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NORMAN FRANKLIN BARTZ, III., COMMISSIONER
109 Market Street, Room 123
Denton, Maryland 21629

January 14, 2025

Re: WARNING REGARDING SOLAR LEASE OPTIONS AND LEASES

Dear Caroline County Residents,

If you have been approached to sign a letter of intent, an option, or a contract to lease your land for use as a solar electric generating facility, and are considering doing so, we urge you to consult with your lawyer before signing anything. The lease document often references and incorporates a number of other documents including an option agreement (their option to enter into the lease, not yours), a lease agreement, and an easement agreement (allowing them to access and use your property for evaluation, construction, operations, and maintenance). Attached to this letter is a list of the issues which we suggest that you investigate before "signing up" — many of these issues have arisen from past experiences of landowners who have leased to solar developers.

Caroline County has 200,000 acres of agricultural land, of which 91,000 acres (46%) is classified as "Prime Farmland" by the U. S. D. A. (soil with the highest productivity for producing food crops and, thus, is of national importance for preservation as farmland); and 50,000 acres (25%) is classified as "Farmland of Statewide Importance" (the second highest level of productivity, these acres are of Statewide importance for food production).

The Commissioners are concerned that if enough agricultural land is converted to solar facilities, it will begin to affect the viability of agriculture in this County and the region. Communities require a critical mass of farms and farmers to sustain agricultural suppliers, markets, processors, storage facilities, and other industry infrastructure. As more land transitions out of agriculture, the demand for these supportive services erodes. As those supportive services go out of business or consolidate, it is more difficult for remaining businesses to continue operations. If enough landowners convert their land to solar, it could significantly impact those who choose to keep their land in agriculture.

Thank you for your consideration of the above information.

Sincerely,

J. Travis Breeding

Caroline County Commissioners

Larry C. Porter

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N. Franklin Bartz, III Commissioner

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Katheleen Freeman, County Administrator | Daniel Fox, Deputy Administrator | R. Stewart Barroll, County Attorney 109 Market Street, Room 123 | Denton, Maryland 21629 | (410) 479-0660 | info@carolinemd.org

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ON THE COVER



Heather Harding, Bob Zimberoff, and Deenie Todd-Reyes talk about the impacts of the childcare crises on education and the economy. Page 10.

Just Take a Minute

Debbie Bowden - Publisher

We had our first significant snow in a couple of years in early January. Mother Nature has a way of reminding us how vulnerable we are to the weather, and how resilient we are in the face of it.

Sincere thanks to everyone who grabbed their coffee and sodas, snacks and cell phones, to clear the roads and parking lots. I appreciate how much of a challenge it was this year because of the snow and the never-ending drifts. Thanks also to the employees who left in the dark to give themselves enough time to get to work, and who drove home in the dark occasionally losing traction on black ice.



My thoughts to those who tried their best, but ended up across a lane or in a ditch, the results of which range from a minor inconvenience to a life altering path of insurance claims and vehicle repairs.

Finally, my thoughts are with those whose vulnerabilities and loneliness were magnified because the world stopped for a few days. I hope they found a friendly face or a well-timed wave, to help them through.

Here's to a warm, sunny, (rainy when appropriate) Spring.



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Michele Wayman Breaks New Ground

GREENSBORO NATIVE BECOMES FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO SERVE AS SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

By Connie Connolly



DENTON – Even though she made history the evening of Dec. 3, Michele Wayman promised, simply, "I will do the very best that I can do."

The new president of the 5-member Caroline County Board of Education is the first Black woman to serve on the board and

serve as president. It is the high point of her career as an educator, she said in a Jan. 9 interview.

Troy Plutschak nominated Wayman, who was elected unanimously to succeed Rick Barton. She took her new center seat and gavel without fanfare.

"In a way, I feel a degree of pressure, almost, to continue to do my best with all children in mind and staying level-headed, as I intend to." she said.



Michele Wayman.
Photo courtesy Caroline County Public Schools

Mark Jones will serve as vice president. New board members Stefanie Johnson and Chrissy Bartz were sworn in at the meeting.

"Some may look at (my election) as a huge honor," Wayman said. "I look at it as a high point in my career – of years of being a compassionate educator for all children."

Wayman was appointed to complete a 4-year term in 2021, followed by an appointment by Gov. Wes Moore to a 4-year term in 2022.

A LIFELONG TEACHER

Wayman, 73, feels right at home in her new role. Arevia Michele Taylor was born in Easton but spent her entire young life in Greensboro, the youngest of five children.

The longtime educator knew from a very young age she wanted to be a teacher.

"I used to teach my doll babies – to sit them up and teach them ABCs," she said. "And I had a couple of favorite teachers. Mrs. Naomi Foxwell I dearly loved." She taught third grade at the segregated Ridgely Elementary School. "Mrs. Hannah Henry taught me first grade."

Both teachers influenced Wayman "100%" to become a teacher.

Wayman is a member North Caroline High School's Class of 1969. She went on to earn her bachelor of arts degree in Elementary Education from Morgan State University.

"I love, love, love Morgan," she said. "I definitely grew up at Morgan."

"I had lots of exposure to cultural activities," she said. "Growing up here, we didn't really have concerts, we didn't have national speakers come in, or anything of that sort. I was exposed to a lot more Black culture than was ever around here – than is now, actually. So, I feel like I grew up as a person when I was at Morgan."

Wayman returned to Caroline County to teach first grade at Federalsburg Elementary School, a place that "still has a special place in my heart," she said.

"And then I went to Denton one year as a Title 1 reading teacher, and from there, I went to Greensboro Elementary and taught first grade for about 13 years, and taught third grade at Greensboro, as well," Wayman said. "And when

Continued

Lockerman was moving the sixth grade classes to middle school, that's when I went to middle school. I wanted a change, and I got it," she said, laughing.

In the early 1990s, she earned her master's in Elementary Education and Education Administration. In 2000, she took an administrative position with Caroline County Public Schools. At the board office, she supervised the English Language Learner (ELL) program, and earned a certificate in ELL from George Washington University.

Retiring after 36 years, she then became a literacy coach in Delaware "because I love teaching," she said.

She only stopped because her mother became ill, and Wayman quit to take care of her. A few years later, she became the coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion at Chesapeake College until the COVID pandemic put a stop to in-person learning.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Wayman will call upon her wealth of experience as she leads the school board to examine trends in education as they apply to Caroline students. Besides navigating the demands of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and bolstering support for students and parents, teachers and support staff, she sees other areas worthy of emphasis.

She said strengthening STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs, elementary through high school, will help prepare students for the worlds of work and higher education.

"I think another big trend is early childhood education and helping parents to see the need, the necessary, and the importance of taking advantage of early childhood opportunities for our children," she said.

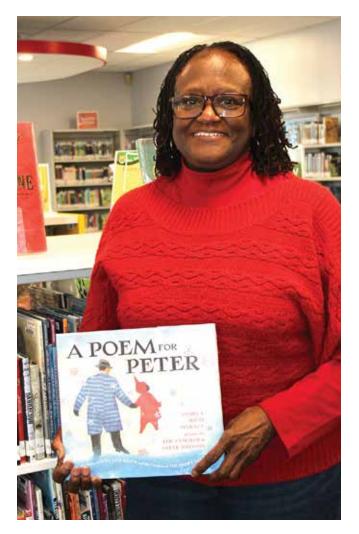
While Wayman feels the school district has improved in educating an increasingly multicultural population, "we have room for improvement," she said.

"We need to look at the fact that we have multiple languages here in Caroline County, and yet we provide pretty much only translation in Spanish and Haitian languages," she said. "We have other cultures that we need to prepare ourselves to communicate with."

"I'd like to see our schools do more diversity in activities such as clubs, so the kids have the opportunity to express themselves in positive ways, to share their culture in positive ways," Wayman said, adding that providing opportunities for students to share their strengths has to be "more than lip service."

"I've seen generations of family who are products of Caroline County Schools, and they've gone on to do great things," she said. "I want to see all students reach their potential and build on the legacy of what Caroline County can be."

"I've seen several families from this area - Black, white,



Michele Wayman, newly elected president of the Caroline County Board of Education, poses with one of her favorite children's books in the Denton branch of the Caroline County Public Library.

Photo by: Connie Connolly

Hispanic – who have (produced) young people who have gone on and are doing well. That's the legacy that I want to see continued," Wayman said.

FAMILY OF ACHIEVERS

Working hard and pursuing higher education came naturally to Wayman, with her entire family modeling success. Her father Wayman Taylor, who grew up in the Greensboro area, was a graduate of a military school in New Jersey, a tradition among her New Jersey kin. Her mother Evelyn was from the Tuckahoe area and graduated from Lockerman High School.

Of her four siblings, one brother retired as a magistrate

Continued

judge, one retired from the military, a sister is a nurse and realtor, and her late sister, the eldest sibling, was a nurse, as well.

Wayman and her husband Henry, a carpenter, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July 2024. They have two children: son Brian and his wife Annica, and daughter Dawn all live on the western shore. The couple lives in Hillsboro, but spend a lot of time across the Bay Bridge attending their three grandsons' sports and school activities.

"My husband and I are not sit-at-home people," Wayman said. "We love to work and we love to play." Henry Wayman is president of the Eastern Shore chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club, and works part time for West & Callahan in Easton.

Wayman is active in the community as a member and trustee of Fellowship Chapter #58 Order of the Eastern Star, Allen AME Church, the Lockerman Alumni Association, the Mid-Shore Foundation, the Caroline County Branch of the NAACP, and the Morgan State University Alumni Association and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Cambridge Alumnae Chapter.



Michele Wayman takes her seat as the newly elected president of the Caroline County Board of Education Dec. 3, 2024. Photo by Connie Connolly

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Navigating the Childcare Crisis

ECONOMIC IMPACTS IN CAROLINE COUNTY

By Tracey F. Johns



Like many of Maryland's rural communities, Caroline County is grappling with a childcare crisis that threatens to disrupt its economy and workforce. The challenges stem from fewer licensed childcare providers and new state regulations.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is an aspirational 10-year, \$38 billion education reform plan aimed to transform Maryland's public education system to better prepare students for success in college, careers, and life. The plan includes expanding early childhood education with universal access to pre-kindergarten for 3- and 4-year-olds while prioritizing low-income families.

On January 2, 2025, Governor Wes Moore paused the Blueprint's spending plan as the state works to balance \$2.7

billion in budget deficits. The program will be a prioritized agenda item for Maryland's legislative sessions this year.

BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE

The state's Blueprint for Maryland's Future aims to expand public pre-kindergarten access, increase teacher pay, and boost educational outcomes.

While well-intentioned, the initiative presents challenges for rural communities like Caroline County. The Blueprint's focus on public programs risks overshadowing private providers, who are critical in areas with limited public infrastructure.

To be considered as a private pre-K provider affiliated with the Blueprint plan, individuals must meet the plan's rigorous standards, including obtaining Maryland EXCELS Level 5 endorsement. The funding model under the Blueprint

Continued



The lack of available childcare impacts early childhood education and the economy and workforce in rural counties such as Caroline County, Stock image.

may also be financially unsustainable for private centers, as the per-child funding can often be less than affordable tuition rates.

Many local leaders, childcare providers, and families are working to address these issues and to create a sustainable system.

BROADER IMPLICATIONS

The childcare crisis in Caroline County highlights the broader need for tailored solutions in rural areas. Limited transportation, long commutes, and resource constraints amplify challenges. Expanding public-private partnerships and increasing support for providers could help bridge gaps.

As licensed at-home care providers move to an early childhood education platform, many providers attain degrees in early childhood education and move to a childcare center or public school system. While this helps fill the needs for 3- and 4-year old care in Caroline and neighboring counties, it creates a gap for childcare, especially for toddler and infant care.

SHRINKING CHILDCARE RESOURCES

In recent years, Caroline County's childcare options have dwindled to 55 licensed providers, according to the Maryland Department of Education Check Child Care Maryland website. For perspective, Heather Harding, coordinator of the Federalsburg Judy Center Early Learning Hub, says Caroline County had 126 licensed providers before the COVID pandemic.

Caroline County is not alone in its need for childcare providers. Maryland has seen a 15.5% decline in the number of licensed child care providers from 2020 to 2024, according to the Comptroller of Maryland's State of the Economy Series: Child Care and the Economy, published in December 2024. The report also states a 5.5% decline in the number of licensed slots for children.

"The shift from traditional childcare to a preschool model has introduced layers of regulations and certifications that are overwhelming for small providers," says Bob Zimberoff, director of Caroline County Economic Development & Tourism. "The financial and time investment required to meet these standards is a major factor."

Providers are also losing staff to public schools, where higher pay, benefits, and pensions are more appealing. This has created a challenging business model for many childcare centers, forcing them to close their doors or reduce services.

ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE CHALLENGES

The childcare shortage has broad economic implications. With fewer providers, families earning modest incomes face limited options. Many parents are forced to reduce work hours or leave the workforce altogether, impacting household incomes and slowing economic growth.

"In Caroline County, many families earn \$60,000 a year or less and can barely afford daycare," Zimberoff said.



Heather Harding, Federalsburg Judy Center Early
Learning Hub Coordinator emphasizes that solutions to
the childcare crisis require partnerships and
collaborations.

"Parents here often drive 40 minutes or more to work, and they need childcare close to home. Limited options make it a logistical nightmare."

SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATION

Zimberoff advocates for practical solutions, including scaling back regulations, offering grants for startup costs, and expanding Judy Centers to every school in the county. He also encourages businesses to create early learning center hubs, when possible, or for existing centers to expand.

"The childcare crisis isn't just a family issue—it's a workforce and economic development issue," Zimberoff said.

JUDY CENTER'S ROLE

Heather Harding has witnessed the crisis's impact firsthand. Starting her career as a family childcare provider in 2004, she understands the challenges families face.

"When I couldn't find childcare for my child in Federalsburg, I commuted to Easton and paid a premium," Harding said. "That opened my eyes to the critical need for local options."

The Judy Center supports families and children from birth to age five with resources, education, and engagement programs. However, the pandemic has worsened childcare shortages, leaving fewer than 100 infant care spots countywide.





"Infant care is especially scarce because state regulations limit home providers to two children under two years of age per caregiver, or three per caregiver for childcare centers," Harding said. "That creates a significant gap for working families."

SUPPORTING PROVIDERS AND FAMILIES

The Judy Center addresses challenges by offering professional development, training, and resources for local providers. Programs like "Go FCC," offered by the Eastern Shore Child Care Resource Center, encourage new providers to open home-based childcare businesses.

"The Caroline County Judy Centers are working to reduce barriers for partner providers," Harding says. "By hosting local training and offering related instructional resources, we help maintain high-quality care while providers are navigating the demands of their profession."

Harding says the Caroline Early Learning Advisory Council meets in conjunction with the Judy Center Steering Committee offering even more opportunities that are available to all Caroline County licensed providers. The Judy Center also facilitates community conversations around childcare issues, through a partnership with Caroline Better Together, with upcoming program announcements at carolinebettertogether.org.

The Judy Center also explores creative solutions when working with parents, such as referring families to utilize the income-based Maryland Child Care Scholarship program. The scholarship program can help pay for childcare, including compensation for family caregivers.

CHALLENGES FOR RURAL AREAS

Deenie Todd-Reyes, owner of Lollipop Lane Learning Center in nearby Dorchester County, echoes similar concerns. Since purchasing the center in 2023, she has struggled to meet growing demand while balancing staffing and regulations.

