2009. He is survived by his siblings David E. Zerby and Clair W. Zerby both from PA. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by his brother Neven Zerby.

Mr. Zerby enlisted in the United States Navy in 1964 and served his country for 20 years before his retirement in 1984. During his enlistment he received the Vietnam service medal with five stars, meritorious unit commendation with one star, navy expeditionary medal, national defense service medal, and the armed forces expeditionary medal. He also attended Foothill College in Los Altos Hills, CA and received his Associates Degree in 1974.

Mr. Zerby was employed for seven years by the National Technologies Associates until retiring for health reasons. He belonged to

the Fleet Reserve, VFW, the Hollywood Patuxent Moose Lodge 2393, and the American Legion post 274 in Lusby, MD.

The family received friends on Friday, April 8, 2011 in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. A funeral service was held on Saturday, April 9, 2011 in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD with Pastor Daniel Moore officiating. Interment followed in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD.

Pallbearers were Bobby Hall, John Jordan, Tim O'Conner, Joe Zerby, John Cantwell and Ernest Bernich.

Contributions in memory of Mr. Zerby may be made to the Hospice of St. Mary's. P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD, 20650 and/or Mooseheart Child City & School Inc. c/o Patuxent Moose Lodge 2393, 23886 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood, MD 20636.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A.

Are We Missing Your Loved Ones? Please send Obituaries and Photos To info@somdpublishing.net

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www.RauschFuneralHomes.com

Owings

8325 Mt. Harmony Lane
410-257-6181

Port Republic

4405 Broomes Island Rd.
410-586-0520

Lusby

20 American Lane
410-326-9400

Sea Scouts Repair Boat



Regatta in May and worked at the Museum on April 2 and 3. This 24-foot pulling-boat was made, along with its sister boat, in the spring of 1997, by Sea Scouts of the National Capital Area Council, BSA. The two boats are used for training and competition at the annual Sea Scout Regatta in May of each year. Information on these Pullingboats and the Sea Scout program may be obtain by e-mail to douglas. yeckley@comcast.net or from the internet at www.seascout.org.

The Metropolitan Sea Scouts 548 had the opportunity to repair their rowboat with the help of volunteers from the Patuxent Small Craft Guild and funding from the Melvin Conant Scholarship fund at the Calvert Marine Museum. Scouts are preparing for a competitive

All Star Basketball Benefit for Autism Awareness

Patuxent High School hosted an All Star Basketball night Saturday to benefit the Autism-Asperger Association of Calvert County (AAACC).

The night included a game showcasing local basketball stars and a game with nationally recognized basketball players with Team Anything is Possible (A.I.P.)

Careen Wallace, the president of AAACC said A.I.P. approached them about doing a fundraiser event and the AAACC was happy for the opportunity.

"It's really, really wonderful," Wallace said.

The AAACC is a non-profit group to raise awareness for Autism and Aspergers, and to help families and people affected by them.

During the halftime show for the all-star evening, Steve Cronse, the Athletic Director for Patuxent High School gave the AAACC a check for \$1,000.

Also during the halftime show, there was a moment of silent for Patuxent High School student, Trevasé Chew, who passed away Friday. *By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*

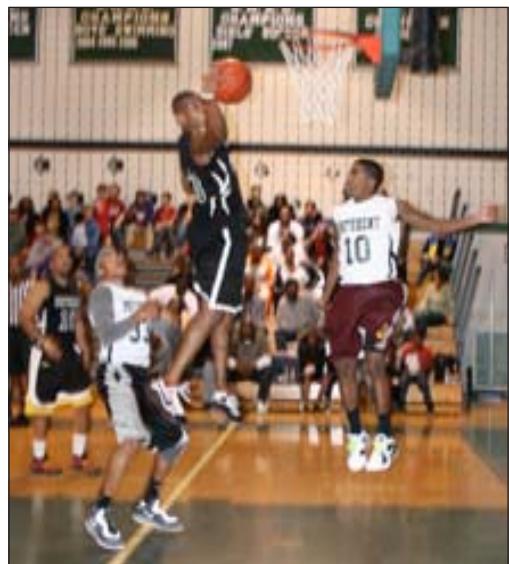


Photo by Sarah Miller



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Patuxent High Welcomes Glee Club

Students at Patuxent High School are discovering that glee club is not just something on prime time television.

This is the first year Patuxent High School has a glee club, and Liesl VanHaute, the choral director at Patuxent High School, said it is doing "pretty well."

VanHaute started the glee club as part of an effort to appeal to different students who may not be in other musical organizations. She said with the emphasis on academics at Patuxent High School, sometimes things like band and chorus get pushed to the background.

The 18-student group meets during lunchtime twice per week. VanHaute said she held auditions for the group after winter break, once she has discovered something vital to the group's success.

"No one came until it was called glee club," VanHaute said.

She said she first billed the club as a musical theatre workshop, with the idea of doing Broadway staples, but there was no interest. Then she tried calling it a show choir, with the same results, and finally named it after the television series Glee. It was then that students began showing interest.

"It's all in the language," VanHaute said.

She said just as important as the name of the group is the music they choose. She said the students would be turned off if they sang something like Mozart right off the bat. So she chose "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen as the inaugural song for the Patuxent High School glee club.

"It's a classic," said freshman Sandie Goldstein. "It's on everybody's iPod."

VanHaute said the students signed

contracts to be at the two half-hour lunchtime rehearsals per week, with excused absences for tests or absences from school, and two after school rehearsals.

She said being in a real-life glee club, as opposed to the one on television has taught the students that there is no band that is magically always available, and everybody will not know the notes from the start.

She said it has also given the students confidence to move and speak in front of a group of people, which is a skill they will need for the rest of their lives.

The glee club's first performance will be at the Spring Concert on May 12 at Patuxent High School. *By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*



CSM Robotics Competitions Go Around the World and Back

5 Years, 1000s of Students, 100s of Robots and 1 Southern Maryland World Championship Team

When College of Southern Maryland Chair of Technical Studies Department Judy Thomason applied for a National Science Foundation Grant to help CSM develop community interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields in 2006, she had no idea how far her idea would go – but she had high hopes. It turned out that Thomason's early efforts in Southern Maryland have spread, not only across the state, but also across the Atlantic, have sent teams to world championships and have brought championship trophies back home to Southern Maryland.

Although she is now retired from CSM, Thomason is still passionate about robotics and volunteers at the college's competitions. "This program has exceeded my expectations," Thomason said in a CSM press release, adding that the success of the program has been the outpouring of volunteers from not only CSM but businesses and the community.

In the five years that CSM has hosted robotics competitions, thousands of students and hundreds of robots have zoomed around the Physical Education (PE) Building's gym floor, while hundreds of CSM staff and student volunteers along with dozens of corporate sponsors, community organizations and elected officials have provided support.

And, CSM's competitions have become a model for other regions. In the December 2010 FTC competition, a team from Aviano, Italy, comprised of U.S. Department of Defense dependents whose parents are stationed abroad, visited to compete and to learn how to bring a competition such as this to Europe for American students to qualify for World Championships.

For people who have not been following the robotics craze, there are two nationally sanctioned robotics competitions: FIRST Technology Championship and VEX. Both use specialized robotics kits with some parts that can be shared between platforms. The competitions are held on a standard playing field with components added each year specific to the competition. For instance, the game "Hot Shot" played at CSM's 2009 Maryland FIRST Championship qualifier, required robots to open a chute holding whiffle-ball sized balls, to gather and store balls on the robot itself and to launch the balls into containers inside and outside the field of play. To do this, the robots had to be designed with moving parts, arms that might scoop up balls or work as pincers. The robots need to turn in every direction, move forward and in reverse, drive up a ramp and sometimes balance on a teetering board.