Lollipop Lane serves 65 families during the school year and up to 100 in the summer. The center has a waitlist of 25 children born between 2023 and 2025.

"Infant care is at a crisis point," Todd-Reyes said. "The costs to meet required ratios and regulations make it challenging to offer this service affordably."

Public school Pre-K programs for 3- and 4-year-olds have also impacted enrollment at private childcare centers like Lollipop Lane, forcing them to focus on younger age groups.

"Transitioning to serve infants and toddlers requires new equipment, more staff, and even playground adjustments," Todd-Reyes explained. "It's costly, but necessary to adapt."

HOPE FOR CHANGE

Despite the challenges of resource constraints, local leaders remain optimistic. Harding sees potential in the Judy Center helping to coordinate services with more children, their families, and their childcare providers.

"Blueprint provides a roadmap for growth utilizing a mixed delivery system," Harding said. "It's about ensuring every child has access to quality education and families have the support they need to thrive."

For Todd-Reyes, adapting her business in 2025 to expand toddler services is a step forward. "If we want enough childcare options for working families, we need systemic support to make childcare sustainable," she said.

For Zimberoff, he hopes more individuals will explore working in childcare to help meet the needs of Caroline County's workforce, and that state regulations will be in favor of eliminating any barriers to entry in the profession.

Caroline County's childcare crisis underscores the need for collaboration, innovation, and systemic change. Addressing these issues is essential to sustaining and building a resilient workforce and economy while providing every child and working family with access to the resources needed. To find a childcare center near you, visit www. checkccmd.org.



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'It tugs at your heart'

PART 2 OF A 3-PART SERIES EXAMINING THE THE WAYS THE PROBLEM IS BEING ADDRESSED

By Connie Connolly



DENTON – While homelessness is a serious issue in Caroline County and across the Mid-Shore region, an army of organizations and agencies are corralling their expertise and passion to help the unhoused find their way forward.

For some experiencing homelessness, it is simply a chapter in their lives. But for others, homelessness is like a novel; for whatever reason, their plight is "chronic," but it doesn't define who they are.

"It tugs at your heart," said America McKinney, a support specialist for the Mid-Shore area. "It's heartbreaking at times, but there is a lot of success with (the) programs" offered in the Mid-Shore area.

Understanding the problem and solutions requires a grasp of the alphabet soup of federal, state and local agencies, as well as how they fund programs and meet the needs of real people who find themselves, often through no fault of their own, without stable housing and no safety net.

Supporting those who are unhoused will be part of a daylong effort Wednesday, Jan. 29, when the entire country – including the Mid-Shore counties – will be participating in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Point-in-Time Count (PIT), an annual snapshot of the number of individuals in shelters, temporary housing and unsheltered settings.

To gather data for the survey, a group of administrators and volunteers will locate and survey, for example, those camping in woods, sleeping in their cars, and staying in hotels or emergency shelters. The survey is vital in securing federal funding for temporary or permanent housing.

Across the state Continuums of Care (CoC) spearhead the effort. The Mid-Shore's CoC, otherwise known as the Mid-Shore Roundtable on Homelessness, is dedicated to coordinating the Mid-Shore counties' response. The Roundtable meets monthly to coordinate resources and responses. It's comprised of community leaders, including clergy, social services professionals, and school superintendents.

Mid Shore Behavioral Health (MSBH) is the lead agency for the 5-county CoC, which "strives to address the complex issue of homelessness," according to MSBH's website. It applies annually for funding from HUD to provide permanent supportive housing for individuals and families and have a mental health disability in the Mid-Shore counties of Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot and Dorchester.

However, the Roundtable's 3-person CoC administrative team based in Easton does much more on a daily basis.

Heading the team is Manager Ashley Kessinger, along with Support Specialist America McKinney and Housing Specialist Jimmy Morris. They are on the job daily locating the unhoused, making phone calls, arranging for emergency housing, and overseeing "the main grants that come in through HUD and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)," Kessinger said.

Also on Jan. 29, the Caroline Homeless Board will sponsor a Caroline Cares Community Resource Day featuring many resources available "all at once under one roof" 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 29, at St. Luke's Methodist Church in Denton.

At the resource day, Kessinger and McKinney will help the two Caroline-based shelters complete the PIT surveys. Volunteers from civic organizations earn community service hours by helping out.

"That's an amazing event (for its) number of resources," Kessinger said. "The MVA comes out, social services. a dentist, a barber, a hairdresser." The variety of services can

Continued



America McKinney, Jimmy Morris and Ashley Kessinger comprise the Continuum of Care administrative team based in Easton. Photo by Connie Connolly

help people get to their next step in their quest for self-stabilization.

However, not everyone wants to be discovered and surveyed. The PIT survey will identify many of the unhoused, but not all. Morris said he recently received a tip on a homeless encampment in Federalsburg.

"I go back there, and I see things (in the woods) that I know some people are living back there, but sometimes they don't want to speak to authorities," Morris said. If individuals are encountered, "(I tell them) 'I'm not the police' to try to make them feel more comfortable."

Other encampments in Caroline County are behind Walmart and occasionally at Crouse Park, both in Denton.

"People think that (homelessness) looks a certain way: someone dirty, disheveled, and ... it really doesn't," Kessinger said. "You never know what someone may be going through. And this work is just is so meaningful. I thoroughly enjoy being able to help even one person."

"You can't put a price on that," Morris said.

RENTA

"You can't, and it's hard work," Kessinger said. "It's just the three of us for the whole Mid-Shore. So, it is a lot, but we thoroughly enjoy it. And I can say that this whole team is so passionate about what they do, and don't really think twice about the work sometimes. You just you need to help people."

Continued



Martin's House and Barn Executive Director Deborah Vornbrock chats with Maryland Gov. Wes Moore during his visit June 14, 2024. Photo by Anthony DePanise



Please call 410-479-1233 for details, pricing and availability.

While some of his clients have substance use or mental health issues, Morris said part of his job is helping them put together a housing stabilization plan to help them achieve independence. While a plan isn't required, each agency has adopted it in their case management,

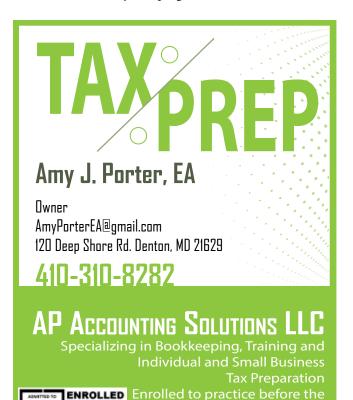
"There have been a lot of success stories," Morris said. "I've seen (people) go from the woods to driving a tractor trailer. It does happen for those that want it to happen, and ... the providers are the ones who can help provide them the guidance they need to obtain that, but they have to want it."

One of the residents of Martin's House ten years ago was McKinney herself.

"I was in homelessness for over a year with two children," she said. "So it's just a testament that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. It is hard work, and you do have to be willing to work your plan, because it's not a plan that they create for you; they assist you with it."

"I don't ever want to forget what that felt like in that season of my life, because sometimes when those phone calls get hard and it's hard work, but I'm reminded daily that they need people that care," McKinney said.

With their \$1.6 million budget, the Roundtable oversees the Homelessness Solutions Program (HSP), which includes emergency shelter and the housing stabilization programs Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention, outreach and a new homeless youth program.



Internal Revenue Service

Seven agencies in the 5-county area work with the Roundtable to provide services to just over 900 clients. Two of those agencies are based in Caroline County: Martin's House and Barn in Ridgely and His Hope Ministries in Denton, "very important providers in Caroline County," Kessinger said. However, all seven agencies serve the entire Mid-Shore area.

Both shelters can house 20 to 30 people at any one time, Kessinger said. His Hope Haven is a day shelter that operates September through the end of April. The shelter on Camp Road has five family rooms, six beds for females and six for males.

Martin's House and Barn in Ridgely is a "low barrier," 24/7 year-round shelter, with most of its guests from Caroline County. A thrift store, food pantry and homelessness prevention services also are part of the mission.

"There is no way that we are going to address housing instability and homelessness if we are not making it a collaborative effort," said Deborah Vornbrock, executive director of Martin's House and Barn. "No single organization can solve homelessness. It takes a collective approach, involving nonprofits, government, business and the community."

The CoC team is grateful for the collaboration of the seven agencies, which also include Delmarva Community Services in Dorchester, the Maryland Rural Development Center in Kent, Haven Ministries in Queen Anne's, and Neighborhood Service Center in Talbot,

"We're lucky, because our providers are great, and that does help make the work easier when we can all work together (with) each provider reaching out to another provider if they need to connect resources or find shelter or a hotel or food or showers," McKinney said.

"We try very hard to do a warm handoff and make sure that person is connected to the right person and is being taken care of before we jump out of a situation," she said.

Part 3 of this series in the March edition of the Caroline Review will explore possible solutions to the problem of homelessness on the Mid-Shore.

For more information about the Community Resource Day on Jan. 29, visit the Caroline Homeless Board page on Facebook.

A large collection of information and helpful resources can be found on Caroline Better Together's website, carolinebettertogether.org.

Read Part 1 of the series of Homelessness in Caroline County at carolinereview.com

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Celebrating 104 Years

MISS LOUISE HORNEY'S BIRTHDAY PARADE BRINGS JOY TO DENTON

By Kennedy Thomason

Miss Louise Horney of Denton celebrated her 104th birthday on Sunday, Jan. 5 with a festive birthday parade. Friends, neighbors, and admirers gathered to honor this remarkable Caroline County legend.

The birthday parade has become an annual tradition, beginning in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jeanne Scott, a close friend of Miss Horney and organizer of the birthday parades, initially started the event to ensure Miss Louise could safely celebrate her 100th birthday milestone. What began as a creative solution has grown into a cherished community event, complete with local police and fire vehicles at the beginning and end of the parade.

Miss Louise has lived her entire life in Caroline County, growing up on a farm in Hobbs. As one of 12 children, she often helped her mother with household chores. Her childhood memories are deeply rooted in the farmland along what is now Willoughby Road, where Jeanne and her husband, Greg, now reside.

Miss Louise carved out a remarkable life in Denton. After studying secretarial work at Goldey-Beacom in Wilmington, Delaware, she worked for local attorneys and businesses- including for Phil Nuttle and Gale's Electric-before becoming a stay-at-home mother. She raised two sons with her first husband, Paul Vernon Sharp Sr., who passed away while their boys were still young.

At the age of 60, she was remarried to Roy Horney. Over the decades, her family has grown to include five grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Her youngest son, Rick, and his wife, Marsha, are constants in her life, as is her dedicated caretaker, Janet Shaffer.

The annual birthday parades are a reflection of the community's admiration for Miss Louise. Jeanne recalled how the card drop has become one of Miss Louise's favorite parts of the celebration. "She loves having the cards read to her," Jeanne said.

While Miss Louise is deeply grateful for these celebrations, she yearns for more face-to-face connections. "She mentioned that as special as it is to hear everyone, she would love the opportunity to sit and visit with them," Jeanne shared. "She misses so many people and treasures her faithful visitors."



Miss Louise Horney was honored with a parade on January 5 to celebrate her 104 birthday. Photo courtesy of Jeanne Scott

For Jeanne and others who know her, Miss Louise is a treasure. According to Jeanne, her wit and quick humor make her a joy to be around. "She is the most beautiful person, inside and out," Jeanne said. "Her stories about growing up here, her kindness and her incredible spirit make her a true gem of our community."

Miss Louise quipped that she sometimes thinks the Lord forgot to turn her clock off. She may wonder why she's still here, but for those who gathered to celebrate her, the answer is obvious: she brightens the lives of everyone.

Miss Louise's life advice is simple: "Just enjoy your life while you can, because someday you might get old and can't do the things you want to do."



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Caroline Foundation Supports Causes

By Angela Price

Over the past nine years, the Caroline Foundation has provided \$5.8 million in 168 grants to 40 local nonprofits providing health-related services to county residents, according to Terry Mead, foundation board president.

Mead said he hoped to raise awareness of the Caroline Foundation and its mission to inspire more people to give.

"Every year, we have more grant requests than we have money to give out," Mead said. In 2024, Caroline Foundation received applications requesting \$1,036,000; it had \$860,000 to award

In November 2024, Caroline Foundation presented grants to: Aarons Place Inc., addressing food insecurities and health disparities; Caroline County Public Schools, Backpack Program for Kids; CASA of Caroline, supporting children foster care; Channel Marker, for medication adherence technology devices; Choptank Community Health System, enhancing dental technology; Community Civic League of Federalsburg Inc., community pantry; Compass Hospice, hospice and supportive care and grief services; Critical Repairs Caroline County, providing critical repairs for residents in need; DC Center Inc., homeless housing program; For All Seasons Inc., providing access to mental health services; Friends of the Grape Inc. doing business as the Chesapeake Culinary Center, for hunger coordinators; His Hope Ministries, homeless shelter; Martin's House and Barn, food pantry and homeless shelter;

Mid-Shore Restoring Hope in Women, House of Hope; Partners in Care, aging in place with dignity program; Salvation Army, providing emergency rent and utility assistance; Union Bethel AME Church, Angels in Service; and YMCA of the Chesapeake, access for all.

Caroline Foundation is part of the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, which provides administrative services. All expenses are kept at or below 1% of total assets; board members are all volunteers; there are no employees and no office, Mead said.

Caroline Foundation traces its roots to the Caroline Nursing Home. It purchased the properties for \$1 from the county in 1980. In 2015, the board sold the nursing home and assisted living facility, and the assets were invested in the stock market. The foundation awards 5% of assets annually. Grant applications are due by July 1 each year.

More annual contributions would not only assist its mission, but they also are needed for the organization to maintain its public foundation status, Mead said, adding that losing public status could endanger Caroline Foundation's future.

Donations may be mailed to The Caroline Foundation, P.O. Box 607, Denton, MD 21629. Online go to https://www.mscf.org/donate-online; designate donation is for the Caroline Foundation. For more information, contact Mead at 410-310-2030 or tmeadyyc@gmail.com.



Members of the Caroline Foundation Board of Directors gather with representatives of the 2024 grant awards.

Photo courtesy of Caroline Foundation

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RESCUE DOGS CAN DO IT TOO!

Contributed by Renee' S Morris Talbot Kennel Club

Talbot Kennel Club member Lisa Trippett has done many things with dogs she has rescued. She has both purebred and mixed breed dogs that, through training, compete in multiple AKC dog sports and events

Lisa and her dogs have obtained many Agility Championships, multiple Barn Hunt Championships, and an overall Master Level scent work title. In Obedience she has earned titles with all of her dogs including a Companion Dog Excellent, and in Rally she has earned Rally Advanced Excellent titles.

On the national level, Lisa has competed in agility at the big Westminster Show in New York, and has been invited to multiple Agility National Championships in Oklahoma, Florida and Georgia. Many of her dogs have also earned titles in Fetch, Tricks and are Canine Good Citizens.

They all continue to train in these sports as she works towards additional goals with each.

"This just shows how much a rescue dog can do if you give them a chance", said Lisa.

A well-organized training program like those offered at Talbot Kennel Club can get you started. You can have fun with your dog and build a lasting bond. Visit the Talbot Kennel Club website for the current class schedule at talbotkennelclub.org.