"If you've watched video of the Mars rover or a bomb disposing-robot then you get the idea of the types of maneuvers these machines have to perform, often from remote locations where the driver is watching from a computer monitor," said CSM Business and Technology Division Chair Robert Gates, who is

Former CSM Chair of Technical Studies Department Judy Thomason, right, is joined by Calvert Middle School's team Calvert Crush, winners of the Creativity Award in March 2009. On April 9, high school robotics teams from Southern Maryland competed in a game called 'Round Up.'



heading the planning for the college's robotics competitions.

"This is not like opening a remote-controlled toy on Christmas morning adding a few batteries and off you go," said Gates. "Months before a competition, teams receive a box of parts including a motor. They then have to put the pieces together in a way that makes sense for the game they will be playing. They have to attach wires to each mechanized piece that will relay instructions from an onboard computer that is getting signals from the student driver's hand-held controller."

Each team has to have at least one programmer who will write the code that makes the robot come alive.

The robotics competitions are designed by practicing engineers who know that similar end results can be achieved from divergent courses, so teams are judged not only by final score, but also for out-of-the box thinking, problem solving and teamwork.

Teamwork, along with robot design and programming are other factors in the competition. Each team is required to join an alliance with two other teams. The alliance members rotate, as only two can be on the playing field at a time. The three-team alliance competes against another three-team alliance. During the championship rounds the top teams choose their alliance partners.

"In the working world of scientists and engineers, working collaboratively is essential," said Gates. "Often project teams are made up of individuals that are not only from various disciplines such as chemists, mechanical engineers, physicists and computer programmers, but individuals from different cultures and academic backgrounds. The lessons these students are learning about working together will serve them throughout their careers."

CSM has hosted the Maryland FTC qualifier since 2008. For two of those years, the Spangler family's homeschool team of "Under the Son" along with teams from Western Maryland have represented the state in national competition. In April 2010, the Spanglers returned from Atlanta with a trophy for competing on the winning World Championship team. They hope for a repeat as they head to the World Championships in St. Louis in late April.

FTC competition has been fierce among school and community teams outside of Southern Maryland that have been design-

ing and programming robots for years. To build skill and confidence among local teams before competing against robotics competition veterans, CSM started the Southern Maryland Robotics competition using VEX equipment. Open to elementary, middle and high school teams, the program tried to build awareness and excitement for robotics competitions among Southern Maryland school faculty, administrators and students.

It worked.

In the 2010 Southern Maryland Robotics Competition, the entrants doubled from the previous year with 130 teams from 70 schools wanting to compete. In the 2010 Maryland FIRST competition, teams needed to compete in a qualifier to shave the competition to a manageable 55 teams. This year the high school competition and the elementary and middle school competition will be held on two separate days.

Kicking off the 2nd annual National Robotics Week on April 9, the CSM Southern Maryland Robotics Competition, with major sponsor BAE Systems, and sponsors TIME Center, PNC Bank, the Patuxent Partnership, Charles County Technology Council, CSM Foundation, SAIC and Energetics Technology Center, brought high school teams to the college's Physical Education (PE) Center for the game "Round Up." On May 7, elementary and middle school teams from Charles and St. Mary's schools will compete, with Calvert schools already competing on April 2.

From the first competition in 2006 with just two high school teams, CSM's robotics championships have provided exposure to engineering, computer programming and teamwork skills to thousands of students not only in Southern Maryland, but across the state and the Atlantic Ocean.

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News From Maryland DNR

By Keith McGuire



Some of you may recall from a February article that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources held public hearings to decide the size and creel limit, and the dates of the summer flounder season. Diehard flounder anglers attended the meetings and expressed their preferences within and outside the options offered, and the MD DNR representatives continued the process through all of the commissions and regulatory processes to come up with a decision. At the end of March, MD DNR issued a press release for the 2011 summer flounder season that applies to recreational anglers on the Atlantic Coast and in the Chesapeake Bay.

Chesapeake Bay. According to MD DNR Fisheries Director Tom O'Connell, "Our choice of regulation is a direct result of our biologists working together with our anglers to enact regulations that work toward the coast wide rebuilding schedule, while providing quality fishing opportunities to our fishermen."

SEASON: April 16 through November 30, 2011

MINIMUM SIZE: 18 inches (recreational and commercial hook-and-line)

CREEL LIMIT: 3 fish per person per day

If you happen to prefer smaller flounder, and if you would like to keep more of them, fish the Potomac River or Virginia portions of the Atlantic Coast and Chesapeake Bay. In those bodies of water the minimum size limit is 17 1/2 inches and you can keep four fish per person per day. Point Lookout anglers need to be aware of the differences between the two regulatory regions because the rules for flounder and a few other species are different for fish caught from the Bay side of the point and the Potomac (Cornfield Harbor) side.

MD DNR also recently announced the 2011 Maryland Fishing Challenge featuring Diamond Jim. This is a free, year-round "tournament" sponsored by the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service, recreational fishing organizations, and



The Ordinary Angler

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d o -
n o r s
across the state.
There are several
components to the
challenge,
but the
most im-
portant
part for
you as we
approach
the Trophy
Striper Season is the Award Cita-
tion piece.

Anyone legally fishing in Maryland who catches any one of eighty species of fish that meets or exceeds an official award size can receive a citation award certificate and an invitation to the Grand Celebration that will be held at the 44th Annual Maryland Seafood Festival on September 10, 2011 at Sandy Point State Park. Anglers lucky enough to catch one of these big fish need to take their fish to one of the Official Citation Award Centers (local tackle shops) to have the catch confirmed, recorded and officially reported to MD DNR. The award center will provide the angler with an official Maryland Fishing Challenge entry ticket, which will be followed by an award certificate and an invitation to the Grand Celebration. Further details, including the sizes of fish that qualify and the procedures for catch and release citations can be found at <http://dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/challenge/index.asp>.

The minimum size stripers for citation is 40". You may check in as many citation award sized fish as you can catch, but anglers are limited to one Maryland Fishing Challenge entry.

riverdancekeith@hotmail.com

Keith has been a recreational angler on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries for over 50 years; he fishes weekly from his small boat during the season, and spends his free time supporting local conservation organizations.

A 60 Year-Old Bird?

The recent earthquake and tsunami that devastated parts of northern Japan stretched across the Pacific Ocean all the way to the California coast and the islands in between. Nearly halfway between Asia and North America lies the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge on Midway Atoll. Although thousands of miles from our part of the world, this story is fascinating to all of us who are interested in nature's wonders.

Among the many different life forms of seabirds, there are 21 species of Albatross including the Laysan Albatross, which are large soaring seabirds of the Northern Pacific. With adult wingspans exceeding six feet, they rarely land on the ocean's surface and are found on land only during the breeding season. Scientists believe that Albatross, once they're capable of flight, never touch land for their first three to five years, and breed only after reaching five years of age.

Most of the world's population of Laysan Albatross nest on the small islands comprising Midway Atoll, including Sand Island - about two-thirds the size of Chesapeake Beach. Scientists with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) have banded and studied migratory bird populations for decades. Chandler Robbins, well-known author and research scientist with Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Laurel, MD) was but a young junior biologist in the 1950s when he started banding nesting Albatross on Midway. In 1956, he banded a female Laysan Albatross and her nestling. Banding records maintained at Patuxent document that that bird, now known as "Wisdom," has been re-banded 4 times (bird bands don't last forever, especially in the marine environment). Although Chan retired

recently after more than 50 years of fieldwork, he rediscovered "Wisdom" at a nest site on Midway in 2001.

Given that these birds don't breed until they are at least 5 or older, and "Wisdom" was banded as a breeding adult in 1956, she is considered to be among the world's oldest birds and still producing young! She is definitely the oldest wild bird documented in the North American banding program. I don't know who gave her the name "Wisdom," but perhaps it was due to the fact that she wisely chose nest sites well away from the ocean's edge on her small island...

Remember, Trophy Rockfish Season starts April 16, during which you're allowed to keep one Rockfish that's 28-inches or more in length (squeezed tail). Other restrictions apply.