Lisa Trippett with her canine competitors.
Photo courtesy of Talbot Kennel Club



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Ask class instructor for details.



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2025 Solid Waste Permits Now Available

2025 Solid Waste Permits are now on sale at the Public Works Office for county residents. These permits are required for the following sites:

- Melville Solid Waste Site
- Old Denton Solid Waste Site
- Preston Solid Waste Site

Permit Cost:

- \bullet $\,$ \$100 for the first vehicle, \$25 for each additional vehicle
 - Prorated fees available based on purchase date Important Note:

The Holly Road Solid Waste Site remains free, and no permit is required.

How to Get Your Permit: Visit the Public Works Office: 520 Wilmuth St., Denton, MD 21629 Mon-Fri, 7 AM - 3:30 PM What to Bring:

- Vehicle registration or proof of county residency
- Payment via cash or check (credit/debit cards not accepted)

Call 410-479-0520 for more info.

Remember, permits must be affixed to the lower left corner of your vehicle's windshield to be valid.



Are your protection plans in place?

By Ann Jacobs

FINANCIAL ADVISOR, EDWARD JONES - DENTON 410-479-0271



It is important to have the right protection plan in place for your family, your finances, your independence and your legacy.

Let's look at these areas of need and some possible protection solutions:

• Protecting your income - An injury or severe illness could prevent you from working for some time. And if that

happened, your family's finances could become strained. To help guard against this possibility, you may want to consider disability income insurance. Your employer may offer some type of coverage, but it's likely to be short term and may not be enough to help close the income gap you might face, so you may want to consider purchasing your own policy.

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- Protecting your family If you were no longer around, how would your family's lifestyle be affected? Could they stay in the same house? Could your children afford college or another type of post-secondary education? If you have adequate life insurance, the answer to these questions can be "yes." Again, you might get some coverage from your employer, but it may be insufficient, so you may want to explore additional protection through a personal policy.
- Protecting your goals You may have some important financial goals, such as sending your children to college and achieving a comfortable retirement. To protect these goals, you'll need strategies to help prepare for them, which could include investing in an education savings plan and contributing regularly to your IRA and 401(k) or other retirement plans.
- Protecting your financial independence Hopefully, you will be able to remain financially independent your entire life. But this independence could be threatened by the need for some type of long-term care. Consider this: A private room in a nursing home costs, on average, more than \$116,000 a year, while the services of a home health aide are more than \$75,000 a year, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Medicare generally does not cover these costs or types of needs and would typically only pay for a short period. You might be left with significant bills or creditors and possibly dependent on family or loved ones. To help protect yourself from these threats, you may want to consult with a financial professional, who can offer longterm care solutions.
- Protecting your legacy When you work hard your whole life, you may want to leave something behind to your loved ones. A comprehensive estate plan can help ensure your family — and the charitable groups you support — will receive the resources you'd like them to have.

As we've seen, "protection" can take many forms. So, try to follow all the protection strategies you need to enjoy the life you've envisioned for yourself and your family. CR

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

Meet the Denton Team at Ashley Insurance

Julie Smith

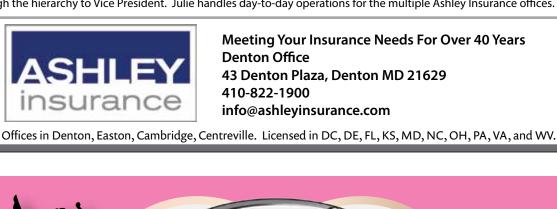
Julie Smith, Vice President of Ashley Insurance, wants people to have the insurance coverage they need to navigate through life. Ashley Insurance is one of the few independent agencies left because the smaller agencies are being acquired by larger firms. Julie thinks that makes the experience less personal.

"An independent adjuster can help you get the most compensation that you are entitled to," Julie advises. "Insurance companies can be a nightmare to deal with, and we are the middle guy so the insured doesn't have to deal with the nightmare."

Julie points out that Ashley Insurance helps with auto, boat, RV, commercial property, farm, personal, life, and health insurances. "We work with the insurance company for the client to find the best options."

After graduating from James Madison University. Julie managed the Upland Golf Club on Route 404. When Upland closed in 2009, she was recruited by Jack Ashley, President of Ashley Insurance, and rose through the hierarchy to Vice President. Julie handles day-to-day operations for the multiple Ashley Insurance offices.

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Access to justice is an expression of love

When someone knocked at Carol's door and served her a court summons, her heart started to race, beads of sweat formed on her forehead, she gulped in air. In all of her 63 years, she had never received any sort of summons and certainly had never even seen the inside of a courtroom. But here she was, facing a debt case after she co-signed on a car loan to help her adult daughter, who lost employment and was unable to keep up with payments. Then Carol was diagnosed with cancer and was unable to work for several months, limiting her ability to help out. She was paralyzed with fear - her credit would be impacted, and she knew she couldn't afford to get out from under the debt, especially with her ability to work compromised due to illness. Carol and one of Shore Legal Access' volunteer attorneys came up with a game plan. The attorney would negotiate a lower monthly payment plan she knew she could afford, and then she would work out something with her daughter to pay her back once she got back on her feet. Carol didn't know that she even had the option to get legal representation until she heard about Shore Legal Access from a friend. She was also

afraid to pick up the phone and call – she felt ashamed that she was even in this situation. A friend showed her how to submit an inquiry about her case online, and a case manager from Shore Legal Access called her back the next day. Next thing she knew, she had had an attorney in her corner.

There is no right to counsel in civil matters, yet nearly half of American households experience at least one civil legal issue in a year. Thirty percent of Maryland households do not earn enough income to cover basic living expenses, let alone hire an attorney. Fortunately, Maryland has organizations, such as Shore Legal Access, that provide advice, document preparation, and representation in court for civil matters including divorce and custody, landlord/tenant, consumer debt, foreclosure, criminal record expungement, and life and estate planning. You don't have to go it alone. If you or someone you know could benefit from having assistance from an attorney, contact Shore Legal Access by filling out an online inquiry (www.shorelegal. org) or calling 410.690.8128.



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Time to Check Your Credit Report

By Tolbert Rowe

Now that we have entered the 25th year of the 21st century it is a great time to review your credit report, and if necessary, implement a strategy to improve your credit. The Consumer Finance Protection Bureau (CFBP) requires that all three credit repositories provide one free credit report annually to consumers. annualcreditreport.com is where you can access your report from TransUnion, Equifax, and Experian.

Only the repositories themselves control access to your credit report. Other websites will promote a credit monitoring system or access to your credit score, usually for a fee. Most banks, credit card companies or sites like Credit Karma will offer a free service that will disclose your credit score and monitor your credit for you. But looking at your credit report is necessary to make sure that what is there is correct.

Confirm that your personal information is correct. Are your payment histories correct and are the outstanding balances in line with your statements? Are accounts showing with balances that you know have been paid in full within the last 30 days? Most importantly, are there accounts showing open or with balances that you know have been closed or worse, aren't even yours?

35% of your credit score is determined by your payment history. Make sure that your report accurately reflects your payment history and is current and up to date. If you are currently late, your credit score will drop 10-30 points, depending on your previous credit history. It could take 3-6 months to recover those points by making all payments on time. Credit scores go down dramatically at first, it takes time to gain them back.

The balance you owe on your credit cards in relation to your credit limit is 30% of your credit score. It is recommended that you manage your credit card balances is to keep the balance no higher than 30% of your credit limit. Paying your credit card balances in full every month is a better habit to get into.

Mr. Rowe is Vice President/Lending for Bay Capital Mortgage Corp. with offices in Easton and Annapolis. He has lived in Caroline for his entire life and supports the county by volunteering in a variety of ways. He currently lives near Greenboro with his wife Jeanne and daughter Kelsey.

15% of your credit score is based on credit longevity or how long you have an open account, the longer the better. For this reason, you should not close the credit card you have had the longer, regardless of whether you use it or not.

If you are young, you should open a credit card as soon as you are gainfully employed. This will be challenging since you have no credit history. A secured credit card is the easy answer. A secured card is a major credit card issued by VISA or Mastercard where you deposit funds into an account with them and they issue you a credit cart with a credit limit equal to your deposit. A card with a \$300 limit is the most common.

Use the card so you demonstrate your ability to manage credit appropriately. I suggest using it for gas since it is unlikely the balance will get over \$100 to \$150, keeping in your credit utilization rate in mind. It will also generate a statement and bill due every month.

The last 20% consists of your credit mix and new credit, each impacting 10% of your credit score.

New credit is obvious, as every new account will lower your score to some extent. How much depends on how long you have had credit and how many new accounts you have opened.

Credit mix is how much revolving and installment credit you have in your history, both current and in the past. Your credit history is a 7 year look back of accounts both open and closed or paid in full. It is the mix of all these accounts that is taken into consideration.

Think of your credit score in the same way you think of your blood pressure. It should be monitored on a regular basis and corrective action taken when negative factors increase blood pressure or decrease credit scores.

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C. Tolbert Rowe, Vice President/Lending

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George Washington's Mount Vernon Gardens

By Kimberlee Eveland



There's not much going on in our own gardens right now, so I thought I'd take this lull to virtually explore someone else's. Since it's February and I and another club member share our birthday with George Washington I naturally thought of the gardens at Mount Vernon.

Known mostly as our country's first President, George Washington both before and after being President was a very successful farmer who contributed much to our country's agricultural history. His innovative methods made him a pioneer in crop rotation, fertilization and composting, and he also kept meticulous records.

Not surprisingly many of these same practices also were applied to Mount Vernon's vegetable and kitchen gardens as well as its nut trees and fruit orchards. This was a plantation after all, and it was necessary for it to produce nearly everything needed to feed all its inhabitants as well as the many visitors and important dignitaries that would visit throughout the year.

Mount Vernon's gardens were regarded by many guests as among the finest they had ever seen with plentiful fruit and citrus trees, nut trees of many different kinds and ample harvests from a wide variety of vegetables. While Mrs. Washington largely oversaw the selection of vegetables planted in the kitchen gardens, it was the President who directed their actual design, and he desired a visibly pleasing garden while also requiring it to have ample space for planting vegetables.

To accomplish this, the kitchen gardens were carefully laid out within a much larger symmetrical area with walking paths specifically designed for strolling in order to appreciate both the ornamental plantings as well as the array of vegetables and herbs growing there. More often than not, these paths were defined by borders of dwarf boxwoods with a colorful array of perennials and annuals to add to the beauty of this very practical plot of land. This practical and eye-pleasing approach to garden design remains popular today.

As you await the arrival of spring why not do some virtual garden strolling and perhaps learn something more about George Washington by visiting the Mount Vernon website. There is much inspiration to be found while waiting for the crocuses to bloom.



Mount Vernon Gardens. Photo courtesy of Mount Vernon Ladies' Association





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Volunteer for CASA

By Victor Reynolds, Communications & Outreach, CASA of Caroline



This Valentine's Day, consider sharing your love in a way that makes a real difference. Volunteering around Valentine's Day offers an opportunity to show compassion, kindness, and generosity to those who need it most. These qualities are at the heart of what CASA volunteers do every day. Across the country, more than 238,000 children and youth in foster care have the steady support of a CASA advocate by their side. Yet, there are still more than 400,000 children in foster care without someone to ensure their voice is heard. Many of these children are too young to speak up for themselves, though their feelings and needs are just as profound as those of older children.

As a CASA volunteer, you could be the caring adult who offers comfort, guidance, and advocacy to a child experiencing uncertainty. Imagine the joy on a young child's face when they see you arrive, knowing that your presence brings them a sense of security and hope. Your role as a CASA volunteer is to understand the child's unique story by connecting with their family, foster caregivers, teachers, medical professionals, social workers, and others involved in their life. Advocates work closely with the court to ensure that every decision made is in the child's best interest.

CASA volunteers come from diverse backgrounds, united by a shared commitment to improving the lives of children. By choosing to advocate, you're not only changing a child's present circumstances but also shaping a brighter future. Your compassion and dedication can help a child break free from cycles of pain and uncertainty and lead them toward stability and success.

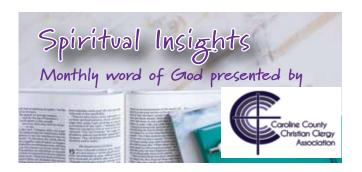
This Valentine's Day, let love inspire action. Make the choice to share your time, your care, and your heart with a child in need. You'll find that the rewards of volunteering are immeasurable. Better yet, consider volunteering

alongside someone close to you, like a spouse, sibling, or friend, and join as a CASA team.

CASA of Caroline is now accepting applications for its next pre-service training class, starting later this month. For more details or to apply, visit www.carolinecasa.org. Take the first step today—because every child deserves a voice, and that voice could be yours.







Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Love Is . . .

February is the month of hearts and roses, chocolates and cards, romance and love. But what is love? Is it merely an emotion, a feeling, a hormonal reaction or does it include a choice? Sure, there is chemistry involved in the initial attraction that brings two people together. But is that all there is to love or is there more?

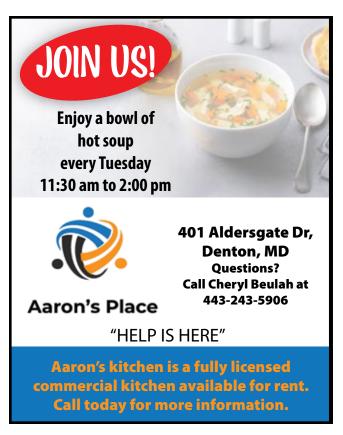
ebruary 21st - 22nd 2025 Annual Multi - Youth Group Event Denton Church Of The Nazarene Youth 6th - 12th Grade 10660 Greensboro Road riday February 21st & Saturday February 22nd 6-10PM 11AM-9PM \$50.00 Includes all activities on Friday & Saturday... 3 guest speakers , 2 Worship Concerts Fun & Games Lunch & Dinner on Saturday For Questions Or Tickets Call: Steve Moody at 410-388-4655. Guest Speakers: Friday 7pm Frank Harrison Living Waters Assembly Saturday 1pm Beth Ann Dorman CEO & Pres. Four All Seasons Behavioral Health & RCC Saturday 7pm Nick Wake Assoc. Pastor United Church, Owner of Tenchi Restaurant To find out more about Revive '25 go to www.dentonmdnazarene.org

The Bible explains that there is more to love than emotional or physical attraction. Love, true love, is a commitment, a choice, a willingness to put the interest of another above our own. According to 1 Corinthians 13:

What a different world this would be if in our relationships with one another we had the mind of Christ!

Why not take a few moments this February to evaluate the health of your love? Put your name in the place of the word "love" in this passage and ask yourself, "am I patient? am I kind?" Can you say with a straight face that you are not selfish or rude or easily angered, and that you keep no record of wrongs? And then, based on your self-evaluation, commit to improving your love life in 2025!





A Smoke Free Life is a Heart-Healthy Life

By Heather Grove, BSN, RN

Smoking is one of the biggest threats to a healthy heart. The good news is that it's never too late to stop, and the heart can start healing as soon as someone stops smoking.

How Exactly Does Smoking Hurt The Heart?

Smoking introduces chemicals into the blood. These chemicals:

- Raise the blood pressure and heart rate
- Make the heart work harder than it should
- Make the blood vessels narrow and stiff
- Make the blood sticky, which can cause clots

All of these things can lead to heart attacks and other serious heart problems.