Here are some points to keep in mind:

Use big lures. Almost everyone will be trolling for Rockfish. The most popular lures in the Chesapeake include parachutes and bucktails in weights that vary from 3-8 ounces, trimmed with 9-inch shad and a trailer hook (see photo).

Try a full size umbrella rig with a parachute tied behind. There are days when umbrella rigs catch fish and other rigs go untouched.

Patrol the channel edges. After the big fish leave their spawning rivers, they generally follow the channel edges on their journey back to the ocean. A zigzag pattern is very pop-

ular. Remember also to keep your speed generally around 3 knots.

Concentrate your lures in the top ten feet of the water column where the water is warmest. Monofilament line tends to float, which keeps your lure higher, a good thing especially in the spring.

Planer boards help in many ways. They let you troll more lines. Planer board lines ride high in the water, and away from the boat. If you can't run planer boards, try to incorporate "roof rods" in your spread. Lures dragged high and 200 feet back or more are often very effective.

Have a question about Chesapeake Bay fishing? Send your questions to onthewater@chesapeakecurrent.com and we'll do our best to get you an answer.

Don't catch 'em all,
Bob Munro



© James Lloyd

Spring Is Here!

Make a date with Annmarie Friday, April 15, for *Annmarie After Hours* (AHH). This will be the opening night of About Face: Stories in Portraits, an exploration of art that tells a story. This unusual exhibit celebrates the artist as the storyteller. Enjoy wine, light hors d'oeuvres and live music provided by Jim and Kathy. And don't forget to visit the Gift Shop for some retail therapy! No reservations required, admission \$4 for members, \$5 for non-members. You must be 21 years of age to attend. For more information, visit www.annmariegarden.org.

April is Maryland Archaeology Month! Experience this annual event highlighting Maryland's archaeological heritage at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum's annual Discovering Archaeology Day, Saturday, April 16. Enjoy exhibits, displays and hand-on activi-



ties by archaeologists from all over Maryland. Visit the ongoing excavations of an 18th century plantation site. Tours of the museum grounds and the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) are available. Stop by the Knap-in at the Indian Village and discover how stone tools are made. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is free. For more information, call 410-586-8501 or visit www.jefpat.org.

Enjoy Spring Break with the Calvert Marine Museum on Monday, April 18 Otter Day! Touch a pelt, examine teeth and feet and see how otters relate to you.



Make an "otterly" great craft in the Discovery Room

from 1 - 4 p.m. On Wednesday, April 20, make your own fishing pole. Dig into some dirt on Thursday, April 21, and learn about the world of paleontologists. On Friday, April 22, visit the Drum Point Lighthouse and compare the past to the present during two special tours at 1 and 3 p.m. and on Saturday, April 23, join the fossil egg hunt where children ages 3 to 8 can discover hidden fossil eggs throughout the museum. Bring your own basket to collect the fossils. Visit www.calvertmarinemuseum.com for more information.

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum will offer guided tours of Point Farm House and the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) on Saturday, April 23, at 2 p.m. Point Farm, the estate home and retreat of the late Mr. & Mrs. Jefferson Patterson, was built in 1932. The Colonial Revival brick house was designed by noted female architect Gertrude Sawyer. The gardens are being faithfully restored based on the original plans by landscape architect Rose Greely. Reservations are required and the tour cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors (55+). For more information, call 410-586-8501 or e-mail jppm@mdp.state.md.us.

Wine specialist Dee Peters is presenting a series on wines and their appreciation at DiGiovanni's Dock of the Bay. Join her on Saturday, April 23, for "Price and Quality." It's often difficult to tell if price and quality go hand-in-hand in wines. Learn what drives wine price, what drives excellence in wines and how they sometimes, but not always, relate. You will learn through an exercise in tasting quality with six different wines. The class runs from 2 to 4 p.m. and costs \$35 per person and includes a light meal. For more information, visit www.digiovannisrestaurant.com.

Enjoy a day of fun for children, youth and adults at the Time Travel Adventure Fair, Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at King Memorial Park, Prince Frederick. Throughout the park you will visit living history encampments and fun activity booths. Youth groups and school choirs will perform in the park's amphitheater. Across the street Historic Linden will join the celebration with a Maypole Dance at 10 a.m., continuing with old-fashioned children's games, wool-spinning demonstrations, a living map of the county and "Children of Yesteryear" photo opportunities until 2 p.m. Admission is free. Food and beverages will be available for a fee. A treasure hunt will be available for a small fee, children 2-12 \$3 and older youth and adults \$5, with no family to exceed \$15. This fundraiser will benefit the child and youth-centered activities of the Calvert Crusade for Children and Youth. More infor-

Out & About

mation is available at <http://www.calvertkids.org>.

Join Sail Solomons for the opening of sailing season on Saturday, April 30, from noon to 4 p.m. Climb aboard the boats, visit the club facilities and talk with the sailing instructors, learn about courses, charters and club membership. A BBQ lunch and dockside



demonstrations are available. For more information, visit www.sailsi.com.

Held annually on the last Saturday of April, the Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland will mark its 33rd year when it opens on Saturday, April 30, making it the oldest Celtic celebration in Maryland. More than 50 clans and societies will share information. Three performing stages will offer continuous music and dance featuring internationally known recording artists and groups. Throughout the day watch competitions between pipers, fiddlers, highland dancers, athletes,



drummers, pipe bands and Celtic harpers and see craft and country dance demonstrations. Listen to harp and Scottish fiddling while storytellers weave tales. View historical displays and visit the Celtic market place for food and gifts. The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Advance sale tickets are available online at www.cssm.org. After closing ceremonies, join the group for an evening ceili at 6:30 p.m. featuring the Rovers. For more information, call 443-975-0972, e-mail festival@cssm.org or visit online at www.cssm.org.

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Earth Day

By Joyce Baki

April 22 marks the 41st anniversary of Earth Day. Founded in 1970 by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.), it is a day to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment. Senator Nelson, an environmental activist, conceived the idea after touring the site of a horrific oil spill off the coast of Santa Barbara, located in Southern California, in 1969. The source of the spill was blow-out on an offshore oil rig owned by Union Oil. Over 80,000 barrels of crude oil spilled into the channel and on to the beaches of Santa Barbara County and more than 10,000 birds were killed in this ecological disaster.

The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970, marking the beginning of the

modern environmental movement. It had participants in two thousand colleges and universities, about ten thousand primary and secondary schools and hundreds of communities. Coast-to-coast rallies were planned. Colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment, including polluting factories, toxic dumps, the use of pesticides and the loss of forests and wildlife.

The date for Earth Day was chosen to maximize participation on college campuses. Senator Nelson felt this time of the year would not fall during spring breaks and it was well before final exams. He also felt it should not conflict with Easter or Passover and be late enough in the spring that the weather should be good. April 22 is also the birthday of Julius Sterling Morton, the founder of

Arbor Day, a national tree-planting holiday, started in 1872. April 21 is the birthday of John Muir who founded the Sierra Club.

Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide. It also helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Senator Nelson and Bruce Anderson, the lead organizer in New Hampshire, formed Earth Day USA which coordinated efforts until 1995 including the launch of Earth Day.org. After the 25th anniversary in 1995, the coordination was taken over by Earth Day Network.

Earth Day is now observed in 175 countries and is coordinated by Earth Day Network, www.earthday.org. Founded by Dennis Hayes and the organizers of the first Earth Day, the organization focuses on environmental education, public environmental campaigns and organizing national and local earth day events to promote activism and environmental protection.

You can help. Come up with a list of things you and your family can do without too much trouble. Consider recycling, planting a tree, using "green" household cleaners, switching to energy-saving green light bulbs or using towels instead of paper towels to wipe your hands. Take children on nature walks to discover the beauty of our Earth.

You can also conserve water. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, a family of four uses 400 gallons of water every day. Take short showers instead of tub baths. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of letting the faucet run until the



View of the Earth as seen by the Apollo 17 crew traveling toward the moon. NASA photo

water is cool. Wash only full loads of clothes and use the appropriate water level. Water the lawn or garden at the coolest part of the day.