What Happens When Someone Stops Smoking?

Healing begins pretty quickly after someone stops smoking and healing continues for years to come when someone refrains from smoking.

• After 20 minutes: heart rate and blood pressure decrease

- After 2 weeks: circulation improves and the risk of having a heart attack beings to drop
- After 1 year: risk of heart disease is half that of a smoker

What Other Benefits Come With Being A Non-Smoker?

- Improved breathing
- · Increased energy
- Saving money
- Protecting others from second hand smoke
- Setting a healthy example for kids

The Caroline County Health Department offers oneon-one appointments with a nurse to help individuals that live or work in Caroline County to stop smoking. Call or text 410-829-0848 to learn more or request an appointment. The Maryland Quitline, is another great resource available to anyone 13 and older looking for support to stop using any tobacco products. The Quitline can be reached 24/7 at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.



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For more information call 410-479-8189 or visit www.carolinehd.org

Lead: Who Would Have Thought?

By: Casey Sonzone BSN, RN

You have bought your first family home! How exciting! You cannot wait to see your baby walking around this new space. It was built in 1942, it is in the perfect spot in town close to the park and library. It needs some fixing up, but you are pretty knowledgeable and have friends and family to help. The yard could use some more grass, it's a bit bare. The paint inside and out looks a little chipped near the top corners, but who even looks up there? That's the last of your worries. You plan on getting the major things done first and catch up on that eventually.

A few months go by, the house is looking great and feeling like home. You can't believe that your baby is a year old already! Time for that 12-month checkup. Your baby gets the usual vaccines, and the nurse says she is going to get a tiny bit of blood from a little poke on the baby's finger to check for lead. This is totally normal, nothing to worry about. She leaves the room and comes back with the doctor a few minutes later and you are told that your baby's blood lead level is 19, which is above the

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CDC recommended level of 3.5. So now what? Thoughts race through your mind. Is my baby sick? What did I do? You are given a lab slip to follow up a venous blood draw. You get out of the doctor's office and get to the nearest walk-in lab that very same day.

As you wait for the result, because a venous blood draw is more accurate than a capillary one, or finger stick, you start to research like you are about to write the world's largest research paper. You read all about the neurologic effects that could happen like learning disabilities, speech problems, and behavior issues. You learn that lead can commonly be found in lead paint used in homes built before 1978, older toys, bare soil and some foods can be contaminated as well. WHAT? Your house was built in 1942, and the paint in the ceiling corners was chipping and you just never got around to painting. Your little one loves to stand at the window and watch cars go by and point to his favorite dusty play spot where his dump trucks passed down from Grandpa are parked. You panic! Is this my fault? You start to look into the cost of a painter, a landscaper and are ready to toss those trucks right out in the trash!

Breathe! This isn't your fault. You have done just what you are supposed to by keeping up with your child's routine doctor visits. This screening for lead is performed at 12 and 24 months for this exact reason. To catch it early hopefully before major health concerns set in. The results come back, and the doctor tells you that the level is now 8. You are so relieved. You get a call from the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Case Management Nurse at the Health Department. You discuss risk factors and possible sources of the lead and ways to reduce the risks. You receive lots of resource information in the mail. And an inspector from Maryland Department of the Environment calls you to schedule a time that he can come out and do an assessment of your home and take some samples.

A few months later, and a few repeat blood draws later, and his level is now 1.2. In those months you had a painter come and paint the rooms that tested positive for lead paint, plant some grass seed that is finally growing, and everyone takes their shoes off before coming inside. And your little one has some new shiny dump trucks to play with!

Caroline Better Together



Apprenticeships Bring Students and Employers Together for a Better Future

By Kat Stork

Eric Cook coordinates the Youth Apprenticeship program for Caroline County Public Schools. Housed within the Career & Technology Education division, the program connects interested Caroline County juniors and seniors with participating employers for the opportunity to learn valuable job skills while earning a wage and credit toward graduation. Since the program's founding in the fall of 2020, 10 employers have signed 18 apprentices across a variety of occupations.

Part of a larger shift in school curriculum, apprenticeships are central to Career & Technical Education (CTE) becoming what Mr. Cook describes as "a blend of academic, career and technical skills all in one." Moving away from the entrenched divide between practical and academic skills, apprenticeships are part of a well-rounded approach to school and training whether a student intends to pursue college or not. And as the cost of higher education continues to escalate and the employment landscape changes, opportunities for hands-on learning expose students to different career possibilities while developing durable skills.

Between learning the basics like workplace safety and the specifics of a given job, apprentices build, in Eric Cook's words, "21st-century skills", universal to every would-be employee across careers. The "soft skills" learned in apprenticeships, along with job specific training, are valuable attributes to acquire early and help young people adjust to the independence and responsibility of adult life, whether on a college campus or in their first apartment. In fact, an apprenticeship allows students to evaluate how they want to pursue their goals rather than following a preordained path from high school to college. For instance, Cook relayed the story of an apprentice who initially planned to enroll in college immediately following graduation but after her time on the job decided a degree was not necessary to achieve her goal of one day starting her own business.

Meanwhile, a key aspect of coordinating apprenticeships is ensuring a good match for employers and their needs by encouraging them to participate in recruiting apprentices. Cook communicates to approved employers that, "students will apply to opportunities and businesses they are comfortable or familiar with. If you invest a little bit of your time in the class or guest speaking, you can handpick the best candidates that meet your needs by telling the instructor what student you want to apply for the opening." Rather than simply flood approved businesses with requests, Cook and his team track employers' needs, only recruiting students for existing openings and encouraging matches that will be mutually beneficial.



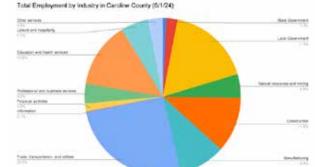
CAROLINE BETTER TOGETHER A Snapshot of Work in Caroline County



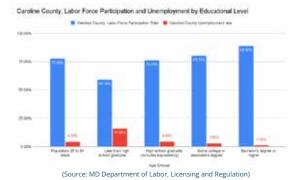
Caroline County, Labor Force Participation and Unemployment by Age



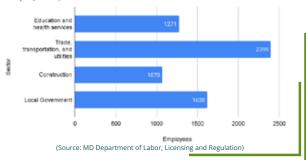
(Source: 2023 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates)



(Source: 2023 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates)



Largest Employment Sectors in Caroline County (68% of total Employment)



CAROLINE BETTER TOGETHER

New Website!

 ${\bf Caroline Better Together. Org}$

Add your events to the community calendar!





Check the calendar for upcoming events in the community!

Find resources within the community!







Available on desktop and mobile browsers!

Caroline Better Together



Maryland Service Corps in Caroline County

By Kat Stork

Established in 2016 under Governor Hogan, the Maryland Corps offers participants the opportunity to build professional skills and experience while working full-time for a program host organization. Now administered by the Department of Service and Civic Innovation, Maryland Corps and the paired Service Year Option, are part of a statewide effort to expand civic service while also providing job training in key areas of community need. Maryland Corps members are connected to local participating "host sites." The state subsidizes host site participation through a cost-sharing model based on the size of the organization. Savannah Winston, CEO of VanTech Business Solutions, explains "I have been able to employ Maryland Corps

members, which has been a huge success in the growth of my Preston business. Not only have I expanded my team of employees, I have been able to be a mentor to them, providing guidance and insight towards their long term career goals."

"The program has been incredibly beneficial," says one local Corps member, "Maryland Corps provides us with success coaches who guide us in planning for our futures, whether it's through further education or career goals." Maryland Corps participants—both members and hosts—will discuss their experience at the next Caroline Better Together Community Dinner and Conversation on February 26th at the Ridgely United Methodist Church. Please join us to hear about this and other service learning and career development opportunities for Caroline residents.





Caroline Better Together

Certified Community Interpreter Training

On the day we spoke with Chesapeake Multi-Cultural Resource Center Executive Director, Matthew Peters for the Caroline Review, he noted, "Almost all my staff today is gone. It's a half day of school today, parent-teacher conferences. We're out in the community providing interpretive services for the schools." Ches MRC may be able to fill this role on certain days but the gap remains: Caroline County needs more multi-lingual interpreters. And while fluency in multiple languages is essential, being an effective interpreter requires far more.

Interpreters must possess special skills and techniques to interpret on behalf of organizations, co-workers, and community members. Not only is there a community need for people who speak multiple languages-from English to Spanish and Hatian Creole to Urdu and Farsi-but also for professional opportunities to become Certified Community Interpreters.

Now, the Caroline Resource Navigation Project, led by Caroline Department of Social Services and its Community Resource Navigator Project, with funding from No Kid Hungry-Share Our Strength and support from APHSA, has joined forces with Chesapeake College to offer six-day (44 instructional hours) Community Interpreter Training class at no cost to the prospective interpreter. Through this opportunity, multilingual individuals either currently working with, or looking to work with Caroline County families will learn the necessary skills to serve as community interpreters. The class runs February 20th - March 11th and provides hands-on training in sight translation, intervention strategies, and cultural mediation, as well as cover essential topics like interpreter ethics, and specialized terminology.

Email admin@carolinebettertogether.org to learn more about registering. There a few slots still available for the inaugural class.

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Tuesday 9 am - 12 pm

GREENSBORO

Greensboro Judy Center 625 North Main St Wednesday 9 am - 12 pm

MD Rural Development 101 Cedar Lane Wednesday 1 pm - 5 pm

PRESTON

Preston Connects 105 Backlanding Road Thursday 9 am - 12 pm

FEDERALSBURG

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Lethal Means Safety

REDUCING SUICIDE DEATHS

Contributed by Mental Health Association of Maryland

Many suicide attempts occur during a short-term crisis, making it crucial to address a person's access to lethal means during these periods of heightened risk. Lethal means are objects—such as medications, firearms, and sharp instruments—that can be used to inflict self-directed violence.

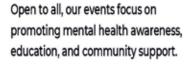
Lethal Means Safety is an intentional and voluntary practice to reduce suicide risk by limiting access to these potentially deadly tools. Research shows that access to lethal means is a significant risk factor for suicide, and reducing such access can save lives. Firearms, the most lethal method of suicide, are particularly concerning in rural areas, where they are often more readily available.

Action Steps for Suicide Prevention

Reducing access to lethal means is a vital component of a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention. Families, organizations, healthcare providers, and policymakers can take proactive measures to minimize the risk of self-harm.



Learn about mental health at our FREE community events!





Find out more at MHAMD.org/events

Visit our website to access free mental health and substance use resources for all ages, learn about our work, and get involved. Some strategies include general household safety precautions, regardless of suicide risk, such as securely storing medications and firearms.

General Actions:

- Educate family members and community members about reducing access to lethal means during crises.
- Train mental health professionals and nontraditional providers (e.g., divorce attorneys, first responders, probation officers) in lethal means counseling.
- Raise awareness about options for temporary firearm storage outside the home during crises.
 - Collaborate with community partners to promote safety.
- Implement policies for lethal means counseling in healthcare and behavioral health settings.
- Engage gun retailers and owner groups in suicide prevention initiatives.
- Distribute safety tools such as free or low-cost gun locks or safes.
- Install protective barriers on bridges and tall buildings to prevent access.

Crisis-Specific Actions:

When someone in the household is suicidal, has recently attempted suicide, or is experiencing a crisis, it is safest to remove lethal means from the home entirely until the situation stabilizes:

- Store firearms with law enforcement (if permissible) or have a trusted friend hold them securely. Alternatively, lock firearms and give the key to someone outside the household.
- Limit access to medications by storing them securely and dispensing only safe quantities as needed.

Resources

- Zero Suicide Initiative: zerosuicide.edc.org/toolkittaxonomy/lethal-means-safety
- Means Matter Campaign: means-matter.hsph.harvard. edu
 - Maryland Safe Storage Map: mdpgv.org/safestoragemap
 - 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988lifeline.org
- Making Home Safer for At-Risk Children: bit.ly/MDHSafeHome

By integrating these practices into our daily lives and communities, we can collectively work to reduce suicide deaths and create a safer environment for individuals experiencing crises.









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Hallways of History

by Kennedy Thomason



Fun fact: present-day Lockerman Middle School was once an all-Black high school. But even if you already knew that, don't you want to know more?

Lockerman High School was named for Joseph Harrison Lockerman, an African American educator born in Caroline

County. His father, James Lockerman, was a Black laborer who could not read or write. Joseph Lockerman graduated from Centenary Biblical Institute (now Morgan State University) in 1886 and settled in Baltimore City. A February 1900 insert in the Denton Journal noted that Lockerman was asking Maryland State Legislatures for a large sum of money to build a "Colored Normal School" – that means an all-Black teacher's academy in 1900 speak. He eventually became the first African American Principal of the all-Black High and Training School (what is now Coppin State University) in Baltimore. After his death in 1923, flags at Black schools in the city flew at half-mast.

Though Lockerman was built in 1930, it could not have been the first of its kind, as Denton native and first woman President of the NAACP Dr. Enolia McMillan is documented as having taught at an all-Black high school in Denton in 1928. However, based on the fact that McMillan's master's thesis topic was discrepancies between white and Black schools in Eastern Shore counties, I think it's safe to assume the original all-Black Denton High School wasn't great. Another clue is that in 1931, Caroline's white elementary school teachers made \$1,027 annually while Black teachers in the county made \$490.

Multiple secondary sources attribute a "Sir Isaac Thomas" of donating the original 6 acres of land to the Caroline County Board of Education on behalf of the Parent-Teacher Association for a school. While I couldn't track down an undeniable source from the time on the fellow, there did seem to be at least one Isaac Thomas who seemingly dealt in real estate based on newspaper listings of delinquent rent payments and land auctions. What led Thomas to donate the land is something I don't know, so for now I will just guess he was a passionate member of the PTA. All the sources I could find vaguely claim that the

funds for Lockerman's building were donated by Black locals.

Regardless, Lockerman High School was dedicated in March of 1931 with about 120 pupils in attendance. There isn't much documented on Lockerman as a high school. Lucky for me, there are some former Lockerman High students still living in the community to fill in some blanks.

Gwendolyn Wright graduated from Lockerman High in 1966, the last year of segregation in Caroline. She, like most of her peers, got involved in Lockerman's athletic teams. "That was the only time you got to go anywhere, if you played sports," she said.

The decision to integrate America's public schools was handed down in May of 1954. Edward Turner, then running to represent Maryland Congressional District 1, published his opinion on the matter in the October 15th, 1954, edition of the Denton Journal (can you tell I like old newspapers?). He wrote "The consequences of any such attempt to disturb the status quo could only be harmful and dangerous...The negroes on the Eastern Shore... for the most part are perfectly satisfied with present conditions."

Fast forward to 1965, a Mr. Frank H. Kessler published a column that took the opposite stance. He wrote, "It is better to [integrate] voluntarily, peacefully, gracefully, than be forced into it by Federal edict or by the type of mass demonstrations that have rocked the South." Even though he was clearly pro-integration, Kessler included in his printed musings that "The Board of Education has tried to keep Lockerman equal to the white high schools." Based on the conversation I had with Miss Wright, he could have saved that last part. She told me that Lockerman and other all-Black schools in the county never received new materials such as textbooks, only the hand-me-downs from the white schools.

Finally, in the 1966-1967 school year, Caroline's schools were completely desegregated. Wright noted that it wasn't all rainbows at first, and her younger sisters experienced being singled out at times in the newly-integrated North Caroline. Lockerman High was renamed Riverview and was an integrated middle school (it eventually went back to being Lockerman in 1993).



Lockerman High School Class of 1966 inside the Lockerman Gymnasium.

When asked what she remembers about Lockerman High, Wright said, "Our teachers were very professional." Some of those who stood out to her were Miss Edna Carter and Miss Deborah Spencer. According to Wright, "you embarrassed the family" if you were sent to Principal Frances Gates' office. And as for Miss Spencer, your white gym socks had to be spotless, or "you were washing them in the sink and wearing them wet."



Relating Back to the Golden Goose

by Bryan Gadow



Who first taught me that tale, of the goose and her golden egg? This I do not recall, but I'm fairly certain of the pictures in my mind as the story was related to young Bryan. Among the more pleasant of my early memories is a short video clip (saved in that hard drive between my ears) in which I am walking

through a farm yard with my daddy. The house, and indeed all the buildings, were old. Chickens darted about, and at my feet was a red corn cob, pecked clean. Something about that simple scene, likely within ten miles of Preston, remains special to me. More important to who I am was the place I grew up, that house on Seaman Road with a big front yard and lots of trees; a man-made pond off to the side. We never had a goose, but Dad kept some ducks and I'd seen their nest. So, when that fable was relayed to little Boy Bryan, he pictured a white goose on that old farm, pecking at corn, and nesting along a pond betwixt some bushes.

I never thought of it back then, but what if we did have a goose, and it did lay golden eggs? I really don't think my pop would have just up and slaughtered it. No, I suppose instead he would have talked it over with my Mom (always the voice of reason!) and probably Uncle Bob (perhaps a little less so?) Then he would have asked someone, maybe Russell Dukes, where he could borrow some oyster tongs. Dad then would have taken his little homemade boat and launched into the pond, spending a warm Saturday tonging for gold. At day's end I suspect he would have instead had a bunch of muck, a boat filled with Pabst Blue Ribbon cans (mostly because he loved to poke holes in the empties and toss them in the water, watching them drop) and, oh, a terrible backache. This would be followed by an attempt to dam up the stream feeding the pond; once low enough, Dad would put on his waders and go in search of the illusive gold, all while the silly goose looked on.

What would I have thought of all this? Once, my father told me there was a "pike" in there, but I misunderstood and thought he meant "pipe". I interpreted it somehow that there was a drain, right at the center, and that you could reach down with a rake or a hoe and lift it up. Just where it would empty into, I don't know. Anyway, I suppose I would have asked my daddy why he didn't just open the drain, but maybe I would be

smart enough to figure out that the gold might get sucked out with it?

While none of this may have actually happened, there was something back in my childhood that I oft relate to the golden goose. Our road, back then, was dirt. This meant that on regular occasions I could stand out in the yard and peer into the distance to see that marvelous road grader coming our way! Mustard yellow, proud safety triangle on the front, a Caterpillar that I always loved to watch. Down it would go, north to south, and then back again. I would imitate it, making sounds like its diesel engine, pushing my foot or hand through the sand just like it did with its blade. There came a point where I received a real first class show, thus the pivot of my tale: other heavy equipment showed up, for days on end. Big dump trucks, that I recall. Before I knew it, Seaman Road was tar-and-chip.

At the time, I'm sure I was in "little boy heaven", but once they were done I would never see that road grader again. And I'm still a little sad about it! Unlike the farmer in that old story, of course, I had no say in the matter. I didn't tell them I wanted it paved. I can only say, once it happened, the goose was cooked.

Is there some moral to all this? I guess I would say: we are too often in a hurry for "progress", for gratification now. I've spent nearly fifty years wishing I was back on that narrow, bumpy dirt road, a place that exemplifies what I think Caroline County should be about. Someplace simple, friendly, quiet. A place to take your time and enjoy the holly, the dogwood, the soybeans and, yes, the corn. Not a place to scurry in a hurry, honking and weaving along six lanes of high-speed asphalt, late for your appointment at Starbucks before you go to Wally World and stand in line to buy vegetables from a thousand miles away. Give me kids riding in the back of a pickup truck, old men in faded denim overalls, a filling station at the edge of town where the fellas gather 'round and swap lies and flies. Give me all that, and take away your solar farms and stop lights, "Bawl-more Farms" convenience stores and the smell of marijuana all about. Give me back the real gold.

Editor's Note: We hope you continue to enjoy Bryan's comments monthly in the Caroline Review magazine. They are also available online at carolinereview.com, which makes it easy to share with friends and family who aren't in Caroline County.

Caroline County Chamber of Commerce

Dear Caroline Chamber Members & Friends

We are thrilled to highlight our newest program, the NextGen Youth Market. Partnering with Caroline County 4-H, we're providing a fantastic platform for young entrepreneurs to showcase their talents and foster a sense of community throughout their school careers.

If you have a young person in your life with an entrepreneurial spirit, sign them up for this unique market today! Space is limited, so don't miss out.

Mark your calendars and join us for this FREE event!

Additionally, we have an exciting calendar of events planned at the chamber, filled with new opportunities for growth and collaboration. Join us for a mixer with the Central Delaware Chamber on February 26th at Harvest Ridge Winery from 4:00 PM to

7:00 PM. Members and Nonmembers can register for all our events on our website.



We are committed to supporting our members and the community with innovative programs and events.

We look forward to a great year!

Visit our website for complete information. Warmest Regards, Tracey Snyder

Executive Director

www.carolinechamber.org



Medicare Information for 2025

By Mary Moran

Editor's note: The information provided by Mary Moran relates to the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP), and Maryland Access Point (MAP). Ms. Moran is available at 410-479-2535 or 410-490-3078 to offer information and assistance.

Greetings! As of January 1,2025, all Medicare part D beneficiaries out of pocket costs for medications will be capped at \$2000 for the year! In Phase 1, known as the Deductible Phase, Beneficiaries will pay the full plan negotiated price for covered generic and brand-named drugs on plan formularies. Not all plans have the same deductible, and some with higher premiums may not have a deductible at all. Remember that a drug must be tier 3 or higher to activate the deductible!

Once the maximum annual deductible of \$590 is met, the beneficiary enters Phase 2, known as the Initial Coverage Phase. In this second phase, 75% of the cost will be covered with the bene paying either a 25% coinsurance or a set copay. After your annual out-of-pocket spending reaches \$2000, you pay -0-for covered drugs for the rest of the year in Catastrophic Phase 3. The deductible amount you pay, plus any copays or coinsurances, counts toward the annual \$2000 cap. Premium payments do not count toward this cap!

It is important to remember that any out-of-pocket money spent using price reduction cards such as Good Rx or Single Care, manufacturer patient assistance programs, or reduced cost drugs from businesses such as Cost Plus, will also not count toward the deductible or the \$2000 cap. Additionally, anything covered under "B" does not apply.

Individuals with a maximum monthly income of \$1,883 who are receiving Extra Help to reduce the cost of their medications, should know that Extra Help contributions are included toward the \$2000 out of pocket cap.

For those not receiving Extra Help, only true out of pocket costs (TrOOP) count toward the RX \$2000 cap for covered drugs. Money spent on non-covered drugs (those not on the plans formulary or over the counter meds) will not count toward the \$590 deductible, or the \$2000 cap. Each "D" plan has its own formulary. Plans are required to notify beneficiaries at least 60 days before changing their formulary. Know that if a medication is not on the formulary, you can apply for a formulary exception, and if approved it will be covered for the remainder of the year and therefore can be applied to the \$2000 cap!

On another note, those who are unable to afford high priced meds (such as Eliquis or Xarelto) can call their Prescription Drug Plan to enroll in the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan (MPPP). This is a voluntary program that gives beneficiaries the option to participate in a payment schedule to spread their RX costs throughout the year. The goal is to help pay monthly out of pocket expenses for Part "D" drugs in smaller, more manageable monthly payments. Know that this payment plan does not change or lower one's drug costs.

The MPPP enrollee will pay \$0 at the pharmacy. When one signs up directly with their current Medicare "D" or Advantage plan to participate in this option, the plan notifies the pharmacy that the customer will now be paying the plan directly for their medications.

All health and drug plans will use the same system. Participants will not pay any fees or interest to the plan to participate in the MPPP program. The beneficiary continues to pay their monthly premium in addition to the medication costs indicated on the program formula.

The monthly bill will be sent out directly to the beneficiary by the plan. The payment is based on the amount paid to the pharmacy by the plan, plus the previous month's balance carried over. That number is divided by the number of months left in the year. Payments will vary by month, but you will never pay more than the out-of-pocket maximum of \$2000 for covered drugs by the end of the year.

Beneficiaries can sign up at any time. However, it is best to enroll in the MPPP plan early in the year to whittle down the cost over a longer term. When enrolling, tell the plan to send you a projection of what your monthly payments will be for the year.

Finally, let's address penalties. Those without creditable drug coverage when they turned 65, and who delayed enrolling in "D", face a permanent Late Enrollment Penalty (LEP) added to their monthly part "D" premium. The penalty is calculated by multiplying 1% of the national "base beneficiary premium" (36.78 in 2025), times the number of full uncovered months without" D" or creditable coverage, then rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

SO, if one went for 31 months without coverage the calculation would be 31months x 36.78 base rate =\$11.40. By law this penalty is added to the monthly premium collected

by the drug plan you enrolled in. Unfortunately, you will pay this surcharge for as long as you have Medicare part D, even when you switch plans. Remember, this base rate changes annually.

The 2025 LEP for part "B" is an extra 10% for each 12-month period you were eligible to sign up for "B", did not have creditable group coverage, and did not enroll. If you delayed one year, the penalty is calculated as .10% x 185 (this year's premium) = 18.50 being added to your base premium. 2025 monthly "B" premium becomes \$203.50. Delayed enrollment for 2 years would be 20% x185=37. Therefore 37+185= \$222 monthly premium for those with a household income under 170,000.

For folks who did not sign up for part "B" during their 7-month Initial Enrollment Period (6 months surrounding their 65th birthday month) the only way to avoid a penalty is to enroll during a Special Enrollment Period (SEP). This is the 8 months after you or your spouse's employer coverage ends, or they stop working, whichever comes first. Cobra is not considered group health insurance.

You may sign up for "A" & "B", or change Advantage plans, now during the 2025 General Enrollment Period from January 1 - March 31. Coverage begins the month after signup! Call Social Security at 888-647-6701 or go to www. mysocialsecurity.gov to enroll.

Happy Muffin Day, Homemade Soup Day, and Valentines Day from the Federalsburg Senior Center

February is not only a month for romance but it's also a month for showing people we care for and appreciate them. No one understands that more than the folks at the Federalsburg Senior Center.

This month's activities are centered around crafting (maybe for a special someone), cooking, and last but not least...MUFFINS! That's right, Valentine's Day isn't the only holiday getting some attention this year.

This month at the center we have "Trade a Soup Recipe Day" on February 4 in celebration of Homemade Soup Day and we will be having a Muffin Breakfast bar on February 20 to celebrate National Muffin Day! We will also be hosting a Felt Sweethearts Craft on February 4, a Rose Candle Craft on February 11 as well as a Secret Admirer Gift Exchange on February 13 at 1:00 pm.

In addition to all these activities, we have BINGO on Tuesdays at 11:00 am, and the S.A.I.L. Exercise Class every Thursday at 10:00 am. Lunch is served at 12:00 pm every day we are open. All of this and more is happening right in your backyard, so be sure to come by and pick up a calendar and menu to stay up to date.

Come visit us and maybe make a few new friends or perhaps even reconnect with some old ones. We look forward to seeing you.



Happy "Heart" Month from the Caroline Senior Center

This month is American Heart Month. Melanie will be here for our monthly Blood Pressure Screening and will also provide the seniors with additional information about the benefits of medication to keep our hearts healthy. What a better way to kick off American Heart Month, and the New Year with S.A.I.L. Exercise with Jannelle Bramble every Monday and Wednesday at 12:30 pm. Jillian Luna will host her new Diabetes Education classes called "Life without Limits: Diabetes Free Living," Tuesday at 10:00 am. Come learn how to manage your lifestyle with or without Diabetes. We have several Valentines Crafts planned - please call Brandy or Geraldine at (410) 479-2535 to reserve a spot. The center will be closed on February 17 to observe the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

February Birthdays: Audrey Gibson, Doretha Cook, Mary Ford, Vera Henry, Marianne Newman, Billy Hutson, Mary Moran.

Sign up for free enewsletter twice weekly from Caroline County's trusted news source at carolinereview.com

Caroline County Public Library

www.carolib.org info@carlib.org 410-479-1343

LIBRARY HOURS

CENTRAL BRANCH, DENTON

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Thursday: Noon - 8:00 pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

FEDERALSBURG BRANCH

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Tuesday: Noon - 2:00 pm 3:00 -8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday: Closed

NORTH COUNTY, GREENSBORO

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Wednesday: Noon - 2:00 pm 3:00 pm -8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday: Closed

NFW

Maker Station: Wild About Animals. We're not lion, come on over and assemble a 3D printed animal kit card! February 1 – 28, All Ages, Central Library, Denton. No registration is required.

Teen DIY. Valentine's Day Card. Make a Victorian Puzzle Purse Card for Valentines Day. February 1 – 28, Teens, Central Library, Denton. No registration is required.

CCPL 3D Printing Certification. Come to this program to get certified to use our Bambu X1C 3D printer! We'll go over safety, evaluating models for printing, slicing, and starting a print. Thursday, February 6, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Ages 15 - Adults, Central Library, Denton. Registration required*.

Anime club. A club whose focus is on building community around a shared love of anime and manga. Activities will include watching anime episodes, talking about anime/manga topics, and learning about the Japanese culture that

Borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone. FREE with your Library card! Visit carolib.org for details.

informs both mediums. Wednesday, February 12, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Teens, Central Library, Denton. No registration is required.

Genealogy 101. Genealogy is an exciting and dynamic endeavor that provides a real world, personal connection to history. Learn methodologies used by professional genealogists and embark on a journey to explore your family history. You will learn how to generate questions, create a research plan and conduct research by interviewing family members and identifying sources of information close to home. Learn how to record findings with research logs, interpret and present your research. This is a two-part course, with initial instruction and discussion in the first session. The second session will review the attendees' research into their own case studies. Saturday, February 15 & Saturday, March 1. 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, Teens & Adults, Central Library, Denton. Registration required*.

Goofy Greeting Cards. Design humorous and silly greeting cards for odd occasions. Wednesday, February 19, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Teens & Adults, North County Branch, Greensboro. Registration required*.

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition! Are you the fastest puzzler in Caroline County? Come see how you measure up against others and compete in teams of up to 4 people to complete a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle in less than two hours! The fastest 3 teams will win a jigsaw puzzle prize. Thursday, February 20, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Adults, Central Library, Denton. Registration required*

Playtime at the Library. Playtime at the Library is an hour for your toddler or preschooler to learn through playing with other children. Each session will involve sensory and imaginative play stations with age-appropriate toys. Playtime at the Library is not just for kids. Parents and caregivers can take advantage of some social time, too! Monday, February 24, 10:30 am – 11:30 am, Birth to age 4, Central Library, Denton. No registration is required.

Teen Tabletop Club. Join our adventuring party for this month's DND session! Thursday, February 27, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Teens, Central Library, Denton. Registration required*.

ONGOING

Winter/Spring Storytime. Tuesdays, 10:30 am, birth to age 4, North County Branch, Greensboro. Wednesdays, Continued

10:30 am, birth to age 4, Central Library, Denton. No registration is required.

Bookies. Tuesday, February 18, 1:00 pm, Adults, Federalsburg Branch. Contact the Central Library at 410-479-1343, or info@carolib.org, for more information. No registration is required.

Paws for Reading. Practice reading to a trained service dog! Grigsby is a great listener and would love to have you read a story to him. Reading to a dog decreases the stress that children often feel when reading aloud. Grigsby is trained to sit or lay calmly beside your child while he reads. It's a judgement-free zone that allows the child to build confidence and develop fluency. Thursday, February 27. 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm, 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm, 5:30 - 6:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm. Ages 5-12, Central Library, Denton. One registrant per session*

Lego Mania. Calling all young builders! Are you ready to take on this month's Lego® challenge? Join us for Lego® Mania, where you'll work with friends to Build a Critter Creature! Tuesday, February 11, Federalsburg Branch. Thursday, February 13, Central Library, Denton. 5:00 pm -7:00 pm, Ages 5-12. No registration is required.

*For programs requiring registration, please visit carolib.org or call 410-479-1343.





Library of Things: Beyond Books and Movies!

You probably know by now that we have some unusual things at the Caroline County Public Library, like 3D printers, and you might even know that you can borrow board games and educational kits. But did you know that our collection of non-traditional items is growing? We call it the Library of Things, and we're expanding it to include a wider variety of items, from crafting tools to sports equipment!

ARTS, CRAFTS & MUSIC

If you're feeling creative, explore our selection of tools for arts and crafts. Borrow our Cricut Joy Xtra™ to make greeting cards and vinyl decals, or use it with our mug press to decorate mugs! If you're more interested in fiber crafts, check out our sewing machine or knitting needles.

New: Sewing machine, Cricut Joy Xtra, mug press, knitting needles, rotary tool kit, digital drum

Coming Soon: Knitting machines, resin molds, needle felting kit, midi controller, USB microphone, keyboard

STEM

Interested in some hands-on STEM learning? Check out our Tactbits, Foldscope mini microscope, and Mochi Robotics

Kit. If you're interested in developing electronic devices, keep an eye out for our Raspberry Pi developer kits – coming soon!

New: Foldscope paper microscope kit, Tactbits, Mochi robotics kit

Coming Soon: Snap Circuits Motion, Snap Circuits Extreme, Raspberry Pi & Arduino developer kits

OUTDOORS

It might be hard to imagine outdoor activities right now, but when the weather gets warmer, consider borrowing a bocce or pickleball set (net included).

New: Pickleball set, bocce ball set Coming Soon: Adventure backpack

Other New & Coming Soon Library of Things Items @ CCPL:

New: Go Pro

Coming Soon: 3D pen, tripod

Library of Things items must be borrowed on an adult card. They circulate for one week at a time. To learn more about our Library of Things, call us at 410-479-1343 or send us an email at info@carolib.org.



Thank you to everyone who came out to the event & to those who bid on trees!

Thank You Sponsors!

We appreciate all the sponsors of our Festival of Trees! The event benefited hospice care, supportive care, & grief support services throughout Caroline, Kent,& Queen Anne's counties.

WINTERTIME





GINGERBREAD

Duff & Gira McCounell Burke &Herbert Bank



REINDEER









Gene & Carol Robbins

JINGLE BELL





















FRIEND

SPECIAL THANKS







THE TOWERS FAMILY
THE BODINE FAMILY
NASH & MELANIE MCMAHAN
M. TATE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESAPEAKE CULINARY CENTER

TRICE AUCTIONS CONNIE HUTSON REBECCA MULLINS DAVE WHALEY TREE SPONSORS



COMPASSREGIONALHOSPICE.ORG | 443-262-4100



Community Calendar

ONGOING

Lions Durable Medical Equipment Loan Closet. If you are in need of a piece of durable medical equipment, have your caregiver or healthcare provider contact a Lions Club near you to see if we can assist you. To contact a Lions Club near you search www.lions22B/projects.

Art & History Tours at The Foundry. Explore Caroline County's vibrant creativity with Kyleen Asche! Learn about our talented local artists and the gallery's special role in the community. Reserve your spot: Kyleen.Asche@carolinearts. org or 410-479-1009.

Mini-Grants Open-Apply Today! CCCA mini-grants are available to support art projects and events. Applications must be submitted at least 60 days before the start date. Email info@carolinearts.org. Details: www.carolinearts.org

Sponsorships Now Open – Support the Arts! Help us enrich lives and foster creativity in Caroline County by becoming a sponsor. Levels start at \$250 and include exclusive benefits. Your generosity fuels art education, exhibitions, and events. Contact us today: 410-479-1009 or visit www.carolinearts.org

Ridgely Vol Fire Dept Fundraiser "Super Bowl Blocks". Cost: \$20 per block. Game is February 9, 2025. For more information call Tammy at 443-786-9266.

SUNDAYS

Worship Service at Eternal Life Ministries at 11:00 am at 807 Market St., Denton. Contact: Brother Mike at 410-714-4793.

Please join us in person at **New Beginnings UMC** at 12020 N. Central Ave Ridgely at 10:00 am. Virtual via YouTube #NBUMC or Zoom meeting ID: 242 506 3045 Passcode: 421282.

Bethesda Methodist Church 155 Main St., Preston. 410-673-7538. Bethesda Bible Adventures for ages 4 and up every Sunday at 9:00 am, Adult Bible Study every Sunday at 10:00 am, Bible Study with Pastor Nate every Thursday at 6:00 pm. Contemporary Service Sundays at 9:00 am and Traditional Service Sundays at 11:00.

Greater Impact Worship Experience every Sunday at 11

AM. Impact Kids (ages 3-11) meet during the worship experience.

Immanuel Lutheran Church service at 10:30 am & Sunday school at 9:15 am.

Worship Service at Metropolitan UMC, 407 Gay Street Denton, MD at 9:30 am. Zoom meeting dial in- 1-301-715-8592, ID-857 9523 2970, Password- 147157

Come join us for **Worship Service at Zion UMC**, 219 Old Denton Road Federalsburg, MD 21632 at 11:30 am.

St Paul's United Methodist Church located at 300 W Sunset Ave, Greensboro invites you to join us at our Sunday Service at 11am with children's Sunday School during the service and Adult Sunday School at 9:45am.

Lakeview Fellowship Church of God invites you to join us every Sunday morning at 8:45 am cafe, 9:30 am Sunday Continued

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1120 Market St., Denton • 410-924-6404 www.calvarybaptistchurchofdenton.org Don Reynolds, Pastor

Join us for our

February 9 - "Super Sunday" at Calvary

11 AM Worship/Celebration Service

Followed by a Luncheon. Also 1:30 PM Worship

All are welcome - bring a neighbor or friend



10 am Sunday Bible School - All ages

11 am Exciting Praise / Worship Also, great Junior Church (5-11 yrs.)/Nursery

7 pm Sunday Evening Worship 7 pm Wednesday Bible Studies

Faith in God is Alive in 2025



School for all ages, 10:30 am worship service with Kids Church and Nursery available. Address: Hess Frontage Road, Grasonville, MD. 410-827-5665 www.lakeviewfellowship. org Find us on FACEBOOK

Denton Church of the Nazarene, 10660 Greensboro Road, Denton. Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 am – 10:15 am. Sunday morning Worship/Children's Church 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. Nursery is provided and we are handicapped accessible.

Join us at **Calvary Baptist Church**, 1120 Market Street, Denton. Sunday School at 10:00 am and Worship at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm every Sunday. There's always something special happening at Calvary as "Faith in God is Alive in 2025". All arewelcome. Bring a friend! 410-924-6404 donaldwreynolds@comcast.neth ttps://calvarybaptistchurchofdenton.org/

MONDAYS

The **Ridgely Lions** meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Ridgely United Methodist Church Social Hall, 107 Central Ave. in Ridgely at 6:30 pm. For more info on the Ridgely Lions go to www.ridgelylions. org or www.facebook.com/ridgely lions club. We are always seeking new members who are interested in serving their community.

Celebrate Recovery is a Christian based 12-step recovery program for all kinds of hurts, habits, and hang-ups. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Greater Impact in Greensboro. For more information, please contact Cathy Bowery at 410-829-7020 or Nick Rukstela at 443-239-7005 or email info@greaterimpactmd.com.

FIRST MONDAYS

The **Greensboro Historical Society**, 104 E. Sunset Ave., meets each month on the first Monday at 7:00 pm.

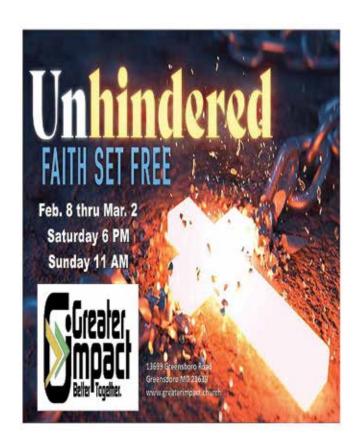
TUESDAYS

Hot Soup at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Drive, Denton from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Come out and enjoy!

Tuesday Bingo at Denton American Legion Post #29 at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Snacks and drinks available for purchase at break. Info 410-479-2708.

English as a Second Language Classes from 9:00 am - 11:00 am at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Drive, Denton. Any questions, please call 443-243-5906.

Zumba Classes at 6:00 pm with instructor Maria Draves at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Dr, Denton.



Walk-in Acupuncture Clinic at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm from Source Point Institute at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Dr, Denton.

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS

Write On! From 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm on Zoom. An online writer's group for adults. Join us to listen, write, and share your work in a welcoming community. https://carolinearts.org/events/write-on-february-4th/ https://carolinearts.org/events/write-on-february-18th/

SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS

Ages & Stages class from 1:15 pm – 2:30 pm for pregnant mothers and infants up to 6 months old. Registration is preferred (410-479-8185). Let's have fun learning about the stages of pregnancy through infancy. Topics include prenatal care, eating healthy, becoming a mom, caring for yourself and caring for your baby. This class is hosted by Caroline County Health Department at the Federalsburg Judy Center. There is no charge for participants.

THIRD TUESDAYS

Caroline County Chapter of Maryland Right to Life meets 7 p.m. at various locations around the county. All are

Purse Bingo SUN. FEB. 9

- 20 regular games
- 5 special games

Michael Kors, Coach, Kate Spade, and other brands

• Door Prizes • 50/50 Spade, av Goldsboro Fire Hall, 700 Line Rd., Goldsboro.

Doors open at 11:30 am and Bingo starts at 1 pm.

Cost: \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Special games \$10 per packet or \$2 per sheet.

Call Angie Cowgill at 410-829-6084. Payment can be made by PayPal at Children's Exploration Organization.

All money raised from this fundraiser will go towards educational travel for non-profit Children Exploration Organization

welcome to help us defend life, educate the public, and work for legislative change. For more information or the location of the next meeting, contact chapter president Tom Lough at 443-996-3024 or Upcyclelatatime@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAYS

Denton Rotary Club Meetings are held Wednesdays from Noon to 1:00 pm at the Caroline Culinary Center 512 Franklin St. Denton, MD 21629. Come join us for a free lunch and find out about the exciting "Service Projects" the club is working on. For more information, contact: Charlie Huber 410-479-2070 charliehuber 21@gmail.com.

Community Civic League Food Pantry, 3439 Laurel Grove Road, Federalsburg. Wednesdays, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm or by appointment. Free food and clothing. Contact: 302-604-4216 or 410-754-6011.

In person Bible Study at 6:00 pm, Eternal Life Ministries, 807 Market St., Denton.

Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 pm at Calvary Baptist Church. Questions: Contact Don Reynolds, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, 1120 Market St, Denton, 410-924-6404, donaldwreynolds@comcast.net, www.calvarybaptistchurchofdenton.org.

The Ridgely Lions Club supports the Ridgely United Methodist Church with their weekly Food Pantry from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Folks in need can pick up a grocery distribution behind the Church on Central Ave in Ridgely. For more information, contact Lion Shad Brannock at ridgelionsec@gmail.com.

Come out and join us for **Mommy and Me classes** from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Drive, Denton. Discussion for health and wellness, baby diapers and needs and care for mommies. Any questions, please call 443-243-5906.

Continued

Meet the Authors Series

Winter-Spring 2025



Marnie Stockman, Ed.D. Tuesday February 11 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Marnie Stockman, Ed.D., started her career in leadership with the toughest customers/employees of all... high school math students. Her passion for education and using data and humor to help others grow and succeed took her from the classroom to Sr. Director of Customer Success of a leading Ed Tech company, and then to Co-Founder and former CEO of Lifecycle Insights – a vCIO/Customer Success platform for MSPs. After her successful exit from Lifecycle Insights, Marnie and her business partner wrote the book *Lead It Like Lasso*, combining their worlds of leadership lessons, Ted Lasso and helping others become the best versions of themselves in a fun way. They have created a masterclass on personal leadership and can often be found out and about in the world speaking on personal leadership, customer success and the character revolution.





Friends of the Caroline County Public Library



Russell Reece Tuesday, March 11 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.



Jim Duffy-Tuesday, April 22 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Free to the public • Meet the Authors at the Caroline County Library in Denton

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Exercise-Exercise: One hour exercise classes at 11:00 am at Aaron's Place, 401 Aldersgate Drive, Denton. Please call 443-243-5906 if you have any questions.

THURSDAYS

Thursday Night Bible Study at Lakeview Fellowship Church of God. 6:00 pm Intercessory prayer, 6:30 pm Corporate call to prayer and worship, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm family classes for all ages. Address: Hess Frontage Road, Grasonville, MD. 410-827-5665 www.lakeviewfellowship. org Find us on FACEBOOK

FIRST THURSDAYS

The **Activities Singles Klub (ASK)** holds its meetings the first Thursday of the month. Meetings are held at the Elks located at 502 Dutchman's Lane in Easton. Single, widowed, divorced and separated individuals are invited. Feel free to come visit with us. We meet at 4:30 pm for social time, dinner will be at 5:00 pm and the meeting will follow dinner. For information call Gladys at 410-822-6205.

SATURDAYS

Greater Impact worships every Saturday at 6:00 pm, and Impact Kids (ages 3-11) meet during the worship experience.

Men, come join us for "Men Praying Together" every Saturday. Women, come join us for "Women Praying Together" every Saturday. Time is 8:30 am - 9:30 am. Come fellowship with other believers and be strengthened and inspired. All are welcome—bring a neighbor/friend. Join us at Calvary Baptist Church, 1120 Market Street, Denton. Contact: 410-924-6404, donaldwreynolds@comcast.net, https://calvarybaptistchurchofdenton.org/

FIRST SATURDAYS

Community Civic League Breakfast, 3439 Laurel Grove Road, Federalsburg. Every first Saturday, 7:00 am -10:00 am. Scrapple, sausage, eggs, potatoes, applesauce, biscuit, OJ, coffee. Cost is \$9. Local delivery available. One free breakfast to anyone who attended the original school or day care. Contact: 410-754-6011 or 410-924-0552. There will be no breakfast in April or July.

SECOND SATURDAYS

Giving Grace Food Pantry held at Goldsboro Fire Co., 700 Old Line Road, Goldsboro. Food available from 7:00 am. For more information, call 302-270-1948. Sponsored by Trinity United Methodist Church, Goldsboro.

Eternal Life Ministries will have **Fish Dinners** available from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. We are located at 807 Market Street

in Denton. For more information, please call the church at 410-714-1087 or 410-725-1484.

Men For Change Outreach will meet every second Saturday, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at the Apostolic Pentecostal Church, 123 Liberty Road, Federalsburg. Contact: David Ricks, Sr. 443-786-5182, or Betty Jarman, 302-448-5939.

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

Holy Archangels Orthodox Christian Church. "Proclaiming and Living the Timeless Truth of Christ." 11126 Tuckahoe Rd., Hillsboro-Denton, MD. www. OrthodoxChesapeake.org Email: Fr.RobertMiclean@gmail. com Saturdays: 6:00 pm, Great Vespers, Sunday Worship: 10:00 am, Divine Liturgy. All are welcome!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

The Fiber Arts Center Offering Maddie's Legacy Heart Class with Kay Butler. Learn to applique the easy and perfect way! This class will teach you how to applique using the back basting method. With this method you will eliminate the need for templates! This gives you an easy to sew, portable project. Sewing down of the pieces will be done by needle



turn hand applique. The results are beautiful and of heirloom quality. Our emphasis will be working with a cutwork design with smooth, round edges and points. You will learn all the steps from tracing your pattern to sewing the block. This method of applique is addictive and before you know it, you will have appliqued enough blocks for a wall hanging or even a full-sized quilt! Supply list on website, www.fiberartscenter. com Please call Kathleen McCulloch at 443-448-4611 to sign up. Cost: \$40 Members/\$50 Non-Members. Pattern cost: \$15. Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Glass Etching Class from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm at The Foundry. Create personalized Valentine gifts by etching wine glasses, candle holders, and more. Cost: \$35 (materials included).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Teen Writer's Club from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Zoom. Teens ages 13-18 are invited to join this monthly virtual club led by instructor Mary Bishop. It's a creative space to dive into prompts, discussions, and sharing their work. Open to all forms of writing! https://carolinearts.org/

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

UFO Stitching Groups held at the Fiber Arts Center.

The Caroline Community Assistance fund Presents



Sunday, February 16

Goldsboro Fire Hall, 700 Old Line Rd., Goldsboro Doors open at 11:30 AM – Games begin at 2 PM \$30 per person in advance, \$35 at the door Ticket includes a 20 game pack and 1 door prize ticket

DOOR PRIZES • 50/50 • RAFFLES
SPECIAL GAMES • TRICKY TRAY • PULL TABS

Food provided by GVFC

For advance tickets or more information call Joanna Reedy at 302-270-1948 or Jean Marshall 410-443-8720 All money will be collected the day of the Binao



Bring a donation of a non-perishable food item for the local food pantry and you will receive ONE FREE RAFFLE TICKET!

Proceeds to benefit The Caroline Community Assistance Fund. The Fund helps meet the unmet needs of Caroline County families who are not eligible for other federal and/or state programs.

Fiber artists meet to finish "Unfinished Objects". For 3 consecutive days you can work on your own sewing projects with other stitchers. You can leave your machine and materials overnight. Members: \$30 per session (3 days) Non-Members: \$45 per session (3 days). Reservations are required. Call Kathleen McCulloch to sign up 443-448-4611 or at info@fiberartscenter.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Crescendo Club with Music in Caroline (MIC) from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm at The Foundry. Middle school musicians, explore your passion for music in this creative space! Sessions are lively, educational and fun. Cost: \$60/month or \$30/session. https://carolinearts.org/events/crescendo-club-with-music-in-carolinemic-4/

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Ridgely Vol Fire Dept Fundraiser "Spaghetti Dinner" from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Cost: \$11. Call Tammy for more information at 443-786-9266.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Caroline County Recreation & Parks host Non-Traditional Sports Night: Gaga Ball at the Fretterd Community Center, Gym. Break out of your comfort zone! Join us for an exciting night of non-traditional sports that focus on fun, not skill! This new initiative is designed to get everyone moving, laughing, and trying something new. No experience needed. Purchase 1 session for \$10 or both sessions for \$15. Grades 3-5 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

The Caroline County Council of Arts invites the community to a special Black Pasts, Black Futures: A Black History and Arts Celebration on Thursday, February 8, 2024 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. This family-friendly event will take place at The Foundry and neighboring businesses, including FACES Gallery, and promises an inspiring afternoon of culture, creativity, and connection. This year's celebration highlights the rich traditions of Black history and the arts with a diverse lineup of engaging activities including Community Tapestry Project, Interactive Arts & Painting Activities, Free Catered Food, and Chesapeake Heartland Bus. Adding to the day's excitement, we're thrilled to announce scheduled gospel and poetry performances throughout the event. These performances will feature talented local artists and poets whose works honor Black heritage and uplift the spirit. This free event is open to the public and promises something for everyone. For more information, please contact Megan Krizovensky at megan@ carolinearts.org or visit carolinearts.org

Tom Cheezum Memorial Toy & Train Show featuring Lionel, Plasticville, Ertl, Lego, Action Figures, Farm Toys, and Much More! Location: Preston Fire Hall-3680 Choptank Road, Preston, MD. Time: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Cost: \$5 adults, \$4 Spouse, kids under 12 free with adult. Benefits Bethesda Methodist Church. Free parking in rear of firehouse. Breakfast and lunch items for sale all day. Questions or to rent a table contact 410-673-7538 or toyshow@bethesdapreston.faith

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Super Sunday at Calvary Baptist Church with worship followed by a potluck luncheon. Also 1:30 pm service. There will be no evening service. All are welcome! Bring a neighbor/friend. 1120 Market Street, Denton. 410-924-6404. www. calvarybaptistchurchofdenton,org, Donaldwreynolds@comcast.net

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Caroline County AARP Chapter 915 meets at 12:00 pm with a covered dish luncheon at the Denton Church of the Nazarene. Crystal Terhune, MSW, Family and Consumer Science Educator of the U of MD Extension Services will bring us up to date on the latest scams. Enjoy door prizes and free magazines. Guests and New Members are welcome. For more information, call 410-482-6039.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Valentine's Date Night: Paint Your Love Bug from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm at The Foundry. Spend a romantic evening painting adorable VW buggies with your sweetheart. No experience needed-materials provided! Cost: \$40/person or \$75/pair.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

The Caroline County Garden Club will hold a meeting with a guest speaker from the Caroline County Bird Club at 10:00 am at the Caroline County Public Library in Denton. The public is invited to attend. For more information on this meeting or the Caroline County Garden Club visit Facebook at "Caroline County Garden Club-Maryland" or call 410-253-9540.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Fiber Arts Center Offering Hand Applique Celtic Wall hanging Class. Come join the rest of the Fiber Arts Center leprechauns to learn the technique of back basting hand applique! You will be making a lovely Celtic wall hanging that's bound to bring the luck of the Irish to your household! Call Kay Butler at 410-829-5136 if you have questions or email mrs.kay.butler@gmail.com. Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Cost: \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Cost of



pattern: \$10. Class Supply List at www.fiberartscenter.com. Please call Kathleen McCulloch 443/448-4611 to sign up for this class.

Caroline County Bird Club program "Best of L.T. Short Photo Collection" presented by Debby Bennett and Danny Poet. Time: 9:00 am. Location: Wharves of Choptank Visitor & Heritage Center, 3 Crouse Park Lane, Denton.

Caroline County Republican Women will be meeting at the home of Nancy White, 25053 Pealiquor Road, Denton, at 10:00 am. The speaker will be Frank Bartz, Caroline County Commissioner. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. For information, and to RSVP, text Bobbi at 410-570-0494 or email bremines7@gmail.com.

Ridgely Vol Fire Dept Fundraiser "MCW Wrestling Event". Tickets are online. Doors open 6:00 pm, show starts at 7:30 pm. For more information call Tammy at 443-786-9266.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

The Caroline Community Assistance Fund Presents

Designer Purse Bingo at Goldsboro Volunteer Fire

Company, 700 Old Line Road Goldsboro, MD. Doors Open at 11:30 am and games begin at 2:00 pm. Cost: \$30 per person in advance, \$35 per person at the door. 20 game pack & 1 door prize ticket. Door Prizes, 50/50 raffles, special games, pull tabs, tricky tray. For Advance Tickets or more Information call: Joanna Reedy 302-270-1948 or Jean Marshall 410-443-8720. All money will be collected the day of the bingo. Bring a donation of a non-perishable food item for the local food pantry and you will receive ONE FREE RAFFLE TICKET! Proceeds to benefit The Caroline Community Assistance Fund. The Fund helps meet the unmet needs of Caroline County families who are not eligible for other federal and/or state programs.

TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 18 - MARCH 11

Caroline County Recreation & Parks host **Middle School Academy Pickleball** at the Fretterd Community Center, Room 104. After this four-week session, students can expect to walk away with the confidence to play games on their own and for those who already know the game, some skills to take them to the next level. The session will end with one fun filled round robin tournament - so come ready to play. Grades 6-8. Tuesdays, February 18 - March 11 from 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm. \$59.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Crescendo Club with Music in Caroline (MIC) from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm at The Foundry. Middle school musicians, explore your passion for music in this creative space! Sessions are lively, educational and fun. Cost: \$60/month or \$30/session.

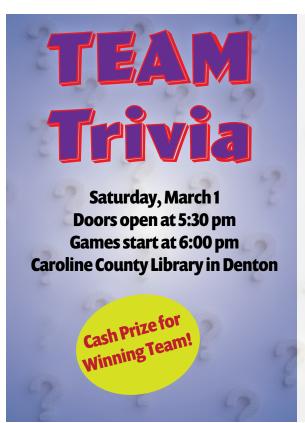
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Caroline County Recreation & Parks host Non-Traditional Sports Night: Omnikin Ball at the Fretterd Community Center, Gym. Break out of your comfort zone! Join us for an exciting night of non-traditional sports that focus on fun, not skill! This new initiative is designed to get everyone moving, laughing, and trying something new. No experience needed. Purchase 1 session for \$10 or both sessions for \$15. Grades 6-8 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Revive '25 Youth Revival at Denton Church of the Nazarene, 10660 Greensboro Rd, Denton, MD. We want to invite you to join us for our Annual Teen Revival. This event hosts youth groups from local churches of all denominations and is for grades 6-12 from public, private, and homeschool systems. Doors open at 6:00 pm on Friday and 11:00 am on Saturday. There will be a snack provided Friday evening and lunch and snack provided Saturday. Cost: \$30 for both days.

Continued





Proceeds support the Friends of the Caroline County Library in its mission of supporting the Caroline County Public Library

To register: www.dentonmdnazarene.org For more information, Steve Moody 410-479-2197 or owner@stevemoody.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Caroline County Bird Club Bird Trip to Blackwater Wildlife Refuge. Meet at Walgreens parking lot in Denton at 8:00 am to carpool or meet at 9:30 am at the Refuge Headquarters.

African American Read-In open and free to the public to encourage people in our community to read together, commemorating African American literature and authors. Located at Caroline County Public Library, Denton in the large meeting room on the second floor from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. The theme will be Hope, Courage and the Struggle.

Greensboro Lions Club 17th Annual Sporting Clay Shoot at Schrader's Bridgetown Manor, 16090 Oakland Road, Henderson, MD 21640. Registration starts at 8:00 am. Pre-registration required by February 11, 2025. Make checks payable to the Greensboro Lions Club, P.O Box 429, Greensboro, MD 21639.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Adelina's Applique Floral Garden session 3 with Kay Butler. Adelina's Flower Garden is a mid-nineteenth century New York appliqued quilt with a folk-art appearance to the blocks. You will have the opportunity to create this lovely quilt as we delve into the world of back basting applique. The floral quilt contains 12 applique blocks each measuring 22 inches square. Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Members: \$60, Non-Members: \$75.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

A training time to help us all be better witnesses will be offered 9:00 am - 12:00 pm! The presentation is called "Conversations - A Simple Approach To Share The Gospel." Mike Eskow - a local Gideon and assistant will be on hand to do the training. Please reserve the morning of March 1st for training and inspiration to be better equipped to present Jesus as the Savior! ALL ARE WELCOME—BRING A NEIGHBOR/FRIEND. Join us at Calvary Baptist Church, 1120 Market Street, Denton, MD 21629 -- 410-924-6404. calvarybaptistchurchofdenton.org, donaldwreynolds@comcast.net

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

The annual Shrove Pancake Supper, March 4, 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm, Christ Episcopal Church, 107 Gay Street, Denton.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Caroline County Recreation & Parks host Non-Traditional Sports Night: Street Racket at the Fretterd Community Center, Gym. Break out of your comfort zone! Join us for an exciting night of non-traditional sports that focus on fun, not skill! This new initiative is designed to get everyone moving, laughing, and trying something new. No experience needed. Purchase 1 session for \$10 or both sessions for \$15. Grades 3-5 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

The Fiber Arts Center Offering Hand Applique Celtic Wall hanging Class. Come join the rest of the Fiber Arts Center leprechauns to learn the technique of back basting hand applique! You will be making a lovely Celtic wall hanging that's bound to bring the luck of the Irish to your household! Call Kay Butler at 410-829-5136 if you have questions or email mrs.kay.butler@gmail.com. Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Cost: \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Cost of pattern: \$10. Class Supply List at www.fiberartscenter.com. Please call Kathleen McCulloch 443/448-4611 to sign up for this class.

St. Paddy's Day 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run. Start your spring fitness conditioning on this certified fast and scenic course through Denton. Seashore Striders will be using the Chronotrack chip timing system. Register early to guarantee a commemorative performance tee. This event benefits youth registration financial aid and scholarship fund for recreation programs produced by CCRP. Check-in: 8:00 am, Race start: 9:00 am. Pre-registration: \$35 for 5K/\$20 for 1-Mile Fun Run. Add \$5 after Friday February 21 or day of the event. Located at Fretterd Community Center.

Lil' Leprechaun Dash. Kick off the festivities with a 100-meter dash down 4th Street exclusively for youngsters ages 5 and under. Special prizes for all finishers. at 8:40 am (before St. Paddy's Day event) Advance registration: \$7 (\$10 after February 21 or day of the event). Located at Fretterd Community Center.

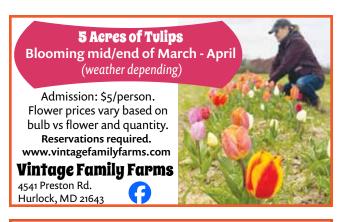


EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT

American Legion Caroline Post 29 9238 Legion Rd, Denton Doors open at 5 PM - Games start at 7:30 PM

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Quickie
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Joseph Granville Williamson, III, Greensboro and Nichole Elizabeth Williams, Greensboro

James Kenneth Cannon, Federalsburg and Brandi Leigh Kehr, Federalsburg

Margaret Christine Apple, Chestertown and Jarrett Dalton Matherly, Chestertown

Ariel Osberto Dominguez-Maldonado, Henderson and Leivi Marisol Barrios De Leon, Henderson

Kendall Brooke Henry, Denton and Amy Lauren Baynard, Denton

Megan Leann Harvison, Denton and Joshua Michael Lee, Denton

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Mikayla Lee Booze, Chester and Kyle Stewart Williams, Centreville

Randal Craig Hambrick, Goldsboro and Lana Vladimirovna Duran, Magnolia, DE

Ashley Kaitlyn Bullock, Denton and Willard Michael Frazier, Harrington, DE

Nicole Elizabeth Wix, Denton and Shane Austin Ratliff, Easton

Jenna Renee Towers, Federalsburg and Wesley Vaughn Stallings, Federalsburg

Jenna Renee Towers, Federalsburg and Wesley Vaughn Stallings, Federalsburg

Courtney Nichole Hults, Ridgely and Thomas Lee Bishop, Jr, Ridgely

Marissa Ashlyn Lynne, Pasadena and Mason Daniel Dickey, Centreville

Destiny Shanice Williams, Federalsburg and Chinaka Adolphus Amajioyi, Jr, Salisbury

Cheri Lee Montgomery-Foraker, Harrington, DE and Thomas Robert Farrall, Harrington, DE

Julio Cesar Diaz Garcia, Greensboro and Brenda Ceneida Gomez Perez, Greensboro

Joseph Paczkowski Gillespie, Milford, DE and Toni Lynn Mellott-Blunt, Greensboro

Paola Josephine Maldonado, Denton and Derek Michael Klepacki, Denton

Sonjia Thomas, Greensboro and Peter Martin Smith, Greensboro

Victor Alonzo Wesley, Henderson and Atiya Te'ne Oates, Wilmington, DE

Deed Transfers

Leroy Sampson and Dallas J. Johnson to Caitlin Nicole Nicodemi, \$249,000, 1021 Gay Street, Denton.

Gary M. Chambers to Morgan M. Willoughby and Garrett S. Nepert, \$234,000, 6959 Reliance, Federalsburg.

Dana L. Martin to Nicholas Wayne Loveday and Ashley Higdon, \$299,000, 305 South 2nd Street, Denton.

Christina Lynn Carlson, formerly known of record as Christina Lynn Holden to Jennifer A Youngren, \$172,000, 316 N. Main Street, Greensboro.

Daniel Fox, Director and Collector of Taxes for Caroline County and the State of Maryland to Long Marsh Inc, \$41,251, 306 Railroad Avenue, Goldsboro.

Carol Ann Patchett and R. Brett Patchett, Trustees of The Carol Ann Patchett Revocable Living Trust dated August 29, 2016, a Maryland Trust to Brittany Patchett-Rue and Woodrow W. Rue III, \$150,000, 13779 Cedar Lane, Greensboro.

Charles E. Hurley and Tina Renene Hurley to Tiffany C. Hutson, \$315,000, 1007 South 2nd Street, Denton.

Commissioners of Denton, a municipal Maryland corporation, also known as The Town of Denton to Mill Creek Properties LLC, \$153,650, Legion Road, Lot 9B2A & 9B2A Tax ID Nos 03/045072 and 03/036219, Denton.

The Town of Denton, a Maryland municipal corporation to Harper & Sons, Inc, \$95,000, 90 Engerman Avenue, Denton.

Steven J. Walawender to James J. Dipietro Jr, \$324,000, 5 Seward Road, Ridgely.

Sidorak Khan to Lindsey Kang, \$383,000, 408 Morning Glory Drive, Denton.

Melissa K. Kuszmaul to Shane Ringgold, \$198,000, 206 Bernard Avenue, Federalsburg.

Continued



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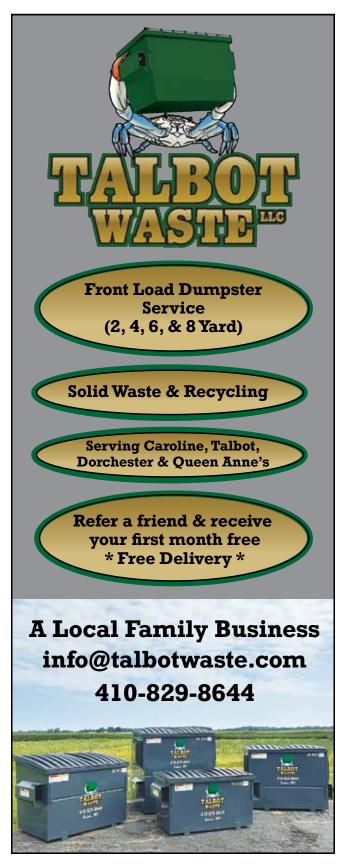
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Adam J. Ronning and Simone Marie Vagnoni to Connor Immendorf and Analyn Immendorf, \$350,000, 803 Market Street, Denton.

Michael Bryan Steeken Jr and Carrie L. Cooper to Johnathon Tooley and Yen Tooley, \$337,500, 5716 Bethlehem Road, Preston.

Richard N. Petroske III and Lisa M. Petroske to Michael Steenken Jr and Carrie Cooper, \$370,000, 294 Tidewater Circle, Preston.

Robert N. Taylor to Franklin T. Nichols and Angela M. Finkbiner, \$380,000, 2740 Wright Rd, Federalsburg.

George Harrison to Eric A. Blackwell, \$50,000, Harmony Rd, Preston.

James M. Haselman and Allyson R. Haselman to Brian Doyle, \$270,000, 11401 Greensboro Rd, Denton.

William O. Henry to Robert J. Queroli, \$123,000, 109 Old Denton Road, Federalsburg.

Carrie M. Ward. et al, Substitute Trustee to LOMAXX LLC, \$165,000, 421 W. Sunset Avenue, Greensboro.

Hanover Foods Corporation to Wakefield Holdings LLC, \$2,500,000, 23092 Peaviner Road and NW/S Cow Barn Road, Ridgely.

201 Main Street LLC to Homestead Real Estate LLC, \$225,000, 201 Main Street, Preston.

Lillian E. Stewart to Dante Ward, \$300,000, 23869 Holsinger Lane, Ridgely.

David W. Nickerson, Trustee of The David W. Nickerson Revocable Trust Dated December 12, 2019 and David W. Nickerson, individually, to Craig A. Cropper and Dovile Turlinskaite Cropper, \$525,000, 22007 Gannon Drive, Preston.

Lawrence F. Shahan and Norma E. Shahan to Brian Dunn, \$37,000, ™ 21 P 74 5.25Ac, Ridgely Rd, Ridgley.

SMS Developers, Limited Liability Company to Edgar Rivera and Sarely Dalila Perez-Reyes, \$25,000, 306 Buena Vista Ave, Federalsburg.

Sherone E. Lewis and Jabari E. Tilghman to Alana Sadler and Corey Bennett, \$175,000, 3477 Holland Drive, Federalsburg.

Agnes A. Kraus to Steven H. Harris and Julie Harris, \$40,000, 5185 Newton Rd, Preston.

Amos Allen Crawford, Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Edward Crawford to John Rigney, \$115,000, 112 Vernon Avenue, Federalsburg.

808 Pine Street, LLC to Lomaxx, LLC, \$210,000, 1 Sunrise Avenue & additional lot 07-001207, Ridgely.

Robert W. Mackert to Benjamin P. Marr and Stacie L. Luhrman, \$299,000, 2569 Veterans Drive, Federalsburg.

Haines B. Holt, Successor Trustee of The Roberta B. Holt Revocable Trust U/A Dated November 4, 2008 to State of Maryland, To The Use of Then Department of Natural Resources, \$70,250, Houston Branch Road, Federalsburg.

Vinicio Cerbando Ixlaj Fuentes to Marvin Y. Martinez Mazariegos, \$35,000, 134 Henderson Road, Henderson.

Jonathan Gallo to Austin Richard Roe, \$580,000, 14800 Day Road, Goldsboro.

Rodrigo Del Valle-Carrillo to Sandra Maldinado and Andy Daniel Rodriguez Galindo, \$180,933, 108 Henderson Road, Henderson.

Lorretto Kohlhaus to Philip Crossley, \$500,000, 24809 Trunk Line Road, Henderson.

Haines B. Holt, Successor Trustee of The Roberta B. Holt Revocable Trust U/A Dated November 4, 2008 to State of Maryland, To The Use Of The Department Of Natural Resources, \$70,250, Houston Branch Road, Federalsburg.

Ronald Spiering to Cherrywood Solar I, LLC, \$2,000,000, 25970 Bridgetown Rd, Goldsboro.

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February Tide Table

Predictions for Tuckahoe (See below for other factors) Eastern Daylight Savings Time

Date		АМ				PM		
1	4:21	Lo	10:16	Hi	4:38	Lo	10:38	Hi
2	5:06	Lo	11:09	Hi	5:30	Lo	11:20	Hi
3	5:52	Lo	12:01	Hi	6:23	Lo		
4	12:04	Hi	6:40	Lo	12:54	Hi	7:17	Lo
5	12:50	Hi	7:29	Lo	1:49	Hi	8:11	Lo
6	1:38	Hi	8:20	Lo	2:46	Hi	9:05	Lo
7	2:32	Hi	9:12	Lo	3:45	Hi	10:00	Lo
8	3:30	Hi	10:07	Lo	4:44	Hi	10:55	Lo
9	4:32	Hi	11:03	Lo	5:43	Hi	11:51	Lo
10	5:34	Hi	11:59	Lo	6:38	Hi		
11	12:45	Lo	6:35	Hi	12:54	Lo	7:30	Hi
12	1:36	Lo	7:33	Hi	1:47	Lo	8:18	Hi
13	2:25	Lo	8:27	Hi	2:38	Lo	9:02	Hi
14	3:11	Lo	9:17	Hi	3:27	Lo	9:43	Hi
15	3:55	Lo	10:03	Hi	4:14	Lo	10:22	Hi
16	4:38	Lo	10:47	Hi	5:01	Lo	10:59	Hi
17	5:21	Lo	11:29	Hi	5:48	Lo	11:36	Hi
18	6:04	Lo	12:11	Hi	6:36	Lo		
19	12:12	Hi	6:48	Lo	12:54	Hi	7:24	Lo
20	12:50	Hi	7:34	Lo	1:40	Hi	8:14	Lo
21	1:31	Hi	8:21	Lo	2:30	Hi	9:05	Lo
22	2:16	Hi	9:10	Lo	3:24	Hi	9:57	Lo
23	3:07	Hi	10:02	Lo	4:21	Hi	10:51	Lo
24	4:06	Hi	10:56	Lo	5:18	Hi	11:45	Lo
25	5:09	Hi	11:52	Lo	6:13	Hi		
26	12:38	Lo	6:12	Hi	12:48	Lo	7:06	Hi
27	1:30	Lo	7:14	Hi	1:43	Lo	7:56	Hi
28	2:18	Lo	8:12	Hi	2:37	Lo	8:43	Hi

Add or subtract hours and/or minutes as indicated:

	<u>AM</u>		P <u>M</u>				
Greensboro	Add	:25	Add	:43			
Choptank	Subtract	3:06	Subtract	2:23			
Denton	Subtract	:40	Subtract	:03			

IN MEMORIAM

FLEEGLE HELFENBEIN FUNERAL HOME GREENSBORO

December 16, Dorothy Ann Middleton, 59, Marydel December 17, Clarence Andy Kinnamon, 87, Goldsboro December 21, William David Walls, 67, Greensboro December 23, James Bernard Dunn "Jimmy", 82, Harrington, DE

MOORE FUNERAL HOME

December 7, Helen Mae Lord, 91, Denton
December 11, Ronnie O'Neil Newcomb, 69, Hurlock
December 14, Michele Lynn Schultz, 59, Denton
December 18, Bruce Stanley Holcomb, 60, Denton
December 18, William H. "Bill" Eaton, 76, Ridgely
December 18, Charlotte Anne Adams Porter, 100, Denton
December 18, John Edward Berger, Jr., 78, Goldsboro
December 22, Rev. Dr. Susan Martha Schmidt, 75, Denton

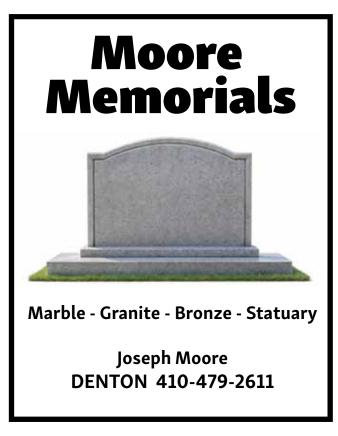
FRAMPTOM FUNERAL HOME

December 4, Barbara Lee Fincham, 83, Preston
December 9, Roger A. Willoughby, 80, Preston
December 9, William Edward Reese, 78
December 10, Kenneth W. Aitchison, 81
December 20, Dena Kaye (Donovan) Quinton, 61, Preston
December 21, Joyce Faye (Porter) Armes, 81, Federalsburg
December 22, Robert (Bob) Lloyd Lippson, Ph.D., 93
December 23, Danny Jay Brown, 65, Preston

BOLDEN-TILGHMAN MORTUARY SERVICE

December 14, Maverick Bart Turner, 65, Preston December 15, Judy Arlene Simmons, 74, Federalsburg

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Weather Terms

Circle words forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally.

Bracketed words are not in the puzzle.

blacketed words are not in the puzzle.																		
C	V	N	0	C	T	I	L	U	C	Ε	N	T	S	U	N	A	M	I
Н	P	R	Ε	V	A	I	L	I	N	G	T	Y	T	M	0	Y	0	Н
I	W	M	A	V	Α	В	E	S	U	0	Н	N	E	E	R	G	T	P
L	S	0	N	Н	0	В	F	Н	ı	M	G	F	A	R	Ε	0	W	Н
L	U	N	Ε	K	0	W	N	D	N	D	U	C	J	C	A	L	1	C
F	I	S	0	V	0	A	C	C	0	Ε	0	G	J	U	S	0	S	Α
Α	S	0	T	W	ı	Н	W	G	S	L	R	Н	G	R	T	R	T	Y
C	L	0	U	D	W	T	D	0	D	A	D	Н	F	Y	Ε	0	Ε	0
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R	W	I	A	S	G	0	G	T	Ε	U	F	W	R	M	F	Ε	Н	Y
T	R	D	R	I	N	G	ı	Н	I	R	M	0	U	A	S	M	Н	P
S	I	J	I	T	R	W	U	S	L	U	S	Н	R	В	T	В	K	Н
A	T	N	D	Y	Ε	M	Н	Ε	A	T	I	N	D	Ε	X	I	V	0
C	I	J	C	L	I	M	A	T	E	N	0	L	C	Y	C	G	0	0
R	V	G	N	D	C	0	0	S	T	R	M	Н	Ε	G	R	A	G	N
Ε	C	I	I	E	F	U	F	R	S	Ε	G	K	Н	Y	L	F	S	K
V	N	T	N	В	L	I	Z	Z	A	R	D	Ε	W	P	0	I	N	T
0	Y	W	Ε	A	T	Н	Ε	R	K	В	В	N	D	C	J	В	R	N

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Degree
Density
Dew Point

Dog Days
Doldrums
Drought
El Nino
Fahrenheit
Fog
Forecast
Frost
Gale
Greenhouse (Effect)
Hail
Heat Index

Humidity
(Inches of) Mercury
Indian (Summer)
Meteorology
Monsoon
Muggy
Noctilucent (Clouds)
Noreaster
Overcast
Prevailing (Wind)
Rain
Relative (Humidity)

Saturation (Point)
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Twister
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Wind
(Wind) Chill Factor

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