Reduce, reuse and recycle. Buy products that use less toxic chemicals. Repair items as much as possible. Use a coffee mug, reuse boxes, donate extras to charity and recycle paper, plastic, glass bottles, cardboard and aluminum cans. Recycle electronics. Compost food scraps, grass and other yard clippings and buy recycled products. To learn more, visit www.epa.gov.

To celebrate Earth Day, the American Chestnut Land Trust will work along roadsides and on selected sites cleaning debris. Work begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2011. All volunteers are invited to join ACLT for a celebratory picnic at noon. Registration is required. Call 410-414-3400 or e-mail info@aclt-web.org for more information.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Newtowne Players Going to National Competition

In January, the Newtowne Players hosted the Maryland Community Theatre Festival and came out with the top spot. Next up for the troupe is the Eastern States Theatre Association Regional Festival, where the Newtowne Players will be representing Maryland.

This is the first time the Newtowne Players have advanced to the regional competition, said Bill Scarafia, the president of the Board of Directors and the director for the play going to the regional competition.

The play the theatre will be going to the regional festival with is "woman: revised," an original one-act play written by local playwright Trish Cole.

The Footlight Festival last summer was the first time "woman: revised" hit the stage and has since been performed at the College of Southern Maryland's Leonardtown Campus, as well as locations in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Seattle, according to Cole.

Cole said right now, the play is unpublished, which means she retains the rights to it, and she can promote it on her own. She can send the script out to wherever she wants, free of charge, and enter it in competitions.

She said she may pursue publishing it eventually, but she wants to continue self-promoting it for a little while.

"Right now, I'd like to have it get a few more productions under its belt," Cole said.

Cole said the theatre's choice to use her locally written one-act as opposed to a traditional theatre staple was "bold" and she is pleased that the troupe chose "woman: revised" to represent the theatre.

"I'm very grateful to Newtowne Players for supporting original works," Cole said.

"Woman: revised" is a moment in the life of the word "woman" on the day that her meaning will be revised. She finds herself losing her old sub-definitions, like "wife," "paramour" and "sweetheart," and gaining more contemporary meanings like "crone" and "lesbian." The word "vaginitis" even makes a bid for a spot in the meaning of "woman," though both "woman" and the foreman rebuff her efforts.

In the end, the definition of the word "woman" has changed so much that that she "can barely recognize [herself]." She has lost "wife," now under her own listing, and is carrying meanings that she never thought she would carry.

Much of the current cast have played roles in "woman: revised" in its other



Woman and the Foreman, played by Andrew Pollard, discuss Woman's upcoming revision.



Photos by Sarah Miller

Lesbian, played by Aime Gilligan; Crone, played by Gloria Ranta; and Woman, played by Valarie Green, argue about the meaning of Woman.

productions at the College of Southern Maryland and the Footlight Festival.

The cast going to Pennsylvania on April 15-17 consists of Valarie Green, Andrew Pollard, Gloria Ranta, Amie Gilligan and Tina Fratantuono. Scarafia said one of the stipulations of the festival is that the actors who performed at the state festival have to be the same as the ones who go to the regional competition and the national festival, if they make it that far.

Because of this rule, the cast "didn't know what kind of commitment they were making" to the play. It could have stopped at the play last summer, or it could go another couple of performances.

Green, who is portraying the titular "woman" in the play, said all the actors at Newtowne Players are volunteers, with careers and commitments to consider before committing to a play that doesn't have a set time span, but the five who made the commitment are making it work.

To celebrate, there will be a send-off on April 14 at 7 p.m. Price of admission is donations only, and there will be a reception with food and refreshments. Scarafia said the performance will be the last dress rehearsal for the cast before the regional festival. *By Sarah Miller (CT) info@somdpublishing.net*



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410-576-3851 for registration information or event details.

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All participants must pre-register. Minimum age is 10 years old, and anyone under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult.